

THE RINGING WORLD

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(The Croydon Bell Foundry, Ltd.)

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Where the World's Greatest Carillon is installed.

ALL ENGLAND AT CROYDON.

Never in all ringing history has there been anything to approach the scenes and events at Croydon on Saturday last, when the 'All England' ringers' gathering took place at the invitation of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. It was literally an 'All England' gathering, for every county, almost every association, and hundreds of towers were represented. Ringers came from every part of the country; they found much to instruct and entertain them; much to admire and wonder at; much to talk of and long to remember. Many who were present visited Croydon on that other memorable occasion a year ago; but Saturday's gathering entirely eclipsed its predecessor. The way in which the whole proceedings were arranged and carried out was a triumph of organisation; the exhibits which the visitors were invited to inspect were not merely interesting, they were impressive; and the manner in which the huge concourse were entertained and their comfort and convenience studied was remarkable. For all these things those who took part in the proceedings are deeply indebted to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

But this great gathering was more than a mere afternoon's entertainment and pleasure. It was an inspiration, and its results should strike deep into the Exercise. The spirit which pervaded the proceedings was another happy example, on the larger scale, of the brotherhood existing among ringers, and it was a demonstration before the eyes of that revered figure, the Primate of All England, that bellringers are a body of men and women who are deeply interested in their art and are bound together by a common tie far more strongly than the workers in some other departments of the Church. The Archbishop could never before have had brought home to him so strikingly the enthusiasm of those who ring the bells of the churches Sunday by Sunday, and probably a great many ringers themselves realised much more fully than ever before that they form part of an organisation which has real life and is imbued with a spirit and enthusiasm which only needs fanning into flame to carry the Exercise to a position and achievements never yet reached.

There was another respect in which Saturday's gathering was of great value, and that was in demonstrating that our English bell founders are the best in the world. Bells of the quality heard on Saturday can be produced nowhere outside this country, and that is why the Americans, the Belgians and others come here for their carillons. This form of bell music is not typical of England, where we hope our own form of ringing will ever remain in undisputed possession of the field; but it is a gain to the Exercise that our bell founders, with the

(Continued on page 146.)

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enterprise and business acumen such as Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have displayed, should get these overseas contracts, for it enables them not only to maintain their efficiency, but to improve their methods and constantly to extend their researches, with the result that their advance in knowledge and experience is put into the making of bells for our English churches. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have taken an important and honourable part in the recent progress in the art of bell founding, and last Saturday's great event has placed the Exercise under a further obligation to them.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 20, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

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

F. HORACE E. STUBBS ... Treble	E. HARRY STONELEY ... 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 2	JAMES S. HUTCHBY ... 6
EDWARD SOARS ... 3	JAMES GEORGE ... 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 4	* DAVID S. COLLINS ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method. 50th peal of Triples on tower bells as conductor.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 24, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... Treble	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 2	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 4	WILLIAM BOND ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN

This is an original composition by the late J. W. Washbrook, containing 208 Bobs, 66 Singles, and has all the 6-7's at back stroke.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR AND MIXED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, SPLICED, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 5
EDWARD J. BEER ... 2	GEORGE MORRAD ... 6
JOHN BURLES ... 3	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 7
HENRY T. WILLSON ... 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

The first time these methods have been spliced.

LYE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 3½ cwt.

CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... Treble	THOMAS HEMMING ... 5
ALFRED C. BOXLEY ... 2	C. WILLIAM COOPER ... 6
GEORGE SMITH ... 3	ALFRED HACKETT ... 7
HECTOR G. BIRD ... 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... Tenor

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

Quickest peal on the bells. The conductor has now called a peal from every bell in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major.

EWELL, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

FRANK JENNINGS Treble	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ... 5
ALFRED J. BULL 2	DANIEL COOPER 6
HERBERT J. SKELT 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... 7
HAROLD N. PITSTOW 4	CHARLES H. KIPPEN Tenor

Composed by CHAS. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPEN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Frank E. Darby.

THURCASTON, NEAR LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE LATIMER CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt. 7 lb. in G.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	ERNEST BARTRAM 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 2	ERNEST W. TIPLER 6
ARTHUR H. BARTRAM 3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 7
ALFRED BALLARD 4	LEONARD E. TOWERS Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH HALL Treble	SAMUEL HOLT 5
WILLIAM BERRY 2	J. H. C. MASSEY 6
JAMES H. BASTOW 3	P.C. JOHN CARTER 7
CHARLES OLLIER 4	P.C. JOSEPH WILSON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM BERRY.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to John Hollows.

NORTH SHIELDS, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt.

ANDREW TULLEY Treble	JOSEPH ROBERTSON 5
JAMES E. SCOTT 2	EDWARD A. HERN 6
ADAM DEAS 3	JOHN GEORGE 7
JAMES C. GRAY 4	ROBERT SKEOCH Tenor

Conducted by E. A. HERN.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. First peal of Stedman as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TEN-PART, No. 79.

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

JAMES PAGETT Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	CHARLES DRAFER 6
ERNEST MORRIS 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
MAURICE SWINFELD 4	JOHN CURTIS Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

LEWISHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HARRY WARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	WILLIAM W. FOX 5
CHARLES H. WALKER 2	JAMES HURRELL 6
HARRY WARNETT, JUN. ... 3	JACK DAFTERS 7
ALBERT E. DARVILL 4	RICHARD STEERS Tenor

Conducted by H. WARNETT, SEN.

A birthday peal for Jack Dafters and Richard Steers.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	WILLIAM MADGWICK 5
STEWART SANDFORD 2	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 6
JOHN BURLS 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	EDWARD J. BEER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

* 50th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Lilian G. Goodship, of Reading.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

*RONALD AXLETT Treble	SAM TAYLOR 5
STANLEY R. DOBBIE 2	W. J. WALKER 6
GEORGE KENWARD 3	WILLIAM SPICE, SEN. 7
WILLIAM SPICE, JUN. 4	*HARRY SPICE Tenor

Conducted by W. SPICE, SEN.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. The Spices in this peal represent three generations.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(ODDFELLOWS' PEAL.)

On Thursday, March 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

BRO. BERTIE O. SOLDEN, 'Good Intent Lodge' Treble	
*BRO. S. F. MILLWARD, P.G., C.A.M.U. 'Perseverance Lodge' ... 2	
†BRO. ARTHUR W. ROBINSON, 'Ambrose Lodge' 3	
BRO. THOMAS LAW, 'Victoria Lodge' 4	
BRO. FRED HOPPER, P.G. 'Victoria Lodge' 5	
BRO. TOM HAYNES, 'Victoria Lodge' 6	
BRO. JOHN T. HENSMAN, 'Good Intent Lodge' 7	
BRO. FRED WILFORD, P.G. 'Victoria Lodge' Tenor	

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BRO. F. WILFORD.

* First peal of Major. † First peal on eight bells. Rung to commemorate the centenary of the Loyal 'Good Intent' Lodge, No. 266 (Northampton District), M.U.I.O.O.F.

LILLINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 9 cwt. in F sharp.

OSWALD J. HUNT Treble	THOMAS W. CHOWN 5
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE 2	WALTER MALINS 6
JOSEPH B. FENTON 3	JOSEPH A. FENTON 7
JOHN W. CHANDLER 4	FRANK E. PERVIN Tenor

Conducted by J. A. FENTON.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were recently augmented from three old bells by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

DEANE, BOLTON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. in G.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH Treble	THOMAS WALLWORK 5
EDWARD JENKINS 2	TOM WILDE 6
ROBERT WALLWORK 3	TITUS BARLOW 7
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal of Surprise in the tower.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*MISS MABEL HENDERSON 2	Treble	WILLIAM L. GOFTON 5
GEORGE R. HOLMES 2		ADAM DEAS 6
JAMES E. GOFTON 3		STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 7
† WILLIAM BROOKS 4		THOMAS T. GOFTON Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung as a farewell peal to the Vicar, the Rev. F. J. Burt.

PORT SUNLIGHT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

*GEOFFREY MILTON 2	Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHORST ... 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2		GEORGE R. JONES 6
WALTER J. BATTLE 3		† ALBERT J. HUGHES 7
HARRY F. HOLDEN 4		JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ALBERT J. HUGHES.

* First peal of Double Norwich. † First in the method as conductor. Rung on the 40th anniversary of the cutting of the first sod for the erection of the Port Sunlight Works.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S FIVE-PART, No. 6.

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES L. RUTLEDGE 2	Treble	JOSEPH ROWELL 5
*WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 2		JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 6
GEORGE A. PICKERING 3		JOSEPH E. SYKES 7
WILLIAM H. BARBER 4		JOHN STUART Tenor

Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

* First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since their restoration by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5086 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

LESTER L. GRAY 2	Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
JOHN WILKINSON 2		THOMAS C. LARKEY 6
THOMAS HAMMOND 3		SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 7
*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 4		EDWARD CAUNCE Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

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

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 4, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

NELSON ELLIOTT 2	Treble	ALFRED J. BULL 5
*KENNETH SNELLING 2		REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 6
GEORGE OLLIVER 3		OLIVER SIPPETTS 7
BERNARD WELLS 4		Cecil Nice Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by C. Nice

* First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

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MADE FROM BEST RUSSIAN AND ITALIAN HEMP,
ALSO ITALIAN AND DUTCH FLAX.

Kindly write for special low prices of these superior ropes.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Established 1780. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

OCKBROOK, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

WILLIAM SIMPKIN 2	Treble	JACK BAILEY 4
JAMES F. GEORGE 2		SAMUEL HUNT 5
FREDERICK BROWN 3		RONALD H. DOVE Tenor

Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

THRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently.

WILLIAM MOSK 2	Treble	ALPHRED J. BERRY 4
BERT HARRISON 2		GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... 5
ARTHUR COOK 3		WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STEGGALL.

MORETON VALENCE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF CRANBIRE & ST. DUNSTON'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

EDWARD COMPTON 2	Treble	THOMAS PRICE 4
LESLIE BARRY 2		ARTHUR HARMER 5
WILLIAM JONES 3		WILLIAM MAYO Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford, two of Bob Minor and three of Kent.

WILLIAM AMBLER 2	Treble	JOE GREENWOOD 4
THOMAS SENIOR 2		ROBT. W. JENNISON, SEN. ... 5
VERNEY BAIRSTOW 3		ROBT. W. JENNISON, JUN. ... 6
JOHN W. COULTON 4		JOHN W. COULTON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER.

Rung after meeting short for Stedman.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 26, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST E. BARBER 2	Treble	FREDERICK STANTON 4
WILLIAM NIBLETT 2		WILLIAM RANFORD 5
*ROBERT G. KNOWLES 3		CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

* 200th peal.

HAWKSHEAD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Violet and Oxford and three of Kent Treble Bob.

CHARLES E. WEBB 2	Treble	THOMAS F. HEWERTSON ... 4
WOODBURN NEVINSON 2		WILLIAM ROBINSON 5
HAROLD HARDY 3		THOMAS B. NEWTON Tenor

Conducted by T. B. NEWTON.

Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Brocklebank, of Grisedale Hall, Lancashire.

CHILCOMPTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Bob, St. Clement's, Double Court, Single Court, Double Oxford, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN TARGETT Treble	*ERIC C. WADMAN 4
*HERBERT W. PEARCE 2	REGINALD F. BECK 5
RONALD G. BECK 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

* First peal in seven methods.

KEMPSTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 18 cwt.

NOEL WILES Treble	*ALBERT FLEET 4
EDMOND J. HOBBS 2	PEARL INSKIP 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3	HORACE H. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by HORACE H. SMITH.

* First Treble Bob peal inside.

EGG BUCKLAND, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven 720's, each called differently.

Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat (approx.).

*HARRY F. S. MYERS ... Treble	THOMAS G. MYERS 4
ALFRED W. MYERS 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY 5
JAMES E. LILLEY 3	G. HARRY MYERS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal. Rung by two fathers and their four sons.

ELKSTONE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

WALTER YEEND Treble	HAROLD HALFORD 3
ALFRED COOK 2	FREDERICK BLOWING 4

JOHN F. BALLINGER Tenor

Conducted by WALTER YEEND.

This is the first peal ever rung on these fine-toned bells, which were rehung twelve months ago by Messrs. Bond, of Burford. This tower, it is hoped, will contain six or eight bells in the future. The ringers were kindly entertained by Mr. Knock, churchwarden, before and after the peal.

HOLBETON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, Rev. E. B. James' plan. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM B. RICHARDS ... Treble	WILLIAM J. RUNDLE 4
WILLIAM A. WONNACOTT ... 2	WILLIAM G. HISCOTT 5
ERNEST W. MARSH 3	REV. EVERARD S. POWELL ... Tenor

Conducted by the Rev. EVERARD S. POWELL.

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor rung in Devon and by the Guild. First peal in the method by all the band.

HASKETON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Double Court and two 720's each of Plain Bob, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE BENNETT Treble	LEONARD E. WOOLLARD 4
BERT W. SMITH 2	GEORGE W. ABLITT 5
GEORGE PRYKE 3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 4, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In four methods, being 720 College Single and two 720's each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt.

*EDWIN BROMLEY Treble	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN. 4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN. 2	GEORGE BURT 5
ROBERT T. LAMBERT 3	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... Tenor

Conducted by R. T. LAMBERT.

* First peal. Rung as a first birthday compliment to Daphne Elizabeth Lambert, daughter of the ringers of the 3rd.

HANDBELL PEALS.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(St. Mary-Le-Tower Society.)

On Wednesday, February 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Mary-Le-Tower,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

HOBART E. SMITH 1-2	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5-6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3-4	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 7-8
FREDERICK J. TILLET 9-10	

Composed by J. RILEY. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Witness: WILLIAM J. MAYHEW.

The witness tolled for the 8 p.m. service during the peal.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At 26, KIRKMANSHULME LANE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

*ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
*HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	*FREDERICK PAGE 7-8
*HARRY CHAPMAN 9-10	

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

* First peal of Treble Ten in hand.

PLAIN MAJOR METHODS SPLICED.

BY A. J. PITMAN.

A	2345678	B	2345678
Bob Major	3527486	Double Oxford	4263857
Hereward	4263857	Double Bob	3527486
Bob Major	2345678	Double Oxford	2345678
5,184.		5,184.	
23456	W M H	23456	M W H
A 45236	— — —	42356	— — —
24536	— — —	34256	— — —
52436	— — —	B 62453	— — —
A 43526	— — —	46253	— — —
54326	— — —	24653	— — —
A 63542	— — —	B 35642	— — —
56342	— — —	63542	— — —
35642	— — —	56342	— — —
A 26543	— — —	B 24635	— S —
52643	— — —	B 63245	— — —
65243	— — —	26345	— — —
A 32654	—* — —	32645	— — —
63254	— — —	B 64325	— — —
26354	— — —	36425	— — —
A 35624	S — —	43625	— — —
A 62354	— — —	B 62435	— — —
36254	— — —	46235	— — —
23654	— — —	B 23465	— — —

Repeat five times, but omit

* bob Wrong in parts 2-4-6.

Repeat five times, but omit

* bob Wrong in parts 2-4-6.

Where the courses are not marked A or B, either may be rung. Thus, from these compositions, peals may be rung in two or four methods. To reduce to 5,088, omit one set of three calls home. These peals are on the three-lead course plan, and, combined with frequent change of method, should be both musical and interesting to ring.

LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I wish to congratulate the Rev. H. Law James for producing the Major, Royal and Maximus, bearing the above name, but, I would like to ask him why he did not give us the Minor?

Perhaps, in the present chaotic position of our knowledge of the laws of extension, it would be very inconvenient and awkward to explain why Cambridge Surprise Minor should become Lincolnshire Surprise when extended to Major, Royal and Maximus.

My personal opinion is, that the Rev. H. Law James has discovered the true extension of Cambridge Surprise Minor, but how we are going to call the method he has now produced 'Cambridge Surprise Major', after ringing something else under that name for over a century, is a very real difficulty. The question is further complicated by the fact that we have already a 'NEW Cambridge Surprise,' also over a hundred years old. Our only way out of the impasse appears to be to use some such title as 'Modern Cambridge Surprise,' but, even this only transfers the onus of ringing out the old and ringing in the modern to a later generation. Let us settle it now if we can.

The method we know as Cambridge Surprise Major has never been really satisfactory, and it is quite safe to assert that, if it were produced to-day, it would be condemned as illegitimate because of four bells laying a whole pull at the same time, when the treble is dodging in 3-4. This defect was recognised quite early in the history of the method, and efforts were made to rectify it. In 1822 New Cambridge was produced by the simple expedient of moving the extreme made by 2 and 6 when the treble is dodging in 3-4, to the cross section where the treble passes from 3-4 to 5-6, thus:—

CAMBRIDGE.	NEW CAMBRIDGE.
2 6 1	2 6 1
6 2 . 1	6 2 . 1
6 2 1	2 6 1
2 6 . 1	6 2 . 1
6 2 . 1	6 2 . 1
2 6 . . 1 . . .	2 6 . . 1 . . .
2 . 6 . 1 . . .	2 . 6 . 1 . . .
2 . 6 . . 1 . .	2 . 6 . . 1 . .
. 2 . 6 . 1 . .	. 2 . 6 . 1 . .
. . 2 . 6 . 1 .	. . 2 . 6 . 1 .

It will be seen that the ultimate effect is exactly the same in both cases, and is quite independent of the operations of the other bells.

Although New Cambridge eased the difficulties of composition, it never really became popular, and to-day it is almost dead. The defect of four whole pulls occurring at the same time was still present, although not quite so obvious. Really, there is no excuse for continuing to ring old Cambridge or New Cambridge, especially now that we have such an excellent alternative.

The Rev. H. Law James has come along, and with a master stroke transferred the extreme which occurs on 2-6, with the treble in 3-4, to a Court shunt (with dodge) on 2-6, with the treble in 5-6. I have previously explained that an extreme is only a particular case of the Court shunt. See now the effect:—

2 6 1
6 2 . 1
2 6 1
6 2 . 1
6 . 2 . 1 . . .
. 6 . 2 . 1 . .
. . 6 2 1
. . 2 6 . 1 . . .
. . . 6 2 . . 1 .
. . . 2 6 . . 1 .
. . . . 2 . 6 . . 1
. 2 . 6 . 1

Again, the final effect is exactly the same. Notice how the 2nd's, dodge, lead, of Cambridge becomes 4th's, dodge, 3rd's. At one stroke he has eliminated the four whole pulls occurring at the same time, got rid of an unnecessary Court shunt on 7 and 4, with its attendant false course-end, and eased the difficulties of composition enormously.

If the paragraph on Cambridge Surprise, which occurs in my article on Superlative Surprise in the issue of 'The Ringing World' of January 7th, 1927, is referred to, it will save repetition and perhaps make the matter clearer.

In what the Rev. H. Law James calls 'Lincolnshire Surprise Major' four pairs of bell Court shunt in the half-lead, each of which is neutralised by a Court shunt on the same pairs of bells in the second half-lead.

The bells Court shunting are 46 and 87 above the treble, 26 and 85 below the treble. With plain hunting, the half-lead-end is 86745231. If we apply these shunts successively in their proper order, first all those above the treble and then all those below the treble, remembering that the effect of a Court shunt is to make the two bells concerned change places with one another, the result will be the order of the bells at the half-lead-end. Thus:—

Plain hunting produces 86745231,
+ Court shunt on 46 produces 84765231,
+ Court shunt on 87 produces 74865231,
+ Court shunt on 26 produces 74825631,
+ Court shunt on 85 produces 74528631,

which is the half-lead-end of the method.

It will be noticed that the 3rd has not taken part in any of these shunts. It is therefore necessary that the 3rd should make 7th's place under the treble at the half-lead-end, so that it will be in the same positions relative to the treble in both half-leads.

In Royal the Court shunt on 26 is delayed until the treble dodges in 7-8, and in Maximus it is further delayed until the treble dodges in 9-0.

In Major each Court shunt is responsible for a false course-end, so that there are four false course-ends. Old Cambridge Surprise Major has five Court shunts, and therefore five false course-ends. To show that the Court shunts govern the false course-ends, examine the following variation of Cambridge, where the four whole pulls acting at the same time have been got rid of by adding an extra dodge to the treble in 3-4 to separate the Court shunts.

	12345678	
	21436587	
	12463587	
	21648375	Court shunt on 46.
	26143857	
Extreme on 26	62418375	
	62143857	
	26418375	
	62148735	
	26417853	Court shunt on 87.
Court shunt on 47	62471835	
	26748153	
	27641835	
	72468153	
	27648513	Court shunt on 85.
	72465831	
	74256813	
	47528631	

Although an extra dodge is added to the treble in 3-4, we still have the same false course-ends, as Cambridge, Major, without addition or alteration. We are still tied to Middleton's peal, but because of the longer courses we need no more than 21 for a peal, and as a result there are more variations to the peal.

In conclusion, I will tabulate the pairs of Court shunt bells from Minor to Maximus of the Rev. H. Law James' method. Shunts above the line act above the treble. Shunts below the line act below the treble:—

	46			
Minor	26	46	45	
	46		87	
Major	26		85	
	46	80	95	97
Royal		26	95	
	46	80	te	97
Maximus		26	95	

The progression is regular and constant.—Yours truly,

W. TAYLOR.

LANTERN LECTURE IN ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER.

AN APPEAL FOR THE BELFRY RESTORATION.

On Thursday evening, February 2nd, by kind permission of the Lord Bishop of Leicester. Mr. Ernest Morris, general hon. sec. of the Midland Counties Association, gave a most interesting lantern lecture in St. Margaret's Church, entitled, 'Famous bells, bellringing and carillons.' The fine peal of 12 bells were rung before the lecture, and ringers were present from Anstey, Belgrave, Billesdon, Croft, Chilvers Coton, Hinckley, Ratby, St. Saviour's, Syston, and the two Wigstons. The lecturer showed a goodly array of slides of bells the world over, covering Russia, China, Spain, South Africa, France, and carillons from Holland and Belgium. In the midst of the lecture, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells in front of the chancel by C. H. Webb 1-2, E. R. Whitehead 3-4, E. Morris 5-6, J. Morris 7-8, during which a collection was made towards the belfry restoration fund. The lecturer then continued, and finished with a photo of St. Margaret's Church, giving a brief history of its building in 1444, and the gradual evolution of the bells from a heavy four to the present 'fine ring of twelve. He explained that the ringers had undertaken the restoration of the belfry, giving all their funds to the purpose, and doing all the work of erecting a new ceiling, stripping and repointing the walls. They now wanted a new floor to make a worthy belfry to a worthy church. Still a few more pounds are needed to complete this scheme, and an appeal is made to all those friends who have had the opportunity of ringing here, or who admire the bells. Any donation, however small, will be gratefully received by Mr. E. Morris, 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

MARRIAGE OF A DARLINGTON RINGER.

On Saturday, February 4th, the marriage took place of Mr. Norman Park, a member of the Holy Trinity band, at Holy Trinity Church. The Vicar, the Rev. Canon Cosgrave, officiated, and as the happy couple were leaving the church, the bells were rung in the rounds and 'fired.' Later, touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor and Bob Minor were rung. The ringers then proceeded to the church mission room, where a reception was held. The Rev. H. Sharpe, curate of Holy Trinity, proposed the health of 'The bride and bridegroom,' which was replied to on their behalf by Mr. W. H. Porter, who in the course of his remarks gave some kind and useful advice, which should be highly encouraging to Mr. Park in his ringing outlook.

On Wednesday evening, February 8th, in the belfry at Holy Trinity Church, an eight-day mantelpiece clock in oak case, the gift of his ringing friends, on the occasion of his marriage, was presented to Mr. Norman Park.

Mr. W. H. Porter said that to make the presentation to Mr. Norman Park gave him very great pleasure, as it took his thoughts back to about 25 years ago, when he took part in the ringing for Mr. Park's father's wedding. He hoped the gift would remind Mr. Park of the happy hours he had spent in the belfry in the past, and the happy hours he would be able to spend in the future.

Mr. Park thanked the ringers for their kindness in making him a present, and assured them that the belfry would still have his first consideration.

The Rev. H. Sharp said that he could not understand the sound, good fellowship which was to be found amongst bellringers. It appeared to be of a kind that one rarely found in other social institutions. They must be men of great patience, seeing how difficult it was to get a move on with learners. He thanked the ringers for their kindness to him, as far as he had got in the art of ringing.

Mr. C. Todd, ex-president of the Durham and Newcastle Association, wished Mr. Park and his wife many years of health and happiness, and hoped he would get much enjoyment from ringing. A touch of London Surprise Minor was rung on the bells, and the proceedings concluded.

PLYMOUTH.—On March 1st, in 28 mins., 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: George Godard (first 720 Cambridge) 1, W. Wonnacott 2, E. W. Marsh 3, W. J. Rundle 4, W. G. Hiscott 5, Rev. E. S. Powell (conductor) 6.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.—On Wednesday, February 29th, 720 Cambridge Surprise: R. Howard 1, *E. Haynes 2, W. A. Tack 3, A. E. Austin 4, *W. Holwell 5, E. H. Finch (conductor) 6. * First 720 in the method.

MR. CHARLES CAMM'S 200 PEALS.

	Rung.	Conducted.
Grandsire Doubles	3	2
Grandsire Triples	29	13
Grandsire Caters	4	
Stedman Triples	5	
Stedman Caters	2	
Oxford Bob Triples	4	4
Bob Major	6	2
Bob Royal	1	
Double Norwich Major	4	1
Kent Treble Bob Major	7	5
Oxford Treble Bob Major	3	2
Cambridge Surprise Minor	6	
Cambridge Surprise Major	16	6
Cambridge Surprise Royal	3	
New Cambridge Surprise Major	1	
Yorkshire Surprise Major	1	
London Surprise Major	2	
Bristol Surprise Major	1	
Doubles, 3 methods	2	
Minor, 1 method	5	4
Minor, 3 methods	2	1
Minor, 4 methods	2	1
Minor, 6 methods	1	1
Minor, 7 methods	83	42
Minor, 10 methods (including 7,200)	2	2
Minor, 14 methods	1	1
Surprise Minor, 7 methods	2	
Treble Bob Minor, 7 methods	2	
	200	87

WORPLESDON VETERAN'S DEATH.

On Thursday, February 23rd, there passed away at Worplesdon, Surrey, Mr. Henry Jelly, who was 78 years of age. He had been a ringer for 60 years at Worplesdon Church. He was interred in Stoughton Cemetery on February 28th, and in the evening the Worplesdon band rang a 720 of Oxford Bob with the bells half-muffled: T. Scholfield 1, S. Petter 2, G. Chandler 3, R. Tickner 4, C. Slyfield 5, H. Blackman (conductor) 6.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: H. Harding, sen., 1, A. Walker (first extent inside) 2, F. Bennett 3, J. Goacher 4, N. Harding 5, G. Grover (conductor) 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■■■■■

THE

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The ring of six at Worthen, Salop, which have been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., are to be rededicated by the Bishop of Hereford to-morrow (Saturday), at 7 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed.

The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor in Devon has been rung by a resident band of the Devon Guild, and conducted by the president. It is another milestone in the history of ringing in Devon, and will delight no one more than that pioneer of change ringing in Drake's country—the Rev. Maitland Kelly.

Mr. Harry Withers, who was performing on Saturday on the carillon at Croydon Foundry, recently opened a carillon for Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in Scotland. It is reported that he was to be seen in kilts, following the occupation of a Scotsman who walked about with his mouth open, because there was a nip in the air.

Among the visitors to Croydon on Saturday was Mr. Kelly, of St. Patrick's Cathedral company, Dublin.

Three generations of one family took part in the peal of Grandsire Triples at Tunstall, Kent, on 'leap year day.' They were the 'Spice' of the band.

To-morrow is the anniversary of one of those early long peals which helped to make ringing history. On March 10th, 1784, the College Youths rang a peal of 7,008 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark, the record length of 'Twelve-in' at that time.

The first peal of Treble Twelve had been rung by the College Youths on the same bells 26 years before—to be exact, a hundred and seventy years ago next Monday.

Another memorable anniversary occurs next week, for it was on March 14th, 1727, that the first peal was rung on the bells at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. This was a 6,006 Grandsire Cinques by the London Scholars.

BELLS OF ST. MARY'S, STAINES. FUNDS WANTED FOR RESTORATION.

The bells of the Parish Church of St. Mary, Staines, are unsafe and require overhauling at an estimated cost of £214. An appeal has been issued for funds, and £119 has been subscribed, with the promise of £14 when the £200 has been raised.

The bells were cast at the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1734, so it is not to be wondered at that the bearings, etc., want attention. Although the bells themselves are sound, they are dangerous to ring.

The Parish Church is very poor and can only just meet expenses, so an appeal is made to all interested in campanology, as well as to the townspeople towards the cost of putting them right.

Donations will be acknowledged, and should be sent to Mr. W. Lloyd, parochial hon. treasurer, Bridge Street, the Vicar or churchwardens.

'PRACTICE AT A PENNY A NIGHT.' AMERICAN IDEAS OF ENGLISH RINGERS.

The 'Christian Science Monitor,' published in Boston, U.S.A., had a long article in a recent issue dealing with the Boston Guild and a photograph of some of the ringers in the tower, among them, in addition to Mrs. Shurtleff, being Mr. Richard Newton, formerly of Manchester.

The report speaks of the formation of the Guild by the late Dr. A. H. Nicholls, and endeavours to describe change ringing. It also refers to the formation of the College Youths—information evidently gained from an interview with Mrs. Shurtleff, but, unfortunately, for strict accuracy, rather garbled. For instance, the article concluded thus:—

'It takes approximately three hours to ring a peal which, on the 5,041 ring, brings the ringers around to the scale once more. There have been famous records in peals, some of them taking 24 hours and more to complete. There are many Guilds of bellringers in England—the Guilds of Cumberland and Middlesex Youths; and the Guilds are practically always known as "Youths," though their members have generally passed the three-score mark in years.

'Mrs. Shurtleff did not know how long it would take to bring change ringing into the state of popularity now enjoyed, for instance, by the carillon, which is comparatively new to the United States, because change ringing requires much practice, and while there are always excellent sets of bells available for the practice they are usually in belfries in thickly settled neighbourhoods, whose residents do not welcome hearing the bells for several hours at a time when there is no holiday.

'The chief advantage of the great bell towers in England and the opportunity they presented for the practice of bellringers practically whenever they wished to practice—and the prevailing price is 1d. a practice period, scrupulously paid to the parish—is that the towers are in general much higher over the square, and partly by reason of this, partly because generations of English people have been familiar with the sound of the bells and think no more of it than the usual audible accompaniments to life.

