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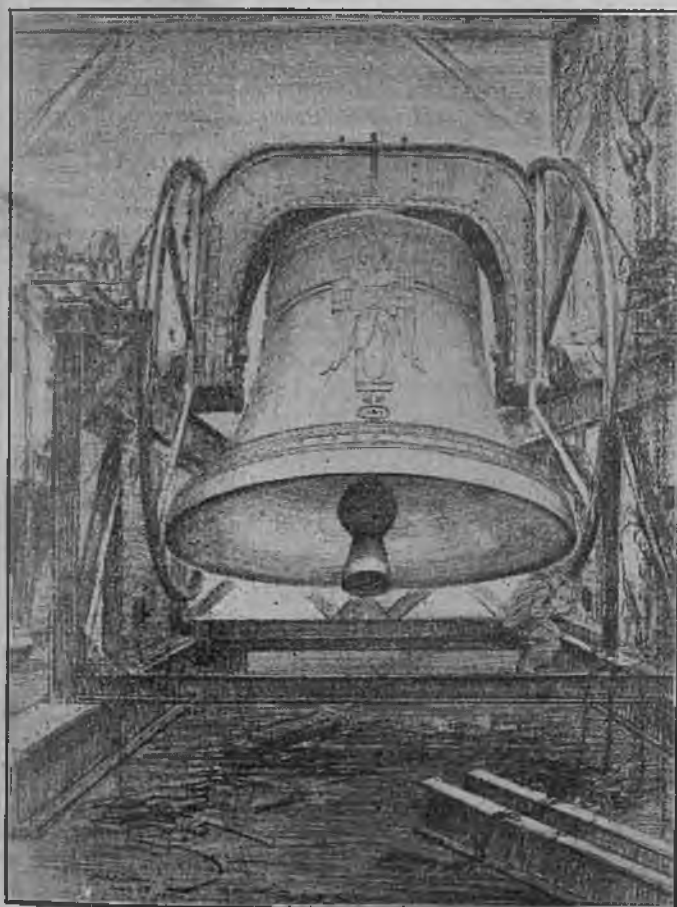
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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

When the Central Council meet at Hereford next Tuesday they will probably find that the agenda will give them a full day's work. As a rule the 'provincial' gatherings do not provide quite as long a programme of business as the triennial meeting in London, but this year the agenda contains contentious matters about which many members will desire to have their 'say.' There are nine committees to report, and while some of them may be only formal, the Methods Committee's recommendations as to method names is almost certain to provoke considerable discussion. In connection with this matter it should be remembered that what is decided upon next week will practically settle the names of the regular Minor methods for all time. Hitherto there has been opportunity to discuss them and to make changes, because there is no printed publication in which many of them have been attached to the figures. But after this meeting, a new edition of the 'Collection of Minor Methods' is to go out, and what is printed in that volume will stand, for good or ill. The fact that members are, perhaps, rather tired of the subject ought not to prevent them giving careful consideration to the matter.

After the reports, there are motions on the agenda about which there are divided opinions, and a good deal has been heard at ringing meetings during the past year on the subject of providing peal diplomas as an encouragement for young ringers. Many associations have expressed views for the guidance of their representatives, and this item is not likely to be quickly disposed of. Among the other motions the proposed definitions of what should constitute a 'peal' on five or six bells may prove controversial; while the proposal to set up a committee to consider the best method of dealing with cases of extraordinary sickness among ringers is not unlikely to provoke a lively debate.

And when the agenda, already published, has been disposed of, there is an addendum, upon which there are three motions for consideration, if there is time and the Council agree. One puts forward a proposal that the associations should be asked to unite in a scheme for keeping those ringers, and particularly the younger and less enthusiastic elements, who move from one district to another, in touch with ringing. This comes from the Guildford Diocesan Guild. The two other motions have originated with the Suffolk Guild, raising the question of giving consideration to the defunct Nomenclature Committee's recommendations, and expressing views on the issue of diploma.

Both these latter may, perhaps, be
(Continued on page 322.)

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dealt with in the relevant places in the principal agenda.

Altogether, therefore, there is every appearance of the Council having to apply themselves to a full day's business, but as compensation the week-end offers many attractions to those members who avail themselves of the facilities for enjoyment which the Hereford Guild are providing. The Gloucester and Bristol Jubilee festivities are bound to keep a few members away from Hereford until Tuesday, but those who reach the interesting old western city earlier will have plenty of opportunity for a refreshing holiday with everything arranged for their convenience.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour, Southwark,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE 7
HENRY HODGETTS 2	JOHN T. KENTISH 8
EDGAR C. RUSSELL 3	ARCHIBALD F. HARRIS 9
ERNEST BRETT 4	GEOFFREY C. RICE 10
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 5	JAMES BULLOCK 11
GEORGE MARTIN 6	MADRICE F. R. HIBBERT ... Tenor

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by MADRICE F. R. HIBBERT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. J. Bayley and J. Bullock.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*ALFRED RIDER Treble	RICHARD T. HOLDING 6
†JOHN RIDER 2	CHARLES H. PAGE 7
†EDWIN SHARRATT 3	†EDWARD A. RIDGWAY 8
HARRY F. HOLDING 4	JAMES H. RIDING 9
HARRY OVERTON 5	†EDGAR SHARRATT Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal of Grandsire Caters as conductor, and first of Caters in the method on the bells. Conductor's 300th peal.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN, PRESTON, WIGAN & FURNESS BRANCHES)

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Cathedral,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

*JOHN BROWN Treble	†J. R. TAYLOR 6
WILLIAM E. WILSON 2	*JAMES MARSH 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	THOMAS WILSON 8
EDWIN JENNINGS 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD 9
JOHN SANDERSON 5	FREDERICK HINDLE Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by THOMAS WILSON.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal of Caters.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5061 CHANGES;

Tenor 28½ cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFIELD Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 6
E. HARRY STONELEY 2	ALBERT H. WARD 7
HENRY FLETCHER 3	ERNEST MORRIS 8
MADRICE SWINFIELD 4	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 9
CHARLES DRAPER 5	JOSEPH SLADE Tenor

Composed by FRED H. DEXTER.

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.
MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.On Wednesday, May 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

A. J. PITMAN'S SIX-PART, No. 1.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFELD Treble	CHARLES DRAPER 5
E. HARRY STONELEY 2	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 6
MAURICE SWINFELD 3	WILLIAM E. CLAYFIELD ... 7
EPBRAIM W. RANDE 4	RICHARD C. BELTON ... Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

Mr. W. E. Clayfield is a member of the local band. This composition, containing 210 calls, is now rung for the first time.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BLACKBURN & PRESTON BRANCHES.)

On Tuesday, May 15, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS CHAMBERS Treble	JOHN SANDERSON 5
JOHN BROWN 2	THOMAS WILSON 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	WILLIAM E. WILSON 7
FREDERICK HINDLE 4	JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. WILSON.

Rung with the bells fully muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. John Watson, who was laid to rest at the Church of St. Leonard-the-Less, Samlesbury, the same day. Mr. Watson was the secretary of the Blackburn Branch of the Lancashire Association for more than 20 years.

BROMLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 15, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*THOMAS R. FLINT Treble	GEORGE H. CROSS 5
JOHN T. KENTISH 2	ISAAC EMERY 6
†OSCAR GILBEY 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7
PERCY J. SPICE 4	JAMES BENNETT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First Surprise peal. † First peal in the method.

HERSHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt.

*JOHN LOVERIDGE Treble	HUBERT J. CHAFFEY 5
MISS NORA E. SHORTER ... 2	*ALAN R. PINK 6
†C. ERNEST SMITH 3	†JOHN GILL 7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 4	WILLIAM T. BEESON Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WM. T. BEESON.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bob Major. ‡ First peal. First peal of Major as conductor. First peal of Bob Major by the Guild.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1928, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FRANK ROLLINS Treble	JOHN R. SHARMAN 5
TOM LAW 2	JOHN T. HENSMAN 6
FRED HOPPER 3	TOM TREBUTT 7
*BERTIE O. SODEN 4	FRED WILFORD Tenor

Composed by NATHAN PITSTOW. Conducted by FRED WILFORD.

70th peal. Rung as a birthday peal to Mrs. Hopper, wife of the ringier of the 3rd.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

GEORGE L. BRUNSDON Treble	GEORGE CONDLICK 5
ARTHUR SMITH 2	THOMAS BALDWIN 6
JOHN AUSTIN 3	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS ... 7
WILLIAM H. HARRIS 4	JOSHUA STEVENS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

ROYSTON, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 18, 1928, in Three Hours,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*HARRY HOWARD Treble	*JOHN W. WARD 5
*MISS KITTY WILLERS 2	ROBERT HOWARD 6
WALTER MANSFIELD 3	*FRANK HARPER 7
WILLIAM A. TACK 4	ROBERT G. KING Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

* First peal in the method. Rung in honour, and on the occasion of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' visit to Royston to open the children's ward of the local hospital.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, May 18, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WANDSWORTH, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HERBERT LANGDON Treble	JAMES H. RUMLEY 5
WILLIAM S. LANGDON 2	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS 6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 3	HAROLD N. PITSTOW 7
ERNEST E. BISH 4	WILLIAM G. GRAY Tenor

Conducted by H. N. PITSTOW.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Louis Attwater, late leader of the local band.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

SIDNEY T. HOLT Treble	WILLIAM C. JONES 5
*FRANK LAWRENCE 2	CYRIL TANSELL 6
WILLIAM NIBLETT 3	WILLIAM RANFORD 7
ROBERT G. KNOWLES 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal of Surprise away from the treble.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.

