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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 1926.

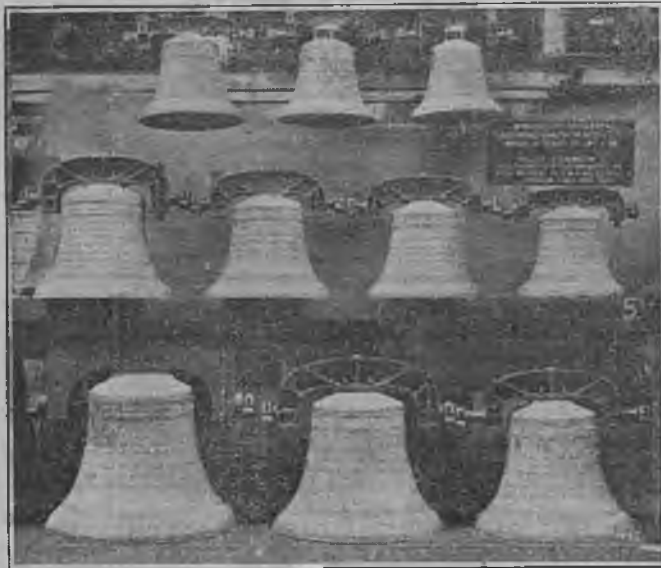
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## WHEN EXPERTS DISAGREE.

Over and over again it has been apparent that on certain points in the theory of composition and construction, and particularly construction as related to methods, our experts cannot agree. They argue at length, and not infrequently end up by befogging the mind of the ordinary ringer more than ever. These experts look at the same subject from different angles, and apply different tests to support their own standpoint. It is not altogether surprising, therefore, that they often come to different conclusions. Each may be right, according to his own basis of argument, and, if one side were left unchallenged, the case is generally so well made out that the average ringer would usually be content to accept what he is told. Then, however, comes the expert from the opposite camp, and to his own satisfaction, but to the dismay of the on-looker, tears the argument to shreds, only to have his own case similarly treated by his opponent. And so the thing goes on, first in relation to one matter and then to another, and has so done for years.

The latest phase of controversy is Superlative Surprise Maximus. A method, obtained independently by several composers, has been practised at Ipswich, and is put forward as the most nearly correct extension of Superlative that it is possible to obtain on twelve. One of our masters of method, the Rev. H. Law James, now tells us, however, that 'it is interesting, but not Superlative Maximus,' and in view of what Mr. James has in the past urged as the correct extension of the method, we are not surprised at his objection to giving this method the name claimed for it. For years Mr. James has argued that Shipway's extension of the method to ten bells is the correct one, and, in support of the view that it is so, he has carried it out successfully we believe to something like forty bells. But, if Shipway is right, Mr. George Baker and the others are wrong. In the meantime the practical ringer wonders where he is. He may not be much concerned with the details of the controversy; he is frequently quite uninterested in the argument, but he does feel that he has a right to some competent guidance on matters of this kind.

The Central Council once set up a committee to decide what should and what should not be considered a 'legitimate,' or, as it is now termed, a 'regular' method. The decisions have been challenged from time to time, but they have been accepted by the Exercise as a whole, and respected to such an extent that peals in or including 'irregular' methods are now seldom rung. Is it not possible for an expert committee of the Council to be set up, to consider the question of method extension, and to lay down the lines upon which, hereafter, extensions will

(Continued on page 754.)

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be recognised? It might not be an easy matter to deal with, but something might be done to clear the ground by setting out the tests which should be applied and to which method extensions should comply before being granted the right of name of the original. It is possible that any such decision would not be immediately accepted on every side, but in time the findings of a really competent body of men would, we feel sure, come to be recognised by the Exercise as the foundation of method construction and extension. With such a ruling ringers would know where they stand, and those who enter upon the practice of such a difficult thing as Superlative Maximus would know whether they were ringing the real thing, or only something 'interesting.'

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6003 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT ... .. 2	HARRY H. ROPER ... .. 7
GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... .. 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... .. 3	GEORGE A. FLEMING ... .. 9
CHARLES MEE ... .. 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... .. 10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ... .. 5	FREDERICK J. TILLET ... .. 11
WILLIAM TILLET ... .. 6	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by G. E. SYMONDS.

Messrs. Cross and Wightman hail from Norwich and Cretingham respectively.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, November 25, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 40 cwt.

JOHN HOLMAN ... .. 2	*G. HAYDN THORPE ... .. 6
SIDNEY F. PALMER ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. THYNG ... .. 7
ARTHUR CRAVEN ... .. 3	*COLIN HARRISON ... .. 8
ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... .. 4	JOHN THORPE ... .. 9
*RALPH S. LONG ... .. 5	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

\* First peal of Royal. Rung after meeting short for Maximus. It is 50 years since the last peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung on the bells.

BLACKBURN.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 25, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. Treble	FREDERICK HINDLE ... .. 6
*WILLIAM BRIGGS ... .. 2	JOHN SANDERSON ... .. 7
HERBERT CHAMBERS ... .. 3	†THOMAS WILSON ... .. 8
FRED CHAMBERS ... .. 4	WILLIAM E. WILSON ... .. 9
THOMAS CHAMBERS ... .. 5	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by THOMAS WILSON.

\* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Caters as conductor. First peal of Grandsire Caters for all the band.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—On Tuesday, November 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: J. Alderton 1, F. Ramplin 2, C. Ellis 3, G. Ramplin 4, G. Thompson (conductor) 5, J. Scarfe 6, A. Alderton 7, F. Watling (first quarter-peal) 8.—Also 672 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Alderton 1, C. Ramplin 2, A. Alderton 3, B. Elmer 4, G. Thompson (conductor) 5, J. Scarfe 6, C. Ellis 7, F. Watling 8. Rung on the election of Captain A. R. H. Peake as Mayor of the borough for the second year.

## LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Clement Danes, Strand,

## A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... ..	Treble	JAMES E. DAVIS ... ..	5
CHARLES T. COLES ... ..	2	JAMES BENNETT ... ..	7
ALBERT W. COLES ... ..	3	JAMES GEORGE ... ..	8
GEORGE R. PYE ... ..	4	WALTER AYRE ... ..	9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... ..	5	WILLIAM PYE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by JOHN A. BURFORD. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. James George on his 73rd birthday.

## LIVERPOOL.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

## A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 39½ cwt.

ERNEST JONES ... ..	Treble	WILLIAM H. PICKETT ... ..	6
EDWARD JENKINS ... ..	2	JAMES MARTIN ... ..	7
JOHN WILKINSON ... ..	3	CLAUDE I. DAVIES ... ..	8
THOMAS HAMMOND ... ..	4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... ..	9
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... ..	5	EDWARD CAUNCE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by E. JENKINS.

This is the first peal of Surprise Royal by the association and in the county. Also the first peal of Surprise Royal by all the band with the exception of Messrs. Cave and Jenkins. It was a birthday compliment to Messrs. T. Hammond and W. Davies.

## ABINGDON, BERKS.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr.

*CHARLES COLES ... ..	Treble	*FRANK BARRETT ... ..	6
JACK HONEY ... ..	2	ALBERT E. LOCK ... ..	7
*RICHARD RUNHAM ... ..	3	WILLIAM STONE ... ..	8
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK ... ..	4	GORDON CAUDWELL ... ..	9
*EDGAR HUMFREY ... ..	5	PERCY DYKE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.

\* First peal of Royal.

## DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... ..	Treble	WILLIAM BAYLISS ... ..	6
*LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS ... ..	2	SAMUEL BAKER ... ..	7
WILLIAM GOODMAN ... ..	3	BENJAMIN GODGH ... ..	8
HERBERT SHEPPARD ... ..	4	WILLIAM S. POWELL ... ..	9
SAMUEL J. HUGHES ... ..	5	GILBERT GUEST ... ..	Tenor

Composed by WM. MICKLEWRIGHT. Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

\* First peal of Grandsire Caters. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of Mr. W. Goodman, Mrs. H. Sheppard and Mr. J. George.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

## LIVERSEDGE, YORKS.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 1, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At Christ Church,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

CLARENCE BLACKBURN ... ..	Treble	JACK BANKS ... ..	5
SIDNEY GOODALL ... ..	2	FRED HODGSON ... ..	6
TOM SCOTT ... ..	3	ERNEST BETTS ... ..	7
WALTER KNOTT ... ..	4	HERBERT PEEL ... ..	Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by F. HODGSON.

Rung with the bells fully muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Wm. Collins, who was interred at this church on September 21st.

## BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

## A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

W. McCLEAVE ... ..	Treble	W. STEPHENSON ... ..	5
H. WORMWELL ... ..	2	W. HUNTER ... ..	6
W. ROBINSON ... ..	3	R. HARTLEY ... ..	7
*F. BENTLEY ... ..	4	H. ENTWISTLE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by H. ENTWISTLE.

\* First peal and first attempt. Rung on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the above church.

## WORSLEY.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 16, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mark,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICAR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 21½ cwt.

SIDNEY JAMES ... ..	Treble	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... ..	5
JAMES HOWARTH ... ..	2	FRED GRUNDY ... ..	6
*CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ... ..	3	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... ..	7
DAVID CLARK ... ..	4	WILLIAM JONES ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by FRED GRUNDY.

\* First peal, and made a member of the association previous to starting. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of those who gave their lives in the Great War. The ringers of the treble and fourth hail from Swinton, the rest belong to the local company.

## ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

## THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Thursday, November 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

MISS CISSIE THORP ... ..	Treble	JAMES H. RAPER ... ..	5
SAMUEL WOOD ... ..	2	WILLIAM BRAMMER ... ..	6
BENJAMIN THORP ... ..	3	WALTER N. ASHBY ... ..	7
ALBERT GORRINGE ... ..	4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

## BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... ..	Treble	JOHN BOOTH ... ..	5
ALFRED BLOGG ... ..	2	JAMES W. GROUNDS ... ..	6
JOSEPH RICHARDSON ... ..	3	WILLIAM SHARPLES ... ..	7
HARRY FRANCE ... ..	4	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... ..	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS (290). Conducted by B. A. KNIGHT

## WIGSTON MAGNA.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5154 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WALTER BREWIN ... ..	Treble	ERNEST JELLY ... ..	5
W. H. HUMBERSTONE ... ..	2	*ALBERT WARD ... ..	6
*ALFRED H. CARTER ... ..	3	*FRANK LLOYD ... ..	7
*ALBERT CHAMBERLAIN ... ..	4	JOSEPH S. CARTER ... ..	Tenor

Composed by the late JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by JOSEPH S. CARTER.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal. First of Major as conductor. First peal by all Wigston men at the church. This peal was rung to commemorate the establishment of the diocese of Leicester.

KENSINGTON.—In St. Mary Abbots' bellry, on Monday, November 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes from Holt's Original) on handbells: S. C. Reeve-Flaxman (first quarter-peal in hand) 1-2; W. E. Judd (conductor) 3-4; C. F. Winney 5-6; C. H. Dobbie 7-8.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—On November 19th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 55 mins.: E. G. Stiles 1, T. T. Hayward 2, K. G. Hoare 3, F. Loxton 4, E. Lush 5, S. Carter 6, J. T. Dyke (conductor) 7, H. H. Andrews 8. Arranged for Mr. K. G. Hoare, a student at the Theological College.

SPALDING, LINGS.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,  
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*WALTER STAPLES ... .. Treble	STEPHEN MADDISON ... .. 5
ARTHUR J. FARR ... .. 2	RICHARD SMITH ... .. 6
JOHN T. BROWN ... .. 3	†CHARLES S. H. STILES ... .. 7
GEORGE W. SIMPSON ... .. 4	JOHN G. AMES ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. G. AMES.  
\* First peal on eight bells. † First peal on an inside bell. Rung at the second attempt in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith. The whole of the band are regular service ringers.

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,  
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

PERCY GLEDSTONE ... .. Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY ... .. 5
ALBERT HELLIWELL ... .. 2	JOHN R. BREARLEY ... .. 6
JOHN A. BREARLEY ... .. 3	J. EDWARD CAWSE ... .. 7
JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... .. 4	HAROLD WALKER ... .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.  
First peal in the method on the bells.

BRADING, ISLE OF WIGHT.  
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ARTHUR WHITE ... .. Treble	PERCY LONG ... .. 5
*ARTHUR P. BRADING ... .. 2	ALBERT D. CALLAWAY ... .. 6
A. RICHARD WARD ... .. 3	EDWARD HATCHER ... .. 7
HARRY BARTON ... .. 4	THOMAS W. KEMP ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

\* First peal with a bob bell. This was the quarterly district peal.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.  
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,  
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*J. DONKIN GOFTON ... .. Treble	†JAMES ROBERTSON ... .. 5
THOMAS T. GOFTON ... .. 2	R. ALDER GOFTON ... .. 6
†WILLIAM SHUCKFORD ... .. 3	ADAM DEAS ... .. 7
JAMES E. SCOTT ... .. 4	WILLIAM L. GOFTON ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN A. CARTER. Conducted by WILLIAM L. GOFTON.  
\* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.  
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOSEPH J. PARKER'S COMPANION TO NO. 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr.

*E. MOREY ... .. Treble	F. CRUTTENDEN ... .. 5
F. PARSONS ... .. 2	C. TYLER ... .. 6
C. A. BARNES ... .. 3	A. E. BAKER ... .. 7
E. LISH ... .. 4	G. PAYNE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. E. BAKER.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,  
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN ... .. Treble	GEORGE WHITING ... .. 5
GEORGE BENNETT ... .. 2	LESLIE G. BRETT ... .. 6
GEORGE PRYKE ... .. 3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... .. 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... .. 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by T. W. LAST.  
First peal in the method by treble ringer, and first in method on inside bell by tenor man. It was also the first in the method on the bells.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.  
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, November 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,  
A PEAL OF GUILDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;  
Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

HENRY HUTTON ... .. Treble	RAYMOND PHILPOTT ... .. 5
CHARLES N. BURDOCK ... .. 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... .. 6
JOHN T. SCOTT ... .. 3	GEORGE W. STEBBE ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... .. 4	ALFRED H. POLLING ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.  
First peal in the method by all except ringers of treble and tenor. The band wish to associate the name of Mr. J. A. Cole with this peal. He has been of great assistance to them while practising the method, always taking the vacant rope when short-handed.

ROTHWELL, NORTHANTS.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,  
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES T. WARD ... .. Treble	CHARLES W. BIRD ... .. 5
MISS KITTY MOORE ... .. 2	*HARRY BAXTER ... .. 6
JOHN KING ... .. 3	TOM TEBBUTT ... .. 7
JOHN R. MAIN ... .. 4	ROBERT G. BLACK ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. FRITCHARD. Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.  
\* 75th peal. First peal in the method as conductor.

LLANDUDNO, CARNARVONSHIRE.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,  
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. in G	
*THOMAS BARROW ... .. Treble	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON ... .. 5
*ROBERT L. FAIRLIE ... .. 2	ARTHUR E. PEGLER ... .. 6
*DAVID P. ROBERTS ... .. 3	WILLIAM T. PEGLER ... .. 7
†EDMUND LODGE ... .. 4	*THOMAS LOWE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.  
\* First peal. † First peal with inside bell. A. W. Brighton is from London, D. P. Roberts from Norton-in-Hales, Salop. Mr. T. Barrow is 67 years old, and was congratulated at the close upon ringing his first peal.

BALDERSTONE, ROCHDALE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

W. MATTHEWS' TWELVE-PART (No. 2). Tenor 12½ cwt.	
MRS. CRABTREE ... .. Treble	GEORGE STAFF ... .. 5
WALTER STAFF ... .. 2	JOHN H. C. MASSIE ... .. 6
JOHN FITTON ... .. 3	HERBERT DAVENPORT ... .. 7
MISS ROSE A. BELL ... .. 4	WILLIAM CRABTREE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. CRABTREE.

Mr. J. Fitton's 50th peal.

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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.



### HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

THOS. WILSON ... .. Treble	WILLIAM E. WILSON ... .. 5
* EDWIN JENNINGS ... .. 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 6
MISS CLAYTON ... .. 3	WILLIAM ROBINSON ... .. 7
JOHN BROWN ... .. 4	FRED HINDLE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

\* First peal in the method. Ringers of 3rd and 4th are from Houghton, 2nd from Kendal, 7th from Ambleside, and rest from Blackburn.

### MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

#### A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

HARRY OVERTON ... .. Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... .. 5
HARRY F. HOLDING ... .. 2	WILLIAM WEATHERBY ... .. 6
HAROLD EDWARDS ... .. 3	* J. WILLIAM EDGE ... .. 7
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

\* First peal of Treble Bob.

### EYE, SUFFOLK.

#### THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

#### A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

HUBERT J. DAY ... .. Treble	ERNEST F. POPPY ... .. 5
ALBERT G. HARRISON ... .. 2	HARRY MOSS ... .. 6
ALPHRED J. BERRY ... .. 3	LESLIE G. BRETT ... .. 7
JAMES BETTS ... .. 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the second. The above band reside in eight different parishes.

### CRANBROOK, KENT.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Dunstan,

#### A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in F.

HARRY BAKER ... .. Treble	JOHN WHEADON ... .. 5
MRS. H. BAKER ... .. 2	THOMAS E. SONE ... .. 6
FREDK. J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... .. 3	HERBERT J. HAMMOND ... .. 7
CHARLES H. SONE ... .. 4	LEWIS NEWMAN ... .. Tenor

Composed by SAM THOMAS.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

### WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

WALTER CHARMAN ... .. Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. 5
ALFRED H. POLLING ... .. 2	GEORGE W. STERRE ... .. 6
JOHN A. COLE ... .. 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... .. 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

Rung on the eve of the 38th anniversary of Mr. Charman's first peal, which was in the same tower.

### GRAVESEND, KENT.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. George.

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. Treble	RICHARD SMITH ... .. 5
* PERCY GRAVES ... .. 2	GEORGE MORRAD ... .. 6
JOHN BURLS ... .. 3	EDWARD J. BRER ... .. 7
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... .. 4	EDWARD HADLOW ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

\* First peal in the method and first attempt. Rung on the eve of Advent. A birthday peal for Percy Graves and Richard Smith.

### PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

#### A PEAL OF ERIN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... Treble	HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 5
GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 2	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 6
FRED PRICE ... .. 3	WILLIAM DAVIES ... .. 7
RICHARD C. INGRAM ... .. 4	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by G. F. SWANN.

First peal of Erin Triples by all the band, on the bells and by the Guild. 100th peal as conductor for the Guild.

### GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of All Saints,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

E. W. TIPLER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

* FREDERICK G. CLARKE ... Treble	ERNEST W. TIPLER ... 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 2	C. ARTHUR MANNING ... 6
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 3	WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 4	† PERCY W. BENNETT ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

\* First peal on more than six bells, and first peal in the method and first attempt. † Elected a member before starting. This is the 50th peal the brothers L. H. and W. P. Whitehead have rung together.

### BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

#### A PEAL OF SPLICED BOB MAJOR AND GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6152 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... Treble	CHARLES H. BELTON ... 5
THOMAS K. DEACON ... .. 2	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 6
CHARLES R. BELTON ... .. 3	GEORGE A. NEWTON ... .. 7
FRED COTTON ... .. 4	GEORGE P. GARNER ... Tenor

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

This is the author's No. 3, and contains 2,572 and 2,580 changes respectively of each method. It is now rung for the first time. First 'spliced' peal on the bells and by all except 4th and 6th ringers. Rung as a compliment to Mrs. W. Bonser, a venerable churchwoman, for her 92nd birthday.

### BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILFRED BOOTH ... .. Treble	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 5
HAROLD HOBDEN ... .. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 6
PHILIP S. THOMPSON ... .. 3	FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. ... 7
ALBERT HOBDEN ... .. 4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS

First peal on the bells since they were rehung in an iron frame and with ball bearings by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. The 'go,' etc., leaves nothing to be desired.

### SIX BELL PEALS.

#### ISLIP, NORTHANTS.

#### THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

#### A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Woodbine, two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and one each of Oxford Single Bob and Bob Minor. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS JERVIS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM HAYO ... .. 4
FRANK KIRK ... .. 2	JAMES B. HUDSON ... .. 5
GEORGE BLAXLEY ... .. 3	REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... Tenor

Conducted by R. C. LOVEDAY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of those who lost their lives in the Great War, two of whom were ringing members of this church.

HAWKSHEAD, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(FURNESS & LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, November 16, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven 720's each called differently.

CHARLES E. WEBB ... .. Treble	THOMAS BRADLEY ... .. 4
FURNESS WOODEND ... .. 2	THOMAS TOWNSON ... .. 5
FREDERICK COWARD ... .. 3	WILLIAM ROBINSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to the Rev. Canon Irving, for 17 years Vicar of Hawkshead and an honorary life member of the above association.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.  
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford and Plain Bob.

THOMAS HARPIN ... .. Treble	HARRY TYSOE ... .. 4
CHARLES WM. CLARKE ... .. 2	HERBERT A. WAGSTAFF ... .. 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL ... .. 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

This was Miss Evelyn Steel's 100th peal for Bedfordshire Association.

MARSTON BICCOTT, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven different 720's. Tenor 8 cwt. (approx.).

8 WILLIAM SHUTE ... .. Treble	* FRED A. COWARD ... .. 4
* EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... .. 2	RONALD G. BECK ... .. 5
REGINALD F. BECK ... .. 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

\* First peal of Minor.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.  
THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM CATCHPOLE ... Treble	EDWARD J. BARTON ... .. 4
* PHILIP N. BARTON ... .. 2	EDWARD HOWES ... .. 5
HAROLD BARTON ... .. 3	WILLIAM P. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM P. DUFFIELD.

\* First peal away from treble. First peal by an entirely local band. First peal as conductor. All the above are regular Sunday service ringers.

BLETSOE, BEDS.  
THE BEDS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

HERBERT L. HARLOW ... Treble	HENRY STAPLETON ... .. 4
WILLIAM STOCK ... .. 2	PEARL INSKIP ... .. 5
HENRY W. GAYTON ... .. 3	ALFRED ROBINSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

HAMPTON BISHOP, HEREFORDSHIRE.  
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 21, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

RICHARD THOMAS ... .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER BOWERS ... .. 4
DAVID HORNE ... .. 2	WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 5
SIDNEY T. HOLT ... .. 3	GEORGE JORDAN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9½ cwt.

* HARRY J. STONER ... .. Treble	ALBERT C. V. GASSON ... .. 4
ERNEST E. STONER ... .. 2	CHARLES HOLMAN ... .. 5
ALBERT E. LAKER ... .. 3	ALBERT E. T. GASSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. E. T. GASSON.

\* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. Streeter, J. Garson and the ringer of the 5th. F. Streeter and J. Gasson are both old members of the local band.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven different extents.

Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

HAROLD G. SMITH ... .. Treble	CHARLES MASON ... .. 4
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY ... .. 2	* JESSE BAYLEY ... .. 5
FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY ... 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

\* First peal and first attempt. Rung on the eve of Advent. A. Crawley's 25th peal this year.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Bob, Court Bob and College Single. Tenor 14 cwt.

* FRANK LAWRENCE ... .. Treble	SIDNEY T. HOLT ... .. 4
WILLIAM NISBET ... .. 2	JOHN J. JEFFERIES ... .. 5
ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... .. 3	CHARLES CAMM ... .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

\* First peal of Minor.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL BELLS

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I use your columns to send out an appeal to all members of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and especially to the non-resident life members? The repairs to the south-west tower of Lincoln Cathedral are now proceeding, and the time is approaching when it will be possible to hang the four new bells. At present, including promises of ten pounds, we are still ten pounds short of the money we need. A few of our non-resident members have sent subscriptions amounting to about two pounds. Our resident members have subscribed very well, and I write to ask our non-resident life members to help us finish the fund, so that the bells may be cast in the very near future, ready to go into the tower as soon as it is ready for them.

H. LAW JAMES,  
Master, L.D.G.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRESTEIGN DISTRICT.

The autumn quarterly meeting of the Presteign District was held at Kington on Saturday, November 20th, when 20 members attended from Kington, Knighton, Lyonsall, Staunton-on-Arrow and Old Radnor. The Guild form of service was held in church, conducted by the Vicar, Rev. Maurice Berkley, M.A. Mrs. Berkley presided at the organ. Tea was provided at the Vicarage, and was kindly given by the Vicar and Mrs. Berkley.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. The secretary reported that combined practice was held at Eardisland on Saturday, September 25th, when eleven members attended from six towers, Grandshire, College Single, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob Doubles being rung. Owing to bad weather, at the practice at Presteign on Saturday, October 9th, only four members attended, and no ringing was done. It was decided to hold combined practice at Lyonsall on Thursday, December 2nd, and at Pembroke on Saturday, December 11th, and the annual meeting at Eardisland some time in January.

Certificates of membership were presented to Robert Fletcher, of Lyonsall, and George King, of Kington. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Mrs. Berkley for providing tea and taking the service.

The tower was again visited, and ringing kept up till 9 p.m. in the following methods: Grandshire and Plain Bob, Doubles and Bob Minor, including 720 changes of Bob Minor conducted by Mr. F. Evans, of Kington.

## THE EXTENSION OF SUPERLATIVE.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Shortly after we rang the peal of Superlative Surprise Royal last June I published the facts connected with the extension of Superlative from the Major to any even number of bells.

Since that time, Mr. George Baker has been trying to explain away the facts by a theory of reciprocal relationship between the bells.

Now, everyone knows that if a theory comes into conflict with actual facts there must be one fallacy at least in the theory, and I have been following Mr. Baker carefully, looking for the fallacy, and at last, in his article published in 'The Ringing World' on November 5th, the fallacies come to light.

He writes: 'In all even-bell primary principles there exists what I call reciprocal relationship of the opposite pairs of bells, and on eight bells these are 1-8, 2-7, 3-6, and 4-5.'

But this statement is not true.

We need not trouble about Superlative; the plain hunting course on six bells is quite sufficient to show the fallacy.

One and six are a pair, and when they have got into each other's places, we do not get 654321, but 645231. 2 must change with 3 and 4 with 5. Complete the rows and fold it, then 132546 falls on 123456, 315216 on 214365, etc., and in every case 2 falls on 3, and 4 on 5; therefore if 1 and 6 are reciprocal, 2 and 3 are, and so are 4 and 5.

On 8 bells, 1 and 8, 2 and 3, 4 and 5, and 6 and 7 are reciprocal.

On 10 bells, 1 and 10, 2 and 3, 4 and 5, 6 and 7, and 8 and 9 are reciprocal.

On 12 bells, 1 and 12, 2 and 3, 4 and 5, 6 and 7, 8 and 9, and 10 and 11 are reciprocal.

And this is true of all double methods.

Mr. Baker then proceeds to prove that Superlative Royal is impossible, but his proof depends first on the false assumption that 4 and 7 are reciprocal, which they are not, and, secondly, that 4 must make 3rds and 4ths to begin with. Let 4 make these places and the method will not come; the inference is not that Superlative Royal is impossible, but that you must not make 4th's place.

Mr. Baker then produces what he calls Superlative Maximus, and begins by 4 and 9 making places, but 4 and 9 are not reciprocal; 4 and 5 are, and the Maximus, although quite interesting, is not Superlative.—Yours truly,

F. LAW JAMES.

123456  
214365  
241635  
426153  
462513  
645231

654321  
563412  
636142  
351624  
315264  
132543

## BROADCASTING BOW BELLS.

One of the best broadcasts of bells to which the public has listened 'came over' from Bow on Sunday evening, when two courses of Stedman Triples were rung. For the first time interested ringers heard the complete touch, for there was no superimposed announcement. The bells were heard from the preliminary rounds, and, although the 'fading out' process began in the last two sixes, the final round was heard before the bells were completely switched off.

