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FRIDAY, APRIL 8th, 1927.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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CARILLONS AND THEIR INFLUENCE.

The world's greatest gathering of bell ringers assembled at the Croydon Bell Foundry on Saturday to inspect and hear the world's greatest carillon which is to be erected at Ottawa. The invitation extended to the ringers of England to make a personal acquaintance with this masterpiece of the bell founders' art was responded to so enthusiastically that it brought together, from all over the country, an assembly, the like of which had not previously been witnessed in the history of the Exercise. It was a remarkable gathering; the more so because the chief attraction was not a set of bells such as ringers in this country delight to use, and it demonstrated, therefore, how deeply is implanted in the soul of the average ringer the love of bells, in whatever form they are to be used. For every ringer who was present there were doubtless a dozen others who would have liked to be there had circumstances permitted. For those who were privileged to take part it was a memorable occasion in many ways. It was a day full of interest and of enjoyment, and those who were able to approach the carillon critically from either the musical or engineering point of view, must have been convinced of the marvellous pitch of efficiency to which our modern English bell founders have raised their art—a level far higher than that reached by their competitors, either on the Continent or in America.

The work which is being done in connection with the great carillons which are now forming such an important part in the English bell founders' output, must inevitably be a factor in improving both the musical and mechanical features of bells hung for ringing in our own church towers. The uneasiness which was felt by some at the action taken in regard to Coventry Cathedral bells—that it was the thin end of the wedge to substitute mechanical chimes for the fine old English practice of bell ringing—is dispelled by the frankly expressed opinion of Mr. Cyril Johnston, on Saturday, that in a country with something like forty thousand ringers and ten thousand rings of bells of sorts, a bell founder would be foolish indeed if he sought to oust from our churches the traditional use of bells. He showed how the making of carillons must reflect to the advantage of ringing in England, and thoughtful people will fully appreciate his views. Moreover, all the while our bell founders can draw in orders for carillons for those countries where change ringing is practically unknown, and where, therefore, such bells can in no way detrimentally affect our art, it is not only giving employment to workmen in an industry in which we as an Exercise are peculiarly interested, and are especially concerned to see preserved, but it will add to the efficiency of our founders, induce them to maintain their

(Continued on page 210.)

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factories at a high standard and continue their efforts to improve both the bells themselves and their appurtenances. Looked at logically, then, while we need to guard our own traditional methods of ringing in this country, we have every reason to welcome the great industry of carillon making which English bell founders are building up in this country for the first time.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DERBY.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6120 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.

*FREDERICK W. STONE... Treble	J. ARTHUR ORGILL ... 5
WILLIAM POYSER ... 2	GEORGE W. BRAME ... 6
JOHN W. GLEW... 3	WILLIAM A. PARSONS ... 7
CYRIL J. JENNINGS ... 4	JOSEPH LORD... Tenor

Composed by J. THORP.

Conducted by J. LORD.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung on the fourth anniversary of the first peal of Major on the bells.

BROXBORNE, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

*ARTHUR RADLEY ... Treble	GEORGE RADLEY ... 5
MISS ELSIE E. CHAPMAN ... 2	WILBY J. HAZELL ... 6
WALTER J. BOWDEN... 3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 7
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 4	†REUBEN SANDERS ... Tenor

Composed by JAMES PARKER. Conducted by MISS E. K. PARKER.

* First peal in the method. † 50th peal in the method. The band wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. Jenkins, for the use of the bells and for his kind hospitality on this occasion and on February 26th, after an unsuccessful attempt.

WOOTTON BASSETT, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

SYDNEY HILLIER ... Treble	WILLIAM WEST ... 5
SAMUEL WILTSHIRE... 2	WILLIAM BOLWELL ... 6
EDWARD PERRY... 3	FRED LAMBETH ... 7
*HAROLD FLEWELLING ... 4	LOUIS A. WILSON ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN COX.

Conducted by FRED LAMBETH.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung to welcome the Rev. J. T. Hersee on his induction as Vicar of this parish, also as a birthday compliment to L. A. Wilson, who has now rung all the bells in the tower to a peal. Messrs. Hillier and Bolwell hail from Devizes, West from Melksham, Lambeth from Wiltshire, and Perry from Chippenham. Messrs. Flewelling and Wilson are local men.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK JUDGE ... Treble	WILLIAM WENBAN ... 5
MRS. H. BAKER ... 2	WILLIAM P. TICKNER... 6
FREDERICK G. BURDEN ... 3	WILLIAM BUTTON ... 7
HARRY BAKER ... 4	ALFRED G. BLACKMAN ... Tenor

Composed by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by W. WENBAN

Ringers of 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 8th from Rolvenden, 2nd and 4th from Frittenden, 6th from Tenterden.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—On Thursday, March 31st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Harding, sen., 1, *Miss J. Melville 2, *Wm. Stone 3, N. V. Harding 4, G. Grover 5, J. Goucher (conductor) 6. * First 720 Treble Bob Minor.

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*J. WILLIAM EDGE Treble	RICHARD T. HOLDING... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	GEORGE R. JONES 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	HARRY OVERTON... .. 7
HORACE EDWARDS 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING

* First peal in the method and on the bells.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 31, 1927, in Three Hours,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

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

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

OWEN H. GILES Treble	CHARLES J. FRAY 5
REGINALD BROWN 2	*WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 6
GEORGE PULLINGER 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
WILLIAM T. TUCKER 4	FRANK BLONDELL Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Double Norwich and has just returned to England from Australia. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. W. T. Tucker, hon. secretary of the Winchester District.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER Treble	HAROLD W. CLARK 5
WILLIAM MILLER 2	CHARLES T. COLES 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	WILLIAM PYE 7
ALBERT W. COLES 4	REDDEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by G. R. PYE.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILFRED GRUNDY Treble	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 5
JOHN DENNER 2	GEORGE PINCOTT... .. 6
ERNEST COTSFORTH 3	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 7
JOHN POTTER 4	JAMES DENNER Tenor

Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to Mr. John Welsby, an oldringer at this church.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

*PERCY L. BISHOP Treble	*THOMAS H. NORRIS 5
CHARLES N. LEMAN 2	HENRY HODGETTS 6
*EDWIN C. BOWLEY 3	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7
STEPHEN H. HOARE... .. 4	GEORGE A. HUGHES Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW.

* First peal. The peal was rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Norris, the parents of the ringer of the fifth, who kindly entertained the band afterwards, also as a birthday compliment to the conductor's wife.

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S FOUR-PART, No. 5.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFELD Treble	CHARLES DRAPER 5
MAURICE SWINFELD 2	THOMAS K. DEACON 6
MISS KATHLEEN JACKSON ... 3	JAMES PAGITT 7
RICHARD C. BELTON 4	JOHN CURTIS... .. Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE SWINFELD.

At the conclusion of the peal, the Vicar congratulated the ringers and entertained them to tea afterwards. Miss Jackson was proposed a member in the tower.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 31, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. DIONYSIUS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

W. P. WHITEHEAD Treble	*FRANK WALLINGTON... .. 5
C. A. MANNING 2	*WALTER WALLINGTON ... 6
*FRED WALLINGTON 3	ERNEST MORRIS... .. 7
*WILLIAM HECTOR 4	*FRED PEARCEY Tenor

Conducted by C. A. MANNING.

* First peal in the method. This is the first peal of Stedman on these bells since they were opened in 1902.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ERNEST JONES Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
*THOMAS HAMMOND 2	HERBERT LUDKIN 6
JOHN WILKINSON 3	THOMAS W. GILMOOR 7
ARTHUR LINTOTT 4	EDWARD CAUNCE... .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSTOW. Conducted by J. WILKINSON.

* 100th peal. This is the first peal of Superlative rung in the city.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

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

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

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*GEORGE KENWARD Treble	FRANK BELSEY 5
WILLIAM SPICE... .. 2	CHARLES E. NORRIS 6
CHARLES WINNER 3	WILLIAM J. WALKER... .. 7
PHILIP S. SPRINGHAM ... 4	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First in the method. First attempt as conductor in the method.

PORT SUNLIGHT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER J. BATTLE Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	GEORGE R. JONES 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	JAMES MORGAN 7
HENRY W. WILDE 4	JAMES H. RIDING... .. Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING

The band wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, and Mr. Battle for making arrangements.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.
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 OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
SECRETARIES' PEAL.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*W. I. CLARK, Secretary Furness Branch	Treble
FRED RIGBY, Secretary Preston Branch	2
CHARLES SHARPLES, Secretary Fylde Branch	3
WALTER HUGHES, Secretary Liverpool Branch	4
ARTHUR TOMLINSON, Association Ringing Secretary	5
WILLIAM H. SHUKER, General Secretary	6
WILLIAM HOKAN, Secretary Rochdale Branch	7
JAS. W. GROUNDS, Secretary Wigan Branch	Tenor

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal of Major.

COMPTON GIFFORD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours,
At the Church of EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

H. W. WILDE'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

WARREN S. HORNBRINK	Treble	*G. HARRY MYERS	5
JAMES E. LILLEY	2	THOMAS G. MYERS	6
*HAROLD M. ASHTON	3	JOSEPH WOODLEY	7
CHARLES R. LILLEY	4	*SIDNEY P. SYMONS	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal of Stedman away from the tenor. Ringers of 1st and 3rd from Charles' Church, 5th and 6th from St. Andrew's, the rest from Emmanuel. Rung in honour of the conductor's silver wedding.

PRIVETT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
At the Church of the HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*RICHARD J. STONE	Treble	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	5
GEORGE PULLINGER	2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	6
*FREDERICK A. BURNETT	3	FRANK BLONDELL	7
JOHN A. COLE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN COOK	Treble	WALTER CHARMAN	5
PETER CHARMAN	2	WILLIAM STANFORD	6
WILLIAM HOOKER	3	JACK BRANCH	7
SIDNEY PAICE	4	ALFRED CHARMAN	Tenor

Conducted by W. STANFORD.

DONCASTER.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6008 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt. in E flat.

GEORGE HALKSWORD	Treble	J. EDWARD CAWSE	5
GEORGE CLARK	2	HARRY BARNES	6
JAMES MCCLUSKY	3	PERCY GLADSTONE	7
STANLEY SHEPPARD	4	ARNOLD HILL	Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

First peal in the method on the bells. Rung to celebrate the granting of county borough powers to Doncaster on April 1st. It is eighteen years since a peal was rung on these bells.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6152 CHANGES;

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

*PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM	Treble	J. CHARLES DICKEN	5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	2	JAMES S. HUTCHBY	6
EDWARD C. GOBEY	3	*WILLIAM H. CLARKE	7
J. FREDERICK MILNER	4	PERCIVAL PRICE	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. A. Salter.

CRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

HERBERT ROBBINS	Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
BERNARD DITCHER	2	CHARLES MASON	6
ARTHUR KNIGHTS	3	HAROLD KENT	7
EDWARD ROBBINS	4	JOHN FLINT	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

First peal on the bells.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WHITMINSTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

JAMES PERRY	Treble	RALPH HAZELL	4
P. SGT. GEORGE HASTINGS	2	LESLIE BARRY	5
GEORGE ORCHARD	3	THOMAS MARTIN	Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

BUCKNALL, STAFFS.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of Clarence, Southwark, Canterbury, St. Werburgh, Vale Royal, Crowland, Combermere.

CHARLES PRESTON	Treble	CHARLES BOWEN	4
MISS ALICE PRESTON	2	WILLIAM FRADLEY	5
REG PRESTON	3	HARRY BILLINGS	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES BOWEN.

* First peal as conductor. Rung at first attempt. First peal consisting of all 4th's place Delight methods for the association. Rung in honour of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also the 40th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bowen, parents of the conductor.

HAYFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BOWDEN & STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Matthew,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

*JOHN WHITEHEAD	Treble	TOM WILDE	4
†ALFRED FROST	2	†HERBERT W. BRADLEY	5
†JOHN BRIERLEY	3	SYDNEY HOUGH	Tenor

Conducted by TOM WILDE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal of Minor away from treble. First peal of Minor as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer. Treble ringer belongs to local band, 2nd to Didsbury, 3rd and 4th to Hyde, 5th to Glossop, tenor to Knutsford.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.
KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.
On Tuesday, March 29, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 6060 CHANGES;

Being 1,440 changes each of Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob and 300 of Plain Bob.

BRO. F. J. LAMBERT, SEN., 'Pride of the Green,' 6009	... ..	Treble
BRO. B. LUCK, 'St. Mary,' 5041	... ..	2
BRO. G. FULLER, 'St. Mary,' 5041	... ..	3
BRO. H. J. HAMMOND, 'Weald of Kent,' 5759	... ..	4
BRO. A. H. SMITH, 'St. Mary,' 5041	... ..	5
BRO. A. RELFE, 'St. Mary,' 5041	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by BRO. A. RELFE.

Rung for the diamond jubilee of the local Court, St. Mary, 5041, which was founded on March 29th, 1867. It was also a birthday compliment to Miss Lambert, daughter of the treble ringer, and J. Bassett, one of the local band.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1927, in One Hour and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

JAMES GEORGE	... ..	Treble	ERNEST MORRIS	... ..	4
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	... ..	2	W. RICHARD DRAGE	... ..	5
PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM	... ..	3	JAMES S. HUTCHBY	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

This peal was specially arranged for Mr. James George, of Birmingham.

YAXLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, March 31, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In three methods, being one extent of Bob Minor, two and a half extents of Oxford Treble Bob, and three and a half of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM MUSK	... ..	Treble	F. NOLAN GOLDEN	... ..	4
DAVID WHITING	... ..	2	DERRICK LOCKWOOD	... ..	5
ALBERT G. HARRISON	... ..	3	WILLIAM STEGGALL	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by WM. STEGGALL.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 1, 1927, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 6½ cwt.

FRANCIS J. SANDERS	... ..	Treble	ALFRED J. BULL	... ..	4
BERNARD WELLS	... ..	2	GEORGE ELLIS	... ..	5
HUGH R. THORPE	... ..	3	OLIVER SIPPETTS	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. F. H. Beaumont, of Buckland Court, on his 94th birthday.

BICKLEIGH, EAST DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

J. VOWLER	... ..	Treble	W. FAIRCHILD	... ..	4
R. CALLOW	... ..	2	F. J. DAVEY	... ..	5
J. BAKER	... ..	3	C. GOLD	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by F. J. DAVEY.

* First peal with a working bell. First peal of Doubles for ringers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 6th. First peal on the bells. The ringer of the 5th belong to Exeter, the rest to the local band.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Thursday, March 22nd, two 720's of Bob Minor were rung: A. Stoner 1, T. Exeter (first with a bob bell) 2, C. Holman 3, A. Laker 4, A. E. Gasson 5, A. C. V. Gasson (conductor) 6; and A. Stoner 1, T. Exeter 2, A. C. V. Gasson 3, A. Laker 4, A. E. Gasson 5, C. Holman (conductor) 6.

ASTLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 extents.

* JAMES H. RAPER	... ..	Treble	* THOMAS W. CHOWN	... ..	3
ALFRED E. BACON	... ..	2	* CHARLES G. BATES	... ..	4
JOSEPH E. SYKES	... ..	Tenor			

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

* First peal on five bells. This was the first peal on these interesting bells, some of which were cast by Newcombe, of Leicester. Mr. Chown has now rung a peal on all numbers of bells from five to twelve inclusive.

GAULBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor reputed 12 cwt. in G.

EDGAR LEWIN	... ..	Treble	J. GEOFFREY GRARY	... ..	4
JOSEPH NORTON	... ..	2	ERNEST MORRIS	... ..	5
A. NORMAN GEARY	... ..	3	ERNEST F. PAYNE	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First complete peal on the bells, which were made six in 1746. The conductor congratulates the band on an excellently struck peal, in spite of the adverse conditions under which it was rung.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

CYRIL POOLEY	... ..	Treble	* EDWARD HOWES	... ..	4
JAMES F. DUFFIELD	... ..	2	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD	... ..	5
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN	... ..	3	NOLAN GOLDEN	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in three methods.

LLANELLY, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 42 six-scores. Tenor 13 cwt.

* BRINLEY JONES	... ..	Treble	† WILLIAM H. SAUNDERS	... ..	4
† HAWTHORN L. MORRIS	... ..	2	A. A. RACKHAM	... ..	5
ALFRED A. RACKHAM	... ..	3	† WILLIAM T. WEAVER	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by A. A. RACKHAM.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. † First peal on inside bell. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John M. Jones, sexton of the above church for 30 years.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT 7, NOTLEY ROAD, BRAINTREE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

* LEWIS W. WIFFEN	... ..	1-2	† WILLIAM KEEBLE	... ..	5-6
† GEORGE WIFFEN	... ..	3-4	ALBERT WIFFEN	... ..	7-8

Composed by C. CHARGE.

Conducted by W. KEEBLE.

* 300th peal. † 50th peal. † 500th peal.

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NOTES BY THE WAY.

MORE HISTORY FROM HEARNE'S DIARY.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Ringling is such a self centred, self contained thing that, when we are thinking of the old ringers of one, or two, or three hundred years ago, we have great difficulty in fitting them into their contemporary setting. We think of them as ringers much the same as we are, rarely indeed as men whose life and surroundings, ideas and habits differed so very much and in so many ways from our own. And yet, of course, the bells and the bell ringling played their part in the social and political movement of the various times, and expressed feeling and excitement about causes and persons which are little more than names to us to-day and often not so much.

In 1733 all the bells in England were set ringling because an unpopular Excise Bill was defeated in Parliament. Sir Robert Walpole's sarcastic pun is well known, when a few years later he was, against his better judgment, forced into war with Spain. 'They are ringling their bells now, they will soon be wringing their hands.' In the Hammersmith peal board quoted in these notes on August 21st, 1925, we have another instance of the connection of ringling and popular excitement, and a much more notable one in the change of the name of the London Scholars to that of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, in honour of the victor of Culloden. In the burning question of that day the London Scholars and all London were solid for the Hanoverian King and the Protestant Succession.

It was not so everywhere in England. In the country houses and parsonages the feeling was strong for the exiled Stuarts. Oxford University and town were mainly High Church, High Tory and Jacobite, and no man held those views more forcibly than Thomas Hearne. He hated the revolution of 1689 which put William of Orange on the English throne, he detested the Dissenters and all their ways, and he looked on Low Churchmen as little better than they. In Queen Anne's reign he held a post as deputy librarian at the Bodlian, but he threw it up rather than take the 'wicked oaths' to King George I., whom he still continued to call Duke of Brunswick. There was, of course, a government party in the University—the government controlled the appointment to sufficient official positions to see to that; and so, when the fifth of November came round, they used the date to make a demonstration in favour of Protestantism and King George. Gunpowder Plot celebrations meant something then; the very fact that they still survive in a feeble, futile fashion shows how strong a place they once held in the minds of English people. It was near enough, too, to the date of the anniversary of the landing of William III. at Torbay to be a celebration of Protestantism, Whiggery, Low Churchism and everything else in Church and State that Hearne abhorred. And the leading thing in this celebration was the ringling of the bells.

The appeal that bells made to the popular imagination and their power as expressions of popular sentiment seem to have been far greater in the eighteenth century than now. Bells are still popular and increasingly so, but they can no longer express public feelings as they did once. If, for instance, England broke out into universal bell ringling because, say, the Labour Party was defeated at a General Election, we should think it not only strange, but positively wrong. But that is the sort of thing which

would have happened two hundred years ago. Hearne and the Oxford Tories thought it wrong to ring for the Fifth of November, but if it had been for a political victory on their side they would have found no fault. Strong Churchman and Anglo-Catholic as he was, Hearne saw nothing amiss in ringling church bells for a wager. The ringers' opinions were not so strong as his. They probably thought that if James III. was king *de jure*, George III. was king *de facto*; anyhow, they wanted to make another attempt for the six thousand; and here was the opportunity, with the chance as well of earning a little money.

Hearne was very scornful about their ringling for money, and calls them 'poor mercenary ringers,' and suggests that they sold themselves for 'only fifteen shillings and sixpence a man.' Fifteen shillings and sixpence a head for a day's ringling does not seem very bad pay, even in these days when money is worth very much less than it was then, and I dare say there were many other occasions when there was paid ringling: the Founder's Day at New College, for instance, when they made their last attempt. But Hearne was one of those worthy souls who, when they have any feelings about Church and State affairs, feel far too strongly to have even any pretence of impartiality. Even among the ringers there was some difference of opinion, and three put principle before interest and refused to ring. That gave Brickland, the schoolmaster, another chance, and also made way for a beginner, one Crozier, of whom Hearne speaks very favourably.

The attempt was made at Christ Church, and the ringling appears to have been very good, but after about two thousand changes it came to naught. Hearne was torn between his political opinions and his love of the bells. He persuaded himself that for no reason whatever would he on such a day go and listen to ringling for such a celebration, yet, of course, a man must take a little exercise, and so he 'happened' to go through the White Walk while they were ringling. There he 'happened' to hear people say 'twas excellent ringling,' and so, on his way back, he comes through the cloisters and rather surprised himself by stopping to listen, merely, as he says, to find out if what the people said was correct. Just then they got into the muddle which, in the end, broke them down, and in a quarter of an hour Hearne counted 18 considerable faults to his no small satisfaction, for, however bad the ringling might be, 'twas good enough for the day.'

'1734, Monday, December 2nd.—On the 5th November last some Oxford ringers were resolved to show their zeal for the Government by ringling Cater changes as well as possibly they could upon Christ Church ten bells. They were some of the best ringers, and because they think they merited much by their performance, I shall here specify the names of every one of them, at the same time noting that three excellent ringers, Mr. John George, a Taylor, Mr. Thomas Yates, the second Cook of Magdalen College, and Mr. John Broughton, the Barber, acted much more for their honour and credit, who declined ringling amongst them that day by which these three avoided the censure of being poor mercenary ringers (for the others rang for money), and of giving credit to a downright false notion that the Prince of Orange landed upon the 5th, whereas it was upon the 4th of November, to say nothing of the Powder Plot, which many wise men give out was a meer sham. I happened that day, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, to go through the White Walk, while the bells were ringling, and I heard several in the Walk say 'twas exceeding good ringling. Coming to the Cloysters, I stood still to listen (which I should not have done on such a day as that, were it not to see whether the character of its being exceeding good ringling were just or not), and in sixteen minutes I discovered eighteen considerable faults, the last six so very considerable that I found they would soon be confounded, as indeed they were, and so gave over, not being able to make clean work; and yet, notwithstanding this, they boast that 'twas extra-

ordinary good ringing, and that they rang two thousand. I cannot say anything to the number of changes nor for the goodness of the ringing before the last quarter of an hour, and how bad that was I have fairly signified, and yet 'twas good enough for the day. I should likewise here remark that the reward of these mercenary ringers was only 15s. 6d. a man, and that one of the ringers was a learner or beginner (as it were) only, viz., Mr. Crozier, a Cork Cutter, and yet so skilful that he may deservedly be reckoned among the best Oxford ringers. The names (what I propose to give) of all these ten ringers were in order just as they rang as follows:

- 1.—Mr. Richard Hearne, a Taylor.
- 2.—Mr. John Vickers, second Butler of New College.
- 3.—Mr. William Crozier, a Cork Cutter.
- 4.—Mr. Guy Terry, a Potash Maker.
- 5.—Mr. Brickland, a Schoolmaster.
- 6.—Mr. Thomas Nash, a Cabinet Maker.
- 7.—Mr. Arthur Lloyd, Carpenter and Bell Hanger.
- 8.—Mr. William Barnes, second Cook of Christ Church.
- 9.—Mr. Richard Smith, a Glover.
- 10.—Mr. Nicholas Benwell, Sexton of Christ Church.

