

THE RINGING WORLD

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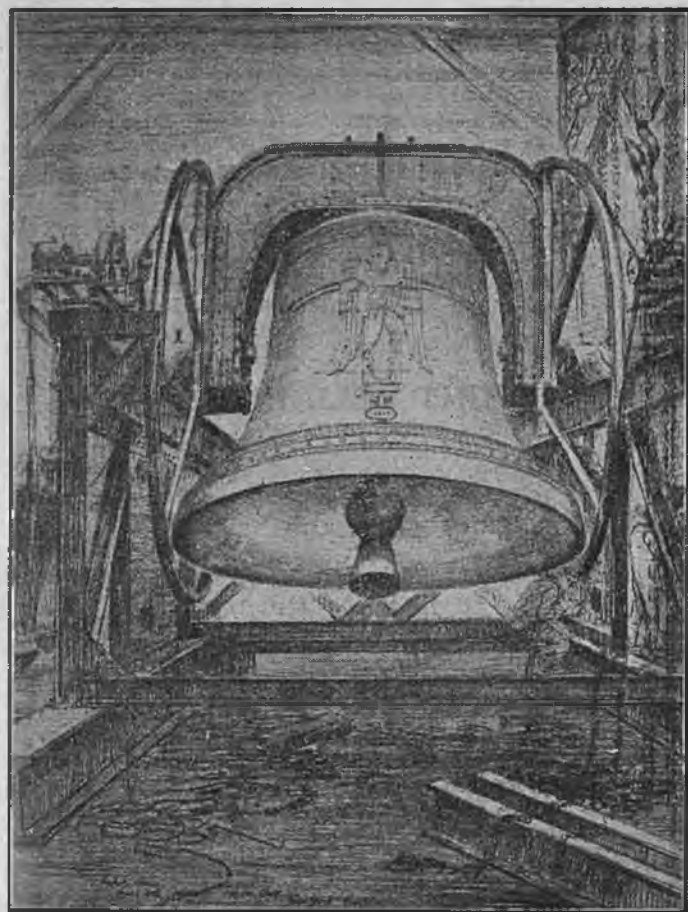
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RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

A USEFUL REPORT.

There are few more important things in connection with church bell ringing than the acoustic arrangements of the tower and ringing chamber. Not only is it a matter which affects the ringers, but, often more acutely, the public as well. The subject is one which is frequently before the Exercise and it again comes under notice by the report, which we print in another column of the Towers and Belfries Committee of the Central Council. This report deals with the acoustics, both outside and inside the tower, and, because the former has previously received more attention than the latter, arrangements for regulating the sound of the bells internally receives rather more detailed consideration than the stopping of noise outside the tower. The value of the report lies in its recommendation of practical expedients, which have been tried and found effective. It will be read with interest and, we hope, with profit by all those who hear either too much or too little of some or all of the bells in the ringing chamber.

The question of subduing the sound of bells outside a church has previously been dealt with in an earlier report (Section II of the 'Preservation and Repair of Bells, Frames and Fittings'), and little is now added to elaborate those recommendations. Yet this is probably the most important phase of the matter. In a populous neighbourhood, a peal of bells which is noisy in the vicinity of the church can be, if much rung, a decided inconvenience, not to say nuisance to those around, and it cannot be denied that all reasonable steps should be taken in such cases to minimise the cause of complaint. There are, up and down the country, numerous rings of bells which are far too noisy outside the tower for the comfort of the neighbours and even new and costly rings are sometimes erected without precautions being taken in this respect. There have been cases where large sums have been spent on new bells, but nothing has been done to allay the noise outside, with the result that the bells soon come near to permanent silence out of consideration for the public who live or work close at hand. While we do not agree with those incumbents whose line is that of least resistance, which results in stopping the bells, when opposition to them comes from a small section of the public, there can be no question that where there is genuine cause for complaint every effort should be made to remedy the matter. In the vast majority of cases this can be done at comparatively small cost, particularly if the ringers will themselves do the work with material provided for them by the church authorities.

