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### OXFORD GUILD'S 'BONE OF CONTENTION.'

The position of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, revealed at the annual meeting, must have been gratifying to the members, and reflected credit upon the officials of the society. Numerically and financially the Guild has gone ahead, and there are signs that the leeway which developed in one part of the diocesan area is being made up. For some few years the 'bone of contention' in the Guild has been the holding of the festival annually at Oxford instead of moving it into the three Archdeaconries in turn. It has been argued time and again that in such a big diocese it is unfair that the meeting should be held always at the same place, and there has been much to be said for this view. The subject still agitates the minds of the members; it is the rock upon which the Guild has split, and it still keeps a certain number of ringers in the diocese outside the fold. The annual meeting this year has, however, put a different complexion on the matter. Leaving out of question the advisability of moving the festival from place to place, it has been urged that Berks and Bucks are unduly handicapped, in endeavouring to bring about the change they are said to desire, when the meeting is always held at Oxford, where, presumably, Oxford members would predominate.

The Guild committee had given the whole question anxious thought, and the matter was discussed by the general meeting this year upon a recommendation that the festival should be held in future in each of the three Archdeaconries in turn. The committee's recommendation was defeated, and the general meeting decided to go to Oxford again next year. On the face of it it looked as if the Oxford Archdeaconry members had once more swamped the members from the two other counties, but there was a significant revelation later, when, at the luncheon, a count of hands took place, and it was found that, of 157 members present, only 25 were from Oxfordshire, and that Bucks, in which much of the dissent has arisen, was represented by 75 members, Berks sending the other 57. It does not follow that the whole of these members had been present at the business meeting, and it is certain that they did not all vote, but it is quite obvious that the decision in favour of meeting at Oxford was not decided by the Oxford members alone, and this should remove one of the grounds of discontent.

The last has not yet been heard of this question, but we hope the result of the debate and the figures which were revealed will lead those who are now standing aloof from the Guild to reconsider their position. After all, our guilds and associations ought to mean something to us; and it is our duty to do what we can for them. They

(Continued on page 452.)

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are established for our collective benefit, and if they are to be successful each member should put his or her best into it; not throw it over when it does not provide all that was desired or that was expected to be got out of it. Annual meetings are important, but attendance at them is not the only thing that one joins an association for, and while it is natural that members should desire facilities for making their voices heard in the conduct of the business, and share the pleasures which the festival provides, yet a much more effectual influence is often exerted through other channels. The fact that the decision at the Oxford Guild meeting was governed almost completely by the voting of members from Berks and Bucks should convince those who have dissociated themselves from the Guild over this question, that Oxfordshire is exerting no undue influence on account of its privileged position as the meeting-place, and, this being so, there is every reason why they should return to the ranks and throw their weight into the scale with those who are seeking to have the festivals held in the different Archdeaconries in successive years.

### TEN BELL PEAL.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

JOHN BEAMS ... ..	Treble	GEORGE COOK ... ..	6
ALFRED H. WINCH ... ..	2	JOHN H. WHITE ... ..	7
ARTHUR C. OIWAY ... ..	3	JOHN HOYLE ... ..	8
ALBERT HARMAN ... ..	4	ARTHUR DEAN ... ..	9
GEORGE MARRINER ... ..	5	*FRED MILES ... ..	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ARTHUR DEAN.

† First peal in the method with a bob bell. \* First peal. The above peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. W. E. OIWAY (a member of the local band), on the occasion of his silver wedding. Unfortunately he was unable to take part in the peal, owing to illness.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CUBITT TOWN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

REUBEN SANDERS ... ..	Treble	JACK CARMAN ... ..	5
ARTHUR J. NEALE ... ..	2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD	6
GEORGE R. PYE ... ..	3	HAROLD W. CLARK ... ..	7
ISAAC G. SHADE ... ..	4	DALBY HODGSON ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

REGINALD F. BECK ... ..	Treble	JESSE FRANCIS ... ..	5
RONALD G. BECK ... ..	2	WILLIAM R. BAXTER ... ..	6
SAMUEL J. HECTOR ... ..	3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... ..	7
THOMAS F. KING ... ..	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. W. BARKER.

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

First peal of Major on the bells. The thanks of the band are due to Mr. J. STAFFORD, who ciled the bells several times in the course of the peal.

# REDENHALL, NORFOLK. THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, July 23, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary.

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ERNEST WHITING...	...Treble	CHARLES COTTING	... 5
FREDERICK R. BORRETT	... 2	ERNEST C. GRIMES	... 6
ALPHAUS J. BERRY	... 3	RUSSELL RICHES	... 7
WALTER BARRATT	... 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY	...Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS.

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

# BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 23, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

*ERIC C. MARTIN	...Treble	HARRY I. W. AITKEN	... 5
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS	... 2	RAYMOND PHILPOTT	... 6
EDWARD P. DOFFIELD	... 3	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE	... 7
JOHN A. COLE	... 4	C. Q. M. S. G. GILBERT, R. E.	...Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by G. GILBERT, R. E.

First peal of Major on the bells. \* First peal. Rung after meeting short for Treble Bob, Mr. Martin kindly taking a rope at the last minute.

# BRISTOL.

## THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, July 23, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At Temple, or Holy Cross Church,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES	...Treble	THOMAS F. KING	... 5
HENRY T. HOWELL	... 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE	... 6
WILLIAM KNIGHT	... 3	E. GEORGE TREW	... 7
RAYMOND C. SEAGER	... 4	JAMES R. JONES	...Tenor

Conducted by E. G. TREW.

The band wish to thank the Rev. Canon Welchman, and the church-wardens of Temple Church, for granting permission to use the bells.

# THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute.

At the Church of St. James,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

*GEORGE JEFFS, JUN.	...Treble	LEONARD J. WYMAN	... 5
MISS PHYLLIS HARE	... 2	DANIEL REDHEAD	... 6
JAMES M. NICKERSON	... 3	LESLIE GROOM	... 7
WALTER PERKINS	... 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER	...Tenor

Composed by the Rev. H. EARLE BULWER.

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

\* First peal in the method. This peal was arranged and rung on the Festival of St. James the Patronal Saint.

# ASSTEAD, SURREY.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Giles,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ARTHUR DEAN	...Treble	GEORGE MARRINER	... 5
JOHN HOYLE	... 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD	... 6
ISAAC G. SHADE	... 3	WILLIAM S. SMITH	... 7
JOHN WHITE	... 4	DAVID ANSCOMB	...Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

Rung after meeting short for Double Norwich, D. Anscomb kindly taking the tenor rope.

# BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

At the Parish Church.

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

JOHN FLINT	...Treble	JOHN HOLMAN	... 5
WILLIAM LAMBERT	... 2	CHARLES MASON	... 6
JOHN H. BROTHWELL	... 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER	... 7
EDWARD ROBBINS	... 4	JESSE J. MOSS	...Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, No. 76. Conducted by JOHN FLINT

# CHESTER.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Walls.

## A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES SWINDLEY	...Treble	GEORGE R. JONES	... 5
EDWARD JENKINS	... 2	HENRY W. WILDE	... 6
ROBERT SPERRING	... 3	HARRY CHAPMAN	... 7
ALBERT J. HUGHES	... 4	JAMES H. RIDING	...Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal of Yorkshire on the bells, and by all the band except ringers of 2nd and 7th.

# NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Matthew,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

HAROLD PEARCE	...Treble	ALBERT PICKLES	... 5
ARTHUR BAIRSTOW	... 2	EDGAR WHITELEY	... 6
THOMAS SENIOR	... 3	VERNEY BAIRSTOW	... 7
JOE GREENWOOD	... 4	WILLIAM AMBLER	...Tenor

Composed by HENRY HALEY.

Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER.

# CARISBROOKE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr.

*PERCY REYNOLDS	...Treble	RICHARD PAINE	... 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	... 2	REGINALD BROWN	... 6
HARRY BARTON	... 3	RICHARD WARD	... 7
WILLIAM J. JOHNSON	... 4	WILLIAM UPTON	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

\* First peal, and first attempt. Rung after meeting short for Major in connection with the William Rayner tomb restoration the rededication of which followed at Arretton. Messrs. P. Reynolds and R. Ward are heartily thanked for obliging the remainder of the band at the last moment, otherwise a peal would have been impossible.

# SIX BELL PEALS.

## GLOUCESTER.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, July 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Stephen (MORETON VALENCE).

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Grandsire, and 32 six-scores of St. Dunstan's, each called differently.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED E. ELLIS	...Treble	THOMAS BALDWIN	... 4
PHILLIP J. POCKETT	... 2	ALBERT MARTIN	... 5
WILLIAM H. HARRIS	... 3	CECIL R. HEWER	...Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT MARTIN.

# ASPLEY GUISE, BEDS.

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.

At the Church of St. Botolph,

## A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Lancashire, Stamford, York, Durham, Cambridge.

WALTER CHIBNALL	...Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS	... 4
CHAS. WM. CLARKE	... 2	HORACE H. SMITH	... 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL	... 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON	...Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

# PEAL CORRECTION.

The name of the ringer of the treble in the peal of Cambridge Minor, rung at Springfield, on July 11th, and reported July 17th, should read John H. Myhill, not E. Kemp. The peal was also rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. E. Kemp, who was married on that date to Miss N. Clements, of Good Easter, the happy people arriving home in time to hear the last part of the peal. A presentation was made to them by the Rector (Canon Paynter) from the local ringers and friends.

**MR. EDWARD READER'S 200 PEALS.**

With the peal of Stedman Triples, at Loughborough Bell Foundry on June 9th, Mr. Edward Reader completed his 200 peals as below:—

	Rung.	Conducted.
Grandsire Triples ... ..	19	6
Grandsire Caters ... ..	8	1
Stedman Triples ... ..	51	36
Stedman Caters ... ..	29	16
(a) Kent Treble Bob Major ... ..	21	10
Kent Treble Bob Royal ... ..	8	2
(b) Oxford Treble Bob Major ... ..	2	—
Forward Major ... ..	1	1
Forward Royal ... ..	2	—
(c) Bob Major ... ..	13	6
(d) Double Norwich Major ... ..	14	7
Superlative Surprise Major ... ..	13	3
Cambridge Surprise Major ... ..	10	2
Bristol Surprise Major ... ..	1	—
Bob Triples ... ..	1	1
On 6 bells, one method ... ..	5	3
On 6 bells, three methods ... ..	1	—
On 6 bells, five methods ... ..	1	—
Total ... ..	200	94

Includes: (a) 7,616; (b) 7,168; (c) 7,040; (d) 7,296.

**MR. W. T. TUCKER'S 200 PEALS.**

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at North Stoneham, Hants. on July 2nd, was Mr. W. T. Tucker's 200th peal.