WELCOME TO NEW VICAR.

The induction of the new Vicar of Marshfield, the Rev. C. S. L. Alford, on March 29th, was celebrated by the ringing of a few touches of Triples before service, and afterwards a quarter-peal was rung by the following: C. H. Williams 1, J. H. Beazer 2, H. Woodham 3, E. Lewis 4, P. C. Williams 5, G. Robinson 6, J. G. Jeffries (conductor) 7, and J. H. Williams 8. The Vicar afterwards ascended the tower and congratulated and thanked the ringers for the happy thought which led to the cheerful ringing of the bells.

A SILVER WEDDING PEAL.

A peal of Stedman Triples, rung at Compton Gifford, Devon, on Saturday, celebrated the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Lilley, who were married at St. Paul's Church, Bedford, 25 years ago. The marriage took place on Easter Monday, March 31st, and earlier in the day Mr. Lilley conducted a 'bachelors' peal at Biddingham. The peal on Saturday was the 50th for the Devon Guild by Mr. G. Harry Myers, who was a pioneer of change ringing in Plymouth, and the band included two fathers and two sons.

It was the first peal of Stedman rung on the bells since October 12th, 1907, conducted by Mr. G. N. Price, and in which Mr. C. R. Lilley also took part.

BELLS REHUNG AT GAINFORD, DURHAM.

The bells of St. Mary's Church, Gainford, have been away to the Loughborough foundry, where they have been cleaned by the sand-blast process and retuned. They are now back in the tower and rehung in the old frame with entirely new fittings and on ball bearings.

On Saturday, March 5th, ringers from Darlington (Holy Trinity, St. Cuthbert's and St. John's) and All Saints', Hurworth-on-Tees, paid a visit to try them, touches of Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor being rung, and also 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise Minor, and 360 of Cambridge Surprise.

The bells go well, but some difficulty was experienced with the treble and second, through the ropes slipping off the wheels, but this will, doubtless, soon be rectified.

The Vicar of Gainford (the Rev. R. A. Bidwell) kindly entertained the ringers to tea, and they expressed their thanks to him for his kindness, and for a pleasant afternoon. The bells are a nice ring of six, with a tenor of 14 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A NEW BRANCH TO BE FORMED.

The quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Chippenham on Saturday, March 19th, with a good attendance from the following towers: Aldbourne, Bath, Chippenham, Chilcompton, Devizes, Marshfield, Mangotsfield, Plymouth, Swindon, Slough, Weston-super-Mare, and Wootton Bassett. The secretary was pleased to see so many visitors from outside the district, including two who took advantage of a football special from Plymouth to come up to Chippenham for a ring and set an example to some of Swindon ringers who cannot attend the meetings when there is a football match at Swindon. Why is it that ringing has to take second place?

The bells of St. Andrew's Church were raised at three p.m., and kept going until a quarter to five, when a service was conducted by the Vicar. Tea at the Waverley Hotel was followed by the business meeting. The Vicar, the Rev. W. E. Wood, was voted to the chair, and the meeting opened with a few moments' silence in memory of Mr. William Hulbert, of the Chippenham band. A discussion took place on the suggested division of the district, and it was unanimously decided to form a Chippenham Branch, with the Vicar (the Rev. W. E. Wood) as president of the branch.

Furton was proposed for the April meeting, and St. Mark's, Swindon, for May, to be arranged, if possible, on the day of the dedication of the two new trebles.

This concluded the business, and a return was made to the tower, where Double Norwich, Stedman, and Grandsire were practised.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies has undergone an operation at St. Luke's Hostel, Fitzroy Square, London, and, we are glad to say, is reported to be going on satisfactorily.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards, hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, was the preacher at St. Clement Danes' Church on Sunday morning.

A peal of Minor has been rung at Yaxley, Suffolk, made up of one 720 of Bob Minor, two and a half 'extents' of Oxford Treble Bob, and three and a half 'extents' of Kent. Ringers have full liberty to follow their own dictates in these matters, but the Central Council ruling on a peal of Minor is that it should consist of at least seven true and complete 720's, but that the 5,040 may be extended by the addition of one touch of less than 720 changes, with or without extra 720's.

In view of the possibilities which Minor ringing now possesses, it would seem desirable that this ruling should be adhered to, and at only 5,040 changes are rung there should be only true and complete 720's. Splicing provides the opportunity for change of method.

When we get into April we get among the anniversaries of many long peals, for which the Easter holidays are chiefly responsible. Here, for instance, is the list for the ensuing week:

April 8th, 1844.—10,259 Grandsire Caters at Ashton-under-Lyne in 6 hrs. 10 mins.

1912.—12,160 Bristol Surprise Major at Knebworth in 7 hrs. 18 mins.

1922.—13,440 Bob Major at Loughborough Bell Foundry.

April 9th, 1830.—Elijah Roberts tapped 7,536 Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 4 hrs. 51 mins.

April 10th, 1848.—8,448 Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green.

1871.—10,272 Kent Treble Bob Major at Liversedge in 5 hrs. 48 mins.

April 11th, 1888.—13,265 Grandsire Caters at Appleton in 8 hrs. 5 mins.

April 12th, 1909.—18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough in 12 hrs. 18 mins.

April 13th, 1914.—14,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal at Ashton-under-Lyne in 9 hrs. 24 mins.

Mr. James George, who has done such great things at the 'heavy end' of our biggest peals of bells, has now created a record at the light end. Last week he rang the treble at Loughborough Bell Foundry to a peal of Minor, the weight of the tenor being only 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs. Mr. George had previously rung the treble at Lye, Worcestershire, to a peal of Stedman Triples. The tenor there is 3½ cwt., and Mr. George is the first to ring peals on the two lightest bells to be found hung in rings in this country.

His performance at Loughborough shows that despite his 73 years he still has 'touch' as well as stamina, for he handled this tiny bell in the fast ringing (the peal was rung under two hours) splendidly.

The new peal of eight bells at Edgbaston, Birmingham, which have been installed by Messrs. Taylor and Co., were dedicated by Bishop Hamilton Baines on Sunday. They are a very fine ring.

Mr. Albert Walker, the Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, gave a lecture on 'Campanology,' illustrated by lantern slides and change ringing on handbells, to a large gathering of the Birmingham Association of Mechanical Engineers (of the Council of which he is a member) at Birmingham last Friday evening.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, the genial hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild, returns to England next week from his long business tour in India.

RECORD PEAL ATTEMPT.

All being well, eight members of the Lancashire Association intend to attempt a record peal of Treble Bob Major (17,824 changes) in the Oxford variation, at the Parish Church of St. Thomas, Heptonstall, Yorks, on Easter Monday, April 18th, starting at 8.30 a.m.

DEATH OF A LANCASHIRE STALWART.

PIONEER OF CHANGE RINGING AT WALKDEN.

A well-known Walkden ringer, Mr. John Welsby, passed away on March 26th. Deceased had been in failing health for some time, but his death was rather unexpected, as he was out on March 23rd.

He was the last of the old band who started to ring in 1876, when the peal of six were put in, and he was one of the first to introduce change ringing at Walkden.

He was laid to rest on March 30th, and was carried to the grave by fellow ringers from Walkden, Worsley and Bolton. The Vicar officiated, and the hymn 'Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us,' was sung in church, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by the following: F. Morris (Bolton) 1-2, P. H. Derbyshire (Worsley) 3-4, J. H. Ridyard (Worsley) 5-6, G. Pincoff (Bolton) 7-8. A muffled peal was rung at night.

Deceased had rung 71 peals in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major.

THE GREAT BOURDON BELL FOR CANADA. SOME COMPARATIVE SIZES.

Giant and pigmy well describe the comparative sizes of the great and small bells in the wonderful carillon for Ottawa. The bourdon bell, ten tons in weight, is 100 inches in diameter; the smallest bell of the 53 is 12 lb. in weight and 7 in. in diameter. The weight of the clapper of the bourdon bell, operated from the clavier, is 4½ cwt., and the clock hammer is 5 cwt.



THE TEN-TON BOURDON BELL.

AN IDEA OF ITS SIZE IS GAINED BY COMPARING IT
WITH THE WORKMAN STANDING BY IT.

THE CONCERT.

Among those who contributed to the enjoyment of the company at the concert which took place in connection with the Rally were Miss Norah Nelson, Miss Nora Johnston, Capt. Freeborn, and Mr. Cyril Sindall (vocalists), Mr. Richard Edridge and Mr. George Cooper, who collaborated with violin and piano, and Mr. Cyril Johnston, who performed on a 'drawing room' carillon, in other words, a set of handbells. A touch of Stedman Cinques was rung by a company of College Youths, and other change ringing was done by members of the Surrey Association. At intervals there was dancing to the strains of a synco-pated orchestra, and the evening was a delightful one.

NOTTINGHAM PARTY'S EXPERIENCE.

The Nottingham contingent had an unpleasant experience on the homeward journey. The engine of their train broke a tyre on one of the main driving wheels and became a hopeless cripple. Another engine was procured, but Leicester was reached three hours late. As a result, the connection to Nottingham was missed, and the party had to wait five hours, eventually arriving at Nottingham just in time to get a 'late mark' for Sunday morning ringing. Thanks to the self-denial of one Leicester ringer, who stayed up and procured refreshment, the discomforts of the delay were considerably reduced, but, writes a Nottingham ringer, 'we shall remember Croydon and must be thankful the breakdown was no worse.'

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Owing to Good Friday, 'The Ringing World' will be published a day earlier than usual next week, and will be on sale on Thursday.

All communications intended for that issue must reach us not later than Monday next.

COVENTRY BELLS.

In connection with the rehanging and dedication of the Coventry Cathedral bells on the afternoon of Easter Eve, April 16th, at 3 p.m., the Sub-Dean and churchwardens of the Cathedral will be very glad to welcome any bell-ringers, who are able to attend the service, to tea in St. Mary's Hall at the conclusion of the service. Will those ringers who hope to avail themselves of this hospitality send a post-card to Canon Holland, The Sub-Deaunery, Coventry, not later than Wednesday, April 13th.

In the unavoidable absence of the Bishop, the bells will be dedicated by the Sub-Dean. The Mayor of Coventry will attend the service, and at its close a recital will be given by Mr. Clifford Ball, capitaineur at Bourneville, and Mr. Harry Withers, of Edgbaston.

Ringers intending to stay over the week-end should write to Mr. F. W. Perrens, 45, Engleton Road, Coventry, who will be pleased to make arrangements for their accommodation on receipt of particulars of their requirements. It is hoped to arrange a social hour after the service and tea.

DEATH OF A VETERAN BROMLEY RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. George Durling, leader and steeplekeeper of SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley. He had been a ringer at this church for the last 48 years, and was steeplekeeper for 38 years. He passed away on Sunday, March 27th, after only a few days' illness, having attended the usual practice on the previous Tuesday. He had been one of the most loyal and conscientious ringers from his early days, always being keen in all ringing matters, whether pertaining to the association, Sunday services or any other occasion and was always anxious for young ringers to have 'a pull.' Always punctual, he was ready to oblige everybody in anything that was in his power. He was, of course, well known in ringing circles, and was respected by all who knew him, and will be greatly missed by the whole district, especially by the ringers of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, who have sustained a grievous loss. The deceased was an excellent ringer in all standard methods, and had rung 146 peals, including the treble to several Surprise peals. He had conducted about 25 peals in the plain methods, and about 70 of his peals were rung in his own tower.