'So the bellringers of England are free to practice three or four nights a week at a penny a night, and no complaints are made by the community. Mrs. Shurtleff spoke particularly of one famous peal of 40,000 strokes rung on eight bells, "and the English neighbours liked it."

(Continued from last page of Supplement.)

After the speeches there was a short interval, during which the hall was transformed into a vast concert room, and during this period old friends from many parts of the country had the opportunity of exchanging greetings and comparing notes, which many of them amplified later at the end of the hall opposite the stage. All agreed that it was a wonderful day and a wonderful gathering.

MUSIC AND DANCING.

The programme had been arranged by Capt. Howard Freeborn, who was also M.C. during the afternoon at the foundry, and after an overture by Goddard's band he opened the vocal music with the song, 'Take a pair of sparkling eyes.' Miss Winifred Rodd sang 'Linden Lea,' and then a course of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung on handbells by a band of Middlesex County Association ringers: Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Mr. W. Pye, Mr. F. I. Hairs and Mr. C. W. Roberts. Such a performance is remarkable under any circumstances; in face of the distractions of such a great audience, not all of them silent by any means, it was a great achievement, for it was a perfect course. The same can be said of the course of Stedman Cinques rung by St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham: Messrs. P. O. Laffin, F. W. Perrins, A. Walker, G. F. Swann, A. E. Norman and W. Cave. Miss Nora Johnston had a great reception for her recital of Hans Andersen's fairy story, 'The Clown and the Columbine,' told with striking dramatic effect, to Coleridge-Taylor's trio accompaniment of violin (Mrs. Colt), violoncello (Miss Viola Robinson), and pianoforte (Mr. C. W. Wilson). A feature of the entertainment was the tunes tapped on a fine set of handbells by Mr. Cyril Johnston, who, after two encores, was again recalled, and roused great enthusiasm with 'The Froth Blowers' Anthem,' in which the company joined. Songs were contributed by Mr. Copley Hewitt and Miss Odette de Foras, who were also associated in a duet, and by Miss Winifred Rodd, an enjoyable musical programme being brought to a close with handbell selections by the five Brett-Smith brothers, who are masters of this delightful form of music.

Quickly afterwards the floor was cleared, and from ten o'clock until midnight the company, still numbering some hundreds, enjoyed dancing to the strains of Goddard's band.

Yes, it was a wonderful day, and will live long in the memories of those privileged to enjoy the hospitality of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

A BUSY FOUNDRY.

Something of the activity which is being carried on in the Croydon Foundry may be gathered from the following list of contracts which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have in hand:—

BELLS.

Ringing Peals.	No. of Bells.	Weight of Largest Bell.
		Cwts.
Northampton, St. Peter's	8	15
Ruardean, Glos, St. John's	8	15
Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham, St. Michael's ...	8	13
Frittenden, Kent, St. Mary's	8	13
Stoke Fleming, South Devon	6	14
Sulgrave, Northants	5	14
Stanford-on-Avon, Northants, St. Nicholas' ...	5	13
Moreton, Essex	5	11
Worthing, Sussex	6	10
Perranzabuloe, Cornwall	6	10
St. Merryn, Cornwall	6	7
Thanington, Kent, St. Nicholas'	3	6
Carillons and Chimes.		Tons. Cwts.
New York, U.S.A., Riverside (additional bells) ...	11	18 5
Louvain Library, Belgium	48	7 0
Wellington War Memorial, New Zealand	49	5 0
Rochester, Minnesota, U.S.A.	23	3 10
Norwood, Mass., U.S.A.	48	3 10
Cohasset, Mass., U.S.A. (additional bells)	8	5 2
Mariemont, Cincinnati, U.S.A.	23	2 0
Dumbarton, Scotland, St. Patrick's	23	0 16
Jerusalem, Palestine	23	0 16
Beamish, Co. Durham, St. Andrew's	11	0 16
London, Regal Cinema	32	0 6
Hilvarenbeek, Holland	24	0 7
Breage, Cornwall	8	0 6
Stanbridge, Dorset	6	0 5
Single bells	7	1 0
Total number of bells on order	418	
Total weight		234 tons.

(Continued in next column.)

A POLICEMEN'S GUILD.**METROPOLITAN MEN BAND TOGETHER.**

There has just been formed in London from the ranks of the Metropolitan Police the Metropolitan Police Bellringers' Guild, the objects of which are to draw together the bellringing members of the Force, to facilitate practice, and to encourage others to take an interest in the art.

The Guild has the approval of the Commissioner of Police (Sir W. H. F. Horwood), and already there are over 20 members.

Inspector William Bottrill has been elected the first Master, P. C. Digby is hon. secretary, and Station Sergt. Porter is treasurer. Four stewards have also been appointed, and practice takes place on Wednesdays at St. Clement Danes, in conjunction with St. Clement's Youths.

Having received official recognition, the members will obtain special facilities for any special ringing occasions.

The Exercise will give a welcome to this new Guild, which will have the good wishes of all for its future growth and success. Already the Guild has a band competent to ring Cambridge Surprise Major, but present activities are directed to instructing the less proficient.

OLD LONDON RINGER'S DEATH.

Many readers will learn with regret that Mr. Thomas Bernardin, one of the oldest bellringers in London, has just passed away at the age of ninety. He was quite a familiar figure to many in religious circles in South London, retaining his health almost to the last, and up to a few weeks back was regularly seen taking his daily walks and visiting the various churches in which he was interested.

He was appointed as steeplekeeper to St. Botolph's Church, Aldgate, in 1865, and retained that position for nearly 45 years, when he retired, being succeeded by his son-in-law. Mr. Bernardin again took over the bellringing during the period of the Great War, while his son-in-law was serving with H.M. Forces.

During Mr. Bernardin's lifetime he had rung the bells in the majority of London churches. His last ringing was at Bethnal Green Parish Church, Christmas, 1921, when he rang a number of call changes, at the age of 83.

He was elected a member of the Society of College Youths, September 28th, 1886. For many years his hymn playing on the bells on Sundays was listened to and appreciated by many of those in the vicinity of St. Botolph's Church, as well as the passers-by. Some of his favourite hymns that he played were the well-known tunes of 'Abide with me,' 'Rock of Ages,' 'Sun of my Soul,' 'Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah.'

He was also an accomplished handbell ringer. He was a devout and intelligent Christian, and up to a few weeks before his death regularly attended Sunday and mid-week services, as well as the prayer meetings at the Union Congregational Church, Tower Bridge, London.

TOWER AND ELECTRIC CLOCKS.

Name.	Description.	No.	Dials.	Size.	Weight of Hour Bell.
				Ft. In.	T. C.
New York, Riverside.	Quarter clock.				18 5
Louvain Library.	Quarter clock.				7 0
Peruvian Corporation.	Striking clock.	4	4	0	1
Eastbourne.	Striking clock.	4	4	0	
Louisville, U.S.A.	Ting Tang.	3	7	0	10
James Walker, Ltd., London.	Electric (with master clock).	2	3	6	
Woking U.D.C.	Electric (with master clock).	1	2	0	
Greenwich, Roan School.	Electric (with master clock).	32			
General Post Office.	115 Electric master clocks.	190			

ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES THANKED.

Mr. Cyril Johnston has sent the following letter to secretaries of Associations and Guilds acknowledging their help in arranging the all-England ringers' meeting:—

Croydon Bell Foundry,
March 6th, 1928.

Dear Sir,—I must write and thank you for your assistance in the organisation of the all-England ringers' meeting.

The way in which honorary, general and district secretaries and officials of bellfries responded to my request for detailed information was splendid.

Although I had no official claim on their services, everyone concerned seemed to enter into the spirit of the affair wholeheartedly, and my staff and I are deeply grateful to you for all the work and trouble which must have been incurred.

The Archbishop and Mrs. Randall Davidson evinced a keen interest in the many aspects of ringing and ringing Guilds and associations, and the fact that many travelled to Croydon from all parts of the country, in many cases from considerable distances and in such numbers as to create a record for the greatest meeting ever held in the borough, was a source of no small gratification to our fellow townpeople.—Yours sincerely,
(Signed) CYRIL F. JOHNSTON.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On Wednesday, December 7th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,472 Cambridge Surprise Major: H. Watts 1, F. Bird 2, T. Jordan 3, W. Prior 4, A. Jordan 5, T. J. Watts 6, W. T. Prior 7, G. Jordan (conductor) 8. Longest length of Cambridge on an inside bell by the ringer of 2nd and 5th.

THE JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER

(Continued from page 139.)

ST. MARTIN'S BELLS.

In proposing the toast of 'The Visitors' at the Johnson Commemoration Dinner, Mr. Albert Walker expressed pleasure on behalf of St. Martin's Guild that they had with them representatives of so many other associations, whom he thanked for kindnesses extended to him when he had gone 'abroad' from Birmingham. They had with them that night the three principal bell founders, and the hon. secretary of the Central Council. Amongst the societies represented were the College Youths. They were very pleased to welcome the Master, Mr. Joseph Hawkins, and took that opportunity of congratulating him on having reached the highest position in his society. There were also represented the Essex Association, the Surrey Association, the Sussex Association, the Lancashire Association, the Midland Counties Association, the Oxford Guild, the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, the North Wales Association, the Ladies' Guild, the Gloucester and Bristol Association, the Worcestershire Association, the Staffordshire Association—he was sorry Mr. Knight, of Wolverhampton, was not present, so that he might thank him for the opportunities given to St. Martin's Guild for twelve-bell peals now that their own bells were requiring attention—the Warwickshire Guild, the Bath and Wells Association, the Salisbury Guild, the new Guildford Diocesan Guild, the London County Association, the Yorkshire Association, the Chester Guild and others. He had to couple with the toast the names of Mr. Elwell, of the Chester Guild, and Mr. Colin Harrison, of the Sheffield District Society. Those of them who had read 'The Ringing World' would have seen Mr. Harrison's suggestion for a national organisation of ringers, and he hoped that, whatever might be the merits or demerits of such a scheme, each individual association would, when they met, discuss the proposal. It might be a practicable proposition, or it might not, but it was worth consideration. In any case, it would take a long time to mature. They must, at any rate, admire Mr. Harrison for the way in which he had put his views forward and invited criticism (applause).

Mr. Elwell, who first responded, thanked St. Martin's Guild for the hearty welcome and the excellent time given to the visitors. The Guild was doubly fortunate, first in the ideals and example set by that great ringer, Henry Johnson, and then in the way his memory was honoured and his tradition kept alive. They had heard, continued Mr. Elwell, something of the great ideals of churchmanship and of service for which their work stood, and they did not intend to yield one jot or iota to the men of the past in the efforts which they made to improve and keep alive the practice of their art. These men need not go to sleep fearful lest they of the present generation were going to spoil the heritage which they were handing down to them. Alderman Pritchett had spoken of the link between the ringing Exercise and Freemasonry. A little time ago Mr. Pritchett suggested that they should establish a lodge of Freemasons for ringers. That excellent idea fell through, owing to the difficulty of a place of meeting, since the Central Council was held at a different place each year. He (Mr. Elwell) respectfully suggested that the matter might be reconsidered in the light of establishing the lodge in connection with that annual gathering in Birmingham. It would be nice if there could be a St. Martin's Guild lodge which could meet in connection with that gathering, and he threw out the suggestion as one worthy of consideration (applause).

YORKSHIRE'S LEAD.

Mr. Colin Harrison also acknowledged the indebtedness of the visitors to the Birmingham ringers for their hospitality, and especially Mr. and Mrs. Walker, who seemed to keep 'open house' at Baker Street. In view of what it was proposed to do at Birmingham in the way of recasting the bells, he could not do better than tell them what happened at York. In Birmingham they had made ringing history with their records and their achievements, and surely they should have bells which were not only worthy of their city, but of the country (applause). Mr. Walker a few years ago did them a good turn in Yorkshire when at their Yorkshire commemoration dinner he frankly stated his opinion upon the condition of York Minster bells. The outcome of that speech was that they had the present magnificent ring of twelve. He hoped, now that they had the assurance that Birmingham bells would receive the consideration of the church authorities, when the proper moment came they would consider the matter with an unbiased mind, would take their local ringers into their confidence, and would study and inwardly digest all that the respective contractors had put before them. He felt quite sure that whichever bell founder took on the job they would get a peal of bells worthy not only of St. Martin's Guild but of the City of Birmingham and the band which was going to ring them (applause). Mr. Harrison went on to remark that he thought it would be out of place at that time to enlarge on what he had said in 'The Ringing World' on the question of a national association, and which might rob the paper of any interest which might ensue from it during the next few weeks. He concluded by expressing thanks to the Birmingham ringers for their kindness, and said he hoped that the success of that gathering which had been so well maintained in the past would continue unbroken in the future, and that the Johnson dinner would remain as the blue ribbon of ringing festivities (applause).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, in proposing the toast of 'The Ringing World,' first referred to the bells of St. Martin's. He said he hoped it was a fact that the bells were going to be recast. He was fairly close to the Rector in one or two senses, but at that moment he was not assured that the bells were going to be recast. Certainly they needed it—no one could deny that. Mr. Smith expressed emphatic views as to the placing of the contract for such an undertaking, and hoped the Vicar and churchwardens would have no hesitation in their choice. Mr. Smith then went on to speak in kindly terms of 'The Ringing World' and its Editor, and, the toast having been cordially honoured, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith replied.

Alderman Pritchett submitted 'The Chairman,' and said that the Rector, who had always taken an interest in his own ringers, had by this time doubtless learned to understand and appreciate ringers in general. He felt sure it had given him great pleasure to preside over that important and most pleasurable gathering (applause).

RESPONSIBILITIES REALISED.

In replying, the Rector referred to the comments of Mr. Paddon Smith with regard to St. Martin's bells. There was a time, he said, when Mr. Smith thought there were no bells to be compared to St. Martin's, but he had changed his mind of late. The Rector and churchwardens realised their responsibilities in the matter, and were prepared to do their duty by the bells. Whatever was right in their judgment would, of course, eventually be done. They had given the matter serious consideration for many months, and he was quite sure that in whosever hands the work was placed it would be well done, and that they would eventually find complete satisfaction. He wanted to take that opportunity of assuring them that the matter was receiving their attention, and there was no need to be in the least anxious about the fulfilment of the responsibility which lay on the shoulders of himself and his wardens. They had the interest of the great ringing craft at heart, and would do their best to keep up the high traditions of St. Martin's (applause).

The musical programme was, as usual, of a very delightful kind, consisting of songs by St. Martin's Quartette, whose singing gave great pleasure. Mrs. A. A. Hughes (London) once more 'brought down the house' with her handbell ringing, playing 'Take a pair of sparkling eyes,' 'Love's old sweet song,' and as an encore 'Land of hope and glory.' A perfect course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells, and members of St. Martin's Guild also contributed handbell selections, which were warmly applauded.

Many of the visitors stayed over Sunday, when there was quite a series of happy gatherings throughout the day for ringing and social intercourse.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The pre-Lent meeting was held at Cramlington on February 18th in beautiful weather.

The committee meeting was held in the vestry of the church, presided over by the president (Mr. C. L. Routledge). It was pointed out that the annual report is held up for the want of the bellry returns. Some bellries have sent no returns, some sent returns with no names of members, and some with names of members, but no addresses. Those who have not sent in complete lists are requested to do so at once.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, when 22 (including the Vicar, the Rev. Allen) sat down. The ladies connected with the church provided the meal, and also looked after the needs of those present. Mr. Routledge proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the Parish Hall, and to the ladies for their kindness.

