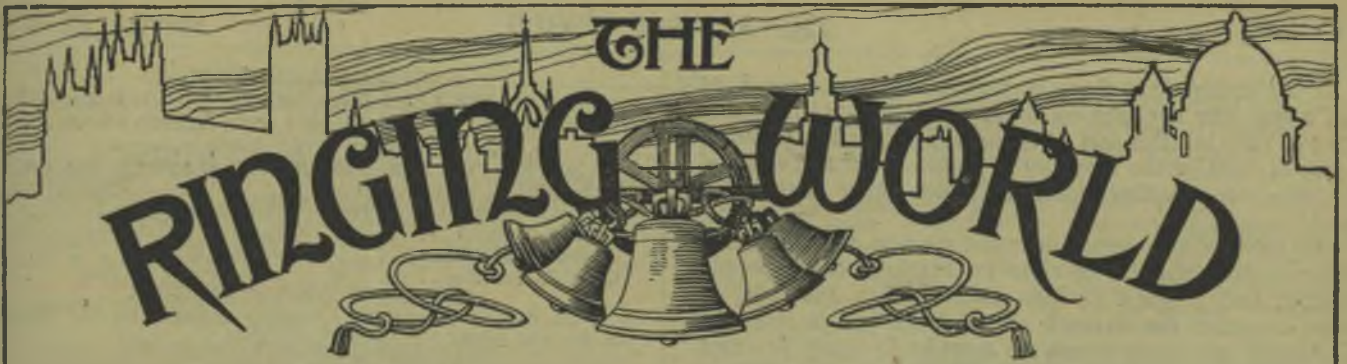




OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

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DON'T GET DOWNHEARTED

THE training of new ringers is no light task. It is often a thankless one and the training of a complete band from scratch much more so. Small wonder instructors get a bit downhearted, and it is very easy to say, 'Don't get downhearted.' If you are one of those who feel your efforts have been a waste of time, try and get hold of a copy of 'The Ringing World' dated Jan. 9th, 1931; its leading article is headed, 'Bread cast upon waters,' and is well worth reading. It is based on the results of one man's efforts to train a stoney band. The late James S. Wilde, formerly of Hyde, is the man concerned, and the stoney band was at Norbury, Cheshire. Mr. Wilde died a few years ago in Dunedin, New Zealand.

With travelling facilities that now exist and the opportunities for learning, it is not easy for the youngster of to-day to fully appreciate the difficulties that beset the old tutors. In the late 1890's when Jim Wilde undertook the training of the Norbury band there were no public service vehicles; he had to walk the ten miles from Hyde to Norbury and back. All was not plain sailing, yet he had the pleasure of seeing that band ring a peal of Minor in seven methods in November, 1900, and he had the further pleasure of seeing that band progress. He never lost touch and frequently corresponded. It is interesting to recall that once when writing to a non-ringing friend in Hyde he enclosed the figures of a new method and asked that they be handed over to his nephew Tom; at the handing over the friend said, 'Here are some figures for you, Tom. I have added them up and they come to an awful lot.' Incidentally, the method was Clarendon Surprise Major and it was first rung at Norbury.

Mr. Goldsmith, in his leader, said, 'There are many excellent ringers to-day who, having received their first instruction in some village tower or with some obscure company, and having passed on to another district, have been counted at the time as "another wasted effort"; but who have afterwards more than made good in their own ringing and in the help they have given to others. Few efforts which seek to spread the art of ringing need, therefore, be counted as definitely lost, even though immediate results may not be obvious.'

As one peruses the peal and quarter-peal columns week by week or attends the numerous ringing meetings up and down the country, it does not always dawn on one that each ringer is the product of some instructor, so 'Don't get downhearted.'

J. P. F.

THE UNPUNCTUAL RINGER

WE ringers are frequently reminded about our foremost duties: (1) to maintain service at the highest possible standard; (2) to join the congregation whenever possible. Recently in the columns of our paper it has been pointed out that unpunctual and irregular attendance not only checks progress, induces apathy and causes slackness, but in some cases causes the break up of the company. We have had a weekly ringing paper for over 70 years and a perusal of early numbers will find many references to non-appearances and late arrivals, but seldom are regrets expressed or explanations offered. Not only do we read about the late arrival or the absentee but most of us have had practical experience of such treatment and its results.

We recall many instances of peal attempts, quarter peals, etc., arranged specially for a certain ringer when one had to come direct from business to a tower, involving train travel and a hurried walk from the station without the usual meal, only to find the one for whom the arrangements were made had not arrived. A call at his home later in the evening revealed that 'he did not feel like ringing that evening.' After fixing a second date and hearing his promise of punctuality ringing in our ears we had hopes that our little talk would bear fruit, but our second meeting resulted in the same ringer arriving 20 minutes late leaving us too little time to ring the quarter.

Not only are ringers kept waiting for peals or quarter peals by late arrivals, but service ringing and practices also suffer as well, in fact it is quite surprising to find how varied are the attitudes towards practice ringing in various towers. The ringers' practice night is a very old event in the parish, and though it is generally at fixed times of one to one and a half hours' duration, the leader expects co-operation from all the band, yet this is often lacking. Certain ringers have to go on duty at varied hours both on Sundays and practice nights, therefore allowances must be made in these cases and also in other circumstances, but what to do in the case of ringers who come when they have a mind to, or turn up when you actually see them, is a problem which seems to have no practical solution. Ringers have been known to remark, 'Just a few minutes' practice is all I want,' but if each one of the band carried out this sort of idea the company would never work as a team, which is essential if progress can ensue.

[Continued next page.]

In my young days there was an attendance book kept and a fine was imposed on those who appeared over five minutes late, but this sort of thing, which was not popular, is out of date in the majority of towers, and a revival of old rules or penalties would do much more harm than good.

The habitual late comer does not seem to regard as very important the amount of time he has kept other people waiting, and a spirit of toleration is often exercised in order to retain the strength of the band and a standard of ringing. As there seems no remedy to apply in cases of this kind, it may be best to instill into all new members of the band from the first day of joining that punctuality and regularity are two essential factors to be realised for the efficient maintenance of ringing. By precept and example the standard of ringing could be raised if these two factors were looked upon as a duty, and ringers would then reveal to the parishioners that punctuality in the belfry is indeed a virtue. **WILLIAM SHEPHERD.**

TEN BELL PEALS

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Jan. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF 5004 PLAIN BOB CATERS

Tenor 37 cwt. 99 lb. in C.

CEDRIC CURSON Treble	WILLIAM LOVE 6
F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. 2	ARTHUR G. BASON .. 7
ERNEST G. SHORTING .. 3	NOLAN GOLDEN .. 8
STANLEY W. COPLING .. 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 9
*VINCENT R. OVENS .. 5	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Caters. First peal of Plain Bob Caters by all and in the Diocese.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Francis B. Williams, headmaster of Bracondale School.

FULHAM, LONDON, S.W.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILFRED WILLIAMS Treble	RICHARD F. DEAL 6
REUBEN CHARGE 2	*FRANK J. MATTHEWS .. 7
ALBERT W. COLES 3	RICHARD E. PRICE 8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT .. 4	REUBEN SANDERS 9
MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 5	THOMAS J. LOCK Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILLIAM H. HEWETT.

* First peal of Caters.

Rung to celebrate Mr. Reuben Sanders' 80th birthday and his 450th peal for Middlesex Association.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

SILEBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 4, 1954, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt.

BRIAN MARTIN Treble	DAVID S. HARRIS 5
*MARY PAYNE 2	ERNEST MORRIS 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
†B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 4	†COLIN P. WALKER Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal in the method and 25th peal. † First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 11½ cwt.
JOHN A. ACRES Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 6
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 3	ALFRED BALLARD 7
*KILBY R. HOLTOM 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal in the method. Specially arranged for the ringers of the 4th and tenor.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 9, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Pritchard's.	Tenor 13½ cwt.
*MISS A. TALBOT Treble	GEORGE STOCKER 5
*MISS S. DAVIS 2	*GILBERT TOWNSEND .. 6
S. FRANK TUFFLEY 3	PHILIP H. TOCOK 7
GEOFFREY K. DODD 4	REGINALD F. CROOK .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD F. CROOK.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor. Rung as a 99th birthday compliment for Mrs. Davis, mother of Miss S. Davis, ringer of 2nd and local tower foreman.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. S. H. JONES Treble	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 5
HENRY C. ADAMS 2	*GEORGE ROOBOTTOM .. 6
ERNEST MORRIS 3	PERCIVAL W. GRICE .. 7
WM GEOFFREY HAIR .. 4	SIDNEY H. JONES Tenor

Composed by S. BIDDLESTONE.

Transposed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

AYLESTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 14, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5152 KIRKLINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 16 cwt.
FREDERICK E. WILSON .. Treble	†PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5
*MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	HAROLD J. POOLE 6
†JOHN A. ACRES 3	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 4	TERENCE A. THORNER .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method on a working bell. † First peal in the method. First peal in this method for the Guild.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Thurs., Jan. 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*JAMES G. NEWMAN .. Treble	*BRYAN PATTISON 5
RONALD J. SHARP 2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 6
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 3	*DEREK JONES 7
*DENNIS KNOX 4	HARRY PARKES Tenor

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Rutland rung in the county.



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On Fri., Jan. 15, 1954, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.	Tenor 17½ cwt.
*JOHN CARPENTER .. Treble	WILLIAM TYSON .. 5
J. EDMUND HENDERSON .. 2	RICHARD OLIVER .. 6
ERIC OLIVER .. 3	PHILIP G. DRAFFAN .. 7
ROBERT B. SKELTON .. 4	DEREK WILKINSON .. Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP G. DRAFFAN.

* First peal of Triples.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Fri., Jan. 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation of Washbrook's.	Tenor 15 cwt. in G.
ARTHUR G. MASON .. Treble	PETER F. BORER .. 5
FRANK E. WALKER .. 2	†RALPH BIRD .. 6
*KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. 3	†FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 7
CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

* First peal in the method. † 50th peal together.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 12 lb. in F.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. Treble	EDWARD ASHCROFT .. 5
JAMES WM. GROUNDS .. 2	NORMAN HEAPS .. 6
HARRY ANDERTON .. 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. .. 7
EVEREST FORD .. 4	PETER CROOK, JUN. .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

All are M.M.s. Rung as a tribute to the memory of the late W. Bro. H. W. G. Hutton, P.Pr., A.G., D.C., West Lanes, and P.M. of Stanley of Bickerstaffe, No. 3511, whose generosity regarding the bells of Christ Church, Aughton, is well known. Also for the late W. Bro. E. Blundell, P.M., Latham Lodge, No. 6286, for many years a ringer at Halsall.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

HARRY BAKER .. Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 5
*JOHN R. COOPER .. 2	MARK W. MARSHALL .. 6
WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
WILFRED W. RING .. 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS (C.C.C. 3).

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in the method.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in A.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE .. Treble	*MRS. N. MANCHIP .. 5
*SYDNEY A. WARWICK .. 2	WILLIAM WENBAN .. 6
ELSIE K. FULTON .. 3	ALICK CUTLER .. 7
*H. GEORGE HART .. 4	JOHN R. MAYNE .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

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

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Peter D. Beedie, of the local band. Also a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and the 6th.

MARKET BOSWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation.	Tenor 17 cwt.
ALAN HOUGH .. Treble	JOHN RAWSON .. 5
C. RICHARD BELTON .. 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD .. 6
CECIL E. CARR .. 3	FRANK K. MEASURES .. 7
FREDERICK E. WILSON .. 4	T. KELHAM DEACON .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

Specially arranged as a farewell peal to the Rector of Market Bosworth, Canon F. R. C. Payne, on his retirement.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr.

*CHARLES H. HARDING .. Treble	†BRYAN PATTISON .. 5
DEREK P. JONES .. 2	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 6
*ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 3	HARRY PARKS .. 7
RONALD J. SHARP .. 4	LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.

* 150th peal together. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

POTTER STREET, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

VINCENT TIPTON .. Treble	*HENRY BIRD .. 5
AUDREY M. BAILEY .. 2	WILLIAM WHEELER .. 6
FREDERICK WHITBY .. 3	EDWARD J. ROCHESTER .. 7
*LEWIS WHITBY .. 4	STANLEY CLARK .. Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by AUDREY M. BAILEY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 5th and tenor, and to mark the wedding anniversary of the daughter of the ringer of the 6th.

READING, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

MRS. A. DISERENS .. Treble	MRS. P. LEWINGTON .. 5
ROY D. TOMLIN .. 2	REGINALD W. REX .. 6
RONALD F. DISERENS .. 3	NOEL J. DISERENS .. 7
FRANK W. LEWIS .. 4	ROGER O. FRY .. Tenor

Composed by J. THORP.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor.

SOUTHWELL, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 SOUTHWELL SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's. Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr.