On 5 bells ... ..	1	Conducted 1
Minor methods ... ..	13	Conducted 4
Grandsire Triples ... ..	19	
Stedman Triples ... ..	41	
Bob Major ... ..	26	Conducted 9
Kent Treble Bob Major ... ..	34	Conducted 2
Double Norwich Major ... ..	46	Conducted 2
Superlative Surprise Major ... ..	7	
Cambridge Surprise Major ... ..	10	
London Surprise Major ... ..	2	
Stedman Caters ... ..	1	
Total ... ..	200	18

**THE NORTH OF ENGLAND TOUR.****AN ENJOYABLE WEEK ABOUT TYNE AND WEAR.**

At North Shields, at the corner of a cross-roads, opposite to the Parish Church, is a famous inn known by the sign of 'The Olde 100th.' From 7.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. is a long spell without sustenance, and, as no one had previously seen a house of that name—although we had 'sung' it many times—we (who were travellers from the South) went in, and, to use motoring phraseology, 'let her rip.' The name of the house reminds me of a country church of years ago, where the old-hand-barrel organ only gave out two airs, one was the 'Old Hundredth,' and, in the words of the sexton, the 'other ain't.' Dilapidated and out of tune, the oldest inhabitant could not say what the 'symphony' really was. Our West Hallam readers will be glad to hear we enjoyed our 'country' visit, and to know that a picture postcard view of the hotel is to be had with 'owd Baarbe' and 'Deordye' standing outside.

Later in the day, on June 20th, in the belfry of St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, the following six visitors were kindly offered membership of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Guild, on the proposition of Mr. W. H. Barber, seconded by Mr. Thomas T. Goffton, and were unanimously elected by some dozen ringers present, including Messrs. Nevard and Shenherd, who had previously gone through the process in 1915 and 1890 respectively.

Preparations for peal attempt No. 1 and the above preliminary business had delayed our start, and, after letting the bells down there was very little time available for the 'branding operations' at the Black Horse, which closed at ten. The hurried entry of a good body of men requiring prompt attention caused the landlord to take off his coat on hearing that visitors were to be 'scorched,' and the following men who stood the ordeal will ever remember with pride the diocesan initials, D. and N. A., viz., Messrs. Shade, Parkes, Audsley, Bennett, Jenkins and Fussell. There are two mirrors in a room at this house with convex and concave surface, which considerably distort the features of anyone looking into them. My readers who know the two well-known ringers concerned will readily understand how it was that Isaac George Nevard became William J. Shade, the Christian names sticking to them for the rest of the week. Even the sergeant-major looked more like a colonel retired on half-pay.

On Monday night we were the guests of the Whitley Bay company at the Monkseat Arms, and here, in a private room, with cheerful fire, a set of handbells and piano, we enjoyed the time with tunes, singing, changes and conversation to the last minute. The married men consoled with the bachelors in the sad loss of their afternoon peal attempt. The bachelors pleaded want of 'practice,' and hoped to do better next time, as dear 'Sally' requires some coaxing. A course of London Surprise, double-handed, by members of the Goffton family was followed by Stedman Cinques, Messrs. Jenkins and Audsley joining in. Songs were rendered by Messrs. R. A. and T. T. Goffton, Mr. Caminada, and others, till we simply had to 'break up,' and our 'diggings' were reached by eleven o'clock without the use of self-aligning bearings.

After the Cathedral peal at Newcastle, on Tuesday night, we were joined by several of the Cathedral men, and congratulated by Messrs. Hillier, Richards, and others, including even our old 'Ferry boat,' who 'piloted' the tenth for our peal. At the Collingwood Hotel we were entertained by Mr. C. L. Routledge, and left for Whitley by the 10.5 train. During the afternoon we had an hour at the historical castle, several centuries old, and built on the site of an older castle that gave rise to the title of the city. It is stored with many rare specimens of armour, war weapons, banners, and stone carvings, forming a most interesting museum, worthy of a week's study.

**A CROWDED DAY.**

On Wednesday our spare time was too limited to see anything of the beauties of the Abbey of Hexham. The bells came home at 1.30, and our train left at 2.8 p.m. The tower and bells have been restored quite recently, and altogether make up an ideal 'Surprise' belfry. The names of the visitors were hastily scribbled in the verger's register, some tasted Priory ale on the way to the station, and luncheon was served in the compartment of our railway carriage, by the aid of a pocket knife, one small loaf and 2lbs. of cheese, consumed on the journey to Shields. Passing Scotswood Station on the way, we viewed the colliery bank, where 38 men were lost in the Montague Mine Disaster last May, eight men being still unaccounted for.

The failure at South Shields gave us an early return to Whitley Bay. Formerly this town was noted for its rope works, where, in the days of the sailing ship, it manufactured rigging and cables. All the local ringers were employed at these works, and, judging by the old and patched set of ropes we had to adjust, they were probably made by them.

This ringing room has an interesting memorial to one of the old hands—a square oak panel, with a bell-shaped brass tablet mounted upon it, engraved: 'To the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Robert Hopper, born 1831, died 26th September, 1915, for 73 years ringer in this belfry. Erected by voluntary subscription, 1920.'

The Monkseat Arms was again the scene of a family reunion—'all one body we.' I believe, like the grey old towers studded across Great Britain, that it would be possible to form a living chain of change ringers by joining hands, from Land's End to John o' Groats. A return compliment to the Whitley Bay men was organised by the visitors in the form of a concert, with refreshments. The programme of Tuesday was repeated with sundry encores, and added to by a blind performer, Mr. Martin Henderson (British Concertina champion). The Goffton family were again in evidence with handbells, filling up gaps for London Surprise, with E. Jenkins 7-8, and Kent Treble Bob Royal, with Messrs. Fussell and Jenkins at the 'ends.' During the evening we learnt that Mr. R. Alder Goffton's pigeons had safely returned from the long flight from Amiens on Sunday last against a strong head wind; that he was the winner of four gold medals for 'homing birds' flown in 1924; and that 'our Willie,' who acted as guide, counsellor and secretary for this week's outing, was his son. It will also be of interest to our American cousins to hear that Messrs. T. and R. Goffton were born in the State of New Brunswick, U.S.A. The Boston Guild might make a note of it in their records because the majority of their practical members were born this side of the water.

Thursday was a 'busy bus' time, no less than four various kinds of rubber-tired vehicles taking us out and back. The back tyre of one small car burst with the load of nine men, fortunately near a bus centre, where we obtained a substitute. The fine spire of Chester-le-Street minimises the tower, and we were surprised to find so large a belfry all in apple-pie order, with recently restored tower and bells rehung—conditions similar to Hexham, which make for the comfort and enjoyment of change ringing. In the belfry are two sectors of the old bells of 1665, preserving the original inscriptions, and they are mounted on wood blocks for future generations of ringers to admire. A framed photograph taken at West Hartlepool, May, 1907, shows a fine body of men of the North of England attending the annual festival of the Guild. There is a very good sanctus bell in use, named after St. Cuthbert, who was Dean of Chester in 1409.

(To be continued.)



### THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

The members of this association visited Stanmore and Harrow Weald on Saturday last, when some 30 or more attended a meeting at those places.

Ringling commenced at the former tower soon after 3 o'clock with a touch of Grandsire Triples, which was followed by Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise.

A service was held at 5.30, at which the Rector (Rev. W. A. Hewett) gave the members of the association a hearty welcome and an interesting address. Tea was followed by touches on handbells on the Rectory lawn, where the business meeting was held. Two new members were elected, including the Rector of Stanmore as an honorary member. Willesden was chosen for the next meeting on September 12th.

The Honorary Secretary proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. W. A. Hewett for his address at the service, for the use of the bells and for the use of his garden by the members. The Rector briefly replied. Votes of thanks were also accorded to the organist, and to Messrs. F. Hill and G. Hughes, of the local band, for making the very necessary arrangements.

Further ringing afterwards took place at Stanmore, whilst a small party paid a visit to Harrow Weald, and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

### PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

A special meeting was held at Daventry on Saturday, July 18th, the following towers being represented: Long Buckley, Flore, Welton, Braunston, Farthingstone, Daventry, Greens Norton, Brockhall, East Hadden, Watford, Weston Favell, Northampton, Broughton, Kettering, Geddington, Isham, Wellingborough and Burton Latimer.

The Guild form of service was taken by the Master (Mr. F. Wilford), and the Rector of Daventry (the Rev. E. E. Law) giving the address.

After tea had been partaken of the business meeting was presided over by the Master of the Guild, who was supported by the Rev. E. E. Law, Mr. W. T. Wilson (treasurer) and Mr. J. Nichols (secretary), Miss Cecil Hephurn (Ladies' Guild), Mr. F. Barber, Mr. R. G. Black and Mr. T. Hebbutt (branch secretaries), a company of about 40 ringers being present.

The General Secretary explained that the meeting was being held with a view to forming a new branch of the Guild in Daventry, and spoke of the three main objects of the Guild: (1) The recognition of the true position of ringers as church officials; (2) the due care and use of church bells and belfries; (3) the cultivation of the art of scientific change ringing.

It was carried that a Daventry branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers be formed.

The Rev. W. H. Shackell (Brockhall) and the Rev. E. E. Law (Daventry) were elected honorary members, and the following ringing members: A. Moore, S. Moore, A. Clown, F. Smart (Daventry), F. Rowledge (Braunston), A. Starmer, J. Goode and G. Lyman (Welton), F. Osborne (Farthingstone), A. Starmer and H. Shimmell (Flore). Mr. Sidney Foskett (Bletchley) was also elected a non-resident ringing member.

The election of branch officers then took place, and the following were elected for the ensuing year: President, the Rev. W. H. Shackell; treasurer, the Rev. E. E. Law; secretary, Mr. W. Moore; committee, Messrs. A. Moore (Daventry), A. Starmer (Flore), F. Rowledge (Braunston), G. Lyman (Welton) and F. Osborne (Farthingstone), Messrs. A. Moore and F. Osborne were also elected to serve on the Central Committee of the Guild.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the branch on Saturday, August 29th, at Flore.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Daventry for his kindness in officiating and entertaining.

During the afternoon and evening several touches were rung, including a good course of London Surprise Major.

### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The summer meeting was held at Allendale on Saturday, July 25th. The handy peal of six bells (tenor 10 cwt.) were kept going during the afternoon and evening in Bob Doubles and Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and London Surprise Minor, one of the local band scoring his first touch of Minor. The small attendance was due to the difficulty of reaching Allendale, 16 sitting down to tea. The towers of Newcastle Cathedral, St. John's, Newcastle, Saints', Gosforth, Newton, St. George's, Jesmond, were represented, also the local band. The Rector visited the belfry during the afternoon. The President apologised for absence, explaining that it was a day and a half's journey from Darlington to Allendale. This, not being a business meeting, no business was transacted other than the confirmation of the election of appointed members in the belfry previous to starting for a peal. They numbered six. The homeward journey was made in a mixture of fine weather and heavy rain, bringing a pleasant and successful meeting to an end. At the close of tea Mr. J. S. Keen, the only vice-president present, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells.

### LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (NORTHERN DISTRICT)

A very successful meeting was held at Barnet on Saturday, July 18th. Ringling commenced at 3.30 p.m., several good touches including Double Norwich and Cambridge Major being rung. The company attended service at 6 p.m., and afterwards partook of an excellent tea. The business meeting was held at 7 p.m., two new members being elected, Master Jack Waugh, of Woodford, and Mrs. Allaway, of South Hackney. The question of railway (travel facilities, outlined in the 'Ringing World' of July 18th, was discussed, and a resolution passed asking the general body of the association to give the matter their favourable consideration and support was carried. Should permission be given, the next meeting will be held at All Hallows, Tottenham. A move was then made to Hadley tower, where some excellent touches brought a pleasant afternoon to a close. The association thank the Rectors of Barnet and Hadley for the use of the bells, and Messrs. Sumpter and Tarling for having the bells ready.

### ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A successful district meeting was held at Willingham on Saturday, July 18th, ringers being present from St. Neots, Cambridge, Dry Drayton, Histon, Chatteris, Longstanton, Trumpington, Sutton, Wilburton, Fen Ditton, Great Shelford and Willingham. The association's form of service was held at 4.30, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. C. Hair), assisted by the Rev. H. B. Woolley (Vicar of Longstanton). An open-air tea was kindly provided by the Rector, and this was followed by the business meeting. Bourn was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held in September. Good use was made of the tower bells, which are a splendid peal, having been rehung and augmented to six last February. The methods rung were London, Cambridge and York Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Carter's Doubles. A course each of London and York Surprise was rung on handbells by C. W. Cook 1-2, J. B. Woolley 3-4, C. W. Woolley 5-6.

### ESSEX ASSOCIATION (NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION).

A district meeting was held at Sawbridgeworth on Saturday, July 11th. Ringling commenced at 3 p.m., and continued until 5 p.m., when a service was held in St. Mary's Church by the Rev. A. Rust. Mrs. A. Rust officiated at the organ. After the service 26 members sat down to tea. The business meeting followed. The Rev. A. Rust was elected chairman. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed. It was carried that Hunsdon be the next meeting-place. The Rev. Errington then brought to the notice of the meeting that his company at Hunsdon were in need and would appreciate outside help and instruction in change ringing. Their practice is held every Thursday. A vote of thanks was then passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, etc., and to the Rev. and Mrs. A. Rust.

### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

A district meeting was held at Puttenham on Saturday last, and was very well attended. Ringers were present from Aldershot, Ash, Cobham, Cranleigh, Farnham, Godalming, Guildford (Holy Trinity and St. Nicolas), Shere and Witley, and members of the local company.

The bells were available at 3 o'clock, and were rung in various methods (till five, when a short service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Canon Cooke Yarborough), who also gave an address. Miss Clark presided at the organ. After the service the ringers and friends adjourned for tea. In the absence of the Rector, who had another engagement, Mr. S. Marshall (churchwarden) presided. After tea a short business meeting was held. The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted, and two full members and one probationer were elected.

Mr. R. Whittington, one of the district representatives, gave a summary of the proceedings at the annual meeting at Winchester.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the church and bells, and for conducting the service; to the organist, and to Mr. S. Marshall and the members of the local company for making the excellent arrangements.

The tower was again visited, and the bells were rung in methods to suit the ringers present (till 8.30, the ringers expressing their satisfaction at the way in which everything had been carried out.

### MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A pleasant afternoon meeting was spent at Stanford-on-Soar, when some 30 members were present from Derby, Nottingham, Regworth, Leicester, Barton-in-Pabis, Ringston-on-Soar, Loughborough and Shepshed.

Ringling took place after three o'clock in various methods. Tea was partaken in the Rectory, at the invitation of the Vicar, who himself was unfortunately absent. One new member was elected, Thomas Pilkington, of Quorn, Mr. Ernest Morris acting as chairman. — A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the ladies who had helped to add to the enjoyment of the meeting; and to the Vicar for the kind permission to use the bells. The next meeting is to be held at Hugglescote. In the evening, the members visited the bell foundry campanile, where further ringing was enjoyed.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Fifty years or so ago a big attempt was made to popularise the carillon in England. The leading spirit was a London clergyman, the Rev. Mr. H. R. Haweis. He was a man intensely interested in music of all types. He had visited Belgium, heard the carillons of Antwerp, Bruges, and Malines, and like many another tourist fell a victim to their charm. With these he contrasted the 'din and discord' of English belfries, and henceforth he devoted much time and much ability to the task of persuading people at home to adopt Belgian ideas of bells, Belgian bells and Belgian bell music. He achieved a considerable measure of success in creating a widespread, if vague, impression that Belgian bell ringing was something very much superior to our English change ringing, and in a few instances, owing to his direct influence, Belgian bells and carillons were hung in England. Cattistock was one, Boston another, and Aberdeen a third. A set of Belgian bells was installed by the Duke of Westminster at Eaton Hall, and smaller rings at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, and Lower Beeding in Sussex. None of these was any great success. Whatever may be the charm of classical carillon of Antwerp, Ghent and Malines, it was found that the modern Belgian bells were by no means superior to English bells, and at a time when English bell founders were turning out rather indifferent bells. Now, of course, English modern bells are acknowledged throughout the world as superior to all others, and one must note that many competent people are not disposed to rate even those as better than, or even equal, to the very best of the older rings.

The fact is that all these excellent people who advocate the superiority of carillon music are extreme partisans who are quite unable to judge fairly between English and Belgian bell music. Under holiday conditions, when they themselves are properly attuned, they hear Belgian bells, and they fall under their spell; they think that if only similar carillons could be erected at home the same effect would be enjoyed. When they come back to England they are displeased with our ringing peals, just because they are not the same as the Belgian. Abroad they do nothing but admire and enjoy, but at home their critical faculties are at once awake. This is strikingly shown by Mr. Haweis himself in his book. Dirt, and the presence of rats and mice in the tower of Louvain, strike him as romantic and poetical. Something similar in England (I do not know about the rats) is clear evidence of sordid neglect.

To give an idea of the style of the book which went far toward forming popular opinions of bells and bell music I give an extract:—  
'Willingly I do escape from the din and discord of English belfries to Belgium, loving and beloved of bells.

'The wind that sweeps over her campagnas and fertile levels is full of broken but melodious whispers.

'In Belgium, day and night are set to music, music on a scale more colossal than that of the largest orchestra ever heard; music more penetrating than the loudest trumpet or organ blast. In Belgium, every seven minutes there is bell music, not only for the whole town, but for the country miles around. Those carillons playing the same cheerful air every hour throughout the year at last acquire a strange fascination over one who lives within sight and hearing of some such grey old church as St. Rombaut at Mechlin. The listener has heard them at moments when elated with hope; he was looking forward to the almost immediate realisation of some long-desired joy, and the melody of the bells has filled him with exultation. He has heard the same strain rung out in seasons of depression, and his heart has leapt up at the sound so filled with memories. The bells may have again smitten upon his ear at the moment when some tragic news has reached him: or out in the fields steeped in yellow sunshine above the hum of insect life, the same tune has come to him between the pauses of the summer wind; or deep in his dreams through sleep without awakening him, the bells have somehow mingled their old rhythm with his dormant fancies until at last their sound becomes so charged with the incidents and emotions of his life that they are almost as much a part of him as his memory. When he comes to leave a town where he has dwelt for some time, he feels as if he had lost a whole side of life; he misses the sound of the friendly bells which always had the power by force of association to call up some emotion congenial to the moment—the sympathetic bells which seemed always equally ready to weep and to rejoice with him—the unobtrusive bells so familiar as never to be a disturbance—the gentle bells that could, as it were, ring aside to themselves when not wanted, and yet never failed to minister to the listening spirit whenever it stood in need of their companionship or sympathy.'

That is fine writing, but can it possibly be true of more than a very small number of men? And if it is true, will the effect be the same if you transplant the bells in a foreign land? The carillon is an institution centuries old in Belgium. It belongs to the nationality and the life of the people. It will not be the same thing elsewhere. They have now got the largest, and, perhaps, the finest, of all carillons in

New York. Will it be possible ever to write of these bells such as has been quoted above? Can the fine carillon of the Royal Exchange ever arouse any such emotions in any of the thousands of people that continually hear it?

America has no past and no tradition in the matter. But we have our ringing peals and our change ringing. They are as much rooted in the national character and as much a part of the national life as the carillon is in Belgium. The emotional and æsthetic appeal that bells make must be made here by them, and is made and can only be made by them. Whether the carillon or change ringing be in itself the finer thing is, after all, not to the point. The truth is that the carillon is Belgian, but change ringing is English.

But of this the advocates of the carillon are utterly ignorant. They do not understand the change ringing they affect to despise. Still less do they understand the change ringer. Listen once more to Mr. Haweis, the man who was accepted as in his time one of the greatest authorities on everything connected with bells.

'In connection with the swinging of a heavy bell there must always be a considerable strain upon the tower. But the friction might be indefinitely diminished if the bell machinery worked smoothly, and the labour often at present herculean of the poor bell ringer might be reduced to almost zero, were that machinery a little more scientific. When it is understood that an improved system of ringing the bells would save Deans and Chapters all over the country enormous sums of money by suspending the wear and tear which now goes on in so many of our Cathedral towers, we cannot help thinking that little opposition will be raised by those who have to pay for the damages. Bell ringers are doubtless a most obstinate set of men; but if they were paid the same for working machinery which produced twice as much effect, with less than half the labour, they, too, would soon give in to a better system. That ungrateful and barbarous rope and wheel, whose action upon the bell is now so uncertain, would probably disappear, and give place to something like a handle, a piston, or even a keyboard and a set of wheels and pulleys. There is no reason whatever why, with a better ringing mechanism, one man might not ring half a dozen bells, instead of at present half a dozen men being often set to ring a single big bell. I make these suggestions with the more confidence, because they have been favourably entertained by the heads of one of the most eminent firms of horology in England. I am glad to say that in accordance with my suggestions these gentlemen have promised to give their attention to the development of a better mechanism for the ringing of bells. They write as follows: "Although bells have never been rung by machinery, we believe it would be possible to accomplish this, although it might be expensive."

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Years ago forty-four, the Diocesan Guild

Of bell ringers set out on its way,

Let no pioneers praise who knew well how to build

For it stands in the forefront to-day.

In the joys and the sorrows of life it takes part,

Peals for wedding, and tolls the death-knell,

Takes the joys and the cares of the nation to heart,

And for service sounds summoning bell.

To the art of change ringing it gives of its best,

And would score the most difficult peal.

But yet holds of its duties this far leads the rest,

For the church to work, loyal and leal.

Where so fitting to meet to hold high festival.

Can the heart find a holier place,

Than in Oxford Cathedral, the mother of all,

There to seek inspiration and grace?

R. H. HART DAVIS.

## RINGERS' TOUR.

[We regret that this report is a little overdue.—Ed. 'R.W.']

Six members of Newport and Carisbrooke, I.O.W., spent four days on a ringing tour, from December 25th—December 28th, 1795.

On December 25th, 1795, a touch of Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral of Winton; December 26th, at Old Alresford, 120 Grandsire Doubles and Grandsire Triples at Alton, Hants; December 27th, 120's of Grandsire Doubles, at Westmeon, Warnford and Meonstoke; and on December 28th they appear to have finished their tour by ringing 120's Grandsire Doubles on the six bells at the old Parish Church of Portsea, the site on which stands now the noble new parish church, and may be a future Cathedral for the new diocese of Portsmouth.