EDWARD JENKINS Treble	JOHN WILKINSON 5
WILLIAM BIBBY 2	*THOMAS G. LARKEY 6
*THOMAS HAMMOND 3	*PERCIVAL W. CAVE 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	*EDWARD CAUNCE Tenor

Composed by J. PIGGOTT.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

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

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LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE AND
SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY KILBY	Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ...	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	6
CHARLES T. COLES	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
GEORGE M. KILBY	4	WILLIAM PYE	Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.
This peal contains 2,944 changes of London, 608 of Bristol, and 736 each of Superlative and Cambridge, the latter methods being rung in alternate courses. First spliced peal rung in the City of London.

BLACKBURN, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(CHURCHKIRK SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

ANTHONY CHADWICK	Treble	RICHARD BOLDERSTONE ...	5
ALBERT YATES	2	JAMES INGHAM	6
SIDNEY BROWN	3	JOHN HURST	7
ARTHUR LORD	4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ...	Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.
Rung with bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect for the late Mr. J. Watson, of the Cathedral company, who was interred on Tuesday, May 15th, at Samlesbury, near Preston, Lancs.

THAME, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 13 lb.

*SAMUEL W. PROSSER	Treble	FRANK BECKETT	5
CHARLES COLES	2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	6
*RICHARD POST	3	WILLIAM SIMMONDS	7
†HECTOR BENNETT	4	GEORGE HORWOOD	Tenor

Conducted by F. E. TAYLOR.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th. He attained his majority on May 21st.

LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY	Treble	JOHN C. DICKEN	5
*MISS VIOLET BECKETT	2	CHARLES F. SAYER	6
*ARTHUR G. KING	3	†EDWIN R. GOATE	7
WILLIAM E. BASON	4	HERBERT JARMY	Tenor

Composed by T. BROOK. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.
* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Triples. Great credit is due to the ringer of the second, who is only 15 years old, for the way she rang in this peal. She is believed to be the youngest lady to ring a peal of Stedman.

EXETER.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(St. Thomas' Society.)

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' TEN-PART, No. 1.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*W. J. H. BAILEY	Treble	T. J. STOKES	5
E. W. BIFFIN	2	†W. H. BREWER	6
R. J. DAVEY	3	C. ROUTLEY	7
J. HOSGOOD	4	A. H. GOAD	Tenor

Conducted by E. W. BIFFIN.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. All are regular Sunday service ringers at St. Thomas'. Rung for the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the bells.

EDMONTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILBY J. HAZELL	Treble	MRS. G. W. FLETCHER ...	5
*JOHN G. NASH	2	JOHN THOMAS	6
ALICK CUTLER	3	JAMES PARKER	7
WALTER J. BOWDEN	4	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

TUXFORD, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*HARRY PIERREPOINT	Treble	WILLIAM BRETT	4
MISS K. BURCHNALL	2	ERNEST A. MIDWINTER ...	5
MISS G. BURCHNALL	3	ROBERT W. STOCKDALE ...	Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT W. STOCKDALE.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal in the method on the bells for the association. The ringer of the treble is 15 years of age.

EXHALL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being the Rev. E. Banks' James' seven extents.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

CHARLES G. BATES	Treble	JAMES H. RAPER	4
ALFRED E. BACON	2	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE	5
*JOHN W. TAYLOR	3	JOSEPH E. SYKES	Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor.

FORNHAM ST. MARTIN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, May 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

ARTHUR BALLAM	Treble	†CHARLES STANNARD	4
ERNEST FOOTER	2	WILLIAM STANNARD	5
*ARTHUR BRIDGES	3	GEORGE LILLEY	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STANNARD.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the 75th birthday of Arthur Bridges.

SOUTH NORMANTON, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

H. DOUGHTY	Treble	M. SLATER	4
A. B. JUDGE	2	H. FRADGLEY	5
J. W. ENGLAND	3	E. W. RILEY	Tenor

Conducted by J. W. ENGLAND.

First peal by all, and on the bells.

JARROW-ON-TYNE, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford Bob, Plain Bob and Double Oxford Bob, and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN TURNBULL	Treble	JAMES E. SCOTT	4
JAMES C. GRAY	2	ADAM DEAS	5
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	3	EDWARD A. HERN	Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**THE FOUR NEW BELLS FOR THE CATHEDRAL.**

The annual meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Lincoln at Saturday, April 28th. A large number of members attended evensong at the Cathedral, immediately after which the four new bells to be added to the existing peal of eight were dedicated by the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln (Dr. T. C. Fry, D.D., president of the Guild), as reported in issue of May 11th. The new bells were arranged on the floor of the nave, immediately in front of the great west door, and around were grouped the full Cathedral choir, the clergy, and a large congregation of ringers and others who had been attracted by such an uncommon event. After an impressive address by the Dean, the dedicatory prayers were recited, setting the bells apart for sacred purposes for all time. The service concluded with the singing of the hymn, 'O Heavenly Jerusalem.'

The new bells, like the eight bells already in the Cathedral tower, are by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and are very beautiful specimens of the bell founders' art. The inscriptions and other ornamentations have been produced by thecire-perdue process, which results in a highly artistic finish. The alphabet used is copied from that found on the famous South Somercotes bells, dated 1423, each letter being an elaborate work of art.

The cost of the 2nd and 3rd bells has been defrayed by the members and friends of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild as a memorial to those of their number who sacrificed their lives in the Great War. The 1st and 4th bells have been provided by the generosity of an anonymous American benefactor, and are part of a larger gift to the restoration fund.

For the benefit of any readers who may happen to be visiting Lincoln in the near future, it may be stated that the new bells will probably remain in the nave, near the great west door, for some time to come, and they are well worth a visit of inspection.

Tea was provided at the Co-operative Hall. The Dean of Lincoln was present, but having to leave before this part of the proceedings was over, spoke a few words to the gathering while still at the tables, referring especially to the progress of the Cathedral restoration, which he said was proceeding satisfactorily. He expressed the hope that the full peal of twelve bells would be hung in the south-west tower by the autumn of this year.

To the gratification of all present, the Lord Bishop of Lincoln (patron of the Guild) arrived while tea was still in progress, and presided at the business meeting which followed. He congratulated the Guild upon having accomplished their work in regard to the provision of the new bells, and said he understood they would be a very fine addition to the peal, which he hoped would be installed before the end of the year. He said it would be a great thing that, when the

Cathedral repairs were completed and the great service of thanksgiving was held, the bells would be able to signalise the occasion in full beauty and power.

The following officers of the Guild were re-elected: President, the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln; Master, the Rev. H. Law James; hon. secretary, Mr. F. W. Stokes; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. F. Linley.

The meeting passed a vote of sincere sympathy with the Dean of Lincoln in the loss recently sustained by him in the death of his wife.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Bishop of Lincoln for presiding, and to the incumbents of St. Peter-at-Gowts, St. Botolph's, and St. Peter-at-Arches for the use of their towers for ringing during the afternoon and evening. As the bells at the last-named tower are still out of action, the Rector kindly allowed the use of the belfry for hand-bell ringing. A number of members availed themselves of this opportunity for practice, while others made full use of the peals of six at the two first-named towers.

SIX BELLS DEDICATED AT CROFT.

On Saturday, May 12th, the six bells at St. Michael's Church, Croft, Leicestershire, were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Leicester. Six ladies rang the first touch, viz., 120 Grandsire Doubles, after which all the other ringers present had a chance of trying the bells. The ringers numbered about 50, and came from far and near. Even Mr. J. H. Shepherd turned up and measured the tenor in the usual way.

Everyone expressed satisfaction with the job, the 'go' of the bells being perfect. The work has been carried out by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and a word of credit must be given to their workmen for getting the work done in record time. To use the words of one of the inhabitants, the bells are 'a merry little lot.'

The methods rung at the opening ranged from Grandsire to London. A well-struck 720 of Kent Treble Bob, the first on the bells, was conducted by Mr. W. Willson.

Practices will take place on Thursday evenings at 7.30.

ASCENSIONTIDE.