The Vicar welcomed the association to Cramlington, and hoped they would make their visits as frequent as possible. He offered the bells and a welcome at any time.—Mrs. O. Simm, who is always so very kind and hospitable to visiting ringers, also replied.

The fine peal of six (tenor 20 cwt.) was kept going during the afternoon and evening in various methods from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise. After tea, a course of Grandsire and Stedman Triples was rung on the handbells.

The following towers were represented: Durham Cathedral, Newcastle Cathedral, St. John's (Newcastle), St. George's (Jesmond), St. Ignatius' (Sunderland), St. Mary's (Gateshead), All Saints' (Gosforth), and the local ringers.

At the tea, a collection was taken on behalf of the 'Ironvess Pistor' fund, and amounted to £1 5s.

The next quarterly gathering will be held at Stockton on Whit Monday.

AN INTERESTING PEAL.

The peal at Egg Buckland, by two fathers and their sons, was especially arranged to enable the conductor to call a peal on February 29th, and also that two families might score a peal together. It is probably the first time in history that this has been done on 'leap year' day. The conductor has now only a few more dates to complete the 366, and he has conducted a peal on nearly every one of them.

The band desire to thank Rev. Johnson for giving permission at the last moment. It had been arranged to attempt the peal at St. Stephen's, but a Lenten service prevented it. It is interesting to note that the two seniors rang peals together over 30 years ago. The band stood in the order of their ages from treble to tenor—a unique performance.

THEORY AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am rather diffident in asking you to publish a few further remarks following 'A Plain Ringer's' letter in your issue of the 10th ult., as I think that we now begin to 'split hairs,' but, rightly or wrongly, I feel that it is a little necessary because of the absolute difference between work and rows, which are, paradoxically, practically one and the same thing.

I may have missed your correspondent's point, but, to split the aforesaid hair, if Stedman's 'change' refers to the alteration between the figures 1.2 and 2.1, then the difference between 214365879 and 123456789 is not a 'change,' as your correspondent states, but 'changes.' Will he be consistent and say that the conductor shouts 'rounds next changes'? However, this is not the point; my quarrel is with his statement that there is 'nothing between rows' and his ridicule of the 'heads.'

First, I am going to say that a row is the result of certain work; next, that a row causes certain work; that they are different and that they are the same thing, according to which way your readers like to view them. But I am coming back to Mr. Trollope's point, that the difference (or similarity) must be fully realised in the proper understanding of what is practice and what is theory.

I am no expert, and have taken it upon myself to answer your correspondent from his own point of view—a plain ringer's. I do most emphatically state that the realisation of the difference between rows and work, between lead-ends and lead-heads, has been of the utmost use to our band in one particular branch of practical ringing—that of splicing methods. Personally, I had the greatest difficulty in appreciating the simplicity of splicing methods, until I realised that the only difference between a lead of (say) Beverley and Surfleet Surprise Minor is the work between rows 11 to 14 of each; that in the one method the rows appear in this order: 11-12-13-14; and that in the other method identical rows appear thus: 11-13-12-14.

Your correspondent's gentle sarcasm anent Mr. Baker's masterly (and obscure) definition is, perhaps, excusable, and I reiterate that I could wish the modern theorist would always offer the explanation that is contained in Mr. Trollope's articles. Frankly, I have not the slightest idea what Mr. Baker means, and I am unashamed to say so. The point is that his explanation is offered to readers of whom 99 per cent. are in the same boat as myself. But let us stick to our point of the lead-heads and the practical ringer.

I am going to ask 'A Plain Ringer' to write out a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor, and to divide this course into leads by drawing lines between the rows which constitute the treble's full lead. The back stroke row now becomes the 'head' of the following lead. I am going to ask him to rearrange these SAME LEADS in this order in the course: Nos. 1-4-2-5-3, and he will now have a plain course of Ringers' (or Primrose) Surprise, without having altered a single row within the lead blocks. Can he do this if the backstroke row is treated as the lead 'end'? I think not. This is the ice that the lead-heads cut, and which has enabled practical ringers to splice six Surprise methods in a 720 by ringing only three.—Yours sincerely,

GEO. L. JOYCE.

Leytonstone.

SIMPLE AND COMPLEX TRANSPOSITION ROWS.

Dear Sir,—In 'The Ringing World' of April 21st, 1922, you published for me an article on 'Pivot bells,' from which I quote the following: 'First, it will be best if I explain briefly what is meant by the term "pivot bell." In all properly-constructed even-bell methods, with the treble a plain or dodging hunt, there is, in addition to the treble, another bell that has returned at the lead-end, to the position which it occupied in the fundamental row or other lead-heads. This bell we call the pivot bell, and the lead-heads and lead-ends of Single Court Bob Minor will best illustrate what I mean.'

That which next follows is an amplification of the former article.

Lead-heads and lead-ends of Single Court Bob Minor:—

1st lead-head	123456	S.T.R.	proving value	123456.
1st lead-end	153624	S.T.R.	"	153624.
3rd pivot bell.				
2nd lead-head	135264	C.T.R.	"	142635.
2nd lead-end	165432	S.T.R.	"	165432.
5th pivot bell.				
3rd lead-head	156342	C.T.R.	"	164523.
3rd lead-end	146253	S.T.R.	"	146253.
6th pivot bell.				
4th lead-head	164523	C.T.R.	"	156342.
4th lead-end	124365	S.T.R.	"	124365.
4th pivot bell.				
5th lead-head	142635	C.T.R.	"	135264.
5th lead-end	132546	S.T.R.	"	132546.
2nd pivot bell.				

The letters S.T.R. stand for Simple Transposition Row.

The letters C.T.R. stand for Complex Transposition Row.

It is the lack of knowledge of little details like these by Practical Ringers which make all the difference between them and the Theorists.

—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

PRESENTATION TO AN INSTRUCTOR.

Great regret was expressed by the ringers of St. Thomas' Church, Woolton Hill, Hants, when it became known that their captain (Mr. E. H. Ballam) had to leave the parish after being with them for five years. He was unexcelled for his keenness and patience in training, and under his tuition extents in the following methods have been rung: Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Minor, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Cambridge and London Surprise.

At a meeting held in the belfry on February 14th, a clock in a wall-nut case was presented to Mr. Ballam by the Vicar and Mr. Aird (churchwarden), as a token of esteem and gratitude for his splendid work in the past, from the Vicar, churchwardens and ringers of Woolton Hill.

BURTON RINGERS' BEREAVEMENT.

The funeral took place on Monday, March 1st, of Mrs. Charlotte Emma Stone, of Burton-on-Trent. Mrs. Stone was the wife of Mr. Edward I. Stone, who was for many years a chorister and ringer at St. Paul's Church, and was also the mother of Mr. A. P. G. Stone, a present member of the society. The service was conducted by the Rev. J. Goodacre (Vicar), the choir being in attendance. In the evening was rung with bells half-muffled, after meeting short for a quarter-peal, 600 Grandsire Doubles on the back six: G. F. Newman 1, M. Swinfield (conductor) 2, J. H. Swinfield 3, H. A. Rabbetts 4, J. Slade 5, R. H. Dove 6. Later, 336 Grandsire Triples: R. Gilbert 1, J. Swinfield 2, R. H. Dove 3, M. Swinfield (conductor) 4, L. C. Smith 5, H. A. Rabbetts 6, J. Slade 7, G. F. Newman 8.

VETERAN RINGER'S DEATH.

Another old ringer has passed away in the person of Mr. James Coram, of 182, Brighton Road, Crewton, Derby. Deceased worked for many years on the Somerset and Dorset Railway at Highbridge, Somerset, and always rang at the old Parish Church at Burnham. On removing to Bristol he threw in his lot with St. Thomas' Guild, with whom he stayed until he went to Derby, to finish his days with his son.

Although he rang but few peals, he could always be relied on when there was ringing to be done. A true friend to all who knew him, he lived to the good old age of 80, and though bedridden for three years he was looked after by the devoted partner of 56 years of married life, and who, a little older than he was, is left to mourn her loss.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EASTERN BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Branch held at Freiston recently was well attended. Members were present from Benington, Boston, Butterwick, Sibsey, Skirbeck, Stickney, and the local band. The visitors included Mr. T. Vaughan, of Peterborough. Ringing commenced about 2.30 p.m., and touches of Plain Bob, Single Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob were brought round. A short service was conducted by the president of the branch (Rev. J. R. Trotter), who is also the Vicar of Freiston with Butterwick. Afterwards, all repaired to the Bull and Dog Inn, and did ample justice to a knife and fork tea as the guests of the president. Immediately after tea, the business meeting was held, the president being in the chair.

The Rev. J. R. Trotter was again unanimously re-elected as president for the ensuing year, and was thanked for his past services. The vice-presidents were re-elected en bloc. Mr. J. Phillips was also re-elected secretary and treasurer, as were also Mr. W. E. Clarke and Mr. A. Sharp to the offices of Branch Ringing Master and Guild representative respectively. Swineshead was chosen as the place for holding the next meeting.

A pleasing feature of this meeting was the fact that thirteen new ringing members joined the Guild.

A hearty vote of thanks to the president for the use of the bells, for his excellent address, and for his kind hospitality, was proposed by the Rev. Canon Hodge and seconded by Mr. R. J. Westland, Vicar's Churchwarden. Mr. Kent, people's warden, was also present.

During the evening an informal meeting was held in the belfry, when it was decided to send the sum of two guineas as a contribution from the branch to the fund for assisting Mr. Alf. T. Baker ('Irenæus Pistor').

Ringing was kept up in various Minor methods.

5,088 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

BY WILLIAM H. INGLESANT.

23456 M. B. W. H.

24536	1	x	2	2
54326	1	x		1
32546	1	x	2	1
26543	2	x	1	2
23645	x	1		1

Twice repeat.

First rung at St. Peter's, Belgrave, Leicester, for the M.C.A. on Saturday, January 7th, 1928.

'IRENEUS PISTOR'

Donations this week to the fund for assisting Mr. Alf. T. Baker ('Ireneus Pistor'), of Hillsborough, Sheffield, include contributions from the United States. Will those ringers and bands who desire to help this cause, and have not yet done so, kindly forward their contributions as soon as possible, as the fund is shortly to be closed.

We acknowledge with grateful thanks the following further donations:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	163	8	5
Ringers of St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent		7	6
Ringers of All Saints' Church, Waldron, Sussex	10	0	—
St. Mary's ringers, Wallasey	1	0	0
St. Michael's, Yorktown, Surrey		4	6
Ringers of Woburn, Beds	10	6	—
Dudley and District Guild, per H. Sheppard	1	1	0
Ringers of the Church of the Holy Saviour, Leicester	10	0	—
Collected at a meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association, per R. W. Stannard	8	0	—
Miss Vera C. Pitt, Thorington, Essex	5	0	—
Richard Newton, Boston, U.S.A., late of Manchester City Police Town Hall bellringers	1	0	0
Joseph Goodhead, Wellesley Hills, Mass., U.S.A., late of St. Margaret's, Wolstanton, Staffs	10	0	—
	£169	14	11

AN ACROSTIC.**'ALFRED TOWNSEND BAKER.'**

7.3.7.8.

Alfred Townsend Baker.

Long known as 'Ireneus';

Fun and laughter, mirth and glee;

Refreshing fruit, Alf's given us.

Each one should in glad return,

Do his best for stricken 'brother,'

Teaching all who care to learn,

Our true love for one another.

Urgent is our brother's need

(Never wasteful, always thrifty).

Stricken he has been, indeed;

Eyesight lost, and only fifty.

'Nemo' told us of his plight;

Durst we then forget Alf's trouble?

'Brothers' all must give their mite,

And naught lose if they give double.

Kindly render those to date,

Each one, and all, of many ranks.

(This line only metre mate),

Respectively our hearty thanks.

OWEN KAY.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT BRANCH.**

The annual meeting, held at Holbeton, the home of the president, constituted a record, as far as attendance was concerned, about 70 members and friends being present. The Lord Bishop of Plymouth gave the address at the service, laying special emphasis on the value of team work and service rendered by labour.

The Bishop presided at the business meeting, supported by Lady Mildmay, Rev. E. S. Powell, Rev. Maitland Kelly, Rev. F. W. Moore, Major and Mrs. Jerram, Mr. W. H. Marsh and members from St. Andrew's, Charles', and Emmanuel, Plymouth, Holbeton, Plympton, Kelly and Lifton.

The report stated that generally progress was being made in numbers, methods and striking. The most notable feature was the increasing demand for even-bell methods, for of 21 peals rung during the year, 14 had been in even-bell methods. This number of peals was the largest recorded in any year by the branch. Advancement in Surprise methods continued, the practices at Stoke on Thursdays being well attended. The Vicar of Plympton (St. Maurice), has granted one night monthly for practice in higher methods.

The officers were re-elected, and it was decided to accept the Bishop's invitation to hold the next meeting at Stoke, Plymouth, in April.

Mr. A. T. Westcott moved a vote of thanks to the Bishop for his address and presiding at the meeting, to Lady Mildmay for her presence, to the organist and choir for their services, and to the ladies for providing the tea.—This was carried by acclamation, and the Bishop, replying, said he had a great surprise that day. He did not realise until he came that he would have to preach to such a large congregation. He congratulated the Guild on the splendid work they were doing.

Lady Mildmay, in a nice speech, thanked the members for their kind words. She had no idea she was a member of such a splendid organisation. The service and meeting had been an inspiration to her, and she hoped she would be able to attend many more meetings of the Guild, which she wished every success.

The Bishop presented the Misses Molly and Jessie Davenport with Guild certificates.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—At St. Guthla's Church, for evensong, on March 4th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise and 72 of Double Court: E. A. Sneath 1, H. M. Day 2, J. O. Landan 3, H. Holmes 4, W. Tilley 5, G. H. Wells 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, for evening service, 1,216 Norfolk Surprise Major: R. Sanders 1, Miss E. Chapman 2, C. W. Roberts 3, W. Nudds 4, W. Hewett 5, E. F. Pike 6, J. T. Kentish 7, J. E. Davis (conductor) 8.

BIDSTON, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, March 4th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 21 mins., by the following: S. Woods 1, W. Jones 2, J. F. Smith 3, G. R. Edwards 4, W. Wilcox (conductor) 5, R. G. Edwards 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the local band. First 720 in the method by the ringers of 1st and 5th.

MARGATE.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, February 26th, for morning service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: F. Gadsdon 1, Mrs. H. Baker 2, W. Trusler 3, H. Baker 4, C. W. Player (conductor) 5, F. Reeves 6, A. A. Saxby 7, H. Lude 8.

ELTHAM, KENT.—For morning service on Sunday, February 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 41 mins.: H. Flower 1, R. Brett Smith 2, F. Fraser 3, W. Anderson 4, H. Wood (conductor) 5, W. Simmons 6, J. Hurrell 7, F. J. Hurrell 8.

CHIPPENHAM, WILTS.—On Sunday, February 19th, for evening service, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 47 mins.: A. Dule 1, E. Truman 2, *T. Davidson 3, S. Wiltshire 4, R. Pearce 5, L. Ambrose 6, *F. Morrett 7, F. Lambeth 8. * Longest touch in the method.

SOUTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Sunday evening, February 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: F. J. Woods (first quarter) 1, J. R. Harridge (first quarter) 2, G. Miles (conductor) 3, J. Leggett 4, W. D. Leggett 5, A. Beabow 6.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday evening, February 19th, for evening service, a quarter of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins.: E. D. Kemp 1, T. Smith 2, E. G. Swift (first quarter of Triples) 3, J. H. Lucas 4, Percy E. Jones 5, F. Corko (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, C. Nicholls 8. Rung by entirely a local band.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, for morning service, on Sunday, February 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) (1,260 changes), in 43 mins.: W. T. Prior 1, H. Watts 2, T. Jordan 3, W. Prior 4, G. Jordan 5, T. J. Watts 6, F. Bird (conductor) 7, J. Prior 8.

MORETON CORBET, SALOP.—On Sunday, January 15th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Doubles: F. Venables 1, H. Vickers 2, F. Jones 3, H. Austin 4, E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 5, J. Arrowsmith 6. All except the conductor are regular Sunday ringers at above church.

LONDON.—At All Hallows', Lombard Street, on Sunday, January 15th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: G. R. Pye 1, C. T. Coles (conductor) 2, H. Belcher 3, A. W. Coles 4, J. Bennett 5, W. Miller 6, C. W. Roberts 7, W. Glover 8, W. Pye 9, E. J. Trimmer 10. Rung, by special request, for evensong.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On January 15th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Delight: W. Williams 1, S. Carter (conductor) 2, W. S. Lawrence 3, A. Phillips 4, A. Woolston 5, W. H. Lawrence 6.—For evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, S. Head 3, A. Phillips 4, G. H. Carter (conductor) 5, W. H. Lawrence 6.

STANDISH.—At St. Wilfrid's Church, on Sunday, January 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich (1,316 changes), in 44 mins.: R. Taylor 1, J. Grounds 2, T. Grounds 3, A. Morgan 4, J. Grey 5, W. E. Austin 6, J. Booth 7, E. Birchall (conductor) 8. Rung by an entirely local band.

BRAINTREE.—For evensong, at the Parish Church on Sunday, January 15th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins.: *A. Wiffen 1, L. W. Wiffen 2, G. Lindridge 3, G. H. Melbourne 4, G. Wiffen 5, *H. C. Reason 6, C. H. Howard (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8. * First in the method.

CHELSEA.—At St. Luke's Church, on January 15th, for evensong (1,263 changes), a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters in 52 mins.: H. W. Mance 1, E. A. Reeve 2, W. F. Ellingham (first quarter in the method) 3, W. Essery 4, W. J. Dean 5, C. F. Mitchell 6, R. Dyas 7, H. H. Mance (conductor) 8, H. Mance 9, L. Mannering 10.

AMBLESIDE, WESTMORLAND.—On Sunday, January 8th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Triples: P. C. W. Robinson 1, E. Jennings 2, W. Nevinston 3, T. B. Newton 4, H. Hardy 5, T. F. Hewerton 6, W. Robinson (conductor) 7, W. Fisher 8. Arranged for P. C. W. Robinson, of the Manchester Police Force.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, January 8th, at the Church of St. Leonard, for evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. E. G. Hewson 1, Miss E. E. Hardcastle 2, Miss F. E. Orr 3, E. E. Bish 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, J. W. Chapman 6, J. L. Watkins (conductor) 7, S. Gardener 8. Rung by the local band.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.—On January 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,260 changes): P. Green (first quarter of Major) 1, W. Lincoln 2, H. Devonish 3, E. Clark 4, Dr. Spencer Phillips 5, A. Richell 6, A. Head 7, George Green (conductor) 8.

LAVERHAM.—On Sunday, January 8th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1,280 changes) in 51 mins.: S. H. Symonds (conductor) 1, A. Symonds 2, W. R. J. Poulson 3, F. L. Leeks 4, L. Poulson 5, F. F. Mortlock 6, F. A. Turner 7, F. A. Poulson 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.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on March 15th, 29th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th; Southwark Cathedral on the 22nd; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. A good attendance is requested. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carington Road, Chorley.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Sketty on March 10th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting after. All ringers welcome. — E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. onward. Service in Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Church Schools at 5 p.m., at 1s. 6d. per head, followed by business meeting. Subscriptions are now due, and annual reports ready for distribution.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—The meeting arranged for Feb. 25th at Long Buckby is postponed until March 10th. Usual arrangements.—K. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon, Northants.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Rainhill on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., 9d. each. Meeting to follow. Special attention to Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor. — Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Larkhall, Bath, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3.15 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at the Red House.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Bath.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—Annual meeting on Saturday, March 10th. Sheffield Cathedral bells (12) available from 2.30 to 5.45 p.m., St. Marie's (8) from 2.30 onwards. Business meeting in St. Marie's Presbytery, Norfolk Row, at 6 p.m. prompt, when Canon Dolan will preside. Principal business: Annual report, election of officers and passing of new rules. Visitors make own arrangements for tea.—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Lenton on March 10th. Bells (8) will be available from 5 p.m. till 9 p.m.—Fredk. W. Bailey, Local Hon. Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Higham on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available at 3. Association service at 5, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. A. Lasbrey. All outstanding subscriptions for 1928 should now be paid.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting of the Forest branch to be held at Lydney on March 10th. Bells available 2.30. Service at 3.30. Tea and meeting 4.30, which will be held in the Church School Room.—Oliver Thomas, 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Shore on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Methods: Plain Bob to Double Norwich. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Royston on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready early. The Vicar (Rev. Lambert) desires short service, 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m., Schoolroom, provided by ladies. All ringers welcome. Business meeting after tea in Schoolroom.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — There will be a ringing meeting at Limpsfield Chart on Saturday, March 10th. Tower open 2.30. All ringers welcome. — G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socan on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A practice meeting will be held at Sawston on March 10th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Methods: Double Norwich, Cambridge and Stedman.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Long Stanton, Cambs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting for the election of district officers, etc., will be held at Hersham (Walton Station) on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Church Room, 5.30; business meeting afterwards. Oatlands Park bells (8) available from 3 to 4.15 p.m.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Gen. Sec., 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Market Lavington on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, FLAMSTEAD, HERTS.—Reopening service after rehanging and tuning of Six Ancient Bells, Saturday next, March 10th, at 3 p.m. The bells will be rung in early evening.—F. C. Clare, Vicar.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Owing to special business, it is hoped that at least one representative from each tower in the district will be present. All ringers are cordially invited. — W. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Hornsey, Saturday, March 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at 5.30, 1s. each. Please let me know if you require same.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Chiswick on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open at 2.45. A social and dance will be held at Acton, Saturday, April 7th, for Isleworth Bell Fund, tickets 1s. 6d. Details later.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service, followed by tea. Cheap tickets to Boxmoor Station. Frequent bus service to Hemstead. Let me know early if you are coming.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead. **EXTRA NOTICE.**—Will those who have received notices from me, and mean to answer, please do so by March 9th at the latest? Thanks.—W. Ayre.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Tickhill, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30, at 1s. 6d. each, to those who notify Mr. A. Hill, Sunderland Street, Tickhill, near Rotherham, by March 14th. Full particulars for meeting will be sent to tower secretaries by circular.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 18, Royston Avenue, Doncaster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Overseal on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea (1s. each) and meeting 5 p.m. All members are requested to attend, as matters of vital importance will be discussed. All ringers and friends welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Next meeting, Lambeth, Saturday, March 17th. Ringing 2.30 to 4.30. Short service, tea and business till 6. More ringing till 7.30. A social hour is being arranged to follow, handbells, songs, etc. Please be prompt, and send me a card, if you desire tea, by March 14th.—J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Common on Saturday, March 17th, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., free of charge to all who advise me of their intended presence at the meeting. We are looking forward to a large attendance.—C. Beeston, King Street, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The spring meeting of the Cheltenham Branch will be held at St. Mark's, Cheltenham, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, kindly given by the Vicar and Parochial Church

Council. Business meeting to follow. Will all those intending being present please notify me by the 13th inst.? —Walter Yeend, Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, West Didsbury, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells at liberty 4 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m.; as these bells have recently been rehung a good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting for the election of district officers, etc., will be held at Guildford on Saturday, March 17th. S. Nicolas' bells (10) available from 2.30. Service in S. Nicolas' Church 4.45. Tea (1s. each) at the Prince of Wales Assembly Room, Woodbridge Road, 5.30. Business meeting afterwards. Those requiring tea must notify me by Tuesday, March 13th.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Gen. Sec., 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Visitors welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A meeting of the Guild will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, March 17th. The 6 bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m.—J. A. Fenton, Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Binfield on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please let me know how many will require tea by Tuesday, March 13th.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—Half-yearly business meeting postponed to Saturday, March 24th, at St. Giles' Church. Ringing 6 to 8 p.m. Service in church 8 p.m., followed by business meeting in Parish Room.—W. Collett, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Jarrow on Saturday, March 24th. Bells of Christ Church, St. Peter's, and Hebburn will be available after 2.30. Tea at Co-operative Café at 5. Please advise Mr. H. Hall, 49, Gladstone Street, Hebburn, before the 21st.—George S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Earlsheaton on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Meat tea will be provided at 1s. per head to all those who notify Mr. H. Dransfield, Ellenroyd, Commercial Street, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury, not later than March 20th.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, March 24th, to consider the following business: (1) Proposed amalgamation of the association with the Guildford Diocesan Guild. (2) Proposed new rules. (3) Report re association certificate. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (at the Institute) 5.15. Meeting 6 o'clock. Members requiring tea must notify the undersigned not later than Tuesday, March 20th.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Bushey —
 'The next best meeting,' Saturday, March 24th. Bells
 open 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea 6 p.m. (1/- each).
 Business meeting and ringing. Cheap trains from
 London.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey.
 Tel. City 4270.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—A lantern
 lecture will be given in connection with the above in St.
 Michael's (City) Parish Hall on Friday, March 30th, at 8
 o'clock on 'Somerset Church Towers' by C. F. W.
 Denning, Esq., President of the Bristol Society of Archi-
 tects. Doors open 7.30. Admission 6d. The Rev.
 W. S. Hazeldine will preside.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Jubilee meeting of
 the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association will be
 held at Bristol on Whit-Monday, May 28th. A Life
 Member's peal is being arranged and other peals for
 visitors on Saturday, May 26th. Will those wishing to
 take part kindly advise soon? Arrangements for ringing,
 etc., on Sunday are being made. Monday's programme,
 ringing up till noon at any or all city churches. Service at
 St. Mary Redcliffe, 12 noon. Luncheon 1 p.m. Business
 meeting 2 p.m. Tea to follow. Social evening arrange-
 ments (good train service to Hereford), luncheon 3s. 6d.,
 tea 1s. (a grant will be made towards this cost). Will
 members and visitors kindly advise early *now* so that extra
 accommodation can be sought if necessary. The 1928
 Report will be issued in souvenir form on May 28th.
 Life members and visitors wishing to take part in peals for
 Saturday should apply early. Hotel accommodation will
 be arranged at reasonable cost.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec.,
 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. A. Tomlinson, Ring-
 ing Secretary of the Lancashire Association, has removed
 to 188, Whalley Old Road, Blackburn.

DEATH.

STITCH.—On February 27th, at 21, Cambrian
 Place, Port Talbot, Glam., Elizabeth Gertrude (Lily),
 the dearly beloved wife of Ernest Stitch.

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 tended for beginners, and for those who find the ordinary
 books of instruction too difficult.—From I. Roe and M.
 Broome, 9, Lansdown Crescent, Bath.

TWICKENHAM.—On Sunday morning, February 19th, for divine
 service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Giles 1, A. E.
 Morris 2, Miss K. Bradford (first quarter-peal with an 'inside' bell) 3,
 G. Bradford 4, R. G. Hiley 5, L. Mannering 6, W. H. Hollier (conduc-
 tor) 7, R. Wagner 8. All but Messrs. Hollier and Mannering are local
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'ALL ENGLAND' GATHERING AT CROYDON.

RECORD ASSEMBLY OF RINGERS.

GREAT CONCOURSE ADDRESSED BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

There was a remarkable response on Saturday to the invitation extended to the ringers of England by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, to visit the Croydon Bell Foundry, where they have recently completed the largest bell ever cast in England, and the biggest in the world that has

ever been tuned. No fewer than 2,400 people, almost all of them ringers, made the journey to Croydon, coming from nearly 450 towers; and they had a marvellously interesting day. They saw for themselves the great progress that has been and is still being made in the bell

founder's craft, and found on exhibition the largest 'ring' of ten bells that has ever been assembled. Coupled with this there was on view, among many other things of interest, a completed carillon, upon which demonstrations were given, and they enjoyed the hospitality of the firm extended with a generous hand. The gathering was given added importance by the presence of the Primate of All England—sufficient in itself to make it a memorable occasion—and the evening was spent in merriment.

As was briefly explained in our last issue, the bells which were the principal attraction in the foundry are to be added to the carillon shipped to America about two years ago for the Park Avenue Church. A new church on Riverside is now to contain these bells, the former carillon of 55 having four larger and five smaller bells added, bringing the total up to 64. Previously the heaviest bell was 9½ tons; the new bass is 18½ tons, and its size and tone must be seen and heard to be fully appreciated. Another attraction was a carillon, the gift of two doctors of Rochester, Minnesota, U.S.A., to the Male Clinic in that city, and will be dedicated to the American soldiers. It is the duplicate of one sent to Toronto University, which was dedicated last October.



TUNING THE GIANT.

The 18½ ton Bourdon Bell on the Tuning Machine with Mr. C. F. Johnston inspecting his handiwork.

These and other attractions brought together a record gathering of ringers, many of whom began their pilgrimage to Croydon on Friday, when those travelling from the most distant parts of the country left their homes for the Metropolis. On Saturday morning large numbers made their way to Clapham Park to ring on the very tuneful peal of eight bells at St. Stephen's Church, the first peal which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston installed after the war. The bells of Croydon Parish Church were also open, and here the visitors found heavier metal to pull on, but they enjoyed it to the full.

A TOUR OF THE WORKS.

The works' doors opened about 1.30 to admit the visitors, who, from that time onward, arrived by train, bus and tram continuously for the next two and a half hours. Although about 2,500 people passed through the works, so well had the arrangements been made, that there was no serious congestion, and everybody was able to see all that was on view in comparative comfort.

In the first great shop, where, for the moment, the numerous lathes and other machinery were silent, the chief object of interest was the carillon for Rochester, U.S.A., towering aloft in its massive frame, with the large bells (the bass is $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons) hanging at or just above ground level, so that a close inspection could be made. 'Up in the sky,' as it were, were the smaller bells, but there are no really tiny ones in this carillon of 23, which covers two chromatic octaves with the exception of the two lowest semitones. The carillon, although limited in its compass, provided a complete illustration of modern equipment.

The bells hang in their frame of steel and iron, their clappers are connected with the clavier, the manual which for centuries has been the keyboard of the artists who have made this form of music the national music of Holland and Belgium. It is by the clavier still that expression can best be imparted to a carillon, and no mechanical device yet invented can fully rival the touch and the life given to the bells by an accomplished carillonneur. But carillonneurs are born, not made, and in countries like America, where carillons are only now beginning to find favour, expert players are not always to be found. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, however, have overcome this difficulty in two ways. They have a dual device which enables a carillon to be played from a keyboard resembling a piano keyboard, or automatically on a principle somewhat similar to that of the pianola.