(Continued on page 274.)

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The Tower and Belfries Committee's report is a useful contribution to the subject of belfry acoustics, but if it is to be of real value, it must go further than the Council Chamber. The salient features of the earlier report, to which only reference is made, should be embodied in a pamphlet with the material of the present report and should be available to associations for use among church authorities wherever an improvement is necessary or desirable. It should be printed in a form which stamps it as authoritative advice, and it should be brought formally to the notice of all the associations, and not left to them to find out casually that such a document exists.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BLACKBURN.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK BLACKLIDGE ... Treble	* JAMES HARRISON ... 6
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 2	† JOHN RICHARD TAYLOR ... 7
FRED RIGBY ... 3	* JOHN BROWN ... 8
HARRY FRANCE ... 4	JOHN THOMAS BRINSON ... 9
WILLIAM SHARPLES ... 5	† E. ROGER MARTIN ... Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.
* First of Treble Bob Royal. † First of Royal. First peal, and first attempt on ten bells by the Preston Branch. First on ten by ringers of 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 9th. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Brown, and the 18th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. H. France and Mrs. France.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

HORACE BELCHER ... Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 6
JOHN T. KENTISH ... 2	CHARLES W. GRIMWOOD ... 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 3	* ERNEST BRETT ... 8
EDWIN F. PIKE ... 4	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 9
ALFRED J. TRAPPIST ... 5	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by Wm. Pye. Conducted by Wm. H. HEWETT.
* First peal of Cambridge Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

H. J. RUMBLE ... Treble	WILLIAM COOK ... 5
JOHN BEAMS ... 2	THOMAS A. SHRUBB ... 6
* JOHN E. BEAMS ... 3	GEORGE A. COOK ... 7
JAMES RUMBLE ... 4	A. J. SHRUBB ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by JOHN BEAMS.
* First peal inside. This peal was rung by four fathers and their four sons on the 60th anniversary of the now famous peal recorded in the tower. It was also rung as a birthday peal to the son of Mr. George Cook.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, April 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5068 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt.

ALFRED T. POULTON ... Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 5
WALTER T. BENNETT ... 2	WILLIAM T. POSTON ... 6
THOMAS BEVAN ... 3	JOHN CLARE ... 7
ROBERT E. SUMMERS ... 4	WILLIAM POSTON ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by W. POSTON.

ROLLESTON-ON-DOVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 24, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHEROON'S TWENTY-PART, No. 3.

Tenor 12 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	JOHN OLDHAM 6
E. HARRY STONELEY 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JOSEPH BAILEY 4	CHARLES DRAPER Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

Rung in honour of St. George's Day, also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. J. Bailey and Mrs. J. S. Hutchby. This is the first peal on the bells since they were augmented to eight and rehung on ball bearings in new frame by John Taylor and Co. The peal is now a most musical octave, and the 'go' is perfect. The best thanks of the band are due to the Rector for kindly providing tea after the peal.

BURNHAM-ON-SEA, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT Treble	WILLIAM H. LLOYD 5
ALFRED J. WYATT 2	PERCY MERSON 6
JAMES HUNT 3	ALEXANDER EVANS 7
THOMAS F. KING 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM A. CAVE. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5408 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A flat.

*JOHN GORST Treble	†THOMAS ROGERS 5
JOHN COOKE 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS 6
LESTER L. GRAY 3	JOHN BREESE 7
†JOHN BAGLEY 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Major away from the treble. ‡ First peal in the method. This was Mr. John Breeze's 25th peal, in all of which the conductor has had the pleasure of taking part.

WOODBURN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR J. HOING Treble	FRANK BOREHAM 5
JAMES W. WILKINS 2	WILLIAM J. BOTTRILL 6
WILLIAM J. NORTON 3	DONALD F. BOREHAM 7
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 4	Cecil W. PIPE Tenor

Conducted by W. J. BOTTRILL.