Mrs. Imrie May, writing in the current issue of 'The Radio Times,' says: 'Living here in Debreczen, Hungary, we have a nine-valve set, and with frame aerial and loud-speaker we can get all the English stations. I am British born and married to a Hungarian, and I cannot tell you how my heart beats at the sound of Bow Bells. It's such a homely sound. My husband, who speaks English very well, delights in the English programmes. My little daughter, two and a half years old, listens to the Children's Hour. Thanks to broadcasting, I have a link with the Old Country the value of which I cannot express in words.'

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—We should all like to hear more change ringing by good hands on good bells, but is it not true that to the outsider change ringing is very monotonous? A little goes a very long way, and that is probably what the B.B.C. considers; seven and a half minutes people like: a quarter of an hour would bring by post a deluge of complaints.

They really serve us quite well. Rarely a week passes without bells being heard from some station or other. Some transmissions are better than others. Bow bells probably come over as well as any. The transmission of Simpson-tuned bells seems to cause difficulty; both Manchester and York bells were drowned in the hum of the heavy bells. About a fortnight ago a brief but very fine transmission of bells from Rochester was heard via Daventry. For tone, this was the finest I have heard, and if they were Simpson-tuned bells, the engineers must have got over the humming difficulty.

The fact is, the public like tune ringing, and the B.B.C. must give them what they like. As a suggestion, have we a band of tune ringers on the handbells? It is quite likely that such a band could be able to get a quarter of an hour and ring well-known hymn tunes before a studio service. They could arrange to finish off with, say, a course of Stedman Caters double-handed for the benefit of listening ringers. If the tune ringers couldn't do this, they could bring some ringers who could do so with them.—Yours faithfully,

E. CORNER.

Hanley.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

### THE

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**(12th year  
of reign of  
Elizabeth).**

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Edwin Barnett, sen., of Crayford, Kent, underwent a serious operation last Wednesday week in St. Peter's Hospital, Covent Garden, London. The report on Monday was that he was as comfortable as could be expected. His many friends all over the country will wish him a speedy recovery.

An interesting event on Sunday is the reopening of the restored ring of ten at S. Nicolas' Church, Guildford. Messrs. Taylor and Co. have recast four of the bells, including the trebles and tenor, retuned the remainder, and rehung the whole. The work on the bells was part of a general restoration scheme at the church which has cost about a thousand pounds.

The College Youths rang their first peal of Stedman Triples in December 4th, 1803, at St. Mary Abbeys', Kensington. On an old board in the tower it is recorded: 'The whole peal of Tripples on Stedman's Principle, as composed by Mr. Thomas Edwards, was completely rung in this tower on Sunday, December 4th, 1803, in 2 hours and 50 mins., by the following College Youths: Willm. Paris treble, Willm. Brooke 2, Jon. Langly 3, Willm. Jones 4, Jno. Stratford 5, Chas. Barber 6, Edwn. Bartell 7, Richd. Eddes tenor. Called by Mr. Barber.'

The 6th of December is the anniversary of that other peal of Stedman Triples, that at St. Michael at Coslany, Norwich, in the year 1731, which formed such an interesting feature in the Norwich dispute of that year, as recently described in our columns by Mr. J. A. Trollope.

On December 8th, 1746, a peal of 10,080 Bob Major was rung at Hurvettsham, Kent. Next Wednesday is also the anniversary of the 11,111 Stedman Caters, then the longest in the method on record, rung at Fulham in the year 1883. Although this was 43 years ago, half the band are still with us: F. B. Dawe, J. W. Rowbotham, C. F. Winney, E. Gibbs and Walter Prime.

A record that stood for nearly 80 years was made at Painswick in December 9th, 1833, when 10,224 Treble Bob Maximus was rung. It was not beaten until, in 1911, a peal of 12,240 was rung at Ashton-under-Lyne.

'Please permit me to say,' writes Mr. F. Maude, 'that the Yorkshire Association have the honour of Mr. T. Groombridge's name on their list.' That is the worst of having to write about ringers who belong to so many associations. One is apt to forget a few.

The closing date of the competition for the set of 16 handbells, which was formerly the property of the late Mr. Isaac G. Shade, is December 15th, but there is still time for any ringers who desire to take part to forward their contributions to the fund which is being raised for the benefit of Miss Shade, the sister of the deceased veteran.

Those who require only single tickets will benefit the fund further if, when sending, they will enclose a 1d. stamp for postage. Bauds can help substantially by taking a book of tickets. There are ten in each book, and each entitles the holder to take part in the competition on contributing 1s. to the fund. Tickets undisposed of must be returned to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' 63, Commercial Road, Woking, to whom also all contributions should be sent.

## RINGING AFTER EUCHARIST.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In reading the interesting account given in your columns of the Guildford District meeting, I took note of the Ringing Master's recommendation to ring for the Holy Eucharist when Matins follows very shortly after it. As this is a matter affecting the country at large, let me supplement his sound advice with the suggestion that the ringers should make a practice of attending the sung Eucharist and ringing again for the short space between the two services. Our English Communion services reach a triumphant climax with the Gloria in Excelsis just before the Blessing, and a brief touch on the bells makes a fine conclusion to the great act of thanksgiving. This is done, amongst other towers, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and it is a thrilling experience to come out from that wonderful 'People's Communion' with its fervent congregational singing and to hear the twelve bells rolling out their majestic music overhead.—Yours truly,

F. LL. EDWARDS.

## MR. JAMES GEORGE'S NEW RECORD.

Mr. James George, 'of England,' fittingly celebrated his 73rd birthday on Saturday, when he made more history by ringing a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at St. Clement Danes'. He is, we believe, the oldest man to ring a peal of 'Cambridge Ten,' for the last peal in the method, which the late Mr. I. G. Shade rang, was when he was slightly less than this age, his last being at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on January 18th, 1924.

Mr. George wishes, through these columns, to thank his many friends for their congratulations and good wishes for his 73rd birthday; they are too numerous to reply to separately.

## AN INCUMBENT'S FEE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Can any brother ringer who knows inform me whether an incumbent can charge 31s. 6d. for his own pocket over and above the ringer's fee for ringing for a wedding?—Yours truly, J. L. Harris, High Street, Hailing, Kent.



## LONG PEAL ATTEMPT AGAIN FAILS.

The attempt for the long peal of London Surprise Major at Warnham, Sussex, on Saturday, happened to fail on a day when the band was 'off colour,' and it was lost through a rather silly mistake after 3 hrs. 15 mins. ringing. The ringing, although good, was not up to the standard of the previous attempt.

After seeing 'Joe' comfortable in his Austin and ready for his long run to the west, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung, with Mr. Walter Chairman taking the vacant rope. It was most gratifying to the company when the Vicar, who met them on coming from the tower, said, 'When will you come again? Keep on until you do ring it.'

## CITY CHURCHES SAVED.

### PARLIAMENT REJECTS MEASURE.

After a spirited debate last Thursday night, the 'Union of Benefices and Disposal of Churches (Metropolis) Measure' was rejected by the House of Commons by 151 votes to 27. By this result, the city churches, which were threatened with demolition, have been saved, for the time being at any rate, and it has been due largely to the awakened interest in the churches shown by the City of London itself. Ringers will be gratified, in that it means, also, the saving of some famous rings of bells from possible destruction.

Commenting on the rejection of the measure, the 'Sunday Times' said it was due not only to religious and æsthetic grounds, but even more to the constitutional aspect of the question. 'The City of London is very properly most jealous of its rights and liberties, and it was by no means satisfied that the proposal afforded reasonable safeguards in a matter affecting not one religious body only, but the whole citizenship of the City. The City churches were built, after the Great Fire, not out of ecclesiastical funds, but with money publicly supplied, and they are, therefore, in a sense the property of the whole City, and not of any section or denomination. The City Corporation determined to oppose the claims of the Church to be able to demolish such buildings as it chose and devote the proceeds from the sale of sites exclusively to its own purpose.'

'The victory,' added the 'Sunday Times,' 'means that respite has been won, but not that the position of the churches is permanently secure. On the contrary, it is still very much in jeopardy. The diocesan authorities retain the power, granted them under the Act of 1880, to pull down churches in the City; since the passage of the Act they have utilised their power on no fewer than twenty-one occasions, and there is nothing at law to prevent their using it on as many occasions again. It is time that that power were restricted in so far as it endangers buildings of artistic and historic value; the public at large, and not merely the inhabitants of the parish concerned, have a moral right to be consulted. The matter can be quite easily and satisfactorily settled by amending the Ancient Monuments Act so that churches of other than strictly ecclesiastical value can be scheduled for protection under it. We do not doubt the sincerity of those who wish to demolish certain churches, but we do gravely question the propriety of their claim to act in the matter without considering extra-denominational opinion. The City churches must be made quite safe.'

## DEDICATION OF LANCASHIRE BELLS.

### A NEW RING OF EIGHT AT CHURCHKIRK.

On Saturday, November 20th, the recast augmented peal at St. James' Church, Churchkirk, Lancs, was dedicated by the Rev. R. Newman, M.A., Rural Dean, and Rector of Churchkirk. A very interesting and instructive address was given by Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, M.A., president of the Lancashire Association, to the large congregation present.