At the base of the Rochester carillon was to be seen a complicated-looking piece of mechanism—complicated, that is, to the uninitiated, but in reality so simple that it is hardly likely to get out of order. It is the electro-pneumatic control. When the representative of 'The Ringing World' pressed a button marked 'Start,' there was a quiet whirr as the electro motor gathered speed, and a needle on a pressure gauge sprang to life, responding to the rising pressure of air in a large cylinder. At 20lb., reached in a very short space of time, the piano keyboard could be operated, and any music within the compass of the carillon could be played, the bells responding immediately to a light touch on the notes.

Without being too technical, it may be explained that levers and wires connect the hammer of each bell to a small pneumatic chamber, the air pressure in which is maintained by the supply from the large cylinder. When a key is depressed, electric contact is formed, and a valve is opened which liberates air from the chamber, and in this way the levers are operated and the clapper strikes the bell. Pressure on another button puts the motor out of action. While the bells are in the tower, the keyboard could be a mile away, if desired.

The automatic player is controlled by a special switch. A paper roll is inserted, with small slots which mark the notes. As the paper passes over a roller, so a copper finger comes into contact with the roller beneath, wherever a slot occurs. The finger touching the roller completes the electric circuit, and the particular bell in the carillon is struck by the same means as if the keyboard were used. It is all very ingenious, and is another proof of what our bell foundry are doing to keep pace with the times. This particular mechanism has been developed entirely in Messrs. Gillett and Johnston's works, and, what is also interesting, is the fact that the paper rolls are actually cut on the premises.

In this first shop, also, was part of the huge girder frame which will be installed in Riverside Church, to take the completed carillon, when the bells from Park Avenue are wedded to those now at Croydon into one great whole.

More commonplace to ringers was the peal of eight bells for Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, hung in their new steel and iron H frame. The tenor is 12 cwt., and to the old six two trebles have been added.

Passing upstairs, visitors had the opportunity of inspecting the carpenters' shop and part of the clock factory, where, among other things of interest, were clocks in various stages of construction, and the 'master clocks' for electrical clock installations.

BELLS, BELLS, BELLS!

The foundry was the next department on the tour of the works. Here the gigantic furnaces, each capable of holding many tons of metal, the great ovens for drying the moulds, the mighty copes which form the outside section of the moulds, and the other things incidental to the actual casting of the bells were on view. Then a peep was permitted into a tuning shop, where one might come to close quarters with the machine that puts the Simpson harmonics into a bell—or would it be more correct to say removes all superfluous bell and leaves the Simpson harmonics?

Everywhere, as one passed round the extensive works, bells were to be seen, from tiny ten-pounders (or less) for the top end of small carillons, to the $18\frac{1}{2}$ ton giant, enthroned in his frame in what is known in the foundry as 'the cathedral.'

But before going on to describe the climax of the visit, let us look around at some of these bells, bearing in mind incidentally that there were in the foundry on Saturday bells covering—with the exception of one semitone—six full chromatic octaves—a collection such as never before has been brought together in one building. There were bells in all sorts of stages of production, from a $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton bell just out of the mould, with all its surface blemishes waiting to be removed when the tuning machine gets down to its job, to the finished article ready to take its place in steeple or carillon. One interesting carillon was that of 32 bells for the Regal Cinema, London, which leads the way in an entirely new departure. It is to form part of the most ambitious organ ever designed by an English organ builder, and its place in the instrument will be so perfectly controlled that the effects of the bells are likely to be a reminder of fairyland. The bass bell is $6\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., and the carillon will be operated on the electro-pneumatic plan from the organ keyboard by means of stops.

By contrast, one saw some of the great bells intended for Louvain. This is to be a magnificent carillon of 48 bells, which will be placed in the new Louvain University that is to be opened on July 4th by the King of the Belgians. The University is the gift of America, and the bells are given by four American engineering societies, who, with the knowledge of what the Croydon firm have done in the way of carillons, placed the order with Messrs. Gillett and Johnston without competition.

A relic almost of veneration was on view. It was a bell cast in 1655 by Hemony, and so perfectly tuned by that old master that it would be difficult to improve upon it. An examination of the interior showed that the tool used for its tuning must have been much the same as those at present in use. The lines showed horizontally round the bell, and though the appliances used must, of course, have been very primitive compared with the complicated and efficient machinery of to-day, the bell had evidently been on a lathe of some kind. The bell, although nearly 300 years old, has retained its tune and its tone, and offers a proof that those who argue that 'skimmed' bells will not retain their tone and quality are wrong.

'THE ENTHRONED KING.'

And then, at last, the visitors arrived at the ultimate object of their tour. In the new great tuning shop, where is to be found the biggest bell-tuning machine in the world, a machine which can deal with a bell up to 30 tons in weight, they came upon the ten largest bells in the factory. Along two sides were ranged nine upturned giants, the 'baby' of the family being a little chap weighing $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons. In succession came the brothers and sisters, increasing in size and weight until the 6th was $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons, the 7th about 8 tons, the 8th about $11\frac{1}{2}$ tons, and the 9th a low D, $13\frac{1}{2}$ tons. And then the enthroned king, a magnificent regal monster, swinging in his great frame of massive iron and steel. Mere statistics hardly convey the conception of this mighty bell's appearance, nor can words describe what its tone was like when it fell upon the ear, with deep, solemn roar.

Apart from its qualities as a bell, the casting itself is an artistic product. Upon the waist are four lifesize figures, representing angels. These were designed by an eminent American sculptor, and the casts shipped to England for the bell. Round the sound-bow is the inscription:—

'This bell, together with low D, D sharp and F, also certain treble bells, was added to the Laura A. Speiman Rockefeller carillon when the carillon was removed from the Park Avenue Baptist Church to the Riverside Church, New York, 1928 A.D. For the first time in history a carillon compass of five octaves is here achieved and exceeded.'

Time and again, as visitors passed round the works, they had heard the deep low boom of this bell in the distance; but they waited with expectant awe to see the giant in actual operation. Two or three men put all their strength into the heavy rope that, carried over pulleys, enabled the bell to be swung, and soon the cavernous mouth began to swing higher and still higher, while the enormous counter-balanced tongue moved the faster until at length it met the bell at the top of its swing, and a roar like a sudden, great chord from a huge organ struck the ear, and the vibration of it could literally be felt through one's body. It is the greatest bell sound that has ever been heard in England—a perfect blending of all those mysterious characteristics which in modulation of tone and accuracy of pitch go to make the perfect bell. That great Bourdon was, both in sound and appearance, the admiration of every one of the 2,500 ringers who heard and saw it. The bell has a diameter of $122\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and is 8 ft. 9 in. high. Its clapper weighs 9 cwt., and with the headstock the total weight is 25 tons.

It is hung on ball bearings, in a frame weighing $14\frac{1}{2}$ tons, and is so beautifully adjusted that actually one man can swing it. But it is also fitted with two wheels and electric apparatus, especially designed to ring the bell automatically. The $9\frac{1}{2}$ ton E and $5\frac{1}{2}$ ton G bells, both in New York already, are also being hung in ringing frames, and will be operated in the same way.

Bourdon dwarfs the nine other members of the family who go to make up a minor ring of ten (No. 8 is E flat instead of the usual E in such a peal). The E bell is already in New York, being the $9\frac{1}{2}$ ton

bass bell of the original carillon). But had it not been for Bourdon, the magnitude of the other bells on view would have been better realised. They seemed almost insignificant against Bourdon, yet the biggest were comparable with the previous largest bells cast in this country. Big Ben and Great Paul are the only two bells in England heavier than the 8th and 9th of this Brobdingnagian peal, the total weight of which is 67½ tons. They are not all destined for the same tower. When they leave the foundry they will part, never to meet again. The four back bells are going to augment the Riverside carillon, the next three are for a carillon at Cohasset, near Boston, Mass., and the three top bells are for Louvain.

CATERS ON THE HEAVIEST RING.

Standing mouth uppermost, they had had fitted for them a special clapping arrangement, with bell rope attached, so that they could be chimed, and their massive tones were heard frequently during the afternoon in courses of 'Original' Caters. This was done by a band of Middlesex Association ringers, whose operations were watched with interest by the spectators who thronged the works. The ringers were Messrs. C. T. Coles, C. W. Roberts, C. H. Kippen, G. R. Pye, F. I. Hairs, G. H. Cross, A. W. Coles, E. P. Duffield, W. Pye and D. Cooper.

Quarter chimes, which were similar to those which will be heard over New York, were demonstrated. At Riverside, they will be operated by a great electric clock, which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are constructing, and will chime either 'Parsifal' or 10-bell change quarters. The hour will be struck on the Bourdon with a 9 cwt. hammer. It will be the most powerful clock in existence, having a reserve power equal to double that of 'Big Ben.'

In addition to the demonstrations with the big bells, there were other activities in the foundry. The back six of the Houghton-le-Soring peal (having false harmonics) were rung, followed by six bells of similar weight and pitch from the Rochester carillon, with accurate five-tone harmonic tuning, by way of contrast; and the marked difference in the effect must have made an impression upon any who were wavering in their opinions.

The back diatonic ten of the Rochester carillon were chimed in courses of Treble Ten and Erin Caters by Mr. Harry Withers, of Birmingham, and fine recitals were given on the carillon by Miss Nora Johnston, who is easily the leading lady carillonneur—or should it be carillonneuse?—in the world, and Mr. Clifford Ball, the carillonneur of Bourneville. Many favourite songs were included in the recital, and visitors were charmed not only by the skill with which the pieces were executed, but by the delightful effects of the bell music.

There were a number of distinguished visitors during the afternoon, including the Duke of Argyll, the Bishop of Guildford, the Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon. They were all deeply interested in what was to be seen and heard, and, like the less illustrious folk, doubtless spent an instructive time.

Mr. Johnston had, most happily, been able also to secure the attendance of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Randall Davidson. They arrived soon after four o'clock, and were received by Mr. Johnston, who conducted them round the foundry. Both showed the greatest interest in the products of the factory, watched with evident pleasure the performance of Miss Johnston on the carillon, and were afterwards photographed in front of the great bell. The Archbishop being invited by the battery of camera men to hold the bell rope.

In the course of the afternoon, as the visiting ringers completed their tour of the foundry, they found a service of private omnibuses at their disposal to take them to the Parish Church and to St. Peter's Church, where they enjoyed short touches on the bells. Soon after half-past four o'clock the great halls began to fill for the 'tea party,' and, despite the size of the company, so well had the catering arrangements been made that everybody was comfortably accommodated and quickly fed.

In the Baths Hall, Mr. Johnston presided at the principal table, and was supported by the Archbishop and Mrs. Randall Davidson, his mother, Mrs. Johnston, the Bishop of Guildford, Canon G. F. Coleridge (President of the Central Council), Canon E. S. Woods (Vicar of Croydon), the Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon, the Duke of Argyll, Miss Nora Johnston, Sir Frank and Lady Newnes, Capt. Bennett, V.C., etc. Each table had a separate hostess, who looked after the needs of her guests, and the meal passed off merrily. As soon as tea was over, a band of ready helpers cleared the tables to make room for the company from the other halls, no fewer than four buildings having had to be engaged to accommodate the big party. While this movement was in progress, the guests were entertained by Miss Johnston and Mr. Ball, who gave a recital on the smallest carillon in the world, which was tucked away in a corner of the platform. It consists of 32 bells, with a bass of only 1 cwt., and its shrill notes filled the great hall to an almost overpowering extent. The bell tuner's greatest difficulty is the very small bells, but Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, in this tiny carillon, have shown what can be done by the application of scientific principles.

AN EXTRAORDINARY OCCASION.

When the massed company had assembled,

Mr. CYRIL JOHNSTON said: This is an extraordinary occasion. This is a great gathering of ringers from every corner of this country of England and Wales, from 435 belfries, represented by 41 of the 45 county associations and diocesan Guilds, including 21 ringing clergymen and

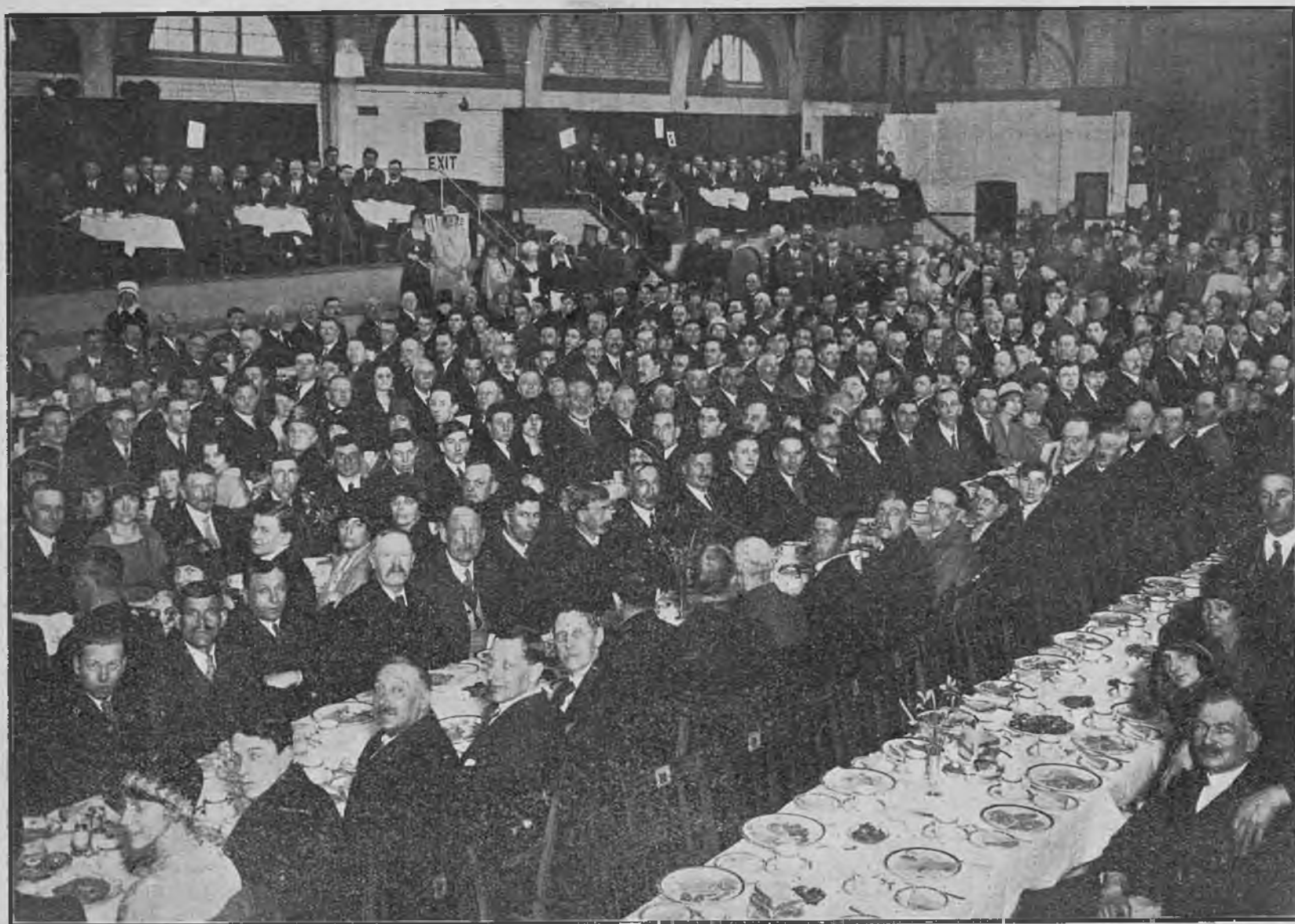
71 ringing ladies (applause). I cannot pretend that you have all come to Croydon to-day to see the big bell, because we are honoured by the presence of his grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Randall Davidson (applause). I have tried to find one or two historical facts, and I find that the Archbishop who was primate for the longest period was Archbishop Warren, who held that post for 32 years, from 1503 to 1535, and the next to hold the longest record in the tenure of that office is our present Primate (applause). Another extraordinary and most interesting thing is that he celebrates the 25th year of his tenure of the office this year. I understand also that he celebrates his 80th birthday in three or four weeks' time, and that next November he and Mrs. Randall Davidson will celebrate their golden wedding (applause). If my staff, my family and I have had a hand in bringing together the greatest concourse of ringers ever held to offer their felicitations in advance to his Grace and Mrs. Randall Davidson, then, indeed, we are highly honoured (applause). I will call on his Grace to address you (applause).