Rung on the jubilee celebration of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for his kind hospitality after the peal.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Michael,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 14 cwt.

E. HARRY STONELEY Treble	REV. R. P. FARROW 5
GEORGE A. NEWTON 2	ALFRED BALLARD 6
*CECIL E. CARR 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 7
*WILLIAM A. STOTT 4	C. HARRY WEBB Tenor

Conducted by E. HARRY STONELEY.

* First peal of Triples. Rung in honour of St. George, England's patron saint.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF St. Margaret.

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

REGINALD C. KERSLEY Treble	JAMES G. RUMSEY 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
FREDERICK J. SMITH 3	CHARLES SAMPSON 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY

KNIGHTON, RADNORSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Edward,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEOFFREY C. ABLEY Treble	*JOHN F. EVANS 5
*ALBERT E. JONES 2	*JOHN J. PRICE 6
*ROBERT H. JONES 3	FRANCIS EVANS 7
WILLIAM J. BENJANS 4	RICHARD H. WELLINGS Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS EVANS.

* First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor. Ringer of 4th from Ludlow. All the others are members of the local band.

MANSFIELD, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH OF St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS BETTISON Treble	*JOHN W. ENGLAND 5
*ERNEST A. WILSON 2	HERBERT ALLSOP 6
HERBERT ROOKE 3	JOHN L. BLEBY 7
*CORNELIUS J. PARTRIDGE 4	*CHARLES CARR Tenor

Composed by CHARLES SEVERN. Conducted by THOMAS BETTISON

* First peal of Major.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM BIGGIN Treble	FREDERICK A. ADAMS 5
*WILLIAM A. WOOLER 2	WILLIAM H. TURTON 6
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 3	*RICHARD F. KENCE 7
PERCY JARVIS 4	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. P. KNIGHTS.

* First peal in the Oxford Variation.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Paul,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5028 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ROBERT W. JENNISON, SEN. Treble	WILLIAM BARTON 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	ALBERT J. HUGHES 6
JOSEPH BROADLEY 3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 7
ROWLAND MYERS 4	WILLIAM AMBLER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (174). Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

MACHEN, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*IVOR DAVIS Treble	PERCY JONES 5
WILLIAM PIKE 2	DONALD CLIFT 6
FRANK ROWSELL 3	ALBAN E. SLATTER 7
GEORGE COOKE 4	*PHILLIP TREW Tenor

Conducted by ALBAN E. SLATTER.

* First peal and were made members before starting.

BRECHLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

*JAMES W. KNIGHT Treble	HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	JAMES BASSETT 6
CHARLES H. SONE 3	ARTHUR H. SMITH 7
WILLIAM ASHDOWN 4	†THOMAS E. SONE Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by A. H. SMITH.

* First peal of Major, and elected a member of the association previous to starting. † 50th peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART, Tenor 18½ cwt.	
WILFRED G. WILSON ... Treble	REGINALD G. ILSLEY ... 5
MISS K. M. BRADFORD ... 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 6
*D. HILL BROWN ... 3	ARTHUR HARDING ... 7
EDWARD A. MORRIS ... 4	JOSEPH LOVELL ... Tenor

Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

* First peal. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Reginald A. Wager, one of the Twickenham band.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

HINXWORTH, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 21, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.	
C. PAGE Treble	A. C. ROSE 4
S. J. COOPER 2	T. C. CASTLE 5
W. D. POOLEY 3	S. H. WALLIS Tenor

Conducted by S. H. WALLIS.

First peal by all except conductor. First peal of Bob Minor as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Princess Elizabeth.

ULCEBY, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, April 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 20 six-scores of Grandsire, 12 Plain Bob, and 10 St. Simon's.

JACK BRAY Treble	†LAURENCE ENGLAND ... 3
*MARTIN WALKER 2	*FRANK LORD 4

†HUGH EBBATSON Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First of Doubles. † First peal. First peal on the bells. The ringer of 3rd was elected a member before starting.