On this tour they appear to have had the assistance of two local men at both Winton and Alton; at Westmeon and Warnford a local ringer of Westmeon joined them, and at Meonstoke a local ringer, named Holland, joined them and conducted; the rest of the conducting was by Mr. William Raynor. It makes us wonder how these ringers got from the island on to the main land, and from place to place, comparing the facilities of that period with the present. It does show, however, the enthusiasm that existed in the island in the days of William Raynor.

**NOMENCLATURE.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir.—The report of the Nomenclature Committee is an able and well-written document. That was only to be expected by anyone who knows (as I do) something of Mr. Burton's abilities. But 'reasonable' and 'moderate' are the last words I should apply to it. Among other things it proposes to alter the names of sixty-eight methods (some of them old and historical ones); to throw the whole of the method classification into the melting-pot; to alter technical terms which have been in use for centuries; to forbid any band and any individual, whatever their qualifications, putting a name to any new method; to invest a committee (presumably this committee) with autocratic powers over the names of all methods past, present, and to come; and to prevent such names as the committee dislikes being even so much as referred to in any Central Council publication. If this be moderation, I am curious to know what Mr. Burton's root-and-branch reform would be like. Stay, though. The committee does not propose to alter the name Grandsire. That is kind and moderate, and many thanks to them for it.

I utterly deny that the names of methods are in a 'state of almost indescribable confusion.' On the contrary, they are quite satisfactory. Care, of course, must be used in introducing fresh names, a good taste in the matter should be fostered; but anyone, whether this committee or any other who tries to settle the matter once for all, is sure to make a hash of it.

If the committee wants to do a little real good, let them scrap this report, which whether adopted by the Council or no is sure to be futile; and let them get together sufficient evidence to enable us to know whether the Exercise as a whole, and the six-bell ringers in particular, want the "Soral" names printed in the next edition of the book of Minor Methods. This was the real reason for the appointment of the committee.—Yours truly, J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

**COVENTRY BELLS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your readers will be glad to know that, following your article a fortnight ago, the Standing Committee of the Central Council have approached the Bishop of Coventry with a view to staying the melting down of these bells, and suggest my alternatives.

I think that if the secretaries of the affiliated Guilds were also to write letters of support, it would prove helpful. These should be addressed to the Rev H. Holland, M.A., St. Michael's, Coventry.

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

**WYCLIFFE SURPRISE MAJOR.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to the above, I wish to state that since the same was published in the 'Ringing World' issue of the 10th inst., it has been brought to my notice that with but a minor rearrangement the method is the work and was published by Mr. Arthur Craven as Chesterfield Surprise, so with apologies to the author I wish to relinquish all claim to the method.—Yours sincerely, E. W. TIPLER.

**DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The 5,184 of Double Norwich Major published in last week's 'Ringing World' will be found in Central Council Collection, section III, peal No. 35.

May I also be permitted to point out to Mr. Howes that it does not contain the qualities claimed, the full combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6?

H. W. WILDE.

**FALSE TOUCH.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I regret that my date touch, published in your issue of March 20th last, is false, and am obliged to Mr. B. Thorp for pointing out the two sixes which repeat. I thought I had checked the whole of this touch, but find that owing to inadvertence I omitted to check three courses in which, singularly enough, the repetition occurs.—Yours faithfully, THOMAS BUTLER.

**'FIRST PEALS.'***To the Editor.*

In the MS. report from which I read the list of first peals and progressive lengths at the last meeting of the Central Council, the Midland Counties Association is not bracketed with the Warwickshire Guild as sharing in the first peal on tower bells of Cambridge Court Bob Major.

In writing out a copy of the report for publication in the ringing paper, I may have inadvertently joined the two associations together, in which case I readily express my regret.

A. T. BEESTON,  
Convenor of the Records Committee.

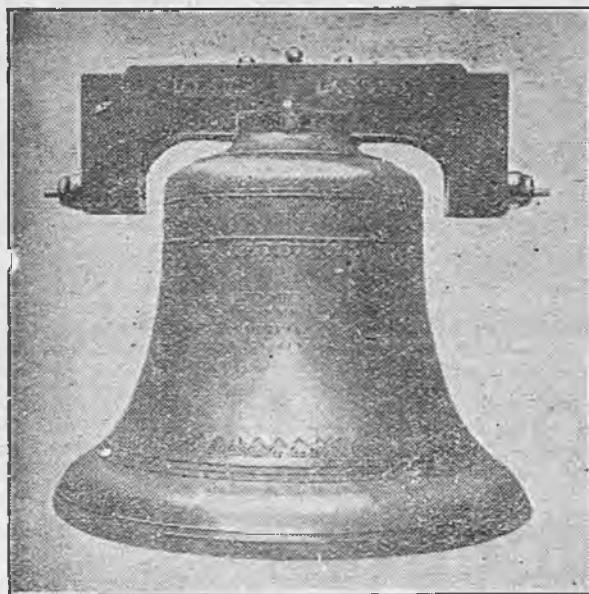
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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Devon is sometimes looked upon as being 'slow' in matters campanological, but in one respect it leads the way. A column of 'Belfry Topics' has been contributed to the local press every week, and in this way interest has been stimulated in quarters where otherwise bell matters would have been, perhaps, unknown. This feature, run by an official of the Devon Guild, has been continued now for a year, and we congratulate 'Abel Roper' upon the success of his effort.

The first of a series of lectures upon the 'Church Bells of England' was given by Mr. Harry Boughey at Birmingham last week, under the auspices of the Birmingham and Edgbaston branch of the English Church Union. The subject was 'Change Ringing,' and illustrations were given on handbells by members of St. Martin's Guild.

In being elected a vice-president of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which he was one of the founders, and which he has served as hon. secretary, treasurer and trustee, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis has been elevated to a rank held only by the Archdeacons of Buckingham, Oxford and Berkshire, the Deans of Christ Church and Windsor, and, 'at the discretion of the Guild, after recommendation by the committee, such members as have done meritorious services.' At present Mr. Hart-Davis is the only vice-president elected under this latter qualification.

Mrs. Amos Clark, who has been elected President of the Ladies' Guild for the ensuing year, is an active ringer, and has rung many peals for the Surrey Association. The passing round of the honour of the presidency in the Ladies' Guild is a feature which has much to commend it.

The light ring of twelve bells at the Waterloo tower, Quex Park, Kent, was opened, with great éclat, on August 4th, 1819. Many London ringers, including William Shipway, were present.

There are not many peals of bells which, like Quex Park, are unattached to a church, but Manchester Town Hall and the Imperial Institute, London, are other notable examples. The twelve at Christ Church, Oxford, are, we believe, in an unconsecrated tower.

The first peal of Grandsire Royal was a 5099 rung at Painswick on August 6th, 1815.

Tavistock Parish Church bells are to be recast, with additional metal, and rehung in a new iron frame, by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

'Squints' and their origin.—In medieval churches the Sanctus Bell which was rung at the ceremony of the elevation of the Host at the altar was sometimes hung over the chancel arch. The attendant, having a view of the altar, was enabled to ring the bell at the correct moment. In some instances, however, when the bell was hung in a cot situated in the porch, the ringer being outside the church, was out of sight of the altar. To overcome this difficulty openings were formed in the several walls between the ringer and the altar, as many as three being found in some churches in a direct line, through which a view of the altar could be obtained from the porch. The name given to such openings was 'hagioscope,' though they are sometimes called 'squints' because of the oblique position in which they pierce the walls.

News reaches us that Capt. H. Freeborn, of Little Chalfont, Amsersham, has had considerable success in the field of sport this year. He gained the Southern Championship, A.A.A., hammer throwing; 2nd in English Championship; 3rd in General A.A.A. Championship. He represented England in the International match v. Scotland and Ireland at Dublin, and v. France at Brighton, when he gained second place with a throw of 131ft. 6in. We further understand that almost the only exercise he gets is ringing, thus using the same muscles necessary for his throwing. Our congratulations on his successes.

Who are the members of the M.C.A. first eleven who are taking a trip round the world? Are they playing a 'match' at each port of call, and are the heavy handbells going as well? Or will the 'ones' that Uncle Joe plays Mah-jongg with be heavy enough?

On Friday evening, July 24th, a cricket match was played at the Hillingdon cricket field, between the bell ringers of St. John-the-Baptist, Hillingdon, and the bell ringers of St. Andrew's, Uxbridge. Some remarkably fine cricket was produced on both sides, and much hidden talent was discovered. The return match is to be played at Lords. St. Andrew's batted first, scoring 57 runs, leaving Hillingdon to bat in a bad light, to score 27.

SAWSTON, CAMBS.—At the Church of St. Mary, on Tuesday, July 7th, 630 Grandsire Triples: A. Walsgrove 1, B. D. Bulltress 2, H. Bright 3, S. Nunn 4, P. Webb 5, S. Stubbings 6, F. Hurry (conductor) 7, F. Mathews 8. Also same Treble Bob and Stedman, W. Pittton and G. Lilley taking part.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.—On Monday, July 20th, 1,376 Hub Major, rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. W. Holmes and Miss C. Machant, two highly respected members of the choir: A. Markwell 1, B. Ditcher 2, A. West 3, J. Morton 4, P. Jervis 5, T. A. Howes Smith 6, A. Tomlinson 7, J. Humphries (conductor) 8.



## ASSOCIATION FUNDS.

To the Editor.

DEAR SIR,—I do not know whether Samiwell Peppery's letter in your last issue, 'To pay or not to pay,' was inspired by Mistress Peppery or not, but if so I raise my hat to you, Auntie Nellie.

It has been my unpleasant duty recently to go through the list of members of the M.C.A. who are in arrears, with a view of trying, with a little coaxing, to get them up to scratch before the year end, when I am due to cross out quite a large number off the register. It is amazing to find so many of those who like to voice their opinions at meetings, or amongst their fellow-members, as to how this shall be run, or how that shall be carried out, who are themselves the greatest defaulters by either evading payment of subscription or running to the extreme limit before doing so. It is such as these who make a local secretary's task a very unenviable one, and a general secretary's part a burden.

We of the Midland Counties are in a unique position as regards funds, which seem to be exercising the minds of many such as above quoted. The sooner all ordinary ringing members realise that it is not their subscriptions that have made our present balance what it is, but that of the extraordinary list of honorary members our president has secured and certain other economies carried out, the better it will be for all concerned.

I notice the Oxford Guild secretary also has a few remarks in his report, and all who have undertaken this or similar duties will find the same difficulties. The suggestion to 'star' all those in arrears is a good one, and would doubtless bring some up to date, and is certainly better than keeping an uncertain 'black list' and debarring those entered thereon a voice in any business matters.

Any members in doubt as to their subscriptions should either inquire of their local secretary, or write direct to headquarters. This would materially help matters in the right direction.—Yours sincerely,

ERNEST MORRIS,

Gen. Hon. Secretary, M.C.A.

## RINGING IN EDINBURGH.

To the Editor.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to a paragraph in 'Belfry Gossip' last week, regarding a 'pull' in Edinburgh during August.

Mr. Heathcote, St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, may take notice of same; if not, by writing to him he will gladly give particulars.

August is the fair holidays in Edinburgh, and some of the churches close for two weeks, and ringers are on holiday.