He was a very old member of the Kent County Association, and also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and of the Sussex Association. He was in his 67th year, and was looking keenly forward to Easter Monday, when the Kent County Association will be holding their annual meeting in Bromley for the first time in their history.

THE FUNERAL.

The interment took place on Thursday, March 31st, the first part of the service being held in the Parish Church, the Vicar, Canon Wilson, officiating, assisted by the Rev. James, curate. The lesson was read by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, who happened to be in Bromley on that day arranging matters for the annual meeting on Easter Monday. A large number of parishioners and many ringers were present (apart from the family mourners). The following towers were represented: All the members of SS. Peter and Paul's band, St. Luke's, Bromley Common (Mr. F. Keep), Beckenham (Mr. W. J. Rawlings), Chislehurst (Mr. T. Groombridge and Mr. Cyril Brett-Smith), Lewisham (Mr. C. H. Walker and Mr. H. Warnett, jun.), Bishopsgate (Mr. J. E. Davis), and Mr. W. A. Martin, of Sydenham. The interment took place at Bromley Old Cemetery, the committal service being read by the Vicar, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by the following members of the K.C.A.: P. J. Spice 1-2, I. Emery 3-4, C. Brett-Smith 5-6, T. Groombridge, sen., 7-8. The ringers then returned to the tower and rang a half-muffled 4-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins., standing as follows: E. Mounter 1, C. H. Walker 2, G. F. James 3, A. James 4, G. Huxley 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, T. Groombridge, sen., 7, H. Skinner 8.

On Sunday, March 27th, within an hour or so of his death, the bells were rung half-muffled for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: T. Groombridge, sen., 1, E. Mounter 2, G. F. James 3, A. James 4, I. Emery (conductor) 5, G. Huxley 6, P. J. Spice 7, H. Skinner 8. All those present expressed their sympathy with the widow and family.

Among the many floral tributes were a floral bell from SS. Peter and Paul's band, a cross from St. Luke's, Bromley Common, and a wreath from the verger and ringers of St. George's, Beckenham.

At Beckenham, on Thursday, March 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. G. Durling: R. Hollamby 1, W. Rawlings 2, F. King 3, F. Scutcher 4, F. Terry 5, G. Wickens 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, W. Meek 8. First quarter-peal by R. Hollamby.

SUPERLATIVE MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wonder if the Rev. H. Law James has ever examined in detail the Superlative Maximus which he so roundly condemns? I venture to say that, either he has not done so, or else his theories have overborne his judgment, for the more this method is examined, the more it will be found like the Major; in fact, it reproduces in exact detail every point in the Major, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is just as good an extension as Cambridge Maximus is of Cambridge Major.

Now, leaving the theoretical side alone—others can deal with that—I will, with your permission, Mr. Editor, make a few points on the practical side. Mr. Law James makes a great point over the fact that the tenors come home once only in the course—at the long dodge. But is this not so in Major? And I have never yet heard it condemned on this score. This is one point of similarity. Another is that the long dodges front and behind are all done with course bells, as in Major. In Major, all other dodges front and behind are done with secondary course bells (I use this for want of a better term), so they are in Maximus. For instance, the 3rd in Major does long dodges with 2 and 5, and all other dodges with 4 and 7. This is exactly the same in Maximus. In Major, bells on and off treble work dodge together in furthest place; so they do in Maximus. In Major bells leaving places and going to treble work, every bell dodged with is starting its place making; this is so in Maximus. In Major, two dodges are missed between long dodges; so they are in Maximus. But one could go on and give many more points of similarity which can easily be picked out by those who have eyes to see.

Another point: the late Mr. John Carter, no mean authority on method construction, rang the first course of this method on his ringing machine in 1912 and called it Superlative, so the Ipswich company did not have that honour, but they may ring the first peal. They rang for 2 hours 20 minutes in an attempt on Saturday last, and if they do succeed there will be no disgrace about it. The disgrace lies in Mr. Law James miscalling the mongrel method he rang Superlative. —Yours, etc.,

Ipswich.

CHAS. J. SEDGLEY.

THE DEARTH OF RECRUITS IN SUFFOLK.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read your leading article on 'more spade work' and the report of the Suffolk Guild. Probably, when I tell you how things are in this area you will not be surprised at the state of affairs. Here are my experiences. At a supper given to all church workers in Glemsford in 1921, at which I was present, the question of raising a band of ringers for Glemsford was talked over, and it was left at that for some time. I was the only person in Glemsford who knew how to ring at that time, but after a while I was asked by my Stanstead friends, to which company I belonged, to find some youths towards raising a band of ringers. I, with a friend of mine, found some, but as soon as they got a bit handy they were scattered by death and unemployment, so that only two remain. I may also add that this parish has been hard hit by the industrial depression, and has lost one-third of its population since the last census. Think of that! There is no employment for young men in this parish. As soon as they reach the learn-to-ring age they have to go away in search of work. Those competent to teach deeply and seriously regret that things are as they are, and have always to keep on teaching even to get the bells rung at all. However, I have, after four years and after many disappointments and struggles, got a band able to ring Glemsford bells, six in number. This is the only six-bell tower in West Suffolk where there are enough men who live in the parish to ring the bells of the Parish Church. I am now trying to find another one or two so as to be sure of always finding a band, but the task seems almost hopeless. I may also add that this exodus of youths from these rural parishes has now spread to almost every parish in this district, so that it is very difficult to find the right sort of youth to teach. There are also no district meetings of the Suffolk Guild to bring together the old and young ringers, and towers where there are less than eight bells are thought little of. I have related to you my own experiences, so that you can see how things stand. It is not the fault of those competent to teach; it is because the right sort of young man is being driven out of this district by unemployment, and in consequence there is no one to teach. After all that we have done to maintain a change ringing band, I think we should be more credited than blamed.—Yours truly,

THEODORE E. SLATER.

Hunt's Hill, Glemsford, Suffolk.

DIPLOMAS FOR RINGERS?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read with deep interest F. Neale's suggestion regarding diplomas. I endorse every word, and think that if this matter were taken up and given careful thought, the inevitable result would tend to inspire young ringers like myself to higher and greater ambitions in the art of bell ringing. Surely, there is some influential ringer who could use such a suggestion to advantage.

BEN ADHEM.

INSTRUCTION OF BEGINNERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I should like to say just a few words in part reply to your correspondent on above subject. Mr. Armstrong was evidently very pleased because there have been only a few replies to his first letter. The reason for this is, most ringers prefer to treat his letter as they would a donkey's kick. I may say this modern Theophilus has yet to find out the true spirit of ringers. It is absurd to expect any weekly journal to be made a text book. Does he expect 'The Ringing World' to have leads or courses of Bob Singles and Grandsire Doubles permanently established therein, in the same way as tables of weights and measures are printed on exercise books? Can we pick up the 'School-master' or any other such papers and regularly find in its pages first standard sums? It is quite out of the question. If some have written agreeing with him that is no criterion of the general feeling, as there are many who have no ideas but just follow somebody or anybody.

With regard to the instruction spoken of, any teacher knows very well teaching is very trying, but if a learner cannot be told without knowing best, there is but one thing to do, for he will never get on. Many of our great men of the past in ringing have been men of little or no schooling, but they have taught well. They did not profess to be educated; and it does not follow that a University man is going to make a ringer any more than a man who does the most humble work. Good luck to 'The Ringing World.'—Yours truly,

JOHN BEAMS.

A STANDARD TEXT BOOK REQUIRED.

Dear Sir,—The correspondence which has previously passed through 'The Ringing World' regarding instructions to learners is a question which might have been raised long ago, and it would seem to come under two headings, lack of clear explanation in what text books are in existence, coupled with the absence of a standard book of instructions—that is, one compiled by, and which has the authority of, the Central Council. Also, not every learner, however, enthusiastic he may be, can afford the various books now in circulation, and which for his guidance it is suggested he should obtain.

I do not think there is much doubt that the methods employed by most instructors are so varied as to rather bewilder the aspirant to ringing honours, but can you blame the instructors when such chaos exists in the published text books, all of which differ in the wording of practically the same instruction.

It would seem, therefore, that the first trouble could be rectified by introducing a remedy for the second, and, surely, the Central Council could not make a better move toward the more efficient teaching of the art than taking up the question without delay, always with the point of cost in view, on something like the lines suggested by Mr. Cook in your issue of March 18th.

Mr. Armstrong's second letter would seem to favour sarcasm rather than straightforward argument. The learner who 'chucked the whole business because he couldn't get on with it' will, I think, never find his name at the end of a peal with the words 'composed and conducted by' in front of it, no matter what instruction or assistance he is given, if he is so easily discouraged. Looking at it from his point of view would make one wonder how our ringers of the past ever learnt the art at all, unless they possessed more than the average amount of brains.—Yours truly,

REX G.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very pleasant and successful meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association was held at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Holloway, on Saturday, March 19th, about 35 members putting in an appearance.

Some excellent touches in most of the standard methods were brought round in the afternoon. After tea at a neighbouring cafe, the business meeting was presided over by the District Master, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Waltham Abbey some time during May.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Turner for having everything in readiness.

After the meeting, several more touches were rung, and the bells were lowered at half-past eight o'clock. The methods were varied, and included Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

5,088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

BY R. T. LAMBERT.

23456 M. B. W. H.

52436	—	3
63425	—	—
32654	x	3
53624	—	3
32546	x	3
56423	—	2
62534	x	3
35426	—	3
23456	—	3

FIRST PEAL AT GAULBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

HEROIC BAND CONQUER DIFFICULTIES.

Like that of its sister church of King's Norton, some half-mile distant (an account of which appeared in these columns on December 10th last), a contemplated peal on the bells at Gaulby, Leicestershire, was fraught with difficulties. The tower and body of the church were rebuilt in 1741 by the bounty of Squire Fortrey, who at the same time gave five bells, adding a sixth in 1748. These still hang in the original frame, and, like all old bells, take the full swing from the canons, necessitating huge wheels and long ropes. The treble wheel is quite as big as that of St. Margaret's, Leicester, 33 cwt. tenor. Most probably these bells would have been rung by the Sherwood Youths, who rang a peal at King's Norton on May 28th, 1776, also by the Leicester Scholars, who also rang a peal there on June 4th, 1816. No complete peal was rung, however, until a band from Billesdon, Ilston, and Norton attempted one last year, and after over three hours' gruelling work lost it in the last six-score owing to the treble rope breaking.

Mr. Joe Norton, of Billesdon, however, was determined to get a peal accomplished, and so, with the help of other Billesdon ringers, wedged, tightened up the frame, spliced old and borrowed ropes, and generally did what he could. Then he invited Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, to come and 'have a go' at what the critics said was 'impossible.' A peal of Minor would be almost doomed before attempted, owing to a huge box-cupboard between the treble and tenor ringers, who never see each other while ringing. Last Saturday, the attempt was made, and successfully carried through to the great satisfaction of everyone concerned. All had to strip for the job as though tackling a herculean task, the treble man with his shirt front open to the waist, and looking as though he meant to 'do or die.' The second man stood among the coal slack and rubbish heap, swinging his rope well in spite of his 'blisters.' The two brothers Geary rang with determination, meaning to do their 'bit,' although the fourth put the 'wind up' owing to the rope coming out of the wheel and sticking up aloft in the first few rounds prior to the actual peal. The hon. secretary, M.C.A., rang the fifth and 'called ye bobbes' with a grim resolution to add another tower to his long list, whilst another of the 'Ernest' band rang the tenor through in fine style, after simply saying 'I'll do it' at the go off. Anyhow, behind him were the freshes of the funeral bier in case of necessity. The lighting accommodation consists of an upright bar fixed in a huge rough stone, with a couple of candles on top. Happily, this was not needed, although the peal finished in semi-darkness. The belfry is on the ground floor, bare bricks in the rough, and littered with all the odds and ends not wanted in the church—the brushes, coal, tins, pans and other rubbish. In spite of all this, an excellent peal was rung, nothing higher than Grandsire Doubles being attempted to make success doubly sure. Afterwards, all the band were entertained to tea by Mr. J. Norton at Billesdon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Western Division was held at Bingley on Saturday, March 26th. Upwards of 60 members were present from Denholme, Guiseley, Mirfield, Leeds, Batley, Lightcliffe, Queensbury, Pudsey, Bradford, Keighley, Shipley, Idle, Armley, Bolton, Huddersfield, Lindley, and the local company.