HUNTINGDON.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 24, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

DENNIS ADAMS Treble	*RUPERT THODAY 4
WILLIAM BAVIN 2	ARTHUR J. GINN 5
JOHN SMART 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal.

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THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(MARSHLAND BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, differently called.

A. NORMAN GEARY ... Treble	FRED WIGMORE 4
*ROBERT W. CROFTS ... 2	CLAUDE COUSINS 5
J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal. The conductor's 550th peal, in 176 towers and in 24 counties. Kindly arranged for Messrs. Geary Bros., of Billesdon, and Morris, of Leicester.

STONE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 5½ cwt.

*JOSEPH LAWRENCE ... Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 4
THOMAS J. SALTER ... 2	WILLIAM SHORT 5
SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal in seven methods.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STANLEY G. MOSS ... Treble	*FRANK G. HONEYWOOD ... 4
CHARLES HONEYWOOD ... 2	WILLIAM STIFF 5
GEORGE W. MOSS ... 3	WALTER HONEYWOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. MOSS.

* First peal in the method inside. A 65th birthday peal for Mr. W. Honeywood, who afterwards entertained the band to tea. The conductor's 130th peal.

COSGROVE, NORTHANTS.

THE TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

*HARRY CASHMORE ... Treble	†WILLIAM NEALE 3
HARRY RIDGWAY ... 2	†WILLIAM DILLOW 4

*THOMAS E. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Conducted by T. E. ROBERTS.

* First peal on five bells. † First peal 'inside.' W. Neale and W. Dillow were elected members previous to starting. The ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Rector for the use of the bells.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, York, Cambridge, Oxford, Woodbine and Kent.

HENRY STAPLETON ... Treble	WILLIAM STOCK 4
HENRY GAYTON ... 2	EDMUND J. HOBBS 5
CHARLES W. CLARK ... 3	HORACE H. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by HORACE H. SMITH.

Rung for the wedding of Mr. William Peacock and Miss Alice Yates. Mr. W. Peacock is a valued and greatly respected member of the Husbome Crawley band. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Glyn F. Smith.

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.—On Easter Monday, April 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 40 mins.: H. G. Smith 1, A. Booth 2, C. S. Ryles 3, J. S. Royle 4, T. W. Arrowsmith 5, A. Crawley (conductor) 6, H. Parker 7, G. W. Biddulph 8. C. S. Ryles' longest length in the method. Rung after failing with Treble Bob.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, April 28, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge and Norwich Surprise, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES BAILEY... ..Treble	GEORGE LEE 4
WILLIAM C. BUNN 2	ALBERT J. L. NAUNTON ... 5
EDGAR BAILEY 3	FRANCIS W. NAUNTON ...Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS W. NAUNTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to Mr. John Larter, who was interred at Reydon, the previous day. He was a great friend of the Wrentham company.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
At 3, CRESSING WAY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5182 CHANGES;

BASIL REDGWELL... .. 1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3-4	ALBERT WIFFEN 7-8

Composed by JAMES HUNT.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

The conductor's 550th peal.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH JUBILEE.

The jubilee celebrations of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch will be remembered for many years by those who attended at Boyne Hill on Saturday last. Some fifteen different towers in the branch area were represented, and, in addition, a number of unattached members and visitors were present.

The bells were raised punctually at 3 p.m., and were kept going to various methods until 4.30 p.m., when the Guild service was conducted by Rev. W. S. Riddelsell, M.A., Vicar of Bray and chairman of the branch. The Archdeacon of Oxford, Rt. Rev. E. Domett Shaw, D.D., gave an excellent address on the text taken from Zachariah xiv. 20 and 21, 'In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, holiness unto the Lord, and the pots in the Lord's house shall be like the bows before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of Hosts.'

An excellent meal was served at the Parish Hall, where the company included Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Guild), Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge (president of the Central Council), Mr. A. J. Wright (general treasurer of the Guild), Mr. W. Bottrill (Metropolitan Police Guild), Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (Ringing Master, South and West District, Middlesex County Association), and Messrs. C. F. Winney, J. J. Parker, W. H. Fussell, J. Evans, H. Collins and E. Keeley, the last-named being over 90 years of age.