Tea, which was served in the schools, was attended by ringers and the members of the congregation, and during this meal a telegram of congratulation to the Churchkirk ringers on the augmentation was received from Mr. John Bentley, of Haylake. Over sixty ringers were present, and all were unanimous in praising both the tone and 'go' of the bells, which reflect the utmost credit upon the founders, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

The event coincided with the jubilee of the installation of the original six, and this grand old tower, which can be traced back authentically to the year 1268, and was in existence before that, now contains a peal worthy of its traditions.

In addition to the Blackburn Branch members, who were well represented, many visitors were present, including the president, Canon Elsee; the vice-president, Mr. J. Rollerson; the general secretary, Mr. W. H. Shaker; the ringing secretary, Mr. A. Tomlinson; and a promising youngster from Pendleton, the secretary of the Fylde Branch, Mr. C. Sharple, and Mr. R. Parkinson, of Durham, a former conductor at Churchkirk. Other towers represented were: Houghton and Penwortham, Leyland, Helmsdale, whilst Mr. J. Fidler represented the founders. An interesting visitor was Mr. H. Hayes, who was one of the original band who rang at the previous dedication in 1876. He is well over 70; his height is 'four feet nothing,' and, perched in a precarious position, he rang the treble to a touch of Bob Minor, and right well, too.

Touches in many methods were rung, and the bells were kept busy till 9 p.m., the people in the district quite enjoying the ringing after nearly four years' silence.

An apology was received from the secretary of the Blackburn Branch, Mr. J. Watson, who was unable to attend through illness.

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### LOWER BEEDING BELLS RESTORED.

A very pleasant and successful meeting of the Central Division of the Sussex Association was held at Lower Beeding (Plummer's Plain), near Horsham, on Saturday, November 20th, at the special invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. G. D. Cooper) and members of the Lower Beeding Branch. The bells were originally a complete octave of Belgium origin, but owing to the trebles being so light, and consequently difficult to ring, only the back six had been used in recent years, although peals had been rung on the eight, including a peal of Superlative which is recorded on a tablet in the ringing chamber. Chain was fixed to the clappers of the trebles, which were rung on the wrong side of the bells, but a slight bump on the stay, which only great experience with them could avoid, would throw the clappers right again, and they could not be heard by the ringer. All this has now been altered by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, in whose hands the work of restoration was placed. The two trebles, the fifth and tenor have been recast and metal added, and the whole of the bells rehung, and the Vicar and local ringers can now be congratulated on possessing a ringable peal of bells.

Some forty-five ringers had notified their intention to be present at the meeting, but the weather was most unfavourable, and when the secretary arrived shortly after three o'clock some anxiety was felt as to the success of the gathering, especially as it meant a cross-country journey for most, the nearest railway station being several miles distant. But at time passed the number increased, and, later, when a count could be made, forty-five were found to be present, representing the following branches: Bolney, Billingshurst, Brighton (St. Peter's), Cuckfield, Fittleworth, Henfield, Horsham, Ickingfield, Lindfield, Lower Beeding, Shipley, Slinfold, Warnham, West Grinstead, also Messrs. Cyril F. Johnston (Croydon), J. H. Shepherd (Swin-don), and H. B. Wells, non-resident members.

The service was particularly bright and hearty, and the Vicar's address, which included an account of the bells and their origin, was greatly appreciated. Best thanks are also due to the lady who presided at the organ.

Tea had been provided in a very liberal manner, and for a time everyone seemed to be fully occupied. After cigarettes were lighted, two prominent members of the company began to talk, strike notes, tap notes, dominant notes, harmonics merging into each other and making it difficult to the ear for the purpose of striking. So it went on. In the end—to the writer of these notes—they both appeared to agree to differ.

The Vicar considered the talk very interesting. Later, when one of the disputants was about to leave for Croydon, and the other for Brighton, they seemed to be on very friendly terms.

The ringing during the day did not reach a very high standard. The bells are somewhat odd struck, and the trebles turn very quickly. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are in no way to blame for this; but it is, none the less, a cause of difficulty to any but experienced ringers.

Mr. G. Walder, of Bolney, intended to be present, but was prevented from doing so through the illness of his daughter. He was present when the original peal was opened forty years ago.

### CANON SIMPSON'S CRITICISMS ACTED ON—FORTY YEARS AFTER.

The following notes have been contributed by the present Vicar, the Rev. G. D. Cooper, M.A.:

The bells of Lower Beeding were presented to the church in 1886 by members of the Hubbard family, thanks to the interest and efforts of Miss Louisa Hubbard, and in memory of her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hubbard, of Leonardslace.

They have an interesting history. When in the early 'eighties,' Miss Hubbard first thought of providing bells for her Parish Church, her great wish was that the bells should be as good as possible. With this aim in view, and possibly under the advice of the Rector of Slaughtam of those days, she went to Belgium, and there fell in love with the tones of the old Belgian bells and the wonderful carillons of the Lowlands.

In due course, nine bells were bought for Lower Beeding from Severin van Aerschoot, of Louvain, and Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, were called in to provide a carillon, and clock, and ringing fittings for eight bells.

But Miss Hubbard had made one mistake. The Belgian bells of 1886 were not like their predecessors of three centuries earlier; and the Lower Beeding bells (especially number five) had a trick of humming painful discords. Added to this, the nine bells (one fixed) were only intended to be carillon bells, and the treble and number two were too light for ringing.

In the summer of this year—just forty years after their erection—these bells and their carillon were examined in detail by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. When the defective tone and harmonics (long ago noted by Canon Simpson, of Fittleworth) were demonstrated, the Church Council decided that four bells should be recast, the remainder tunned, and the carillon put in order.

So, at last, Miss Hubbard's wish to provide really beautiful bells has been accomplished. A full peal of eight bells, with greatly improved tone, will welcome in 1927, when the time comes; and, day by day now, the carillon is ringing out its tunes, at twelve and six o'clock, to cheer one of the most widespread of our Sussex villages.

The total weight of the eight ringing bells is now 38½ cwt., the tenor being 10½ cwt., note 'G,' in addition to which is the chiming bell between Nos. 4 and 5, for luncs.

## DIVISION OF WINCHESTER DIOCESE.

### BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT AND THE DIVISION OF THE GUILD.

The Basingstoke District, on Saturday, November 20th, considered the question of the Winchester Diocesan Guild's status owing to the impending division of the diocese. It was pointed out that the district had already recorded a resolution in favour of division.

However, it was resolved that the district should support the proposal for the Winchester and Portsmouth Dioceses to remain affiliated whilst the Guildford Diocese should form a new Guild, and this was carried, only a small portion of the meeting recording their votes.

A correspondent writes: 'Respecting the vote taken on Saturday at our district meeting at Basingstoke on the question of the division of the Guild, I think many members were influenced chiefly by the decisions reached at the Guildford and Portsmouth District meetings, and therefore did not record their vote at all.'

'With the members in the new dioceses, after referring the matter to their Bishops when they are appointed, will rest the ultimate decision, and I personally think that no pressure should be exercised by members living in the Winchester Diocese, and who will, of course, remain in the Winchester Guild to restrain, or even advise, those in the proposed new dioceses from carrying out their obvious duty as loyal churchmen and especially as loyal church workers. It is, of course, always open to all the present members to remain members of the old Guild, but the diocese is always regarded as the unit of church life, and ringers should regard it as a privilege to work under the individual control of their own Bishop. After all, the real useful work of Guilds is done in the districts, and it does not seem to matter much, except for veneration for an older name, under which Guild a ringer carries on.'

### REV. C. D. P. DAVIES RESIGNS DISTRICT SECRETARYSHIP.

The annual meeting of the Basingstoke District of the above Guild was held on Saturday, November 20th, at Basingstoke. A record number was present, the members numbering between 50 and 60, and including visitors from Aldershot, Eastleigh, Winchester and Mortimer (Berks). Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples and Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and evening. Divine service was held in St. Michael's Church, followed by tea in the Church Cottage, where the annual meeting took place.

The chief item, which naturally caused a feeling of sadness, was the resignation of the highly esteemed and efficient secretary of the district, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who, after nine years of useful work, is shortly retiring from the parish of Deane and removing from the district.

A hearty vote of thanks and gratitude was accorded to him. To fill his place, Mr. Davies had induced the Rev. H. T. Adams, Rector of Silchester (whose band of ringers joined the Guild during the past year) to consent to allow his name to be put before the meeting, and he was duly elected with acclamation.

Following the precedent of electing a new Master each year, the retiring Master (Mr. W. Hupt, Oakley) proposed Mr. C. Osler (Bramley), and he was elected. Mr. J. Chesterman (Basingstoke) was elected representative on the Central Committee, and Mr. F. Wilson was re-elected auditor.

Meetings during the coming year are to be held at Odiham (spring), Andover (summer), and St. Mary Bourne (autumn). Twelve new probationers were proposed, including the whole band at St. Mary Bourne.

### ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT DESIRE UNITED GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Isle of Wight District was held at Carisbrooke on Saturday last, when there was a record attendance, thirty-eight members being present, and all affiliated towers were represented. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. S. Footman) and the Guild's form was used, Dr. J. B. Williamson presiding at the organ. The company, including the president, the Rev. H. E. H. Coombes (Freshwater), the Rev. J. C. Orr (Whitwell), and the Rev. H. C. Stokes (Brading), were then entertained to a sumptuous tea at the Waverley Hotel by the Vicar.

At the meeting that followed, the president occupied the chair during the first portion of the business, and expressed his pleasure at meeting so many of the members.