Special ringing took place at many churches for the feast of the Ascension, and the following were among the touches rung:—

KILBURN, LONDON.—At St. Augustine's Church, 1,260 Bob Triples in 45 mins.: W. Wright 1, Rev. M. C. Edgar 2, Mrs. E. M. Atkins 3, R. Gilbert 4, C. Nichols 5, A. Gardner 6, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 7, G. Wilson 8.

LISCARD.—For festal evensong, at the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal (1,280 changes) of Bob Major: J. H. Dodd (longest length in any method) 1, A. Woosnam 2, D. Hughes 3, W. Hughes (age 75) 4, J. Breese 5, J. Hughes 6, L. L. Gray 7, J. C. E. Simpson (conductor) 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

By a typographical error the analysis of peals in our last issue was headed 1926; it should, of course, have been 1927.

A few Yorkshire ringers will be pleased to welcome old friends at the Berkeley Hotel, Victoria Street, Bristol, on Saturday.

The Herts County meeting at Benington, which is usually held as near to the old 'Ringing Day' as possible, is postponed this year to June 16th on account of the Whitsuntide holiday.

A hundred and thirty years ago to-morrow a peal of 5,120 Court Treble Bob Eight-In was rung by the Cumberland Youths at Edmon-ton, 'the first ever rung in that method on the bells.' It was composed and conducted by George Gross, and William Shipway took part in it. Doubtless Shipway, to whom the Exercise owes a great deal, learned much from this competent ringer, George Gross.

The first peal of Stedman Caters (the complete) was rung at St. John's, Horsley-down, London, on May 28th, 1787. This ring of bells is now derelict. What a pity it is something cannot be done to put them in order.

The existing Bristol Surprise record was set up on May 28th, 1912, when 15,264 changes were rung by members of the Middlesex Association at Hornchurch, in 9 hrs. 49 mins.

The first Surprise peal rung out of England (Superlative at Bray) was rung on May 28th, 1901, and the first Surprise peal in Wales (New Cambridge at Bangor) was rung on May 29th, 1901.

On this latter day also the first and only peal on the sea was rung (Stedman Caters) on the passage between Dublin and Holyhead.

THE LATE MR. J. P. RAYNER.

As briefly reported last week, the death of Mr. Joseph Philip Rayner, the veteran steeplekeeper of St. Andrew's, Holborn, occurred on May 8th from bronchitis at the age of 92 years.

Born on January 1st, 1836, at Clerkenwell, he was baptised at St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, where eventually he became a ringer, and was in charge of the bells and tower for about 50 years.

His ringing activities were confined to 'call changes,' but nevertheless, he joined the St. James' Society on October 18th, 1875, and the Ancient Society of College Youths on January 15th, 1878.

It was only natural that a native of Clerkenwell should adopt the profession of clockmaker, and he carried on this work until about three weeks before his death, never wearing glasses. He maintained all his faculties until the end. He was also a lifelong non-smoker.

The funeral service on May 14th was conducted by the Rector at St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, the coffin being carried into the church by the following members of the local society: Messrs. J. S. Hawkins, C. J. Choquet, W. J. Norton, and E. C. Russell. Among the ringers also present were Messrs. J. C. Adams, T. Benney, H. Langdon, W. Raughton, and C. H. Vidler. There was a large gathering of parishioners and friends. The interment took place at Tottenham Cemetery, and among the wreaths was one in the shape of a bell, sent by the St. Andrew's Ringers Society.

On Sunday evening, May 13th, at St. Andrew's Church, the Dead March in Saul was played by the organist, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples rung by members of the local Guild with the bells half-muffled.

The late Mr. Rayner was widely known and respected by metropolitan ringers, and his much deplored death severs a great link with the past.

A NEW RING OF EIGHT AT LEYTON, ESSEX.

A large congregation assembled at Leyton's old Parish Church on Thursday evening, May 17th, to witness the dedication of the peal of eight bells, which have been installed in the tower of this historic building. The service was conducted by Canon Brown, Rural Dean and Vicar of Leytonstone.

There were originally three bells at Leyton. In 1906 three more were added, and the six rehung in an oak frame by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, but only for chiming. The church authorities recently decided to augment the peal to eight and have them rehung for ringing, and through the generosity of the Barron Bell Trust this has now been accomplished, and Leyton possesses a very handy ring of eight, with a tenor about 10 cwt. The whole of the work, including the casting of the two bells, a tenor and treble, the erection of a steel frame with up-to-date plain bearings and all accessories, was undertaken by Messrs. Bowell, of Ipswich, who have been most successful in the work, the tone and 'go' being all that could be desired.

At the present time Leyton has no Vicar, the successor to the Rev. F. G. Glass not yet having been inducted. The parishioners, however, are looking forward to welcoming him on June 5th next, when arrangements will be made to form a band. In the meantime, the members of the Leytonstone band, with friends, have undertaken to ring for Sunday services as often as possible.

Immediately after the service three courses of Stedman, followed by a course of Cambridge Major, and another short touch of Stedman, were rung, when, owing to the lateness of the hour, no further ringing was attempted. Amongst the ringers present were Messrs. W. Miller, W. Theobald, A. Prior, P. Avey, E. Smith and R. Molton, of the Leytonstone band, together with Messrs. W. Pye, E. J. Butler, G. Lucas, C. Hughes, and E. W. Furbank, who participated in the ringing.

ANOTHER GREAT CARILLON AT CROYDON

AMBASSADORS INSPECT AMERICA'S GIFT TO BELGIUM

A DISTINGUISHED GATHERING.

The Croydon Bell Foundry is becoming famous, not only for the bells which it sends out to all parts of the world, but for the distinguished gatherings which constantly take place within its walls. Last Friday there was another notable assembly at the foundry, when a large number of members of the American Society in London and of the Anglo-Belgian Union gathered, at the invitation of Messrs. Tillett and Johnston, on the occasion of a visit of the American Ambassador and Mrs. A. B. Houghton, the Belgian Ambassador and Baroness de Cartier de Marchienne, the Burgomaster of Louvain and Mme. Vander Varen. It was, indeed, an international party, for the British Navy was officially represented by Earl Stanhope (Civil Lord of the Admiralty), Commander Holland, and five officers and 25 ratings of the new battleship, Kent, which is shortly to be commissioned. The principal object of the visit was to inspect the great clock and carillon of 48 bells presented to Louvain University Library by the American Engineering Societies, while the Navy's special interest in the proceedings was the casting of a bell presented by the Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men to the new warship. Countess Stanhope has organised the gift of the bell and plans for the officer's mess, and she was present to 'name' the bell.

The carillon, the most up-to-date of its kind in the world, was hung in its frame in the erecting shop, and was yet another fine illustration of the perfection which the Croydon Foundry has reached in its bell products. It consists of 48 bells of a total weight of 31½ tons, and is thus the largest on this side of the Atlantic. The compass is more than four octaves, and the bells range from 10 lb. in weight to seven tons. It is operated, of course, by the usual clavier, but to relieve the considerable physical exertion necessary to play the notes at the lower end of the register—which has hitherto been an obstacle in the development of carillon technique—the six lower pedals of the keyboard have been provided with specially designed electrical connections. These are so arranged that immediately the carillonneur commences to depress the pedal, electrical contact brings into operation an electro-pneumatic motor, the piston of which is coupled to the clapper, its force being thereby added to that of the carillonneur, and the full blow of the clapper on each big bell brought out in a way which unaided human effort could not achieve. This arrangement is known as 'assistance pistons,' and forms part of an electro-pneumatic mechanism which can be used for automatic tune playing, or in connection with an ivory keyboard—such as was described in a previous article in these columns. The Louvain carillon is the first to have 'assistance pistons' applied, and by a special device the pistons of the six lower bells may also be coupled electrically to the octaves above, at the discretion of the carillonneur, the clavier being provided with an octave coupler 'stop'—again for the first time in the history of carillon construction.

AMERICA'S GIFT TO LOUVAIN.

The proposal to present the carillon to Louvain University originated last summer with Dr. Edward Dean Adams, honorary member of the American Engineering Foundation, and formerly president of the Cataract Construction Company, which planned and built the works for the Niagara Falls Power Company. Dr. Adams attended the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the university as the delegate of the Engineering Foundation and other societies. While in Louvain he visited the beautiful new library building, of which Mr. Whitney Warren, of New York, is architect, and Mr. Carroll Greenough, of Paris, associate architect, to replace the ancient one which was burnt down at the beginning of the war. It struck Dr. Adams that the fine tower would not seem complete to the Belgians unless it possessed the two features they associate with their bellfries—a clock and a carillon. It also occurred to him that no memorial had yet been put up for the hundreds of engineers of the United States who had given their lives in the service of their country and its associated Powers. Combining these ideas, Dr. Adams suggested that members and friends of American engineering societies should present the University of Louvain with a clock and a carillon in memory of their members who fell in the war, and also as a token of international goodwill.

Dr. Adams' suggestion has been realised. The cost is being subscribed by sixteen different engineering societies, and the dedication of the bells and clock will take place on July 4th next at the same time as that of the library building. It may be mentioned that the order for the carillon was only received in December, and that its completion in five months easily constitutes a record, the usual time for making a carillon of this calibre being from two to three years.