THE ARCHBISHOP'S ADDRESS.

The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, who was received with loud and prolonged cheers, said: I cannot help telling you how deeply I am impressed by the sight of this great assembly here to-night, and all that it means in the way of a gathering of people responsible for something that matters intensely in the life of our country to-day. We simple folk who do not understand or know the inside either of the making of a bell or of belfry work in the ringing of bells, have had to-day a time of excitement and marvel. We have looked at the outcome of the handicraft of great artificers, who are producing bells of a very wonderful kind to ring both on this side of the Atlantic and the other, as well as in what we have regarded as one of the homes of bells, Belgium and Holland across the seas. The making of a big bell is a mystery wholly beyond the vision of many hundreds and thousands of those who ring, and certainly outside the range of almost all those who do not, and we have stood in awe, literally, before the magnitude of what we have seen as a work accomplished and of the production of such results as are now happily possible in our own motherland. I wish God-speed to the artificers and to their handiwork—a handiwork that is meant to have a character of its own in the bell messages throughout this motherland. The ringing of bells is not so recent an art as the making of a bell. I look round this hall, and I imagine there are few here who could not give me an expert lesson as to how to carry on the craft of ringing bells. This is carried on in every part of England and Wales, but it remains to outsiders like myself a marvellous mystery. We amateurs talk in a glib and easy way about a peal of bells, or ringing a peal, but I am told that to ring a peal with the greatest number of bells which you use—that is, the maximum for a peals of twelve bells—would take 479 million years (laughter). I am afraid that is not quite correct. There are 479 million changes, which would take thirty-seven years to ring. At a time when modern science is bringing to our knowledge and within the range of our hearing or our learning a vast number of things which until a little while ago were not within hearing or touch, one wonders what it may come to when bellringing reaches its perfection and wireless communication and broadcasting reach perfection. We constantly in this country hear Big Ben—I am not speaking of the merits or demerits of Big Ben as a big bell—and the other day it was heard simultaneously in London, in America, in South Africa and in Australia, and one begins to wonder what that means, as ingenuity increases in the realm of sound communication throughout the world. We are only taking hold of something which has existed all along, but it is an immense thought for bellringers, as an example of what happens in our common life, of something which we can put out in the way of leadership, or a message, or stimulus, or sympathy.

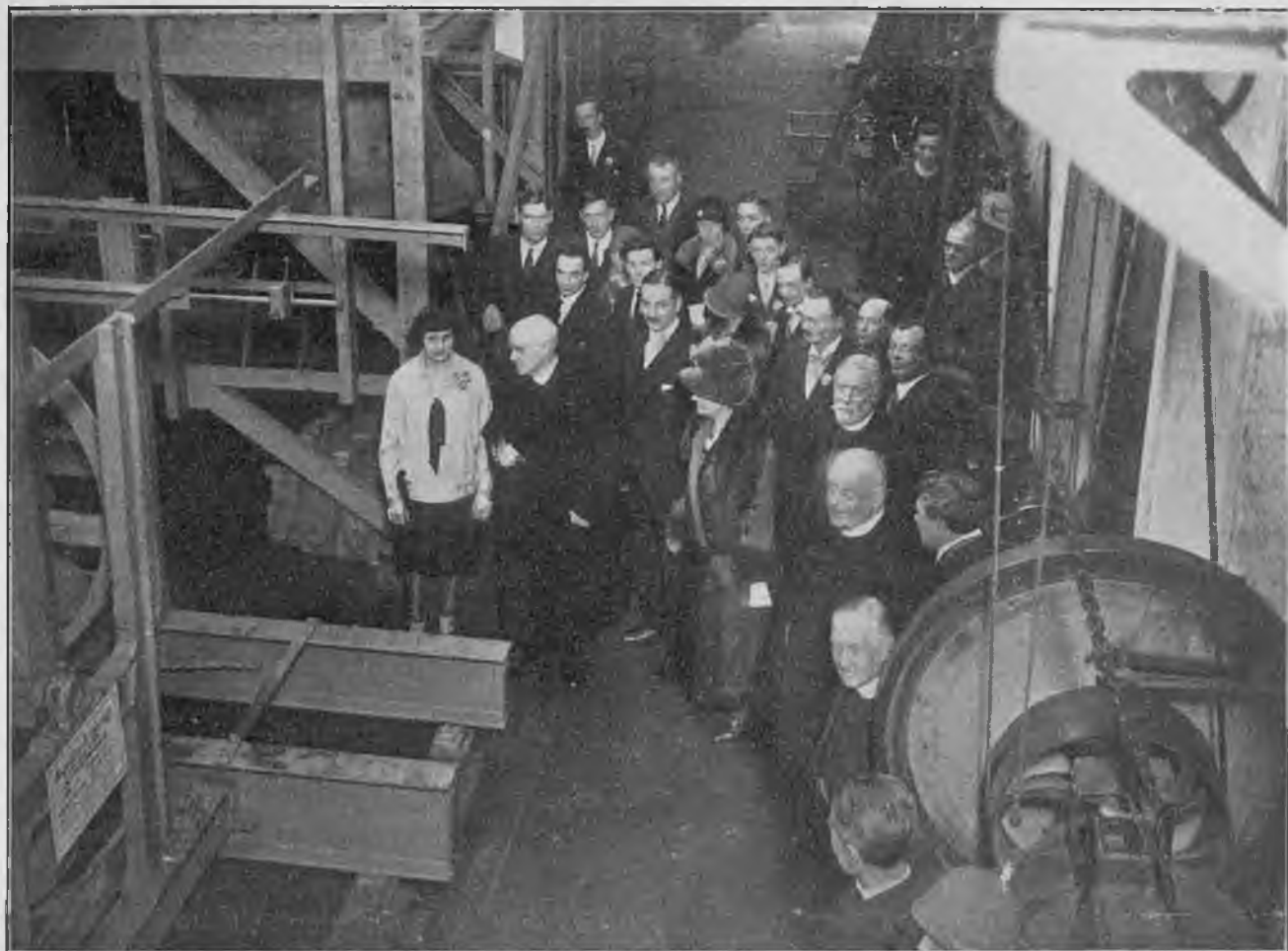
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BELLRINGING.

All these things come with our bells and spread far beyond where we have any knowledge and far beyond anything we can dream of to-day. You know well what is the responsibility belonging to bellringing in the land: it is a message which goes out of cheer, of sympathy, or, it may be, of guidance, into all kinds of homes. Wedding bells, or the passing bell, Easter bells or Christmas bells or new year's bells—all have their own message, and the responsibility of bringing that message to those to whom it is sent is surely a gigantic one; and when I look round this hall and think how that responsibility is concentrated in this gathering, it makes one thank God and take courage (applause). We wish success and God-speed to the great craftsmen and the outcome of their craft, and we think of what it will mean for those to whom the message goes, and the responsibilities of those who hold the bell ropes in sending that message in the hope that the hearts, the sympathies and the conscience of a great many men and women may be stimulated thereby. I have heard people say that the ringing of the great bell at St. Paul's Cathedral at four o'clock every day is literally looked forward to as something indicative of the highest things towards the close of the day's work. In this and in other ways you know probably better than I do, because you are often talking about it and often in touch with those who tell you how much the sound of the bells means to them, you are responsible for doing something that does really matter for the well-being of your country and the world. I should like to say, then, to Mr. Johnston and others engaged in the craft, how grateful we are to those who make these things practicable in our common life, and, I believe, infinitely fruitful of good (applause). I should like to say one word to you of wel-



READY FOR TEA !
A SECTION OF THE VISITORS IN THE BATHS HALL.

[Photo C. Friend-Smith.]



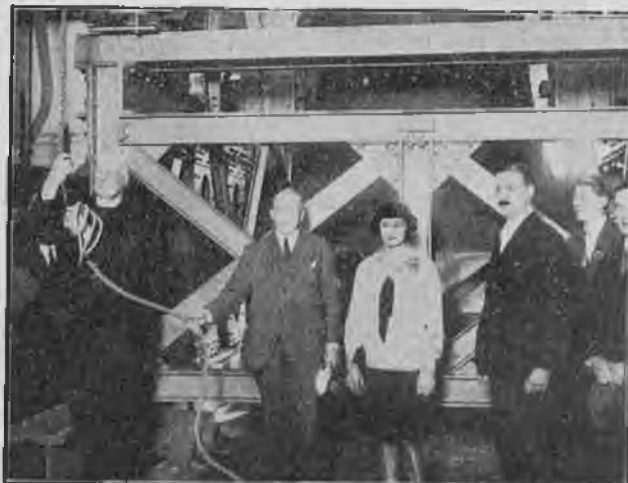
Above: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Mrs. Randall Davidson, the Bishop of Guildford, Canon Coleridge, Mr. C. F. Johnston, Miss Nora Johnston, and other distinguished visitors, inspecting the Rochester carillon.

[Photo: C. Friend-Smith.]



Left: THE 18½ TON BELL, in its massive frame, showing the giant headstock and wheels.

Below: Canon Coleridge at the rope of the Bourdon Bell, with an illustrious 'Strapper,' the Duke of Argyll.



come to Croydon, which is in my own diocese, and welcome you to a place that is a centre of so much that you care about, and to wish you God-speed in your work in the days to come (applause).

MAYORAL WELCOME.

The MAYOR OF CROYDON, in a speech of welcome to the ringers, said he had lived in Croydon for a long while, but he did not think he had ever seen anything quite like that gathering. And not only that; he thought they should thank Mr. Johnston for the fact that, with his helpers, he had produced that enormous bell which they had seen that day—the largest bell that had ever been produced in this country, and which redounded not only to his credit but also, if he might claim it, to the credit of Croydon itself (applause). Croydon, as they knew, was a very large town, but it was made much more important than it otherwise would be by the work which was turned out by the Gillett and Johnston Foundry (applause). Just imagine what size Croydon would reach if they had several people with the ability to stamp their mark on the whole of the world and be recognised in the way in which

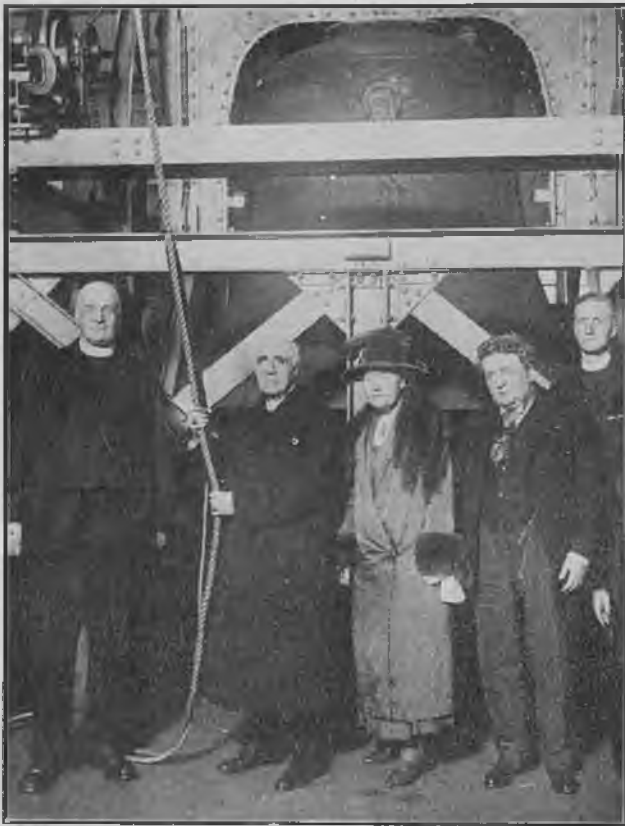
wanted them to know, having come from all parts of the country, that the old saying that a prophet was without honour in his own country did not apply as far as Mr. Cyril Johnston was concerned (applause). He had known Mr. Cyril Johnston a long time, and when the Archbishop had kindly come there to show honour to Mr. Johnston, he (the Mayor) felt justified in giving that same honour, speaking on behalf of the town of Croydon (applause). He did want to tell them how proud and glad they were, and how deeply they were indebted to his Grace for coming to the town and saying such nice things about them and their esteemed citizen, Mr. Johnston (applause).

CROYDON AND THE ARCHBISHOP.

CANON WOODS said he desired to add a word or two to the welcome and appreciation which the Mayor had already spoken. The Mayor had spoken in the name of the whole community of Croydon. He (Canon Woods) would like to speak as Vicar of the parish in which they were at that moment assembled, and, on his own behalf and that of his brother clergy, to offer them a welcome. He was also proud in their name, and in that of the religious community of Croydon, to welcome that great man and great Christian leader, the Archbishop of Canterbury (applause). There might possibly be some of them in that room who hardly realised that they were in the diocese of Canterbury, but it was true that Croydon was an island, separated geographically rather a long way from their cathedral, their mother church, and their Archbishop, but they appreciated their connection and were proud of it. There might be others who did not realise the long and intimate connection there had been between the Archbishops of Canterbury and Croydon. For 900 years the Archbishops of Canterbury had had the closest connection with that place. Archbishop Langfranc, in the 10th century, was the first Archbishop who had a residence in Croydon, and for many centuries the Archbishops had their residence just by the old Parish Church. It was a great ancient and honoured link, of which they in Croydon were very proud. Croydon had always been proud of its Archbishops, and he took leave to say that it had never been prouder than it was to-day (applause). Continuing, the Vicar said he would like to add his very cordial thanks and appreciation to Mr. Johnston and his family and firm for their very generous and public-spirited action that day (applause). The sights and sounds which they had seen and heard in that great bell foundry would remain for many a year in their memory. It had been of extraordinary interest to see and hear that wonderful great bell of 18½ tons, and then they had had in those halls one of the biggest tea parties that it had ever been their good fortune to attend (applause). They were very grateful both to the Archbishop for coming among them and to Mr. Johnston and his family and firm for all they had done for them that afternoon. Canon Woods concluded by saying that he was pleased to meet so many bellringers, and he hoped they would sometimes think of what bellringing really meant. They lived in days that were not altogether easy, but they looked for better times to come, and he hoped, as they pulled their ropes Sunday by Sunday, that, after all, it was as Tennyson said, they were ringing out the old, ringing in the new, ringing in the Christ that is to be (applause).