Ringings commenced about 2.30 p.m., and at 4.15 p.m. a short church service was held, at which Canon Garard gave a very helpful address as well as the interesting information of a peal of 8,400 changes rung at Bingley in 1826, consisting of 'thirty-five twelve-score of Minor methods.'

After tea, the business meeting was held in the Church House, Mr. J. Cotterell (vice-president) being in the chair.

Six new members were elected, viz., Miss O. Renton, Miss E. Lawrence (Armley), W. Procter (Denholme), S. Barrett, A. C. Walsh (Guiseley), and J. A. Bowers (St. Chad's).

No new nominations having been received, all the retiring officers were re-elected: J. Cotterell (vice-president), R. W. Jennison, H. Smith and W. Ambler (committee).

There were no invitations for the June meeting, and it was left in the hands of the officers to arrange.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and the address, to the organist, and also to the local company for the arrangements made.—Canon Garard and Mr. Wilson Bartle suitably replied, and the meeting terminated.

Ringings was then further indulged in until 9 p.m.

MR. T. HAMMOND'S 100 PEALS.

Minor 4, Bob Triples 1, Bob Major (on handbells 2) 9, Oxford Bob Triples 1, Grandsire Triples (on handbells 1) 9, Grandsire Caters 1, Stedman Triples 16, Stedman Caters 6, Stedman Cinques 1, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 19, Kent Treble Bob Major 8, Kent Treble Bob Maximus 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major 6, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus 1, Cambridge Surprise Minor 1, Cambridge Surprise Major 7, Cambridge Surprise Royal 1, Superlative Surprise Major 8: total 100, rung in 31 towers.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

TRURO BRANCH MEETING.

A successful meeting of the above was held at Illogan recently, when about 60 members represented the towers of Camborne, Redruth, Perranwell, St. Gluvias, St. Newlyn East, Kenwyn, Truro Cathedral, Gwennap, and Gulval. The Diocesan Ringing Master, Dr. J. Symons, was also present.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. Oxland), who also gave an interesting address.

An excellent tea was provided by the local ringers, after which Dr. Symons proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for giving them such a warm welcome, and to the organist and choir for helping with the service.—This was seconded by Mr. W. Wood, who mentioned the good that these meetings were doing in bringing the various bands together and creating an interest generally.

The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, except for about half an hour in the afternoon, when ringing had to be suspended owing to a funeral taking place. During this period handbells were brought into use, and Grandsire Doubles and Triples were practised and help given to those who are struggling with the first steps of change ringing.

In the evening, members from Gulval, Kenwyn and the Cathedral visited Camborne and rang touches of Grandsire Triples.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Perranwell in June.

A BOY'S FIRST 720.

On March 21st, at the Parish Church, Wormingford, a youthful ringer rang his first 720 of Minor on an inside bell: G. Balls 1, B. Leggett (first 720) 2, E. Leggett 3, W. Leggett 4, W. Chalk (conductor) 5, F. Clarke 6.

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, Hackney, on March 8th, for practice, 120 Grandsire Doubles: J. Lloyd (first 120) 1, E. J. Jones 2, J. Waugh (conductor) 3, H. C. Alford 4, J. A. Hales 5, L. Dawling 6, L. Farmer 7, G. W. T. Briggs 8. Rung with 7, 6, 8 covering.

MR. L. W. WIFFEN'S 300 PEALS.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen completed his third century with a handbell peal on April 2nd. This peal was also Mr. William Keeble's 500th.

	Tower Bells.	Handbells.
Bob Triples	1	
Bob Major	4	15
Bob Royal	1	
Bob Maximus	1	
Grandsire Triples	11	3
Grandsire Caters	3	4
Duffield Major	1	
Little St. Lawrence Major	1	
Treble Bob Major	30 (conducted 3)	4
Kent Treble Bob Royal	3	
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	1	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	13	
Stedman Triples	25	1
Stedman Caters	15	
Stedman Cinques	15	
Double Norwich Major	47 (conducted 2)	
Double Norwich Royal	2	
Double Norwich Maximus	1	
Cambridge Surprise Minor	1	
Cambridge Surprise Major	24	
Cambridge Surprise Royal	2	
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	4	
Superlative Surprise Major	29	
London Surprise Major	32	
Three Minor Methods	1	
Total	268	32

MR. A. J. HUGHES' 150 PEALS.

The recent peal of London Surprise Major at St. Mary-within-the-Walls' was the 150th peal by Mr. A. J. Hughes, of Rhyl. They are made up as follows: Grandsire Doubles 1, Grandsire Triples 27 (conducted 2), Grandsire Major 1, Grandsire Caters 1, Stedman Triples 20 (conducted 2), Stedman Caters 3, Stedman Cinques 1, Bob Triples 1, Bob Major 13, Bob Royal 1, *Kent Treble Bob Major 16 (conducted 1), Kent Treble Bob Royal 6, Spliced Oxford and Kent Major 1, Spliced Oxford and Kent Royal 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major 3, Forward Major 1, Forward Maximus 1, Union Triples 1, Minor in three methods 1, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 27, Superlative Surprise Major 6, Belgrave Surprise Major 1, Cambridge Surprise Major 5, Cambridge Surprise Royal 1, New Cambridge Surprise Major 1, Yorkshire Surprise Major 1, London Surprise Major 6, Bristol Surprise Major 2; total 150 (conducted 4). * Includes longest in Wales.

FELKIRK, YORKSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, on Wednesday, March 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: A. Kelsall 1, F. Merrills 2, A. Cole 3, D. Smith 4, J. S. White 5, W. Palmer, Badsworth (first 720 as conductor) 6. Arranged for the conductor.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

MORTON.—At Holy Cross Church, on Sunday, April 3rd, 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins.: *R. C. Mallender 1, F. W. Knowles, sen., 2, *V. Cox 3, *Bd. Wheeler 4, T. E. Mallender 5, F. W. Knowles, jun. (conductor) 6. * First 720.

ABERAVON, GLAM.—On Sunday, April 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: C. Mathers 1, F. E. Stone 2, W. Nurton 3, G. W. Hollis 4, E. Stith (conductor) 5, C. Jones (first quarter with a bob bell) 6, A. J. Pitman 7, J. Weatherby 8.

RISHTON.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, April 3rd, 720 Bob Minor: R. Atherton 1, A. Lord 2, A. Hutchison 3, R. Bolderstone 4, R. Hall 5, A. Yates (first 720 as conductor) 6, R. Bentley 7, J. Hirst 8; 8-7 covering.

WEST EALING.—At the Church of St. Stephen, on Sunday, April 3rd, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 42 mins.: H. Belcher 1, E. J. Walsom 2, R. Thompson 3, A. Fulwell 4, E. Harriss 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6, H. Folkard 7, F. Palmer 8.

LODDON, NORFOLK.—On Sunday, April 3rd, for morning service at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 47 mins.: Miss V. Beckett 1, A. Corbyn 2, S. Copling 3, T. Beckett 4, R. Warman 5, F. A. Finch (conductor) 6, H. Barrett 7, F. Davey 8.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday afternoon, April 3rd, for Confirmation service by the Bishop of the Diocese, 1,248 Double Norwich: G. Wilson 1, *R. C. Kersey 2, *H. C. Balls 3, A. Keeble 4, J. M. Bailey 5, C. F. Bailey 6, C. Sampson 7, J. G. Rumsey 8. * Longest length in the method.

HOUSLOW.—On Sunday, April 3rd, for morning service, 1,264 Bob Major in 46 mins.: W. Ellingham 1, F. G. Goddard 2, W. Sparrow 3, F. Hawthorne 4, S. G. Armstrong 5, J. Kent 6, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 7, J. Milner 8.

DALSTON.—On Sunday, April 3rd, for evensong at St. Mark's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: W. J. Ellis 1, C. T. Coles (conductor) 2, A. L. Bennett 3, E. J. Butler 4, J. G. Nash 5, G. R. Pye 6, W. Pye 7, E. A. Hull 8. Mr. Bennett is from Buckfastleigh, Devon.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, on Sunday, April 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: A. R. G. Twinn 1, H. H. Chandler 2, J. J. Pratt 3, J. H. Lucas 4, W. Honor 5, F. Corke (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, C. Nichols 8. Also for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,258 changes) in 49 mins.: R. Warnett (first quarter-peal on ten bells and first attempt) 1, Miss N. G. Williams 2, J. W. Jones 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, J. J. Pratt 5, P. Jones 6, E. Hancock (conductor) 7, F. W. Goodfellow 8, W. Honor 9, H. H. Chandler 10. Arranged for Miss Williams, of Bath, and Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon., secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows' Church on Sunday, March 27th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 46 mins.: H. W. H. Strickland 1, H. A. Barnett 2, Miss P. A. Upsher 3, W. I. Ellis 4, C. A. Button 5, J. G. Nash (first quarter-peal of Major as conductor) 6, N. A. Tomlinson 7, E. A. Hull 8.

EAST CROMPTON.—On Sunday, March 27th, for Confirmation service, a date touch of 1,927 changes in 1 hr. 7 mins., being 727 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent, 240 Violet, and 240 Woodbine Treble Bob: C. Thorpe 1, S. Heywood 2, R. H. Byron 3, J. R. Buckley 4, C. Howarth 5, J. Butterworth (conductor) 6. Longest length and first touch in four methods by ringers of treble and 3rd.

HOLMER, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday morning, March 27th, 720 Bob Minor: A. Dowdes 1, W. Evans 2, E. Everett 3, F. Downer 4, W. Duggan 5, J. W. Downes (conductor) 6. Rung half-muffled in token of deep respect for the late Mr. W. Oliver, who was churchwarden and sidesman for many years at this church.

HAVANT.—On Sunday, March 27th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. by local ringers: T. Thorne 1, E. Hedger 2, W. Monk 3, F. Penn 4, W. Gent 5, M. Marshall 6, R. J. Hasted (conductor) 7, S. Parsons 8.

NOTICES.

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

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading in St. Laurence's Hall, Abbey Street, on Saturday, April 9th, at 3.15 p.m.—R. T. Hibbert, 69, York Road, Reading.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th, Southwark Cathedral on the 26th, St. Magnus' on the 28th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockrill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton on Saturday, April 9th. Bells at liberty 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian Church on April 9th (Parish Church bells not available). Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Halsall on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Sec.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A monthly meeting will be held at Penistone on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready 1.30. All members are requested to enter early for the cup contest to be held at Hoylandswaine in June. Our brother ringers at this tower offer a cordial invitation to our association to make this event more successful than ever. Mr. L. Wilkinson, Jackson Terrace, Hoylandswaine, Penistone. — C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 6d. a head, to all who notify Mr. A. Blogg, Brierfield Cottage, Whittle-le-Woods, not later than Friday, April 8th. — Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A business meeting and ringers' opening festival will be held at St. Giles', Camberwell, on Saturday, April 9th. Tower open from 3.30 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea, in St. Giles' Hall, at 5.30 p.m.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, S.W.3.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at St. Thomas', South Wigston, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Business meeting in the belfry at 6 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome. — Alban Disney, Local Hon. Sec., Belgrave Vicarage, Leicester.