In designing the Louvain carillon, the Committee on War Memorial to American Engineers has had the advice of Mr. Frederick C. Mayer, organist and chairman of West Point Military Academy, New York, who has just completed his inspection of the bells at Croydon. Mr. Mayer has heard most of the leading carillons of Europe and practically all those in America and Canada. He is satisfied that the Louvain carillon is the best tuned, and has the finest musical properties of any that he has heard.

The great clock which drives the four dials, and chimes and strikes the quarters and hours, is wound automatically. The huge weights that usually provide the motive power—rising and falling fifty or sixty feet up and down the tower—are dispensed with, and electric motors are employed instead.

The clock chimes have been specially composed by M. Denyn (the famous Belgian carillonneur). The first three quarters are variations on, and the fourth quarter the refrain of, a popular Flemish air. The hour is struck on the F sharp Bourdon bell, an octave below the keynote of the chimes.

Each of the clock dials is 15 feet in diameter, and has specially designed stars to take the places of the usual numerals. Thus, there will be a bell and a star for each of the States of America.

The University library fronts a fine square, that forms an ideal auditorium for carillon concerts. A million contributions from American citizens provided the cost of the building. The tower is 285 feet high, and the bells will be hung 230 feet above the ground.

VISITORS SEE BELLS CAST.

The carillon proved of immense interest to the visitors on Friday, the company, in addition to those already mentioned, including Prince and Princess de Croz, Lady Maddon (wife of the First Sea Lord of the Admiralty), Miss Maddon, the Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon, Lady Swaythling, Mr. Maudsley (secretary of the Anglo-Belgian Union), Mr. D. Campbell Lee (secretary of the American Society), Rev. W. S. Pakenham-Walsh (Vicar of Sulgrave, Northants), and Mrs. Walsli, Canon Woods (Vicar of Croydon), etc.

On arrival, the visitors first inspected the Louvain carillon and clock, and then moved to the foundry to watch the casting of three bells. The first was that for H.M.S. 'Kent,' and immediately before the molten mass was poured Lady Stanhope dropped a newly-minted threepenny-piece into the cauldron, declaring, 'I name thee "Kent." May you sound the might and power of England over the shores and seas, and to those who live with you, may your tones ring out happy, holy hours.'

Another of the bells to be cast was the tenor of the ring at Sulgrave, Northants, where is the tomb of Laurence Washington, who lived at Sulgrave Manor, and who was the ancestor in the sixth generation of the First President of the United States, whose great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1656. Into the metal of this bell a coin was cast by Mrs. Houghton.

Passing from the foundry, the visitors inspected the many other items of interest in the works, including the 18½ ton Bourdon bell for Riverside Church, New York, which was rung frame high by the electric motors. The three other large bells for the same carillon were also chimed with this giant, whose deep tone was much admired by the visitors.

Other objects which attracted attention were the carillon of fifty bells in progress of manufacture for Norwood, Massachusetts, which will have a 3½ ton bass bell, and another carillon of 49 bells for the Wellington War Memorial, New Zealand, for installation in a campanile being erected specially for the carillon. There was also the great clock for Riverside Church—the most powerful tower clock in existence. It is actuated by electric motors, and will chime 'Parsifal' quarters on four of the carillon bells and strike the hours on the Bourdon. This is the first time that 'Parsifal' quarters have been adopted for a clock.

A delightful concert of carillon music was then given, in which the magnificent bells were heard to their best advantage under the master hand of M. Denyn. He rendered four items, 'Prelude Impromptu' (Denyn), 'Troisième Sonate' (Valentin Nicolai), 'Moments Musicaux No. 3' (Franz Schubert), and 'La Brabançonne' (Campehoult), and the audience had a splendid opportunity of hearing the finely blended tones of the bells over the large compass.

Miss Nora Johnston, who is a student of the Belgian National Carillon School at Malines, of which M. Denyn is the principal, also gave a demonstration. She is the first lady carillonneur, and she played with wonderful skill an Irish air, 'My gentle harp,' and 'Flemish folk song' (Andelhof), M. Denyn bringing the programme to a close with the British 'National Anthem.'

Mr. Cyril Johnston, who had received the distinguished visitors and had conducted them round the foundry, welcomed the guests in the name of his family, his staff and himself, and thanked M. Denyn for his performance. They had been making history, he said, for that was the first time the new carillon of Louvain had been heard, because it was only at a quarter to three o'clock that afternoon that it was ready to be played. The last of the bells was actually being tuned on the previous Monday, and the American gentleman who came on behalf of the committee to accept or reject the bells, sailed for America only on the preceding day. M. Denyn was, should he say, the High Priest of carillonneurs of the world, and they felt very grateful that he had come to play to them. In welcoming the Ambassadors of America and Belgium, Mr. Johnston said his firm were rushing into the lion's den, because in sending the first complete carillon which England had ever made for Belgium, they were sending it to a land famous for carillons and carillon players.

One of the tuning rooms and an adjoining workshop, carpeted, and bedecked with the American, Belgian and British flags, were used as an auditorium, and were afterwards quickly transformed into a restaurant, where the visitors were entertained to tea, before their departure, after a most interesting and instructive afternoon.

(Pictures on pages 328 and 329.)



The six bass bells of Louvain carillon in the lower tier of the frame in Croydon Bell Foundry. The remaining 42 bells will hang in an upper tier.



Intense

A GROUP OF FAMOUS MEN.

The interesting group on the right was taken at Huntsham, Devon, in 1878, on the occasion of what was really an historic gathering, and the names of those appearing therein are household words in the Exercise.

Standing are Mr. G. H. Phillott, B.A., of Cheltenham; Mr. Charles Arthur Williams Troyte, of Huntsham Court; and Jasper Whitfield Snowden, of Leeds.

Middle row: Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, Master of Winchester College; 'Squire' Leonard Proctor, of Benington, Herts; and the Rev. R. H. Dyke Acland-Troyte, brother of Mr. C. A. Troyte.

Bottom row: Mr. C. D. P. Davies, then at Pembroke College, Oxford; and Mr. W. B. Fulford, of Exeter.

This group, unique in its interest to ringers, has never before been published, and we are indebted to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies for the loan of the photograph from which the picture is reproduced.





Visitors watching the casting of a bell for Sulgrave Church at Croydon Bell Foundry.

[Photo: 'Central News']



The American Ambassador with the 'Liberty Bell' of Louvain at Croydon Bell Foundry.

[Photo: 'The Times']

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A SKETCH OF ITS FOUNDING AND FOUNDERS.

BY REV. C. D. P. DAVIES, MASTER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

In view of the approaching jubilee meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association at Bristol on Whitsun Monday, the Editor of 'The Ringing World' has asked me to 'write a story of the foundation of the association, and something about the founders.' Egotistical though it may appear, let me take the last of these first.

Of founders, there were only two—Mr. Phillott and myself. For years in my schooldays I used to frequent the Cheltenham tower every Thursday evening, and there sit in patience for an hour or an hour and a half in the hope of being asked to take a hand in falling one of the bells (generally the fifth of the old ten) in peal when the ringing was done. Please note this carefully, all ye rising young ringers of the present generation, who have instructors provided for you, and meetings arranged for you, and associations to help you, and books galore to teach you—I had only 'Banister,' and had not even got that then—and 'The Ringing World' to cheer you on. Please note it carefully.

Well, on one of these evenings, in about the year 1875, up came a pleasantly-looking person of apparently somewhere near 23 years of age, who was asked to ring, and got through a touch of what I have since supposed was Grandsire Triples very creditably. The Cheltenham company in those days were, most of them, old stagers; at any rate, I fancy were all well over 30 at least, and so I was naturally drawn to the new person. We left the tower together, and from that day forth became firm friends. He comforted me, and told me that I 'should soon get on,' i.e., in learning change ringing.

George Henry Phillott was the only child of Rev. Canon H. W. Phillott, then Rector of Staunton-on-Wye, who later on became Canon Residentiary of Hereford, and went to live in that city. His son had been educated at Charterhouse, where his father, in early days, was one of the masters, and from there went to Christ Church, Oxford, where he had recently taken his degree, when he appeared in the Cheltenham tower. His reason for coming to Cheltenham was that he had been articled as a pupil to Mr. John Middleton, at that time one of the leading architects in the town and neighbourhood. Mr. Middleton designed All Saints' Church and the Ladies' College and other notable buildings. One of his fellow-pupils there was Mr. H. A. Prothero, who, with Mr. Middleton's son, Mr. Henry Middleton, and with Mr. Phillott, on the death of Mr. Middleton some years later, took the business together as partners. Mr. Henry Middleton died not long after this, and some fifteen or twenty years later Mr. Prothero died, leaving Mr. Phillott in sole possession. It thus came to pass that the whole of his working life was spent in Cheltenham.