GEORGE E. FOSTER .. Treble	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5
PAUL L. TAYLOR .. 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 7
HOWARD SCOTT .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

Rung on the joyous occasion of the wedding of Mr. Thomas Strachan James, of Cambridge, and Miss Ann Rosemary Heywood, only daughter of the Provost of Southwell, the Very Rev. H. C. L. Heywood, and Mrs. Heywood, which took place at the Minster that day.

This method is now rung for the first time.

ST. MAWGAN-IN-PYDAR, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAUCAN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 9½ cwt.

PATRICIA D. PROWSE .. Treble	CLEMENT W. JOSE .. 5
V. MARY MATTHEWS .. 2	ALAN CARVETH .. 6
CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. 3	REV. A. S. ROBERTS .. 7
A. HUBERT EPLETT .. 4	C. KEITH BREWER .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

First peal of Plain Bob Triples by all except 3rd and 7th, and in the method on the bells.

WEM, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5184 ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. Treble	*F. HECTOR BENNETT .. 5
*WILLIAM A. FARMER .. 2	*EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 6
JOHN W. BEST .. 3	R. GORDON CORBY .. 7
*ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method in the county and for the Association.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tues., Jan. 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 16 cwt. in F.
CHARLES W. BEECROFT ..Treble	FRANK RUFFLES .. 5
*DIANA M. MATTHEW .. 2	RUSSELL G. PARKER .. 6
PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 3	WALTER W. MILLER .. 7
ALBERT E. WHITING .. 4	†LESLIE G. BRETT .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' † 100th peal of Cambridge Major.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 2,240 of Cambridge and 2,880 of Superlative with 130 changes of method. Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ..Treble	ROBERT SWIFT .. 5
*JOHN R. COOPER .. 2	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 6
THOMAS E. SONE .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
*WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 4	MARK W. MARSHALL .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS (C.C.C. 25).

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of two Spiced Surprise. The ringer or the 3rd has now 'circled' the tower.

SIX BELL PEALS

WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 4, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of three extents of Kent Treble Bob and two each of Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

M. JILLIAN BRIERLEY ..Treble	ARTHUR RHODES .. 4
JOHN WHEADON .. 2	SYDNEY SAGE .. 5
*ALLEN TWYMAN .. 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 2nd, who celebrated his 82nd birthday this day; to Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Buxton, of Wilmslow, who have celebrated their golden wedding by providing for the recent rehanging of these bells; and as a farewell to Dorothy Kidd, who is shortly leaving the district.

HORSLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 9, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 10 extents of Plain Bob and 32 of Grandsire.

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

*PETER SKINNER (age 14) ..Treble	SAMPSON WALKLATE .. 4
†ELIZABETH GRIME .. 2	DAVID K. WALKLATE .. 5
†HAROLD TAYLOR .. 3	*FREDERICK G. MURFIN .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.

* First peal. † First 'inside.' ‡ First Doubles. First peal on the bells since addition of new treble.

MORTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 9, 1954, in 3 Hours,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 SPICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven 720's in 14 methods: (1) London and Wells, (2) Rossendale and Stamford, (3) Berwick and Hexham, (4) Norfolk and Primrose, (5) Cambridge and Ipswich, (6) Beverley and Surfleet, (7) York and Durham.

JOHN POLLARDTreble	FREDERICK W. FRENCH .. 4
ALBERT E. SCOTT .. 2	JAMES W. HAW .. 5
CECIL WADE .. 3	LEONARD C. BLANCHARD .. Tenor

Conducted by CECIL WADE.

Rung with the best wishes of the band as a farewell to the Rev. D. J. Rowlands, son of the Vicar of Bourne, who has left the country to take up an appointment with the Missions to Seamen in the port of Rotterdam.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Jan. 12, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's Kent Treble Bob and four 720's Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

PHILIP BARKERTreble	PETER H. WILKINSON .. 4
RUTH CORE .. 2	ALFRED DRAPER .. 5
ROBERT LARKEY .. 3	ARTHUR MAWDSLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR MAWDSLEY.

CROPTHORNE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(Southern Branch.)

On Wed., Jan. 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*BRENDA M. SMITH ..Treble	MRS. JOHN THOMAS .. 4
JOHN THOMAS .. 2	E. TREVOR NEWBURY .. 5
†GERALD C. HEMMING .. 3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor in seven methods.

MILLAND, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Forty-two six-scores (10 callings).

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ERNEST J. MUNDAY ..Treble	E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 4
†JOHN A. H. BETTS .. 2	NORMAN J. SMITH .. 5
†GERALD M. ROUSE .. 3	†ROBERT A. HARLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN J. SMITH.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. † First peal.

BATHAMPTON, BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

*EDWARD CONNOCK ..Treble	ERIC NAYLOR .. 4
†WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT .. 2	†WILLIAM F. J. COPE .. 5
†MRS. DORA EVANS .. 3	GEORGE J. HAWKINS .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. HAWKINS.

* First peal of Treble Bob † First peal of Kent Minor. ‡ First peal in the method on a working bell.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Joyce S. Coward, Bathampton ringer.

HANDBELL PEALS

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 7, 1954, in 1 Hour and 54 Minutes,
AT 53, LEYS ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of nine methods in seven extents: (i) Single Court, (ii) Single Oxford, (iii) Canterbury Pleasure and Reverse Bob, (iv) Fulbeck and Double Bob, (v) Kent Treble Bob, (vi) Oxford Treble Bob, (vii) 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 nine methods. The first handbell peal in nine methods for the Guild.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT 126A, LONDON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor size 19 in F.
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 1-2	ALFRED BALLARD .. 5-6
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 3-4	TERENCE A. THORNER .. 7-8

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

In memoriam Rupert Richardson.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss G. Kinner (first quarter) 1, W. Viggers 2, Miss B. Stewart 3, Miss M. Lewis 4, Miss S. Corke 5, D. Beresford 6, T. Page (cond.) 7, P. Beresford 8.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. Everest 1, T. Milsted 2, Miss Solly 3, Miss Reid 4, H. Luck 5, A. Hinkley 6, J. Russell (cond.) 7, T. Day 8. Rung to mark the opening of the annual meeting of the local Guild.

BRECON.—At St. Mary's Church on Jan. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7.6.8 covering): S. Edwards 1, J. A. Hoare (cond.) 2, W. Smith 3, A. Matthews 4, G. Davies 5, Patricia Rees 6; I. Clarke 7, D. Stokes 8. Rung on the occasion of the enthronement of the Right Rev. Glynn Simon as Bishop of Swansea and Brecon.

CLIFFE, KENT.—On Jan. 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. E. Taylor 1, R. L. Sils 2, H. Springate 3, C. S. Jarrett 4, R. G. Rayfield 5, T. A. Cross 6, G. J. Butcher (cond.) 7, P. F. Borer 8.

DERBY.—At St. Andrew's Church on Jan. 18th, 1,253 Erin Caters: R. H. Bullen 1, P. H. Whitaker 2, M. Barker 3, Miss E. Foulk 4, A. E. Thompson 5, George Freebrey (cond.) 6, C. Walklate 7, H. Taylor 8, S. Walklate 9, R. A. Scott 10. First quarter in the method rung in Derby and first by all the band. A birthday compliment to Mrs. I. Tate, daughter of the conductor.

ETWALL, DERBYS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Fredk. G. Murfin 1, Doreen M. Murfin 2, John F. Murfin 3, Francis R. Lowe 4, David K. Walklate (cond.) 5, Arthur Fisher (first quarter) 6. First 'inside' for 2 and 3.

FRESHWATER, I.O.W.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Peter J. Smith 1, Alfred W. Green 2, Henry Thomas 3, Ernest F. Ridett 4, Fredk. A. Green (cond.) 5, Cyril A. Saunders 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Francis Jane Augusta Crozier, who had given very generously to the Bell Appeal Fund last year.

HANDSWORTH, YORKS.—On Jan. 13th, 1,320 Bob Minor: M. Lambert (first quarter) 1, P. Harrison (first 'inside') 2, Mrs. E. D. Kelly 3, W. H. Taylor 4, Miss E. Bate (first as cond.) 5, J. J. L. Gilbert 6.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On Jan. 14th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. C. Marshall 1, W. Seldon 2, A. Tapley 3, A. Gooding 4, A. G. Betts 5, W. Reeks 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, A. Holway 8.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 17th, 1,440 Prittlewell Surprise Royal: A. L. Pearson 1, Mrs. R. J. Pearson 2, W. G. Wilson 3, Miss E. Farrell 4, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 5, Mrs. K. F. Parr 6, S. Croft 7, T. E. Davies 8, J. R. Mayne 9, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 10. First in the method by all.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Jan. 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. W. Powell 1, Mrs. Powell 2, G. S. Morris (cond.) 3, E. L. Taylor 4, H. G. Keeley 5, G. Whitmore 6, R. Keeley 7, J. Rattenbury 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Mr. E. C. Tett, for many years a respected member of the Lyme Regis Guild.—Also on Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. L. Taylor 1, Mrs. C. W. Powell 2, H. G. Keeley 3, C. W. Powell 4, G. S. Morris 5, R. Keeley 6, G. Whitmore (cond.) 7, J. Rattenbury 8. Rung before evening service.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—At St. Mary's on Jan. 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. P. Devenish (first of Minor) 1, Miss M. M. Lewis 2, J. Tomsett 3, P. Devenish (first of Minor) 4, F. E. Corfield 5, F. E. Hawthorne (cond.) 6, F. W. Wicks 7. After meeting short for Triples.

RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Wilson 1, E. E. Whitmore 2, H. Richardson 3, G. W. Jeffs 4, L. Groom 5, R. Chapman (first of Triples) 6, W. J. Whitmore (cond.) 7, A. Gibbs 8.

STEVENAGE, HERTS.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire, 480 Plain Bob): J. Swain 1, H. Wittering 2, W. Lawrence 3, W. Brown 4, D. Gullick (cond.) 5, J. Aldous 6. Rung for service, also to wish Godspeed to the ringer of the tenor, returning that day to his unit in Germany.

STREATHAM, LONDON.—On Jan. 17th, at St. Leonard's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Sanders 1, June Clements 2, J. Chapman 3, R. Charge 4, C. Nichols 5, S. Howard 6, R. L. Story (first in method as cond.) 7, T. Welbourne 8. An 80th birthday compliment to Reuben Sanders.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church on Jan. 14th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. A. Battell (first quarter) 1, A. J. N. Boyack 2, H. Rumens 3, J. A. Hales 4, J. Hales (first of Grandsire Caters) 5, E. E. Holman 6, C. T. W. Coles 7, J. R. Ketteringham (first of Grandsire Caters) 8, F. C. Maynard (cond.) 9, F. C. Taylor 10. Rung for dedication of the restored organ.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Jan. 12th, 1,280 Painswick Surprise Major: J. Mayne (cond.) 1, W. Wenban 2, J. Schofield 3, S. Hoare 4, D. K. Adkins 5, R. Rowley 6, R. Bell 7, G. Seaman 8. First in method for all except 2.

WIDCOMBE, BATH, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Russell 1, Mrs. H. Newman 2, P. Bate (first as cond.) 3, C. Conway (first quarter) 4, H. Newman 5, G. Creigh 6.

WILESBOURGH, KENT.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. T. Hillis (first quarter) 1, E. S. Ruck 2, A. J. Lancefield 3, W. P. Garner 4, R. J. Carlton (cond.) 5, L. C. Smith 6.



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AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



ON CONDUCTING

By WILFRID G. WILSON

IV. CONDUCTING BY THE COURSING ORDER

Now, after that perhaps rather long introduction, I will try to show how, with much less difficulty, a much more reliable method of conducting can be learnt and applied. To do that I must go back to some of our earliest efforts in ringing—to the stage where we were told when we got lost to follow our 'course' bell or look out for our 'after' bell—in other words I must explain what is meant by Coursing Order.

Don't think that I am now also going to write about Q sets, B blocks, P blocks, false course ends or all the other difficult-sounding words and phrases that you find in the text books. A knowledge of these things is all very necessary to the composer, but the conductor, so long as he is content to call other people's touches and peals, need not bother with them.

If you examine a plain course of Bob Major you will see that in the first lead the bells come down to the front and go up to the back in the order 2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5, 3. This reminds us that when we first rang the treble to a course of Plain Bob we were told to follow the even bells and then the odd ones. In the next lead the order will be 3, 2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5. And the next 5, 3, 2, 4, 6, 8, 7; and so on.

Nos. 7 and 8, not being subject to alteration by bobs (except for the additional lead caused by a bob B), form a kind of constant framework to the course. It is, therefore, found convenient to note the Coursing Order of the bells starting with the 7th and finishing with the tenor. This you will see gives us 7, 5, 3, 2, 4, 6, 8 as the Coursing Order of the plain course. Omit 7 and 8 and all the way through the seven leads of the course the order is 5, 3, 2, 4, 6.

In each of the leads the treble will be in a different position among the other bells of course, but except for this the five 'working bells' will all through the course follow each other up and down in this order 5, 3, 2, 4, 6.