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LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Easter Monday. Parish Church (8) and Lea (6) bells open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers very welcome. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. C. H. Baker, 12, Lincoln Street, Gainsborough, by April 11th.—Molly Davenport, Hon. Sec., Broomfield, Dore, near Sheffield.

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held on Easter Monday at Sidmouth. Bells (8) available. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Ottery St. Mary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Easter Monday at Derby. Bells of St. Andrew's (10), St. Alkmund's (8), St. Luke's (8), St. Peter's (8) available from 10 a.m. Committee meeting in All Saints' Schools 3 p.m. Service at All Saints' Church 4 p.m., at which it is hoped all members will attend. Preacher will be Rev. H. Boorman, Vicar of St. Luke's. Tea in All Saints' Schools 5 p.m., followed by general meeting. Smoking concert at 8 p.m. in King's Café, St. Peter's Street, arranged by Mr. E. E. Bradley (Littleover Handbell Ringers) and Mr. W. H. L. Dodd (vocalists). It is essential that all who desire tea (1s. 6d. per head members, 2s. 6d. non-members) should acquaint Mr. C. Draper, 25, Western Road, Derby, and secure tickets not later than April 13th to avoid disappointment. — Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

NORFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH.—1877-1927. — The jubilee meeting of the Guild will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 18th. The annual service will take place in the Church of St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the preacher will be the Venerable the Archdeacon of Norfolk. By kind invitation of the president and committee luncheon will be provided at Snellings, Rampant Horse Street, at 1.30 p.m. Circular letter giving full particulars has been sent to all the district secretaries, leaders of companies and unattached members, who are kindly requested to send in a list of the names of those members accepting the invitation to luncheon. Applications for luncheon tickets must be sent to the general secretary not later than Monday, April 11th, by whom the tickets will be issued. The general business meeting will be held immediately after the luncheon. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. John-de-Sepulchre and All Saints' are kindly placed at the disposal of the members.—Arthur L. Coleman, General Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 18th. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.15 p.m. prompt. Chairman, the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, Dean. Tea will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 13th. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas' (6), St. Swithin's (6), and St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 12 noon and 1 p.m.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at Beddington on Easter Monday, April 18th. Ringing from 2.30. Tea and business meeting 5.30. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, April 13th?—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Easter Monday at St. Mary-le-Tower. Committee meeting in Vestry at 12.15. Service, with address by the Vicar, at 1 p.m. Luncheon at 1.30 at Day's Restaurant, Cornhill, price 2s. 6d., for all those sending me word by the Tuesday previous. Meeting follows. Bells available all day (12); also St. Margaret's (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (5), Sproughton (6), Bramford (6).—Herbert Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Huddersfield on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available for ringing: Parish Church (10), Almondbury (8), Longwood (8), Kirkheaton (6). Divine service will be held at Parish Church at 3.45 p.m. Preacher, Vicar of Huddersfield, Rev. Canon A. Baines. Business meeting in Parochial Hall, Springwood Street, at 3 p.m. Tea in same hall at 5 p.m., at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. All applications for same must be made to Mr. W. Frith, 5, Lufton Road, Birkby, not later than first post Wednesday, April 13th.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Bromley, Easter Monday, April 18th. Towers open for ringing: Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul), St. Luke's, Bromley Common, St. George's, Beckenham, Eltham (8), Chislehurst (morning only), Hayes (6) (afternoon). Committee meeting in Church Committee Room 12 noon. Service, SS. Peter and Paul, 12.30. Preacher, Rev. H. P. Kennedy Skipton, F.R. Hist. Sec. Dinner in the Old Town Hall 1.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Applications for dinner tickets must be made before Tuesday, April 12th.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 18th. Service at 12 noon. Address by the Rev. A. C. Moule. Luncheon followed by the business meeting at 1 p.m. at the 'Dorothy Cafe.' Ringing at Great St. Mary's (12), St. Andrew's (8), Church of St. Mary and the Martyrs (8), and Old Chesterton (6). Will captains of belfries inform the Secretary of the numbers intending to attend, by Thursday, April 14th?—Rev. R. Copeman, Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday. The bells of St. Paul's (10) and St. Peter's (6) will be available from 10 a.m. The luncheon, to be followed by the annual business meeting, at the Silver Grill (near St. Paul's) at 1 p.m. Visitors will be heartily welcome.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—Meeting on Easter Monday at Worksop. Bells (8) available until 9 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 3d. per head, will be provided in the old Gatehouse, adjoining the church. Will those intending to be present please advise Mr. G. Hardwick, Sparken Cottages, Worksop?—C. Harrison, Hon. Sec.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Stockton-on-Tees on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells (10, tenor 27 cwt.) will be available for ringing from and after 10.30 a.m. Lunch will be provided at Spooner's Café, Dovecote Street, at 1 p.m. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. Those intending to be at lunch please notify the secretary not later than Thursday, April 14th, or they will not be provided for. It is hoped that members and friends will make it convenient to attend this meeting.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the four towers will be open at 2 p.m. Earlier ringing at the six-bell towers can be had by arrangement with the respective conductors. Service in Cathedral 5 p.m. Address by the Rev. Henry Edwards, Vicar of Watford. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. A sumptuous tea at a cheap price. Let me know if you can come.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., 'Duffield,' St. Albans.

GUILD OF DEVON RINGERS.—North-Eastern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Huntsham on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea, 1s. each, 5.15. Will those who hope to attend kindly let me know by Tuesday, April 19th?—M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Henfield on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open 2.30. Service 4. Tea, 4.30, Parish Room, by kind invitation. Half rail fare (maximum 1s.). Important: Those who intend to be present please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, April 20th.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at All Saints', Poplar, E., on Saturday, April 23rd. Divine service will be held at 5.15 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rector (Rev. C. Mayne). Tea, at 5.45 p.m., will be followed by the usual business meeting, at which the report and balance sheet will be presented. The officers for the ensuing year and four representatives to the Central Council will be elected. Ringing arrangements are as follows:—At All Saints', Poplar (10 bells): From 3.15 to 5.10 p.m., and after the meeting. At Christ Church, Cubitt Town (8 bells): From 3 to 4.45 p.m. At Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6 bells): From 3 to 4.45 p.m. All Saints' Church can be reached by train from Fenchurch Street (L. and N.E.) to Millwall Junction; or from Broad Street, Willesden, Acton, etc., to Poplar (L.M. & S.). Buses and trams from Aldgate and the City pass the church. The usual charge of 1s. will be made for tea, and, as a definite number has to be given, it is essential that members should advise either of the undersigned not later than Tuesday, April 19th, of their intention of being present.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4., Hon. Secs.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELLRINGERS.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Peter's Church, Glasbury, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 and tea at 5, kindly provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Lockyer.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burnley, Holy Trinity, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Schools at 1s. per head. Will all persons requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Hunter, 40, Prestwick Street, Burnley, by the 20th inst.?—J. Watson, Branch Sec., 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Crowland on Saturday, April 23rd. Service in the Abbey at 4.30. Tea at 5.15. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, April 20th.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's and St. Peter's R.C., Lytham, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary Bourne on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open at 2.30 p.m.—Henry T. Adams, Hon. Sec., Silchester Rectory, Silchester, Reading.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, April 30th. Bells available 2.30. Tea and meeting to follow. This is to replace the meeting that was to have been held at Maldon on Easter Monday. Buses leave Chelmsford 2.30 p.m. and 3.20 p.m., and return from Boreham 7.15 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. Will all members intending to be present to tea please notify me on or before Wednesday, April 27th?—P. Timson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 80, Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Will members please note change of address? Charles Draper, Local Sec., Chestnut House, Town Street, Duffield.

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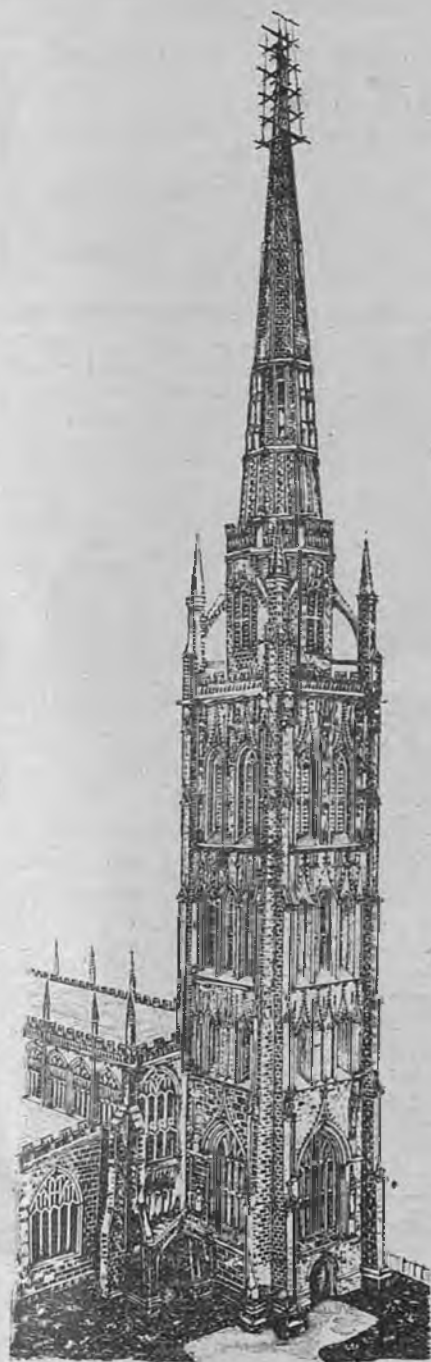
OXFORD.—At New College, on Friday, March 25th, being the Feast of the Annunciation, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,284 changes) in 55 mins., by members of the Oxford Society: S. Hounslow 1, T. Payne 2, A. Dubber 3, W. Finch 4, F. Exon 5, W. Simmonds 6, F. Clinkard 7, V. Bennett 8, H. Miles (conductor) 9, R. Plaister 10.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCs.—On Tuesday, March 22nd, 1,152 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 45 mins.: H. Nelson 1, E. Lawson 2, Adam Blogg 3, E. B. Coxhead 4, F. G. Bradley 5, A. Hartley 6, H. Lucas (longest length as conductor) 7, Alfred Blogg 8.

MARSDEN.—At St. Bartholomew's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,120 changes) in 45 mins.: L. Byram 1, H. Hoyle 2, G. Scawthorn 3, S. Whitehead 4, H. Shaw 5, G. Wright 6, A. Carter 7, C. Cock 8. Rung on the fourth anniversary of the dedication of the bells. The ringers are all local, and it is the longest touch rung by them as a band.

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WONDERFUL PRODUCT OF THE CROYDON FOUNDRY.

INSPECTION BY TWELVE HUNDRED BELL RINGERS.

The great rally of ringers at Croydon on Saturday proved by far the largest gathering of members of the Exercise that has ever been drawn together at one time. The invitation issued by Mr. Cyril Johnston, through the various associations and 'The Ringing World,' resulted in over 1,200 people visiting Messrs. Gillett and Johnston's celebrated bell foundry during the afternoon, to hear and inspect the world's greatest carillon, which is now ready for shipment to Ottawa, where, in the new and stately home of the Dominion Parliament of Canada, it will form part of the national memorial to the heroic

thousands from that distant part of the Empire who laid down their lives in the war. It will be dedicated on 'Dominion Day,' July 1st.

This new carillon is a wonderful achievement in the bell founder's craft. It is heavier than the one which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston made for Park Avenue Baptist Church, New York, just over a year ago, and its 53 bells range through four and a half chromatic octaves from the 'low E' ten-ton Bourdon bell to the top treble, musically described as 'high A.' The big bells are really majestic castings, majestic alike in shape and in sound. Round the shoulder of the Bourdon bell is a continuous design of maple leaves, and the inscription on the waist is duplicated, being in English on one side and in French on the other—a fitting tribute to the two nationalities which go to make the people of the great Dominion.