At Oxford he had fallen in with Mr. J. E. Acland Troyte (now Capt. J. E. Acland), brother of Mr. Troyte, of Huntsham Court, who was at the same college, and had just (1872) founded the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers. Here Mr. Phillott had been well grounded in our art, and thus was able to take a good place in the Cheltenham tower.

And now I suppose that I must say something about myself. My earliest recollection of any connection between myself and bells is that one Christmas morning, when I must have been about seven or eight years old, I was persuaded by a Tewkesbury youth to take his hand and ascend to the ringing room. What I there saw and heard has faded from my memory. But I duly went down and entered the Vicarage 'pew,' which in those days was just below the altar steps, arriving a minute or two after the commencement of matins. My father's colleague was reading prayers, my father himself standing in the sanctuary. He immediately came down the steps, surplice and all—Church ritual was easy going in those days—and told me in my ear that I had been a very naughty boy.

Such was my introduction to the tower. However, a year or two later, by means of urgent and oft-repeated entreaties, I obtained leave to go there regularly, and by the time that I was 13 I could ring any bell there, including the tenor of 23 cwt. In those days there was no real change ringing at Tewkesbury. There was a company who melted away in the summer, but pulled themselves together a month or two before Christmas, and rang what they called 'the fourteen,' i.e., the first lead of Grandsire Triples, over and over again. What they did was that when they came to 1253746 they made the next row 2135476, and so they went on and on. Well do I remember the reiterated shout of the treble man, 'Off again!'

It was said with bated breath of one member of the band that he had 'rung the seventy,' i.e., it need scarcely be said, the plain course. It will thus be seen that they could not teach me much change ringing. But the hero who, as aforesaid, had rung the seventy, did me one great and good turn, for which I have always felt grateful. He showed me how to prick the seventy. As may be imagined, it was not long before there was a litter of half-sheets here, there, and everywhere in the house covered with figures. Here, however, it must be borne in mind that though I could prick fast enough I was absolutely in the dark as to how, unless learnt by heart, the written rows were to be rung. Of hunting I had never heard, nor ever had my instructor. In fact, he had himself rung the seventy by heart. You will say, 'Why did you not buy a book?' To that I reply that as no one had told me that there were books on ringing at all, it did not occur to me that they existed.

In due course I went to school at Cheltenham College (1866), and then came the Thursday evenings in the tower there. About 1874, the

old Tewkesbury band having fairly gone to pieces, Mr. Josiah Wathen and I decided to try to do something on sounder lines—that is, to teach ourselves and a few young aspirants to ring changes properly. Most of us had been chimers for the Sunday services, and we could all manage a bell. Setting to work on the back six at the Abbey, with occasional visits to neighbouring village towers thrown in, we stuck to it through good report and ill report, till in about a year's time we were fairly adepts in Grandsire Doubles, and, I must confess, in Grandsire Minor! Of course we soon began to try our hand at Grandsire Triples, and by the beginning of 1876 had evidently made something of it, as it was in February of that year when I went up to Oxford to compete for a scholarship, that at Magdalen College I rang my first long touch.

So far as I know there is, beside myself, only one of that evening's company, Mr. J. S. Pritchett, still left. Possibly it was in Oxford that I was told that I ought to get a ringing book. At any rate, there lies open before me at this moment a copy of 'Banister' (1874), with the following inscription on the inside of the cover: 'Charles D. P. Davies, Vicarage, Tewkesbury, and Josiah Wathen, Waterworks, Tewkesbury, went halves for this book, March, 1876.' In April, 1877, my father died, and my mother took a house in Cheltenham and remained there for two years.

This brings us to the association. In 'Church Bells' for December 1st, 1877 (p. 627) was published a notice, a copy of which had been sent to the clergy of the diocese, inviting their attendance, and that of all those interested in the question, to a meeting in the Chapter House of Gloucester Cathedral on January 8th, 1878. It read as follows:—

'Rev. and Dear Sir,—It is proposed to form in the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, an association of church change ringers, similar to those already established in Devonshire, Durham and Norfolk. The Archdeacon of Gloucester has already signified his approbation of the scheme, and promised to preside at a preliminary meeting on the subject.'

'The following clergy have also kindly promised their co-operation, and, if possible, their attendance: Rev. Canon Bell, Rector of Cheltenham; Rev. John Emeris, Rector of Upton St. Leonard's; Rev. Thomas Keble, Vicar of Bisley; Rev. Alfred Kent, Vicar of Coln St. Aldwyns; Rev. Hemming Robeson, Vicar of Tewkesbury.'

'It is hoped that you may be able to give your aid, and, together with any of your parishioners interested in the science of change ringing, to be present at the meeting, which will be held in the Cathedral Chapter Room, Gloucester, on Tuesday, 8th January, 1878.'

'The chief objects of the association would be (1st) the promotion of change ringing on church bells in the diocese, and its introduction in those places where it has hitherto been unknown; (2nd) to offer facilities for gatherings among the various societies of ringers already existing; (3rd) the recognition of ringers as churchworkers.'

'Communications on the subject are earnestly invited, and may be addressed to—

'G. H. PHILLOTT, Trevor House, Leckhampton Road, Cheltenham,

'C. D. P. DAVIES, Eton House, Wellington Street, Cheltenham.

'Hon. Secretaries, pro tem.'

The meeting was duly held, and the following brief report of it is given in the issue of January 19th (p. 75) of the same publication:—

'According to previous notice, a meeting, by the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, was held in the Cathedral Chapter Room, Gloucester, on Tuesday, January 8th, 1878, at 12 noon. The chair was taken by the Venerable Sir George Prevost, Bart., Archdeacon of Gloucester.'

'After prayers, the Archdeacon stated the object of the meeting, and the following resolutions were carried nem. con.:—

(1) "That it is desirable to form in this diocese a society for the promotion of change ringing on church bells, and its introduction in those places where it has hitherto been unknown." Moved by Rev. Canon Madan, Dursley, seconded by Rev. A. Kent, Coln St. Aldwyns, supported by Rev. T. Waters, Thornbury, Rev. H. Robeson, Tewkesbury.

(2) "That a committee be appointed to settle the constitution and rules of the society." Moved by Mr. Phillott, Cheltenham, seconded by Mr. Davies, Cheltenham, supported by Rev. H. Warleigh, Ashchurch, Rev. W. T. Allen, St. Briavel's, Mr. Drinkwater, Sandhurst.

(3) "That the following gentlemen be appointed members of the committee." Moved by Rev. J. Emeris, Upton St. Leonards, seconded by Rev. T. Keble, Bisley.

'A committee of fifteen was then appointed, with power to add to their number.

'The Archdeacon then brought the meeting to a close with a short prayer and the Blessing. A large number of those present gave in their names, together with their subscriptions, as honorary members. Mr. Emeris kindly accepted the office of treasurer, and begged, before separating, to offer the thanks of the meeting to the Archdeacon for taking the chair.

'The Cathedral bells were rung for a short space in the interval between the close of morning service and the commencement of the meeting. . . . During the afternoon and evening several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and some Grandsire Doubles, were rung at the Church of St. Mary de Crypt.'

In a brief survey of our history, which will appear in the forth-

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WATSON.

LOSS TO BLACKBURN.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Mr. 'Jack' Watson, of Blackburn, who passed away on Friday, May 11th, after a long and painful illness, at the age of 62 years. He had been a member of the Cathedral band for a great number of years, and during that time he rarely missed ringing for services or practice.

He was for 22 years the hon. secretary of the Blackburn Branch, which position he resigned six months ago, owing to ill-health, and also served on the committee of the Lancs. Association for a similar period. By his death the Exercise has lost an invaluable member, who was never happier than when assisting young ringers. A good striker, with a preference for the heavy end, he had rung in 126 peals, ranging from Bob Minor to London Surprise Major.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, May 15th, at Samlesbury Church, near Preston, the first portion of the service being held at Blackburn Cathedral, and conducted by Rev. Glynn Jackson (curate). After the committal service the whole pull and stand was rung on the bells at Samlesbury, and during the evening a muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Michael's, Blackburn. It was intended to attempt a muffled peal at the Cathedral on Thursday, but owing to a service being held a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung instead.

The deceased will be sadly missed in the towers of the Blackburn Branch amongst the bells he loved so well, and where his good striking and happy disposition made him a general favourite.

ASCENSIONTIDE.

NOTTINGHAM.—At St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 51 mins.: Miss I. B. Thompson 1, A. Coppock 2, A. Gamble 3, L. Clay 4, A. Goodwin 5, A. Lambert 6, F. Blood (conductor) 7, Burton Marshall 8. This is the longest length on these bells by a local band for upwards of forty years.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal (by A. J. Pitman) of Stedman Triples in 42 mins.: W. H. Austin 1, E. Sibley 2, A. Slade 3, W. R. Parker 4, S. J. Lawrence 5, W. Sturgess 6, W. J. Dove (conductor) 7, J. Wilkins 8. First quarter-peal on the bells since their restoration. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

(Continued from previous column.)

counting report of the association, will be found the names of a few of our early leading spirits among conductors and members continued to some of the present time. Much as I should like to repeat them here, I must forgo that pleasure, and pass on to a few words on the subject of the growth and development of the association.