It is not necessary to write out a lead or a course of the method to see that this is the Coursing Order. In the plain course the course end is rounds—2345678. Starting with the 7th, we write down the figures in the order in which they follow it up to the back—i.e., first the odd bells 5 and 3 and then the even bells 2, 4 and 6. (These latter have to go down to the front first, but they then follow 5 and 3 up to the back.)

Now let us remember another of the things we were told early on in our ringing. That is that a bob always changes the position of three bells. That is why in the ordinary method we can get a touch of three courses by calling three bobs at W or at M or at H: each of these bobs acting on the same three bells. This will be seen very clearly if you call three bobs at H. Written out and using the transposition 42356 (see Chapter III.) we get this:—

2 3 4 5 6
— 4 2 3 5 6
— 3 4 2 5 6
— 2 3 4 5 6

H 2 4 3 6 5
B 4 2 3 5 6
H 4 3 2 6 5
B 3 4 2 5 6
H 3 2 4 6 5
B 2 3 4 5 6

(An interesting thing about this is that if you write down the handstrokes as well as the backstrokes of the course end you get a complete plain hunt on the three bob-making bells.)

You will perhaps point out that in Grandsire Triples five of the seven bells are affected by a bob and that in, say, Kent Treble Bob Major five of the eight bells are affected. That, of course, is quite true, but later on when we examine the Coursing Order of methods such as these we shall see that in fact the position of only three bells in the Coursing Order is altered.

Yet we found in our earlier notes that the poor struggling conductor was faced with making a five-figure transposition to obtain his new course ends whenever he called a bob W, B or M and that only at the bob H was he able to relax and work out the first three bells only.

If a bob affects the position of only three bells then there would seem to be something unnecessary if we have to make five-figure transpositions to get our new figures. And this is so.

Let us examine the various leads and courses we get by calling our bobs and see what those bobs do to the Coursing Order of the five 'working' bells.

(a) THE WRONG

In the plain course, 23456, the Coursing Order is 53246 and the W lead end 3527486.

A bob W from 23456 brings W lead end 2357486 and course end 52436.

But the Coursing Order of this new lead end and, therefore, of the course 52436 is 32546. You can check this by writing out the figures of the lead after you have called the bob W. But you will soon be able to pick out this Coursing Order from the row 52436 in the same way that you pick out the Coursing Order 53246 from rounds—i.e., the actual order in which the bells follow the 7th.

Now we have—
Coursing Order of rounds = 53246
and the Coursing Order after Bob W = 32546
The first three bells (532) have been moved into the position 325 (i.e., ABC has become BCA).

(b) THE MIDDLE

In the plain course (Coursing Order 53246) the M lead end is 4263857.

A bob M from 23456 brings up M lead end 6423857 and course end 43652.

But the Coursing Order of this new lead end and, therefore, of the course 43652 is 53462 (i.e., the bells follow the 7th in this order).

Now we have—
Coursing Order of rounds = 53246
and the Coursing Order after Bob M = 53462
The last three bells (246) have been moved into the position 462 (i.e., once again ABC has become BCA).

(c) THE HOME

A bob H from 23456 brings up course end 42356. (This is also the H lead end.) But the Coursing Order of the course 42356 is 52436 (i.e., the bells follow the 7th in this order).

Now we have—
Coursing Order of rounds = 53246
and the Coursing Order after Bob H = 52436
The middle three bells (324) have been moved into the position 243 (i.e., once again ABC has become BCA).

In each of these three examples we have seen that we need only change three bells instead of five. And not only that but we change them in exactly the same way—ABC becomes BCA. So for calls in these three positions we need only remember the code 'BCA' and the simple facts that—

At the W we apply this code to the first three bells.

At the M we apply this code to the last three bells.

At the H we apply this code to the middle three bells.

(d) BEFORE

The effect on Coursing Order of a bob B is even simpler because two of the bells affected are the 7th and tenor. We have, therefore, only one of the five 'working' bells to bother about.

A bob B from 23456 brings up lead end 7864523 and course end 35264.

Now we have—
Coursing Order of rounds = 53246
and the Coursing Order of this new lead end and, therefore, of the course 35264 = 65324

We have simply caused the bell which was the 6th place bell (coursing before the tenor) to make the bob and become the 5th place bell (coursing after the 7th). And our mental transposition only entails moving one bell from the last of the five to be the first of them.

We can now make a little table:—
COURSE ENDS COURSING ORDER
23456 Plain Course 53246

52436	Bob W	32546
43652	Bob M	53462
42356	Bob H	52436
35264	Bob B	65324

The Course Ends on the left are what the composer needs for his paper work and what many a young conductor struggles hard with.

The Coursing Orders on the right are the figures which the conductor will quickly find to be easier to use and much more helpful in his task.

(To be continued)

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

The annual meeting of the Northern Branch was held at Brecon on Jan. 2nd. The attendance was rather smaller than usual, but discussions were pretty lively throughout the meeting. The Dean of Brecon (the Very Rev. W. E. Jones) presided.

The three retiring officers, Mr. J. A. Smith (Ringing Master), Mr. W. G. Smith (secretary) and Mr. D. H. Bennett (treasurer), were re-elected. In the unavoidable absence of the treasurer, the meeting accepted the secretary's statement of the accounts. These are to be sent to all towers without delay. As Talgarth's bells have recently been rehung, this was the first choice of the members for the next quarterly meeting.

One new member was elected—Master B. Davies (St. Mary's). It was suggested that the secretary get in touch with the Llangorse and Llangasty towers to try and induce them to become members of the Guild and to further their ringing by attending practice meetings.

After the collection for the Bell Restoration Fund, which amounted to 12s., was taken, the meeting closed with the general secretary, Mr. J. Arthur Hoare, proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Dean for his kindness in taking the service and use of the bells, and to all those who helped to make the meeting possible. The Dean most suitably replied. W. G. S.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Hunts District Annual Meeting

The Hunts District held their annual meeting at Huntingdon on January 17th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. at both St. Mary's and All Saints' towers and carried on until 4.30 p.m., when the service was held at St. Mary's, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Morris).

Tea was followed by the business meeting, for which the Rector of All Saints' (the Rev. J. M. E. Bagley) presided. The secretary's report showed an increase in membership for 1953, and the new Association badge found ready sale. All the officers of the District were re-elected.

After the meeting both towers were again available and ringing was carried on until 9 p.m. Methods ranged from London, Bristol, Yorkshire, Stedman, Cambridge Major and Minor to rounds for the beginners. H. S. P.

QUARTER PEALS

BATH, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 30th, at St. Mark's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Townsend 1, W. G. Brown 2, L. Cole 3, M. Helps (cond.) 4, R. Perry 5, D. Iles 6. Rung half-muffled for Miss Daisy Huggins, a loyal church worker for 45 years at the above church, who was interred this day.

BOLTON, LANCs.—On Dec. 31st, at the Church of the Saviour, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (on the back six): J. Haslam 1, K. Hurst (first quarter) 2, J. Bolton 3, A. Moss 4, R. Eastham 5, H. Gorton 6. Conducting shared by 3 and 4. Rung to mark the end of Coronation year.

BOROUGH, S.E.—On Jan. 17th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: N. G. Hollingworth 1, T. H. Taffender 2, J. A. Hales 3, C. W. Ottley 4, G. F. Bryant 5, F. Mead 6, W. D. Grainger 7, J. W. Euston (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On Dec. 29th, at St. Botolph's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Dewey 1, A. Freeston 2, S. Jessop 3, D. White 4, R. Brown 5, J. Petch 6, W. E. Clarke (cond.) 7, B. Jackson 8. Rung with bells half-muffled for Ald. A. Bradley, churchwarden for many years at this church.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Jan. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. Jennings 1, T. Earle 2, H. G. Felton 3, J. Warner 4, R. Suckling 5, J. R. Leeming (cond.) 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, A. R. Syder 8. The first quarter in the method to be rung in the district for some years.

BROMHAM, BEDS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,256 Little Bob Major: R. Ward 1, J. B. Long 2, Miss M. Stephens 3, Miss D. Hare 4, Miss J. Ashton 5, J. Sinfield 6, J. M. Stephens 7, D. Knox (cond.) 8. Rung by members of the Bedfordshire Young Ringers as a compliment to Douglas Johnston and Pat Gilbert on the occasion of their marriage at Black Torrington, Devon.

CLAVERTLEY, SALOP.—On Jan. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Joan Bennett 1, J. Marsh 2, W. Francis, jun., 3, F. Bennett 4, G. Goodson 5, C. Jones 6, E. Drew (cond.) 7, J. Courtman 8. Rung on the 93rd birthday of Mr. G. Green, former churchwarden.

EAST FARLEIGH, KENT.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Manser 1, A. Webb 2, S. A. Hayzelden 3, R. Harris 4, L. Honess 5, R. Stedman 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Arthur W. Carvel, a friend of the ringers.

FINEDON, NORTANTS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Miss M. Rowe 1, P. Chapman 2, M. King 3, E. Chapman 4, B. Cope 5, J. King 6, R. Turner 7, G. Watson (cond.) 8. First quarter in method for 1, 3 and 4. A birthday compliment to Mr. J. Main.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 24th, 1,440 Annable's London and Norwich Surprise Minor: F. Croft (cond.) 1, M. Orme (first in these methods) 2, J. Church 3, G. Cherry 4, R. Croft 5, D. Jones 6.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.—On New Year's Eve, 1,260 (10 callings) Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Unstead 1, F. Blackman 2, N. Matthews 3, E. Breed 4, G. Gadd (cond.) 5, E. Hobden 6, Rung half-muffled.

HANSLOPE, BUCKS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Smith 1, Miss S. Duffin 2, Miss M. Stephens 3, Miss D. Hare 4, Miss S. Osborn 5, Miss J. Ashton 6, R. Stephens 7, J. M. Stephens (cond.) 8.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Dec. 24th, 1,312 Cambridge Surprise Major: P. Croft 1, L. Fidler 2, M. Orme (first of Cambridge Major) 3, L. Wiffen 4, G. Cherry 5, J. Church 6, D. Jones 7, F. Croft (cond.) 8. Also on Dec. 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. Fidler 1, C. Hare 2, M. Orme 3, P. Croft 4, E. Winters 5, J. Church 6, D. Jones (cond.) 7, F. Croft 8. Also on Dec. 27th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor, on the back six: L. Fidler 1, M. Orme 2, E. Winters 3, W. Todd 4, P. Mehew 5, D. Jones (cond.) 6.

HOOLE, CHESTER.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,320 Doubles (240 Plain Bob, 120 St. Simon's, 120 St. Martin's, 120 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 720 Grandsire): Miss B. Griffiths 1, Miss R. Crewe 2, Miss A. Muirhead 3, Miss C. Jones 4, R. G. Corby (cond.) 5, E. C. Crewe 6. First in five methods for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Jan. 10th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. R. G. Spicer 1, G. Perkins 2, F. L. Nicholls 3, W. Ransome 4, A. Clements 5, H. S. Peacock (first of Surprise as cond.) 6. Also on Jan. 17th, 720 each of Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Perkins 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, F. L. Nicholls 3, H. S. Peacock 4, A. Clements 5, W. Ransome (first of Surprise as cond.) 6.

IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Nice 1, R. Rose 2, L. Nice 3, K. Brown 4, A. Fever 5, H. King (cond.) 6.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.—On Jan. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (720 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob): Phyllis Gray 1, Ann Smith 2, W. Izzard 3, B. Pattison (cond.) 4, R. Freeman 5. Rung in honour of the engagement of Ann Smith and Clifford Izzard.

PENDLETON, LANCs.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. Tompkins 1, Miss S. Higham 2, W. Thompson 3, P. Crook, sen. (cond.) 4, J. Somers 5, A. Lomas 6, J. Thornley 7, H. Prescott 8. For induction service.

PORTSMOUTH, HANTS.—On Dec. 10th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, in hand: R. Baldwin 1-2, R. G. Leale 3-4, R. H. Smith (first as cond.) 5-6. First quarter of Doubles, and on hand-bells, by all.

ROUGHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Nice 1, H. King 2, K. Brown (cond.) 3, L. Nice 4, R. Rose 5, L. Sharpe 6.

SOUTHWARK, S.E.—On Jan. 9th, at the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Hurrell 1, E. B. Crowder 2, J. Morris 3, G. Daynes 4, F. Hurrell 5, W. Rawlings 6, B. Aldridge (cond.) 7, R. Boyce 8. Rung on the back eight for the Southwark Diocesan Servers' Festival.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On Dec. 31st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: B. G. Warwick (cond.) 1, G. V. Deacon 2, Glenys R. Bodycote 3, E. J. Jelley 4, R. Jelley 5, A. E. Bodycote 6, J. M. Jelley 7, J. R. Norman 8. Rung for the passing of 1953.

SYSTON, LEICS.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: H. Matthewman 1, Miss J. Brooks 2, Miss A. Mansfield 3, Miss M. C. Payne 4, E. F. Payne 5, H. Humphreys 6, B. S. Payne (cond.) 7, C. Sanders 8. First quarter of Bob Triples by all the band. A birthday compliment to E. F. Payne.