Two peals are in Edinburgh, St. Cuthbert's (eight bells) and St. Mary's (ten bells). Ringers visiting Scotland will be made welcome at St. James' Church, Underwood Road, Paisley. A good going peal of eight bells (tenor 22½ cwt.), but unfortunately the church is closed during August for painting and cleaning, and the ringers go on holiday the first two weeks in August. Paisley is seven miles from Glasgow, and is easily reached by train, tram, or bus.

At any other time ringers will be made welcome by this struggling band, or by writing to me at this address.—Yours faithfully,

24, Mill Street, Paisley, N.B.

A. J. RODGER.

## NOMENCLATURE.

To the Editor.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to differ with regard to one statement in Mr. James Fernley's letter of the 24th July. Mr. Dawson's letters have repeatedly shown a very good reason why any band of ringers should forgo the right to '...avail themselves of the unwritten law...'.

The Rev. A. T. Beeston was responsible in part for the refusal to allow the Leytonstone band's claims regarding Surprise, No. 7, and Delight, No. 33, the reason being that the claims were too late. Now, then, can he associate himself with the claim put forward at a later date by the band, of which Mr. Fernley signs himself leader?

The Norbury band have done wonderful things in minor ringing, but the Leytonstone band have stated two concrete cases in support of their contention, that not only has good reason been shown, but that, in connection with their claim, some bad taste was shown by the gentleman bearing one of the names published.

GEORGE L. JOYCE,

Proposer of the Leytonstone Resolution.

## STAMFORD HILL RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, July 4th, the ringers from St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, accompanied by a few friends, went for their annual outing to Burnham-on-Crouch. On arrival the party proceeded to the Parish Church, where touches of Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor were rung. An al fresco lunch was partaken, after which some more ringing was enjoyed, and 720 Plain Bob was rung by the following: 1 F. Ringrose, 2 G. Hibble, 3 H. Blee, 4 T. Deal, 5 J. Nash, 6 A. Putland (conductor). After tea a 720 Grandsire Doubles was arranged and rung for Mr. E. Rouse, the local captain, the band being as follows: 1 T. Ringrose, 2 C. Ross, 3 A. Putland (conductor), 4 H. Blee, 5 J. Nash, 6 E. Rouse.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

(Continued from Page 474.)

## COMMITTEE RECOMMEND 'MOVABLE' FESTIVAL.

Mr. Frank Hopgood proposed the adoption of the following recommendation of the General Committee: 'That to Rule X. be added, after July, "in the three Archdeacons in rotation." This would make the Rule read as follows: "The annual festival and general meeting shall be held in July in the three Archdeacons in rotation, at the place selected at the previous annual festival, all the arrangements to be left in the hands of the committee." Mr. Hopgood mentioned that the question of where they should hold their annual meeting had been agitating the minds of the members for a long time, and he thought if they would carry this resolution it would put an end to it. The older members would know that forty years ago it was the custom to go round the three Archdeacons in turn, and when they followed that policy he never heard any complaint. It was true they could not all go to the festival in the years when it was held at a distance from their homes, but once in three years they would be able to go. When, however, it was held continually in one place, a certain number of members were barred entirely from attending. He hoped this resolution would be carried, and put an end to the controversy.—Mr. J. Evans seconded.

Mr. A. D. Cullum opposed the motion on the ground that the present rule enabled the Guild to do all that the amendment would enable them to do. He disliked changing a good rule for a bad one. The rule, as it stood, was plain, simple and democratic, and they could get all they wanted from it. It did not say they must meet at Oxford every time. It was open to them at each annual meeting to say where they would meet each year. Why, therefore, should they tie their hands? If it was intended to push the resolution he would move, as an amendment, that they come to Oxford each year.

Mr. J. W. Wilkins supported the recommendation. He said it was absolutely necessary to alter the rule, and place each part of the diocese on the same basis.

Mr. H. Miles said while he was in favour of the Guild Festival being no longer held year by year at Oxford, because of the dissatisfaction it caused in one branch, he never anticipated they would go to the length of returning to the old state of affairs and go to all sorts of out-of-the-way places, thus adding to the difficulties of the officials in making arrangements for a large gathering. He was out for compromise, but not for going to the length proposed. He thought they should stick to the old rule.

A member pointed out there was no suggestion in the proposal to go to out-of-the-way places. They could find a big centre in each of the three Archdeacons. A lot of harm had been done by going to Oxford each year.

Miss Robinson suggested that the proposal should be made to read that the Guild meet in each of the three Archdeacons in rotation, and at Oxford every fourth year. She moved this as an amendment.

Mr. Hopgood pointed out that under the proposal of the committee they could come to Oxford every third year if they liked.

After further discussion, Miss Robinson's amendment was defeated by a large majority, only 18 voting for it.

Mr. A. D. Barker urged the members not to consider their personal feelings, but to vote for what was best in the interests of the Guild.

On being put to the meeting, 48 voted for the recommendation and 60 against, and it was accordingly declared lost.

Mr. Hopgood said the result would not debar him from bringing the matter forward again, and he gave notice that he would propose it at the first available opportunity.—Mr. Wilkins: I shall do my best to support it. It is not dealing fair with the other branches.

Mr. A. Barker then moved a recommendation by the General Committee: 'That the annual festival, 1926, be held in South Bucks, preferably in the neighbourhood of Slough.' He said he proposed that to give a little life to the branch.

Amendments in favour of Oxford and Reading were moved, and the voting was: Reading 2; Oxford 63; for the recommendation 53. Oxford was, therefore, declared selected.

On the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. A. D. Cullum, the meeting approved of the recommendation of the committee that £3 3s. be granted from the Guild funds for the augmentation of Brighton bells, Berks.

## A WORTHY HONOUR.

The Master then proposed 'That the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis be made a vice-president of the Guild, in recognition of many years of good service.' He said they had all had experience of Mr. Hart-Davis's work, both as secretary and treasurer, and afterwards as treasurer only. He was also instrumental in starting the Sonning Deanery Branch, and was one of the prime movers of the Guild from the very beginning. He gave up the work when he was getting old, and now the Guild would like to honour him by electing him a vice-president (applause).

Canon Coleridge seconded, remarking that they could not do a more worthy honour to a more worthy man.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis thanked the Guild for the honour they had done him. He had, it was true, worked for the Guild on the administrative side, and on the finance side, but he was afraid he had done nothing for it on the ringing side. His election was rather a new departure, and he thought it was an excellent thing that they should have among their vice-presidents not merely names of gentlemen who were not in their neighbourhood, but names of those who had done some work for the Guild. He could not help very much hoping that the name of Mr. J. J. Parker would reappear next year as one of their vice-presidents. Mr. Parker and himself were the only two surviving members of the original committee formed in 1881, and he would feel very happy if Mr. Parker's name were honoured like his own. There was another name which would have been added had life continued, and that was the name of their old friend, Mr. Wm. Newell, who had gone to his rest. There were other names which might come later, men at present in full work, but who would fully deserve to be honoured when the time came, men like Canon Coleridge and Mr. Tom Hibbert (applause).

The confirmation of the election of 168 new members was agreed to, this being the largest number made for many years past.

Mr. Cullum referred to the steps taken in the Gloucester and Bristol Association with regard to getting cheap railway facilities for ringers (as reported in the last issue of 'The Ringing World'), and asked if the Guild could not join in the effort which was being made.

This was at once agreed to, and concluded the business.

The members and many friends, numbering altogether over 200, then adjourned to Christ Church Hall, where luncheon was served. Afterwards they dispersed for ringing at various towers, and throughout the remainder of the afternoon bells were pealing from many Oxford steeples. The twelve at the Cathedral were a centre of attraction, as were also the rings at Magdalen, New and Merton Colleges, while several rings of six were later utilised, St. Ebbe's, where the Washbrook Memorial bells are to be placed, being chief among these.

#### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. DEDICATION OF BELL, WOOLTON HILL.

On Saturday, July 18th, the new treble bell to complete the ring of six at Woolton Hill, Hanis, was dedicated by the Rev. T. Medlicott, Rural Dean and Vicar of Burghclere.

The work was carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who have made an excellent splice, the result being a handy little ring of six, with a 7½ cwt. tenor.

A very interesting address was given by the Rev. T. Medlicott, and mentioned the great work on behalf of change ringing of the late Sir A. Heywood, the brothers Snowden and Fabian Siedman.

Mr. Aird (churchwarden) very generously provided a splendid tea which was presided over by Mr. G. Williams. A vote of thanks was passed to the donor, and Mr. Williams congratulated the local band on getting the new bell, and said that there should now be no lack of interest, as the possibilities on six bells were almost inexhaustible to a keen hand, as had been shown by the Norbury company.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor were rung, and the first 720 Bob Minor was rung by the following: W. G. Edwards 1, — Balcombe 2, H. Balaam 3, — Barrett 4, G. Pullinger 5, G. Williams (conductor) 6.

In addition to a large number of parishioners, the following ringers were present: Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. G. Pullinger (general secretary), and Messrs. Scott, Balaam, Bevan, Rex (Woolton Hill), Edwards, Rowe (North Stoneham), Osler (Bramley), Hadkin (Newbury), Barrett (Willesden), Butler, Knapp, Juniper and Balcombe (Highclere).

Great praise is due to the local ringers for their untiring energy in raising the funds for the new bell, particularly to Mr. H. Balaam.

#### 700th ANNIVERSARY.

##### CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.

On July 7th, 1225, Alexander de Staverby, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, consecrated the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket, at Chapel-en-le-Frith, and was at the time, as the name of the town now implies, the Chapel-in-the-Forest. Little of the original structure remains, it being rebuilt in the 14th century and again in the 18th. The building has at various times been put to uses its founders never intended. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth was utilised as a court of law and a prison; here, also, Cromwell confined 1,500 Scotch prisoners captured at the Battle of Ribbleson Moor, near Preston. The 700th anniversary was celebrated in characteristic style, special services being held, treats to old and young, an interesting item being the roasting of an ox in the Market Place. It had been intended to go for the peal on the 11th inst., but garden parties interfered; however, it was successfully brought round on Saturday, July 18th, and is duly recorded in the peal columns. The Vicar (the Rev. — Stredder) generously provided refreshments on its conclusion.

The bells are a ring of six by Rudhall, with a tenor approximately 12 cwt., and 'go' well. The curfew is rung each evening at 8 o'clock, except on Saturdays and Sundays, when it is tolled at 7 p.m.

#### LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

##### PEAL BOARD DEDICATION.

On Saturday, July 18th, a most successful meeting of the Southern Branch was held at Hough-on-the-Hill, Grantham, 35 ringers being present from the neighbouring towers, including Grantham, Lincoln, Folkington, Market Deeping, Orston, Barkston, and the local men. The bells were well used during the afternoon and evening, especially by the young ringers from Hough-on-the-Hill, many of whom are under 14 years of age, and who have every promise of becoming good change ringers in the near future.

Service was held in the church, being conducted by the Rector of Hough (the Rev. C. D. H. Moore), assisted by the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston. During the service, the Rector dedicated a peal board, the gift of the Hough ringers, recording a peal of Minor, rung on Saturday, August 20th, 1921, in memory of Mr. John Hoyes, who for over 40 years was a ringer at that church. The Rev. C. J. Sturton occupied the pulpit, and gave a splendid address to the ringers.

