

THE RINGING WORLD

GOLDEN JUBILEE NUMBER

1911 FRIDAY MARCH 24th. 1961



No. 1. Vol. I.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24th, 1911.

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OUR AIM.

It is customary, whenever a new journal makes its appearance, for those responsible for its birth to offer some explanation to justify its entry into public affairs, or to make an apology for trespassing upon the public notice. Little explanation, we feel, is necessary to justify the coming of *The Ringing World* into a sphere in which there is a demand for a journal which shall record faithfully and promptly the doings of those engaged in the pursuit of bell-ringing.

If little explanation be necessary, still less is there need for apology. We do not hesitate to say that the legion of bell-ringers throughout the country have long been awaiting a journal which shall be in the truest sense a "newspaper," which shall reflect their opinions, which shall keep them in touch, week by week, with the doings of their colleagues throughout the country, and which shall cater for all grades of the Exercise—for those who are struggling with the early difficulties of Grandsire Doubles as well as for those who have reached the goal of ambition in the achievement of London Surprise or Cambridge Maximus; for those who are only upon the threshold of those intricate mathematical problems in Composition as well as for those who are steeped in the science, and whose delight it is to revel in a maze of figures complicated enough to turn the brain of the uninitiated.

We fully recognise the service which has been done in the past by other journalistic enterprises. Efforts involving self-sacrifice have been made by men devoted to the Art, but there never was a time when ringers generally felt that their requirements were more inadequately met than they are to-day, and yet bell-ringing was never more in the ascendant than at this moment. Great feats are being accomplished, which a few years ago were undreamed of, composers are constantly conquering new worlds, yet the interests of ringers are being, to a large extent, neglected. It will be our endeavour, with the co-operation of the ringers themselves, to remedy this position of affairs, and it is because of the demand that exists, and of which we possess ample evidence, that we feel no apology need be proffered in stepping into the arena to-day and appealing for the support of church bell-ringers throughout the country.

What is to be our aim? We intend to use our columns for the information, the instruction, and, we hope, the elevation of all who take an interest in the Art of Change Ringing, and in the business and social side of the organizations which promote that Art. There are two things in the

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THE RINGING WORLD

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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FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1961

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THE FAMILY LINK

By FREDERICK SHARPE
President of the Central Council

IN very few walks of life is there so much friendliness as in the Art of Ringing. It is one of the outstanding features which impress newcomers to the Exercise, and is a constant source of amazement to the laity. At any gathering of ringers this is at once apparent, and onlookers often express surprise at the interest we take in each other and of the knowledge we have of one another's activities. This is chiefly due to the influence of 'The Ringing World,' for our ringing journal has probably done more than anything else to knit together ringers into one big family. It is the one means by which we are able to keep in close touch with each other.

Today we celebrate our Golden Jubilee, and we do this in a spirit of great thankfulness, not only for the survival of our journal after passing through many crises and vicissitudes, but also in gratitude that it has progressively improved during the past half a century despite severe handicaps.

On March 24th, 1911, Mr. James Sparkes Goldsmith published the first number, and with very few exceptions publication has been continuous. Mr. Goldsmith owned and edited the paper until his death in 1942, when its ownership was acquired by the Central Council. Its affairs are now managed by a committee of the Council, under the able leadership of Mr. J. F. Smallwood. The influence of 'The Ringing World' on ringing cannot be over-estimated. Reports of peals and of other ringers' progress create a stimulus to greater efforts by many more. They arouse the initiative to compete and excel.

Of the many arts practised in the Middle Ages, few have survived, and notably among them is the Art of Ringing. For generations it was passed on like a true folk art from father to son, with no text books or standardised form of instruction. Yet, in its simple form, it spread throughout the length and breadth of the land. The 17th century saw the birth and growth of change-ringing, and this received its first great impetus through the excellent pioneer work of the early ringing societies, and through the writings and publications of men like Richard Duckworth and Fabian Stedman.

The 19th century saw the founding of diocesan and other territorial associations of ringers, the birth of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, and a further great expansion of our art. The need for a ringers' journal became apparent. Several publications appeared, and did much good work, but none of them survived. It needed a man with courage, foresight and personality to produce such a journal. Fifty years ago James Sparkes Goldsmith rose to the occasion, and the influence of the paper he founded was never greater than it is today.

The value of our journal in keeping ringers in touch with one another was probably never more vital than at the time of Mr. Goldsmith's death, occurring as it did during the grim years of the second World War, and during the wartime ban on ringing. At this time of crisis the journal was saved for the Exercise by the prompt action of those who with outstanding courage and determination undertook the responsibility for its continued publication, and few realise the magnitude of their task. The Exercise owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Messrs. E. H. Lewis, G. W. Fletcher, A. A. Hughes and the late R. Richardson, who acted so wisely immediately after Mr. Goldsmith's funeral.

'The Ringing World' is a specialist paper, catering exclusively for the relatively small section of the public interested in bells and ringing. This creates problems not encountered in the ordinary course of journalism. Its readers, too, have many and varied interests in the different branches of our art. They also range from the raw recruit to the most advanced ringer. One of the most difficult things is to keep a true balance to suit the majority and yet to meet the needs of all in the limited space of 16 pages, and within the available financial resources. Our Editor and 'The Ringing World' Committee have these problems constantly before them, and to them also we owe a great debt of gratitude. The finances of the paper, too, create a constant need for vigilance, and have often been a great source of anxiety. We are not likely to receive an attractive take-over bid from a national newspaper. 'The Ringing World' belongs to the Exercise, and is run by ringers for ringers. Its existence is of vital importance to us all: without it we should lose contact with each other. We need greater support. We need the support of all ringers. A much greater circulation would make possible the publication of more technical articles and reports, and our journal would have a much wider appeal in consequence. We look forward to a new decade with confidence, desiring even closer ties with the Church it is our privilege to serve, and in gratitude for all past blessings.

HOMAGE TO THE FOUNDER AND EDITOR FOR 31 YEARS

AT the comparatively early age of 64 the ringing Exercise lost a man who was both a good ringer and at the same time a good journalist, two qualities which are come by only once in a generation.

Born on January 13th, 1878, at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, John Sparkes Goldsmith was the fourth generation to become a ringer. His father, who was parish clerk at Southover, died when John was quite a boy, and his mother took over the duties of parish clerk and started John on the right road by allowing him to toll the bell for deaths and funerals. As soon as Jack was old enough (in her mind) she almost insisted that he took up ringing. An apt pupil, Jack was soon to ring his first peal at the age of 15, when he rang the treble to Grandsire Triples on April 8th, 1893, to be followed by three more peals the same year. 1898-99 were Jack's most prolific years for peal ringing, for by the end of 1899 he had rung 132. At the time of his death his total had reached 463.

In 1901 he took part in a tour of Ireland, and called the first peal of Surprise rung out of England. This band consisted of John Buffery, William Short, George R. Pye, Isaac G. Shade, William H. Barber, John S. Goldsmith, Ernest Pye and William Pye.

With several ringing papers becoming defunct and the gradual decline in quality of 'The Bell News', John Goldsmith decided to start a new ringing paper, but no one would venture on such a task unless he was not only sure of himself but was also capable of handling the not inconsiderable problems that arise in the publication of a paper. After months of hard work the first issue of 'The Ringing World' was published on March 24th, 1911. Four days later the founder of 'The Bell News' (Hervey Reeves) died, having been editor for 30 years.

The background for this enterprise came from his previous journalistic training. He served his apprenticeship in Sussex and from an Eastbourne paper went to Woking in 1903, and was eventually in charge of 'The Woking News and Mail'. It was not long before a column for bellringers made its appearance in the paper. 'The Woking News and Mail' belonged to the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., and he persuaded them to be the printers of 'The Ringing World'. Throughout the 50 years they have been the only printers of the journal.

RINGERS' DAY

Four months after the first issue Jack Goldsmith proved that he was not only a ringer and a journalist but also an organiser of some degree. With the Festival of Empire in full swing at the Crystal Palace, London, Jack organised a 'Ringers' Day', which proved an outstanding success, ringers attending from all over the country.

Although the Central Council at their meeting at Whitsun, 1911, refused to recognise 'The Ringing World', he was by no means dismayed, and it is true to say that he gave the Exercise by far the best report of any Central Council meeting up to that time.

When World War I broke out, Jack had a very anxious time, as 'The Ringing World' was only just beginning to establish itself, and therefore had to find other work. After giving typing and shorthand lessons, he was appointed to be in charge of the Woking Food Office, and was later with the Inland Revenue Commissioners.

With the creation of the Guildford Diocese in 1927, Mr. Goldsmith was one of the leading lights in the formation of the Guildford



JOHN SPARKES GOLDSMITH
1878-1942

Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, out of the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, in the following year. He was the founder secretary, with the late Major John Hesse, as Master. In 1936, upon his resignation as secretary, he was appointed a vice-president of the Guild. Under his guidance the Guild was very firmly established. He was elected an honorary member of the Central Council in 1927 and remained a member until his death.

The tercentenary of the birth of Fabian Stedman occurred in 1951 and Mr. Goldsmith promoted, through 'The Ringing World', a memorial, which took the form of the restoration of the bells at St. Bene's, Cambridge, at a cost of over £500. The money was collected through 'The Ringing World'.

A GREAT ADVENTURE

The main break he had from the cares of editorship occurred in 1934, with the visit of English ringers to Australia. The party included W. H. Fussell and Rupert Richardson. The story of this tour he wrote, mail by mail, for 'The Ringing World', and it was afterwards published in book form under the title 'A Great Adventure'. Thirteen peals were rung, six being on handbells at sea.

Jack always regarded as an outstanding performance in his ringing career the peal of Grandsire Cinques at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. He was still weak from a bad attack of influenza when he was called upon to conduct the peal, the band being composed of six tourists and six of the local band.

He had other sea trips later, his last being in 1938, when he went to Egypt. He was at sea at the time of the Munich crisis—a

wireless message was received, ordering the ship home at full speed, with all lights out.

On the outbreak of World War II John was placed in charge of Woking Food Office. Although that was a full time job he still found time to write his leading articles and supervise the 'make up' of 'The Ringing World'.

Early in 1941 he entered hospital for a serious operation, which was a success. In November of that year he attended the annual dinner of the College Youths, at which he proposed the principal toast, but complained afterwards of not feeling well. Returning home he took to his bed for some days, later resuming work at the Food Office.

HIS LAST RINGING

The last ringing J. S. G. did was on Sunday, December 14th, 1941, at Horsell, Surrey. The occasion was the 200th anniversary of the dedication of Horsell church bells. The war-time ban prevented the church bells being rung, but members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild were invited to take part in the service and ring handbells during it and after its close. Tea was served in the Vicarage, and before leaving the ringers rang another touch for the benefit of Mrs. Woodward (the wife of the Vicar), who had missed the ringing in church. The ringers were A. C. Hazelden 1-2, A. H. Pulling 3-4, J. S. Goldsmith 5-6, Mrs. Hazelden 7-8.

In February he was taken seriously ill and shortly afterwards resigned from the Food Office. A large number of Woking people subscribed and presented him with savings certificates. The ringers of England showed their affection and esteem by subscribing over £500. Before his final operation he left a note to Mr. J. A. Trollope thanking him for his services to the 'R.W.', particularly since the war and especially during his illness. 'I can now tell you that the paper has never really been a financial success... Once more, old man, a thousand thanks for all your kindness and for your friendship.'

His death took place on June 1st, 1942, and it was at Pyrford, where his wife is buried, that his funeral took place. Homage to his memory will be paid there, on June 17th next, by the ringers of England. There will also be a service in Guildford Cathedral, where the sanctus bell to the crypt chapel is a memorial to him from the Guildford Diocesan Guild, which he served so well.

He married in September, 1903, Miss Louise Baker, and her sister married the noted Sussex ringer, Mr. Keith Hart. For many years of their married life she was an invalid and his loving devotion and tender care towards her was admired by his friends. His sacrifices on her behalf were many. She died in 1938, leaving a son and a daughter.

One of the last letters he wrote expressed the hope that he would be able to attend the wedding of the present honorary secretary of the Central Council, but he unfortunately died 12 days before.

F. I. H.

BEST CONTRIBUTION

Mr. C. Wallater, Willenhall, writes: 'The best contribution to ringing during the past 50 years is the continued publication of "The Ringing World".' He regards the greatest ringing event during the period the ringing of the Bristol Surprise Major record at Over.

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THE TOWER OF JACK GOLDSMITH'S EARLY RINGING AND HIS COMPANIONS

By GEORGE P. ELPHICK

SOUTHOVER can justly be proud of two things: its bells, which are the finest ring of ten in Sussex, and having produced one of the most outstanding ringers of this century—the man to whom the whole Exercise owes a debt that cannot be measured—John Sparkes Goldsmith. The church and tower, as many members of the Exercise know, were very near to the heart of the late John S. Goldsmith, and are situated on the southern edge of Lewes, the county town of Sussex.

Southover is outside the old town wall and by the grounds of the ruined St. Pancras' Priory. The original church seems to have been dedicated to St. Pancras, being no doubt a timber structure of Saxon workmanship, and is considered by some authorities to have stood where the infirmary chapel of the Priory was later built. The stone altar of this chapel still remains among the overturned walls of the ruins. The Priory when completed must have been one of the most magnificent in England, as it was 420 feet long and had a vaulted ceiling above the high altar, 93 feet high. In 1537, when it was razed to the ground by order of Thomas, Lord Cromwell, it possessed five great bells.

OLD TOWER FELL DOWN

The parish church of St. John the Baptist, Southover, lies a few yards to the west of the Great Gate of the Priory and retains a 12th century arcade between the nave and south aisle. The first record of a tower is in 1620 where an old map shows one at the south-east corner of the church. As to bells hung in the old tower there is a record that the treble was the gift of Richard Colbrond soon after 1510. The churchwardens' accounts of 1560 confirm the presence of three bells and in the following year a ring of four. By 1697 the bells were in a bad way as was the tower, and the following year, on Sunday morning, February 6th, the old tower fell.

It is assumed that the bells were unharmed for we find that it took two men a day to lower them. In 1714 the foundations of the present western tower were laid and the building was carried up to the first loft at a cost of £240. The tower, now 58 feet high, is as steady as a rock, being built of chalk faced with brick and having two stone buttresses. The work appears to have been carried out by W. Stephens, a mason, who cut his name and the date, 1714, on a stone at the top of the north buttress.

It was not until 1738 that the parish decided to finish building the tower and at the same time to recast the four old bells and add two new ones. The four old bells weighed 31 cwt., and when recast with the new bells provided a ring of six, with a tenor of 15 cwt. 19 qr. 21 lb.

CAST AT WHITECHAPEL

These bells were cast by Samuel Knight at the celebrated Whitechapel foundry in 1738, the year before his death. Samuel, who was the last of his line, learned his trade at his father's foundry at Reading and commenced founding on his own in 1689. Between 1708 and 1710 he moved to London and took over the Whitechapel foundry. The frame and fittings were made by Robert Catlin, a carpenter and bellhanger by trade, who succeeded to Samuel Knight's business at his death. If his bells are a clue to Robert's character, he was a thorough, neat and tidy workman, as well as being an excellent ringer, for his name is mentioned several times in the peal book of the College Youths.

By 1778 two more bells must have been added, for it is recorded that on July 15th that year the first recorded peal on the bells was rung by seven ringers from Horsham and James Wilson from Cuckfield. The method was Grandsire Triples and was conducted by Thomas Lintott, the leader of the Horsham band.

Benjamin Burfield has the honour of being the earliest local ringer to be known by name, having learned to ring in 1820 when he was 19 years old. A cobbler by trade, he lived at



THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, SOUTHOVER.

51, Priory Street, quite near the church. He lived to see a great change, for in 1839 the bells were recast by Thomas Mears. A fine ring of eight, with a tenor of 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E. was provided and the 3rd and seventh were maiden bells.

OPENING OF BELLS

The bells were opened on Monday, October 28th, 1839, at 11 a.m. by the local ringers. In the afternoon a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by a band from Brighton, conducted by a Mr. Tester, and this was followed by touches rung by bands from Uckfield, Waldron and Chailey.

It was to the Swan Inn that the ringers returned for dinner at 5 p.m. This may seem at first sight rather strange to all who have rung at Southover as the King's Head is regarded as the bell-ringers' inn. The King's Head is to us, even to this day, 'Jack's' home, the home of the first editor, John Sparkes Goldsmith.

Among the company of seventy or eighty were both churchwardens as chairman and vice-chairman. Mr. Eagles and Mr. John Verrall, who gave the fifth bell, the Lord of the Manor. Mr. William Verrall, who gave the seventh and tenor, and the founder, Thomas Mears. We have a portrait of Thomas Mears in the ringing chamber and by the twinkle in his eyes it appears that he knew how to enjoy himself. His presentation of eight handbells to the Guild was the surprise of the evening. These bells were soon put to good use, changes being rung on them.

THOMAS GOLDSMITH

Mr. Thomas Goldsmith, the newly-elected parish clerk, was one of the company. He possessed a copy of Shipway's Treatise on Ringing, which is now in the library of the Guildford Diocesan Guild. He was a wheelwright by trade, having his workshop opposite the church where now is a jobbing builder's small yard. His son, John Goldsmith, followed his father's trade and was the first licensee of the King's Head.

The next record of local ringers' names is on the earliest peal board remaining in the tower. Under the date December 6th, 1869, it records a peal of Grandsire Triples (Hok's Original) by the Lewes Society of Change Ringers. The names on the board are: T. Goldsmith 1, J. Brooks 2, C. Warner 3, J. Priory 4, J. Goldsmith 5, J. Box 6, J. Acton 7, C. Wren 8. The ringers of the 3rd and 6th were Brighton men and J. Brooks came from Chailey. This infers that the others were Southover men.

Thomas Goldsmith was then 65 years old and this is the only record we have of his having rung a peal. Three years later, Ann, his wife, died at the age of 70 years. Thomas

also died when he had reached his three score years and ten, on April 12th, 1875, and was buried alongside the tower of his beloved church, leaving his son, John, who rang the fifth in the 1869 peal, to carry on.

JOHN SPARKES

On January 13th, 1878, John was presented with a son by Emma, his second wife, who was a Devon woman. He was christened John Sparkes, his second Christian name being his mother's maiden name. Little did his parents dream of the vital part he would be called upon to play in the Exercise. Of him it may be truly said that he had ringing in his blood.

Between 1883 and 1885 Southover was caught on the whirlpool of restoration so prevalent at that time. The church was enlarged by means of a new chancel, the old gallery at the west end was removed and the church reseated with oak pews. About this time the young ringers could not see eye to eye with the old. The old were content with call changes and the memory of the old Grandsire band, for ringing was on the ebb, whilst the younger generation were ambitious to learn change ringing. The ringing fraternity throughout the land was in a state of turmoil, and out of it came reform; from a secular sport it came into its rightful place as a part of the work of the Church. In 1884 the tide reached Sussex and the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers was formed early in 1885.

THREE RINGERS

There were three ringers mainly responsible for the revival of change ringing at Southover—Robert James Dawe, Alfred John Turner and John Sparkes Goldsmith.

Alfred John Turner was born on October 12th, 1872, at Halland, and came to Lewes in 1880. He rang his first peal on June 27th, 1891, covering with the tenor to Stedman. It was about this time he taught Jack Goldsmith to handle a bell, a thing of which he was very proud. He joined the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths in November, 1894, and rang in all 387 peals in 52 towers. He was captain of the Southover Guild of Ringers for 21 years and died in his 72nd year on January 30th, 1944.

The first reference to young Jack Goldsmith with regard to ringing is in 1887, when he was nine years old, special permission being given for his release from Southover Day School for a quarter of an hour on saints' days to chime a bell for the 11 o'clock service. His mother had taken over the office of parish clerk when Jack's father died three years previously and it was she who insisted or inspired him to become a ringer. In time he learnt to chime three bells; a rope in each hand and one round a foot.

(Continued next page)

Jack Goldsmith's Tower—Cont.

CALLER FIRST PEAL AT 16

Jack rang his first peal on April 8th, 1893, when he took the treble to Holt's 10-part of Grandsire Triples. In the same year he rang the treble to two peals of Plain Bob Major and another of Grandsire Triples. It was early in the next year that he rang his first peal 'inside' and soon after he rang his first peal of Stedman. By November 27th he called his first peal when he was but 16 years old.

In 1895 he rang in peals of Grandsire Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Grandsire Caters. In the next year he rang in peals of Union Triples and Superlative and in the following year added Stedman Caters. Kent Treble Bob Major. Cambridge and London Surprise Major. He had the distinction of calling, for the first time, a peal of Superlative on his 21st birthday at Southover, and a few months after of ringing his 100th peal at Arundel.

While as a peal ringer he was outstanding, yet more outstanding was the quality of methods rung. All this time he was working hard at his profession, for on leaving school he was apprenticed to his uncle, who owned 'The East Sussex News.' He developed into an excellent reporter and an expert shorthand writer and typist. He married Louise Baker at Southover, on September 12th, 1903, and, of course, a peal was rung—Bob Major.

AT WOKING

Towards the close of 1903 he was appointed in charge of 'The Woking News and Mail' and soon afterwards became the manager. His opportunities for peal ringing became more and more curtailed as the demands of his profession increased. During this time he was weighing up the pros and cons of publishing an improved ringing paper. He knew the risk for he had seen two ringing papers fail. Finally, on March 24th he first published 'The Ringing World.' He aimed at giving up-to-the-minute news and punctuality in publishing and coupled with his flair for writing up material 'The Ringing World' was firmly established.

The First World War hit 'The Ringing World' rather hard, but Jack carried on by giving typing and shorthand lessons as well as later working in the local Food Office. To help over another difficult patch he worked for the Inland Revenue Commission. He still kept in touch with his home tower, invariably visiting it when in Lewes. His mother had a very warm spot in Jack's heart and usually a peal was rung at the parish church in honour of her birthday. On September 1st, 1923, he conducted the longest peal on Southover bells—5,929 Stedman Caters, which he also composed, being 77 times 77 changes and was rung in honour of his mother's 77th birthday. For her 80th birthday a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal was rung. In March, 1931, he had the sad duty of laying his mother to rest, near his father, under the shadow of their much loved tower.

TO AUSTRALIA

In 1934, Jack's great ambition was realised when the Australian tour took place. This was the first break that occurred in the leading articles of 'The Ringing World.' There is no doubt that the voyage did him good, for he loved the sea and liked to have trips when he could, his last one being to Egypt in 1938.

The Second World War came and he went back to Woking Food Office to earn sufficient to keep his beloved paper going, which is a memorial to the greatest ringer Southover has produced, whose last ringing was on handbells at Horsell Vicarage on Sunday, December 14th, 1941. He died at the age of 64 and was buried alongside his wife at Pyrford church, leaving behind a son and a daughter, as well as his memory.

ROBERT JAMES DAWE

Robert James Dawe, or 'Bob' as we knew him, was born at Bishopstone, a small hamlet between Newhaven and Seaford, in 1870. He began his ringing career at Southover in 1889 and was a carpenter and joiner by trade. As a youngster he used to tramp each week to Ringmer, about three miles away, to learn his change ringing from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, the curate. On May 9th, 1891, he rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples, Davies' 10-part—and about six weeks later his first of Stedman Triples.

In 1892 Bob Dawe moved to Eastbourne and two years later to Brighton, where he lived for the next 12 years and began his great friendship with Frank Bennett. He was Southover's contribution to the St. Peter's Surprise ringing band at Brighton and with them he rang in the first peals of Westminster, Norfolk, Bristol and Oxford Surprise Major ever rung.