The business meeting followed, the Chairman offering a warm welcome to the Master and Canon Coleridge.

The election of 17 new members was confirmed, and the Rector of Fulmer and his band of eight ringers were proposed as members by the Secretary, and elected forthwith. The son of the new Branch Ringing Master was also made a member.

A vote of condolence was carried in silence to the relatives of three recently deceased members.

The financial statement was well received and accepted, a vote of thanks being accorded to the auditor.—The Secretary commented on the present strong financial position of the branch, and also on some of the more recent monthly practices, especially the much enjoyed joint meeting with the Middlesex County Association at Hillingdon.

Canon Coleridge humorously suggested that a new rule might be made compelling ringers to sit in the front pews and not the back ones, to the benefit of the preacher as well as the listeners.

Numerous votes of thanks and appreciation were passed to all connected with making the arrangements.—Mr. J. J. Parker, responding, expressed his pleasure at having been a member for 50 years.—Mr. W. H. Fussell produced the receipt for his first subscription, dated July 26th, 1879.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Rev. W. S. Riddelsell, M.A.; branch secretary and treasurer, A. D. Barker; Branch Ringing Master, Mr. T. J. Fowler; branch representatives on General Committee, Mrs. A. D. Barker, Messrs. J. L. Kirk, T. J. Fowler, J. C. Truss and G. H. Gutteridge.

It was decided to pay the expenses, where necessary, of representatives attending the General Committee meeting.

It is hoped to visit Amersham for the next monthly practice.

After the business was finished, a musical evening was enjoyed, and, following a touch of Stedman Triples on handbells, some excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. W. R. Ash, T. J. Fowler and Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn. Mr. Ayres, organist, of Cookham, presided

(Continued in next column.)

A HANTS TOUR.

EAST TYTHERLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 23, 1929, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.	Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb. in F.
GEORGE WILLIAMSTreble	WILLIAM A. CAVE 5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 2	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 4	KEITH HART... ..Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

The Vicar (the Rev. A. E. B. Leahy) met and welcomed the band after the peal.

SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

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

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in F.

JOHN W. FAITHFULLTreble	JAMES BENNETT 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	KEITH HART... .. 7
GEORGE WILLIAMS 4	WILLIAM A. CAVETenor

Composed by J. HUNT.

Conducted by W. A. CAVE.

First peal of Double Norwich on bells since recasting. The Vicar (the Rev. R. Spread) visited the belfry whilst the peal was in progress.

DIBDEN, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 24, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. CAVETreble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	GEORGE R. PYE... .. 6
GEORGE WILLIAMS 3	*SAMUEL J. HECTOR 7
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 4	KEITH HARTTenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by KEITH HART.

* First attempt for peal Superlative.

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

SAMUEL J. HECTORTreble	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 5
WILLIAM A. CAVE 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
JAMES BENNETT 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by GEO. R. PYE.

First peal of London on the bells.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

On Friday, April 19th, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hands, of Hemdean Road, Caversham, celebrated their golden wedding.

Mr. Hands is one of the oldest members of the St. Peter's Society, Caversham, which was inaugurated in 1884, when Canon Coleridge first took holy orders.

To mark the occasion, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung on Sunday evening, April 21st, by: H. Simmonds 1, A. D. Cullum 2, J. Hands 3, W. Lewington 4, A. Wiggins 5, E. J. Menday 6, G. Essex 7, E. W. Menday (conductor) 8.

Messrs. E. W. Menday, G. Essex, J. Hands and H. Simmonds are four of the first change ringers of the St. Peter's Society, Caversham, and have been ringing every Sunday for 45 years. Mr. Hands, who has passed 'the allotted span,' is still in the pink of health.

(Continued from previous column.)

at the piano, and still another member from Cookham produced some weird and wonderful noises behind the scenes.