It was decided to hold the October meeting at Stamford on the 3rd inst.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his kind welcome to the ringers, and to all those who helped to make the meeting a success.—The Secretary also reminded those present that the Church of All Saints has in the tower a very good frame for a peal of eight bells, and expressed the hope that before long two trebles would be added to the present six.

#### OBITUARY.

On July 10th, 1925, there passed away at Rye, Sussex, a loyal and faithful servant of the Church and an old bellringer, in the person of Charles Price, aged 75.

Born at Oxford in 1850, Mr. Price came to Rye as a Church Army Captain, and took up the duties of verger 36 years ago, retaining this office until his death. During this period he has, by a life of service and devotion to duty, become endeared to the hearts of all Ryeans and to many of those who frequently visit the 'Antient Towne,' and by his passing Rye has lost an honoured and respected citizen, and those who were so fortunate as to be intimately acquainted with him, a loyal and true friend in the highest sense of the word.

Mr. Price, who rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples at Rye on April 12th, 1902, was not a great peal ringer, but a regular Sunday service ringer, the occasions on which he was absent from the belfry being only those on which his duties as verger had to take precedence.

As a token of respect a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung by the local band with the bells half-muffled on Sunday evening, July 12th, and, after being borne to the Parish Church by six of the ringers for the first part of his funeral service on the 14th, 360 Grandsire Doubles were rung to his memory, with the bells fully muffled (tenor open at back stroke) while the funeral cortege was on its way to the cemetery.

#### MULTI-METHOD PEALS.

##### HOW TO RING THEM.

The ringing of numerous Minor methods, spliced into true 720's, is a form of ringing which is acknowledged to add immensely to the interest of six-bell practice, and yet it has at present been taken up only to a very limited degree. From time to time we have published the figures of the composite extents, but this does not seem to have conveyed sufficient information to enable Minor ringers generally to grasp the manner in which these 'spliced' peals are rung.

We believe that ringers have only to become more fully acquainted with the scheme by which a large number of methods can be pieced together and rung, to lead to a far larger practice in this direction. We have, therefore, induced Mr. John P. Fidler, of Norbury, Cheshire, one of the band who rang in the celebrated peal in 35 methods, to contribute a series of articles on the subject, which will describe the exact manner in which this company tackled and achieved their task. The basis of the articles is the methods appearing in the Central Council's 'Collection of Methods,' and a copy of this publication should at once be secured from the Hon. Librarian (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), Broadlands, Caversham, Reading. The price is only 1/2.

NEATH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.—On Tuesday, July 14th, at St. Thomas' Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins., with the bells half-muffled: A. Hutton 1, G. Lewis 2, J. Hammond 3, C. Hawkins 4, T. Scott 5, H. Boyce (conductor) 6. Rung to the memory of the members of St. Thomas' Church, who fell in the Great War, on the occasion of the unveiling of the tablet erected in the church to their memory.

## RINGERS' OUTINGS.

## ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.

The annual outing of the above took place on Saturday, July 18th. Monk's Kirby, Warwickshire, was the first goal. The church is an old imposing structure of the 14th century. The bells, hitherto six, have been augmented to eight, and rehung in an iron frame by Taylor, making a fine ring, with tenor of 24 cwt. Courses of London, Bristol, Treble Bob—the latter in which the Vicar took part—and touches of Stedman Triples were struck off to the satisfaction of both ringers and listeners. At Burbage, some seven miles distant, where a new ring of eight had been installed, the bells, with tenor of 14 cwt., were raised, and Cambridge, Superlative, and Premier were rung. Tea was taken on the cricket ground, where a match was in progress. After tea, a return to the tower was made by those who wanted more ringing. A move was then made for Hinckley, a neighbouring town, where a newly-recast ring of eight had been installed.

It was at the White Hart that the company foregathered after the ringing had ceased, and the Club Room was called into requisition. Handbell ringing, tunes and changes, with songs, filled the bill until it was time to leave for Leicester. 'Bill' Humphreys entertaining the company in his own inimitable way. Well satisfied with the outing, the party wishes to thank the incumbents, chief ringers and Mr. W. H. Poole, the indefatigable secretary, for the arrangements made on its behalf.

## HASLEMERE, SURREY.

On July 11th the Haslemere ringers, including the Rector (Rev. W. Wragge), the Rev. O. S. Walford and Major J. H. B. Hesse, held their annual outing, which took the form of a very enjoyable day in the Isle of Wight. Upon arriving at Ryde, a charabanc trip was arranged, and the party proceeded to Newport. Here the ringers were met by Mr. W. Upton, and a touch of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major was brought round. After lunch the journey was continued to Niton, where the party were entertained by Miss Jackson. Afterwards Ventnor, Shanklin, Sandown and Brading were visited. At Brading the ringers were met by Mr. Paine. A touch each of Grandsire, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob Major was rung here, and, with the help of Mr. Ward, from Ryde, a course of Stedman Triples was also accomplished. After tea at Ryde the party left for home, which was reached about 10.30. Many thanks are due to the ringers who met the company, and the only regret was that Mr. T. Mack, one of the oldest and respected members, was not well enough to attend.

## HILLINGDON RINGERS IN SURREY.

On Saturday, July 18th, the combined bands of St. John's, Hillingdon, and St. Andrew's, Hillingdon West, held their first outing. The party left Hillingdon shortly after 2 p.m., by charabanc, passing through Harlington to Kingston, and thence by an enjoyable ride through Ewell and Burgh Heath. A halt was made at the top of Reigate Hill, the party afterwards proceeding to the Parish Church, where they were met by one of the local ringers. The bells were soon going to Grandsire and Stedman Caters.

A very enjoyable *à fresco* tea was partaken of.—A vote of thanks was passed to the incumbents of Reigate and Betchworth for the use of their bells; also to the steeplekeepers of those towers for their kind assistance.

Through the medium of the 'Ringing World,' the ringers wish to record a hearty vote of thanks to the organiser of the outing, Miss P. M. Moss, for so kindly making the necessary arrangements.

## STOWMARKET.

The Stowmarket company held their annual outing on Saturday, July 11th. The party, numbering 14, leaving Stowmarket by motor, first called at Eye. Here they were met by Messrs. E. F. Poppey, H. Day and J. Souther. The bells were soon set going, and some good touches were brought round. The next place to be visited was Redenhall, where Mr. F. R. Borrett was waiting to welcome the company. Before leaving, the grand old peal of handbells at the Yew Tree were put through a few touches, and the party left for Beccles, where, unfortunately, the Beccles company were on their outing, but thanks to them everything was all ready. With the help of Messrs. J. Souther and F. R. Borrett a short touch on the ten bells was brought round. Leaving Beccles after lunch, the return journey was made via Diss, where more ringing was done, and a splendid tea was served. After this more ringing was enjoyed, and then the handbells were brought into use, several of the local company joining in to spend a very pleasant evening. After a splendid day's outing, home was reached about 11 p.m. The company, through the 'Ringing World' wish to thank the various clergy for the use of the bells; also to all those who helped to make the outing such a success. The methods rung during the day were Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Grandsire Caters, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major.

## ST. GILES', READING.

On Saturday last, the ringers of the above church, and their friends, enjoyed a half-day's outing. The party proceeded to Newbury, where the fine old parish church peal of eight were soon going merrily in Stedman, Oxford Treble Bob and Double Norwich. Mr. Curtis, the tower foreman, afterwards joining the visitors in bringing home a well-struck touch of Bob Major. Subsequently the party enjoyed tea, and later proceeded over Bucklebury Common to its parish church, where the well-tuned but lighter ring of eight in this old tower were rung in various methods. Four local ringers took part, including the veteran, Mr. Davis, and also Mr. Matthews, who called a musical touch of Stedman of his own composition, and considering he is almost blind, his own accurate striking was wonderful. The party visited Bradfield, and a very pleasant hour was spent. Home was reached at 10.30, all having thoroughly enjoyed the excursion. Thanks of the band are due to the Rectors of the towers visited for kind permission to use the bells, also to Mr. A. W. Osborne, the foreman, for arranging the outing.

## SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL.

The Sheffield Cathedral company had their annual outing on Saturday, July 11th, Liverpool being chosen as the place of entertainment. Proceeding by train, the objective was reached at 12.30 p.m., where the party was met by Mr. Claude J. Davies, who kindly acted as guide throughout the day. The famous Cathedral was first visited, after which lunch was served. Lunch over, the party proceeded to the Princess landing stage to board the steamer for Rock Ferry, and thence by tram to Port Sunlight.

Several touches of Stedman and Double Norwich were duly accomplished on this nice peal of eight, after which a further walk through the village brought them to the Church of Bevington.

The bells are a light peal of eight, with an excellent 'go' about them, but the tone not very good. Touches of Stedman, Superlative and Double Norwich were brought round, after which tea was enjoyed. Returning across the river, St. Nicholas was reached in good time. Here the company met a number of local ringers. Ringing to the tune of Stedman, Cambridge and London Surprise, an hour was quite sufficient to satisfy desires for further ringing. An adjournment was then made for conversation with the Liverpool friends.

The company wish to thank the local ringers at the various churches for their kindness in meeting the party, the clergy for the use of the bells, and Mr. C. J. Davies for his services as guide; whilst our special thanks are again tendered to Mr. Geo. R. Newton for his trouble in so kindly making all arrangements.

## WARMINSTER.

On Saturday, July 18th, the ringers of the Minster Church, Warminster, together with a few friends, visited Bournemouth for their annual outing. The party, numbering 16, including the Rev. J. Lee-Warner (curate), left Warminster by charabanc at 8 a.m. Proceeding via Fordingbridge, the first halt was made at the church, where the party was met by Mr. W. Lockyer. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, and the journey then resumed, Bournemouth being reached about 11.30 a.m. After lunch, the company broke up to spend the afternoon in various ways, reassembling at 4 p.m. for tea. A move was afterwards made to St. Peter's Church, where special permission had been granted the visitors to ring for evensong. This favour was much appreciated, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung.

Leaving Bournemouth at 5.45 p.m., the first stop on the homeward journey was at Ringwood, where ringing was enjoyed. Arriving at Salisbury, St. Thomas' Church was visited, this being 'the last item on the programme.' Warminster was reached at 10.30 p.m., all the party having thoroughly enjoyed the outing. The ringers wish, through the 'Ringing World,' to thank the incumbents for the use of the bells, also the towerkeepers for having everything in readiness.

## LINSLADE, BUCKS.

On Saturday, July 25th, the Linslade ringers held their annual outing, travelling to Hardwick, where the handy little ring of six bells were soon going to Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor. After an hour's ringing the party visited Aylesbury for tea. Then on to Stoke Mandeville, where the visitors were welcomed by Mr. H. E. Whitbread, late of St. Albans, and other local ringers, with whom Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung. The next stopping-place was Tring, where a meeting was being held by the Western district of the Hertfordshire County Association. Here touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and a course of Duffield Major by mixed bands were rung. The Linslade ringers wish to thank the Vicars and foremen for their hearty welcome, and the secretary and members of the Western district of the Herts Association.



## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

**ROTHERHAM.**—On Sunday, July 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes), in 52 mins.: G. Onkes 1, J. W. J. Cottam 2, C. Poulteney 3, G. Tuke 4, A. Firth 5, E. Kettell 6, J. Brothwell 7, S. Briggs (conductor) 8, C. Ryder 9, P. Maugham 10. First quarter in the method by ringers of 3rd and 4th, and first quarter-peal on the bells since being recast.

**NEWPORT, MON.**—On Sunday, July 26th, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: H. Ridout 1, H. Forbes 2, B. Wilson 3, T. Ford 4, J. W. Jones 5, G. Day 6, A. E. Morgan (conductor) 7, H. Brookes 8.

**LIVERPOOL.**—For evening service, on Sunday, July 26th, at St. Nicholas' Church, 531 Stedman Caters: W. Davies 1, W. Fisher 2, T. Hammond 3, R. Davies 4, G. R. Newton 5, E. Jones 6, E. Counce 7, T. Larkey 8, J. Martin 9, A. Lintott 10. Conducted by G. R. Newton.

**BRISTOL.**—At SS. Philip and Jacob Church, on Sunday, July 26th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: Mrs. E. J. Brown 1, Miss A. Brown 2, F. W. Wade 3, R. C. Seager 4, I. Long 5, E. J. Brown 6, F. E. Tyler (conductor) 7, F. Tyler, junr., 8.

**SAFFRON WALDEN.**—On Sunday, July 26th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 1,255 Stedman Caters, in 50 mins.: A. James 1, C. H. Howard 2, H. E. Hammond 3, L. W. Wiffen 4, G. Wiffen 5, F. Dench 6, F. Housden 7, L. Pitlow 8, F. J. Pitlow (conductor) 9, W. Parrish 10. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th hail from Braintree.

**BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.**—On Sunday, July 26th, for evensong, 720 Bob Minor: C. Chapman (Newark) 1, A. Thornton (first 720 of Minor) 2, Miss N. Grassby 3, W. Leaning 4, G. Hobbs 5, J. Bray (conductor) 6. During the service a board recording the first peal on the bells by a local band was dedicated.

**LAVENHAM.**—At SS. Peter and Paul Church, on Sunday, July 26th, 576 Oxford Treble Bob: F. Turner 1, M. T. Symonds 2, F. L. Leeks 3, F. G. Symonds 4, S. H. Symonds 5, L. Poulson 6, L. Leeks 7, W. R. J. Poulson 8. Also 420 Stedman Triples: M. T. Symonds 1, L. Poulson 2, F. Leeks 3, S. H. Symonds 4, W. R. J. Poulson 5, F. F. Mortlock 6, W. Fairers 7, F. A. Poulson 8. Conducted by S. H. Symonds. These touches were arranged and rung as a welcome home to A. Symonds, who has just returned from the West Suffolk General Hospital; he has acted as instructor at the above tower for the last 36 years, and often remarks with pride that he has lived to see change ringing performed by five generations of Symonds.

**ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.**—On Sunday, July 26th, for morning service, in 24 mins., 720 Bourne Surprise: G. H. Southgate 1, J. Pilgrim 2, R. Woodard 3, L. W. Bale 4, R. Pilgrim 5, N. R. Bailey (conductor) 6.

**TIMSBURY, SOMERSET.**—On Sunday, July 26th, for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Also, after service another 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins.: J. M. Hasell 1, F. J. L. Brown 2, W. H. Young 3, J. Fear 4, Wm. Young 5, R. T. Clark 6. The ringers stood the same for both 720's, and both conducted by R. T. Clark.

**BRATTON WESTBURY, WILTS.**—On Sunday, July 26th, at the Church of St. James-the-Great, in honour of the Patronal Festival, for Matins, 300 Stedman Doubles: T. Holloway 1, W. Chapman (conductor) 2, H. J. Smith 3, H. G. Smith 4, B. Cook 5, P. Emm 6. Also, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: B. Cook 1, J. Francis 2, H. G. Smith 3, W. Chapman 4, C. J. Andrews 5, J. T. Dyke (conductor) 6. First 720 by the ringers of the 1st, 3rd and 4th.

**HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.**—On July 26th, on the festival of the Parish Church, St. Margaret's, for Sunday evening service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob: H. Saunders 1, T. R. Watson 2, G. Perkins 3, F. Warrington (conductor) 4, H. Lavender 5, G. Perkins 6. A 720 Kent was rung after service also, G. Perkins conducting.

**STANFORD-LE-HOPE.**—On Sunday, July 19th, at the Church of St. Margaret, for Patronal Festival, before evensong, 720 Plain Bob: H. Chinnery 1, W. Wade 2, W. Watson (conductor) 3, A. Howell 4, E. Butler 5, G. R. Pye 6. Also 480 same method: G. R. Pye 5, E. Butler 6. After evensong another 720, standing as before.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 19th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, W. S. Forslaw 2, T. Watson (conductor) 3, G. Jackson 4, A. Brown 5, W. H. Dennison 6, J. Burrows 8 (cover).

**BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—At St. Catherine's Church, on Sunday, July 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Wightman 1, W. Pope 2, G. Dudley 3, R. Belton 4, E. Rivett 5, P. Aldham 6, G. Newton (conductor) 7, E. Wightman 8. First quarter-peal for ringers of 1st, 3rd, 5th and 8th. First quarter-peal as conductor. This is the first quarter-peal on the new bells.

**FLEET, Lincs.**—On Sunday, July 19th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. W. Harrison 1, H. Waltham 2, F. Lightning 3, C. Brumby 4, F. Porter 5, J. B. Hallifax (conductor) 6. First 720 by the ringers of the 4th on an inside bell.

**BRAINTREE.**—On Sunday, July 19th, for Matins, at the Parish Church, 720 Double Norwich, and for evensong 1,280 in the same method: E. Webb 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, G. Wiffen 3, G. Melbourne 4, H. E. Hammond 5, F. Eley 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, W. H. Hammond 8. Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the 3rd, who is leaving Braintree for a business appointment in Belgium.

**SUTTON, SURREY.**—On Sunday, July 19th, at All Saints, Benhillon, 1,080 Bob Minor, in 37 minutes (after meeting short for Triples): J. F. Galyer 1, F. T. Ford 2, E. Walker 3, T. G. Bannister 4, F. E. Darby 5, C. H. Kippin (conductor) 6. Rung as a compliment to Miss M. Ford (daughter of the steeplekeeper), upon attaining her 21st birthday.

**NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.**—For evensong, on Sunday, July 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: W. Johnson (conductor) 1, W. Scott 2, W. Chambers 3, W. Upton 4, A. Callaway 5, S. Moody 6, R. J. Stone 7, J. Leal 8. Rung for R. J. Stone, Portsea St. Mary's in camp at Freshwater, and a birthday compliment to W. Upton.

**WOLVEY, WARWICKSHIRE.**—On July 12th, on the occasion of the Sunday School festival, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 43 mins.: B. Pond 1, S. Sewell 2, J. Taylor 3, J. Upton (conductor) 4, W. Thorpe 5, H. Stanley 6. First quarter by treble and tenor ringers. For afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor, in 43 mins.: A. Thorpe 1, R. S. Hodgetts 2, J. Taylor 3, J. Upton 4, W. Thorpe 5, J. Beale (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal in method by all the band. For evensong, a quarter-peal of Doubles (being five six-score of Bob Doubles and 5½ six-score of Grandsire), in 41 mins.: A. Thorpe 1, J. Beale (conductor) 2, J. Taylor 3, J. Upton 4, W. Thorpe 5, W. Allen 6. Mr. R. S. Hodgetts comes from Monk's Kirby.

**RYE, SUSSEX.**—For evening service, on July 12th, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Mr. Charles Price, for 36 years vergor of the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 49 minutes: Mrs. K. Pattenden 1, G. Hodson 2, J. Bennett 3, F. Bryant 4, K. Pattenden (conductor) 5, G. Bourne 6, A. Frampton 7, E. Curd 8 (covering 7-8-8). This was the first quarter-peal rung by the ringers of the treble and 4th in this method.

**ICKLETON, CAMBS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 5th, for morning service, 240 Bob Minor and a course of Oxford Bob: A. Walsgrove 1, G. Lilley 2, F. Bowtell 3, J. Webb 4, S. Brooks 5, P. Webb (conductor) 6. For evening service, 240 and 216 Bob Minor: P. Webb 1, G. Lilley 2, S. Brooks 3, J. Webb 4, W. Flitton 5, P. C. L. Brooks 6. Mr. A. Walsgrove comes from Christ Church, St. Leonard's, and was on a holiday in the district. On Sunday, July 12th, for evening service, 384 Kent: P. Webb (conductor) 1, G. Lilley 2, F. Bowtell 3, W. Flitton 4, E. Finch (Stapleford) 5, L. Brooks 6. Also 120 Doubles, E. Jaggard, of Exning, Suffolk, taking part.

**HATFIELD, HERTS.**—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine service, in the evening, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 48 mins.: F. Cull 1, D. Ellingham 2, A. Shepherd 3, J. Shepherd 4, L. Shepherd 5, J. T. Kentish (conductor) 6, A. R. Lawrence 7, P. S. A. Lawrence 8.

## ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Comparisons are proverbially odious, and to blow one's own trumpet is worse, but as the Ipswich St. Mary-le-Tower Society and its performances have been mentioned somewhat freely of late in the 'Ringing World,' perhaps this letter from one of its members may be forgiven; apart from which the record which follows is worthy of note, and will probably prove of interest to your many readers who hail from, or have visited, East Anglia and Ipswich.

From January, 1921, to December, 1922, the society rang peals in the following methods: Double Norwich Maximus, Royal and Major, Cambridge Maximus, Royal and Major, Kent Maximus, Royal and Major, Plain Bob Royal, Stedman Cinques and Triples, Grandsire Cinques and Caters; and on Easter Sunday, 1921, courses of Cambridge Maximus, and Double Norwich Maximus were rung for the morning service. The ringers in each case were regular Sunday Service ringers. This is a great record, and it is safe to say that not many bands have accumulated such a list of performances in the short space of two years.—Yours truly,

CHAS. J. SEDGLEY.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—On Thursday, July 23rd, at St. Peter's Church, as a last token of respect to the late George Henry Johnson, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: W. Flinders 1, Miss E. Webster 2, M. Ward 3, G. West 4, L. Chadburn 5, F. Salter 6, H. R. Cobbin 7, H. Cragg 8. First quarter. Conducted by H. R. Cobbin.

**LOUGHBOROUGH.**—At the Parish Church, for Matins, 501 Stedman Caters, in 35 mins.: R. Lane 1, J. Saddington 2, W. Thorley 3, E. Cartwright 4, H. Subbs 5, W. Smith 6, J. Oldham 7, J. Hutchby 8, E. Reader (conductor) 9, A. Goodacre 10.