He rang in all 483 peals, over 160 of them being rung at Southover and conducted 23. But far more important than his peal ringing was his service ringing. He was punctual and regular to the last degree; he also did good work for the Sussex County Association, being secretary of the Southern District for seven years and a representative on the Central Council from 1909-1911. He was captain of the Southover band when he died on January 4th, 1937.

The Southover Church Bellringers' Guild was formed on September 9th, 1898, and this followed a meat supper provided by the Rector, the Rev. W. E. Richardson. The Guild's first minute book records the following ringers being present: J. S. Goldsmith, M. Glascoe, T. Moppett, A. J. Turner, H. Mockett, W. Pelling, S. W. Shoemith, J. F. Stedman, W. Baker, G. Richardson, R. J. Dawe, C. Parker, J. Hillman and A. Stedman. The Rector was elected president, Jack Goldsmith secretary and Alfred J. Turner captain.

Jack remained secretary until he left the town on December 1st, 1902. His services were recognised on February 21st, 1903, when he was presented with a testimonial and a marble clock in appreciation of all he had done to place the Guild on a sound footing.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 14th, 1.260 Doubles (Reverse Bartholomew, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire): J. Brinson 1, H. Spencer 2, B. Peters 3, A. Hooper 4, H. Hooper (cond.) 5, J. Loxton 6. An 83rd birthday compliment to Mr. B. Hooper, also silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hooper. Also on Feb. 24th, 1.260 St. Simon's Doubles: T. Feltham 1, B. Peters 2, Ann White 3, H. Hooper (cond.) 4, J. Brinson 5, J. Loxton 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. Carpenter, interred this day. Also on Feb. 26th, 1.260 Reverse Canterbury: T. Feltham 1, Ann White (cond.) 2, B. Peters 3, A. Hooper 4, H. Hooper 5, J. Loxton 6. Rung for morning service, and 18th birthday compliment to Miss Ann White.

1911 - 1961

The years have moved on to Jubilee Since 'The Ringing World' began to be; And here we revive (amid hairs gone grey) The memory of that launching day.

For 'Unforgettable, Unforgotten,' John Goldsmith's wisdom had begotten This journalistic enterprise, This blessing to the Exercise.

Now, held in the Central Council's care, All ringers should take their rightful share In backing the Editorial Committee, Appreciative of their perspicacity.

And what of the Editorial Chair Whose occupant must full bravely bear The burden of wielding the 'pencil blue' Against an occasional protest or two?

To him, a fair-minded commendation Is due; along with real approbation For pages, bristling with wide variety, News, records, and comments too, in satiety.

And if the price now to some seems high, It could be lessened if they'd but try On this jubilee of its publication To double the journal's circulation!

All thanks, then, be offered to those who strive To keep the Art and the Science alive By this weekly paper. So here's 'Go ahead' To 'The Ringing World' yet through the years unread!

C. C. C.

CONTRASTS

Metallic sounds invade the frosty night; 'Tis winter—and the bells sound strangely clear. Their crisp and frantic notes attack the ear From far away, their message all alight With urgency—as if to strike the dark And sleeping acres with their rhythm stark.

But now, 'tis summer, and the bells go gay Bestir the hazy pastures with their song— Their joyful music rides the hills, along The river bank, the woods and fields of hay. As if to welcome sun and sky so blue. With summer breezes, gossamer, and dew.

The seasons come and go, the bells remain, Reminding us of this, their own domain.

A. D. COOK.

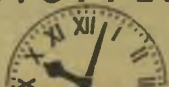
Wychbold, Droitwich.

SONNET

From gnarled tower, attenuated spire, With crockets gay or broached gaunt and plain, The brazen arcs of sound rebound again Down squalid streets: impatient soaring higher To humble hamlets on the mountain top, They weave, to cars attuned, the silken strands Of polyphonic patterns. Countless bands Of toiling ringers watch with care the drop Of writhing ropes, interpreting with skill (Born of an age of practice) bobbing strands: A weird fantastic dance. Can other lands Boast of the pleasure or partake the thrill? While God gives me permission, there am I Flinging His music to His open sky.

H. CHANT.

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THE HISTORIAN OF THE EXERCISE WAS THE SECOND EDITOR

BY WILFRID G. WILSON

The Exercise has always been fortunate in having among its members people who are expert in one or more of those aspects which are important to it. We must have, of course, experts in the industry of bell founding and tuning and bell hanging, but we have also had among our ranks members who stood out among their colleagues for their skill as ringers or conductors in the tower, as handbell ringers, as solvers of those mathematical problems which confront the composer, as antiquarians, as historians, as teachers in and out of the tower and as writers. No one would suggest that Mr. Trollope was an expert in all these branches of our art, but he was among the best in many of them. In the one which is probably of most use to posterity, that is the ability to write learnedly and expertly, and yet readably about the Exercise, he excelled.

Jabez Armiger Trollope, known to his friends as Jim, was born at East Dereham, Norfolk, in 1876, and educated at King Edward VI Grammar School, Norwich. While there he learnt to ring—not in the easy way that we do nowadays, but without help from existing ringers. What attracted him to bells and ringing? He himself did not know—perhaps it was a reaction from his strict chapel and family upbringing. But he has written that 'from my earliest infancy church bells came in some indefinite and mysterious manner to have had an influence over me.'

SELF-TAUGHT

However, he and his school friends, John and George Burton, came across a book by Benjamin Lomax (1879) called 'Bells and Bell-ringers', which gave a very rudimentary account of ringing. And they began to work out changes experimentally before they had ever met a live ringer. They taught themselves to handle a bell and to ring changes on three bells at the 5-bell tower of Mountgate in Norwich, still without meeting other ringers. At the same time they started to make a set of handbells for themselves. The first attempt was a weird lot of contraptions, with two hammers, one on each side of a metal plate. Jack and I started for a 5,000 of Bob Singles on them, but we gave it up as altogether too monotonous and not worth while. (Surely still true.—W.G.W.) Ultimately they made a set out of door bells and cast the fittings out of zinc, after wood had proved a failure. In January, 1893, they rang seven 720's of Bob Minor on them—the first peal by all, conducted by J.A.T.

After that progress was fast. In April, joined by C. E. Borrett, they rang Bob Major 'in hand' and in June another, composed and conducted by J.A.T., and their first tower-bell peal, also Bob Major. Within 12 months, in addition to tower-bell peals, they had rung 'in hand' peals of Grandsire Triples, Major and Caters, Canterbury Pleasure Major, Bob Royal and what was for a long time the record length 'in hand' of 11,200 Bob Major, composed by J.A.T., and conducted by C. E. Borrett.

IN W. PYE'S BAND

His final peal total was between five and six hundred. He became a member of the well known band that rang at St. John's, Waterloo Road, before the 1914 war, and between the wars was a member of W. Pye's band that rang peals of Spliced Surprise in all numbers up to 12 methods, at a time when this was pioneer work.

He served in France in the First World War in the Royal Corps of Signals and many a postcard of his from the front was stopped by the censor, who did not recognise a peal composition as quite harmless.

The attraction that writing had from the first for him is shown by what he called his first 'very crude' attempt to write a book on ringing. This, written in 1894-5, and dedicated to the record handbell peal band, is a collection of compositions of Plain Bob on all numbers, from five to twelve. Divided into sections, according to the type of peal, it contains, among other composers' material, many



J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE

of his own compositions, obtained in 1893, when he was 16-17 years of age. No wonder that about 1900 he was appointed by the Central Council as their representative to deal with problems in Plain Bob.

TECHNICAL WRITER

In 1897, aged only 21, he was elected a member of the Council representing the Norwich Association. This would be considered young for these days, let alone for the 19th century. In 1900 he was made an honorary member, a position he retained till his death. His work for that body is best shown by a list of the technical publications he helped to write: 'Collection of Doubles, Minor and Triples Methods,' 1907; 'Doubles and Minor,' 1931 and 1935; 'Plain Major and Cater Methods,' 1926; 'Triples,' 1935; 'Treble Bob Peals—Major to Maximus,' 1909. His services were enlisted by Miss Margaret Snowden and in the Snowden series of books he wrote 'Siedman' and 'Standard Methods.' He was engaged on 'Grandsire' at the time of his death and this work was completed in his name by his two pupils, Ernest Turner and the writer, and published in 1948.

He set up home with his sister in Ealing in 1904. He joined the Ealing Amateur Photographic Society and became a silver medallist. When I first met him in 1926 he was in charge of the bells at Christ Church, Ealing, where he later became a churchwarden, and he taught Ernest Turner and me all we knew about ringing, and introduced us to the Middlesex Association, of which he was a vice-president. Visitors to the tower were always amazed to learn that the quiet little man ringing rounds, or helping a beginner, was the J.A.T., whose article they had read in that week's 'R.W.'

BROUGHT PAST TO LIFE

His greatest work for ringing was as a writer—both on the scientific side and as an historian of ringing and ringers. He had the ability to bring the past to life and to clarify complicated problems in composition. The amount of his printed work is far overshadowed by the quantity of his manuscript volumes and I hope in due course to preview extracts from them for the benefit of readers of this paper. Meanwhile I can only give a

list of the MSS. which he left to the Central Council library and which will indicate the extent of his work in this field:

'A History of Ringers and Ringing in the Eighteenth Century'—written in the 'grand historical manner.' All bound in large quarto volumes—full of beautiful copperplate writing, with pen and ink drawings by the author of all the churches named.

Volumes I. and II. are not immediately available, but I will describe them at a later date.

Vol. III.—Deals with the name and origin of the Ancient Society of College Youths: compositions and chronology of the eighteenth century: London bells and towers in the 18th century and the general condition of the London Exercise in that century. (420 pages.)

Vols. IV, V and VI.—London Bells and Bell Towers. (618 pages, 660 pages and 640 pages respectively.)

Vol. VII.—London Ringers and Ringing in the 17th and 18th centuries. (634 pages.)

Vol. VIII.—Ringing in the Provinces in the 18th century. (527 pages.)

Vol. IX.—Dealing with 18th century methods, peals, compositions, etc., authorities quoted, bells in war, indices, etc. (662 pages.)

Vol. X.—The Clavis Campanalogia: compositions, 1750-1800: ringing at the end of the century, etc. (512 pages.)

Vol. XI.—Ringing in the Provinces at the end of the 18th century. (400 pages.)

Vol. XII.—An appendix—dealing with peal books, rule books, peal boards, chronology of events and peals, etc. (500 pages.)

BOOKS ON CHANGE RINGING

A Collection of peals of Plain Bob, 1894-5. Method Construction, four volumes. Bound. (About 1,000 pages.) Partly in MS. and partly cuttings from articles in the Ringing Press.

Surprise Major Methods, two volumes. Comprising the history and theory of Surprise Major and a collection of over 800 methods, with compositions. Written in collaboration with E. C. S. Turner. (About 1,000 pages.)

Notes by the way and other articles in 'The Ringing World,' from 1925 onwards. Seven volumes.

One final volume must be mentioned. A Bibliographica Campanorum, 1935, being a catalogue of books, etc., relating to bells, bell ringing and bell ringers. (308 pages.) All indexed. Showing the tremendous number of authorities from which he had obtained his information for his history and clearly of great benefit to future writers in our art.

His published book 'The History of the College Youths' was just a selection of appropriate extracts from his MS. history.

I have gone at some length into the matter of J.A.T.'s MSS., because it is only a knowledge of this which makes it possible to realise how he was able to keep our journal going, week by week, on the death of Mr. Goldsmith and at a time when there was a ban on ringing and, therefore, no meetings, no peals, no outings and almost nothing from which to produce a weekly paper. He had for very many years been a close friend of Mr. Goldsmith and a regular contributor to the Ringing Press.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

In 1931, when the editor was a member of the party that visited Australia, J.A.T. had his first experience of editing the paper. During that time 'Notes by the Way' was a regular feature and at the end he wrote in 'R.W.': 'Tomorrow the editor will be back in England. It only remains for me to say how much I have enjoyed the brief time I have been in harness. Mr. White and I, who have jointly been responsible for the paper, have worked together in the completest harmony.'

Thus it was that during Mr. Goldsmith's last illness, as in previous emergencies, J.A.T. was able to fill the breach and never once did the paper fail to come out. Perhaps I can end by quoting from the letter which Mr. Goldsmith left behind for J.A.T.:

(Continued on page 193)

THE TORCHBEARER FOR THE LAST 15 YEARS

IT is said to be in the best tradition of British journalism that an editor should be an anonymous figure. How far this is appropriate when the journal is a specialist one is open to question, and indeed all three editors of 'The Ringing World' have been well known to ringers up and down the country. The first two were practical ringers of outstanding, all-round ability, whereas Mr. Tom White had gone far in his profession long before he became interested in bells. It is only natural, therefore, that few readers of this paper can have more than a slight inkling of Tom White's background and career, known personally though he is to ringers in all parts of the British Isles through his appearances at meetings, dinners and, of course, the annual gatherings of the Central Council. On such an occasion as this it is surely appropriate that the mask of anonymity should be lifted.

Thomas W. White was born at Guildford on July 22nd, 1894, the son of T. H. White, Editor of 'The Surrey Times.' He was educated at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, and while he was there one of the most famous ringers of this century, Alfred H. Pulling, became the school caretaker. It is interesting to speculate on what might have happened if young White had come under his influence in those days, for the band at Holy Trinity, Guildford, was one of the foremost in the country.

After leaving school he went to the Woodbridge Press, spending some time in the printing and reading departments before becoming a junior reporter. Not long after this the First World War broke out and in the same year he joined the Queen's Royal Regiment, serving until May, 1919, and being mentioned in despatches. He took part in 1915 in one of the famous landings of the ill-starred Gallipoli campaign, that at Suvla Bay, and later served for three years in Mesopotamia. On demobilisation he returned to 'The Surrey Times,' becoming chief reporter in 1923, and deputy editor in 1931. In 1946 he was appointed editor of the paper and became a director of the Woodbridge Press, both of which offices he still holds.

INTRODUCTION TO 'R.W.'

Mr. White's connection with our art began in this way: when John Goldsmith knew he would be taking part in the historic tour of Australia in 1934-35 he was able to arrange for J. A. Trollope to contribute the front page articles and for his own daughter to deal with the notices, but to undertake the editorial side he approached the Woodbridge Press to see if they would release Tom White. This arrangement continued for six months, and in the early days he was asked to report the College Youths' dinner. Mr. Trollope invited him to see the ringing that day at the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, and thus was born his desire to learn to ring. At the age of 40, therefore, when a good many of us feel disinclined to undertake much that is new, Mr. White became a pupil of Alfred Pulling's at Guildford, progressing well enough to ring his first peal, Grandsire Triples, in November, 1937. His total is a modest one, ten peals in the standard methods, but, of course, peal ringing has been only incidental to his service to the Exercise. In June, 1937, he was elected honorary secretary and treasurer to the Holy Trinity Society, a position he held until January this year.

Although Mr. White's official connection with 'The Ringing World' ceased for many years on John Goldsmith's return, his interest in the art it served thus continued to thrive. He had gone to Norwich with J. A. Trollope to report the Central Council meeting in 1946, and when the second major crisis in the life of the journal within a few years arose, with Mr. Trollope's resignation during the meeting, the obvious course was for the Editorial Committee of the day to ask Mr. White to take over responsibility for the next few issues. It is no criticism of his predecessors to say that from the first the hand of the trained journalist became apparent, and fifteen years later he continues in office with undiminished vigour and enthusiasm.



THE EDITOR

His task has not been an easy one—indeed this could no doubt be said of everyone who has edited a ringer's journal. Apart from the unfortunate circumstances in which he took over, his knowledge of the subject, as he confesses, was limited; no back numbers were available, and then and for some years afterwards paper restrictions were in force, necessitating much ingenuity, particularly when the rush of post-war peal ringing began to get into its stride, to overcome as far as possible the space limitations. He had not had many years in office when the finances of the paper began to cause anxiety, and the editor accepted his share of the economies which it fell to a newly-elected Editorial Committee to introduce.

VARIOUS CHANGES

Various changes of layout have been made to help towards these, such as the introduction of a three, instead of a two, column page setting, and the use of smaller type for notices and quarter peals. Mr. White does not claim to be perfect, indeed he freely admits that errors of one kind or another occur in most issues, though not all these can be said to be his fault. But like his two predecessors he has left his mark indelibly on the character of the paper. It would not be unfair to the memory of John Goldsmith to say that in his day 'The Ringing World' tended to cater mainly for those whom an august newspaper refers to as 'The Top People,' while under J. A. Trollope the emphasis was on the impersonal, and lay more in the historian's direction—necessary, though much (but not all) of this may have been during the war years. Tom White has broadened the appeal of the paper to a considerable extent; should anyone doubt this let him reflect that for some years past the weekly circulation has been 50 per cent above the highest reached under the first editor and 2,000 more than when he took office. Undoubtedly some of this increase has arisen from the endeavours of the Editorial Committee, and others, in bringing home to ringers generally the need to support their own paper, but all this would have no lasting effect if the reader did not regularly find much of interest in it.

Throughout his life, Mr. White has been influenced by the Church and his leading articles have often reflected his views on the duties and obligations to the Church which being a ringer imposes. He, himself, is very proud of his association with Holy Trinity, Guildford, of which he is now Rector's warden. Indeed, the diversity of his activities, past and present, is astonishing. For 23 years he has been a member of Guildford Rotary Club, of which he is a past president; he is president of Guildford Chess Club—chess, at which he plays for Surrey, he regards as his greatest weakness—and he is also a freemason. From the late 1920's he has taken a deep interest in social work, being a founder

member and one-time secretary of Guildford Council of Society Service. For a time he was secretary of the Personal Service League, whose object was to provide clothing for distressed areas at a time when unemployment was rife, and he held the same office on the Advisory Committee of the Surrey Scheme for Jarrow, as well as being a member of the Guildford Work Scheme. For 11 years, from 1933 onwards, he was a member of Guildford Education Committee, later serving on the South-West Surrey Divisional Education Committee, of which he is still a member. He is now a governor of his old school, the Royal Grammar School, and has similar connections with the Guildford County School for Girls, Stoke Church of England Secondary School (of which he is also vice-chairman), and Sandfield Schools, of which he had been chairman for the past 15 years.

WORK UNENDING

So long as they receive their copy of 'The Ringing World' regularly each week, it is probable that few readers give much thought to the exacting nature of the task of the editor of a journal such as this. For one thing the work is unending; during the past fifteen years there has been only one in which Mr. White has taken a holiday entirely free from all responsibility, for unfortunately there is no ready-made deputy on the spot or nearby, able and willing to step in. Consequently, when he is away, copy has to be forwarded for him to deal with, a regrettable state of affairs to which there appears to be no easy answer. Apart from this, the round of annual meetings, ringers' dinners and, particularly the Central Council meeting (which he is proud to attend as an honorary member), all involve considerable work afterwards in the preparation of reports for publication. The Exercise is indeed fortunate in having Tom White to undertake this work. May he long feel able to continue.

Mr. White married, in 1923, Kathleen Dorothy Hill, daughter of the headmaster of Stoke C. of E. School. Of their three children only the eldest, T. Mark White, has taken to ringing, and before leaving for Watford was conductor of the band at Holy Trinity, Guildford. Another son is a regular soldier in Cyprus, and their daughter, Miss Alison White, is in charge of P.E. at Portsmouth Northern Grammar School, and has played hockey for Hampshire.

E. A. B.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM CANADA

Mrs. J. C. Sullivan, of Galt, Ontario, who was a ringer at Basingstoke 68 years ago, when she was known as Miss Alice White, writes:—

'I would like to congratulate 'The Ringing World' on 50 years of splendid work, which has kept ringers and their doings in constant touch, ever ready to help old and young in their work for the Church. To me, with failing sight, it is a pleasure to hear bells on the radio, for I can listen with keen interest at any time to bells. Doubtless, much has changed since I rang peals in 1890, when it was quite an unusual sight to see a young girl ringing tower bells. The views of the many ringers are most interesting, and I think Dr. Neal Smith and his daughter are a credit to the Exercise.

'How I miss my collection of various bells. When I came here everyone made a lot of fuss about them and though I desired no publicity the Press and visitors came to see them, with the result that I was transferred to a quieter wing and the bells not permitted. After 68 years' collecting and many blessed by various clerics, one by Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, I can now only dream about them.

'My best wishes to all ringers and may the circulation of your paper continue to soar.'

R. ALICE SULLIVAN.

NOTE.—Mrs. Sullivan, as Miss Alice White, was the first lady to ring a tower-bell peal.—Ed.

THE GALLANT EVER-FAITHFULS – FIRST ISSUE READERS WHO ARE STILL SUBSCRIBERS

ATKINS, E. M., Teignmouth. General secretary of Guild of Devonshire Ringers. His early ringing was at Isham, Kettering, followed by that for the Cambridge University Guild. For many years he was mentor at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, and at Teignmouth he is surrounded by a group of keen youngsters. His composition of 5,040 Plain Bob Major is probably the most popular in the method for young handbell ringers.

BARKER, Arthur D., Wexham, Slough. Born 1890, hon. treasurer Oxford Diocesan Guild, member of Central Council since 1924. Prominent Freemason.

BARNETT, E., Crayford. 'I remember James Parker and Frank Bennett paving the way for "The Ringing World" in London, where old habits died hard. Frank, who was then ringing not less than 100 peals a year, never sent another for publication in "The Bell News," and Jim, who was ringing about 50, probably did the same.'

BATES, A., Farningham, Kent. Will be 75 in April. Among the 'old uns' he has rung with were the late E. Barnett, J. H. Cheesman, W. Weatherstone, T. Groombridge and J. George. Has 12 of the old cup-shaped handbells with ball clappers.

BLACK, Robert G. (72), Geddington, Kettering. Started ringing at Geddington in 1902; rang first peal at Geddington, December, 1911; peals to date 135, from Doubles to Royal (conducted 50). During 1914-18 'The Ringing World' sent to him on active service. From 1922-26 secretary and treasurer Kettering Branch; 1926-49 general secretary and treasurer, Peterborough Guild; 1926-38, Central Council representative. Now trustee Kettering Branch, Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

BOTTRILL, William, Luton. Peals, 184 (54). Ex-Chief Inspector, Metropolitan Police. Taught by William Willson at Anstey, Leicester, 1906-7. First peal at Anstey, 1907. Associations: Midland Counties, Leicester, Oxford Diocesan, Middlesex, Sussex, Kent, London, Bedford, also Cumberland Youths. Founder member, National Police Guild. Rang in first ever police peal (1912), first Masonic Cinques (1926) and Maximus (1931), first Cambridge Maximus in Oxfordshire at Christ Church, Oxford (1931), six William peals, many police peals, including Stedman Cinques (1934).

BREARLEY, John R. Age 75, captain of Bolsterstone ringers, South Yorks. since 1920. Peals 155.

BUDD, J. B. (82), Scarthoe, Grimsby. First tower Knaresborough, Yorks. in the mid-90's. During 1914 and 1916 member of St. Peter's, Leeds; later St. Andrew's and St. James', Grimsby; 11 years St. Mark's, Worsley. Most active period 1950-54 with Cathedral Society, Chester, when more than 50 peals were rung. 'Well enough to serve the Church as before.' First peal Grandsire Triples, Thirsk, March 19th, 1910. Peal total 108, from Doubles to Royal.

BURNETT, Ernest, Darlington. Learned to ring at Sharow, near Ripon, in 1902. Rang his first peal in the following year and conducted his second (Kent). A few years later he was captain of the ringers at St. Oswald's, West Hartlepool, and in 1930 moved to Kirby Stephen. For the past seven years he has been in charge of ringing at St. John's, Darlington. A regular attendee at local meetings, his cheerful friendliness makes him a welcome visitor in any tower.