The balance sheet showed receipts £8 6s. 8d., expenditure £3 5s. 5d. (including instruction at Brading), £4 15s. to be forwarded to the general treasurer, leaving a balance in hand of 3s. 5d.—This was considered satisfactory and adopted, together with the hon. secretary's report for the year.

The Rev. H. S. Footman was elected president for the ensuing year, and other officers were re-elected, viz.: Mr. H. Barton District Ringing Master and representative on the Central Committee, Mr. B. J. Snow district secretary, and Mr. H. A. Phillips district auditor. Messrs. E. Fleming (Brading), H. Dowden (Ryde) and A. Drake (Carisbrooke) were proposed as full members, and K. Downer (Freshwater), G. Muddell and J. Cooper (Ryde) and H. Dawney (Godshill) as probationary members, and all were duly elected. Major C. W. Vincent, of Ryde, was elected an honorary member.

It was resolved to hold the next annual meeting at Newport on November 26th, 1927, and the spring quarterly meeting at Freshwater on February 26th, 1927, also a by-practice meeting at Arretton the last Saturday in January, subject to arrangements.

Arising from the matter re the division of the Diocese, Mr. W.

Upton, of Newport, proposed 'that on the division of the diocese, the members of the Isle of Wight District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers are desirous of the Guild continuing on as hitherto.'—This was seconded by Mr. E. Hatcher, of Ryde, and supported by the ex-president, and on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the ex-president and the officers, also to the new president for his kind hospitality in entertaining the members to tea.

This concluded a most successful meeting, and further ringing then took place on Carisbrooke's grand peal.

## NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

### PROPOSED RINGING COMPETITION.

The sixth meeting of the year was held at Tuxford on Saturday, November 20th. A large attendance of ringers had been expected, but owing to the usual rainy November Saturday and other causes there was only a moderate attendance, and many who had promised to attend were unable to do so. There was a good supply of buses, and the L.N.E.R. Co. conceded single fares for the double journey, and to give the ringers 1½ hours longer ringing allowed the 8.21 express train ex Newark to stop at Tuxford station for the Northern District ringers. However, the 22 stalwarts who braved the elements got good value for their sacrifice. The new peal of six bells in the key of G, tenor 12 cwt., was kindly placed at the disposal of the ringers from 2 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., and was kept in motion the whole time except for a brief interval for tea and the business meeting, and some good ringing was executed, both with handstroke and closed leads. Ringers were present from Sutton-on-Trent (7), Barlborough (3), East Markham (2), Gamston (2), Workson (2), South Anston (1), Ordsall (1), North Wheatley (2), Newark (2), and Mr. J. H. Smith, the leader of the local band, who made every arrangement for the welcome and comfort of all. The methods rung for the probationers were Plain Bob Minor and Doubles, also Grandsire Doubles. Afterwards, Kent, Oxford, Killamarsh, Violet, Duke of York, Treble Bob and St. Clement's Minor were rung. Tea was served in the schoolroom, and the business meeting which followed was presided over by the Vicar (Rev. Walter Smith), who gave a hearty welcome to the visitors. It was, he said, their first visit to Tuxford since the restoration of the bells, and he was very favourably impressed with the good ringing done that afternoon. He would very much have liked to have the full octave. There was plenty of room for them, and frames had been put in the tower for them. He hoped the day would soon come when someone would come forward with the additional bells to make them complete. He noticed a number of ladies present, who, he was told, had taken seriously to learning the intricacies of the art, and it was always a good sign of progress when the ladies of the church took seriously to any branch of church work. He also noticed from the yearly report that the society was progressing numerically and financially. That was another good sign. He wished the association every success for the future, and 'Godspeed' in their work. When he was at Cambridge he took a great delight in the sound of bells, and always had done, but he had never learned to ring them.

The next meeting will be held at West Retford early in the new year, and will be advertised in due course in 'The Ringing World.'

The following new members were duly enrolled: Archdeacon Hacking, of Newark, and Rev. Bell Hawes, Vicar of Sutton-on-Trent, as vice-presidents, and Mr. B. Thompson, of East Retford, as performing member.

A discussion took place with reference to the new cup or shield to be given by Mr. A. B. Crawford, of Rampton, son of the late Mr. Charles Crawford, of East Markham, and a member of the association. The cup or shield is to be called the Crawford Cup, to perpetuate the memory of the donor's father, and a competition is to take place annually, the cup being held for twelve months by the ringers for the best ringing.

The discussion was adjourned to be dealt with by the committee and, later, the annual meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for presiding over tea and meeting, for use of the schoolroom and bells, also to the caterer for providing tea, and to Mr. J. H. Smith for having everything in 'apple-pie' order for the visitors.

The Vicar suitably replied, and the meeting terminated. Ringing was then further indulged in until 8.30 p.m.

## BEGINNERS' TOUCHES.

A quarter-peal of Minor, in which four of the band are quite young ringers, was rung at Penistone on Thursday, November 25th, when 1,440 changes of Bob Minor were brought round in 55 mins., the two 720's having different callings: H. Roebuck 1, F. Barracough 2, W. Wooler 3, A. Champion 4, H. Sykes 5, L. Wilkinson (conductor) 6. All the ringers except those of the 3rd and tenor are under 18.

At Church Stretton, Shropshire, on Tuesday, November 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 49 mins.: J. Williams 1, R. J. Shenton 2, W. J. Beniams (conductor) 3, W. Powell 4, R. Sands 5, W. T. Boughey 6. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble, 4th and 5th.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

## GEORGE NEWSON'S NOTEWORTHY PEALS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In his early days Newson usually rang at the light end, afterwards he usually called from the tenor, and, although never a very strong man, developed into a first-class tenor ringer. In 1894 he got together a band to attempt the extent of Double Norwich with the tenors together, 13,440. The band started for the peal on Easter Monday, March 26th, and rang 13,072 changes in eight hours and fifteen minutes, when the treble rope broke—a most unfortunate and disappointing ending when so near home. Curiously enough, on the same day another long peal attempt failed by a mechanical defect. This was at Wolverhampton, where 17,000 of Grandsire Caters were attempted under the conductorship of Mr. John Carter. 7,362 changes were rung in four hours and thirty-nine minutes, when the tenor clapper broke.

The Cumberland band, though disappointed, did not mean to accept defeat, and a few weeks later the same men, standing in the same order, successfully accomplished the peal at St. Edward's Church, Romford. The finished peal took only one minute longer than the unsuccessful attempt, which is accounted for by the difference in the weights of the tenors, Brentwood being a couple of a hundredweight heavier than Romford. 'Romford, Essex. The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, on Wednesday, April 18th, 1894, in eight hours and sixteen minutes, at the Church of St. Edward, a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 13,440 changes. Tenor 17½ cwt. Benjamin Foskett 1, Edwin Barnett 2, Henry Dains 3, George Smith 4, Charles Wilkins 5, Albert Pittam 6, Arthur Jacob 7, George Newson tenor. Composed and conducted by George Newson.'

This was the longest length at the time rung in the method. It was beaten by a 15,000 rung at Erith, conducted by Mr. W. Pye. This was superseded by 17,000 at Kidlington, though there are some doubts as to the correctness of that peal. And the Kidlington peal was beaten in number of changes, though not in length of time, by 17,104 rung at St. Thomas', Wigston, by the Midland Counties Association on December 27th, 1904, in 10 hours 35 minutes. Composed and conducted by Mr. William Willson. This remains the record for the method.

Another interesting peal of Newson's was the first true peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung in London. This was at St. Ann's, Highgate. The history of Cambridge Surprise is an interesting one. It was composed as a six-bell method in the latter years of the seventeenth century by, if I remember rightly, Fabian Stedman, and was deservedly popular among the old ringers. Annable extended it to Major, but wrongly. He omitted fifth's and eighth's when the treble is dodging in 3-4, and, of course, produced an incorrect lead end. The correct extension, however, was shortly after discovered, and Cambridge Major was extensively practised in London during the eighteenth century. Two peals were rung, one by the London Youths, and one by the College Youths; though, as it happened, the bands were composed of exactly the same men, except for the treble ringer, and standing at the same ropes. Both peals, unfortunately, were false.

In the early nineteenth century peals, also false, were rung in Yorkshire, and later the method was practised at Norwich, though no peal was rung. From Hubbard's early editions we learn that it was highly thought of, and

it is interesting to notice that he compares it favourably with Imperial, because it has Bob Major lead ends and the other has not.

Then, partly because of the difficulty of getting a true peal, and chiefly because of the general decline of ringing in the higher methods during the latter part of the nineteenth century, the method fell into disuse. When the revival came the experts who praised Superlative as 'par excellence, the perfect method,' despised Cambridge as a crude, ill-constructed affair. To Sir Arthur Heywood, Cambridge was 'radically bad,' and the 'Glossary' is scarcely more complimentary. So it was that Superlative was the Surprise Method which was first extensively practised, and peals of Cambridge were rung more as curiosities than anything else.

Then, a few years before the war, opinion changed. The fact that Cambridge will extend perfectly to any even number and the rediscovery of Cambridge Royal gave the method great popularity, and now it is rung as much as all the other Surprise Methods put together.

In George Newson's time the headquarters of the Cumberland Youths was, as now, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and there they had a very proficient twelve-bell band. They were not a very attractive lot, and one would hardly apply the title 'Church Workers' to them, but they could ring Stedman Cinques. Perhaps their most unamiable characteristic was a selfish exclusiveness. They had twelve good men to ring, and they never encouraged any young ringers. The immediate day was sufficient for them, the future could take care of itself, and so, when Newson and some of the others died, there were no others to take their places, and the Cumberland Society in a few years, from being among the very best in the country, fell into a very low state, from which much time and no little hard work has gradually once again raised it.