There is special interest also, in the fourth quarter-bell, weighing 2½ tons, for it was this bell which the Prime Minister of Canada saw cast last year, and into which he dropped a Canadian coin just as the metal was about to be poured into the mould. This bell bears the inscription, 'Cast in the presence of the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, C.M.G., M.P., Prime Minister of Canada, 19th November, 1926.'

The smallest bell in the carillon is a casting only about 12 lbs. in weight, but the whole of the bells have been tuned on the Simpson five-tone harmonic principle to a scale of equal temperament and to international pitch. The total weight of the bells is 53 tons, and they will be installed in the magnificent Victory tower at Ottawa in a framework and fittings weighing another 22 tons. The frame itself is a gigantic structure, with a foundation of enormous steel girders, the bells rising tier upon tier to a height of something like 50 feet. As the carillon was displayed in the foundry, it was in two sections, but when mounted in the tower at Ottawa, these sections will be superimposed.

In tone the bells form a glorious whole. The chords of the big bells vibrate like the deep diapason of a gigantic organ, the middle bells are singularly beautiful, while the high notes, so exceptionally difficult to reduce to true Simpson harmonics, pipe out their shrill tones with remarkable purity, and the whole form an instrument almost without parallel in the world. It is another triumph for Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and, hearing the bells on Saturday one could not but reflect upon the joy which this great carillon will give not only to the present generation, but to generations of Canadians yet unborn.



MR. P. C. LARKIN, HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA, ACCOMPANIED BY MR. CYRIL JOHNSTON, INSPECTING THE SECOND LARGEST BELL (WEIGHING 7 TONS), ON THE DAY BEFORE THE RINGERS' RALLY.

ALL ENGLAND REPRESENTED.

Saturday's great gathering was a remarkable one. The opportunity of seeing this wonderful product of an English bell foundry captured the imagination of ringers all over the country, and from north, south, east and west they rolled up literally in hundreds. Many brought their wives or friends, and they came by train and car. Charabancs discharged their human freight at the foundry door, every train arriving at one or other of the Croydon stations between half-past one and three o'clock disgorged its contingent. They came from as far west as Devon and South Wales; Bristol and Gloucester sent representatives; Derby and Nottingham ringers came in numbers; the Midlands and Eastern Counties contributed scores, while from towers in the counties within seventy miles of London they came in their hundreds.

Mr. Johnston had invited the ringers of England, and they took him at his word. He was present at the foundry to welcome them, and he had an army of stewards assisting him to marshal the great crowd through the works. As the visitors arrived they were queued up in the erecting shop and slowly passed round the carillon, which was inspected with great interest, and, by many, with wonderment.

At one end, in a specially constructed pit in the floor of the building, was the clavier, that rather weird arrangement of keys and pedals connected up with wires and trackers to the bells, where sat the carillonneur, M. Kamel Lefevre, principal assistant to M. le Chevalier Jef. Denyn, who is head of the Belgian National Carillon School, and carillonneur at St. Rombold's Cathedral, Malines. Throughout the afternoon M. Lefevre gave a recital which included classical pieces and many familiar airs, all of which he played with an expression which would be unbelievable had one not heard it. It was at once a demonstration of his own masterly skill at the clavier, and of the perfection of the mechanism of the carillon itself.

As the visitors passed by the performer they were able to look down upon his operations and thus get an excellent view of the way in which these carillons are manipulated. It is a task that not only requires a specialised musical knowledge and technique, but also a considerable amount of physical fitness, for, finely as the striking is adjusted, a long performance requires the output of considerable energy, for legs as well as arms find employment in operating the console. It was fascinating to watch M. Lefevre at work, but with the knowledge of the lengthy queue behind a long stay above the clavier was not possible, and the visitors passed on round the carillon, where they were able to get a closer inspection of the bells, to peer under the big ones, and to realise in some degree the immensity of the whole production.

THE CLOCK.

From this they passed to the clock department, where is being manufactured the great electric timepiece which will be connected up with the four quarter bells and the bourdon, so as to chime the Westminster quarters and strike the hours. The clock mechanism is divided into three separate units, the 'going train' driving the hands of the four 15ft. 9in. diameter clock faces, while the 'striking train' and 'quarter train' will operate the bell hammers. When erected in the tower, these will be fifty feet below the bells, which will be 200ft. above the ground level. Clock weights are dispensed with, and powerful electric motors lift and release the enormous clock hammers.

In addition to the central attraction, there were many other features of interest in the foundry, not least, to ringers, being the new bells for Coventry, which are now almost completed, and the front eight of which were heard chimed. Then there was the carillon for Princeton University, U.S.A., and another, almost a 'pocket edition,' in which the heaviest bell is only about 1 cwt. In the foundry, one saw the moulds of bells in various stages of preparation, the huge copes which contain the exterior mould of big bells, and, in the tuning shop, the great tuning machine was an object of much interest.

As the visitors wandered about the works, they could hear the music of the carillon, and they also got an idea of what such a heavy peal would sound like in changes. Mr. Tom Groombridge, jun., at intervals during the afternoon, 'tapped' a course of Grandsire Caters on 'the back ten'; a lead of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and the first and last leads of a course of Grandsire Cinques. It was a most interesting and instructive afternoon, and one which will be long remembered by those who had the good fortune to be present.

A BIG TEA PARTY.

Mr. Johnston's hospitality did not end here, however. At the Baths Hall a meat tea had been prepared for the 1,200 guests, and hither they made their way from the foundry soon after five o'clock. So numerous was the company, that even this spacious building could not accommodate all the party, and an overflow section sat down in an adjoining hall. No such scene had ever been witnessed before in the annals of the Exercise. It was really an inspiring sight to see so many ringers gathered together under such happy circumstances. A bounteous meal, admirably and expeditiously served, was enjoyed by all, and the pleasure was enhanced by the opportunity which was afforded for old friends to sit and chat over the tea cups. Mr. Cyril Johnston presided over this huge gathering, and had supporting him, among others, his mother (Mrs. Johnston), the Lord Bishop of Sheffield (Dr. Burrows, who was a former Vicar of Croydon) and Mrs. Burrows, the Mayor of Croydon and Canon G. F. Coleridge, president of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, all of whom had been among the interested visitors to the foundry during the afternoon. Some interesting speeches were made after the tea.

The Bishop of Sheffield, who was received with loud applause, said they had been present that day at what was a unique sight and a

unique hearing, of which they would probably never experience the like again, and they were present at a gathering in that hall which had more harmony in it than any other body at that moment. There could not possibly be a greater body of harmony than was represented by over one thousand bell ringers present that night (applause). A variety of thoughts, continued the Bishop, come to us at such a time, especially with regard to the great carillon which we have seen and heard. The first is, of course, that it is going to be a memorial, far off from these shores, to the splendid offering made by the men of the great Dominion of Canada, who gave their lives for their king and country. That is the first great thought that comes into our minds, and there are many present in this room to-day who will remember that unique service at St. Clement Danes', when the bell ringers commemorated in a most beautiful and wonderful and pathetic way their glorious dead. Another thought that comes to us is that we are taking our share in giving something to one of our great Dominions. This carillon is going to the capital of a Dominion in which there is a large number of French subjects of the Crown, as well as men of our own blood. It is an instance of the way in which various races are welded into the one Empire over which the King rules. Bell ringing and bell founding, like everything which is an art or a science, is international, and therefore makes for peace. This afternoon we have had a wonderful exhibition of carillon playing by one of the greatest experts, M. Lefevre, the celebrated campanologist of Malines in Belgium (applause). Then we have seen some of the great bells which are to go to Princeton University in the United States, and we know that last year a great carillon went from this foundry to New York. Thus we have an example of how bell ringing and bell founding bring all people together in helping forward that peace of the world which we all so much desire.

SPLENDID WORK.

Continuing, the Bishop said: I am very glad to be here in Croydon once more—a place where I spent five very happy years, and I am glad to think that my old band of ringers at the Parish Church have been doing their duty and are present to-day (applause). But it has been a greater pleasure to me to come and see the splendid work that Mr. Johnston is doing in this town and for the whole country (applause). I cannot help thinking that my dear old friend, his father, would have rejoiced and loved to see this day and to see how wonderfully his son is carrying on the great work in this bell foundry which he began. I have known Mr. Cyril Johnston ever since he was a young boy. I won't tell you about him in those days (laughter). Oh, he was always a good boy (renewed laughter), and the result is he has grown and gone from strength to strength. I cannot help telling you how much I admire and everybody else admires his enthusiasm, his skill and invention, his patient work, and the very admirable way in which he always gets on with those who work with him. These are great qualities and have made his name known, not only throughout the length and breadth of the land, but in other countries overseas. I am quite certain of this, that Mr. Johnston knows quite well there are two things which are essential to the carrying on of any great industry. The first is that there should be the very best possible relationship, good will, and patient, careful consideration between employer and employed, and that there should be the very best possible work put in by the workmen. The old country is able to produce every bit as good work, aye, and better work than any other country in the world (applause). If the millionaires of America and the Parliaments of our Dominions and of other parts of the world think they want first-rate work, they come to the old country for it. Let us then to it that we always bear that character, and that before the world we are known as a nation of first-rate workmen, whatever our work may be (applause).

ART AND MYSTERY.

The Mayor of Croydon said that gathering represented bell ringers from all parts of the country, and they had come to the town attracted by the noble work produced from the foundry in the White Horse Road, work which, as Dr. Burrows had told them, served many useful purposes. It served to spread the good name and fame of the Old Country throughout the Empire and beyond, and, at the same time, it spread harmony and good will. It also served to keep our business enterprise at concert pitch, and caused those who were concerned in the production of those wonderful musical instruments to put their very best into their work. He could not conceive, he said, any type of work calling for greater effort and giving greater pleasure than those marvellous productions such as they had listened to that afternoon. He rejoiced also at the international aspect of the matter. They remembered the Belgian colony which they housed in the days of war, and it was a pleasure in these fair times of peace to receive their friends and neighbours from across the seas, who came to show them the excellence and wonder of their work in all that appertains to campanology. In M. Lefevre they had the best of the best (applause). They had enjoyed his wonderful performance, and they were delighted to know he was to remain with them for a few more days (applause). As to the art and mystery of the craft of the bell ringers—he knew of no truer expression than calling both an art and a mystery—he knew nothing. He realised, however, that the exactitude with which they were now able to tune their bells had been a matter of much time and close and deep study, and it would not have been possible without a love for that work (applause). He hoped that great company would take back to their respective homes a pleasant recollection of their visit to Croydon. When they heard the name of Gilbert and Johnston mentioned up and down the country they would at least

be able to say they had been to the source of the good things, and had seen and heard the wonderful works that the firm produced.

THE ORDER OF THE BATH.

Canon Coleridge said the previous speakers had spoken to them of what they had heard and seen that afternoon, of the international aspect, the municipal point of view and every point of view except one, and it was of that one other point of view which he wished to speak. Had it not been for their good friend Mr. Johnston, none of them would have been there that night. It was a great brain wave on his part which had brought together something like twelve hundred ringers from all parts of England (applause). Even from his little remote railway station in Devon he found that the ex-station master had travelled all the way to Croydon specially to be there that day, and ringers had come from many other distant places in the country. That showed how deeply they appreciated Mr. Johnston's kindness in asking them to visit him on that occasion. He had had a great response to his invitation, and there was no one who would not go away well satisfied with all that they had seen and heard, and, might he add, eaten as well (laughter and applause). They had heard beautiful music in the foundry, and had seen some beautiful bells, among them the new bells for Coventry Cathedral. Not so very long ago he (Canon Coleridge) tried his best, with others, to preserve the old bells (applause). They went to Coventry, where they spent a most interesting day with the Chancellor in the Consistory Court, with what result they all knew. The resuscitated bells were on view that day. Certainly they looked cleaner and more beautiful than the old bells probably looked, and all he could say was this, he was perfectly certain that the generations which were to come would appreciate the beautiful tones of these new bells, even as their forefathers appreciated the old ones in the years gone by, when they did not know so much about perfect tuning as the experts to-day (applause). Continuing, Canon Coleridge said they wished to thank Mr. Johnston with all their hearts for his hospitality (applause). They not only thanked him for the excellent tea, but also for the great honour which every ringer in that room would feel, to the end of his life, had come upon him. There might be some present in that hall who did not realise that those who were in the seats of the mighty, high up at the head tables, were seated upon what would be in ordinary times the dressing saloon of a swimming bath. Those just below were seated on the place from which the bathers took their headers, while those further down were on the floor of the bath. In addition to his other kindnesses that day, Mr. Johnston had therefore conferred upon them all the most honourable Order of the Bath (loud laughter). It only remained for him, in the name of that great assembly to thank Mr. Johnston for entertaining them so liberally, both at the foundry and in that hall (applause).