CLAYDON, Frank, Earl's Colne, Essex. Has taken 'The R.W.' from No. 1 and looks forward to receiving it each week with the greatest interest.

COCKEY, J. Lewis, Swindon. 'I was a member of the Rammoor, Sheffield, company at the time of the first issue, and the conductor, Sam Thomas, sent a quarter peal to "The Bell News," who did not publish it. I well remember him saying: "Never mind, we will send the next one to the new paper." During World War I he had the paper sent to him at Suez and on the Somme, and then in hospital.'

COLES, A. W., North Mymsms, Hatfield. Past vice-president and Master of Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.

COX, Canon C. Carew, born 1882. Learnt to ring at Stockland, Devon, taught by his cousin, Preb. E. V. Cox. Master of Salisbury Diocesan Guild since 1940, also president Clerical Guild. Vicar, Lyme Regis, for 26 years. Rang 137 peals (conducted 55).

COX, Preb. E. V. (79), Axminster, Devon. Formerly attached to Stockland (Devon). Fenton (Stoke-on-Trent), Tamworth, Rushall (Walsall), Bampton (Devon), Brampford Speke, Ottery St. Mary. Now unattached, but rings in several towers and also helps to instruct. Secretary Oxford University Society, 1902-03; clerical secretary and treasurer, Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, 1910-15; secretary, N.E. Branch, 1920-22; general secretary during 1924; president from 1933, Guild of Devonshire Ringers. Peals 144, including one silent Holt's Original. (23).

COX, W. T. (79), Gloucester. Rang his first peal at Dunsfold, Surrey, in 1903; afterwards moved to Guildford, and member of St. Nicolas' band. Rang half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters for passing of Edward VII. Moved to Coventry 1912, Gloucester 1940. Ringer at Cathedral and St. Mary-de-Crypt. Rang peals from Grandsire to Bristol Surprise and with Mr. Goldsmith. Hopes to ring for many years to come.

CROOK, Peter (75), Bolton, Lancs. Started ringing 1905 at St. Peter's, Bolton; later St. Mary's, Deane, and finally Holy Trinity, Bolton (in charge). Vice-president and treasurer of the Lancashire Association; 35 years secretary of Bolton Branch; Central Council, 1927-29, 1939-50. Peals 481.

CROSS, George H., Chardstock, Axminster. Former Master of Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, writes that through a ringer, employed by a wholesale newsagent, he purchased both 'The Bell News' and 'The Ringing World' for 1d. a week! During World War I received 'R.W.' in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Belgium and France.

DENNIS, T. Reginald, Cambridge. Maintained his continuous 50 years' contact by Mr. Goldsmith forwarding copies to him whilst on active service in France. In 1914 he had the pleasure of ringing the first peal of Bristol in Hampshire, with Mr. Goldsmith at Portsmouth when he attended his first meeting at Winchester as a Central Council representative for the Ely District.

DUFFIELD, William Lant (92), Long Stratton, Norwich. Started ringing at the age of 17 at Tharston, Norwich. Has led the service ringing in each village where he lived, until he retired about one year ago. These parishes include Tasburgh, Tharston, Saxlingham Nethergate and Long Stratton. Rang about 70 peals, including Maximus and Royal, and a family peal with five of his sons at Long Stratton. Joined Norwich Diocesan Association in 1891 and is a member of the committee. For 20 years chairman of South Norfolk Branch.

DYKE, Joseph T., Chilcompton, Bath. Bought No. 1 copy from a small shop near St. Paul's College, Cheltenham. Continued from W. H. Smith's bookstall, Burton-on-Trent railway station; then from Midsomer Norton, Somerset. From there the 'R.W.' was sent to him by his headmaster during 1914-18. The headmaster even continued to buy it for him after he was posted 'missing' in 1918. About 1925 he became a postal subscriber and has continued one ever since.

EDWARDS, H. C., Stony Stratford, Bucks. 'When our conductor, Mr. C. A. Valentine, showed us a letter which said that a new ringing paper was being published, straight away about ten of our local ringers ordered it. Now I am the only one of that ten left, but I still have my copy each week and I don't think I have ever missed a week.'

EVANS, J. William (85), Prenton, Birkenhead. Is the sole survivor of the band who rang at the opening of St. Saviour's, Oxtou, bells on May 23rd, 1895. He was then with eight others, including the late G. R. Newton, walking to Woodchurch to learn to ring. After the opening they started taking 'The Bell News' and 'The Ringing World' from the first number. This church had the first all-metal frame in the county, which was put in with the

ring of eight (tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.) by J. Taylor and Co.

FLETCHER, Edith K. (Mrs.), Born Crawley, 1891; started ringing at age of 14. First peal (Superlative) Edmonton, 1909. Conducted first peal 1,910 Stedman Triples from non-observation bell. Founded Ladies' Guild 1912; its secretary for 35 years and president for nine. Served on Central Council since 1914; life member since 1952. Her perspicacity in tracing Guilds and Associations which had not paid for their notices saved 'The Ringing World' hundreds of pounds shortly after purchase by Central Council. Married Mr. G. W. Fletcher in 1928.

FURBANK, E. W., Brentwood, Essex. Life member Essex Association. Rung over 300 peals, many with Pye brothers.

GOODENOUGH, Horace E. C., St. Albans. Started to ring in 1906 and took 'The Bell News' and 'The Bellringer' until 'The Ringing World' appeared. He has been a member of St. Albans Cathedral band for 52 years and was its conductor for 34 years. His greatest thrill was when St. Albans Cathedral bells were augmented to 12 on May 6th, 1935.

GOODSHIP, Gilbert R. (73), Burstall Hill, Ipswich. Has rung 119 peals. Learnt to ring at St. Giles', Reading, joining Oxford Diocesan Guild 1905. Served in Berkshire Yeomanry and Royal Berks in World War I. Joined Irish Association in 1919; Midland Counties 1921 (instructor and foreman, Basford); College Youths 1924; K.C.A. 1925; Middlesex 1925 (instructor, Harrow Weald, and instrumental in rehanging bells and augmentation to eight); Little Missenden 1938 (instructor and foreman when bells augmented to six in 1948); Suffolk Guild 1955 (instructor, Oulton, 1959). To all towers he went as instructor and started new bands from scratch.

HAIRS, Frank I., Groombridge, Sussex. Helped Jack Goldsmith for some time before the first issue by distributing handbills and generally making the 'coming event' known in London.

HARDING, Gilbert H., Trowbridge. Was secretary of Devizes Branch at time of first issue and cycled round the Branch with specimen copies of the first issue. Motto of 'Ringing World' then was 'to publish news when it is news, not history.'

(Continued next page)

Historian Of Exercise—Cont.

'My dear Jim,—In case anything unexpected happens to me, I am leaving this note to tell you how deeply grateful I am to you for all you have done for 'The Ringing World,' at all times, but particularly since the war and especially during my illness. I know you will say you do not want thanks, but without you at this moment there would not have been a "R.W."; so that not only my thanks but the thanks of all ringers are your due.'

Until he gave up the editorship, in 1946, at a time when he was affected by the illness from which he died in 1947, aged 71, he continued to maintain as editor the high standards which all his life he had set himself. At the time of his death, that other great historian of our art, Mr. Ernest Morris, wrote: 'I was truly amazed at the great amount of data he had most assiduously collected. His whole life must have been spent in visits to the British Museum, and other sources of information, and I should say no one ever put so much time and energy into this side of our art. His work too on the practical side is too well known for me to reiterate and his knowledge in the field of composition was boundless... his collection of MSS. books and records... are priceless and irreplaceable.'

Those of us who realise the difficulties involved in keeping going a weekly paper, especially during the war-time ban, will know that there is no exaggeration in the last words of our first editor and we can best show our thanks and appreciation by continued and increasing support of 'The Ringing World,' which, since its acquisition by the Central Council in 1942, has been truly 'our journal.'

First Issue Readers—Cont.

HAZELDEN, A. C., of Guildford. Con-
vener, Biographies Committee, Central Coun-
cil. First contact with ringing in 1896 at
Sundridge, Kent. First peal, St. Lawrence's,
Seal Chart, 1900; moved to Guildford that year
and other peals followed with great rapidity.

HIBBINS, Ernest George. Born in Stam-
ford, Lincs, 1889. Employed 46 years by
British Railways. Elected member of Ely Dio-
cesan Association July 8th, 1911. Served as
peal secretary, Ringing Master, on Diocesan
and Cambridge District committees. Peals:
tower, 203 (London and Bristol S. Major,
Grandsire and Stedman Cinques and Cambridge
S. Maximus) (96); handbells, 10. Regular
ringer at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, and
Master of the Cambridge Youths.

HISCOTT, W. G., Addington, Liskeard,
Cornwall.

HOLMES, W. T., Welwyn Garden City.
Born Skelton-in-Cleveland, N. Yorks, 1888, and
joined Cleveland and N. Yorkshire Association
1907, ringing 28 peals with them. At Cocker-
mouth, 1914, re-formed Cumberland Associa-
tion and rang 11 peals for them. Since 1936
lived Welwyn Garden City. President Herts
County Association 1956-57; rang eight peals
for them. Still rings for service every Sunday.

HORTON, Bert (73), Wolverhampton. Started
ringing in 1904; joined the Society for the
Archdeaconry of Stafford in 1905 and is
now an honorary member. Rang about 250
peals, called a few, and had the honour to ring
in some early Masonic peals.

HOUGH, Sidney, sen. (82). Has been at-
tached to St. John-the-Baptist's, Knutsford,
since 1895. Rang for all national occasions
since diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria.
Trained local call-change ringers into change-
ringers and he conducted first peal by local
band in 1912; also for his golden wedding,
when in addition to himself band consisted of
three sons and two daughters. Chairman for
many years of Stockport, Bowdon and Mot-
tram Branch, of which he is now a life member.

HUGHES, Albert J., Bangor, Caerns. Learnt
to ring at Smethwick and rang first peal in
1900; retired from peal ringing in 1941 for
health reasons. Rang 265 peals. Member of
13 different Associations. Left Birmingham for
London and later went to Bangor. District
secretary of North Wales Association; twice
Master, and Central Council representative.
Rang in first peal of Royal by a Masonic band,
first of Cambridge Royal in Wales and first of
London Surprise in Dublin. Still attends belfry
when able to help and instruct.

HUMPHREY, H. S., New Romney, Kent.
Taken 'The R.W.' from No. 1 and also 'The
Bellringer'.

INSKIP, E. Pearl, Bromham, Beds. Started
to ring in 1906 at Bromham, under the late C.
Mortimer. Rang his first peal in 1908 and
joined the Kempston band in 1920, where there
was then a stoney band, and has been leader
ever since. Rang over 200 peals and conducted
the longest peal in the county. During four
years in France (1915-1919) never missed a
single copy of 'The Ringing World'.

JENNER, W. Has been ringing at Waldron,
near Heathfield, Sussex, since 1893.

JENNEY, Harold G., Leicester. Hopes to
celebrate personal jubilee as ringer at Leicester
Cathedral this autumn; introduced to ringing
at Ripley, Derbys, 1907; first peal Heanor,
1909. Highlights: 12,896 Cambridge Major,
10,400 Real Superlative Major.

KEYTE, J., Freeland, Oxon. Born July 1st,
1890, at Blockley, then Worcestershire. Held
a rope with another ringer in muffled ringing
for the passing of Queen Victoria, and has since
rung on all possible royal occasions, the last
being a peal for Prince Andrew's birthday.
For 40 years secretary of Chipping Norton
Branch, O.D.G. Rings at two churches on
Sundays.

LEWIS, F. J., sen., Cirencester, Glos. Has
enjoyed reading every number of 'The Ringing
World'. Been ringing at both churches at
Cirencester for 63 years, but was in World War
I with R.G.A., stationed in Bombay. Here he
had the job of chiming the eight bells at St.
John's Church, Colabra. Rang 119 peals on
five to 12 bells, conducted 59. Son and grand-
son both good ringers; grandson Peter leader
of Cirencester Grammar School ringers.

MACEY, Frederick S. (72), Sutton Valence,
Kent. Member of Kent County Association
since 1904 and a trustee of the Association from
1945. Taught to ring at Rainham, Kent, by
the late George Gilbert, being one of his first
pupils. Total peals to date 87 (7). Conducted
first 'Frederick' peal for the Kent County As-
sociation, rung at Rolvenden, Kent, June 20th,
1926.

MARRINER, George (77). Rang 288 peals.
Still regular service ringer.

METCALFE, Thomas, Dalton-in-Furness,
Lancs. Taken 'The R.W.' from first copy ex-
cept when overseas on war service in 1914-18
war. Tower captain at Dalton and celebrated
60 years of service ringing at this parish church
in January, 1960.

MORLEY, H. S., Selby Abbey Ringers. Had
an excusable gap in his 50 years: from March,
1918, to January, 1919, he was a prisoner-of-
war in German hands and could not obtain
a copy. Until he was taken prisoner he re-
ceived 'The R.W.' weekly in France while serv-
ing with the Rifle Brigade.

MORRIS, Ernest, Eyres Monsell, Leicester.
Was prominent in No. 2 of 'The Ringing
World' with a composition of Bob Royal, and
has been prominent with performances, com-
positions and articles ever since. During the
'ban' period on ringing supplied a full-page
article every week for over 12 months. His
articles included 'Bells in English Life', 'Uses
and Abuses', 'Ringers' Rules', etc. Stood in
the 12 secretaries' peal of Stedman Cinques
arranged by Mr. Goldsmith at Southwark
Cathedral.

NORRIS, Charles, Chatham. First went into
belfry in 1904: first peal March 5th, 1910.
Served under ten rectors at St. Mary's, Chat-
ham, and still hon. secretary. Joined Rochester
Cathedral company 1922; served under six
deans and is still steeplekeeper. Number of
peals 183.

PECK, Alfred B., Reigate. Joined Ancient
Society College Youths 1901 (Master 1910-11,
secretary 1937-1957, Central Council 1933-1957).
'Very proud and humble to think that I was
privileged to be a ringer at St. Paul's Cathedral.'

PERRENS, Frank W. Born 1891; learnt to
ring at Willenhall in 1910, and first peal in the
following year. After years as Ringing Master
of the Coventry Diocesan Guild is now presi-
dent. Librarian to Central Council, having
been a member since 1927, with gap of two
years. Peals rung total nearly 550.

RUMENS, H., Walthamstow. Started ring-
ing at Walthamstow in 1904, rang first peal in
1907 and has taken part in 48 peals. Most of
these peals have been Caters and Royal at
St. Mary's, Walthamstow.

SAUNDERS, Tom, East Peckham, Ton-
bridge. Rang 233 peals from Doubles to Maxi-
mus in 50 different towers. Member of local
tower for 60 years, K.C.A. (Tonbridge District)
58 years, and was District secretary for five
years.

SEAR, H., Bletchley. He has taken a ring-
ing paper regularly since 1898. He rang three
peals with Mr. Goldsmith—two of Stedman
Caters and one of Double Norwich Court Bob
Major. In one of the peals Mr. Goldsmith's
glasses fell on the floor. He said to the con-
ductor: 'Carry on.'

SEGAR, John (68). Had completed 50 years'
Sunday service ringing in Retford, Notts, before
moving to Skegness recently. He composed the
5,152 Spliced Surprise Major, all the bells all
the work of 14 methods, 5,040 Spliced Triples
with 360 calls, and extended the record length
of Bristol Surprise Major to 21,920 changes.
Three Central Council publications were com-
piled by him—the Four-way Table, Spliced
Triples and the Blue Line system of F.C.H.
Several years before he rang his first peal he
could tap on handbells 45 methods from Minor
to Maximus. In 1913 tapped 7,200 of Minor
in ten plain methods (record number of meth-
ods) and 5,040 Minor in seven Surprise methods.

SHEPHERD, William, Addlestone, Surrey.
Born 1883; commenced ringing 1893; College
Youth 61 years; Central Council representative,
Winchester Guild, 1920-23, Guildford Guild,
1928-29; vice-president Guildford Guild. Long-
est peal, 19,738 Stedman Caters on handbells,
1912. Rang in peal of Stedman Caters in the
Editor's office on September 10th, 1915. Met
with an accident in 1926 that stopped him peal
ringing for nearly 20 years.

SIMMONDS, William, 100, Hartop Road,
Torquay.

SMALLWOOD, J. Frank, Darley Dale,
Derbys. During the first world war, when he
served overseas for four years, James George
used to send him 'The Ringing World' each
week. Of Jack Goldsmith, who was a personal
friend, he writes: 'He was a delightful ringing
companion, first-class ringer and conductor,
and brilliant after-dinner speaker.' And these
attributes are also to be found in the convener
of 'The Ringing World' Committee.

STEWART, A. F., Martin, Ferndown Hill,
Ferndown.

STILWELL, Leonard (71), Worthing. Started
ringing 1903, and rang first peal at Pulborough
October 6th, 1904. Total peals, 648 (65). Taken
all issues of 'The R.W.' and now has them
bound. Also took 'The Bell News' from 1906
and 'The Bellringer' in 1907. Attached to
Pulborough Church 13 years, Windsor Parish
Church 33 (27 years a sidesman), Henley-on-
Thames (1914-16), Horsham eight, and is now
at Heene, Worthing. Divisional secretary,
trustee, Central Council representative, peals
secretary to Sussex County Association. Bio-
graphies Committee and honorary member of
Central Council.

SYMONDS, Geo. E., Ipswich. Secretary of
St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, for 40
years. Was in London for four years and a
member of the Waterloo Society. Always en-
joyed articles of J. Armiger Trollope. Also
rang for ten years at Framlingham and seven
years at Beccles.

SYMONDS Stedman H., Lavenham, Suffolk.
Has every copy of the 'R.W.' still in his
possession, except one, accidentally destroyed.
Started ringing 1901, conducting 1903. Con-
ductor of Lavenham band since 1907.

VALANCE, Thomas Hubert, St. Margaret's,
Stoke Newington. Has rung approximately 80
peals, from Minor to Royal. The office he has
held is 'critic and bone-picker' but never a
controversialist.

WALKER, Albert (84). The modern Henry
Johnson of Birmingham, who joined St. Mar-
tin's Guild in 1897. As a conductor of Stedman
Cinques he has not been surpassed. He also
conducted the first peal of Stedman Sextuples,
served as Master of St. Martin's Guild and is
now vice-president.

WALLATER, Christopher, of Willenhall,
Staffs. Born Christmas Day, 1882. Ringing
Master, Society for the Archdeaconry of Staffs,
1926-27. Inaugurated scheme for recasting and
augmenting bells of St. Giles', Willenhall, from
8 to 10.

WALTER, Sidney, Secretary, Wickham-
breaux, near Canterbury, band. Says his band
has taken 'The Ringing World' regularly since
March 24th, 1911.

WIFFIN, Lewis W., Braintree, Joined St.
Mary-le-Tower band, Ipswich, in 1901, and
rang first peal same year. Since then has rung
672 peals (93). Sole survivor of band who rang
first peal of Cambridge Maximus. A College
Youth for 59 years and for a term a representa-
tive on the Central Council.

WILSON, Louis A. (85), Wootton Bassett,
Wilts. He has taken a ringing paper since
1896. 'I have spent my life in getting various
rings of bells increased and in order, and rejoice
to see the younger generation enjoy ringing
them. Still actively teaching others to carry on.'

WINCH, Alfred H. (81), Leatherhead. Rang
over 300 peals; rings when health permits.

YORK-BRAMBLE, Albert. Began learning
change-ringing in the 'oldest' 12-bell tower—
Cirencester. First peal, Grandsire Minor, 1913,
while at Bristol University. Rang (after the
Kaiser War) in the first two (and only) peals
by officers of the Forces. Peals up to Surprise
Royal. Main interest in the teaching of ringing
and in method structure. Member of College
Youths since 1914, of Universities' Association
and others. Co-founder and principal of the
College of Campanology; hon. vice-president of
the Portsmouth Cathedral Guild of Ringers.

BARNSELY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Three new members from Penistone and
Wakefield were elected at the Barnsley and
District Society's meeting at Kirkburton, near
Huddersfield, on March 11th, when 11 towers
were represented. Mr. Noel F. Moxon was
in the chair and the vote of thanks was pro-
posed by Mr. Joseph Burgess. Next meet-
ing: Monk Bretton, near Barnsley, April 8th.

A SURVEY OF THE RINGING PRESS

By E. A. BARNETT

IT is just 80 years since the first paper devoted exclusively to the art of change-ringing made its appearance. Beginning as a monthly in February, 1881, and becoming a weekly 14 months later, 'The Bell News,' however much it fell away in its later years, served the Exercise manfully until it disappeared during the first World War.

None of us today can visualise what it was like when our art had no paper of its own. Up to the early 1870's, (except possibly for some very brief and occasional communication in 'Bell's Life' (which was in fact a sporting paper) or some such journal, the only means of correspondence that existed between ringers was private and personal. 'The natural result of all this,' said one whose ringing career began in 1870, 'was that the Exercise was thoroughly unorganised. In London and the leading towns there were individual conductors and composers who knew one or two other conductors or composers up and down the country, but beyond this there was no general intercourse or cohesion between the various local units of the Exercise. And so each local company developed solely on its own lines; and while in many centres such as London, Norwich, Birmingham, Painswick and others, change-ringing well kept up its head, there were often co-existing developments of a less desirable nature, such as jealousies, quarrels, narrowness of outlook, accompanied by failure in general to realise and appreciate the uplifting power of the science and, above all, its position and responsibility as pertaining to the Church of God.'

FILLING THE GAP

The gap began to be filled when there came into existence at about the time the writer of these words, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, learned to ring, the publication from which extracts have recently appeared in these pages, 'Church Bells.' Here again the title was misleading. To those who have the opportunity of reading it, 'Church Bells' presents a fascinating picture of church life of the period, but the column for ringing, under the sub-editorship firstly of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, had little in it calculated to advance the interests of ringing generally. The space available for anything in the way of instruction was nearly always fully occupied by Jasper Snowdon with his scientific or historical articles, invaluable though these were. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, whose many services to ringing included 20 years as secretary of the Central Council, later succeeded to Mr. Ellacombe's position on the paper.

However unsatisfactory 'Church Bells' may have been from the point of view of ringers, it doubtless led many of them to the realisation that what was wanted was a voice of its own by which the Exercise could express its mind and its ideals, and thus it paved the way for 'The Bell News,' edited for nearly 30 years by Hervey Reeves, of Walthamstow, who was a native of Worcester and a skilled practical ringer and composer, though he gradually gave up his connection with these aspects of ringing, and at the end of his life was quite unknown to the vast majority of his readers.

I suppose it is true to say that most of those who will read these lines have never seen a copy of 'The Bell News and Ringers' Record: A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.' To those for whom history is not, in the late Sam Goldwyn's phrase, 'bunk,' it is a treasure house of information. The development of method ringing; the formation of many Associations; abstruse scientific articles answering hitherto unsolved problems, such as whether five- and ten-part peals of Grandsire Triples with common bobs and singles were possible; setting down the results of the patient investigations by Itewood, Earle Bulwer, J. J. Parker and others into the construction of peals of Stedman Triples; revealing for the first time the use of certain sets of reversed course-ends in Superlative, and so forth; controversies; early ringing tours; historical

conduct of a ringing journal which ringers rightly demand, and which it is our determination to carry out; indeed, the two points are essential to the success of any newspaper. One is that the journal shall be punctually in the hands of its readers week by week, and the other that passing events shall be recorded promptly. To accomplish this end we must necessarily rely to a large extent upon the help of the ringers themselves, but we feel sure that those who make themselves responsible for supplying reports will appreciate, just as much as those who have the pleasure of reading them, that there is far more interest in a short paragraph given in the issue immediately following the event than in a long report which appears three or four weeks later, when it has entirely lost its freshness. On our part, chief consideration will be shown to those contributions which arrive promptly after the event, and, while we do not desire to pass over anything of interest in the ringing world, we are convinced that the majority of ringers will be at one with us in seeking to carry out this determination.