George Newson died in 1896, and was buried in Hampstead Cemetery. A stone was erected by the subscriptions of ringers.

## ICKLETON BELL RESTORATION.

## A TENDER ACCEPTED.

The Parochial Church Council of Ickleton, Cambs, held a meeting on Thursday evening of last week, when it was decided to accept the estimate of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston for the work of restoring the bells, which, it will be remembered, were silenced a short time ago by the breaking of the tenor gudgeon pin. It was then found that the accident was due to the dilapidated condition of the old oak frame, which was actually endangering the tower. The belfry is, therefore, to be cleared and a new iron frame installed. The tenor bell is to be recast and the other five tuned.

One subscriber to the fund having made it a condition of his gift that the tower shall be examined by an architect and his sanction to the work obtained, the Council are not placing the order until the architect has visited the tower. He will be met by a small committee (of which Mr. P. Webb, one of the ringers, is one).

Mr. Webb is anxious that when the work is carried out an H frame for eight bells shall be erected, as he feels confident that it would not be long before two trebles could be obtained to complete the octave. At present there is reluctance on the part of the village folk to depart from the six to which they have always been accustomed, but a little outside influence might convert them to the advantages of eight bells.

The following donations towards the estimated cost of £400 have been received from outside sources, and further contributions will be gladly welcomed by Mr. Webb: Whittle-le-Wood ringers 10s., Chatteris ringers 5s., Rev. R. Copeman £1, A Friend 2s. 6d. Mr. Webb's address is Ickleton, Cambridgeshire.

## COINCIDENCE.

By a curious coincidence the peal of Guildford Surprise Major rung at Guildford and recorded this week fell on the same date as that on which the first peal in the method was rung in 1913 at Holy Trinity, viz., November 23rd. The same composition was rung and the same time occupied in ringing it.

With the exception of the composition, all the rest is absolute chance, and even the ringers were unaware of it until they had finished. There have been no other peals in the method on these bells except the first one of all, which is not recorded as it turned out false.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The 49th annual festival of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Newcastle on October 30th. The service was held in Newcastle Cathedral, conducted by the Vicar of Newcastle (Canon Newcom), assisted by the president (the Rev. A. W. Lister, Rector of St. Stephen's, South Shields), and Canon Stephenson (Rector of Gateshead). A very interesting and instructive address was given by the Rev. R. E. Holmes, Vicar of Tynemouth, who based his remarks on the 19th Psalm, and said the clergy and the bell-ringers were fellow-ministers, each in his own way telling of the glory of God, for the bells called God's people to God's house to hear the Word of God. When the church bells sounded over hill and dale, their message was, 'May Jesus Christ be praised.'

The president (the Rev. A. W. Lister) presided at the annual dinner and meeting, held at the Crown Hotel. The hon. treasurer, Mr. G. S. Taylor, presented the financial report, which showed that a debit balance of £3 17s. 10d. had been transformed into a credit balance of £13 7s. 3d.

The hon. secretary, Mr. E. Ferry, presented the annual report, which showed that North Shields took first place for Sunday service ringing, followed by St. Ignatius', Sunderland, for the 8, 10, and 12 bell towers, Newcastle Cathedral being third. In the six-bell towers, Holy Trinity, Darlington, took first place for the fifth year in succession. The first peal of Doubles by the association was rung at St. Peter's, Jarrow, on September 22nd, and on Sunday, October 24th, the bells of Durham Cathedral were rung in changes for the afternoon service. This is believed to be the first time these bells have been rung in changes for a Sunday service, and the ringing was done by the local band with the assistance of their instructor. There is great hope of better things here in the future, with the entire support and encouragement of the Dean and Chapter.

The sad note in the report related to the loss the association had sustained in the death of one hon. active member, three active and three life members, namely, Major R. C. Hudson, who met his untimely death whilst muffling the bells at Bishopwearmouth Church preparatory to the memorial service for Queen Alexandra. The magnificent character of the deceased and the terrible calamity are too fresh in the memory of all to need detailing here. Then came the death of Mr. Norman C. Fleck, of Gosforth, Mr. A. F. Hillier, and Mr. R. Richards, of Newcastle Cathedral, life members, Mr. W. T. Robson, of Liverpool, one time hon. secretary of the association, and a fellow ringer with Major Hudson at Bishopwearmouth before going to West Hartlepool and thence to Liverpool, Mr. Geo. Hill, of Penistone, and Mr. J. G. Shade.

The points gained for Sunday service ringing were as follows: For the 8, 10 and 12 bell towers, North Shields 1,165,844 points, St. Ignatius', Sunderland, 833,443, Newcastle Cathedral 690,735, Gosforth 526,376, St. John's, Darlington, 422,404, Shildon 326, Tanfield 388,13, Gateshead 208,12, Jesmond 195,45, Consett 186,81, St. Oswald's, West Hartlepool, 182,06, Chester-le-Street 173,772, Bishopwearmouth 48,9; six-bell towers, Holy Trinity, Darlington, 1,454,828, Benfieldside 683,464, Hurworth-on-Tees 582,464, Newton Hall 463,56, Winton 168,48, Newburn 119. Twenty-seven peals were rung during the year (including the first peal on Carlisle Cathedral bells), 69 members having taken part in the peals, twelve members had rung their first peal during the year, and there were nine conductors. Four towers have joined the association during the year.

Canon Stephenson presented the certificates to the winning towers for the best Sunday service ringing during the year.

The following were elected officers: President, Mr. C. L. Routledge; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. Clark (Southern District), F. Sheraton (Western), J. S. Goffon (Northern); hon. secretary, E. Ferry; hon. treasurer, G. S. Taylor; hon. editorial secretary, Arthur Payne; hon. auditor, A. M. Hall; district secretary, W. Story (Northern Division of the Northern District), A. Deas (Newcastle Division), G. S. Taylor (Eastern), T. Titt (Southern), H. Tyson (Western), C. Squire (West Tyne). It was stated in the report that the association is celebrating its jubilee this year, and the whole-hearted support of every member was asked for to make it the success aimed at.

## DEATH OF THE REV. H. T. W. EYRE.

### FORMER SECRETARY OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

We regret to announce the death of Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, in his 79th year, the sad event taking place at The Temples, Witham, on Wednesday, November 24th. The deceased was apparently in his usual health when he retired to bed on the previous evening, but had a seizure and passed away soon after midnight.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre was for forty years Vicar of Gt. Totham, from which living he retired in 1916. While there, he was instrumental in restoring the church and adding the ring of six bells.

For upwards of 30 years he was honorary secretary of the Essex Association, and up to the time of his death took a keen interest in its welfare. He was present at the last annual meeting at Chelmsford Cathedral on Whit Monday.

The funeral took place on Saturday. The church was crowded with his old parishioners and friends to pay their last respect to a faithful parish priest. The service was choral, and the whole of the neighbouring clergy were present and robed. The opening sentences were recited by the Vicar (Rev. A. B. Herbert), Rev. G. A. Cambell (Vicar

of Witham) read the lesson, and Canon G. T. Brunwin-Hales (Rector of St. Mary-at-the-Walls, Colchester) recited the committal prayer. Among those present were: Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Essex Association), Mr. P. Timson (district secretary S.E. Division), Messrs. L. W. Wiffen and C. H. Howard (Braintree), J. D. Buckingham (Goldhanger), P. Chalk (Hoybridge), W. H. Chalk (Langford), A. Evers (Witham). Among the many floral tributes were a cross from the Essex Association and a wreath from the Totham choir and ringers. Immediately after the burial, 720 Bob Minor was rung deeply muffled on the bells which Mr. Eyre loved so well: S. Rushen (Totham) 1, C. H. Howard (Braintree) 2, P. C. Sayer (Totham) 3, J. D. Buckingham (Goldhanger) 4, L. W. Wiffen (Braintree) 5, T. Hammond (Totham) 6.

At Witham, on Saturday, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of deep respect, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor and 720 Double Court Minor were rung: W. S. Butler 1, W. Mellin 2, V. Glass 3, A. Evers 4, W. Butler 5, E. Bright (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor and 216 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: V. Glass 1, W. Butler 2, W. Mellin 3, A. Evers 4, W. S. Butler 5, E. Bright (conductor) 6.—For evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, also 216 Bob Minor: W. Butler (conductor) 1, W. Mellin 2, V. Glass 3, A. Evers 4, E. Bright 5, W. S. Butler 6.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION TO FORMER BRISTOL BRANCH SECRETARY.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at St. Thomas' (City), Bristol, on Saturday last, when no less than 22 towers were represented, and visitors were present from Bath, Burnham-on-Sea, Clevedon, Devizes, Weston-super-Mare and Newport (Mon). The bells of St. Mary Redcliffe (12), Temple (8), St. Philip's (8), and St. Thomas' were available during the afternoon. Redcliffe and Temple were the great attraction, and at the former several ringers had their first pull on twelve bells. The interest at Temple is its leaning tower, which is nearly five feet out of plumb.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, where 70 ringers and friends sat down, including the Vicar (the Rev. M. Patterson) and the churchwardens, Messrs. G. E. Ford and W. H. Paul.