WARE, HERTS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Superlative Surprise Major: D. Sutcliffe 1, M. Orme 2, R. Sharp 3, D. Knox 4, E. Edmondson 5, J. Sinfield 6, P. Mehew 7, D. Jones (cond.) 8.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 3rd, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge and 540 Double Oxford): Anne Holmes 1, Mary Fuller 2, M. Fuller 3, D. Moreton 4, R. Bird (cond.) 5, J. Cannell 6. Also on Jan. 10th, 1,272 Minor (720 Double Oxford and 552 Plain Bob): Jill Mackintosh 1, Anne Holmes 2, Mary Fuller 3, D. Moreton 4, R. Bird 5, A. S. Richards (cond.) 6. First of Double Oxford for 2 and 4. Also 1,320 Minor (720 Kent and 600 St. Clement's): Mary Fuller 1, Anne Holmes 2, L. W. Skinner 3, D. Moreton 4, M. Fuller 5, A. S. Richards (cond.) 6.

WOOLWICH, S.E.—At St. Mary's Church, on Jan. 5th, 1,080 Plain Bob Minor: G. Hurrell 1, J. Hurrell 2, A. Grove, sen., 3, T. Culver 4, F. Hurrell 5, B. Aldridge (cond.) 6. Rung for the induction of the Rector.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

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LATE NEWS

We regret to record the passing on January
20th of Mr. William J. G. Brown, one of the
best known members of St. Mary-le-Tower
Society, Ipswich, aged 69 years.

For the wedding of Mr.
John A. Worsley, of Hoving-
ham, Yorks, and the Hon.
Carolyne Hardinge, at Christ Church Cathedral,
Montreal, on January 16th, a recording was
taken of a quarter peal rung at Hovingham by
Sir. W. A. Worsley, Bart. It was intended to
relay the recording by radio-telephone to Mon-
treau for the young couple to hear, but due to
bad weather conditions the authorities failed to
make contact with those on the other side of
the Atlantic. Mr. J. A. Worsley and his bride
will not, however, be disappointed as the re-
cording will be played to them on their return
to Hovingham, the home of the bridegroom.

Will the ringer who took the wrong hat,
please note the initials inside and return it to
C. H. W., 68, Brownhill Green Road, Coventry.
His hat is still in Nuneaton belfry.

With the peal at Bathampton, Bath, on
January 16th, Mr. W. J. Prescott, of Bath, has
now rung peals of Kent Treble Bob from Minor
to Maximus.

Yesterday was the 50th anniversary of Mr.
A. H. Pulling's first peal of Stedman Caters,
which was rung at St. Nicolas' Church, Guild-
ford. Another 50th anniversary this week (Jan.
26th) was Mr. H. Hutton's first peal of Sted-
man Triples, rung at Holy Trinity Church,
Guildford.

In ringing the second to the peal of Hockley
Surprise at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham, on Jan.
4th, Mr. F. E. Haynes 'completed the circle'
at that tower. By so doing he joins the brothers
George and Henry Fearn in what might be
called the 'City Circle,' having now rung a
peal on every bell at St. Martin's, St. Philip's,
St. Chad's and Bishop Ryder's. They expect
that Mr. John Pinfold, Ringing Master of St.
Martin's Guild, will also shortly qualify, since
he requires only to ring the tenor at Bishop
Ryder's.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

We regret to hear of the
death on Saturday of Mr.
George H. Kilby, of Ruislip,
who has been a valued member of the Middle-
sex County Association since 1911. For many
years he was a member of the Willesden band.
The funeral was on Thursday. An appreciation
of his services to ringing will appear in our next
issue.

The Methods Committee report on extension
has been reprinted in book form by the Central
Council and can be obtained from Miss P. J.
Ayriss, 10, Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester,
Oxon, price 1s.

'The Daily Telegraph' of January 25th re-
ports that Mr. J. P. Fidler rang the first peal
on the restored ring of six bells at St. Anne's
Church, Alderney. An admirer (S. H. G.)
writes: 'What a man! Congratulations!!
(5,040 changes, we presume).'

After six weeks in hospital for two operations
Mr. F. Warrington (Hunts District Ringing
Master) is home again and wishes to thank all
friends for letters of condolence. It may be
another month before he is back among the
bells.

In addition to the number of ringers taking
part in commemorating the enthronement of
the Right Rev. Ronald Ralph Williams as Lord
Bishop of Leicester, it was fitting that three pro-
minent ringers took part in the actual ceremony
at the Cathedral—Brian Warwick, Ernest Morris
(as Provost's Verger) and Harold J. Poole, who
occupied his stall as Hon. Lay Canon.

Mr. Ernest Morris has been asked to submit
to his publishers his manuscript on 'English
Towers and their Bells' for consideration with
a view to possible publication in book form.
This is mostly a rewrite of the long series of
articles Mr. Morris wrote in these columns
during 1933-4, and covers all types of towers,
bells, curious belfries, etc., and should prove
of great value to all ringers.

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ANOTHER LONDON RESTORATION

St. Olave's and Pepys

The ancient Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, City, escaped the Great Fire of London in 1666—but was not so fortunate in the last war, when it was destroyed in 1940 by enemy action. The tower was left standing but the eight bells were completely destroyed.

In 1662 the Whitechapel Foundry installed five bells with a tenor of 11 cwt., and in 1694 added a treble to make a ring of six. These were taken down in 1929 and cleaned, two trebles added to make a ring of eight, and rehung. Only 15½ cwt. of the metal of these bells was recoverable, and it was incorporated into a new ring of eight (tenor 11½ cwt.) in the key of G. This new ring has been hung with modern type fittings in cast iron framework mounted on a steel girder foundation.

The bells were rung for the first time on Christmas morning, 1953. The restoration was carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank and a very pleasing ring has been the result.

Restoration of the body of the church is proceeding apace and it is hoped that the full activities of this important church will soon be fully resumed. The dedication is to the Norwegian King Olaf, who assisted Ethelred (the Unready) to repel the Danes.

It will doubtless be of interest to our readers to recall that this was the church near which lived Samuel Pepys, the famous diarist. He worshipped there and his wife was buried there. He also visited other churches in the neighbourhood, as the following entry in his diary in 1667 shows:—

'Being wearied, turned into St. Dunstan's Church where I heard an able sermon by the minister of the place; and stood by a pretty modest maid, whom I did labour to take by the hand and the body; but she would not, but got further and further from me; and at last I could perceive her to take pins out of her pocket to prick me if I should touch her again—which seeing, I did forbear, and was glad I did spy her design.

'And then I fell to gaze upon another pretty maid in a pew close to me, and she on me; and I did go about to take her by the hand, which she suffered a little and then withdrew. So the sermon ended and the church broke up, and my amours ended also.'

It was this passage that made John Drinkwater say:—

'It is to be feared there were occasions when in another age Pepys would have found himself at Vine Street.'

J. F. S.



ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET

The bells at this church were rung for the first time after rehangings on Christmas morning, 1953. Help is required in providing ringers for this historic church. Photo by R. A. Deal.

LEADING PEAL RINGERS OF 1953

Two Centuries Scored

Two ringers rang more than 100 peals in 1953. Mr. Harold J. Poole, of Leicester, surpassed Mr. George E. Fearn's total by one—the respective figures being 103 and 102. Both ringers have passed the 1,000 peal mark. Mr. Fearn has recorded more than 100 peals each year since 1948. Mr. Poole's most prolific year was 1949, when his total reached 143.

Third, fourth and fifth places are held by ladies—Mrs. H. J. Poole with 88, Miss Muriel Reay with 83 and Miss Winifred M. Burton, Leicester, with 73. They have all improved on last year's totals, when Miss Reay rang 75 peals and Mrs. Poole 52, and Miss Burton did not figure in the list.

In the realm of conducting Mr. Poole called 75 peals, Mr. Nolan Golden, Norwich, 40 and Mr. G. E. Fearn 38.

There are newcomers to the list. Mr. John A. Acres, now of Leicester, with 55 peals acknowledges the help of Mr. H. J. Poole and other Leicester ringers in giving him a chance to complete this total. Although he has been ringing since 1939 he had never exceeded 24 peals in one year previously. Also qualifying for the first time is Mr. A. Patrick Cannon. During 1953 he rang peals in 41 different towers in 11 counties.

	Tower	Hand	Total
Harold J. Poole	92 (65)	11 (10)	103
George E. Fearn	100 (38)	2	102
Mrs. H. J. Poole	88	—	88
Miss Muriel Reay	83	—	83
Miss W. M. Burton	73	—	73
Brian G. Warwick	62 (26)	9 (2)	71
S. Anthony Jesson	66	—	66
Ernest Morris	60 (13)	4	64
Wilfrid F. Moreton	50 (23)	10 (6)	60
John Pinfold	60	—	60
Peter J. Staniforth	48 (22)	11	59
Peter Border	45 (20)	13 (1)	58
John A. Acres	49	6 (5)	55
Arthur V. Pearson	51 (12)	—	51
Henry H. Fearn	48	—	48
Clifford A. Barron	47 (8)	—	47
H. William Barrett	41 (3)	2	43
Joseph W. Cotton	43 (3)	—	43
A. Patrick Cannon	42 (18)	—	42
Nolan Golden	40 (38)	2 (2)	42
Howard Howell	42 (15)	—	42
Leonard Stilwell	40 (5)	1	41
Edgar C. Shepherd	40 (1)	1	41
Ralph G. Edwards	40	—	40
Robert C. Lester	40 (1)	—	40
Robin G. Turner	12 (3)	28 (20)	40
Bryan D. A. Woolley	40	—	40
John Worth	40	—	40

Figures in parentheses denote number conducted.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Miss Roberts 2s. 6d., A. S. Warr 2s. 6d., H. Turner 2s. 6d., G. H. Head 2s., A. Prince 2s. 6d., L. J. Tooke 10s., J. Bishop 2s. 6d., W. Pichall 2s. 6d., Miss Emm 2s. 6d., Miss Allen 5s., W. A. Osborn 7s. 6d., L. Head 5s., Hunts District 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Mayfield 2s., Wilmslow 4s., Banbury 4s., Reading 4s., Milland 2s.

Quarter peals.—Watford 4s., Walthamstow 2s. 6d., Widcombe 1s. 6d., Brecon 4s., Honiton Clyst 2s., Freshwater 2s. 6d., Willesborough 2s., Streatham 2s., Putney 2s. 6d., Isleworth 2s. 6d., Stevenage 1s., Lyme Regis 5s., Bitchington 2s., Etwell 3s., Raunds 2s.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Double Bob and Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Dear 1, Miss D. J. Hare 2, G. Dear 3, M. Orme 4, D. P. Jones 5, E. H. Bywaters (cond.) 6.

CREWE'S EXAMPLE TO CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

All Towers Sufficiently Manned

In his report presented at the annual meeting of the Crewe Branch at Christ Church, Crewe, on January 16th, Mr. W. Kerr (hon. secretary) stated that all the towers in the Branch were sufficiently manned for ringing but for ringing peals the situation was not so good.

The membership of the Branch was 110 adult and 13 junior ringing members. Fourteen meetings had been held during the year and the meeting, which was presided over by the Rev. F. C. Gentry (Vicar of Christ Church, Crewe), decided to reduce this number to 12 plus the annual festival. The dates fixed were: February 13th, Holmes Chapel; March 20th, Church Lawton; April 24th, Audlem; May 8th, Wybunbury; May 29th, Market Drayton (joint meeting with Shropshire Guild); June 26th, Barthomley; June 19th, Annual Guild Festival at Macclesfield; July 24th, Wrenbury; August 21st, Goostry; September 11th, Acton; October 2nd, Nantwich; October 30th, Alsager; December 4th, Sandbach.

Officers elected to the new committee were: Chairman and president, the Rev. F. G. Gentry; vice-presidents, the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, the Revs. E. C. W. Williams, E. M. B. Southwell and K. Smith, Messrs. S. Hampson, W. Perry, C. Latham and E. Cox; Master of eight-bell towers, Mr. J. H. Nicholls; Master of six-bell towers, Mr. L. Coppenhall; hon. secretary, Mr. W. Kerr; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. Stenson; instructors, Messrs. B. J. Ongley, H. Sutton and J. A. Packer; delegate to meetings, Mr. Waller; representatives on county committee, Messrs. R. H. Langford, Ongley and Packer; Mr. M. Barlow was appointed auditor, with Mr. A. Perry. Delegates to the general committee were Mr. D. Smith and Mr. L. Coppenhall. The balance in hand was given as £6 8s. 3d.

Among the youngest ringers present were David and Nancy Longman, aged 10 and 12 respectively, and 13-year-old Brian Porter.

The service which preceded the tea was conducted by the Rev. F. G. Gentry. Ringing took place in the afternoon and evening and ranged from Superlative Surprise Major to rounds. Eighteen towers were represented.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD

Eighth Annual Meeting Held at Burton-on-Trent

The town of Burton-on-Trent, famed throughout the country for producing that stimulating and refreshing beverage 'Beer' and for its numerous street rail crossings, is also noted by the Exercise during the latter part of the last century for its pioneer band of Surprise ringers at the Church of St. Paul.

The Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Fish), Messrs. J. Jagger, J. Austin, J. Griffen, A. Wakeley and W. C. Wakeley, to mention only a few, were, indeed, the pioneers of Surprise ringing. Also among their many achievements was the 'silent' peal of Stedman Triples on November 20th, 1880.

Following the First World War (1914-1918) this tower was again to the fore when Mr. J. H. Swinfield (Ringing Master) organised that equally famous 'Wednesday' band, and that talented conductor, Mr. M. Swinfield, called over 230 different compositions of Stedman Triples.

This stately church, so enriched in ringing history, was chosen for the eighth annual meeting of the above Guild, which took place on January 9th. Ringers and friends assembled from Ashby, Ticknall, Netherseale, Overseale, Lullington, Packington, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Yoxall, Uttoxeter, Birmingham and the two Burton towers.

Ringing, commencing at 2.30 p.m., was followed by a short service conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Willis-Price), who is also an honorary member of the Guild. He gave a short but inspiring address and extended a welcome to the ringers.

Tea, a much-needed meal, kindly prepared by ladies from the Church of St. Paul, was followed by the annual business meeting.

In the unavoidable absence of the president (Ven. H. E. Fitzherbert, M.A.), Mr. W. H. Curson presided and announced more apologies.

YEARLY REPORT

The secretary, in his report, referred to the loss the Guild had sustained in the deaths of Mr. G. Hatton (Ashley), Mr. S. C. Blackshaw (Winshill) and Mr. P. Wright (Hoar Cross).

Eight meetings had been held with the usual attendance and Guild membership was now 26 honorary members and 120 ringing members.

During the year under review 40 peals had been rung in 17 towers in five counties with 18 conductors. First pealers numbered five, while 17 rang their first peal in a new method. Three new conductors were added to the list, viz. Messrs. J. H. Brittan, A. J. Marriott and P. Marriott. Mr. W. P. Whitehead, with a total of ten, headed the list, followed by Messrs. R. Beniston 6, B. G. Key 3, J. Bailey 3, J. W. Cotton 3, A. Cattell 2, D. R. Carlisle 2, A. J. Marriott, P. Marriott, J. H. Brittan, F. W. Grocott, F. E. Wilshaw, P. W. Grice, S. H. Jones, W. F. Woodward, A. E. Rowley, G. E. Oliver and W. G. Hair one each. Once again the hon. secretary was the Guild's leading peal ringer with 29 peals, followed by the Ringing Master (Mr. S. H. Jones) with 21 peals. Personal milestones were as follows: J. W. Cotton 300 peals, Mr. Ernest Morris 100 peals for the Guild, and Mrs. S. H. Jones first lady member to ring 12 peals in a year for the Guild. Gainsborough Little Bob Major was rung for the first time for the Guild, also nine peals of London Surprise Major were rung during 1953.

The secretary said no review would be complete without reference to the glorious Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. on June 2nd, when, despite the inclement weather, ringers and bells played an important part in the celebrations. Bells were rung at almost every tower in the Guild area and among the widespread peal ringing five 'Coronation'

peals were recorded for the Guild. Restoration work was carried out on Ashley bells and upon the first three bells in the peal of six at Winshill.

The financial statement submitted by the treasurer showed a credit balance of £6 9s. 6d. on the year's working. Grants from the Bell Repair Fund of £5 5s. were made towards the restoration work at Packington and Winshill.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers for 1954 were elected as follows:—President, Ven. H. E. Fitzherbert; chairman, Mr. W. H. Curson; Ringing Master, Mr. I. H. Jones; treasurer, Mr. J. H. Brittan; secretary, Mr. J. W. Cotton; auditor, Mr. T. Pryce; committee, Messrs. B. G. Key, W. F. Woodward, W. G. Soar and E. Beadmore, the latter being also elected a life member of the Guild; Central Council representative, Mr. J. W. Cotton.

An omnibus vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. S. H. Jones, to the Vicar for conducting the service and for the use of the bells, to the local ladies for preparing the tea, and to Mr. B. G. Key for local arrangements brought the meeting to a close.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening included touches in the following methods:—Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Kington District Had 28 New Members Last Year

A brief reference was made in our issue of January 15th to the annual meeting of the Kington District on January 2nd. We have since been supplied with fuller details.

At the service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. Wilkinson), instead of an opening hymn a carol was played by the Eardisland handbell ringers.

The Vicar presided at the business meeting which followed in the vestry and in opening the proceedings said he had a pleasant duty to perform in asking the District secretary (Mr. J. Preece) to accept a small package in recognition of his 30 years' work in that office. The presentation came as a big surprise to the secretary, who thanked all who had subscribed. It was a leather wallet containing £10 in notes, which was the gift of members from eight towers and other ringing friends.

In his report of the past year Mr. Preece said three meetings and six combined practices had been held. Eleven peals had been rung (three Doubles, two Minor, two Triples and four Major). Twenty-eight new members had joined.

The District Ringing Master, Mr. Harris, and the Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. Norgrove, expressed a wish to retire from office. Mrs. Chandler, of Lyonshall, was unanimously elected Ringing Master—believed to be the first lady to hold the office in the Guild—and Mr. B. Ellsmore and Mr. L. Mainwaring Assistant Ringing Masters. Mr. L. Perry was re-elected hon. auditor.

The secretary had mentioned at the last meeting that he hoped the members would get a younger person to accept his office. As no one was willing to become secretary he agreed to carry on for the time being.

The next meeting will be held in May at King's Pyon (5 bells) and a combined practice in March at Lyonshall. The usual votes of thanks were passed.

Ringing continued until 9 p.m. Methods rung included Grandsire, Stedman, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Cambridge, London and Kent Treble Bob Minor.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION

Monmouth Branch Gain 27 New Members

The annual meeting of the Monmouth Branch was held at Rumney on January 16th and some 60 ringers attended. Ringing was ably conducted by the Branch Master (Mr. Ryan Price) and many methods were rung including Cambridge and London Surprise.

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Rumney (the Rev. C. K. Smith), who heartily welcomed the Branch. A bounteous high tea was provided in an adjoining hall and Mrs. Elliot and her helpers were thanked by Mr. F. Hannington.

At the business meeting the secretary read a favourable report of the Branch's activities during the past year. Some 27 new members had been elected and the total membership was now 142. Fresh interest in the Association had been aroused at Cwmavon, Llangibby, Llandenny, Llangatlock and Caerleon. Three new members were elected from Ebbw Vale and Chepstow, and Mr. Norman Smith and Mr. Frank Knight were elected life members.

Mr. David J. King was elected Branch Ringing Master and was invested with the badge of office by the retiring Master, Miss Jacqueline S. Evans was re-elected secretary and was nominated as Central Council representative.

Mr. Trevor Roderick spoke of the long and faithful service given to the Association and to the Central Council by Mr. J. W. Jones. The appreciation of his work will be put on record. Progress was reported from Peterstone by Mr. Ron Lucas.

It was decided to accept the invitation extended by Canon E. T. Davies to hold the next quarterly meeting at Llangibby. J. S. E.

MR. ALBERT WALKER'S 800 PEALS

Of Mr. Albert Walker's 800 peals 519 have been rung on 12 bells. His list also contains the first peal ever rung on 14 bells (Stedman Sextuples 'in hand,' which he conducted). This peal was rung at the first attempt on June 24th, 1922. In all he has conducted 309 peals. His list is appended:—

TOWER BELLS

Minor.—Cambridge 1.
Triples.—Cambridge 5, Darlaston Bob 1, Stedman 18 (conducted 2).

Major.—Plain Bob 3, Kent Treble Bob 5, Double Norwich 8, Superlative 4, Cambridge 15 (3), New Cambridge 2, London 1, Lincolnshire 1, Hitchin 1, Belgrave 1, Yorkshire 6, Crewe 1. Spliced: four methods 1, six methods 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 7 (2), Stedman 79 (44).
Royal.—Plain Bob 2 (1), Kent Treble Bob 10 (4), Yorkshire 9 (1), Cambridge 24 (5), New Cambridge 2, Lincolnshire 1, Prittlewell 1, Solihull 1, Belgrave 1, Pudsey 1, Rutland 1, Warwickshire 1.

Cinques.—Grandsire 3, Erin 1, Stedman 322 (152—1 non-conducted).

Maximus.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 5 (3), Little Bob 1, Yorkshire 7 (1), Cambridge 37 (11—1 non-conducted), New Cambridge 1 (1), Forward 2, Lincolnshire 1, Prittlewell 1, Solihull 1, Belgrave 1, Pontefract 1, Albanian 1, Lindsey 1, Pudsey 2. Spliced: Cambridge and Yorkshire 1.

Total.—605 (230).

HANDBELLS

Triples.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 2.
Major.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 2.
Caters.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 55 (22).
Royal.—Kent Treble Bob 3 (2).
Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Erin 1, Stedman 124 (52—3 non-conducted).
Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 3 (2).
Sextuples.—Stedman 1 (1).
Total.—195 (79).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IS OPPOSITION TO CANNED BELLS PREJUDICE?

Dear Sir,—Much has recently appeared in the columns of 'The Ringing World' about so-called 'canned' bells, and letters have appeared in the national Press decrying their growing prevalence. But is it not of interest that it is only ringers who are complaining? The general public seems to be apathetic, if we are to judge from its silence.

There seem to be two main arguments against the use of recordings. The first, in the words of Mr. F. Haynes at the U.A. reunion, is that it is artificial and not real and that English people did not like unreal things. The second, that it is only ringers who are complaining? To my mind, these two lines of argument offer excellent examples of the maxim that we believe what we want to believe.

If, as Mr. Haynes claims, the English people do not like unreal things, in this case recordings, how are we to account for the enormous market for gramophone records in this country at the present day? As it is clearly impossible to have the London Philharmonic Orchestra or even Humphrey Lyttleton in one's house, a record is used instead. In the same way, it is often the choice of 'canned' bells or no bells that faces a clergyman, particularly in modern churches built in a less substantial manner than their elder brethren. Simply because some ringers do not like to hear the sound of bells from a towerless church is that parish to be deprived of them? The prime purpose, if not the sole one, of bells is to call people to divine worship; it is the sound of the bells that does this, not the bells themselves. And here we see the flaw in the 'parallel' of 'canned' bells with 'canned' choirs and sermons: the general public only knows of ringers by hearing them ringing; not so with the clergy and choir, who are seen at their tasks as well as heard.

With regard to the second argument there has been no mention as yet of dismantling ringing bells to make way for recordings. When, and if there is, then there will be cause for complaint.

If ringers are to attack 'canned' bells, let them admit that they are driven by prejudice rather than try to hide it by futile arguments.—Yours sincerely,

CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

Bodmin, Cornwall.

THE 10,080 GRANDSIRE BOB AT GISLINGHAM, SUFFOLK, 1822

Dear Sir,—I had studied the board recording this peal some three years ago, but reference to the peal in 'Belfry Gossip' in 'The Ringing World' of January 8th, 1954, prompted me to go and look at it again—and to make an inquiry in the village.

It is a stone plaque on the north wall, ground floor, of the tower in Gislingham Church and it is quite interesting for the reason that along the top and the bottom of the board the six bells are painted in their respective sizes, and beside each is its number and a drawing of a tool which, presumably, gives the occupation of the ringer of that bell in this peal.

These tools are as follows:—Treble: A spade or similar affair which points to the ringer being a gardener or a labourer. Two: A blacksmith's anvil. Three: A bricklayer's trowel. Four: A spade, rather like a draining spade. Five: A blacksmith's anvil. Six: An object which looks like a roughly-folded umbrella, though I understand that the ringer's family were all shoemakers.

The inscription is as follows:—
'1822. Ringing on the 6th of April, 10,080 Changes of Grandsire Bob in 6 hours and 35 minutes. By William Selsby. Treble. James

Munns, 2d. James Warner 3rd. Thomas Goldson 4th. And completed the peal: William Munns 5th. Thomas Selsby 6th.'

It therefore seems that the two Munns were blacksmiths.

In his house, opposite the existing blacksmith's shop, I found Mr. Walter Martin, aged 82, an old Gislingham ringer, who has lived in the village all his life—60 years in his present house. He is looking forward to celebrating his diamond wedding on April 29th next.

He told me that his father knew some of the ringers in the peal, and it is said that they locked themselves in the tower (nothing unusual!) and had an extra man giving them sustenance with a tea spoon, some of them being 'in rather a mess before they finished'!

I am afraid that I cannot answer your inquirer's question as to whether the peal was on five bells with the tenor behind, but Mr. Ronald W. Steward, of the Suffolk Guild, can probably do so as he refers to this peal in a letter published in the 'East Anglian Magazine' of current issue. In this he shows that the longest peal on six in Suffolk was at Rickingham Superior on Saturday, May 5th, 1928:—10,800 changes in 5 hours 37 minutes (over 700 changes more than the Gislingham peal, yet nearly an hour shorter time). He goes on to refer to the 15,120 on six at Wath-on-Dearne, Yorks, but does not give the date.