No enterprise could have been embarked upon with more generous wishes for success than have been received in connection with *The Ringing World*. From north, south, east and west, since first the proposal to establish this journal was made known, have come messages of encouragement, and to our friends throughout the country we wish to express our gratitude for their kindly wishes. 'We certainly do not intend to boast as to the future career of *The Ringing World*. We shall be content to leave it to the calm judgment of the ringers themselves, feeling sure that they will appreciate at its proper value any merit that may be shown in extending their interest in what is happening in connection with the bells of our land.'

The furtherance of the Art is the first object of this paper, and all that relates to its progress will find in it the warmest support. In addition to giving all news promptly, all matters relating to the Exercise will be dealt with freely and without prejudice, and we invite contributions to our columns of small items as well as of the necessarily longer reports. *The Ringing World* will be open for the fair and impartial discussion of all matters appertaining to the interests of ringers. We feel sure that the space set apart for this purpose will be appreciated, but we shall have to insist that all communications shall be accompanied by the name and address of the sender, although, of course, not necessarily for publication. On our part we intend to spare no pains to keep the pages of *The Ringing World* interesting to beginners as well as to the ringers of riper experience, to make them "newsy" as well as instructive.

In conclusion let us say we do not venture upon this undertaking without the realisation of difficulties to be faced and obstacles to be overcome. With the kindly help of those in whose interest this journal has been established, however, we are prepared to undertake the task, and the promises of support, in number most remarkable and from quarters most unexpected, which have been received, make us sanguine of success. There is unanimity of opinion that a "live" journal for bell-ringers is needed and, from the expressions which have reached us, our humble efforts to supply a distinctly long felt want will, we confidently believe, commend themselves to the approbation of the great majority of ringers throughout the country. At any rate we place the first number of *The Ringing World* before our readers, content to leave it to their judgment and in the hope that the spirit in which the work has been undertaken will perhaps be recognised and appreciated.

articles by Jasper Snowdon; portraits of the leading ringers of the day—some, like John Cox, Henry W. Haley and Henry Johnson, almost at the end of their careers, others such as J. W. Washbrook, James Parker, Gabriel Lindoff, George Williams and John Carter, up-and-coming men who have since passed into history; these and much more are to be found in its pages. As the title suggests, not everything there was connected with ringing. Who, one wonders, was 'The Ringer in Parliament,' who for a few weeks in 1887 contributed a fascinating account of the doings at 'The Palace of St. Stephen's' with its glimpses of men like Gladstone, Morley and Labouchere, and when Parnell and the Irish Nationalists were such a thorn in the flesh of the Government of the day? The first lady composer, who nowadays recognises the name of Miss E. Cruwys Sharland, whose date touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at Tiverton in 1884 and 1885? Nearly 75 years were to elapse before Miss Stella Hughes became the next lady to put her name to a composition, that of a peal of Stedman Caters.

FINANCIAL TROUBLES

There can be no doubt of the service to ringing which 'The Bell News' rendered, par-

THE RINGING WORLD.

March 24th, 1911.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



FOUNDERS OF MAIDEN PEALS.

Twelve Gold Medals Awarded.

TESTIMONIAL

John O. Sagar, Tolmorton, Solicitor, December 10, 1910. Messrs. Charles Carr, Ltd., Bell and Brassfounders, Smethwick.

Dear Sirs,—As a Church Officer of St. Paul's, Cross Street, Tolmorton, and one who has taken a great interest in the Peal of 8 Bells which you recently hung in the Church Tower, I am pleased to be able to tell you that the bells are giving the utmost satisfaction, in fact I hear nothing but the highest praise and recommendation on all sides. The day after you completed the work, a peal of 5000 changes was rung on the bells. This of course was a creditable performance on the part of the ringers, but it also proves how well lodged and how accurately the bells must be. I am sure the tone and the workmanship leave nothing to be desired. All our people and neighbouring ringers too have a good word for them. I understand you will be ever here when the bells are consecrated and you will have the satisfaction of hearing this letter verified.—Yours faithfully, (Signed) JOHN O. SAGAR.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

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ALFRED BOWELL,

CHURCH BELL FOUNDER,

IPSWICH.

ticularly during the first 20 years of its life; indeed I would say that perhaps because far fewer peals were rung, and more space was available for other matter, it was better produced and contained more real news than any other ringing paper has ever done. Like all the others, it had its financial troubles—the editor had said in the very first issue that 'the commencement of an enterprise of the character of a journal, especially one devoted to the interests and fancies of a class, is not, as a rule, devoid of anxiety and care on the part of those who become its sponsors'—and it has been freely rumoured that Sir Arthur Heywood helped it out of some, at least, of its difficulties. Certainly he did so on one occasion, as will be seen later on.

William Willson who, as we were recently reminded, used to write a column under the name of 'Jingle,' revealed in later years that he would occasionally receive a card from Hervey Reeves: 'Dear Friend. The circulation is not so good. Can you kick up a row in the next issue? Any subject you like, only make it hot and strong.' 'And,' said Willson, 'I would oblige, the circulation would go up, and what did it matter if I got the blame?' Hence, no

(Continued next page)

Survey Of Ringing Press—Cont.

doubt, the celebrated controversy on the long peal of Double Norwich at Kidlington in 1899, which he began. Certainly criticism did not trouble him.

It cannot be said that the appearance on September 16th, 1896, of 'Campanology', the first of three rivals of 'The Bell News'—all of which that paper completely ignored—was entirely opportune. The editor, William Bedwell, of Lewisham, who modestly described himself in the first issue as a well-known ringer, conductor, teacher and steeplekeeper, said in his opening remarks: 'We feel no apology is needed to introduce "Campanology" to the very large number of exponents of the Exercise in the British Isles, and those conversant with the subject of Bells and Bell Ringing, inasmuch as the necessity of a bright and cheerful journal, devoted exclusively to these particular objects, has for years past been plainly manifest'; but although signs of decline were undoubtedly appearing, the older paper had not yet outlived its usefulness. To a present-day reader 'Campanology' seems too similar in character and layout to 'The Bell News' to have had a chance of lasting success, notwithstanding the optimism sounded in the second issue, so reminiscent of recent events in the London press.

'THE BELLRINGER'

'The Bellringer' was very different in its make-up. There is no doubt that by 1907 'The Bell News' needed stirring up, and the new paper could truthfully say, in the first issue on January 5th of that year, that the Exercise 'has too long been subject to the vagaries of a press circumscribed in the narrow confines of private monopoly.' No one long acquainted with the art of ringing, it went on, would care to assert that the confraternity had been treated to the respect its intelligence and members deserved, or catered for with any degree of satisfaction. Many had failed to support 'Campanology' from a mistaken sense of sympathy for the old against the new. 'Campanology' had died, said 'The Bellringer,' but while it lived it had stimulated a healthy rivalry that made many forget the previous stagnation, with the result that on its death decadence had reigned once more.

There is little doubt that William Willson was responsible for those comments. As Mr. Edgar Shepherd reminded us, he had transferred his allegiance to 'The Bellringer' as co-editor with Walter C. Hunt, whose inspiration the paper really was. But even the trenchant pen of 'Jingle' could not prevent the cracks from appearing. By the fifth issue the editors confessed that the money they had set aside, which they were prepared to lose at the commencement, was rapidly vanishing, and while they were ready to work for nothing, they were not prepared to lose pounds a week at the same time. So 'The Bellringer,' too, closed its doors and 'The Bell News' continued as before. Peals were published later and later, notices of meetings tended not to appear until after the date on which the meetings were held and, one gathers, whether Saturday's issue would appear on Saturday was often a matter of doubt. Thus when John S. Goldsmith made up his mind to start a new ringing paper, circumstances could hardly have been more favourable. It is ironical that four days after 'The Ringing World' first made its appearance on March 24th, 1911—a Friday, no doubt to obtain the tactical advantage of publication a day before its rival—Hervey Reeves died. To all intents and purposes 'The Bell News' died too, though the owners were to continue it for five more years, largely, according to J. A. Trollope, in the hope that they could sell the copyright.

FIGHT FOR RECOGNITION

When the new paper first appeared it was well received by some, and with goodwill by many, but there lurked a fear, doubtless brought about by the two previous failures, lest the rivals should kill one another and the attempt to give the Exercise two papers should result in it having none at all. An attempt made at the Central Council meeting in 1911 to pass a motion which would have given 'The Ringing World' recognition equal to that accorded to 'The Bell News' for the publication

of official reports and communications, and that any peals published exclusively in 'The Ringing World' should be counted in the Council's peals analysis, was strongly opposed both by the Analysis Committee, who thought it would mean extra work for them, and by the president. Indeed, Sir Arthur Heywood told the council, in effect, to choose between himself and 'The Ringing World,' and ultimately 'the previous question' was moved and carried, the majority of members abstaining from voting.

J. A. Trollope, who undertook to propose the motion, has recorded the condemnation with which Heywood's action was received, and in his view it did far more good to 'The Ringing World' than it did harm. The secretary, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, acted in fact as if the motion had been passed, and in the following year a motion expressing satisfaction at this and extending a welcome to 'The Ringing World' was passed without opposition. Sir Arthur Heywood's attitude seems in fact to have been based on a misunderstanding as the following letter from him to J. A. Trollope, which for obvious reasons has not hitherto seen the light of day, will show. It forms a fitting conclusion to the story of 'The Bell News.'

'Doveleys,

Rochester, Staffs.

May 6th, 1912.

'Dear Trollope.—Mr. Davies tells me you propose again to raise the question of unequal treatment of the two ringing papers. I am sorry because the subject seemed to cause some heat. I should like to make clear my own position in the matter. Personally I wish "Bell News" would cease. I do not know whether its recent transfer to Mr. G. Carter (about whom I know nothing whatever) means that the Reeves have gone bankrupt and that he has taken the business over as all he could get to balance money owing him, or whether he is a capitalist bringing fresh support to a failing concern—anyway the paper seems to be going on, at all events for the present. I have suggested that the two should combine. It is a great nuisance having two papers, and this is by no means counterbalanced by the tonic influence of each on the other. "R.W." is a much better paper in every way. So far as I know, however, it is under no agreement to put in all (Central) C(council) notices free, as is (or was under the old management) "B.N."; a concession I obtained voluntarily from old H. Reeves when he wanted £10—he offered in return an undertaking that he would put in all our C.C. notices free until Doomsday or the "B.N." came to an end, whichever should occur first. So I wrote out an agreement which he signed and which Mr. Davies now, I think, has among the C.C. papers. Probably this concession will now be repudiated.

'Again, when the C.C. started H. Reeves flatly refused to be at the expense of reporting the proceedings fully, and we felt that this really was an absolute necessity. At first, for some years if I remember rightly, and before there were any available funds, I paid a reporter . . . Now this report is not a matter the Council ought to be burdened with. The ringing papers should themselves provide a verbatim report. If "R.W." would start doing this, of course the Council would at once stop having their own reporter and "B.N." would have to follow suit and give a similar report or take a back seat. The Council do not have the proceedings reported as a favour to a particular paper but to save their own face.

'Then it is said: but you send your report to "B.N.", why not send it also to "R.W."? This is where I come in, as I endeavoured to explain at Leicester.

'Keeble (Benjamin Keeble, of Romford) is a very poor reporter, though he does his best, and the construction of an intelligible report from his notes is far the most troublesome thing I have to do in the year . . . there are a mass of grammatical and other mistakes to correct and the speeches have to be put into passable English.

'Now what I said plainly at Leicester was that I would not and could not do this work twice over. I am a busy man and, with a correspondence always heavy, I find this correction a great burden—for it is also a very anxious matter, with so erratic a report, to attempt to represent all the speakers justly.

'I am quite ready to send the report to "R.W." instead of "B.N." (I do not care a fig which paper has it) or give up the whole thing and leave the papers to report what they choose. In fact I will gladly do exactly what the Council will decide by any resolution, except the one thing they wished to resolve last year, viz.: that I should send a copy of the report to each paper at the same time. That I can't and won't do . . . If "R.W." was half smart they would put on a good reporter and produce as full and a much better result than we do! We should at once drop our C.C. reporter and, as I have said, "B.N." would have to follow suit, and peace would be established. You will recognise that parts of this letter . . . are for your private consumption alone.—Yours very truly,

ARTHUR HEYWOOD.'

THANKFULNESS

The story of 'The Ringing World' is naturally bound up so much with the lives of its three editors, about whom much appears elsewhere in this issue, that I propose to say little more than that not least of the paper's service to the Exercise, particularly in John Goldsmith's time, has been its reports of the debates at the Council meetings and of the speeches at other important ringing functions. The limitations of space are undoubtedly a greater handicap now than they were in the paper's early days, and reports inevitably need to be condensed, but I often have the impression that this has been carried a little too far. That is a minor point, however, compared with the valuable part 'The Ringing World' has played in keeping our art alive and thriving; and no future historian can fail to be thankful to those members of the Central Council, Messrs. E. H. Lewis, A. A. Hughes, G. W. Fletcher and R. Richardson, whose action on John S. Goldsmith's death in guaranteeing his executors against loss, becoming responsible for £200 for the goodwill, blocks, etc., bearing any losses from June 5th, 1942, and undertaking to collect outstanding debts (some £700, of which £619 was eventually collected), saved the Exercise from the disaster of having no paper of its own. Had 'The Ringing World' gone under at a time when the ringing of church bells was itself banned, the clock would have been put so far back that it is doubtful if the art would ever fully have recovered.

It would be wrong to conclude this survey without any reference to the several other periodicals devoted to ringing which have made their appearance since the end of the second World War and are happily still going strong. First in the field was 'The Ringing Towers,' the monthly journal of the New South Wales Association. Beginning in 1947 under the editorship of William M. Rowe, who was also the Association's first secretary and whose enthusiasm, aided by several English ringers in H.M. Forces, was largely responsible for the revival of interest in and around Sydney which took place at that time, it has continued faithfully to chronicle the activities of our friends in Australia and New Zealand, and a number of copies find their way to England each month. The present acting editor is Mr. W. D. Watson.

In October, 1949, 'The Belfry,' a quarterly magazine published by the Maidstone District of the Kent County Association, made its appearance, with Frank P. Wright as editor. He was succeeded within a year or two by Mr. Reginald L. Sils, who is still in office and under whose guidance a varied combination of local news and both interesting and thoughtful articles continues to appear. These remarks apply equally to 'The Irish Bell News,' also a quarterly, which came out in October, 1951, and of which Mr. Fred E. Dukes has been editor throughout its existence. Regrettably, but inevitably, there are a good many ringers whose interest does not extend over the whole range of ringing activities; and while we in this country may tend to think of 'The Ringing Towers' and 'The Irish Bell News' as supplementing 'The Ringing World,' those papers play a far more valuable rôle than does this journal in the territories which they serve. Along with 'The Belfry' and Mr. William Butler's enterprising 'Ringers' Magazine,' they deserve the support of all who have the wider interests of ringing at heart.

CHILDREN IN BELFRY

The greatest ringing event during the past 50 years occurred when the belfry opened its door to schoolchildren. All over the country, the 'invasion' was on, and where it was welcomed and encouraged and handled with knowledgeable care, particularly in step by step progress, the bells ring out their message. Where it was not welcomed, the bells are already silent or nearly so. Our Central Council had its own special opportunity to give the young people a 20th century organisation, leading, when proficient, to the older Associations and Guilds.

We 'optimists' look to the day when the Council can say to the B.B.C., 'Go anywhere you wish for your Christmas broadcast—you can't go wrong.'—E. L. Humphriss, Woolton, Liverpool.

ALBERT J. PITMAN

That remarkable and versatile composer, Albert J. Pitman, deserves consideration for the credit of providing the best contribution to the advancement of ringing. From one aspect alone, Spliced Surprise ringing, Mr. Pitman has contributed material which, I have not the slightest doubt, has influenced many an ordinary ringer into becoming a much better ringer. To be able to ring Spliced is a refreshing experience, it adds interest, it encourages advancement in the knowledge of the art and it produces better conductors. But Mr. Pitman has also provided scores of compositions for those who do not care for Surprise ringing, and which still can be regarded as advancement. And fancy producing a 5,040 Scientific Triples for the Exercise to accomplish!—T. J. Lock.

PLACE NOTATION

Place notation known as the 'Corrigan line.' Think of all the columns of figures printed to explain a new method. Few had the eyesight or patience to follow figures through. Today those interested can get what they want almost at a glance.—P. Laffin, Stockport.

Advancement in 50 years**THE LADIES**

I consider the greatest contribution to the advancement of ringing in the 'R.W.'s' 50 years of life is the advent of ladies into our belfries. They have brought charm, grace and harmony into our midst, where previously these attributes were not very evident. I can remember when there were no lady ringers. It was many years before I met one. Now one meets them everywhere. Bless them.—Charles J. Sedgley, Ipswich.

There can be no doubt that the emancipation of women has been the best contribution to the advancement of ringing, during the past 50 years.—Madeline M. Croft, Southampton.

WAR-TIME BAN

Although it was not exactly a contribution to the advancement of ringing, I venture to suggest that the war-time ban on tower-bell ringing in the second world war led to the notable progress in our art which has taken place since 1945.

Method ringing on handbells became popular and was widely practised during the period of the ban; by this means many new recruits were introduced to the Exercise, some of whom are leading ringers of today. Furthermore, double-handed ringing would seem to lead to method change ringing being studied and approached from an entirely different angle, besides setting a very high standard of striking.—Arthur V. Davis, Bournemouth.

BALL BEARINGS

Ball bearings must be a great contribution to advancement. Many young bands have been encouraged by easily rung peals today; in days gone by the same bells would have meant a more gruelling job. In fairness, plain bearings can be quite all right if properly attended to, but they will not look after themselves.—P. Laffin, Stockport.

GREATEST RINGING EVENT DURING PAST 50 YEARS

I consider this to be the All England Ringers' Meeting at Messrs. Gillett and Johnston's Bell Foundry at Croydon, in March, 1928. There was a record assembly of ringers (2,400 from nearly 450 towers), addressed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and supported by many clergy, ringers and non-ringers. On view was the largest bell ever cast in England and the biggest in the world that has ever been tuned. To enter the foundry there was, at one time, a queue of hundreds of ringers, and to report the occasion a supplement to 'The Ringing World' was necessary!—T. J. Lock.

IN WEST COUNTRY

Mr. A. L. Bennett, of Buckfastleigh, a reader since spring of 1918, says perhaps the two most important things that have happened in the West Country, during the life of the paper, has been the addition of two trebles at Exeter Cathedral, to increase the ring to 12, and the recasting of the bells at Buckfast Abbey with the addition of the great bourdon bell. It this latter case the first peal of Stedman Cinques was rung on the present ring in 1937, in which the late Mr. Goldsmith rang the treble. I also had the privilege of taking part in one peal with him, this being one of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, during Whitsuntide, 1939.

GREETINGS FROM 'OVERTONES'

Sincere greetings, congratulations and a peal of good wishes for the future. 'The Ringing World' has had an influence in promoting good bell music and campanological fellowship not only in Britain, but here in America. We are all grateful to have had it for the past fifty years and send special thanks to Mr. T. W. White for his good work as editor.

JAMES R. LAWSON,

Editor, 'Overtones,' journal of American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

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FRANK I. HAIRS.

R. S. ANDERSON.

W. G. WILSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

In wishing the Rev. K. C. Davis every success in his new appointment as Vicar of Tadley, Hants. Mr. G. Dodd writes: 'By a coincidence there is already a ringing incumbent at Tadley New Church, which is now being built—the Rev. M. P. Simcock, who was previously chairman of the Andover District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild. Neither church has a ring of bells.'

There is a badge for campanology under the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

The method rung in the peal at Bolsover on February 24th (see page 155) was Superlative Surprise and not Yorkshire, as submitted.

The Sunday service band at All Souls', Halifax, have put up another fine performance with a peal of 5.472 Spliced Surprise Major in nine methods.

According to the list inside Berkeley, Glos. tower, there has only been one previous peal of Royal (Plain Bob) to that of Yorkshire Surprise Royal on March 11th rung on the bells and that the last peal was in 1951.

The Gloucester and Bristol Association are to run another course at Hantpury in September in conjunction with the Gloucestershire Education Committee. Philip Gray is again in charge of organisation.

Beachcomber of 'The Daily Express' has a leg-pull at record lengths, etc. He writes: 'During a 12-hour bell-jamboree in the Midlands, a lady who was hard of hearing said after five hours of it: "Beatrice, I think there's someone at the door."'

Owing to unfortunate circumstances due to the breakage of a gudgeon or rather hard going bells, our team of ringers (and all ringing) has been absolutely "flat on its face" for over six months,' reports a correspondent from Bampton, Devon.

Vigorous efforts are being made by East Bridgford ringers in raising money for their bell fund, for which £250 is needed. The handbell team are giving concerts and dances have also been held, which have so far raised £60.

BELFRY GOSSIP

So effective are the silencers provided for West Bridgford bells that the Rector, walking through the churchyard one evening last week, thought he heard the bells of St. Peter's, Nottingham, some two miles away, and then he remembered that it was his own tower's practice night.

'X. Y. Z.', whose column appears in 'The Suffolk Mercury,' refers to the unsuccessful long peal attempt at Grundisburgh. The writer asks: 'Wasn't it raisins, startin' up pains in the tenor's tummy, that stopped the long ring at Deb'num some years back.'

Mr. A. Clayton, Ringing Master of St. Mary's, Putney, informs us that a charge of 10s. is made for the privilege of visiting bands ringing at Pershore Abbey. 'Surely we have reached a very low ebb when one group of Christians starts using another as a source of profit,' he adds.

To wind up an enjoyable practice meeting of the Devon Guild at Dean Prior, Buckfastleigh, on March 11th, a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was attempted and lost when about two leads from home. Those taking part were A. L. Bennett 1, Rev. P. Angold 2, Miss Y. C. Porter 3, Rev. W. P. Dowling 4, Rev. A. de Guinand 5, and W. G. Lavers (cond.) 6.

David Eames, of Church Gresley, gives every promise of being a good heavy bell ringer. He is 15½ years of age and of slight build, but rang the 28 cwt. tenor at Hoar Cross to a peal without a mishap. He had previously had suitable practice at Beverley Minster and Manchester Town Hall.

Prior to the baptism of John Peter, second son of Frances and Arthur Hibbert, on March 5th at Chapel-en-le-Frith, his parents, godparents and grandfather rang a touch of Plain Bob Minor. The band was Harry Laffin (godfather) 1, Frances Hibbert (mother) 2, Gladys Richardson (godmother) 3, Arthur Hibbert (father) 4, Alex Richardson (godfather) 5, Peter Laffin (grandfather) 6. After the service, performed by the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. Austin), relatives and friends were entertained to tea at Ashdene.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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HIS HAPPIEST HOUR — 2,000 PEALS BEHIND HIM

EVERYBODY associated with change ringing has heard of Ernest Morris, of Leicester. And now at the age of 71, he has crowned his career as a ringer by being the first man to ring 2,000 peals. This has been accomplished within a span of 55 years.