A little community singing formed part of the programme, and the evening closed with the National Anthem.

It is rumoured that the arrangements for the centenary are already in hand, and it is hoped that although the meal may be chiefly in tabloid form, there will be liquid refreshment to suit all, as well as suitable cosy corners and seats for loving couples—unless this is out of date in 1929.

THE METHODS COMMITTEE REPORT. MR. TROLLOPE CRITICISES OUR COMMENTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The best reply to your criticism of the Methods Committee's report is, I think, the report itself. We want members of the Central Council to read it and note what it says and what it does not say, and vote accordingly. But there are one or two things which perhaps may profitably be said.

1. You say that before the Council adopt this report it must decide the principle of what is to be recognised as a peal. The principle was decided centuries ago: it is truth and completeness. But if you mean the details, then, surely, you are putting the cart before the horse—'Jedwood justice'—sentence first and trial afterwards. What we desire is that the Exercise, and, particularly, the five and six bell ringers, should have the opportunity of testing and judging these compositions. Later on it will be time enough to settle on a definite rule. And in this connection I would most respectfully suggest to eight-bell ringers that they should suspend their final judgment on the matter. In eight-bell ringing the opportunities for expansion and development are practically unlimited. There is plenty of room to pick and choose. For five and six bell ringing it is not so. There the scope is very limited, and it does seem rather selfish for eight-bell ringers to refuse to five-bell ringers such opportunity for development as there is.

2. All heated talk about 'no juggling with truth,' is quite beside the point. No one wants to juggle with truth. No one would willingly ring a false peal. We propose to print these compositions because, after having examined them judicially, we are convinced that they can properly be called both true and complete. The only people who can fairly be said to juggle with truth are those who, by straining language beyond the breaking point, tell us that the Bankes James' Cambridge consists of seven true 720's.

3. I am quite aware that 'many ringers of wide experience' object to these compositions, and even 'bluntly denounce them as false.' There never was any development in ringing that some ringers of wide experience did not object to. Little methods, spliced ringing, the use of singles in composition—all of them we have been told are theoretically unsound. I remember the highest authority in the Exercise saying that London was an illegitimate method; and I do not doubt that the old Plain Change ringers of the seventeenth century looked on Cross Peals as undesirable. People are fully in their rights in not liking these new compositions, but they need not ring them unless they like; and, even if they are in a majority, that seems no adequate reason for stopping those who do want to ring them.

4. It is not fair to read into a formal document like this report, signed by more than one person, anything which is not there. We nowhere say that we want the Council 'to admit as a peal of Minor any composition in which each of the 720 rows appears only seven times, no matter how often any row or any block of rows appears within the limits of any one 720,' or anything like it. Personally, I should subscribe to no such opinion. We ask for approval of our intention to print certain definite compositions which we think are useful to the Exercise.

5. The report does not set up 'one standard for peals on five and six bells and another for peals on higher numbers.' It recognises that, owing to facts, a difference already exists and must exist. Namely, on seven bells you can and must ring the full extent of the changes. On eight and more bells you cannot, and therefore need not ring the full extent, and on six and five you must repeat changes. The older idea that a peal of Minor must consist of seven separate extents went when the Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge was accepted. And as you yourself publicly accepted that arrangement as sound, you cannot blame our committee for doing the same thing. It is a logical and defensible position to take up that a peal of Minor must consist of seven separate 720's, but once you abandon that you cannot in fairness or logic admit a composition like the Cambridge and condemn Morris' arrangement of Doubles. If you say the 120's of the latter are false, so also are the 720's of the former. If the former can be justified as a whole composition (as you do justify it), so can the latter. They stand or fall together.

6. Of all the new compositions we propose to include, there are only two which you have not approved. We cannot see anything in which they differ in principle from the others.