I thought how nice it would be to have a peal at Gislingham on Mr. Martin's golden wedding day but—alas! He tells me that the bells have not been raised for about ten years (I expect he means before the war) and gudgeons and so on are much worn. It is sad to have to record that the whole church is in a state of neglect—the churchyard, too. Louvers are out of the tower window glass out of others, the knots of the tied bell ropes are grease-bound showing that they have not been untied for years but merely held for chiming (tolling in). All kinds of things are stacked here and there—parts of either pews or a screen, and so on. Thousands of pounds are needed to put it in order and I cannot see where the money will ever come from. Is it another ruin on the way? It is a large church for a small country parish.

On the plaster of the ringing room wall are painted some names—undoubtedly those of former ringers. These are crudely done but much embellished and they appear at each ringer's place. They read:—John Howard 2. John Barnham, Thomas Offwood, Thomas Fremantle 4. . . . Silsby, 1717. George Bucknall 5.

Mr. Martin told me that, even with his 82 years of residence in Gislingham, he did not know of a single descendant of any of the peal ringers, or any of those whose names appear on the wall, now living in the parish.

Dr. J. J. Raven in his 'Church Bells of Suffolk, 1890,' gives this information about the bells:—'Treble. William Dobson, 1814; 2, 3 and 4, Miles Graye, 1641; 5 and tenor, John Darbie, 1671. Tenor 4½in. diameter in E. Fine-toned bells.'

CLAUDE RUSH.

Eye, Suffolk.

SHEFFIELD PEAL WITHDRAWN

Dear Sir,—I regret that I must withdraw the peal of Rutland Surprise Major rung at St. Marie's R.C. Church, Sheffield, on December 26th, 1953, as I have since found the composition to be false.

I would like to tender my apologies to the other members of the band for this carelessness.—Yours sincerely,

W. E. CRITCHLEY.

Doncaster.

GEORGE WILLIAMS COMMEMORATION DINNER

Dear Sir,—Mr. D. Matkin's letter, published in Jan. 15th issue, could lead to some misunderstanding, therefore I hasten to explain that not until the morning of the annual District meeting at Christchurch on December 5th last was it obvious to me (for private reasons) that I should be unable to organise this year's function.

The proposal to allow the dinner and rally to lapse, because of this, caught me unawares, and I left the meeting with mixed feelings. Since then I have had conversation with the District chairman, Mr. David Reed, who told me he thought someone might be found to take on the job; therefore a report of our meeting was not sent in for publication and we decided to make a move by calling the old committee together in the New Year. That we have been forestalled matters little; I, personally, am delighted that the Bournemouth rally and dinner will take place in 1954, and, I hope, will for many years to come.—Yours faithfully,
Bournemouth. ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

'An English Heritage' That Must Be Kept Alive at All Costs

To correspondence relating to 'Bells of the Countryside' that has been appearing in 'The Western Gazette,' Yeovil, Mr. H. J. Sanger, of Evercreech, has made a useful contribution, as follows:—

We have read much in our papers of late regarding synthetic bells and the like, but nothing will ever replace or give the same pleasure to the countryman as do the bells of our village churches. It is often difficult in the country, and much more so in the towns, to get and keep a band of faithful people to ring the bells regularly, but the effort, great as it may be, is well worth while. The art of change ringing is a part of our English heritage and must be kept alive at all cost. It is unfortunate that in some of our towers the bells are rarely rung; in many cases this has come about because quite faithful old bands have failed to look ahead and train young people in the art, with the ultimate result that as the older ones pass on there are none to take their places and the bands die out. To start a new band is then a major problem, and only those who have experienced such a problem can appreciate the magnitude of the job.

Much could be written on this subject, but for the moment I would say to all experienced ringers do your utmost to train young people in the art and so keep it alive; and to the clergy and other responsible Church people: take a real interest in your ringers, visit them in the belfry and help to influence the right type of young people to come along and be taught our art.

FORTY YEARS AGO

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, January 20th, 1914, in 3 hours and 37 minutes

At the Church of St. Michael
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB
MAXIMUS. 5,040 CHANGES

Samuel Wood	..	..	..	..	Treble
Charles Bower	..	..	..	..	2
Benjamin Gill	..	..	..	..	3
Charles Broadbent	..	..	..	..	4
Thomas Jakeman	..	..	..	..	5
Joseph Mellor	..	..	..	..	6
Samuel Greenhalgh	..	..	..	..	7
Joseph Ridyard	..	..	..	..	8
John Harrison	..	..	..	..	9
Albert Adams	..	..	..	..	10
Samuel Booth	..	..	..	..	11
Harry Chapman	..	..	..	..	Tenor

Composed and conducted by Samuel Wood.
First peal of Maximus in the method by all,
and the first peal of Oxford Maximus in
the North of England.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

PRESENTATION OF SILVER SALVER TO THE RETIRING MASTER—MR. FRANK E. HAWTHORNE
HIS SUCCESSOR—A NEW SECRETARY—MOTION TO CENTRAL COUNCIL ON RECORDED BELLS

MEMBERS of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths expressed their tangible appreciation of the service to the Society by Mr. G. H. Cross, the retiring Master, by presenting him with an inscribed silver salver at the annual meeting held at the Vestry Hall, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, last Saturday. Mr. Cross has been Master of the Society for 18 years with a break of one year, and has retired from office in view of his decision to live in the West Country.

The presentation was made by the senior steward, Mr. F. E. Hawthorne, and the salver was inscribed: 'Presented to Mr. G. H. Cross by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on his retirement as Master, 23rd January, 1954.'

'I would like you to accept this with the best wishes of the Society,' said Mr. Hawthorne in making the presentation, 'to remind you of the years you have been Master, and I hope you will live long to remember your years with the Society.'

In thanking the members for their gift, Mr. Cross said that all that he had done for the Cumberlands had been a pleasure and he thanked his wife for permitting him to attend to his duties. Perhaps when he had retired his wife would be able to go out and ring the 20 peals necessary for her 100.

He expected they had read the letters in 'The Ringing World' over the Mastership. He pointed out that while their headquarters were at St. Martin's it was their duty to keep the bells going there.

Mr. A. A. Hughes had appealed to members of the Universities Association to help with the bells of St. Olave's. Before the war the Society used to ring those bells every sixth week on a Sunday evening. He was told on Thursday night that they were trying to get three bodies to ring the bells of St. Olave's. One was from Lloyds in Fenchurch Street, another from the Income Tax Office (he presumed they would ring half-muffled for people who did not like paying taxes), and the other was from the Bank of England.

He noticed that Messrs. John Taylor were putting in a bell at St. Bride's. Last year he wrote to the Rector and received a reply that no order had been given for any bells and if they did anything he would write to him. He had heard nothing since then.

Again thanking the members of the Society for their friendship, Mr. Cross said in 1927 he was made a Cumberland at Croydon. He thought only Mr. Tom Bevan had been ringing longer regularly at St. Martin's than he had.

'QUITE SATISFACTORY YEAR'

Mr. G. H. Cross presided at the beginning of the meeting supported by Mrs. C. J. Matthews (hon. secretary) and Mr. W. R. Winterton (hon. treasurer). An apology was received from Mr. Cecil Matthews.

In her report the secretary stated that she thought they might say that 1953, as befitted Coronation year, was quite satisfactory as far as the Society was concerned. Thirty-four new members were elected, one less than last year. Nine peals were rung as against only three in 1952.

As to the meetings, the joint one with the Middlesex in December at St. Martin's and St. Margaret's was a magnificent success—almost too much, and she had been asked if they could have another this year. That and a joint meeting with the Middlesex at Twickenham would be discussed later.

The dinner in October, although not so well attended as in former years, was very successful, although there was a loss. She had hinted to Mr. Cross that they should have a new secretary. 'Although I have enjoyed my work very much and hope I have performed it satis-

factorily, I really think it is time someone else did it.'

£100 BALANCE NECESSARY

Mr. Winterton presented the balance sheet. The year started, he said, with a balance of £116 1s. 6d. and ended with £125 11s. 9d. There was a loss of £1 19s. 6d. on the St. Albans meeting and £9 on the dinner. That was a bit of a blow from a treasurer's point of view although it was an extremely good dinner. Since then they had had an anonymous gift of £2 9s. towards the cost of the dinner. Just after the war the balance of the Society was £42. They had now got it to over £100 and he thought they should keep it at £100.

The report and balance sheet were adopted and the Master thanked Mr. Winterton for getting the medallion of the Master repaired.

New members elected were Brian Paterson (Bedford), Evelyn Pryke (Brentwood), Michael Lakin and Peter Nash (Winchester).

THE MASTERSHIP

There were two nominations for the office of Master, Mr. Frank E. Hawthorne and Mr. Tom Francis. A ballot was taken and Mr. Hawthorne was elected to the office.

Returning thanks after being installed, Mr. Hawthorne said: 'I am very pleased to have a go at filling this office that has been so well filled by Mr. Cross.' In the light of what had appeared in 'The Ringing World' he felt that the office of Master should go round. The office in a Society like theirs was more in the way of an honour and it would be of benefit to a national society like theirs if it was so regarded. He thought it would be of more benefit to the Society if the young fellow coming along had a chance of this office. In the future the office should go round more, not that he had anything to say against Mr. Cross. He thought the Society had been kept together by Mr. Cross and they had a lot to thank him for.

Mr. Cross, on behalf of the Society, wished Mr. Hawthorne well in his office and was sure everyone would rally round and help him. During the time he had held office two of his best supporters had been the late Mr. George Steere and Mr. Tom Bevan, who was at St. Martin's before him and had done good service to that church and the Cumberlands.

For the post of secretary there were two nominations—Mr. Arthur Butler and Mr. Peter N. Bond. A ballot resulted in the election of Mr. Bond.

Other elections were: Hon. treasurer, Mr. Winterton; senior steward, Mr. Tom Francis; junior steward, Mr. Frank Matthews; trustees, Mr. R. Ling and Mr. Cecil Matthews; auditors, Mrs. Deal and Mr. H. E. Audsley.

CENTRAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION FEE

Before the election of Central Council representatives, Mr. G. H. Cross raised an important point. He said the Central Council decided to increase their affiliation fee from 5s. to 10s. They had no right to spend a Society's money before the matter had been referred to the members.

The new Master said he was present at the Central Council meeting and the recommendation came as a bombshell. Mr. Charles Kippin asked whether the Council were in order because none of the representatives had had an opportunity of consulting their members. He was informed that they were.

Mr. Cross then moved that the Central Council be informed that in future before they proposed to increase their affiliation fees the matter should receive the approval of the individual Societies or Associations affiliated to the Council.

This was agreed to and Messrs. G. H. Cross, T. Francis, F. E. Hawthorne and P. N. Bond

were elected to represent the Society on the Central Council.

MEETINGS FOR 1954

After discussion the following meetings were approved:—Sevenoaks, March 27th; Windsor or Hatfield, June 12th; Parish Church and St. John's, Croydon, September 18th; joint meeting with the Middlesex at St. Martin's, December 4th. As an extra meeting a joint meeting with the Middlesex Association at Twickenham on July 17th was agreed to.

On the proposition of Mr. T. Francis, it was decided to hold the annual dinner on the first Saturday in October, the arrangements being left in the hands of the officers.

Mr. Winterton stated that Mr. Cross had offered his copies of 'The Ringing World' for the years 1928 to 1953 to the Society. He sought permission to have these bound. By special arrangement Mr. Ling had offered to bind them at 7s. 6d. a volume. The meeting thanked Mr. Cross for his gift and accepted the offer of Mr. Ling, which was very much below the trade price.

RECORDED BELLS

Mr. T. Martin Page raised the question of recorded bells, a matter that had been very prominent in 'The Ringing World' and the national Press. The Church Assembly had not taken a vote on the question. He would like to see the Cumberlands put forward to the Central Council a motion that they should consider the question and do whatever was in their powers to make representation to the Church Assembly and the Diocesan Authorities. One or two of them had tried to do so through the national Press and from their county Associations to their own Dioceses. He knew that in lots of cases ringers could be blamed but if ringing was to be carried out as an art, as it had been for the past 300 years, it was up to them 'to clear the decks for action' against synthetic bells.

Continuing, Mr. Page said a lot of architects who were dealing with new churches had no knowledge of bell hanging. They went for vertical features which might form excellent support for gramophone records but were no good for bells.

The Master commented that only in that week's 'Ringing World' there was a case where local people had refused to have synthetic bells. That was at Uphill, where there was a church practically in ruins, but every Sunday afternoon in the summer the ringers from Weston-super-Mare went there to ring. Ringers must give up some of their time to train those coming forward.

Mr. Frank Lufkin said that nothing could be put into a church without a faculty, and in every case of recorded bells the application had to come before the Diocesan Advisory Committee. One of the most practical methods would be to have a ringers' representative on the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

The meeting unanimously decided to send a resolution to the Central Council asking them to do everything in their power to oppose recorded bells.