In a sense Ernest was born into ringing which he inherited from his father, the late Josiah Morris, known to his intimates as the tenor king. And Josiah was with 17-year-old Ernest when he rang his first peal in August, 1906, at St. Andrew's, Grimsby, and again a member of the band on August 28th, 1947, when he rang his 1,000th peal—Stedman Cinques in hand at St. Margaret's Church, Leicester.

While ambition to ring more peals than any other man might be worthy, this has not been his sole objective. First and foremost is his love of ringing and demonstrating his mastery of a bell. He has rung peals in 135 churches in Leicestershire on every possible ring of bells and many of these have been tough propositions, necessitating more than one attempt; over 50 were first peals on the bells. Then there was his love of young ringers—St. Margaret's belfry, throughout his long association, has invariably had its quota of young people being disciplined into the art by Uncle Ernest. Many groups of young ringers are grateful to him for shepherding them through their first peal of say Doubles. In a sense it was not the calibre of the peal that counted with him, although his peals range from Doubles to Maximus with a big variety of Surprise methods, but the spirit of helpfulness which an experienced member of a team would make.

IN LONG LENGTHS

In his younger days the name of Ernest Morris was to be found among bands attempting record lengths. These included conducting the longest by the Midland Counties Association of Doubles (6,600), Minor (10,080), Bob Major (13,440), Kent Treble Bob (10,912) and Oxford Treble Bob (7,480). He also conducted the longest length of Bob Major for the Central Northants Association, one of 7,488, and another of 9,760. He called the record peals of Little Bob (6,720), Little Canterbury (6,720), Spliced Treble Bob (Ilkeston arrangement, 9,120), and rang in 9,600 Kent and Oxford Spliced. He also took part in the record peals of Cambridge Major (7,008 and 12,896) and the record 12,633 Stedman Cinques at Christ Church, Oxford.

Among his unusual peals are those with four sets of brothers, four fathers and sons and five fathers and sons. His peals have been spread over 273 towers in 24 counties for 35 Associations and Guilds.

Invariably one finds that leading peal ringers are also good officials of their Guilds and Associations. Mr. Morris was honorary secretary of the Midland Counties Association from 1925, until it was divided into Diocesan Guilds in 1945. He is now honorary treasurer of the Leicester Diocesan Guild and for many years has acted as consultant for bells on the Advisory Committee for the Leicester Diocese.

HIS WRITINGS

With a penchant for historical research—perhaps his post as vergers and clerk of St. Margaret's Select Vestry, Leicester, gave him the opportunity to develop this side of his nature—he has a complete record of every bell in Leicestershire. From his pen has flowed a consistent series of articles and books on ringing. Appearing in 'The Ringing World' have been 'Chimes and Christmas', 'Bells in English Life', 'English Towers and their Bells'.

His first great work was 'History and Art of Change Ringing', which was followed by 'Legends of the Bells'. In recent years there has been published 'Bells of all Nations', 'Towers and Bells of Britain' and 'Tintinnabula'.

Bells are not his only subject. He has written entertainingly on church fairs, decorative door knockers, sanctuary knockers, horse brasses, wool churches, windmills. There is a great demand for his services as a lecturer and he has made a number of appearances on radio and television to tell an interesting story about one or other of the subjects of which he is regarded as an authority. Another of his



ERNEST MORRIS being congratulated at the end of the peal by Mr. Paul L. Taylor (by whose courtesy the peal was rung). Reading from left to right: Brian G. Warwick (cond.), Richard J. Clifton, G. Ronald Edwards, Ralph Elkington, A. James Poyner, Joseph W. Cotton, Ernest Morris, Russell S. Morris, John A. Acres, John M. Jelley and Paul L. Taylor.

[Photo: G. Gutteridge, 8, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Hills, Leicester.]

hobbies is illuminated design and his handiwork is to be seen on many peal tablets and peal books. From birth his sight has been limited to one eye, but this has not impaired his ability to 'see the circle' when ringing.

HIS PEALS

TOWER BELLS

Doubles.—Grandsire 39 (conducted 36), Stedman 5 (2), Plain Bob 1, Canterbury 1, variations (2 to 37) 99 (76).

Minor.—Plain Bob 114 (89), Kent T.B. 15 (8), Cambridge Surprise 22 (8), other Surprise 6, Canterbury 3 (1), Oxford T.B. 2 (1), one each Double Bob, Childwall, St. Clement's (1), Spliced Kent and Oxford, Single Oxford (1); two to 105 methods 133 (71).

Triples.—Grandsire 154 (105), Stedman 116 (22), Plain Bob 9 (2), Canterbury 2 (2), Darlaston 1 (1), Oxford Bob 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 109 (69), Little Bob 13 (8), Plain and Little 3 (1), Canterbury 4 (4), Little Canterbury 3 (3), Canterbury and Plain 1 (1), Plain and Grandsire Triples 2 (2), Plain and Gainsborough 1, Gainsborough 1, St. Clement's 2, Plain methods (3 to 6) 4 (2), Hackington Imperial 1, Double Norwich 61 (18), Kent T.B. 33 (14), Oxford T.B. 5 (2), Ilkeston T.B. 7 (3), Worcester T.B. 2 (1), Liversedge 2 (1), eight other methods 8 (4).

Surprise Major.—Superlative 63 (12), Cambridge 100 (14), New Cambridge 11 (1), London 37 (1), Bristol 49 (3), Yorkshire 58 (2), Braunstone 7, Rutland 5, thirty other methods 41 (3).

Caters.—Grandsire 30 (18), Stedman 59 (14), Spliced Grandsire and Stedman 1 (1).

Royal.—Plain Bob 15 (5), Little Bob 2, St. Clement's 1, Kent T.B. 12 (5), Oxford T.B. 3 (1), Spliced Kent and Oxford 1, Liversedge T.B. 1, Double Oxford 1.

Surprise Royal.—Cambridge 52 (6), New Cambridge 4, Pudsey 3, Yorkshire 8, thirty other methods 34.

Cinques.—Grandsire 4 (3), Stedman 31 (2), Maximus.—Plain Bob 2 (1), Kent T.B. 2 (1), Cambridge 21, New Cambridge 1, Yorkshire 11, York 1, Pudsey 1, Superlative 1, Gosote 1, Wye 1, Spliced Belgrave and Yorkshire 1.

HANDBELLS

Doubles.—7 (2).

Minor.—26.

Triples.—Grandsire 17 (7), Stedman 41 (1).

Major.—Plain Bob 79 (4), Double Norwich 8 (1), Kent T.B. 7, others 8.

Surprise Major.—Superlative 12, Cambridge 14 (2), Bristol 3, Yorkshire 2, other methods 4, Caters.—Grandsire 6 (2), Stedman 73 (2), Spliced Stedman and Grandsire 1, Royal.—Plain Bob 17 (1), Kent T.B. 3, Double Bob 1, three methods 1, Cinques.—Grandsire 2, Stedman 40, Maximus.—Plain Bob 2, Kent T.B. 1.

SUMMARY

	Tower-bells	Handbells
Doubles	145 (114)	7 (2)
Minor	300 (180)	26
Triples	283 (132)	58 (8)
Major	633 (169)	104 (5)
Caters	90 (33)	80 (4)
Royal	137 (17)	22 (1)
Cinques	35 (5)	42
Maximus	43 (2)	3

Total: 1,666 (652) 342 (20)

Eight compositions proved false.

ERNEST MORRIS' CONTRIBUTION

Dear Sir.—Maybe with a little local bias, I would suggest that Mr. Ernest Morris has made a very great contribution towards the advancement of ringing by a dedicated service. As an author of books on bells and ringing he must have done an enormous amount of research work and devoted all his spare time to the writing and to practical ringing.

He has achieved a great ambition in attaining the gigantic total of 2,000 peals, but it has not all been a question of personal glory. He has gone out to the villages with their five and six bells and has rung and conducted many peals on the smaller numbers, which would never have been rung had it not been for his willingness to accede to requests to help in filling the role of conductor. His life has been given to ringing in many capacities, and he has shown an enthusiasm which few have equalled and which could well be copied. Leicester.

HAROLD G. JENNEY.

A Misunderstanding

A misunderstanding arose over arrangements for a peal of Grandsire Triples at Edenham and one of Bob Major at Heydour. The result was three ringers turned up at Edenham on March 11th and five at Heydour. Through 'The Ringing World' the three convey their apologies to the other five and thank Mrs. Holmes for providing a splendid tea.

W. B. D., J. P. M., P. H. R.

THE CONDUCTOR'S STORY OF THE 2,000th PEAL

At the beginning of 1961, when it became apparent that 'Uncle' Ernest would soon be reaching the unique landmark of his ringing career, the conductor asked him what he would like for the occasion. 'Oh! nothing out of the ordinary. Just the usual "Monday band with the customary new method." When the music was given out after the peal on February 20th, it was realised that with a handbell peal with the 'Barrow Boys' (Barrow-on-Soar) on the Thursday and a peal of Grandsire Triples at Threacston on the Saturday, the following Monday would be THE day. The handbell peal at Barrow was duly accomplished, but, sad to say, the Grandsire Triples came to grief after 20 minutes' ringing, and so it was a very sad Ernest that the conductor met on Sunday morning. However, a peal of Plain Bob Major 'in hand' on the Sunday afternoon was successfully brought round (much to the annoyance of the conductor's wife and family!).

And so the stage was set. No special preparations were made. By Ernest's own request, it was to be the ordinary Monday band. In any case, it was not certain to be the 2,000th until 4 p.m. the previous day. Nevertheless, 'The Leicester Mercury' on Monday night had a middle page article, with photograph, titled 'Ernest Morris Attempts His 2,000th Peal Tonight.' Before the peal started the Leicester 'Evening Mail' reporter was taking notes and at the conclusion both 'The Mail' and 'Mercury' took photographs and after a celebration drink at the Bell Foundry House—thanks to Paul Taylor, without whose enthusiastic co-operation the peal would not have been possible—Ernest was taken to Leicester to make a recording for the B.B.C. programme 'Today,' which was heard on both editions on Tuesday morning. It was nearly 11.30 p.m. before a very tired but jubilantly happy Ernest reached home, where 'Auntie' Beattie was waiting to congratulate him. She has shared in many of his joyous ambitions.

For the peal, all the band rang in their usual positions and was quite clear of trips. We decided to name the method **Morrison** (a village near Swansea), in honour of Ernest and I hope that the Exercise will agree that this is a reasonable enough name for this peal.

Now that this landmark in the history of ringing has been reached, the question is who will be the next? Whoever it is, I am sure that Ernest Morris will be the first to congratulate him.

B. G. WARWICK.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

The quarterly meeting of the North Dorset Branch was held at Shroton, also known as Iwerne Courtney, on March 4th. Twenty-three members from 13 towers, including visitors from Cheltenham, were present. Methods rung ranged from Plain Bob Doubles to Kent, together with some rounds and call changes for beginners.

The Branch was welcomed at the service by the Rector, the Rev. Dr. R. M. Taylor, a former chairman of the Branch, and an excellent tea was provided later in the village hall.

At the business meeting five new members were elected, viz: the Misses Margaret Jukes and Lorrain Jenkins, and Messrs. Michael Percy, Kenneth Jukes and James Dunster.

Arrangements for the annual festival of the Guild at Calne were discussed and it was hoped to arrange a coach if there would be enough support.

Ringing was resumed later at Childe Okeford and Iwerne Minster.

R. N. L.

EDGAR SHEPHERD RECALLS

I recollect very well my brother, Hubert Shepherd, bringing home No. 1 of 'The Ringing World.' At that time I had not commenced to ring, but I recall reading the paper with great interest and being particularly struck with the very first name in the peal columns, Tom O'Hara, and admiring the tall collar of that good-looking young fellow, Mr. A. B. Peck.

By the year 1915 I was buying my own copy of the paper, and I took great care of all the preceding numbers. The articles on Bob Major by Trollope, on the composition of Grandsire Triples by Davies, and the proof of Treble Bob by Lindoff (all in the early volumes) interested me vastly. It was through 'The Ringing World' (in 1916) that I struck up acquaintance with Ernest Morris, and the point of contact was something arising out of the ringing of Minimus!

My scrap book of cuttings from the journal starts in 1914, with a note on a novel form of Single for use in Plain Bob Minor, and pasted in succeeding pages are numerous extracts cut from the paper and sent home from Flanders during the soldiering days. Among these it is interesting to note a letter from W. A. Cave, 'from a dug-out in France' giving some views on the length of peals and on starting courses in Siedman Caters.

Moving from home, and many changes in domestic life, caused me to dispose of most of the early volumes of 'The Ringing World' (a matter I now regret), but I have the original Volume I, as we took it in 1911, and this I bound myself as a real labour of love some years ago.

When young, I venerated and revered the contributors to our paper and regarded (in imagination) the unseen J. S. Goldsmith with awe. Later, the privilege of meeting him brought the realisation of his kindness and courtesy. He had his finger on the pulse of the Exercise, and his leaders were masterpieces of direct expression.

I feel that the greatest of all the contributors to 'The Ringing World' (and indeed perhaps to all ringing literature) was J. A. Trollope. It is a fascinating study to pursue the trend of his writings (and his controversial correspondence) right from his early days, and to perceive the mental struggles, the indecisions and the doubts, out of which arose his magnificent grasp of method construction. Of ringing history he had a vast wealth of material, and it is by means of this and his incredible energy and industry that he was able to keep the paper going in what must now seem a miraculous manner.

Some day, perhaps, someone will write us a history of ringing literature and journalism. We may then learn more fully of the events leading up to the dramatic and stormy entry of 'The Ringing World' into the life of the Exercise, to take the torch from the exhausted and falling 'Bell News,' and to mark out Jack Goldsmith for a place among the very first servants of the Exercise.

1,000 TOWER RINGERS

Dear Sir,—It would be interesting to know how many ringers there are who have rung in a thousand or more towers. If any ringer who has 1,000 or more towers to his credit cares to write to me within the next month giving details of his present score, I shall be pleased to prepare a 'League Table' which might be of sufficient interest for publication in 'The Ringing World.' It would also be interesting if the ringer also gave the year in which he, or she, first started ringing.—Yours sincerely,

E. T. PAUL FIELD.

Knole, Langport, Somerset.

'RINGING FOR SERVICE'

We do not believe that the only good work done by the Sunday Service Ringing Committee of the Central Council lies in the production of this little book; but even if it were, the formation of that committee would be amply justified. This is a publication whose importance will surely prove to be quite unrelated to its modest size, for it must be the first really authoritative work ever to be put into the hands of ringers for their guidance in administering their work—that is unless one counts Ellacombe's book on Belfries and Ringers, which, first published nearly a century ago, had no concern with Sunday service ringing. 'It is certainly desirable that the ringers, as officers of the church, should be in attendance (at Sunday service); but that cannot be expected of men of that grade, unless they are paid for it...—yes it's about time we replaced Ellacombe on Belfries and Ringers.

Here is a book, now, full of sound matter. There is encouragement and commendation for those whose towers are well and regularly manned; there is hope and advice for those who are not so lucky; there is probably something to prick the consciences even of a band of perfectionists, but would it be worth anything if it were not? The writing is concise, clear and often pithy: 'technical competence is not to be thought of as leadership'; 'being late for ringing is equivalent to being late for a church service...'; 'change ringing, or more advanced ringing, at any price is a foolish doctrine for service ringing.'

The people who compiled 'Ringing for Service' may be perfectionists, but they are emphatically not ringing snobs. They are writing for the Spiced Surprise Maximus bands and for the rough-rounds-on-five bands, and they are not writing down to the latter from the dizzy heights of the former or sniping at the first with the inverted snobbery sometimes found among the second. They are interested only in helping the Exercise to see that there is good ringing, everywhere, every Sunday, and if every belfry table and every tower captain's bookshelf (or better still his pocket) carries a copy of this little book, they will have done that cause a notable service.

It remains to say only that the book is admirably laid out, in good print and clear, readable format, and that the illustrations, some of them very witty, do much to emphasise the message of the print.

J. G. M. S.

A VOICE FROM THE REMOTE LAKE DISTRICT

Improved modes of travel have undoubtedly helped to advance our ringing and we now constitute a small but very interesting ringing community.

Over the past 50 years two giants have appeared among us, William Robinson, of Ambleside ('Cocker' to his friend), and Nicholas M. Newby, of Ulverston. 'Cocker' was indeed a giant among ringers, he loved to bring his 'Grandsire' home at hand and for which he was famous throughout Lancashire. His service as a committee man in the Association must have been an ordeal for anyone: it entailed a start at 6 a.m. on Saturday morning and return near the same time on Sunday morning, 15 miles of walking and everybody knew that he caught the 3.33 a.m. train from Preston.

Nick Newby succeeded him. Who in the North has not heard of Nick? If you are coming to the Lakes, write to Nick, he'll fix you up. If you live in the Lake District join one of his classes; he runs two a week.

The unbounded enthusiasm of these two stalwarts has advanced ringing in the Lake District very far.

J. E. B.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'A FRATERNITY SECOND TO NONE'

Dear Sir,—In its fifty years of existence 'The Ringing World' has fulfilled many functions, but there is one about which no reference has been made as far as I can recall and it not only made a big impact on me, but let me see that by taking up ringing I had joined a fraternity second to none.

The Great War of 1914 started and in the issue dated August 21st, 1914, reference was made to a suggestion that a list be published of ringers serving in the Navy or Army in the war. This suggestion was carried out and the first name on the roll of honour was Capt. C. F. Jerram, R.M.L.I.

I enlisted on November 6th, 1914, and in the issue dated November 20th, 1914, under the roll of honour appeared—'Pte. J. P. Fidler, of Norbury, Cheshire, 9th Batt. Royal Scots, now at Olympia, Edinburgh,' but I was not aware of this at the time. On church parade, Sunday morning, November 22nd, my name was called out and I was ordered to report at the Orderly Room. Naturally I wondered what was amiss. On arrival at the Orderly Room I was introduced to Mr. Sampson, leader of the ringers at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, who, having seen my name in that week's issue, had gone to Battalion H.Q. to seek me out. I told him I could ring rounds only, but that made no matter. He took me off to St. Mary's and soon I had made friends with Will Fyfe, Robinson, etc. In due course I was taken across to St. Cuthbert's to meet Mr. C. S. Heathcote, Cleveland Ellis, and the Whitsons, and ultimately Tower Taylor, of Portsmouth, who was stationed at Rosyth. Incidentally, as a result of Mr. Sampson's call at the Orderly Room, I was excused church parade so that I could go to St. Mary's.

Being such a novice at that time I should not have had the courage to have gone up to those towers, but owing to 'The Ringing World,' and thanks to it, I was soon made to feel one of them and, what is more, I was never at a loose end. In those days our pay was 1s. per day, so for the best part of the week my pocket was empty and as the Army food left very much to be desired, had no money to supplement it, but Will Fyfe, up at Bruntsfield, and Mr. Sampson saw to the supplementing.

Frequently I have wondered how many benefited in a similar manner through 'The Ringing World's' roll of honour. Then, later on, when stationed in Essex, I was contacted by the late Rev. H. T. W. Eayre, of Great Totham, then secretary of the Essex Association, met the Saver family and eventually Charles Howard, Bill Keeble and Frank Claydon. Billy Eayre, as he was affectionately known, had a car, a rarity in those days, and most Saturdays found me reporting at Great Totham Vicarage, so that I could go to a meeting somewhere, for Mr. Eayre rarely missed attending a District meeting.

Since National Service came in, those ringers who took advantage of their ability to ring also made many friends. Yes, being a ringer has many advantages.—Yours, etc.,

Loughborough. JOHN P. FIDLER.

CUMBERLANDS AND EIGHT SPLICED

Dear Sir,—Regarding the footnote to the peal of eight spliced rung at Gravesend, Kent, by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths as the first of eight spliced for the Society, a peal of eight spliced was rung for the Society at Hunsdon, Herts, on October 4th, 1953.

The band was W. C. Marshall, R. J. Sharp, C. E. Jeffries, A. J. Lancefield, F. G. Huckstepp, M. W. Marshall, M. S. Lancefield (conductor) and Harry Parkes.—Yours sincerely,

F. G. HUCKSTEPP.

Ashford, Kent.

NELSON BOB MAJOR

Dear Sir,—On comparing the figures for Nelson Bob Major, given by Derek Ogden on page 88, February 3rd number, with those in my records, I find that the two sets do not agree. I would be most obliged if any of your readers could give me the correct name for both of these methods. The figures are as follows:—

Nelson Bob
(my records)

12345678
21436587
24163857
42618375
24681357
26483175
62438715
64283751
46827351
48672315
84627135
86421753
68412735
86147253
81674523
18765432
18674523

Nelson Bob
(Mr. D. Ogden)

12345678
21436587
24163857
42618375
42681735
24867153
42876513
24785631
42758361
24573816
42537186
24351768
24315678
42136587
41263857
14628375
16482735

I should also like to agree with Lt.-Col. Scott, R.A.M.C. (Belfry Gossip, January 27th), that handbells would be a very good way of providing music in overseas units, especially one situated, as is my own, within three miles of the foothills of the Himalayas.

—Yours sincerely,

J. W. SMITH,
Sgt., R.A.M.C.

Dharan Cantonment,
Purnea, Bihar, India.

MORE IMPORTANT POSITION TODAY

Dear Sir,—I remember vividly the thrill, as a student, of opening the paper on its arrival, week by week, to note performances and digest the 'correspondence'—generally followed with the eagerness akin to that engendered by exciting instalments of a serial story! Incisiveness without bitterness seemed the key-note of those days; and would that it prevailed today!

However, the paper occupies a more important position in the realm of ringing today than it ever has done, and both as a private individual and an officer of the College one urges the fullest support; because without it the uniquely British art of change ringing might well lapse; but with it this traditional and invaluable service to the Church cannot but develop and flourish. Every good wish for the paper's future.—Yours sincerely,

ALBERT YORK-BRAMBLE.

Southsea.

WANTS METHOD CHECKED

Dear Sir,—In your issue of March 3rd, on page 140, is the report of a peal of Xingu Surprise Minor and at the bottom of the column the method is given as:—

—36—14—12—36, 12, 34—
H.L. 38. L.H. 12. 1645.

Presuming that the half-lead should read 36 and not 38, will the conductor, please, verify these figures.

As it stands at the moment the method contravenes the Central Council's rules for regular methods: the 4th in the first lead has four blows in 3rds place.—Yours faithfully,

WILFRID F. MORETON.

Wakefield

OBITUARY

MR. RICHARD D. LANGFORD

With regret we record the death of Mr. Richard Dean Langford, of Crewe, on March 5th, at the age of 69. In his passing the Chester Diocesan Guild mourns the loss of a faithful servant and a beloved friend.

A member of a ringing family, he followed in the footsteps of his grandfather (a ringer at St. Alkmund's, Whitechurch), and of his father, and became the leader of the band at Christ Church, Crewe. A member of the Chester Diocesan Guild for 54 years, he served as secretary and Ringing Master of the Crewe Branch for 30 years (1922-1952), and represented the Guild on the Central Council.

Those of us who had the privilege of being associated with him or of working with him during that time were endeared to 'the Dean' by the bright and cheery manner which he brought to the activities of the Branch. He took a particular interest in young ringers, and was always ready with helpful advice and words of encouragement, wherever necessary. His ability as a ringer and conductor was widely known, and although the total number of his peals is not recorded, he had rung 114 peals for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

A loyal churchman, he had served for many years as a member of the Parochial Church Council, a representative to the Diocesan Conference and a sidesman at Christ Church.

The esteem in which he was held was shown by the large number of his friends from ringing and church circles, who attended the funeral on March 8th.