The short business meeting which followed was presided over by the chairman (Mr. J. Gould).

The usual votes of thanks were accorded to all concerned for the arrangements.

The service, which was fully choral, was conducted by the Vicar, who gave a thoughtful address from the chancel.

Following the service an adjournment was again made to the Parish Hall, where in the presence of about 100 ringers and friends, several coming in from the surrounding districts for the occasion, the chairman presented Mr. Percy C. Williams with a handsome eight-day striking clock, suitably inscribed on a brass plate. The gift had been subscribed to by members of the branch in recognition of Mr. Williams' great services as honorary secretary of the Bristol Branch for five years. The chairman, in making the presentation, spoke of the excellent work Mr. Williams had performed during his term of office. He had given them a great deal of his time and energy, especially in connection with the monthly meetings.

Mrs. Williams was not forgotten, as it was well known that she had done her share in the work, and she was presented with a large box of chocolates.

Mr. Williams was taken by surprise, and was almost too full for words. In thanking the members most sincerely, he wanted to know how they kept the secret.

The rest of the evening was spent in harmony. A whist drive and dance had been organised by the Bristol United Guilds, and it proved that some of the ringers (not forgetting the old hands) could enjoy a dance as well as a ring on the bells.

### GLOUCESTER BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch was held at St. Laurence's Church, Barnwood, on Saturday, November 20th, when 30 members from various towers attended, including visitors from Stroud and a lady ringer from Cheshire.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. F. H. V. Paton), who is chairman of the branch. He extended a hearty welcome to the members, and gave a very helpful address on the ringers' vocation. Following the service, the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where an excellent tea had been provided through the kind generosity of the Rev. and Mrs. Paton.

After tea, the Vicar took the chair for the business meeting, at which the hon. secretary presented his report. This showed that nine meetings had been held during the year, with an attendance of 198 members, and an average of 22 per meeting. The report was considered very satisfactory and adopted.

The Rev. F. H. V. Paton was re-elected chairman for the ensuing year, Mr. W. H. Harris, secretary, and Mr. T. Baldwin as representative on Management Committee.

The Chairman and Mr. Harris thanked the members for the confidence placed in them by re-electing them, and said they would serve the branch to the best of their ability.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. and Mrs. Paton for their kindness in providing tea, and to Mr. J. Waite for his assistance.

The next meeting is to be held at St. Mary De Lode, it being left for the secretary to arrange a date.



**SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.**—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, November 28th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,259 changes) in 49 mins.: E. Hancox (conductor) 1, Miss D. G. Feltham 2, T. Stephenson (first quarter-peal of Stedman Caters) 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, F. W. Elliott 5, F. W. Goodfellow 6, H. W. Kirtou 7, J. B. Marks 8, J. H. R. Freeborn 9, W. Honor 10.

**TOTTENHAM.**—On November 28th, at All Hallows' Church, for evening, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,344): S. W. Crabb 1, H. A. Barnett 2, W. J. Ellis 3, H. Ellis 4, H. W. H. Strickland 5, E. A. Hull 6, C. A. Button 7, N. Tomlinson (conductor) 8.

**LEYTONSTONE.**—At St. John-the-Baptist's Church, on Sunday, November 28th, for morning service, 720 London Surprise Minor in 24 mins.: G. Dawson 1, R. Maynard, jun. (first attempt in the method) 2, A. Prior 3, W. Theobald 4, W. Miller (conductor) 5, C. D. Smith 6.

**NOTICE.**

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A monthly meeting will be held at Sandal, near Wakefield, on Saturday, December 11th. Bells ready early. Tea and business meeting in Parochial Hall 5 p.m. Tea will be provided at a reasonable price but application must be made to Mr. W. Robinson, 49, Bowman Street, Agbrigg, Wakefield. All members affected by the coal dispute will be the guests of the Sandal company.—C. D. Potter, Secretary.

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**NOTICES.**

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea, followed by meeting at the Grange at 5.30. All are welcome.—E. W. Day, Dis. Sec., 58, King's Road, Hitchin.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Rothwell on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head to all those who send in their names to Mr. W. Chapman, 6, West Parade, Rothwell, Leeds. Bells available from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The sixth annual social of the above branch will be held at Chorley on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.45. Tickets: Adults 2s. 6d. each; children under 12 half-price.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Dalston (8 bells), on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5, for which a charge of 1s. will be made. Business at 5.30. Ringing 6-7.30. A grand concert will afterwards be given in the Lecture Hall. Members are welcome to attend; admission 6d. and 1s.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The quarterly meeting will be held at Rowley on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, conducted by Rev. Lieut.-Col. F. J. Cheverton (Vicar). A tea will be provided. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—Exeter Branch.—Annual meeting at Heavitree, Exeter, on Dec. 4th. Service at 4.30. Tea, free to members, at Church Institute. Meeting to follow.—T. J. Stokes, Hon. Sec., 35, Okehampton Road, Exeter.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting for this division will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. It is hoped there will be a good attendance of members. Frequent bus service from Chelmsford Station.—P. Timson, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A joint meeting of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association and the Sheffield and District Society will be held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells (8) from 2.30.—F. Clark and C. Harrison, Hon. Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, South Shore (6 bells), on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Luton on Saturday, Dec. 4th. The bells (8) will be available from 2.45 p.m. Everybody welcome.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Burton-on-Trent District.—The next meeting will be held at Burton-under-Needwood, on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m., and tea (1s. per head) 5 p.m. Trains from Burton, also buses from New Street, Burton; return fare 6d. A good attendance is hoped for. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Stony Stratford on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bitchley.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Ringers are invited to the Vicarage for tea. A good meeting is requested, all ringers being welcome.—W. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at South Petherton on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

**NORFOLK GUILD.**—Fakenham District.—A branch meeting will be held at Fakenham Church on Saturday, Dec. 4th. Bells available 2 o'clock till 8. Short service by Rector. Ringers heartily invited.—R. W. Cooke, Dis. Sec., Hempton, Fakenham.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on financial matters, should be paid before February 28th. Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on Dec. 7th, St. Magnus' on the 9th and 23rd, \*St. Mary-le-Bow on the 14th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 16th (at 8 p.m.), and \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 28th; all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells (Parish Church, 10) available from 3 p.m. to 3.45 p.m., and (All Saints', 8) from 2 p.m. onward. Service in All Saints' at 4 p.m. Tea in Mr. B. Moody's Café, Horsefair, at 5 p.m. See circular for further particulars.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

**GUILD OF DEVON RINGERS.**—North-East Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11th, at St. Peter's, Tiverton. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea (1s. each) 5.15. Intending visitors please notify me not later than Tuesday, Dec. 7th.—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton, Devon.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Vale of White Horse Branch.—The re-dedication of the bells at All Saints' Church, Faringdon, will take place on Thursday, December 9th, at 2.30 p.m.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—N. Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Mere on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Rev. F. E. Trotman (Vicar). Tea 5 (members 6d. each). Business meeting to follow, to elect chairman and secretary. Towers available: Mere (8), Gillingham (8), Bourton (6), Zeals (6) and Stourton (6). Will any ringers who wish to attend the tea please let me know by Dec. 7th at the very latest?—Rev. R. E. P. Gorringe, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, St. Leonards, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (by kind invitation of the Christ Church Guild). Business meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Ossett on Saturday, Dec. 11th, and not the 4th Dec., as arranged.—H. Loftouse, Hon. Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Western District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at the Clifton Restaurant, Regent Street, at 5.15. Will those requiring tea kindly let me know by Dec. 8th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Chester Street, off Oxford Road, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells ready 3.15. A tea will be provided at a small charge at 5.30 prompt. Meeting after tea. Will those coming please inform me not later than Thursday, Dec. 9th? A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells ready at 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting at 6. Members intending being present please send word to secretary.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

**NORFOLK GUILD.**—Aylsham District.—A meeting will be held at Salle on Saturday, Dec. 11th, at 3 p.m.; also Reepham at 6 p.m., and the six bell ringers in the district are earnestly requested to attend. If meeting is a success monthly meetings will follow.—W. B. Duncan, Dis. Sec., Reepham.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on Dec. 11th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Service in church at 5 o'clock, addressed by the Vicar. Tea at Farrow's Restaurant, Fore Street, at 5.30 (1s.). Business meeting after. All members and ringing friends are invited.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Mundon.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Full details next week.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Radcliffe-on-Trent on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at Co-operative Café. Will those requiring tea please advise Mr. G. Nowell, The Green, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts, by Thursday, Dec. 9th? All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

**NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke-on-Trent on Dec. 18th, and not on Dec. 4th, as previously announced. Bells available at 3. Tea at 5 p.m. Will all who intend to be present kindly advise Mr. S. Churton, 11, Lonsdale Street, Stoke-on-Trent?—T. Hurd, Hon. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', West Ham, on Saturday, Dec. 18th. Bells (10) available from 3.15 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Dec. 15th?—J. A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

**BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS'** Sixth Annual Dinner (Chairman Mr. H. Way) will be held at the Royal Hotel, Bristol, on Saturday, Jan. 8th, 1927. Commence 6 p.m. Service at St. Stephen's Church 5 p.m. The University Buildings will be inspected at 2.30 p.m. and Great George Bell (9½ tons) demonstrated, after which an informal conference will be held. Tea and bun will be obtainable. Tickets for the dinner (5s. 6d.) may be now obtained from Guild secretaries, stewards, or direct from hon. sec., Edgar Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

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