## NOTICES.

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings Inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Moorside, Oldham, on Saturday, August 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, August 1st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea, at 1s. 3d. a head. Business important. Election of branch officers, also nominations for vice-president, ringing secretary and two auditors of the association.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY** will hold their quarterly meeting at Old Glossop Church on Saturday, August 1st. Bells available from 2.30. Meeting at 7 o'clock.—F. Althorp, Hon. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Meetings for August: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 2nd, 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 17th and the 31st, at 7.30. — A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

**SUTTON-ON-TRENT** (Crow Park Station). — The new bells of Sutton-on-Trent (6) will be open for all ringers on August Bank Holidays (Monday). Cricket match, good sports and gala in afternoon in aid of the Church Bell Fund. Prices of admission: Adults 6d., children 3d. Plain teas on field 9d. Meat tea 1s. 6d., in Church Institute. All welcome. The express leaving Newark at 8.20 p.m. will stop at Crow Park specially for passengers to Retford and intermediate stations to Doncaster and Sheffield. — H. Haigh, 103, Gatford Road, Worksop.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held on August Bank Holiday (Monday) at Ecclesfield Parish Church, and not at Wortley, as shown on the fixture cards. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Tea will be served at 5 p.m.—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec. pro tem., 41, Baltic Road, Sheffield.

**NORFOLK GUILD.**—General meeting will be held at Diss on Bank Holiday, August 3rd. By kind permission of the Rector, the ring of eight bells at the Parish Church will be at the disposal of the members. Luncheon at the King's Head Hotel at 1 o'clock, followed by the business meeting.—Arthur L. Coleman, Secretary, High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—A meeting has been arranged on Monday, August 3rd. Slough (8) 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Stoke Poges (6) 2 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Tennis, handbells, etc., during the evening.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec., 'Cambridge,' Wexham, Slough.

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on August 6th and 20th, \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 11th; \*St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 16th (6 p.m.) and 25th, Southwark Cathedral on the 18th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rainham on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available at 3. The association service will be held at 5, conducted by the Rev. W. A. R. Ball. Tea will be provided, at a charge per head, for those who notify me by first post Wednesday, August 5th.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**ESSEX AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.**—A joint meeting will be held at Waltham Abbey (12 bells) on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A tea has been arranged for those who notify their intention of being present. Will Middlesex members kindly advise Mr. C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, E.17, and Essex members Mr. E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, at the latest by Tuesday, August 4th?—C. T. Coles, Middlesex Association, E. J. Butler, Essex Association, Hon. Secs.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, August 8th. Ringing from 3.30. Will arrange tea as usual. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

**PRELIMINARY NOTICE.**—The annual commemoration dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon will be held at Leeds on Saturday, September 19th.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Withington on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m.—A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Crowle on Saturday, August 8th. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify Mr. S. T. Holt, Crowle, Worcester, by the Wednesday previous.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at North Mymms on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available 3 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Nash, North Mymms, Hatfield.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Seend on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome. Please write early if tea required.—F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ilminster (8 bells) on August 8th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. A practice will be held at Yeovil (10 bells) on Saturday, August 1st, at 7 p.m. — F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., Martock.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hale on Saturday, August 8th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30.—Walter Hughes, Branch Sec.

A COMBINED MEETING of the Peterborough and Oundle branches will be held at Polebrooke on Saturday, August 8th. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, August 5th.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at Bletchingley (8 bells) on Saturday, August 8th. Tower open 3 p.m. Short service 5.15 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. F. Ewins, Hon. Sec., 27, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Loxton on Saturday, August 8th. Tea and meeting 6 o'clock. Service after. Those requiring tea kindly let me know soon. Bells afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**KIRKTHORPE.**—A meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe on Saturday, August 8th. All those wishing for tea should communicate with the Vicar of Kirkthorpe.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Barnard Castle on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (1s. each to those who notify me on or before August 5th, 1s. 6d. to all others). All ringers welcome.—A. Hunter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Dickinson Street, Darlington.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Important business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting, tea and social will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, August 15th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) 5 p.m., meeting and social following. All ringers and friends cordially invited. Will all intending to be present please send in their names to Mr. D. Campbell, 12, Hufing Lane, Burnley, not later than August 12th? — J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at St. Michael's Church, East Peckham, on Saturday, August 15th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea after service (by kind invitation of the Vicar) at the Vicarage, followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present are requested to notify the District Sec. not later than Wednesday, August 12th.—W. Latter, Hon. Dist. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—Mid-Devon Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Dartmouth on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (8 and 6) available 3 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea, etc., to follow. Will those intending coming for tea please advise me by previous Tuesday?—H. J. Hale, Hon. Sec., Tauntoria, Church Street, Paignton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Please note the secretary of the above association is now Mr. J. T. Dyke, Church Square, Midsomer Norton, Bath.

## PUBLICATIONS.

**'AMONG THE BELLS.'**—THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From Mrs. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

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## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25th, a meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Danbury. Although only a five-bell tower, a fair attendance of members were present from Maldon, Feering, Bloomfield, Braintree, Chelmsford, Sandon, Great Baddow, and the local company. A short service, with address by the Vicar (the Rev. J. B. Plumtree), was held previous to the meeting. After tea, meeting was held, and eight new members were made, including three ladies, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Rayleigh in August, and the annual district meeting at Springfield.—The Master expressed his appreciation of the representative attendance at a five-bell tower, stating that it proved to the local company and the adjoining five-bell tower at Sandon that the attendance of members from eight-bell towers was evidence the association were just as interested in the five-bell towers as those more fortunate parishes which possessed larger rings.

## RINGERS' OUTINGS.

### EDGBASTON.

The Edgbaston ringers held their annual outing on Saturday, June 27th. Passing Alvechurch, Redditch was reached, then to Inkberrow. Permission having been obtained, the bells were soon going. Alcester was visited, but the call proved fruitless, as they could not use the bells. The next call was the pretty village of Norton, where a few touches were brought round. At Evesham the party had time for a visit to the bell tower and other interesting places. Lunch was served in Evesham. A visit was paid to Bretford, the tune and 'go' of the bells being complimented by all. The interesting Cofswold village of Chipping Campden was visited, and tea was partaken here. A few local ringers were found, and the bells were tried to Grandsire Triples.

The return journey was made by way of Stratford-on-Avon, Henley-in-Arden and Shirley.

The party wish here to thank the incumbents for kindnesses shown.

### ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, July 4th, the ringers of St. Margaret's, Westminster, held their outing. A start was made at 1.30 by train for Hollingbourne, Kent, from whence a walk brought the party to the old-world village of Leeds. A few touches were rung, including Cambridge Royal and a course of Bristol Major, on the back of the peal. After tea more ringing was done, and a presentation made to one of the party. A start was then made for Maidstone by car. Arriving at Maidstone, everything was in readiness for more ringing, and some excellent touches were brought round, including Bristol Major and Cambridge Royal. The Vicar personally welcomed the party to Maidstone. An adjournment was made for a light refreshment, and the 9.10 p.m. train from Maidstone was joined for London, 38 miles away, which was reached in two hours and ten minutes.

Through the medium of this paper the party wish to thank the Vicars of Leeds and Maidstone for the use of the bells, the respective steeplekeepers for having everything in readiness, and, lastly, its worthy conductor for making such excellent arrangements and ensuring such an enjoyable day.

## PORTMADOC.

The local band would be very pleased to meet any ringers visiting the district and wishing to have a touch on the bells on Sundays, or any evening, if they would kindly communicate with P. Roberts, 'Cambria,' Station Road, Portmadoc.

On July 20th, Mr. J. H. Sheppard, of Swindon, visited Portmadoc, when touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob were rung during the evening.

## IN THE FAR EAST.

## 'UNCLE JOE' AMONG THE CHINESE.

From distant Manchuria, Mr. J. E. Sykes writes that the suggested Railwaymen's Guild would not fail for want of efficient officials. Two Guild secretaries, at least, he says, are real elephants for ringing work: J. W. J. and C. T. C. to wit. He adds: 'Good luck to its inception—and what about a Campanological 'Savage Club,' with the captain of the 'Saorise' as R.W.M.? I think I know a dozen or so who are qualified for membership.' When he returns, 'Uncle Joe' will have to set about organising the ringing 'Savages.'

In another letter Mr. Sykes writes: Your issue of May 8th to hand, with account of that first Chinese 'gorge.' It was rather a 'sultry' evening, and I almost thought I was at the 'Nelson,' but I am used to them now, and they come off once a week. They are really 'chest benders' every time. Your note re my early efforts with the 'chao sticks' was rather apt; you must have been there in the spirit. It is rather disconcerting just as you have prided yourself on how cleverly you have annexed a succulent slug and steered it to within an inch of your mouth to drop it down your Sunday waistcoat, and have to fish it out of your lap with your fingers and try to look as if nothing untoward had happened. That is what you would call missing a bob before. Anyhow, I didn't forget to go 'in quick' when the jug came round!

I have secured half a dozen very fine chopsticks, as used by the rich Chinese ladies. One pair is to be foisted on to Mrs. Editor, and two more pairs are destined for two ladies well known in ringing circles in a certain Midlands' city. There will be no prizes for correct guesses, so don't all rush up with your solutions, my merry readers. I have also got a complete Chinese writer's outfit, seal and all, sir, for one wight known as 'I. Pistor.' He has evidently worn his old one out, so I haste to supply a new one of correct design. We cannot do without our little 'Reneas,' bless him.

My congratulations to my namesake, Joe, on that camel-driving job he did, but why he has got the hump, I don't know. It has been my ambition for many years to ring one of Minor on that bell. Apart from its weight, it is worth standing under to hear Perdue's jewel. On my return, I must get Bro. Joe to ask me down for a week to sample a few: Queen Camel, Bradford-on-Avon, Frome, Warminster and Wells preferred, and I think I shall have earned a holiday at the string-end when I finish here. With all these riots and scraps on, it is unhealthy, and people get hurt, but I am on velvet and keep smiling, as you will see by the enclosed photograph.

The photograph shows our correspondent looking very cheerful in native costume, and engaged in playing 'the ancient and honourable game of Mah-Jong,' with a Jap friend and two of the ladies, O'Hara San and O'Kimee San, who minister to his wants.

'Uncle Joe' concludes his letter by sending his respects to all friends. 'Tell them,' he says, 'the Far East is all one reads of it, but—oh, for three courses at St. Paul's.'

He encloses photos of some of the tombs of the Manchu emperors and another of a pagoda, 800 years old, and containing several ancient bells, which he has inspected. 'Why in the name of goodness,' he comments, 'the of England' does not emigrate out here, passes my comprehension. Everything to suit his tastes in heavy bells, and plenty of 'em, too.'

## ST. NICHOLAS, KING'S NORTON, OUTING.

The annual outing of the St. Nicholas, King's Norton, ringers was held on June 27th. Leaving King's Norton at an early hour by charabanc, they proceeded to Tewkesbury, and by 9.30 a.m. were ringing the bells of the fine old Abbey Church. After spending about an hour in this tower a move was made into the Cotswold country to Stow-on-the-Wold. Here they found a peal which had recently received the attention of Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. Several touches were brought round. The afternoon was spent in visiting the towers of Blockley and Chipping Campden, and concluded with tea at Shipston-on-Strour. The party then proceeded to Warwick, where the beautiful bells of St. Mary's Church were rung.

During the day several methods were rung and appreciated by members of the various local bands, but that which apparently delighted them most was the way in which Mr. P. O. Lallin turned the tenors into touches of Cambridge Surprise Major.

A very enjoyable day was spent, King's Norton being reached about 11 p.m.

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