A devoted servant of the Church and a Christian gentleman has passed to his rest. We are the poorer for his passing; a gap, which will be difficult to fill, has been left in our ranks, but we thank God for the example of his life. May he rest in peace.

W. K.

ODE TO RINGING

Men meet in a room, and women too,
All sure of what they've come to do;
No tools or chattels do they carry,
Not great men they, just Tom, Dick and Harry.

Their room is like no other room,
Where ropes across the shadows loom;
These may number from four to fourteen,
But no difference this makes to what they mean.

The Master will then to his fellows turn;
With 'Take hold!' all other thoughts they spurn,
They take the ropes, and then anon
'Look to! One's going—she's gone!'

The quiet is broken by a gorgeous sound,
Whilst the shadows chase each other round:
Soon ropes and sounds will intermingle,
With music to set your blood a-tingle.

This music you hear, the music of the bells,
To the ringers a wondrous story it tells
Of the Glory of God, and to all it's bringing
Their offering to Him, the art of ringing.

P. J. B.

Cambridge.

Granddaughter Carrying On

Mr. Harry Prout, who died last July, had until then been a subscriber from 'The Ringing World,' No. 1. His granddaughter, Nancy Wilcox, of the Warsop tower, who is 21, hopes to continue his subscription for the next 50 years. The late Mr. Prout was a member of the Bath and Wells Association, Gloucester and Bristol, Salisbury and Southwell Guilds and the Ancient Society of College Youths.

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GUILDFORD GUILD PLAN SPECIAL RINGING

APRIL 12th, the day of the enthronement of the fifth Bishop of Guildford, Bishop-Designate George E. Reindorp, will be a day of ringing throughout the Diocese. At the annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, held at St. Saviour's Hall, Guildford, on March 4th, the Master (Mr. C. W. Denyer) told the 150 ringers present that the Guild wanted the bells in every church in the Diocese to be rung for at least half an hour as a welcome to the new Bishop, who was president of the Guild.

The Bishop-Designate sent a message to the meeting. It read: 'Bells have called people to worship since Old Testament times. I look forward to hearing them ring all over the Guildford Diocese. The College Youths are ringing a peal on the solemn occasion of my consecration at Southwark Cathedral.'

CATHEDRAL BELL FUND

The annual report stated that the bell being hung in the New Cathedral to the memory of Alfred H. Pulling was being cast at Whitechapel. In addition to the cost of the 12½ cwt. bell and fittings they still needed another £200 for electrical connections and the hoisting tackle. These were the responsibility of the contractors building the Cathedral; they asked all members and friends to give and give again, so that there would be no outstanding account when the consecration of the Cathedral and bell took place on May 17th.

The Master said the amount now needed was £150. On the day of the consecration of the Cathedral they wanted all the bells of the Guildford Diocese and the Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers to ring.

The meeting approved of the sum of £20 being donated from the Leatherhead District Funds to the Pulling Memorial Bell.

The report gave the total membership of the Guild as 638, comprising 547 ringing and 91 honorary. The year was a steady one. In three of the four Districts the work had been progressive, but the Guildford District needed more support at meetings.

A faculty had been granted for the re-hanging of Ashead bells in a new frame, the work being entrusted to John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who recast and rehung the bells of St. Michael's, Aldershot. The Whitechapel Foundry was overhauling the eight at Shere and Grayshott, and it was understood that they were later to supply an additional bell at Sioke D'Abernon.

PEAL TABLET DISPUTE

The Master reported on the Consistory Court hearing of the dispute arising from the Garfath peals tablet in Farnham Parish Church. The Chancellor made no order as to fees and these incurred by Farnham Parochial Church Council amounted to between £75 and £100.

The meeting decided to vote £5 towards this cost. It was emphasised that peal tablets could not be erected in a belfry without a faculty. For a detachable peal board a faculty was not necessary.

Officers re-elected were: Master, Mr. C. W. Denyer (Farnham); honorary secretary and treasurer, Mr. S. Russell (Ash); assistant honorary secretary, Mrs. G. Chapman (Aldershot); honorary auditor, Mr. P. G. Sherwood (Ash).

31 PEALS

The Peal Recorder (Mr. E. J. Bragg, Aldershot) said 31 peals had been rung during the year. They were rung by 99 ringers in 16 different methods, in 22 towers, and with 13 different conductors. Mr. C. J. Beadle (Farnham) conducted his first peal at Frensham, and this was the 1,000th for the Guild. Thirteen members rang their first peal, the most first pealers for a number of years.

New members were elected from Shalford, Shere, Cranleigh, Ash, Chiddingfold, Farnham, Aldershot and Epsom.

The Master stated that on June 17th the Guild were to be hosts to ringers from all over England in connection with the golden jubilee

of 'The Ringing World.' There would be a pilgrimage to the grave of the founder and first editor, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Evensong at the Cathedral and a social evening afterwards. The Master recalled that Mr. Goldsmith was the first secretary of their Guild. The annual dinner of the Guild would be held on April 15th and an autumn festival in the Farnham District on September 30th.

Previous to the meeting there was ringing at Guildford churches. A service was held in Holy Trinity Cathedral Church and the singing was led by a robed choir of ringers from the Farnham District. The Rev. C. G. Stables officiated, and gave an address, and the organist was Mr. Stanley G. Ponting. Tea was served in St. Saviour's Hall by ladies of St. Saviour's parish, arranged by the Rev. W. L. and Mrs. White.

CANON R. F. WILKINSON

Members of the Southwell Diocesan Guild are offering their best wishes to their chairman, Canon R. F. Wilkinson, on his pending retirement as Rector of West Bridgford, Notts, after 20 years in office.

He has done much bell restoration work in Notts, especially in post-war years. His own church, which formerly had three bells, now has a ring of eight, hung in 1958. In the church is still the old bell of 1499, cast by Richard Mellers, of Nottingham. The octave includes seven of the bells from Perchtorpe in Thorsey Park.

In 1946, when the old Midland Counties Association was dissolved, Canon Wilkinson, with the co-operation of the old North Notts Association, was instrumental in forming the Southwell Diocesan Guild, which embraces all the towers in Nottingham and has now four flourishing Districts. A farewell peal to him has been rung.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledges with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—T. E. Sone 10s., R. C. Sayers 5s., A. A. Is. 8d., D. P. Jones 5s., W. B. Dawson 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Leechlade 3s., Newcastle 3s. 8d., Westbury-on-Severn 3s., Halifax (Sunday service band) 10s.

Quarter Peals.—Ottery St. Mary 2s., Slapton 2s. 6d., Sherburn-in-Elmet 2s., Benhlilton 3s. 6d., Luppitt 3s., Husborne Crawley 3s. 6d., Huish Champflower 3s., Bridgerule 4s., Feering 2s. 6d., Edmonston 2s. 6d., Kingswinford 2s. 6d., Stanton-on-Wye 3s., Sheffield 5s., Cannock 3s. 6d., Petersfield 3s., Hersham 4s., East Bridgford 3s. 6d., Billingshurst 2s., Clifton 2s. 6d., North Weald 3s.

LONDON COUNTY ANNUAL

The London County Association's annual meeting was held at the Association's old headquarters, St. Clement Danes', just 21 years after the annual was last held at this church. Ringing in the afternoon was at this church and also St. Giles-in-the-Fields.

Mr. W. D. Grainger conducted the service, at which the organ was played by Mr. A. J. Boyack. Both are members of the Association and those present began to realise how long Mr. Grainger had been a member when, in his address, he referred to attending at St. Clement Danes' to ring in the whole pull and stand at the passing of the late Mr. John Carter, the famous composer. A course of Grandsire Caxers was rung on handbells during the service by Messrs. H. W. Rogers, W. G. Wilson, A. D. Barker, Mrs. O. L. Rogers and Mr. F. E. Hawthorne.

Tea, business and a social evening was then held at the George Hotel, Strand.

At the business meeting, Mr. W. G. Wilson was elected to the chair in the absence of the Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender, who was in hospital. One of the important items of business dealt with was the temporary suspension of the rules relating to the Northern and Southern Districts. The principal object of this is to allow greater flexibility of operation and to strengthen meetings and service ringing throughout the whole area of the Association. It was explained that whilst most of the meetings had been well attended, certain areas were weak in local support and one of the aims of the temporary change was to rectify this. The venue for the next meeting was decided as St. Mary's, Leyton, E., on April 8th.

The officers elected for 1961/62 were: Master, T. H. Taffender; Deputy Master, F. W. Mead; treasurer and librarian, W. G. Wilson; secretary, H. W. Rogers; assistant secretaries, Miss M. Powell and S. Bullock; stewards, C. M. Meyer and Miss June Mead; trustees, C. W. Otley and J. A. Hales.

Two teams entered for the handbell competition for the 'Dawe' Cup, which was won by Isleworth.

50 YEARS AGO

'R.W.' March 24th, 1911.—

After doing duty for over 30 years as steeple keeper at Tonbridge Parish Church, Mr. George Rabbitt has given up the office, and his services have been recognised by the ringers, who have presented him with a handsome pedestal clock. The presentation was made by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon C. G. Baskerville).

The new tower and bells added to the Parish Church of Caerphilly (St. Martin's) were dedicated on March 14th, by the Bishop of Llandaff, the occasion providing further proof of the zeal of the church workers in the parish of Caerphilly, and reflecting additional credit upon the energy of the Rector, the Rev. Cannop L. Price, M.A., who is clerical honorary secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association of Change Ringers.

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PERSONALITIES OF THE EXERCISE - 12



MR. PHILIP A. CORBY,

Kent County Association.

Some ringers are born with a ringing silver spoon in their mouth. They are fortunate enough to learn where there is a good band, and they have plenty of opportunity for peal ringing. Their progress, if they are capable, is assured from the start. This was not so with Mr. Philip A. Corby, of Sevenoaks, Kent, who is a director of a London Building and Civil Engineering company. He has gained the high position he holds in the Exercise through the hard way, and it is entirely due to his own skill and ability that he has reached the eminent position he has held for the last 20 years.

Philip was born at Sutton, Isle of Ely, Cambs, on June 22nd, 1917, and educated at the John Henry Burrows Intermediate School, Grays, Essex. He learnt to ring at Laindon Hills, Essex, in May, 1931, starting with call changes until 1933, but by cycling to Orsett, Stanlord-le-Hope and Foobing, he mastered Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor, and visits to Barking taught him Grandsire Triples.

In January, 1935, he moved to Sydenham, Kent, and joined the bands at Penge and Beckenham. He rang his first peal at Cudham on May 30th, 1936, being Bob Royal, conducted by Thomas Groombridge, jun. He soon started conducting, and called a peal of Bob Major on April 24th, 1937. It was not long before he was called peals with those well known Kent worthies, Bert Audsley, Fred Culham, the late Harry Hoverd, and the Barnetts. In this department he has few equals. Philip is one of those gifted ringers who can take the last bell left, and call a peal of anything he can ring. He is very clever at 'picking up' trips, an essential qualification for any conductor, though few have his ability in this direction. His present peal total is 622, of which he has conducted 377, including 318 different compositions. They have been rung in 228 different towers, and 16 peals on handbells, including Stedman Caters. He has rung peals in 39 different Surprise Major and Royal methods, calling 36 of them, including London Royal. Many of these have either been rung for the first time or first for the Kent County Association, for whom he has rung 358 peals, calling 221 in 80 Kent towers. In Spliced Surprise Major he has rung 46 from 3 to 11 methods, calling 30 of them.

He is particularly proud of two performances, the first being Pitman's four-spliced with all the work rung non-conducted at Dore, Derbyshire, on June 6th, 1959, and the second, the first four-spliced ever rung with all the work at Lambeth on April 19th, 1947, composed and conducted by Harold Cashmore, the band including Charles W. Roberts, Maurice Hibbert and Ernest Turner. This was also the first peal he rang, as man and wife, with Lucille M. Hubbert, whom he married a week earlier. Lucille is a competent ringer, who learnt at Edmonton under Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and John Thomas, and at Oxford under John

E. Spice. Their first peal together was at Edenbridge on October 6th, 1945. Lucille's 100th peal was Philip's 500th, rung at Enderby, Leics, on November 22nd, 1954. They have two children, Andrew, aged 12, who has rung three quarter peals, and Judith, aged 10, who is a member of the Ladies' Guild on the strength of ring 1-2 to Grandsire Triples, and is now learning to handle a bell.

Amongst other outstanding peals is a peal of Bristol at Heavitree, Devon, on July 9th, 1948, rung almost without a mistake, and he is very proud to have rung a peal with three generations of the Barnett family, the youngest being his goddaughter. This was rung at Crayford on January 14th, 1961.

Philip has taken his share of offices, and is always pleased to help others. He was Master of the Southern District of the London County Association from 1938-39, and also Central Council representative from 1939-45. He was C.C. representative for K.C.A. from 1952-53, and again from 1960. From 1953-57 he lived in Melton Mowbray, and was captain of the local band from 1955-57, C.C. representative for the Leicester Guild from 1954-59, and also vice-president of the Guild from 1956-58. Since 1957 he has been a member of the Standing Committee of the Central Council, and a committee member of the K.C.A. from 1945-53 and from 1957 to date. He joined the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1937.

In late 1957 he moved to Sevenoaks, and has been captain of the local band since 1958. They have a very good band, and rang a course of London for Christmas Day, 1960. This is largely due to the long years of spade-work and enthusiasm of Miss Doris Colgate, honorary general secretary of the Ladies' Guild.

Like many peal ringers, Philip enjoys taking part in peal tours, and started a series of tours, which have subsequently been taken over by Tom Lock. They visited Devon in 1948 and 1949, Sussex in 1950, and Worcs in 1951. He has joined the party for some of the time most years since. On one tour at Folkestone, in 1945, arranged by F. C. W. Knight, he called 12 peals in 12 attempts during the week, and in 1945 he called 31 peals for the K.C.A., only equalled by John H. Cheeseman, but never surpassed.

Philip takes his ringing very seriously, and insists on a high standard at all times. At the same time he is always glad to help someone through a first peal or first in the method, however simple. His businesslike manner in the belfry has earned him the respect of all who know him, and he is probably one of the few ringers whose friendly rivals can find little to criticise. In every direction he is a first class example to all.

APACE.

'THE WORLD'S BEST BELLROPES'

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TWELVE BELL PEALS

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF 5024 PRITTLEWELL SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 30 cwt.

FRANK C. PRICE Treble	DENNIS KNOX 7
BRIAN DOWNES 2	ALAN J. FROST 8
ROBERT C. KIPPIN 3	NOEL J. DISERENS 9
JOHN N. DISERENS 4	JOHN D. ROCK 10
STEWART F. KIMBER 5	JOHN H. CRAMPION 11
JOHN ARMSTRONG 6	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. Tenor

Arranged by PETER BORDER. Conducted by MICHAEL P. MORETON.
First peal of Maximus in the method for the Society.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 37 cwt. 73 lb. in D flat

*JOHN E. ANDERSON .. Treble	*FREDERICK ROSS 7
*MARION S. AINSWORTH .. 2	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. 8
GEORGE S. DEAS 3	DENIS A. BAYLES 9
CHARLES N. LEA 4	ROLAND PARK 10
RICHARD A. GOFTON 5	ERIC N. HARRISON 11
W. NORMAN PARK 6	KENNETH ARTHUR .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.
*First peal on 12 bells. First of Stedman Cinques as conductor.
A welcome to Hilary Jane Arthur, born January 28th, 1961.

TEN BELL PEALS

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Feb. 27, 1961, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

A PEAL OF 5040 MORRISTON SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK 2	A. JAMES POYNOR 7
RICHARD J. CLIFTON 3	JOHN A. ACRES 8
*ERNEST MORRIS 4	RUSSELL S. MORRIS 9
RALPH ELKINGTON 5	JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Composed by SHIRLEY BURTON. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
*2,000th peal. First in the method; rung without previous practice.

BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 16 lb. in E flat.

*DONALD E. COBB .. Treble	*DON C. EXELL 6
*ELISABETH A. G. BOWDEN .. 2	*RICHARD J. BOWDEN .. 7
*BRYNLEY A. SHACKLETON .. 3	*PATRICK J. BIRD 8
*REGINALD G. HOOPER 4	*PHILIP M. J. GRAY 9
*D. JOHN HUNT 5	JOHN H. GILBERT Tenor

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY. Conducted by JOHN H. GILBERT.
*First peal of Yorkshire Royal. †First of Surprise Royal. ‡200th peal. First of Surprise on the bells.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul.

A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 28 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. in D.

*GRAHAM ROOBOTTOM (14½) Treble	*PETER J. STRETTON 6
VERONA NAYLOR 2	JOHN K. SMITH 7
WILLIAM J. LEACH 3	DAVID W. FRIEND 8
E. MARION KEY 4	DEREK P. JONES 9
BARNABAS G. KEY 5	*DAVID EAMES (15½) .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE FREEBRY. Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.
*First peal on ten bells. †First of Grandsire Caters.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF 5040 PRITTLEWELL SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 15 cwt. 23 lb. in D.

JOHN WALDEN Treble	LOUIS WILLIERS 6
CLAIRE DILLAMORE 2	GEORGE H. RANGLES .. 7
MARGARET A. PARKER 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 8
NORAH M. RANGLES 4	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 9
PETER A. SHARP 5	GEOFFREY PAUL Tenor

Composed by CHAS. I. SEDGLEY. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
First peal of Prittlewell Surprise Royal by all the band, and for the Guild.

MORRISTON SURPRISE ROYAL

x 30 x 14 x 50 x 16 x 70 x 18.34 x 14.30.78.14.78.90

L.-e. 12 1573 F.C.E. 26543

Composition as for Lubbesthorpe Surprise Royal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., March 13, 1961, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,
At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

A PEAL OF 5040 JACOBSTOWE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

R. KINGSLEY MASON .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK 2	A. JAMES POYNOR 7
RICHARD J. CLIFTON 3	JOHN M. JELLEY 8
ERNEST MORRIS 4	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 9
RALPH ELKINGTON 5	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by SHIRLEY BURTON. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
First peal in the method; rung without previous practice.

JACOBSTOWE SURPRISE ROYAL

x 30 x 14 x 50 x 16 x 70 x 18.34 x 14.30 x 14.78.90

L.-e. 12 1573 F.C.E. 26543

Composition as for Lubbesthorpe Surprise Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
At the Minster Church of St. Denys.

A PEAL OF 5120 WARMINSTER BOB MAJOR

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

*DAVID EAMES (15½) .. Treble	D. JOHN HUNT 5
ELISABETH A. G. BOWDEN .. 2	JOHN H. GILBERT 6
DOREEN COX 3	MALCOLM A. S. CLOKE .. 7
ANTHONY COX 4	*DEREK P. JONES Tenor

Composed by SIR A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, BART.

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

*First peal on eight bells. †500th peal (conducted 263); also 1,000th tower. First in the method (C.C.C. Plain Major, No. 261).
Rung on the Gift Day for the restoration of these bells.

EATON SOCON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. in F.

JAMES G. NEWMAN .. Treble	*FRANK W. RIVETT 5
*KATHLEEN A. RIVETT 2	JAMES H. PAILING 6
AVRIL IVIN 3	ALFRED E. RUSHTON .. 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Composed by THOMAS B. WORSLEY. Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

*First touch of Superlative.

LONDON, E.C.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry.

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24½ cwt.

DENNIS RANDALL .. Treble	FRANK C. PRICE 5
ALAN J. FROST 2	BRIAN D. A. THRELFALL .. 6
MICHAEL P. MORETON 3	JOHN E. CHILCOTT 7
*BRIAN DOWNES 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
*First peal in the method. First of London on the bells.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

CHRISTINE MACNAIR .. Treble	*BERNARD F. L. GROVES .. 5
CAROL FERNLEY 2	JOHN WORTH 6
EILEEN M. FEARN 3	BRIAN HARRIS 7
*BASIL JONES 4	ROBERT B. SMITH Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.
*100th peal together.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Anne P. Smith, of Marple.

WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Giles.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. in G sharp.

Parker's Twelve-Part .. Treble	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 5
*RUTH BLACKSHAW 2	HAROLD STEVENSON 6
J. DAVID CLARKE 3	WILLIAM L. EXTON 7
*BRIAN R. MILLS 4	WILFRED L. RATCLIFFE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

*First peal on eight bells. †First of Grandsire Triples. First of Triples on the bells.

Rung as a farewell to Canon R. F. Wilkinson, chairman of this Guild, who is retiring at the end of the month after 20 years as Rector

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., March 5, 1961, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist.

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, containing 1,920 London, 960 Rutland, 640 Bristol and 320 each of Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, Superlative and Yorkshire; with 119 changes of method. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

GEORGE E. GREEN Treble	ALAN J. FROST 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	PETER BORDER 6
JOHN A. ANDERSON 3	ROBIN G. LEALE 7
JOHN D. ROCK 4	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
First peal of Spiced Surprise on the bells.

GATESHEAD, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., March 9, 1961, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Bruerton's Twelve-Part.	Tenor 15 cwt.
*MICHAEL TODD Treble	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. 5
*JOHN E. ERRINGTON .. 2	GEORGE S. DEAS 6
JOHN E. ANDERSON 3	†ERIC N. HARRISON 7
†CHARLES N. LEA 4	ROBERT F. TELFORD .. Tenor

Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.

* First peal. † 50th peal together.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thurs., March 9, 1961, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

DAVID H. BUXTON Treble	FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL .. 5
CLIFFORD R. LOVATT .. 2	ERNEST G. PEARCE 6
MRS. R. F. DOWNING .. 3	ROBERT F. DOWNING 7
JAMES BENNETT 4	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.
Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to F. J. Crapnell, a regular Sunday service ringer at Grundisburgh for 47 years and churchwarden 20 years.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Thurs., March 9, 1961, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.

LESLIE L. WILLIS Treble	JOHN K. SMITH 5
*NORMAN W. ATTAWAY .. 2	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. 6
DEREK P. JONES 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON 7
GORDON H. LANE 4	ROLAND BENISTON Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.
* First peal in the method.
A birthday compliment to Mrs. J. W. Cotton.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5152 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, containing 1,312 Bristol and 1,280 each of Cambridge, London and Superlative, with 112 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.

F. JOHN NELSON Treble	A. PETER WHITEHEAD .. 5
EDWARD JENKINS 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY 6
FREDERICK W. GROCOTT .. 3	IVOR R. NICHOLS 7
BRIAN J. WYLDE 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in D.

*JOHN ROBINSON Treble	*MICHAEL D. FISHWICK .. 5
†RONALD J. JOHNSTON .. 2	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. 6
F. JOHN NELSON 3	WILLIAM H. DOWSE .. 7
A. PETER WHITEHEAD .. 4	ROBERT B. SMITH Tenor

Composed by RIV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.

* First peal of London. † First of London Major.

ESHER, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

At Christ Church.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in A flat.

CHRISTINE M. HARBOTT .. Treble	ANN M. COX 5
CATHERINE M. POWELL .. 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON .. 6
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 3	ROGER R. SAVORY 7
*JOHN F. M. MAYBREY .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Yorkshire. First of Yorkshire on the bells.

EATON SOCON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's.	Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in F.
F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath.'s) Treble	*ALAN GRIFFIN (Trinity) .. 5
*HILARY MUIRHEAD (Newn.) 2	J. H. R. FREEBORN (Clare) 6
*RICHARD HOUGH (Jesus) .. 3	W. T. COOK (Jesus) .. 7
*P. H. LANGTON (Trinity) 4	P. B. HODSON (Emma) .. Tenor

Conducted by W. T. COOK.

* First peal of Stedman.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

At the Church of SS. Mary and Michael.