HOW CARILLONS HELP RINGING PEALS.

Mr. Cyril Johnston, whose rising was the signal for loud and prolonged cheering, said when they first thought they might show the world's greatest carillon to members of the various ringing societies throughout the country, they thought 200 or 300 might come along, but on Monday morning they knew the worst (laughter). The numbers ran into more than four figures, and that day they had had something like 1,200 at least through their works. 'I cannot say,' Mr. Johnston proceeded, 'how much we appreciate the honour you have done us. I think it has been an act of grace on your part, because, after all, a carillon is not a ringing peal, and there is nothing like a ringing peal for a ringer (applause). I have seen indications from time to time, in that journal which serves the ringing fraternity so well, of a fear that the carillon is a kind of peaceful penetration against the ringing fraternity, and that we are out to oust the ringers. There are, I believe, something like ten thousand ringing peals of sorts in this country, and 40,000 ringers. The bells are good, bad and indifferent; the ringers, all of them, are, of course, good (laughter). It would, indeed, be a foolish bell founder who tried to break that national tradition, which has flourished for three hundred years, since Falden Stedman, in Cambridge, invented Stedman Doubles; but if a bell founder has the opportunity of putting carillons, which are sets of chromatic octaves of bells, for the purpose of tune playing and organ playing, if you like, if he can put them into Dominion and foreign campaniles and in certain odd towers in this country, unsuited by their construction or associations for ringing peals, I consider it his duty to do it, and if he does it on a fairly large scale and in increasing quantities, he is forced to increase his plant and improve his methods, and all that is reflected in his work when he comes to casting and hanging bells for ringing' (applause).

CROYDON'S NEW INDUSTRY.

Continuing, Mr. Johnston said an old guide book described Croydon as being celebrated for a brewery and a bell and clock factory and an air that was not polluted. But there was another industry for which he thought Croydon must be making a name. He referred to the manufacture of Bishops (laughter and applause). Their last Vicar had just gone to one of the most important London churches; his four predecessors all became Bishops. That day, the Bishop of Sheffield and Mrs. Burrows had come down to be amongst their old friends. He was sure they all felt they could not too warmly express their appreciation of the kindness which the Bishop and his wife had shown in so doing. It was no small matter for Dr. Burrows, who was Bishop of one of the largest dioceses in England, to come to them 172 miles away from his own busy centre of activity (applause). He

remembered it was a sad day for Croydon when Dr. and Mrs. Burrows, left them at the time Dr. Burrows became Bishop of Lewes. He (Mr. Johnston) felt that he had some little hand in the Bishop's episcopal training, as the first peal of bells he had to dedicate as Bishop was a Croydon-made peal at West Grinstead, Sussex (laughter and applause). Many of his old ringers were present that evening, including Mr. Bill States, Mr. Amos Clark and others. Mr. Johnston went on to thank the Vicars and wardens of the four churches where the bells had been opened for ringing that day. Their kindness, he said, had helped considerably in the enjoyment of the visitors from a distance. He also thanked Capt. Freeborn for having arranged a first-class concert, which they would later enjoy, and Mr. Tom Groombridge, jun., who had spent his time and energy on three or four occasions to come to the foundry to practise that wonderful performance of doing the work of ten or twelve men at once and chiming changes on the carillon. He also thanked Mr. Lefevere for his charming recital, and as he was staying for a similar purpose for a fortnight, he could only hope they would return him sound, whole and alive to Belgium at the end of the following week. He was indebted, too, for suggestions to ringers and members of his own staff and to the large army of stewards who had helped to organise the whole day's proceedings.

COVENTRY BELLS.

On the previous day, said Mr. Johnston, they had had at the foundry a large party of members of the Empire Parliamentary Association, who were not only interested in the carillon, but also specially interested in Coventry bells. One or two people had wished his firm 'in Coventry' in connection with this contract—(laughter)—but the bells were nearly finished, and he had had a letter from the Sub-Dean saying that the bells were to be dedicated on Easter eve. The bells had been cast in ringing sizes in case, at some future time, someone left forty thousand pounds to build a campanile where they could be hung for ringing. Some people, proceeded Mr. Johnston, might suspect that his firm had been guilty of a little scheme of propaganda during the last few days, but if they had done something bigger than anyone had done before, he did not know why they should not ask their friends to come and look at it (applause). He wanted them to understand that without the skill and hearty co-operation of the whole of the staff and employees of the firm the consummation of the carillon that they had seen that day would not have been possible, and any suggestion that the firm was seeking exceptional publicity was far outweighed by the pleasure and honour of welcoming that, the greatest ringers' gathering ever held (applause). 'I greatly appreciate the words spoken by the Bishop, the Mayor and Canon Coleridge,' concluded Mr. Johnston, 'and I particularly value the reference to my father. He would have loved to-day' (loud applause).

This concluded the speech making, and, as many as could do so, visited the towers of the Parish Church and St. Peter's for ringing. Hundreds, however, remained in and about the hall, meeting and chatting with friends from distant places and thoroughly enjoying the opportunity thus presented of an informal reunion.

By eight o'clock the hall had taken on a totally different appearance. The great floor had been cleared for dancing, and the sides were tiered with chairs, from which the company listened to the really brilliant programme which Capt. Howard Freeborn had arranged.

A number of ringers who arrived early in London were able to enjoy some ringing on the eight bells at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, and the ten at St. Mary's, Beddington.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

There has been a succession of distinguished visitors and societies to the Croydon foundry during the past fortnight, during which time M. Lefevere has given recitals. M. le Chevalier Jef. Denys also performed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Last week there were visits from the Fellowship of the British Empire Exhibition, the Industrial Welfare Society, the City Livery Club, the Empire Parliamentary Association headed by Mr. Amery, the Colonial Secretary, and accompanied by the High Commissioner for Canada. On Monday members of the Federation of British Industries paid a visit; on Tuesday, the Anglo-Belgian Union, with the Belgian Ambassador and Baroness Monscheur, and Lord Burnham; while yesterday arrangements were made for a visit of the English-speaking Union and the Mayor and Corporation of Croydon; and to-day the American Chamber of Commerce will go to the foundry.

MR. JOHNSTON'S THANKS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I trespass on your space to express appreciation of the co-operation which the hon. secretaries of Associations and Guilds extended to us in connection with the 'Ringers' Rally'?

We had 95 per cent. of the numbers sent to us by Monday last (the date named as 'closing day'), and our plans were facilitated thereby considerably.

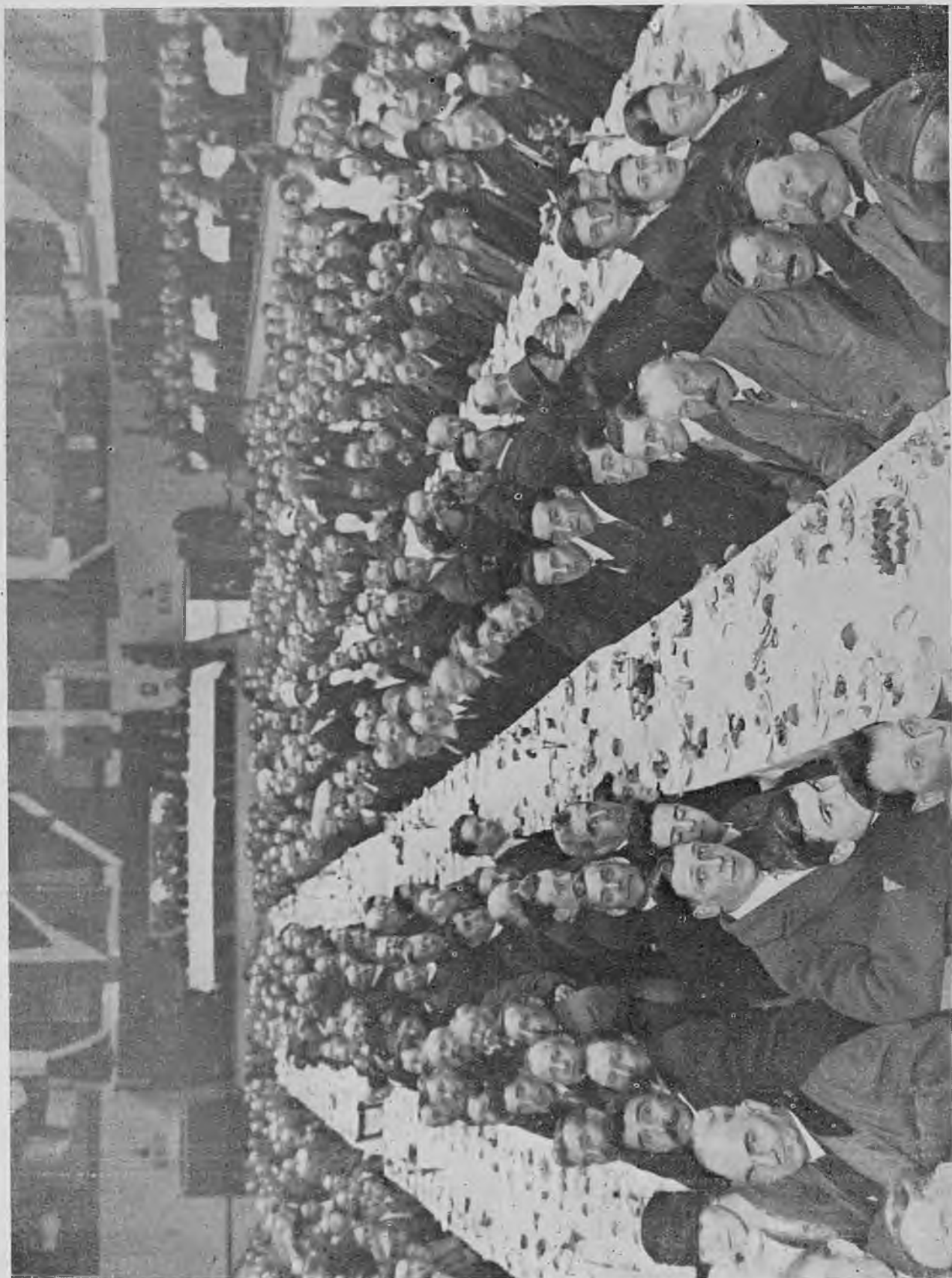
All the visitors, too, on Saturday made it possible to carry out the day's proceedings smoothly by the splendid way in which they adhered to the programme and general directions.

In addition, allow me to thank you sincerely for the valuable assistance of 'The Ringing World.' Your references each week to the proposed meeting helped the secretaries and ourselves, and contributed greatly to the success of a memorable occasion.—Yours sincerely,

CYRIL F. JOHNSTON.

April 8th, 1927

SUPPLEMENT TO THE RINGING WORLD.



A SECTION OF THE BIG TEA PARTY.

Graphic Photo Union.