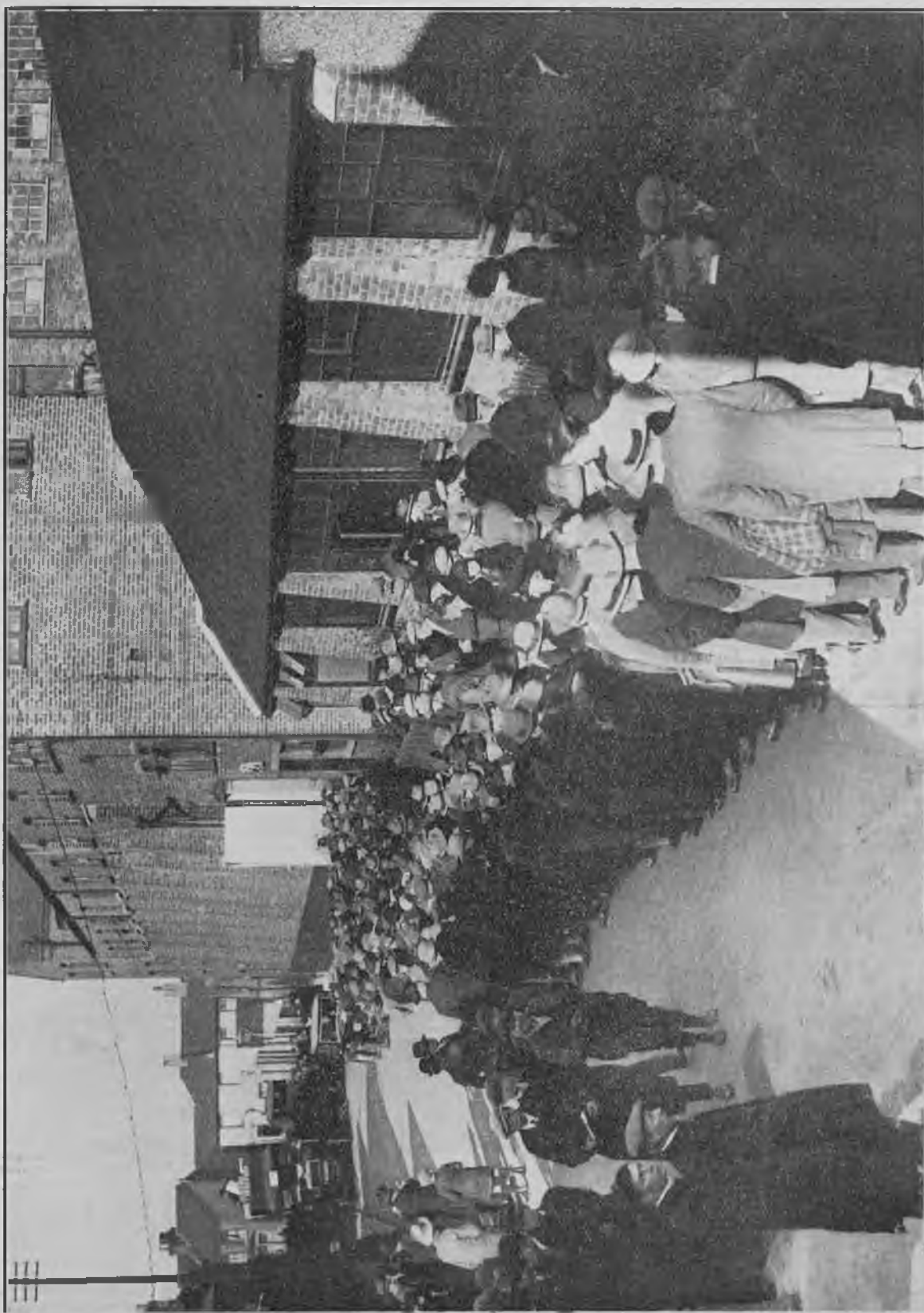
MR. JOHNSTON'S THANKS.

MR. JOHNSTON: It is very difficult for me to do justice to all the kind words that have been said by his Grace, by the Mayor and by the Vicar. You can imagine what it must mean to our staff, to my mother, my sister and myself, to hear from his Grace's own lips his gracious appreciation of to-day's sights and of our tea party. As far as the Mayor is concerned, I have been thinking, while he was speaking, that if I had a very expensive post to offer to a first-class publicity man, I could not do better than engage the Mayor (laughter and applause). On the other hand, I do appreciate, and I know my staff do very deeply, all the things he has said about us and our work. With reference to the Vicar, I do not know what to say. He has not been in Croydon very long, but he made his mark directly he got here. I could tell you a lot of things about him, but I do not think I will (laughter). At any rate, the Prince of Wales, in a speech this week, has been reported as saying that 'C' is the favourite initial letter of the manufactures of Worcester. I should like to tell you that 'B' is the favourite letter of the manufactures of Croydon—bells, beer, bells and Bishops (laughter and applause). Bell foundries have many ramifications to unravel, just as ringers have. The bell founder, if he wants work to fill his factory, has to visit certain places to find out how to secure the contract. When he goes to a village or a town—I am now going to tell you one or two secrets, because we are all friends here, and I know they won't go any further (laughter)—when he visits a village or town where the bells are to be restored or some new ones added, his first job is this: he need not bother about measuring the bells or the tower; he has got to find out whether the key to the situation is the duke, or the village blacksmith, or the Rector's wife (laughter and applause). 'The Ringing World' told us last week that we are living in a time of boom in bell restorations. It looks as though we are, and, fortunately, we are only repeating history. Three hundred years ago, when better methods of casting and tuning were known than for long afterwards, methods which have been rediscovered and improved upon in this country in recent years—the progress of the bell founding industry is going hand in hand with the progress made in the art of change ringing—three hundred years ago the Hemony brothers of Amsterdam, who were the greatest



The Archbishop, Mrs. Davidson, the Mayor of Croydon, the Vicar of Croydon, and Canon Coleridge in front of the great bell.

Gillett and Johnston had been recognised (applause). He had been thinking how it was that this infinite capacity of Mr. Johnston had been allowed the play it had, and he could not help remembering that his father was a very prominent member of the Town Council for some years. He must have been proud of Croydon, because he worked so well for it, and his son had followed in his footsteps as far as business men were concerned (applause). He did not know that it was his place as Mayor to invite him to follow his father on the Council, but he would promise him this, that if he would only do that he would get such a welcome as they were giving him that day. They wanted men of whom they could be proud, and when they found such a gathering as that, brought together practically by the commercial genius and the love for his work which Mr. Johnston must have, he could not imagine any better person to help the town in other directions (hear, hear). But in saying that, he did not wish him to sacrifice anything he was doing in his business, or to give up time necessary to its maintenance for municipal work, which they lesser lights could see to in the meantime (laughter and applause). He said this because he



ARRIVING AT THE WORKS.
THE QUEUE OF VISITORS ENTERING THE FOUNDRY.

masters of their art—until the present day (laughter)—turned out 50 carillons in 40 years. The output of the Croydon Foundry in the last five years had been 25 carillons, and it is perhaps interesting to note that whereas in 1913 and 1919 the output of bells was actually 36 in number, weighing 16 tons; the output of bells last year rose to 400 in number, weighing 200 tons (applause). You may think we are all for progress. We are! We are for progress all the time, and yet I have the greatest respect and love for historical things. There is a bell in the foundry 300 years old, by Hamony, that many of you may have seen and heard this afternoon, and we would not break that bell up for worlds. It is a good bell. If it had been a bad bell it should have been replaced by a new one and kept as an interesting relic, but not as a musical instrument to grate on the ears of those who understand music.

I do wish sometimes that the diocesan authorities, where there is any question of restoration in dispute, would hear at first hand the bell founders' reasons for this or that kind of restoration. If they could hear them at first hand, I believe sometimes where there are difficulties—there are not always difficulties—a great deal of misunderstanding might be removed.

(applause). The Editor of 'The Ringing World,' for his leading article (this week), used the heading, 'How the associations have helped.' He was referring to something else, but it is most appropriate for me to quote it now, because without the assistance of the 41 association secretaries we could not have organised this gathering. I do want to thank from the bottom of my heart all those secretaries who have so nobly responded to the call and entered into the spirit of the whole thing. It was really impudent of us to ask them to help us, but they sent out the forms, and the statistics which we required came in from them, almost all of them, by the last day we had given them. In addition to the secretaries, almost the whole of Croydon has rallied round us in support, including the Rotarians, Toc H, and 50 lady hostesses organised by the wife of one of our churchwardens. They have come to the rescue, and to them all we are deeply grateful. I also want to thank the Vicars and Rectors of St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, the Parish Church and St. Peter's, Croydon, for throwing open their towers to the ringers for as long as they were required; the steeplekeepers who got the towers ready and who have been in attendance all day, and my own staff, about 70 strong, who have worked like Trojans. I do not know that they have worked on the making of clocks and bells for the last few days, but for the organisation of this tea party, and to get ready all those great bells which you have seen and heard this afternoon (applause). Then I want to thank all the different authorities with whom we have had to negotiate for the five different halls. They have been as good as gold in giving us every facility. We have also had a picked band of the Middlesex County Association, some of the finest ringers in this country, who came to practise a week or two ago, and who this afternoon have chimed Bob Caters at the foundry on that great ring of bells. In addition, we have had Mr. Withers and Mr. Hall from Birmingham, and another lady who has been playing on the carillon in the foundry (applause). I know you cannot all get home to-night, but when you do go home I hope you will all have a safe and happy journey. I thank you, your Grace, Mrs. Davidson, my lords and all of you for having given us so much of your time this afternoon, and trust it will long live in your memory as it will in those of my family, my staff and myself as one of the happiest days we have ever had (applause).

THE DIOCESAN TENDENCY IN RINGING GUILDS.

(Canon H. F. COLERIDGE, who was loudly cheered on rising to speak, said it was his invariable custom when at breakfast in the morning to take 'The Times,' put it up in front of him and read down the first column. The births did not interest him very much; the marriages still less (laughter). All his friends had been married many years—they all had a wife but him. But he did look down the lower part of the column, and hardly a day passed but one found some old friend or acquaintance had passed from this world. That was his usual practice every morning at breakfast, but he had hardly opened his paper that morning before he saw an advertisement announcing that the bell foundry of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston would be open to everyone who chose to come during the next week between 2.30 and 5.30, and on two evenings, on payment of 1s., to go to the Croydon General Hospital (applause). There was not one of them present that evening, said Canon Coleridge, who would not gladly have paid a shilling for so good a cause, in return for all they had seen and enjoyed. But they were not asked to do it; they came there by the invitation of Mr. Cyril Johnston, free, gratis and for nothing (applause). He could assure Mr. Johnston they had all enjoyed themselves immensely, whether they were big or small (laughter), important or unimportant. They had heard and seen that huge bell of over 18 tons, and they had, perhaps, hardly realised that on the table in front of Mr. Johnston at that moment was the tinkle of that carillon. So there were great bells and small bells, and all in between were important, and all ringers were very important people. There was a great feeling throughout the country that ringers were more and more appreciating their position as church workers (applause). When he began ringing 57 years ago, diocesan associations were hardly thought of. One was formed three years afterwards—the Devon Guild of Ringers. That was the first county or diocesan organisation. Very soon others followed, some like the Oxford and the Gloucester and Bristol being diocesan, others like the Kent being county organisations. He was bound to say he

thought the time was coming, and it had been touched upon in their paper, 'The Ringing World,' when these county associations would be merged, as it were, into diocesan associations, for the simple reason that they felt themselves church workers, and they wanted to feel very much the same as the choirmen, and so on. They had their festivals, and they wanted to be, he would not say patronised, but certainly recognised, by the Bishops and the clergy of the dioceses (applause). Look at that gathering! Fifty years ago, what ringers in England would ever have thought that the day would come when some 2,400 ringers, for the most part, would come together in a big mass to be spoken to by the Primate of all England? (applause). They would never have thought, for example, that a diocesan Bishop, like the Bishop of Guildford, would come among them in a new diocese and do what he had done. He (the speaker) believed he was going to show the way in England, just as the Diocese of Oxford showed the way in the days of Bishop Wilberforce. Those in high authority took the greatest interest in the work of the ringers, and in proof they had those distinguished men with them on that occasion. He had on his left, from Scotland, the Duke of Argyll, who was the proud owner of ten bells at Inverary. He had come there and shown a great interest in the proceedings, and who could tell what might be the outcome of it? Perhaps the whole of Scotland would be covered by bells (applause). Last year, continued Canon Coleridge, when he addressed them he told them that by the kindness of Mr. Johnston they left the hall as companions of the bath (laughter). The gathering that night was so big that Mr. Johnston had had to engage three other halls besides, and they would leave that day with a certain hall mark as distinguished ringers impressed upon them (laughter), a hall mark which no other ringers, except those there that night, would be able to claim (laughter and applause). They had to thank Mr. Johnston most warmly, and although others had spoken about him and thanked him already, he would like, as the mouthpiece of the ringers that evening, to convey their best thanks to Mr. Johnston, Mrs. and Miss Johnston, and the staff and everybody else who had done anything whatever that day for their comfort, their pleasure and their instruction (applause).

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S CONGRATULATIONS

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, having cabled on Friday to Mr. John D. Rockefeller, jun., the donor of the bells, informing him that they were to be demonstrated for the first time at Saturday's great gathering, have received the following cabled reply:—

'Many thanks cable. Cordial congratulations distinguished gathering important occasion.—Rockefeller.'

The BISHOP OF GUILDFORD said they had listened to five most interesting speeches, full of point and full of humour, which were what he might call the finished utterances of practised speakers. Now, at long last, he was to address them, and he thought that what he ought to do was to imitate the other speakers by bringing his oration into a finished condition as soon as possible (laughter). He was there, he supposed, as the representative of the newest of the diocesan bellringers' Guilds—he could think of no other reason why he should be honoured with an invitation to be present on that memorable occasion—and there were two points only upon which he would detain them. It had been said by the last speaker and by others that the bellringer was coming more and more to regard himself as a church worker. He (the speaker) entirely agreed with that opinion. But he wanted to go a little further. He wanted the bellringers not only to regard themselves as church workers of real importance, with an important task to fulfil for the Church, but that the Church itself should regard them in that light (applause). He was venturing to suggest in their new diocese, where they were untrammelled by past traditions, that there should always be a representative of the belfry on every Church Parochial Council (applause). Then there was one other point: it was this. If they were going to regard themselves as church workers, they must regard themselves more and more as part of that clamant voice of Our Lord, which called mankind to the worship of God, and he was going to ask them, as the outcome of that very remarkable gathering, remarkable not only for its size and for the way in which it had been gathered together from every part of England, from Cornwall to Newcastle, from Sussex to Carlisle, but also because it was honoured by the presence in his own most wonderful year of their great Archbishop—he was going to ask them, as the outcome of this, to come to the determination that, as they handled the ropes, the voice of the bells should awaken in their own hearts the voice of prayer, that the sounds might be heard as a spiritual power, and that they might be part of that great army of those who, with the angels and arch-angels, were leading others to God (applause).

This concluded the speechmaking, and Mr. Johnston then called for three cheers for the Archbishop and Mrs. Davidson. These were lustily given, and then there was a call for three cheers for Mr. Johnston, which, needless to say, were just as cordially given, while the singing of 'For he's a jolly good fellow,' made the rafters ring. This part of the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

The rearrangement of the hall for the concert which was to follow then rapidly took place, while the 'pocket' carillon was played by Miss Johnston and Mr. Ball.

(Continued on page 153.)