Up about the first twenty years of its existence it steadily grew and proved itself of great value as a centre of influence and help in the furtherance of the two main objects for which it was founded, namely, the promotion of belfry reform and the cultivation of change ringing.

About the year 1897 a crisis was reached when the See of Bristol was separated from that of Gloucester. After careful and thorough deliberation the association decided, and, as we now feel sure, wisely decided to remain one and undivided, with only the necessary adjustment in its title, which thenceforth became 'The Association of Change Ringers for the Dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol.'

Some two or three years later it was deemed advisable to inaugurate district branches with a view to getting into closer contact with individual parishes. Accordingly the three archidiaconal branches of Gloucester, Cirencester and Bristol were established. These did splendid work for ten or twelve years, when it began to be felt that an extension of the same principle would be of advantage. As a result of this process we have now about ten district branches, each with a branch chairman and hon. secretary, holding frequent meetings in all parts of the two dioceses, thus infusing and maintaining life and movement throughout our whole area.

It may be interesting in conclusion to mention a few of our more notable peals:—

(1) The peal at the opening of the ring of eight at Prestbury on October 14th, 1886, was the first in which all the working bells were rung by clergymen in priests' Orders.

(2) At Cheltenham, on May 21st, 1888, 13,054 Stedman Caters, conducted by W. T. Pates.

(3) At Cheltenham, on April 22nd, 1889, 15,227 Grandsire Caters, conducted by W. T. Pates.

(4) At Prestbury, on April 22nd, 1912, 5,056 Superlative Surprise Major, rung entirely by clergy, conducted by Rev. H. Law James.

(5) At Painswick, on February 14th, 1920, 13,001 Grandsire Cinques, conducted by Albert Wright.

(6) At St. Mary-le-Port, Bristol, on January 28th, 1921, a non-conducted peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part).

(7) At St. Stephen-the-Martyr, Bristol, on November 3rd, 1923, a non-conducted peal of Stedman Triples (Washbrook's Ten-part).

(8 and 9) Two peals, one in 1917 and one in 1925, each conducted by a lady.

It will thus be seen that we have maintained a good level of work and usefulness, and I am certain that I am only echoing the earnest wish of all our members in expressing the hope that we may be enabled to continue on the path of progress and of increasing benefit to the church in the two dioceses.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

There was a large attendance of Sussex ringers at the annual meeting of their county association at Brighton on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: Angmering; St. Peter's, St. Nicholas, and the Good Shepherd, Brighton; Burgess Hill; the Cathedral, Chichester; Coleman's Hatch; Crawley; Cuckfield; East Grinstead; St. Saviour's, Eastbourne; Heene; Blacklands and St. Clement's, Hastings; Hurstpierpoint; Southover, Lewes; Lindfield; Lower Beeding; Pulborough; Seaford; Shoreham-by-Sea; Warnham and West Grinstead; while among the visitors were Mr. A. A. Hughes (Whitechapel Foundry), Mr. F. W. Rogers and Mr. A. T. Greenwood (Portsmouth), Mrs. F. I. Hairs, etc.

The towers of St. Peter's, St. Nicholas' and the Good Shepherd were open for ringing during the day, and in the afternoon a special service was held in St. Nicholas' Church, the Vicar (Rev. H. Collinson) giving an appropriate address on the message of the bells to Christian people. The offertory for the association's benevolent fund amounted to 15s. 2d.

The annual business meeting followed tea at Morley's Pavilion Restaurant, at which over 80 were present. The Master, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman, presided, supported by Mr. F. B. Tompkins (vice-president), Mr. Ellman Brown (hon. treasurer), and Mr. A. D. Stone (hon. secretary).

The annual report stated that the year 1927, though not marked by any event of outstanding importance, compared quite favourably with its predecessors. Owing to the sound and careful policy pursued by those in charge of the association's funds, the financial position was quite satisfactory. The reports received from the divisional secretaries showed that the average attendance at their meetings had been maintained, but it was hoped that the extra facilities for railway fares would prove an inducement to increase the attendances still more in the future. The committee were strongly in favour of members of neighbouring towers meeting for combined practice, believing that this would be a powerful incentive for stimulating interest and progress in ringing, and should also prove instrumental in bringing in new members. In the course of the past year the following work had been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank: Brighton, Church of the Good Shepherd, new ring of eight, tenor 13½ cwt.; Storrington, five bells rehung with new fittings, a new treble is to be added shortly; Eastbourne, Christ Church, the peal rehung with new bearings and the frame strengthened; Eastbourne, St. Mary's, the third, fifth and seventh recast, the peal retuned and rehung with entirely new fittings, the framework strengthened; Alfriston, the second and fifth recast, the fourth replaced by a new bell and the old one preserved in the church, the peal rehung with new fittings and framework.

In conclusion, the committee reminded members that the first purpose for which church bells exist is Sunday service ringing. They were glad to note that the average attendance for this purpose had been well maintained, and trusted that on this, principally, as well as all other occasions, the highest quality of ringing would be aimed at.

Mr. Ellman Brown, presenting the report and accounts, said the balance in hand had increased from £107 to £112, despite increased expenditure, which, in his opinion, showed an increased interest in the association. The Benevolent Fund balance in hand had increased from £62 to £67, there having been a demand of only £2 2s. upon it.

The report and accounts were adopted, on the proposition of Mr. F. B. Tompkins, who said the healthy state of the association was evidence of the ability of its officers.

The president (the Bishop of Chichester) and the vice-president were re-elected. The officers were re-elected as follow: Master, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman (Brighton); hon. treasurer, Mr. Ellman Brown (Shoreham); hon. general secretary, Mr. A. D. Stone (Brighton); hon. auditors, Messrs. W. C. Hart and R. J. Dawe; hon. peals' secretary, Mr. Frank Bennett (Brighton); and Central Council delegate, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Stone, on the proposition of Mr. Ellman Brown, who expressed warm appreciation of his services. 'A more painstaking, a more genuine, and a more hard-working secretary you never will find again,' he said.

Mr. Stone announced that the following towers had become affiliated during the year: Good Shepherd, Brighton (8 bells); Coleman's Hatch (8); St. Clement's, Hastings (8); Ringmer (8); and Hurlfield (6). He expressed the hope that the few remaining unaffiliated would join them, and so take their part in the advance of change ringing throughout the county.

Several new members were elected, including one from the tower of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, two from Seaford, and a number from the newly-affiliated tower of St. Mary's, Hurlfield.

The Master revealed that he came away from the last Central Council in London little wiser and considerably poorer. He listened to an extremely technical discourse, and lost his purse!

Brighton was selected as the place for the next annual meeting.

Mr. H. J. Tucker (Chichester) raised a question of reverting to the practice of holding the meeting on a Bank Holiday instead of on a Saturday; but he found no support, it being suggested that most of the members would prefer the cricket field during the afternoon.

Hearty thanks were accorded to those who had provided facilities for the association during the day.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

ARRANGEMENTS BY THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The large hall at the Booth Hall Hotel is placed at disposal of our visitors as a social centre for the whole of Monday and Tuesday, and here cold luncheons (2s. 6d.) and teas may be obtained. The hotel entrance is up a passage opposite the Old House in the High Town.

Unless unforeseen difficulties occur, there will be a motor trip through the Wye Valley to Tintern on Monday afternoon. The hour of starting will be fixed to suit, as far as possible, the convenience of those who wish to go. Notice of the hour will be posted in the hall at the Booth Hall Hotel, and there seats may be booked, to the extent of the accommodation available, by those who have not previously sent me their names. The fare will be about 7s. 6d.

Any other notices about ringing facilities, etc., will be posted at the same place.

Members of the Council and their friends are invited to a meat tea on Tuesday in the same hall at 5 p.m. The social will be held there on Tuesday evening at about 7.30 p.m.

H. S. T. RICHARDSON,
Hon. Secretary.

St. Nicholas' Rectory, Hereford.
(Telephone: Hereford 2448.)

THE COUNCIL'S BALANCE SHEET.

The balance sheet of the Council is as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance at bank	45	3	10
Affiliation fees	12	17	6
Interest on stock	4	15	2
Total ...	£62	16	6

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Loss on sale of publications	4	3	5
Hon. secretary, postage	2	2	7
Hon. secretary, stationery	1	14	3
'Ringing World'	5	1	0
Do,	20	15	0
Balance at bank	29	0	3
Total ...	£62	16	6

FIFTY YEARS AS LEADER.

STEBBING RINGER'S LONG SERVICE RECOGNISED.