Mr. Cross brought forward the request from the Central Council for a donation of 10s. from each affiliated Society for the provision of an oak case in St. Paul's Cathedral to house the ringers' roll of honour. Upon the proposition of Mr. T. Francis, seconded by Mr. Martin Harbutt, it was decided to contribute 10s.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Peter Bond it was decided to conerulate Mr. E. A. Barnett, a member of the Society, upon his election as hon. secretary and treasurer of the Central Council.

(Continued on next page)

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Youth in Evidence in Dorchester Branch

The annual meeting of the Dorchester Branch took place at St. Peter's Church, Dorchester, on January 16th. Ringing commenced at about 2.30 p.m. and the eight bells were kept going to Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Major until the Guild service at 4 o'clock, conducted by the vice-chairman of the Branch, the Ven. Archdeacon J. C. Chute, Rector of Piddlehinton.

The lesson was read by the Rev. S. P. Rowcroft, Vicar of Abbotsbury, and the Rev. Canon A. Wilkinson Markby, Rector of St. Peter's and chairman of the Branch, gave the address, taking for his text, 'How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?'

Ringers, said the chairman, were preachers, sending the message of the bells to all who cared to listen, reminding everyone that there is a church in the district and that God will be worshipped there.

The Rector mentioned that he recently had a conversation with another clergyman, who told him that the bells formerly hung in his church had been sold and where there were once six bells only two remained, and they were silent.

Not even silent preachers, said Canon Markby, just silent, when bells were meant to carry their message far and near.

Tea was served in St. Peter's Institute by Mrs. J. W. Smith and other ladies of St. Peter's, who were heartily thanked by the chairman when he opened the business meeting.

Following the minutes, apologies were read from the Rev. and Mrs. Godley (Yetminster), at present on holiday in East Africa, and the Rev. A. Wheeler (Frampton and Sydling).

The hon. secretary and treasurer (Mr. J. H. Hayne), in his report, stated that membership was now 163, of whom 144 were ringing members, a slight decrease from last year, but there was evidence of more young people taking an active interest in the Exercise.

Meetings had been held at Dorchester, Maiden Newton, Charminster, Piddlehinton and Abbotsbury and the fortnightly branch meetings were proving as popular as ever. Fifteen quarter peals had been rung, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Doubles and Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples, the towers being Abbotsbury, Charminster, Martins-town, Preston, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regis.

Two members had passed away during 1953. Miss Markby, of Dorchester, sister of the chairman and an honorary member for many years, and Mr. C. S. House, a consistent and long-serving ringing member of St. Peter's, Dorchester.

The balance sheet for the past year showed a credit balance of just over £40, and both the report and financial statement were accepted.

Officers were elected as follows:—Chairman, Canon A. W. Markby; vice-chairman, Ven. J. C. Chute; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. H. Hayne; hon. assistant secretary, Mr. R. H. Duke; Ringing Master, Mr. F. Precey (Wool); Deputy Ringing Masters, Mr. H. J. Ford (Abbotsbury) and Mr. F. Stedman (Wyke Regis).

Twenty new members were elected: Messrs. M. Adams and J. Payne (St. Peter's, Dorchester), Mr. G. Rose and Mrs. Rose (Wyke Regis), Henry Goringe (aged ten, Cattistock), Miss V. Ricketts, Miss R. Pitfield and Mr. R. Pitfield (Bere Regis), Mr. J. Harrison (Fordington), Mrs. M. Corben, Miss M. Fairbairn and Miss D. Waite (Preston), Mr. P. Daubeney and Norman Hayne aged 8 (Abbotsbury), Mr. J. Symes (Sydling), Messrs. H. Runyard and D.

Gibbs (Wool) ringing members; and the Rev. S. P. Rowcroft (Abbotsbury) and the Rev. F. C. Whittier (Wool) honorary members; and Mrs. Duke (Dorchester) associate member.

Suggested meetings for 1954 were Frampton and Wool, other venues to be arranged by the secretary and chairman in consultation with the incumbents.

Several members spoke at length on the subject of Thursday meetings and it was agreed to hold a Thursday gathering as a test, and to talk the matter over again later.

The question of the transfer of Litton Cheney from the West Dorset to the Dorchester Branch was discussed, and the case for Litton Cheney was put forward by Mr. R. Clothier, a member of that tower.

Being on the extreme edge of the West Dorset area, he said, it was easier to visit towers in the Dorchester District and they had had considerable help from the Dorchester Branch and would be pleased to change over.

The secretary read a letter from the Litton Church Council, in which the point was made that the church was in the deanery covered by the Dorchester Branch, and therefore it seemed quite feasible that the transfer should be beneficial.

Canon C. Carew Cox, Master of the Salisbury Guild and chairman of the West Dorset Branch, said in reply that the matter should be brought before the Guild Committee and he advised the Litton Cheney ringers to contact the secretary of the West Dorset Branch on the subject. This was agreed to.

Canon Cox said it was always a great pleasure to attend the meetings of the Dorchester Branch, as they were so very much alive, and in view of the election of so many members at the meeting he saw no reason to be alarmed for the future.

Also, said the Canon, the Dorchester Branch did get its clergy to attend meetings, which showed that they were definitely interested in their ringers. Mr. Cox thought that ringers should attend service as often as convenient, but should not be bound by a hard and fast rule.

Mr. Paul Field spoke very forcibly on the subject of synthetic bells (records of bells played from towers which carried no ringing bells). He proposed that a letter be sent from the meeting asking the Bishop and the Advisory Council of the Diocese to prohibit the use of such recordings in the Salisbury Diocese. Carried unanimously.

The ringers then adjourned to the tower and ringing went on in various methods until 9 p.m. under the direction of the Ringing Master (Mr. Fred Precey), while some of the company visited Fordington (6), where Mr. Harry Ford took charge. J. H. H.

CUMBERLANDS' MEETING—Cont.

The meeting agreed on the proposition of Mr. R. Ling to amend Rule 4, which stated that Society peals shall be entered in the peal book by a professional writer to a 'peal writer approved by the Society's officers.'

Mr. T. Bevan said last year he appealed for a small donation for St. Anne's, Higheate. The cost of church repairs was £2,000 and that to the bells £80. He felt they should send a donation.

The meeting agreed to vote two guineas on the proposition of Mr. G. H. Cross.

Proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicars of Shoreditch and St. Martin-in-the-Fields for the use of the bells that day, Mr. Cross said the bells at Shoreditch should be boarded up and they were going to do it. They were all happy to hear that St. Martin's belfry was to be repaired and some new mats supplied.

Ringing took place after the meeting at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN.

North and East District

The meeting at Finchley on January 9th was attended by over 30 ringers, there being eight affiliated towers represented, and some visiting friends including Messrs. G. W. Pipe (Suffolk), D. W. Beara (Essex) and P. N. Bond (Sussex). A wide variety of method ringing was thus enjoyed on the light, well-going ring of eight bells but the time passed too quickly to enable a complete programme to be fulfilled. The parish is, at the moment, without an incumbent—the Rev. M. Ridley, hon. member, having died during last year—and it is to be hoped that the authorities responsible for selecting the new incumbent will recommend a person who takes an interest in, and encourages the art of bellringing.

The most important item of the business meeting, presided over by Mr. C. W. Ward, Monken Hadley, was, by election, the return of the Edgware tower to the Association, after a lapse of many years due to the bells not being rung. Edgware was one of the founding members of the Association. Six members of the tower, Messrs. R. G. Ouston, H. Clayton, B. O. Hughes, D. Porter, D. Ward and A. Warris were elected on the proposition of Mr. C. C. Mayne, who is teaching the band. Messrs. J. D. Taylor (Harrow Weald) and G. E. Powell and Miss M. Smith (Enfield) were also elected ringing members, whilst the provisional election of Mr. D. K. Adkins (Abbots Langley), as a non-resident life member, was duly ratified.

Thanks were accorded to the Rev. M. Finch, curate, and to Mr. L. E. Tubb, local captain, for making arrangements for the meeting.

T. J. L.

A NORTH MUSKHAM WEDDING

Many congratulations have been extended to Mr. Frederick George Hooper, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hooper, of 31, Spring Gardens, Newark, and Miss Annie Kathleen Streeton, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Streeton, of North Muskham, who were married at St. Mildred's Church, North Muskham, on December 31st. They are both members of the local change ringing band. The bridegroom is also a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, the Southwell Diocesan Guild, the Lincoln Diocesan Guild and the Irish Association.

The Vicar (the Rev. Mr. Rigden) officiated at the choral service, with Mr. S. Granger as organist.

The bride, who was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. Hollingworth, of Hayes, Kent, was attended by her niece, Miss Kathleen Hollingworth, as bridesmaid. Mr. J. L. Hooper was best man to his brother.

The bells were rung to Grandsire Doubles by the local band as the couple left the church. At the same time a wedding compliment was being paid to them by a quarter peal of Stedman Triples at St. Mary's, Nottingham, conducted by Mr. B. Buswell. The band here was representative of the Southwell Diocesan Guild.

QUARTER PEALS

BODENHAM, HEREFORDS.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Palmer 1, S. Lewis 2, R. Billings 3, F. Proctor 4, T. Rushton (cond.) 5, G. Tong 6.

BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Crawley 1, Mrs. E. Glover (first quarter) 2, G. Nicholls (first quarter) 3, A. R. Groves 4, W. Glover 5, H. Bradley (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Gerald Ridley.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFS.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. R. Whalley (cond.) 1, Miss R. Snell (first 'inside') 2, W. Massey 3, G. D. Whalley 4, P. S. Whalley 5, R. S. Anderson 6, E. A. Ede 7, G. W. Biddulph 8. Half-muffled as a token of respect at the memorial service following the death of Mr. W. Wyborn.

BEDFORDSHIRE YOUNG RINGERS

Boxing Day Outing

EVERY year on Boxing Day we sally forth into neighbouring counties and this time our choice was the area to the south of Northampton and included a part of Buckinghamshire.

A quarter peal started the day at Hanslope, a fine-toned ring of eight. It is said that from the height of the tower parapet on a clear day one can see the Wash, 70 miles distant. However, our eyes were more for the countryside round about. The morning continued with visits to Potterspury and Grafton Regis. Lunch at Alderton was enjoyed in the cosiness of the local hostelry or even more snugly in one of the cars. After the light five at Alderton the bells of Stoke Bruerne were in sharp contrast. Any-one with strength enough could have good exercise on this five; one 120 was enough for us. And then on to Courteenhall, a five of great charm.

We arrived at Roade to find the Vicar and many ringers waiting to welcome us. Here the ladies had no difficulty at all in ringing a touch. where the ringing space occupies the width of the chancel between the choir stalls. Then we just had to visit Ashton, the namesake of one of our party. These bells are a true Minor five, and to alleviate the melancholy the fall was in the order 14325.

Finally Stoke Goldington, Buckinghamshire, completed the day's nine towers, and after a day of mostly Doubles methods ringing on this musical six was quite refreshing. There was a supper waiting for us at Kempston and the tongues were wagging until a late hour.

PEAL ATTEMPT

Our very best wishes go to Douglas and Pat Johnston (née Gilbert), who were married on December 28th at Black Torrington, Devon. A peal of Cambridge Major was arranged for the same day at Bromham, but was lost after an hour and a half of good ringing. However, an excellent quarter peal of Little Bob Major was rung in honour of our ties of friendship with Pat, who was with us on our very first tour, in August, 1950, and on whose farm in Devon we stayed a week during the 1952 tour.

THE ANNUAL REUNION

Eleven members were present at the reunion held at Bromham on January 2nd. Ringing at the church during the afternoon gathered in members from all over the county and beyond. A few familiar faces were absent, notably that of our leader, Michael Stephens, languishing at home with a cold.

The party at Miss Swan Oshorn's home launched us into the all-important planning of outings and the summer tour. A ringing weekend in the vicinity of Ely was decided upon for April 24th-25th. But as the voting for the third week in August was divided equally between Surrey and Somerset, the subject of the summer tour was shelved. Looking still further into the future, the rival attractions of canoeing and barge-cruising as alternatives to cycling were discussed and inquiries are to be made into the possibilities of the latter form of transport. Who knows but that in a few years' time the Bedfordshire Young Ringers may have taken to water like the proverbial duck?

This having concluded the business, a series of games enlivened the evening. During a period of recuperation following one of these, a toast was drunk in honour of the friends we have made in the course of our travels, to whom were added in 1953 many in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and Huntingdonshire. More games followed, and finally ghost stories brought the evening to a close.