7. May I remind you that the Exercise, while accepting as a natural thing the principle of truth and completeness, has never been fully agreed for any long time as to what does constitute a peal of Minor or Doubles? There has been a good deal of change and development of opinion on this matter in the past, and there seems no reason why there should not be further change and development in the future.

8. Our position is broadly this: When we decided to improve the 'Minor Collection' by adding compositions, we found that there were two compositions which were beginning to be popular among five and six bell ringers. Both were different from older compositions, and we had to decide whether to include them. The question was not whether we as individuals approved them, but whether the five

and six bell ringers wanted them, and whether they were likely to be of use to them. There could be no doubt as to the answer.

In conclusion, may I suggest that it is rather a pity you did not yield to the temptation to ask, 'What is behind this endeavour?' The answer would have been so easy.—Yours sincerely,

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

COMMITTEE'S CONFLICTING VIEWS.

In the above letter, Mr. Trollope says that 'of all the compositions we (the committee) propose to include, there are only two which you have not approved. We cannot see anything in which they differ in principle from the others.'

It is very kind of Mr. Trollope to refer to our approval, but that is not the point that matters. The attitude which we have adopted has been one of supporting the intentions of the Central Council as indicated at Hereford. The Exercise, and certainly the Council, have a right to know what the other compositions are—if they depart from the recognised standard of being true and complete extents—before they are printed and published under the name of the Council. Up to now the only compositions which have been definitely mentioned in this controversy are Bankes James' Cambridge, Law James' London, and Pitman's and Morris' Grandsire Doubles. Are there any others? If so, the Council would probably like to know.

There are a number of points in Mr. Trollope's perfectly fair criticism of our article with which we should like to deal did space permit, but for the moment space forbids. We cannot, however, resist contrasting some of the statements, made by members of the committee, which show that they have wobbled pretty considerably over this matter individually before making up their minds collectively, while Mr. Trollope in his letter this week appears to have forgotten what Mr. Trollope said in these columns on December 14th last.

Mr. TROLLOPE, December 14th, 1928:—

The 720's in the Rev. E. B. James' arrangement of Cambridge are all true.

Mr. TROLLOPE, May 3rd, 1929:—

The only people who can fairly be said to juggle with truth are those who by straining language beyond the breaking point tell us that the Bankes James' Cambridge consists of seven true 720's.

Mr. TROLLOPE, January 25th, 1929:—

Unless you do count rounds at the start as a change, six of the seven 720's cannot by any stretch of the word be considered true.

Rev. H. LAW JAMES, January 18th, 1929:—

Consider my brother's arrangement of Cambridge Minor. We make 720 changes of the bells so that we have the correct number of changes made, but the last change made takes us into the next 720. We now ring through that, and the last change made brings us into the next 720, and so on throughout. The last change in the seventh 720 brings us back into the first 720 again, and completes the first 720, so that each of the seven is true and complete.

Mr. TROLLOPE, January 25th, 1929:—

The old idea of a six-bell peal was that it must consist of at least seven true and complete extents. The words 'true' and 'complete' and 'extent' have been used in the Exercise for a couple of centuries, and they always have had and have a definite and unmistakable meaning.

Mr. TROLLOPE, February 8th, 1929:—

It (the Hereford resolution) lays down that a peal of Minor shall consist of at least seven true and complete 720's.

Committee's Report, April 26th:—

The Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge does not consist of seven extents.

Committee's Report, April 26th, 1929:—

The Bankes James' arrangement does not consist of seven extents. . . . The justification of the arrangement lies in taking the first 2.160 changes as one round block.

Regarding Mr. Morris' arrangement, the Report says: 'Of course, there is repetition between handstroke and backstroke.'

(Other letters are unavoidably held over.)

THE YOUNGER GENERATION.

Mr. C. F. Winney, quoting from 'The Ringing World' report of the Middlesex County Association, 'Increasing interest of younger generation,' writes: 'This is not my experience and of several of my keen friends, who are sad at the apathy of persons they have tried to encourage in this duty to the Church.'