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, namely: 1,120 Rutland, 1,280 Cambridge, 1,280 Lincolnshire and 1,440 Yorkshire, with 69 changes of method.

Tenor 10 cwt.

CLARE WEBSTER (Girton) Treble	A. R. HEPPENSTALL (Sel.) .. 5
SUSAN JACKSON (Girton) .. 2	JAMES TAYLOR (St. Cath.'s) 6
FRANCES SECKER (Girton) .. 3	B. D. THRELFALL (Trinity) 7
D. J. ROAF (Trinity) .. 4	C. M. P. JOHNSON (Selwyn) Tenor

Composed by P. G. K. DAVIES. Conducted by A. R. HEPPENSTALL.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket.

A PEAL OF 5472 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In nine methods, being 1,024 London, 832 Bristol, 800 Watford, 640 Cambridge, 512 Dorchester, 512 Pudsey, 416 Cassiobury, 384 Superlative and 352 Lincoln; with 125 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 18 cwt.

J. NEVILLE PARKIN Treble	GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. 5
SHEILA M. MOULDS 2	J. HENRY FIELDEN 6
PATRICIA REEVE 3	JOHN F. BRYANT 7
M. VIVIEN COPPING 4	ROBERT E. MOULDS Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by J. HENRY FIELDEN.

Rung by the Sunday service band of All Souls' Church, Haley Hill, Halifax.

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 27 lb. in G.

DAVID E. HOUSE Treble	M. ELIZABETH CHAPMAN .. 5
*†DEREK C. JACKSON .. 2	*NORMAN HAYES 6
JOHN R. FAITHFUL .. 3	*MICHAEL J. THOMAS .. 7
†JANICE E. WILLIAMSON .. 4	TOM CHAPMAN Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by TOM CHAPMAN.

* First peal of Yorkshire. † 25th peal. ‡ First of Surprise.

ICKLETON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

A PEAL OF 5024 ICKLETON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. in F.

PAUL CATTERMOLE Treble	ROBIN J. TREBILCOCK .. 5
E. JANE LANGTON 2	GEOFFREY PRATT 6
MIKAELA ERIK 3	DEREK E. SIBSON 7
J. MICHAEL LAKIN 4	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by DEREK E. SIBSON.

First peal in the method by all the band, and for the Society.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in G.

REGINALD T. JONES Treble	REGINALD W. REX 5
PATRICIA HEATHER 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 6
FRANK W. LEWIS 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER 7
RONALD F. DISFRENDS .. 4	GEOFFREY K. DODD Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

Rung after meeting short for an attempt for Cambridge Surprise Royal.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 12, 1961, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5088 HUDDERSFIELD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.

FREDERICK SHALLCROSS .. Treble	EDWARD JENKINS 5
F. JOHN NELSON 2	*A. PETER WHITEHEAD .. 6
DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. 3	ROBERT B. SMITH 7
NEIL BENNETT 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* 50th peal. First in the method by all the band, and for the Association.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HOAR CROSS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 18, 1961, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores in three methods: 16 of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure (eight callings), 20 of Grandsire (ten callings) and six of Plain Bob (four callings). Tenor 28 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in D flat.
DEREK P. JONES .. Treble .. EDWARD H. WILLOWS .. 4
DAVID W. PARKIN .. 2 .. MICHAEL R. BLORE .. 5
LESLIE L. WILLIS .. 3 .. DAVID EAMES (15½) .. Tenor
Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

MARSTON, OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 SOUTHPREPS PLEASURE DOUBLES

Tenor 5 cwt.
EDWARD R. VENN .. Treble .. JOHN S. WALKER .. 3
NOEL D. DEAM .. 2 .. ROY H. JONES .. 4
ALEC GAMMON Tenor
Conducted by ALEC GAMMON.

Ringers of 1 and 2 have now 'circled the tower.' 30th peal on these bells by conductor.
Rung in memoriam A. W. Priestley, for many years vicar's warden; also Phillip Sinnot.

MILDENHALL, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being 15 methods in seven extents, viz.: (1) Westminster and Allendale, (2) Lincoln and Coldstream, (3) Munden and Chester, (4) Berwick and Hexham, (5) London and Wells, (6) Beverley, Surfleet and Cambridge, (7) York and Durham. Tenor 8 cwt.
ANTHONY R. PEAKE .. Treble .. IAN H. ORAM .. 4
*PETER T. HURCOMBE .. 2 .. BRIAN BLADON .. 5
VICTOR GRIFFIN .. 3 .. JOHN R. COOPER .. Tenor
Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.

* First peal of Spliced, and in 15 methods. First of Minor on the bells.

WORTHEN, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 4, 1961, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in A.
RICHARD N. E. RAVEN .. Treble .. PHILIP J. EVANS .. 4
COLIN SMITH .. 2 .. EDWARD COLLEY .. 5
ROGER POWELL .. 3 .. HARRY POYNER .. Tenor
Conducted by EDWARD COLLEY.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

CLIFTON-ON-TEME, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., March 5, 1961, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KENELM,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Oxford Bob and four Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.
*W. RICHARD ROBERTS .. Treble .. FRANK WOODYATT .. 4
WILLIAM HENKSMAN .. 2 .. WALTER HUBAND .. 5
ARTHUR F. WALL .. 3 .. THOMAS COOPER .. Tenor
Conducted by THOMAS COOPER.

* First peal.

BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX.
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.
On Mon., March 6, 1961, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of London, Netherseale, York, Durham, Surfleet, Beverley and Cambridge. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in G.
PAUL CATTERMOLLE .. Treble .. *DR. D. J. NEAL SMITH .. 4
*E. JANE LANGTON .. 2 .. DEREK E. SIBSON .. 5
*DIANA M. LAWLESS .. 3 .. GEOFFREY PRATT .. Tenor
Conducted by DEREK E. SIBSON.

* First peal of seven Surprise Minor methods.

MOULTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., March 6, 1961, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of Lightfoot, London, York, Westminster, Hexham, Ipswich and Surfleet. Tenor 15½ cwt.
GEORGE W. MASSEY .. Treble .. RONALD C. NOON .. 4
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 2 .. CYRIL R. BURRELL .. 5
ALBERT W. A. LEGGETT .. 3 .. J. MARTIN THORLEY .. Tenor
Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.

FRENSHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., March 8, 1961, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.
CLIFFORD J. BEADLE .. Treble .. *D. PAUL TREBLE .. 4
*PETER J. JOYCE .. 2 .. *PAUL N. MURGAIROYD .. 5
*WALTER W. WRIGHT .. 3 .. TOM PAGE .. Tenor
Conducted by TOM PAGE.

* First peal.

BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., March 10, 1961, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURFLEET SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb. in G.
ROSEMARY FLEMING .. Treble .. KEITH JORDAN .. 4
BRYAN C. BURROUGH .. 2 .. ROBIN G. LEALE .. 5
DAVID J. TAYLOR .. 3 .. BERNARD E. MATTHEWS .. Tenor
Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.
First peal in the method by all the band.

BERRICK SALOME, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 7 cwt. in B flat.
SUSAN J. HOWES .. Treble .. P. GERALD MCILONE .. 4
HELEN J. BUTLER .. 2 .. ANDREW J. HOWES .. 5
MARGARET E. THEWLIS .. 3 .. EDWARD R. VENN .. Tenor
Conducted by EDWARD R. VENN.

First peal of Minor for all the band, except the conductor. Average age of band 16 years 10 months.

Rung as birthday compliments to Frank Absolom, Anne Tonkinson (21) and John Thewlis (21).

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in C.
FREDERICK WATSON .. Treble .. GEORGE CHARLTON .. 4
*DAVID W. STENSON .. 2 .. BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 5
MARK G. WOOD .. 3 .. J. HEDLEY WALE .. Tenor
Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal 'inside.' 450th peal as conductor.
A wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Wilson, of Croft.

IGHTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

In 21 methods: (1) Chester and Munden, (2) London, Wells and Cuncastre, (3) Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk and Primrose, (4) Lightfoot, Wearmouth and Netherseale, (5) Annable's London, Rossendale and Stamford, (6) Beverley, Surfleet, York and Durham, and (7) Hexham and Berwick; with 109 changes of method. Tenor 8½ cwt. in G.
JOHN D. FAIRCLOTH .. Treble .. IAN H. ORAM .. 4
RALPH BIRD .. 2 .. JOHN R. COOPER .. 5
ANDREW M. MACVE .. 3 .. THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor
Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.

First peal in 21 Surprise methods by all the band, and on the bells.

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HARTFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*PHILIP W. MORSE Treble	EDWARD J. JENNER 4
*ERIC C. F. ROGERS 2	BRIAN E. JEFFEREY 5
ANN GEORGE 3	STANLEY JENNER Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY JENNER.

* First peal, first attempt. 25th peal as conductor.

A birthday compliment to Ann George.

LECHLADE-ON-THAMES, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

AND

THE CIRENCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, April Day, Rev. St. Bartholomew and two of Rev. Canterbury Pleasure. Tenor 17½ cwt.

*GILLIAN WALSH Treble	ROLAND T. WAKEFIELD .. 4
ANNE STEPHENS 2	PETER J. LEWIS 5
GORDON W. LAND 3	*GRAHAM G. THOMSON .. Tenor

Conducted by GORDON W. LAND.

* First peal. First as conductor. First of mixed Doubles by all the band. First for the School Guild. Believed to be the youngest band to ring a peal for the Gloucester and Bristol Association (average age 16 years).

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Molly Walsh.

MEREWORTH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In ten methods: (1) London and Wells, (2) York and Durham, (3) Beverley and Surfleet, (4) Bourne, (5) Norwich, (6) Ipswich and (7) Cambridge. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A flat.

JOHN R. COOPER Treble	†ANDREW M. MACVE .. 4
*JOHN D. FAIRCLOTH .. 2	†RALPH BIRD 5
IAN H. ORAM 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal in ten methods. † 50th peal together.

WEAVERHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of one extent St. Clement's, two each of Plain Bob, Oxford T.B. and Kent T.B. Tenor 9 cwt.

ROY FOSTER Treble	JOHN RYDER 4
VICTOR NEAL 2	HAROLD WORRALL 5
ERNEST PIMLOTT 3	HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the daughter of the conductor.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Ten callings. Tenor 21 cwt.

JOY SMITH Treble	RICHARD CHEW 4
MICHAEL V. POWELL .. 2	FREDERICK TURNER .. 5
REGINALD G. POWELL .. 3	TONY STEVENS Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.

HANDBELL PEALS

BARROW-ON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 23, 1961, in 2 Hours and 1 Minute.

AT 66, MELTON ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST MORRIS 1-2	JOHN M. JELLEY 5-6
JOHN A. ACRES 3-4	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS.

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

BARROW-ON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., March 3, 1961, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT 66, MELTON ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5168 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST MORRIS 1-2	JOHN M. JELLEY 5-6
JOHN A. ACRES 3-4	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 7-8

Arranged from E. M. ATKINS.

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

THE 143rd FOURTH OF MARCH AT APPLETON

MORE by good luck than judgment, Fourth of March fell on March 4th, a happy coincidence as this year marked the centenary of the augmentation of the Appleton bells, sufficient reason for the celebrations to be on an even larger scale than in previous years.

The day started well, both as regards the weather and the success of the peal in the morning, conducted by Brian, youngest of the ringing Whites. Visitors from all parts of the country enjoyed themselves during the afternoon, ringing on the famous ring and being refreshed at 'The Plough,' whose only failing was its inability to supply the wife of a well known Oxford ringer with a cup of tea.

The landlord of this hostelry, assisted by local ringers and friends, was responsible also for the excellent spread, which greeted us as we converged for the evening's festivities. Over 120 sat down to the meal, held for the first time in the village hall, with the Rector, the Rev. A. Tindall-Hart, in the chair.

When it was apparent that all had had their fill, the loyal toast was drunk, and Sir Basil Blackwell rose to propose the toast of 'The Church.' Departing from the usual formula he confined his attention to the church at Appleton, reminding the company of its debt to those who had provided this heritage. Although caught unawares by this novel approach, the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, drawing on his many years' experience as Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, gave a fitting reply. He spoke of the large part played by the Appleton ringers in the life of their church, and the opportunity they had always provided for visitors from neighbouring towers to gain experience in change ringing.

Mr. F. Sharpe, speaking next, gave an account of the history of Appleton ringing, recalling the traditions of the White family, and the many records gained in this village. On behalf of the Exercise, he wished them every success for the future, and gave the toast 'The Appleton Society.'

In his response, Frank White referred to the ringer who had said, 'It will be worth the cost of the ticket just to hear old Frank try to make a speech,' but did not reveal which relation of his it was. After welcoming the company, he thanked the Rector for his continued support and co-operation. Masterfully living up to the reputation accorded him through the columns of 'The Ringing World,' by an American lady handbell ringer, he entertained us with a story of old Appleton in 'real Berkshire.'

Not quite sure whether he was qualified to propose the toast of 'The Visitors,' Mr. W. Hibbert welcomed ringers from a formidable list of towers throughout the country, mentioning in particular Mr. A. A. Hughes, from the Whitechapel Foundry, who, voicing in his reply the feelings of all present, expressed thanks for the excellent arrangements for the day and his hopes that he would be there again in future years.

After the tables had been cleared away, Fred Sharpe sang the traditional Fourth of March song and the informal part of the evening began. From the Appleton ringers came tune ringing on handbells, and a lapped course of Grandsire Caters, which was going beautifully until a clapper fell out—it happens in the best of families—their reputation being restored at a second attempt.

The well-loved Appleton songs—'The Long Peal,' 'The Nightingale,' 'The Midnight Peal'—were all sung enthusiastically by soloists and chorus alike. As the evening progressed, old acquaintanceships were renewed and new friends made, while from all parts of the hall came reminiscences of previous Fourths.

All too soon it was time to leave; as we steadily drifted away enquiries could be heard for tickets for next year's celebration, when the completion of another year in the history of Appleton bells will, no doubt, be suitably remembered.

A. N. S. D. T. D.

THE LADIES' GUILD

Western District

The annual District meeting was held at St. James', Bristol, on March 11th, when there was a fair attendance of members.

Afternoon ringing was followed by a short service conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. Hopkins. Tea was taken in the Church House, after which the business meeting was held. Officers were elected as follows: Vice-president, Mrs. H. L. Parfrey; secretary and treasurer, Miss B. Johnson; committee, Mrs. D. Bennett, Mrs. de Jong, Miss R. Webb, Miss N. Williams; Central Committee representative, Mrs. Bennett. Four new members were elected: Miss J. Reason, Miss C. Ritchens and Miss Burt (all from Twerton) and Miss J. Kelley (Wroughton).

Fixed ahead are an evening practice on May 3rd and a joint meeting with South Wales District in June. See 'Ringing World' for details.

B. J.

ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

A quarterly meeting was held at St. Ellyw, Llanelly, on March 11th, attended by 55 members. The Vicar, Canon Howard Williams, officiated at the service, the organist being Mr. D. Pugh. The Ringing Master, Mr. R. Warburton, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies of the church, who prepared such a nice tea.

The Vicar opened the business meeting by welcoming the Guild to Llanelly. A touch on the handbells was given by Messrs. G. Thomas, R. Warburton, A. Hoare and E. Morris. The Master of the Guild, Mr. G. Thomas, announced the monthly practices: one at Llandeilo for eastern members, and the other at Haverfordwest for the remainder.

A collection for the Bell Restoration Fund realised the sum of £2 4s. 6d. One new life ringing member and seven probationary members were elected.

QUARTER PEALS

AUGHTON, LANCs.—On Feb. 12th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: 1. Marsh 1, W. Rimmer 2, J. Lunham 3, R. Larkley 4, D. Jones 5, K. Rothwell 6, L. Pearson (cond.) 7, H. Moorcroft 8. In memoriam Miss Hutton, a staunch supporter of the church.

BENHILTON, SURREY.—On March 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Emily Lane 1, M. Anne Burton 2, Patricia Collins 3, Christine S. Rowland 4, P. W. S. Richardson (cond.) 5, W. Dixon 6. A tribute to the Rev. Marcus Donovan, on his retirement after 15 years as Vicar.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—On March 12th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Sheila Badderly 1, B. Burroughs 2, C. Wood 3, E. Fosberry 4, H. Wood 5, G. Rix 6, R. P. Wood (cond.) 7, B. Matthews 8. First Stedman by 1, 2, 6.

BLO' NORTON, NORFOLK.—On March 1st, 1,264 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. A. W. Foreman 1, N. Watson 2, R. Grant 3, R. Foreman 4, A. W. Foreman 5, H. Fuller (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

BRIDGEHURST, DEVON.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (with 7, 6, 8 covering): W. Vinnicombe 1, C. Chollwill 2, W. Chollwill 3, J. Bowden 4, R. Pearce (cond.) 5, R. Youlden 6, W. Bond 7, L. Green 8. For Evensong.

BRISTOL.—At the Cathedral, on March 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: D. C. Excell 1, Kathleen M. Excell (first 'inside') 2, V. Savage 3, F. C. Mogford 4, P. Bridle 5, P. J. Bird 6, D. J. Hunt (first of Bob Triples as cond.) 7, W. Lampard (first quarter in Britain) 8. First of Bob Triples for 1, 2, 3, 5, 8.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Feb. 26th, at the Church of St. Andrew the Great, 1,280 Spliced Surprise (London, Bristol, Yorkshire, Cambridge): H. C. Lewis 1, Frances Secker 2, Hilary Muirhead 3, Clare Webster 4, D. J. Roaf 5, A. J. Griffin 6, W. J. Ridgman 7, J. R. Taylor (cond.) 8. First quarter of Spliced for 3, 4 and 6. Rung by the University Guild for Evensong.

CANNOCK, STAFFS.—On March 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Shelagh Guthrie (first quarter) 1, Margaret Guthrie 2, A. Armstrong 3, D. Jordan 4, G. Bradbury (cond.) 5, E. Borley 6. Rung to coincide with the dedication, by the Bishop of Stafford, of the new daughter church of St. Barnabas.

CAWTHORNE, BARNsLEY.—On Feb. 26th, 720 Violet, 720 Oxford: G. K. Crompton 1, C. A. Moxon 2, F. Cowling 3, E. Stainrod 4, H. Husby (cond.) 5, N. F. Moxon 6. To mark the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. F. Cowling.

CLIFTON, BEDFORDS.—On March 12th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor (with 7, 8 covering): P. Rogers 1, G. Mayes 2, Miss S. Percival 3, D. Newis 4, J. Church 5, P. Tompkins (cond.) 6, T. Dille 7, T. Hyde 8. For Confirmation service.

CLYST HONITON, DEVON.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): A. Holway 1, J. Salway 2, Mrs. G. E. Retter 3, D. Callard 4, E. E. Retter 5, F. Willmington 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, E. R. Retter 8. For Evensong.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—On March 1st, 1,440 Oxford T.B. Minor: R. Mills 1, S. Meredith (first in method 'inside') 2, R. Blackshaw 3, D. Bradley 4, M. W. Harrison (first as cond.) 5, F. Bradley 6. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Mills, wife of treble ringer.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.—At Christ Church, on March 12th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. Thomas 1, S. Layland 2, W. Kerr 3, I. R. Nichols 4, F. S. Sutton 5, E. J. Holloway 6, G. A. Packer (cond.) 7, M. E. Allman 8, M. Owen 9, H. Sutton 10. Half-muffled in memory of R. D. Langford.

CUDHAM, KENT.—On Feb. 19th, 1,280 Kent T.B. Major: Miss D. J. Wallace (first of Major) 1, A. S. Richards 2, Miss P. Fennell 3, Miss M. S. Taylor 4, L. W. G. Skinner (first of T.B. Major) 5, J. D. Falcloth 6, D. C. Manser 7, A. M. Macve (first of Major as cond.) 8.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—On Feb. 26th, 1,256 Little B. Major: Miss H. Lowings 1, Miss J. Peacock 2, J. Carrott 3, F. G. Richardson 4, F. V. Gant (cond.) 5, T. East 6, A. Gargrave 7, L. S. Woods 8. For Matins.

EAST BRIDGFORD, NOTTS.—On March 12th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Josephine Jenning 1, Susan Morris 2, N. Wilde 3, R. Wilde 4, J. Higgs (cond.) 5. For the christening of Russell John Hunt, son of the churchwarden.

EAST RETFORD, NOTTS.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (on front six): Doreen Metcalfe 1, Jean Robertson 2, R. Fanthorpe 3, H. Denman 4, H. Webb 5, J. Coates (first as cond.) 6. For morning service, and for the 21st birthday and engagement of the ringer of 2nd.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—On Feb. 19th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire and Plain Bob): E. C. Leigh 1, E. J. Jenner 2, P. W. Morse (first quarter) 3, J. E. Warner 4, B. E. Jeffrey (cond.) 5, L. G. Fox 6. For Evensong.

EDMONTON, MIDDx.—On March 12th, 1,256 Little Bob Minor: W. George 1, Trudy Newcombe 2, J. Weeks 3, D. Langdon 4, R. Durrant 5, T. Hawkins (cond.) 6. For Mothering Sunday.

ELTHAM, KENT.—On March 5th, 1,360 Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original): G. Clarke (first quarter) 1, E. J. Coode 2, N. Clarke 3, P. Rablah (first 'inside') 4, Mrs. E. J. Coode (cond.) 5, F. J. Hurrell 6, N. Small 7, N. Elsworth 8. For Evensong, also for engagement of Mr. P. Rablah and Miss Margaret Dannahy.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. David, on March 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. Wills 1, Miss J. Wooders 2, B. H. Thompson 3, J. M. Carter 4, G. Skinner 5, F. D. Mack 6, F. Wrcford (cond.) 7, J. H. Glanvill 8. For the patronal festival of this church.

FARNWORTH with KEARSLEY, LANCs.—On March 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Greenhalgh 1, B. A. Tomlinson 2, J. Cunliffe 3, J. Thornley 4, N. Tompkins 5, P. Crook 6, G. Fothergill (cond.) 7, S. Anderson 8. A 74th birthday compliment to Henry Prescott, a ringer at this church.

FEERING, ESSEX.—On March 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: P. W. Mills 1, A. T. Beckwith 2, A. R. Syder 3, P. L. Wood 4, I. R. Pantun 5, J. A. Warner 6, W. Arnold (cond.) 7, C. W. Burton 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Marian H. Mills. After unsuccessful peal attempt.

FENHAM, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—On March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Reavely (first on a working bell) 1, M. Todd (first 'inside') 2, F. Ross 3, Mrs. R. W. Smith 4, J. A. Ainsworth (cond.) 5, J. Roach 6, N. H. Hewett 7, J. E. Errington 8. Mothering Sunday children's service.

GARBOLDISHAM, NORFOLK.—On March 6th, 1,264 Plain Bob Minor: Miss A. W. Foreman 1, O. Garriham 2, Miss D. Reeve 3, G. Peck 4, A. W. Foreman 5, H. Fuller (cond.) 6. Rung in memory of Mr. O. F. Snelling, interred at Wacton church this day.

HALIFAX, YORKs.—On Feb. 26th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Sheila M. Moulds 1, E. I. Parkin 2, Pat Reeve 3, G. F. Bryant 4, J. H. Fielden 5, J. F. Bryant 6, J. N. Parkin (cond.) 7, R. E. Moulds 8. Also on March 5th, 1,344 Spliced Surprise Major (Cambridge, Superlative, London, Bristol, Pudsey, Lincoln, Dorchester, Watford, Cassiobury): J. N. Parkin 1, Sheila M. Moulds 2, Pat Reeve 3, M. V. Copping 4, G. F. Bryant 5, J. H. Fielden (cond.) 6, J. F. Bryant 7, R. E. Moulds 8. For Evensong.