Originally the August tour was the only occasion of our all meeting together, and although our main activities are periodic outings and the annual tour, this social occasion just after Christmas is becoming one of the most enjoyable. R. W. S.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN BRASSINGTON

The Chester Diocesan Guild has lost a ringer of 50 years' standing by the death of Mr. John Brassington, of Fir Tree Cottage, Barthomley, aged 73 years. For many years a postman, 'Jack' was a lovely, quiet, unassuming character. He rang 88 peals for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

At the funeral service on January 12th at Barthomley Church the Rev. J. Bennett officiated. The six bearers were all ringing colleagues. They were Messrs. E. Allman, G. Astbury, F. Windsor, J. Timmis, H. Astbury and T. Skerratt.

MR. A. E. GASSON

It is with sincere regret that we record the death on January 12th of Mr. Albert E. Gasson at the age of 84 years.

Mr. Gasson was vice-captain of St. Mary's, Balcombe, Sussex, from 1908 to 1911, and captain from 1911 to 1938, and was also verger and sexton, carrying out these duties right up to the week previous to his death.

He had several six- and eight-bell peals to his credit and during his time as captain he taught many members to ring. He will be greatly missed by the local ringers and his many ringing friends.

A memorial service was held at St. Mary's on Sunday, January 17th, when the bells were rung half-muffled, and on Saturday, January 16th, a half-muffled memorial peal of Grandsire Triples was lost after two hours' ringing. Another attempt for a peal to his memory will be made. J. H. G. G.

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

TRUEMAN—TESSON.—The engagement is announced between Ivor, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Trueman, of Ashbury, Blunsdon, Swindon, Wilts, and Heather, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Tesson, of McAdam, Stapehill, Wimborne, Dorset. 3865

IN MEMORIAM

COLES.—In loving memory of C. T. Coles, died February 2nd, 1946, and his beloved son Freddie, killed in Tunisia April, 1943. 3950

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., now out of print. A few copies only left at original price, 21s. From the author, Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. 3454

MISCELLANEOUS

The name and address of the secretary of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths is P. N. Bond, Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. Phone: Hildenborough 3221. 3852

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.—Stockport Branch. — Annual meeting, Stockport St. George, Jan. 30th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec. 3811

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting, March (6), Jan. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—Miss M. Grain, Dis. Sec. 3828

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 30th, Shalford. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Meeting and tea, S. Nicolas' Hall, Guildford, followed by social evening. Tickets for social 2s. each, obtainable from Mr. R. Kenward, 7, Raymond Crescent, Dennisville, Guildford; Mr. R. H. Mills, 35, West Farnborough, Hants; Mr. R. Shepherd, 82, Bond Street, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey; Mr. A. H. Smith, The Bungalow, Bookham Rec., Leatherhead. 3812

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A.G.M. at St. Andrew's, Hertford, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service and tea. 3831

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District. — Quarterly meeting, Sidcup, Saturday, Jan. 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. 3834

LADIES' GUILD. — Central District. — Annual meeting on Jan. 30th at St. James', Clerkenwell. Bells from 3-4.30 p.m. followed by service, tea and business. Evening ringing St. George's-in-the-Borough 6.30-8 p.m. Names for tea to Miss M. Prockson, 37, Long Meadow Road, Sidcup, Kent.—A. E. Salter, Dis. Sec. 3803

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 30th, All Saints', Poplar. Ringing 3-4.45. Tea Lyons' Cafe. Short service 6 o'clock. Business in tower and further ringing to follow.—Boyack, Dis. Sec. 3829

SOUTHEAST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual general meeting will be held at Prittlewell on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Everyone welcome. 3830

SURREY ASSOCIATION—North Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Epsom on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Christ Church (8) 3 p.m. Tea at the Cricketers', Epsom Common, 4.30, followed by meeting. St. Martin's (10) after meeting. Election of District officers and committee. Nominations for general officers also three Central Council representatives. Notice for tea to Mr. Oakshott, Downs View, Lewins Road, Epsom. — R. Lathbury, Hon. Dis. Sec. 3782

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Annual District meeting at St. Michael's, Basingstoke, on Saturday, Jan. 30th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Church Cottage.—John Chesterman, Leacroft, Sherborne St. John, Basingstoke. 3785

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Practice, Monday, Feb. 1st, 7.15, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Annual general meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th. St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark. 2.15 to 4.30; St. Mary's, Lambeth. 2.30 to 4.30; Southwark Cathedral 3.45 to 4.45 and after meeting. Service 5. Tea, business and handbell competition in Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street. 6. Names for tea, please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers. 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921. 3841

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.—Dr. P. Jonason, White House, E. Harling, Norwich.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Annual meeting, Feb. 6th. Ringing at St. Peter's, Bedford (8) at 2.30. Service 4.30 in St. Peter's Church. Tea in Church Hall at 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea must be sent, before the day, to Bryan Pattison, 51, Winchester Road, Bedford. 3874

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—Annual meeting of the Northwich Branch at Witton on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Will all those who intend to be present please inform, not later than Thursday, Feb. 4th, H. Parker, 64, Church Road, Northwich. 3871

COVENTRY GUILD.—Southern District.—Ladbroke, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Social in evening. Harbury bells available 3-4.15. Good bus service Leamington-Harbury. Arrangements being made for conveyance from Harbury to Ladbroke. Bus leaves Ladbroke for Leamington at 9.35 p.m. All welcome, but please notify for tea—this is most important.—Edden, Deppers Bridge, Southam. Rugby. (Harbury 314.) 3849

CUMBERLAND AND N.W. ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Annual meeting, Egremont, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names by previous Tuesday, please.—J. A. Maile, 1, Main Street, St. Bees. 3879

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Annual meeting at Cambridge, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells: St. Andrew-the-Great (8) 3-4.30 p.m. and evening. Service 4.30 p.m.; St. Benet's (6) 2.30-4 p.m.; 6.45-8 p.m.; R.C. (8) 7.30-8.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Parish Room, Emmanuel Road.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 3870

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stroud Branch.—Meeting at Painswick (12), Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, Feb. 2nd.—S. T. Price, 1, Bridge Cottage, Gloucester Road, Stonehouse, Glos. 3861

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at Stone (6), Feb. 6th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify for tea by Feb. 2nd.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 3855

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—Feb. 6th. St. Michael's (City) (6), 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Good attendance, please.—A. Bennett. 3880

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at Chertsey. Bells (8) available 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea essential by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd.—R. I. Shepherd, 82, Bond Street, Englefield Green, Feham. 3826

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service, St. Leonard's 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by meeting. Notifications for tea, not later than Thursday, Feb. 4th, to H. G. Thomas, 104, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth. 3847

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at Watford (10) 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names for tea not later than Friday, 5th.—R. G. Bell, 1341, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford. (Tel.: Watford 7936.) 3864

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at St. Michael's, Blackburn, Feb. 6th. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. A tea will be provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 3851

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at St. John's Church, Blackpool, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—J. H. Foster. 3878

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ormskirk Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m.—7 p.m. No arrangements for tea.—W. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec. 3881

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Annual meeting, Grimsby (8), Feb. 6th. Bells 2.40. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, by Feb. 3rd, to G. W. Moody, Walcot, Scunthorpe. 3837

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Tunstall, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Own arrangements for tea.—W. Carnwell, Hon. Sec. 3843

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at East Garston, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. West Shefford bells at 6.30 p.m. Names for tea, by Feb. 3rd, to G. Woodley, 3, School Lane, East Garston, Newbury. 3815

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Buckland, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea, by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, to M. J. Prior, 59, Marlborough Gardens, Faringdon, Berks. 3833

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Monthly meeting at Loughton, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells (6) at 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 3872

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wokingham on Feb. 6th. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m. Tea and meeting in Parish Room 5 p.m. Ringing from 3 p.m. and after meeting. Notify for tea by Feb. 2nd.—B. C. Castle, The Briars, Westfield Road, Winkers, Wokingham. 3846

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Annual, St. Giles', Northampton, Feb. 6th. Names for tea essential (catered 2s.), to reach me by Feb. 2nd. Branch committee 3 p.m. at Buildwags.—Eric Nobles, Hon. Branch Sec., 14, Millway, Dunsdon. 3823

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Spratton, Feb. 6th. Names for tea essential, by Feb. 2nd, to E. Orland, High Street, Long Buckby, Rugby. Creation bells available after 6 p.m. 3844

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting at Warminster, Feb. 6th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea to F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 3854

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Sheffield, Saturday, Feb. 6th. St. Marie's 3 p.m.; Cathedral evening. Tea only by request to.—Mr. H. O. Chaddock, 1, Hemsworth Road, Sheffield 8. 3858

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Radcliffe-on-Trent (8), Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Cuns of tea 5 p.m.; please take own food. 3819

SUFFOLK GUILD.—General meeting, Bury St. Edmunds, Feb. 6th. Bells (8 and 10) from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting after tea for ratification for altering date of annual meeting and increasing annual subscription to 4s. or adopting sixpenny peal levy. Limited number for tea. Notify Mr. William Stannard, South Cottage, Raingate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.—C. W. Pice. 3848

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting at Horsham, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at 3 p.m. Tea for those who advise by Feb. 3rd.—G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 3875

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Annual meeting of Winchester District combined with dedication of Guild's War Memorial in Cathedral belfry on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells: Cathedral (12) 1-2, 6-7; St. Maurice (6) 7.30. Business meeting in St. Maurice Hall 2.30. Followed by tea at 3.30. Dedication at 4.45. No one will be permitted to enter belfry after 4.40. Evensong in choir 5.15. Names, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec. 3836

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Annual meeting, Feb. 6th, at Alton. Bells (8) available 4.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Business meeting follows. Numbers for tea by Feb. 3rd.—C. E. Bassett, Warsash, Southampton. 3856

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Annual meeting, Carisbrooke and Newport, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea to Mrs. Guy, Watergate Road, Newport. Business meeting follows. 3862

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Feb. 13th, 3 p.m. Business: Proposed alteration of rules. 3857

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The District annual meeting on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Farnham (8). Ringing from 2-4.30 p.m. only. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Owen Hall at 5 p.m. followed by the business meeting. Social evening from 7-9 p.m. Inclusive price of tea and social 2s. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. C. W. Denyer, 115, West Street, Farnham.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 3816

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Bethersden (6) on Feb. 13th. Bells 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Names for tea, by Tuesday, Feb. 9th, please, to Mr. H. Jarvis, Cheriton, Ashford Road, Bethersden. 3866

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Meeting at Waterbury (6), Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmridge, Ditton, Maidstone. 3867

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Emmanuel, Everton. Bells open 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea must be sent, before Wednesday, Feb. 10th, to.—Mr. E. Radcliffe, 8, Radnor Road, Tuebrook, Liverpool 6. (Tel.: ANF 2930.) 3853

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly general meeting at Sileby on Feb. 13th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 in the Pochin Hall, but only for application received not later than Feb. 10th. Names to Mr. W. Draper, Highgate Road, Sileby, near Loughborough.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 3863

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Annual meeting, Aberdare, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by Feb. 9th, to Mr. G. Kerley, 49, Monk Street, Aberdare.—R. E. Coles, Branch Sec. 3845

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Diss on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. at the Corn Hall. The usual welcome to Suffolk ringers. Palgrave bells available evening. Names for tea, by Feb. 9th, to A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss. 3845

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Annual meeting, Feb. 13th. Mortimer, St. Mary's (8), St. John's (6), 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Burghfield (6) 6.30 p.m. Service, St. Mary's, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by Monday, Feb. 8th, to Nancie Swann, 49, Whiteknights Road, Reading. 3868

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davertry Branch.—Meeting, Willoughby, Saturday, Feb. 13th. Names for tea to me by Saturday, Feb. 6th.—F. W. Hancock, Church View, Willoughby, Rugby. 3869

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Alloa meeting on Feb. 13th from 2.30. Names for tea, by Thursday previous, to Alexander Henderson, 36, Balfour Street, Alloa. Annual meeting in Edinburgh, May 8th—details later.—R. St. C. Wilson. 3877

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Meeting at Blyth (6), Saturday, Feb. 13th. Names for tea, by 9th, to Mr. S. S. Hurst, Park Farm, Blyth, Workson.—H. Denman. 3860

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner and social evening will be held at the Corporation Hotel, Derby, at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Ringing: St. Andrew's, Derby (10) 3 p.m.-5 p.m. and St. Alkmund's, Derby (8), 3-5.30 p.m. Morning peals are being arranged by request. Tickets 10s. from G. A. Halls, 672, Harvey Road, Derby. 3876

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—The 66th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at 6 p.m. on March 6th at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, when the chair will be taken by Alderman Sir Theodore Pritchett, M.C., D.L. Tickets 14s. 6d. each—early application advisable.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec., 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 3808

BRUTON, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: Miss Audrey White (first quarter) 1, F. L. Andrews 2, H. G. White 3, W. J. Tilley (cond.) 4, H. Doel 5, E. Raymond 6. A birthday compliment to H. Doel.

COALPIT HEATH, GLOS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: C. Batten 1, L. I. Francombe 2, G. Smart 3, A. E. Rodman 4, M. Wiltshire 5, W. F. Scudamore (cond.) 6. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. Vincent Castle, who is leaving the parish to take up ecclesiastical duties in H.M. Forces.

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