A very well-attended meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association was held at Stebbing on Saturday, when fifty members were present from seventeen parishes. The ringers' Office was said, and an excellent address given by the Vicar (Rev. C. E. Livesey). The lesson was read by the Master (Mr. C. H. Howard). Tea and meeting followed in the Sunday School. The Vicar presided at the tea, and Mr. A. A. Saunders, District Master, presided at the meeting, supported by the Master, the Vicar, General Henderson, and the hon. district secretary, Mr. W. Arnold.

Eight new members were elected, and it was decided to hold meetings at Inworth and Halstead during the summer months.

After the business had been disposed of, the meeting was thrown open to the parishioners for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. E. Claydon, who has been the leader of the Stebbing ringers for 50 years. The gift took the form of an eight-day marble mantel clock, with a suitable inscription, a list of subscribers beautifully inscribed in an album by Mr. Davis, of Stebbing, and an envelope containing the balance of subscriptions received in Treasury notes.

The Master, in making the presentation, eulogised the services rendered to the church by Mr. E. Claydon over the long period of 50 years. He recalled the time when Stebbing had only a ring of five bells and a company of call-change ringers. Mr. Claydon and other young members of the band, in order to acquire the art of change ringing, walked regularly every week in all weathers to Braintree, a distance of seven miles each way, to attend the ringing practice there, and when they became well versed in the art taught others, and so established a change-ringing band in Stebbing, which had continued in existence without a break until the present time. In handing the gifts to Mr. Claydon, the Master said how pleased he was that so loyal a son of the church had been recognised by his brother ringers and fellow-parishioners.

Mr. J. T. Barker, churchwarden, and a ringer for 50 years, said that he and Mr. H. Emery, a ringer for nearly 40 years in the parish, had made the collection. It was a real pleasure to them. There were no refusals, everyone was so pleased to give.

Mr. Claydon, who only a short time previously had been told of the presentation, expressed his thanks and appreciation for the very handsome gifts. What he had done for ringing, he said, had been a labour of love, and he felt he did not deserve to be recognised for his services more than his friend Mr. Barker, who had also completed 50 years as a ringer at Stebbing. Mr. Claydon gave some very interesting and amusing reminiscences of his early experiences with the old local band of ringers.

(Continued in next column.)

MINOR METHOD NAMES.

METHODS COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Criticism is invited of the draft list of names for Minor methods appearing in your issue of the 11th, and it is as well not to allow this proposal to go unchallenged. Quite briefly, an obvious first revision of that list would require the following alterations:—

- (a) Substitutes for the 'floral' names.
- (b) Deletion of the word 'Abbey' from the 'abbey' names.
- (c) Deletion of the word 'Castle' from the 'castle' names.
- (d) Certain other abbreviations.

The floral names are clearly unsuitable for a scientific nomenclature.

As regards the 'abbey' names, apart from that abbreviation being an improvement, it avoids an absurdity. When 'Tintern,' 'Fountains,' 'Glastonbury,' etc., are mentioned, one so naturally thinks of the Abbey of that name, that to drag in that word (Abbey) is needless—e.g., 'Tintern Delight' is a tolerably good name; 'Tintern Abbey Delight' cumbersome and less euphonious.

Exactly the same is to be said of the castle names, apart from which quite a number of these duplex names have been adopted by the Union Castle Line for their steamships—e.g., Carisbrooke Castle, Chesham Castle, etc. Why need the names of well-known steamers be employed in our ringing nomenclature?

The original intention in choosing names from abbeys and castles—in itself a most happy idea—has been misunderstood and misapplied.

Furthermore, such glaring combinations as 'Duke of Norfolk,' 'Duke of Clarence,' 'Queen Victoria,' 'Woodcock's Victory,' etc., at least require abbreviation to 'Norfolk,' 'Clarence,' 'Victoria,' 'Woodcock,' etc., if these names must be retained.

We claim our art as a science. To print in an official publication of the Council such unsuitable names, such awkward combinations, and, above all, such absurdities as are now in question, would be making a laughing-stock of the Exercise.—Yours very truly,

Beechwood,
Old Catton, Norwich.

G. P. BURTON.

INSTANCES OF DUPLICATION.

Dear Sir,—The methods mentioned by Mr. G. B. Newton are two instances of the many cases where there is duplication of names. It is not very easy to settle these cases, certainly not to everybody's satisfaction; but the general rule adopted is that the oldest name stands. The Analysis Committee took a lot of trouble to find out which actually are the oldest, and I do not think they made many, if any, mistakes. As a matter of fact, Emmerdale was one of those that I queried. St. Laurence is a name already taken for a quite different method, namely, No. 75 in the Major Collection. It is the most difficult of the Little Bob methods. It was one of Mr. Bankes James', and was familiarly known by the Cambridge University men as 'Hot Tom,' hence, when it wanted a more dignified name, it naturally became St. Laurence. You will remember that that saint ended his days on a gridiron. The first peal of it was rung by the Guildford men in 1920. That was, of course, after the Frodsham peal, but St. James' Youths' Exercise is very much older, as the name of the Minor method.—Yours truly,

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

(Other letters on this subject are unavoidably held over.)

BIRTHDAY PEAL AT APPLETON.

From the point of view both of good ringing and good fellowship it was a great pleasure to all concerned to take part in the peal at Appleton, which was recorded in our last issue. George Holfield has so long been in association with Appleton and Grandsire Caters that it was most fitting he should on his seventieth birthday call a peal in his own tower with old friends. The only matter for regret was that his brother, E. Holfield, who was to have been in the band, met with an accident shortly before, and had to stand out. An efficient substitute, however, was found in Maurice Smith, of Baulbury.

At the close, Mr. and Mrs. Holfield entertained the band and a few more friends to supper at the Thatched Tavern, at the close of which the health of the host and hostess was enthusiastically drunk, and hearty wishes were expressed that George's eightieth birthday might have as happy a celebration.

A DATE TOUCH.

On Monday, April 16th, at St. Leonard's Church, Middleton, Lancs, a date touch of Bob Major (1,928 changes) in 1 hr. 12 mins.: Wm. Berry 1, F. Berry 2, S. Holt 3, J. Smith 4, H. Bastow (longest length in the method) 5, T. A. Ogden 6, J. H. Bastow 7, T. K. Driver 8. Composed and conducted by Wm. Berry.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. J. T. Barker added his testimony to the recipient in a few well-chosen words, mentioning that they also had in Stebbing another ringer in the person of Mr. H. C. Young, who had been ringing for nearly 30 years.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his address and for the use of the bells, to the organist and to the ringers and lady friends who had provided, at their own cost, the very excellent tea. The bells were rung until late in the evening by the visiting ringers in methods ranging from Bob Minor to Cambridge Surprise.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on May 31st; *St. Giles', Cripple-gate, on the 29th. Both at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. A special meeting will be held at Headquarters at 8 p.m. on June 19th to consider the recommendations of the Rules Revision Committee.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ICKLETON, CAMBS.—A grand fete will be held on Saturday, May 26th, in aid of the Bells Fund. Bells available afternoon and evening. All will be welcome. Admission to fete free.—P. Webb.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berkshire Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at East Hagbourne (8 bells), on Saturday, May 26th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea at the School Room 4.30 p.m., meeting to follow. Members requiring tea please notify me not later than the 23rd.—A. E. Lock, Hon. Sec., 35, East Street, Helen Street, Abingdon.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Full programme as previously announced. Information at St. Thomas' Parish Room, Victoria Street, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Monday. Urgent matters will receive attention by hon. sec., Mr. Edgar Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol. Phone: Bristol 7261.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch. — The memorial tablet to the late Gabriel Chamberlain will be unveiled in Burnham Church tower on Saturday, May 26th, by the Rev. E. S. C. Lock, Master of the Association. The ceremony will take place at 3.30 p.m. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30.—L. G. Tanner, Branch Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Denby. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, May 26th. A hearty welcome to all ringers.—Charles Draper, Local Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next monthly practice will be held at Iver (6 bells) on Saturday, May 26th, at 3.30 p.m. Guild service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Also on Saturday, June 2nd, at Farnham Royal, celebration of the 51st anniversary of opening of new tower, etc. Bells (8) available 4 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 6 p.m., at 1s. per head. Names for tea to J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Jubilee Celebration at St. Thomas' Church (City), on Saturday, May 26th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Parish Hall adjoining. All are welcome.—G. Way, 1a, Semont Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting will be held at Bangor on Whit Monday, May 28th. Service at St. David's Church at 2 p.m., to be followed by meeting. Tea 3.30 p.m. Bells available from 10 a.m.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A district meeting will be held at Southwold on Whit Monday, May 28th. Bells (8) available 1.30 p.m. Business meeting in the tower 4 p.m., to elect district secretary. A hearty welcome to all ringers.—J. Larter, Hon. Dis. Sec. pro tem.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The 49th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 28th. 11.30 a.m.: Service at the Cathedral, with address by the Rev. P. E. T. Widdrington, M.A., Rector of Great Easton. 12.15 p.m.: Meeting in Cathedral Hall. 1.30 p.m.: Lunch at Hicks' Restaurant, High Street. Members 2s. each. Towers open for ringing during day: Cathedral (12), Writtle (8), Widford (8), Galleywood (8), Boreham (8), Great Baddow (8), Great Waltham (8), Springfield (6), Broomfield (6). — Charles H. Howard, Master; F. J. Pitstow, General Sec. and Treasurer, 45, High Street, Saffron Walden.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Whit Monday meeting will be held at Stockton on May 28th. This year it will take the form of a joint meeting between the Durham and Newcastle and the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Associations. Committee at 11.45 and dinner at 1 at the Vane Arms, High Street, Stockton. Service in the Parish Church, with an address by the Rev. A. Simpson, at 12.15. Bells: Stockton (10), Thornaby (8) and Middlesbrough (8) are available.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stockton-on-Tees on Whit Monday, May 28th, and it is hoped that members will make every effort to attend, as there is some most important business to come before the annual business meeting. For all further particulars see notice of Durham and Newcastle Association meeting.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Thrapston on Whit Monday, May 28th. The Central Committee will meet in the Schools at 10.45 a.m. Service in Thrapston Church at 12 noon, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. G. Bagshaw, who will give the address. Lunch at White Hart Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Bells available are Thrapston (8) from 10 a.m. throughout the day; Islip (6) from 10 to 11.30 and after the meeting; also Tichmarsh (8), Raunds (8) and Ringstead (6) after the meeting.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, near Kettering.