HARMONDSWORTH, MIDDx.—On March 5th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Miss P. Harris 1, K. E. Young 2, C. Stevenson 3, C. B. Fynes 4, D. Pickett 5, D. C. Morgan (cond.) 6. For morning service.

HEIGHINGTON, CO. DURHAM.—On Feb. 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Vasey 1, J. Robinson 2, R. Bowser 3, W. Thompson (first quarter) 4, J. Schofield 5, E. Thompson (cond.) 6.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On March 12th, 1,400 Plain Bob Triples: Gwen May 1, Pauline Drury 2, Joan A. Smith 3, H. Colcombe 4, J. Martin 5, C. Webb 6, J. King (cond.) 7, B. Priestley 8. First of Bob Triples 2, 3 and 8. For Mothering Sunday.

HUISH CHAMPFLOWER, SOMERSET.—On March 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Gale (first of Minor) 1, F. Casley 2, G. Sparkes 3, W. J. Nurcombe 4, C. Tarr (cond.) 5, H. V. Young 6. A compliment to the Rev. M. M. K. and Mrs. Warren, on the birth of a son.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDs.—On March 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (tenor covering): D. C. Hall 1, M. Pearson 2, H. B. Whitney 3, I. Knox 4, R. A. Ward 5, R. Churchill (cond.) 6, K. C. Fleming 7. A wedding anniversary compliment to Rev. and Mrs. Bache, also a 21st birthday compliment to K. C. Fleming.

KESSINGLAND, SUFFOLK.—On March 5th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): J. W. Sampson (first quarter) 1, T. J. Brock 2, M. Utton 3, R. C. L. Brown 4, M. J. Parker (cond.) 5. For Evensong, and as a birthday compliment to the Rector, the Rev. T. F. Drury.

KINGSWINFOR, STAFFS.—On March 5th, 1,260 Spliced Triples (Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Single Court Bob): A. Williams 1, C. Peakman 2, A. Facey 3, F. E. Jukes (cond.) 4, R. A. Peakman 5, A. E. Morgan 6, C. F. Jukes 7, F. Preston 8. First in three methods 1 and 3. For Evensong.

LUPPITT, DEVON.—On March 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss F. M. Sage (first quarter) 1, T. J. Thorne 2, J. Sage 3, T. J. Sage (cond.) 4, E. W. Broom 5, A. W. Sage 6. For evening service.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.—On Feb. 28th, 1,280 Plain Bob Doubles: H. C. Lonyon (cond.) 1, J. Morlidge 2, C. Owen 3, M. Mothershead 4, J. Taylor 5, V. Norbury 6. First quarter for all except ringers of treble and sixth. Also on March 3rd, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: R. Day (first quarter) 1, B. Schofield 2, D. Heapy 3, R. Worrall 4, B. Corbishley 5, J. Whitaker (cond.) 6.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On March 12th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob: H. King 1, Ann Hancock 2, Wendy Bowak 3, S. King 4, J. McPhail 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. For Mothering Sunday service.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.—On March 4th, 1,680 Plain Bob Major: C. J. Turner 1, E. J. Manley 2, Miss J. Davies 3, J. Arbury 4, J. Ayres (first of Major) 5, J. Quick 6, C. C. Deem (first of Major as cond.) 7, C. C. Turner 8.

OXFORD.—On March 5th, at the Church of St. Aldate, 1,560 Doubles (Southcrops Pleasure, Dedworth Bob, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire): Miss G. Gray 1, J. H. Gardner 2, S. D. Edwards 3, R. H. Allsworth 4, E. R. Venn (cond.) 5, A. Ivings 6. For Evensong.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On March 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Margaret Chapman (first quarter) 1, R. Walker 2, K. Sansom (cond.) 3, B. S. Gambrill 4, K. Tipper 5, B. Kercher 6.

RANMOOR, YORKs.—On March 12th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: B. Ditcher 1, D. Pearson 2, Eileen Osborne 3, J. Kershaw 4, J. Clarke 5, T. Hargreaves 6, E. Palin 7, J. Rank (cond.) 8. First of Major 6 and 7. For morning service.

REDHILL, SURREY.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: D. West 1, Freda Hankey 2, Betty Sagers 3, W. Dunn 4, D. Munday 5, G. West 6, E. Roberts 7, A. Streeter (cond.) 8. First of Major 1 and 4. For Evensong.

ROTHERHAM, YORKs.—On March 5th, 1,296 Little Bob Royal: J. Carson 1, N. Donovan 2, Mrs. M. Burns 3, Mrs. E. Chaddock 4, R. Woodward 5, Susan Chaddock 6, S. Armeson 7, P. Walker 8, J. N. D. Chaddock 9, N. Chaddock (cond.) 10. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. Harry Holmes, churchwarden, who died the previous day.

SHEPPERTON, MIDDx.—On Jan. 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: C. Fynes 1, M. Loveday 2, R. Wiggins 3, E. Skipsey (cond.) 4, M. Bartlett 5.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKs.—On Feb. 8th, 1,260 St. Clement's Bob Minor: P. Copley (first in the method) 1, D. Sheppard (first 'touch' in the method 'inside') 2, K. B. Sissons 3, Mrs. J. Render 4, A. Evans 5, A. Sheppard (cond.) 6.

SLAPTON, BUCKs.—On Feb. 27th, 1,440 Plain Bob Doubles: J. Claughton 1, A. G. Stripp 2, M. Pearson 3, I. Pett (cond.) 4, W. Sear 5.

STAUNTON-ON-WYE, HEREFORDs.—On March 9th, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Mrs. E. C. Chandler 1, R. A. Hatcher 2, F. Read (cond.) 3, J. Hope 4, A. B. Ellsmore 5, A. Wingate 6. First in method 2, 4 and 5. For Hereford Diocesan Guild's 75th anniversary.

STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL.—On Feb. 19th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, April Day, Plain, Reverse Canterbury and Stedman): Mrs. J. Gray 1, Miss E. Brocklehurst 3, P. Gray (cond.) 4, M. Hill 5, R. Brocklehurst 5, Rev. D. Sansum (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.—On Feb. 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss J. Cook 1, Miss A. O'Flaherty (first quarter 'inside') 2, Miss C. Lansley (cond.) 3, S. J. Withey 4, V. Griffin 5, A. Hatherall 6. Rung prior to Ash Wednesday evening service. Also on Feb. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss A. O'Flaherty 1, Miss M. Webb 2, H. Austin 3, S. J. Withey 4, A. R. Peake 5, V. Griffin (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 1 and 2. For Evensong, and as an 83rd birthday compliment to Mr. T. Moulden, former Ringing Master. Also on March 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Cook (first on eight bells) 1, Miss M. Wright 2, V. Griffin (cond.) 3, Miss C. Lansley 4, H. Austin 5, S. J. Withey 6, A. R. Peake 7, R. Drewitt 8. For mid-week Lenten service.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, CO. DURHAM.—On Jan. 29th, 1,280 Bob Major: T. Applearth (first of Major) 1, R. Webster 2, M. Machin 3, Janet Payne 4, J. Pladdys 5, J. Maughan 6, H. Nielson 7, W. Maughan (cond.) 8. First of Bob Major 3, 4, 5, 6. For Septuagesima, and an engagement compliment to Ruth Anderson.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.—On March 4th, 1,260 Minor (Childwall, St. Clement's, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Single Oxford, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob): H. Sutton 1, G. A. Packer 2, I. R. Nichols 3, F. S. Sutton 4, J. E. Brough (cond.) 5, F. R. Morton 6. Rung as a welcome to Rev. W. Stanley Walker, inducted on March 2nd.

NOTICES

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DEATHS

STANNARD. WILLIAM ISAAC.—Departed this life. March 17th. Sadly missed by all at Bury St. Edmunds. 7911

YORK-BRAMBLE.—On March 17th. 1961 (after illness). Lillian ('Vici'), dearly beloved wife of Albert York-Bramble, of 40, Parkstone Avenue, Southsea. Funeral, March 22nd, Portsmouth Cathedral. 7894

PERSONAL

PRAISE Him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise Him upon the loud cymbals. Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord. (Psalm cl. 5 and 6.)

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTION.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 2731

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PUBLICATIONS

'ELEMENTARY CHANGE RINGING,' by F. F. Rigby: an exceptionally good introduction to the art of change-ringing: 3s. 6d.; postage 3d.—S.P.C.K.—Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. 5250

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual report for 1960 (48 different compositions) now available. 2s. 6d. plus postage. Reports for following years still available at 1s. 6d.; 1959 (49 comps.); 1958 (49); 1957 (47); 1956 (53); 1955 (44); 1954 (24); 1951-53 (81); 1950 (197). Reports for following years (no comps.), 1s.: 1948-49; 1946-47.—B. G. Warwick (Hon. Gen. Sec.), 12, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Hills, Leicester. 7880

MISCELLANEOUS

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DEVON GUILD OF RINGERS.—Exeter Branch.—Weekly practices will be resumed at Heavitree, on and after Thursday, April 6th. Thursday evenings 7.15-8.45 o'clock. 'All ringers welcome.—G. Skinner, Sec., 38, Hants Road, Exeter 7905

LADIES' GUILD.—Proposed revival of Eastern Branch. Those interested meet for tea at Co-op. Cafe, Ipswich, March 25th, 3.45 p.m. Meeting and ringing at St. Margaret's Church 4.30 p.m.—Alice E. J. Lester. 7900

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MEETINGS

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting at Kempston. March 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome. 7896

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby and Ilkeston District.—Monthly meeting. Saturday, March 25th. at Etwell. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided 5 p.m.—W. A. Morley, Dis. Sec. 7871

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Stansted (8), on Saturday, March 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.45 p.m.. to be followed by ringing at Rickling (5)—G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow. 7811

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Practice. Ash (6), Saturday, March 25th. 6-9 p.m. 7856

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Speldhurst. not Marden as previously arranged. on March 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Names for tea to W. H. Dobbie, Hon. Dis. Sec., 13, Baltic Road, Tonbridge. 7793

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Chesham, Saturday, March 25th. Ringing 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Miss Hague. 6, Stomps Road, Holyport, Maidenhead. 7876

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting at Pevensey (afternoon) and Westham (evening). on March 25th. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea. to F. Beeny (Sec.). Hillbrae, Carters Corner Road, Hailsham. 7860

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Business meeting at the 'Rising Sun,' Carter Lane, E.C., Saturday, April 1st, 6 p.m. Forthcoming practices: April 4th, St. Paul's Cathedral 6.30 p.m.; April 11th, St. Lawrence, Jewry. 6.30; April 18th, St. Michael's, Cornhill. 6.30; April 25th, Southwark Cathedral. 6.45 p.m.—John Chilcott.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at St. Michael's, Aughton. Saturday, April 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.. price 1s. Names to Mr. R. Larkey, Smyth Lane, Aughton.—L. Kenrick, Sec. 7907

WOBURN. BEDFORDSHIRE.—Bells available Easter Saturday, April 1st. 2.15-4.45 p.m. Tea in crypt. only for those who send names. Shortened Evensong 6 p.m. Ringing 6.30-8 p.m.—K. G. S., 8, London Road, Woburn. 7895

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting. Easter Monday, April 3rd. at Evercreech. Service 12 noon. Lunch (6s.) and tea (2s 6d.) at Bell Hotel. Names for lunch essential, enclosing stamped, addressed envelope. Ringing arrangements: Evercreech (10) before service. Castle Cary. Ditchat. Shepton Mallet (8). Bruton. Douling. Pilton. Pylle and West Pennard (6) all from 10.30-11.30 a.m. All these and Wincanton (8). Batcombe. Henstridge. Horsington and Templecombe (6) after tea.—G. Salmon. 9, Kennion Road, Wells, Somerset. 7903

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting. Leighton Buzzard. Easter Monday, April 3rd. Ringing at Flitwick 9-10 a.m., Westoning 9.30-10.30. Eversholt 10-10.45, Toddington 10-11. Houghton Regis 11-12. Dunstable 11-12. Leighton Buzzard 11.30-12.45. (Note. no other towers available during morning.) Lunch. Cross Keys Hotel. 1 p.m. Business meeting 2 p.m. Names for lunch (8s.) with cash and stamped, addressed envelope, to Mr. J. M. Stephens, 33, Poplar Close, Leighton Buzzard, by Wednesday, March 29th. 7865

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting on Easter Monday, April 3rd. to be held at Shirland. Bells (5) 2 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting after tea. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. R. Mason, 1, Birkinstyle Lane, Shirland, Derbyshire.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 7906

CUMBERLAND AND NORTH WESTMORLAND ASSOCIATION

Annual meeting. Easter Monday.

ARLECDON.

Bells (8) available 1 p.m.

Service 3.30 p.m.

Tea 4.15 p.m.. followed by A.G.M. Names for tea to Mr. F. Richardson. 2, Lindow Street, Frizington, Cumberland, not later than March 29th. No other means of refreshments available.

J. W. Brownrigg, Hon. Sec. 7852

ELY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will take place on Easter Monday, April 3rd. at Trumpington. Ringing arrangements: Great Gransden (6) 10-12 noon. Gamlingay (6) 10-12. Bourne (8) 11-1 p.m.. Orwell (5) 12-2. Melbourn (6) 12-2. Meldreth (6) 1-3. Haslingfield (5) 2-3.30. Harston (6) 2-3.30. Trumpington (8) 3.15-4.15. Service Trumpington Church 4.15. Tickets for tea 3s. each. with S.A.E., by March 29th. from General Secretary. General business meeting after tea. Towers available after tea: Trumpington 6.15-7.15. Great St. Mary's, Cambridge (12) 7-8.30. St. Bene't's (6) 7-8.30. Histon (6) 7-8.30 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Gen. Sec., 8, Roscrea Terrace, St. John's Street, Huntingdon. 7866

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—East Devon Branch.—Annual meeting at Sidmouth, on Easter Monday. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business. Names for tea to Mr. P. Davis, Peasland Road, Sidmouth, by March 29th, please.—W. Webb, Hon. Sec. 7864

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—New certificate of membership now ready; members, new and old, who would like to receive their certificate on Easter Monday, please send names and year of election to their District secretary. Towers open for ringing on Easter Monday: Barming. Bearsted. Harrietsham. Leeds. Lenham. Linton. Maidstone (All Saints'). Maidstone (St. Michael's). West Malling. Wrotham. Times: 10-11.30 a.m., 4.30-8 p.m.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting. Maidstone, Easter Monday, April 3rd. Service 12 noon. Lunch 1 p.m.. The Corn Exchange (members 5s., others 7s. 6d.). Tickets, with details of ringing and business, from Mr. B. W. May, Keithston, Keycol Hill, Bobbing. Sittingbourne, Kent. Applications by March 28th.—Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Hon. Sec.

LANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, St. John's, Cardiff, Easter Monday. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow in St. James' Hall, Newport Road.—F. J. Hannington, 32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff. 7861

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Worcester, Easter Monday, April 3rd. Service at All Saints'. 11 a.m. Meeting in College Hall at 12.15 p.m. prompt. Coffee obtainable in College Hall at 1.15, and tea arranged at 5. for all who notify me by Wednesday, March 29th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 6-7.30 p.m. All Saints' (10) 10-10.55 a.m. and 7.30-9 p.m. Claines (10) 3-4.30. St. John's (8). St. Swithun's (6) and Powick (6) all 2.15-4.30 p.m.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgemoor, Evesham. 7848

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Next meeting. Bedale (8). Easter Monday. Bells from 2 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. G. Dalton, c/o Bucktrout and Firth. Bedale, by Saturday, April 1st.—Edward Hudson, Hon. Sec. 7912

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Pebmarsh (6). on Saturday, April 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. G. Trendell, Manor House, Pebmarsh. 7889

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Quarterly meeting, Epping, April 8th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Miss B. McClelland, 1, Beulah Road, Epping. 7898

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Saturday, April 8th, at Moreton-in-Marsh. 2.15 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6 p.m. Names for tea (reasonable charge), to G. H. Harper, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos. by Monday, April 3rd. No name no tea. Bells available: Bourton-on-the-Hill. Bourton-on-the-Water, Longborough, Moreton-in-Marsh, Stow-on-the-Wold, all 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Other towers in the area may be open on application to the incumbents. In conjunction with the Gloucestershire Education Committee, a course on bell ringing will be held at The County Farm Institute, Hartpury, Gloucester, September 8th/10th. Charge will be £2 7s., including accommodation, meals and tuition.—Charles Rouse, Hon. Sec., Brookfield Lawn, Brookfield Road, Churchdown, Glos. 7874

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—N.E. Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 8th, at Cullompton. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea by Wednesday previous, to G. W. Hollis, Roseneath Avenue, Tiverton. 7882

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Hertford, on Saturday, April 8th. Service at St. Andrew's 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at St. Nicholas' Hall (adjoining) 5 p.m. Special business: resolution to alter Rules 8 and 13. Ringing arrangements: Aston (6), Benington (8) 9.30-11.30 a.m.; Little Munden (6) 10.30-12 noon; Braughing (8) 11-1 p.m.; Great Amwell (6), Wilford (6), Hunsdon (8) 2-3.45; Hertingfordbury (6), Bengoe (8), All Saints' (10) 2.30-4; St. Andrew's (8) 3-4.30. All Saints', St. Andrew's, Bengoe, Hertingfordbury and Great Amwell after meeting. Names for tea must be sent to A. R. Agg, 76, Wymondley Road, Hitchin, (Telephone 3612.) 7863

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at St. Giles', Lincoln, on Saturday, April 8th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Names for tea to Mrs. Metham, 11, Cornwall House, Ravendale Drive, Lincoln, not later than Tuesday, April 4th.—A. Richardson, Hon. Sec. 7884

LADIES' GUILD.—North Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Jarrow, on Saturday, April 8th. Names for tea to Mrs. C. N. Lea, 48, Rosebery Avenue, South Shields, by Thursday, April 6th. All welcome. 7909

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex District.—A meeting will be held at Willington, on Saturday, April 8th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. B. Percy, 47, Oldfield Road, Willington. 7913

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 8th. Bells available: St. Margaret's (12) 1.2.30 p.m., Humberstone (6) 2-3, St. John-the-Divine (10) 2.3-15, Cathedral (12) 2.45-3.55, South Wigston (8) 7-7.45, Aylestone (8) 7-8.30. Service at Cathedral 4. A special bus will convey members (free) from the Cathedral to tea in Aylestone Parish Church Hall. Tea 5, followed by meeting. Important business affecting alteration to rules regarding quarterly meetings and raising of subscriptions. Please send names for tea and bus by Thursday, April 6th (none accepted after first post) to undersigned. General Committee meet Wednesday, April 5th, 7.45 p.m. in vestry of St. John-the-Divine.—B. G. Warwick (Hon. Gen. Sec.), 12, Dorothy Avenue, Glen H'ws, Leicester. (Tel.: Wigston 3244.) 7879

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—(General body).—Saturday, April 8th, St. Mary's Church Road, Leyton. (Central London Underground—Leyton Station.) Ringing 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business in Parish Hall 5. Further ringing 6.30 to 8 p.m. Names for tea please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 53, The Grove, Isleworth. ISL 3921. 7873

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' SOCIETY.—Meeting at West Malling, April 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea (3s.) 5 p.m. Names please, to Mr. P. Carter, Ringers, Newtown, West Malling.—P. J. Osborne, Sec. 7877

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Quarterly meeting, April 8th, Kingsbury. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify for tea by April 4th.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 7888

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Ecclesfield, 3 p.m., Saturday, April 8th. Names for tea, please, to Mr. L. Smith, 3, Park Crescent, Ecclesfield.—J. Seager, Sec. 7910

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual meeting, April 8th, at Nottingham. St. Mary's bells (10) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in St. Mary's Church Rooms, for those notifying Mr. S. Adams, 54, Wilford Road, Ruddington, by April 5th. Business meeting follows tea.—J. W. Raitby, Gen. Sec. 7899

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Ruspur, Saturday, April 8th, not April 1st, as advertised. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., to those who notify, by Wednesday April 5th. Mrs. E. L. Hairs, Norman Cottage, Park Corner, Groombridge, T.N. 438. 7893

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YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting at Sherburn-in-Elmet, Saturday, April 8th. Bells (8) from 2.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall, 5 o'clock. Names please, to Mr. J. Potts, North Sweening's Farm, Lennorton, South Milford, near Leeds, by Thursday, April 6th.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7887

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Oxford, Saturday, April 15th. Ringing arrangements: St. Ebbe's (8) 10.30-12 noon. All Saints' (8) 11-12.30 p.m., New College (10) 11-12.30, Magdalen College (10) 2.30-4, Merton College (8) 2.30-3.30, St. Mary-the-Virgin (6) 3.30-5, Christ Church (12) 3.30-5, St. Giles' (8) 3.45-5.15. Luncheon 12.45 for 1 p.m., at the 'Forum Restaurant,' High Street, for those who notify Mr. Philip Walker, 66, Fairacres Road, Oxford, by April 8th. Please remit cash (10s.) with application. Business meeting in St. Giles' Parish Room, Woodstock Road, 5.15 p.m.—John Chilcott, 42, Lavender Road, West Ewell, Surrey. 7892

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COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting on Saturday, April 15th, at Stratford-on-Avon. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. The agenda contains important matters which concern you so please attend. Names for tea would be appreciated (as this is at a cafe), by April 12th, to L. J. Garner-Hayward, 8, Orchard Crescent, Coventry. 7904

LONG SUTTON, SOMERSET.—Dedication, by the Master of the Bath and Wells Association, of the 'Flo Field' Memorial Treble on Saturday, April 15th, at 3 p.m. Tea 4. Ringing after tea till 9 p.m. Numbers for tea by previous Wednesday, to Mrs. Lewis, The Forge, Long Sutton, Langport (L.S. 301). Definitely no name no tea. National buses 12.30 p.m. ex Taunton and 12.30 p.m. ex Yeovil stop at Church. 7745

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate, on April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting, in Parish Hall, Lesburn Road. Notifications for tea by April 11th, to A. Streeter, 4, Maple Road, Earswood, Surrey.—R. I. F. Parsons, Gen. Sec.

The ringers of the peal of Southrepps Pleasure Doubles at Marston, Oxford, on March 4th, claim that it is the first peal in the method.

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(with the co-operation of the College of Campanology)

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7882

LATE NEWS

Greetings From American Handbell Ringers

Dear Sir.—On behalf of the members of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, I am sending to you our congratulations and best wishes from this side of the Atlantic, during your 50th anniversary celebrations.

We are very much aware of our indebtedness to you for furthering the art of bell-ringing and for sharing so generously what you have created and learned through the years.

Bellringing is now bringing joy and beauty to thousands of lives in this country, and we want you to know that we are trying our best to equal the same enthusiasm and high standards of the art which you have set in years past and are maintaining at the present time.—Cordially,

ROBERT HIEBER,
President. A.G.E.H.R.

Restoration Of St. Benedict's, Cambridge

Dear Sir,—I think the greatest achievement among ringers during the last half century was the restoration of the bells and tower of St. Benedict's Church, Cambridge, in 1931, to mark the tercentenary of the birth of Fabian Stedman, the father of change ringing.

Not only did the ringers of the world pay the cost of restoring the bells, but they had to make the tower safe, as it was in a very dangerous state. This called for a considerable amount of ingenuity on the part of the Central Council experts, such as constructing a reinforced concrete corbel course round the tower, lowering the bell frame 12 feet and grouting the walls, thus making Stedman's famous bells ringable for many years to come.—Yours faithfully,

F. NEALE.

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