NORFOLK GUILD.—The general meeting will be held at Fakenham on Whit Monday, May 28th. Bells available throughout the day. Luncheon at the Crown Hotel at 1.30 p.m., 2s. 6d. per head. Business meeting after lunch. — Arthur C. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Barnstaple on Whit Monday, May 28th. Service in Parish Church at 12 noon. Dinner in Bromley's Restaurant, The Strand, at 1, followed by meeting. Barnstaple, Pilton, Braunton and Bishop's Tawton towers open for ringing.—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Pensnett, on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bromham on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.—W. Stapleton, Dis. Sec., 24, New Fenlake, Bedford.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—A practice meeting will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, at Rendham (6) and Sweffling (6). Bells at both churches available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. All ringers are welcome.—Geo. Wilson, 41, Valley Road, Leiston, Suffolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Donington on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by May 29th?—George Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Aldershot on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, May 30th?—Hilda F. Mills, 1, Lower South View, Farnham.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, June 2nd, at Swynnerton (6 bells). Service at 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Will all those who require tea please inform Rev. J. B. Frith, The Rectory, Swynnerton, near Stone, Staffs, before May 30th?—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting will be held at Dore, June 2nd. Bells available 3 o'clock to 7 o'clock. Visitors make own arrangements for tea.—R. Harrison, Hon. Sec., 41, Baltic Road, Sheffield.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells of East Retford (10), West Retford and Ordsall (6) will be at disposal of ringers from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Meat tea will be provided at 5 p.m., Cooke's Café, Carolgate, opposite Exchange Street, Retford. Please notify Mr. D. A. Piercy, 60, Wharton Street, Retford, the number of each tower likely to be present not later than May 30th. Members of kindred associations will be heartily welcomed. Divine service from 4.15 p.m. to 4.55 p.m. Preacher, Rev. A. F. Gould, Vicar of North Collingham.—H. Haigh and H. Revill, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Halsall on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Learners specially invited. Will members please look up Bob Minor and Cambridge Minor?—James Wm. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Guiseley on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—Meeting will be held at St. Briavels on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells opened 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., on Vicarage lawn if fine, Church Schools if wet. All members who intend being present must send in their names to secretary by Wednesday, May 30th, so that arrangements can be made for tea.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than May 29th. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bishop's Cannings on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) ready 2.30. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be at Stoney Stanton on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available 4 p.m. Special method: Double Norwich. All ringers welcome.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Long Eaton on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—F. W. Bailey, Local Hon. Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for June: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, 3rd, at 10 a.m.; Monday, the 4th and 18th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, 12th, at 8.—S. G. Moye, Gen. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at Debenham on June 9th. Tea in Parish Room at 4.45 (9d. to all sending word before June 6th to Mr. W. C. Rumsey Debenham). Meeting follows. Bells (8) available from 2.30 and at Stonham Aspal (10).—H. Drake.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey, on Saturday, June 9th. Bells available at 3. Association service in church at 5. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by first post on Wednesday, June 6th. A good attendance is hoped for at this, one of the rare visits to the island.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Ruislip on Saturday, June 9th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Ask for cheap fares on District Railway. Harrington July 7th. Hillingdon July 28th. All ringers and friends welcome.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, June 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea, at usual terms, at 5.30. Please advise me if you are coming. Meeting after tea. Cheap return tickets from tube stations to Edgware, thence short bus ride. Harrow Weld bells in the evening. Members and friends cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

YORKS ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Pickering on Saturday, June 16th. Bells (8, tenor 14 cwt.) from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Castle Café 5 p.m., 1s. 6d. per head, followed by meeting. Members and friends intending to be present at tea please communicate with Miss A. M. Henderson, Hayfield, Pickering, Yorks, on or before Tuesday, June 12th.—F. Barker, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.—Practice nights, Mondays, 8-9.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. E. Judd.

A DIRECTORY OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS is being compiled by the Bristol United Ringing Guilds. Subscribers of 1s. will have their names and addresses printed therein and receive post free a copy of the directory. All names will be given in alphabetical order. In order to issue the directory at an early date subscribers should send their subscriptions early. When sending names please write in BLOCK LETTERS, only name and address. Tower secretaries and association officials will be distinguished if they clearly state the office held. All communications and subscriptions should be made to Mr. Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

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NOTICE.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—There will be a ringing meeting at Cuckfield on Saturday, June 2nd. Tower open 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea should let me know by Wednesday, May 30th.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

LONDON.—At St. Magnus the Martyr, Thames Street, on May 20th, for evensong, 1,263 Stedman Caters: H. W. Clark 1, C. T. Coles (conductor) 2, G. R. Goodship 3, W. Miller 4, W. R. Madgwick 5, J. Bennett 6, W. Pye 7, W. Glover 8, C. W. Roberts 9, G. A. Hughes 10.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, May 20th, for evensong at the Parish Church, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. E. Hammond 1, Miss E. E. Pettitt 2, F. Ely 3, W. G. Melbourne 4, H. C. Reason 5, Pettitt 6, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—On Sunday, May 20th, for evensong at St. Bartholomew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: Miss K. Collard 1, F. Bowden 2, J. H. B. Hesse 3, B. Elliott 4, M. Smither 5, A. J. Bartlett (conductor) 6, R. Overy 7, J. McDermott 8, F. White 9, W. Eldridge 10.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: H. Gash 1, F. G. Goddard 2, F. E. Hawthorne 3, W. Bradley 4, W. Ellingham 5, E. A. Passam 6, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 7, C. Gash 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringer of 4th.

WALTHAMSTOW.—At St. Saviour's on Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): W. T. Briggs (first quarter-peal away from tenor) 1, A. Reeve 2, E. D. Lillywhite 3, W. Stead 4, G. H. Cross 5, H. A. Edwards (conductor) 6, W. H. Seabrook (first quarter inside) 7, W. P. Mable (first quarter) 8.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Sunday, May 20th, at the Parish Church, on the occasion of the Sunday School Festival, for morning service, 960 London Surprise Major: H. Walker 1, H. P. Burton 2, T. Blackburn 3, A. J. Smith 4, B. Wilson 5, F. Hunt 6, H. Wood 7, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 8.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—At the Old Church, on Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: Wm. B. Cartwright (conductor) 1, J. F. Atkins 2, Miss C. Dobbs 3, W. Mumford 4, G. Pigott 5, E. Boylin 6, T. Russell 7, H. Withers 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 13th, at the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, E.C., for evensong, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: J. E. Davis 1, Miss E. E. Chapman 2, W. H. Hewett 3, R. H. Bullen 4, E. F. Pike 5, G. H. Cross (conductor) 6, C. W. Roberts 7, R. Sanders 8.

STREATHAM.—At the Church of St. Leonard, on Sunday, May 13th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): W. E. G. Hewson 1, Miss F. E. Orr 2, Miss F. E. Hardcastle 3, E. E. Bish 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, J. W. Chapman 6, J. L. Watkins (conductor) 7, S. Gardner 8.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Sunday, May 13th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes) in 50 mins.: W. H. Fletcher 1, Miss P. M. Moss 2, R. Buckland 3, J. Blackmore 4, R. Turner 5, J. Bunting 6, H. Wingrove (conductor) 7, C. C. Mayne 8. Rung as a farewell to R. Turner, who is leaving the district for Kingston-on-Thames.

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