SUDDEN DEATH OF A BURTON LATIMER RINGER

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Harry Meadows which took place with tragic suddenness on Tuesday evening, April 23rd. The deceased had been to his work that day as usual, and, in the evening was at work in his garden, when about 6.30 he was seen to fall to the ground. A neighbour went to his assistance, but Mr. Meadows died in about two minutes. At an inquest which was held, the doctor stated that a post-mortem examination revealed that the deceased's heart was twice the normal weight, and the jury returned a verdict of 'Death from natural causes.'

The funeral took place at St. Mary's Church on Saturday afternoon, the Rector (Rev. G. L. Lethbridge) officiating. In addition to the local ringers, there were also present Mr. R. G. Black, general secretary, and Mr. W. T. Wilson, treasurer of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, Mr. R. Turner (Kettering), Mr. A. Henman, Kettering (an old-time Burton ringer), Mr. J. R. Main (Finedon), and P.C. Robinson, who is also a ringer.

The deceased had been a ringer at St. Mary's Church for 23 years, and during the whole of that time had been most regular in his attendance to ring for the Sunday services. He had not been a great peal ringer, but he had rung about twenty peals in all, the greater part of them having been Minor in seven methods.

After the funeral the bells were rung half-muffled to touches of Plain Bob Stedman and Grandsire. The bells were also rung muffled for both services on Sunday.

ARCHDEACONS WHO HELP.

To the Editor.

Sir,—With reference to your leading article on this subject, I would like to say that in the Ven. Archdeacon Howson, Archdeacon of Warrington in the diocese of Liverpool, ringers have another valued friend and helper.

For many years the Archdeacon has held the office of warden of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild, which comprises the Liverpool and Wigan Branches of the Lancashire Association, and, what is still more to the point, frequently attends the branch meetings.

He never loses an opportunity of encouraging our art amongst those newly ordained into Orders, and there are not many towers in the district that he has not visited. Despite advancing years, his energy and work on behalf of ringers does not diminish. In fine, we all love our Archdeacon for what he is—our friend.

I am also informed that the first Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild was Archdeacon Barber.

'APPRECIATORY.'

LADIES' GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Northern District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Duffield on April 13th, when again the attendance was extremely poor. Nevertheless with generous assistance from the gentlemen quite a variety of methods was attempted, the ease with which the bells can be handled making them most suitable for ladies to ring. A very appetising tea was provided in the schoolroom, after which the business meeting took place, three new members being elected.

The new rules for the Ladies' Guild and also for the districts were brought forward and passed, one of the latter being that the annual district meeting shall precede the annual general meeting.

Votes of thanks were extended to the Vicar, and especially to the local band for their efforts to make the meeting a success, also to the ladies who prepared such an excellent tea.

Date and place of next meeting were left open pending arrangements for the unveiling of the ladies' peal tablet. Further ringing took place throughout the evening, bringing a most enjoyable meeting to a close.

METHOD SPLICING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Drake's reply seems to call for some comment. He states that several reasons were advanced in support of the resolution that the splicing of methods is theoretically unsound, but he only gives us his own reason. He contends that the theory we ring by is that we must keep to one kind of method in what we ring, varied by two kinds of calls. To do other than this breaks the principle, and a broken principle is an unsound principle.

I should like to ask Mr. Drake three questions: (1) Has he ever rung 120 Grandsire Doubles, or Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples? (2) Does he consider that either of the different singles used breaks the Doubles or Triples principle? (3) If he agrees to breaking principles by the calling of any kind of single, in odd-bell methods, why does he object to further innovations which have the decided merit of increasing the scope of ringing and making it much more complex and interesting?

It is a pity the other reasons advanced at the Suffolk Guild's meeting are not given. One can only come to the conclusion, regretfully, that there are still a number of ringers who object to change of any kind.—Yours faithfully,

C. T. COLES.

P.S.—In my letter published on April 19th an error occurs. In the last line but two the words 'spliced experts' should read 'spliced extents.'

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■■■■■

THE

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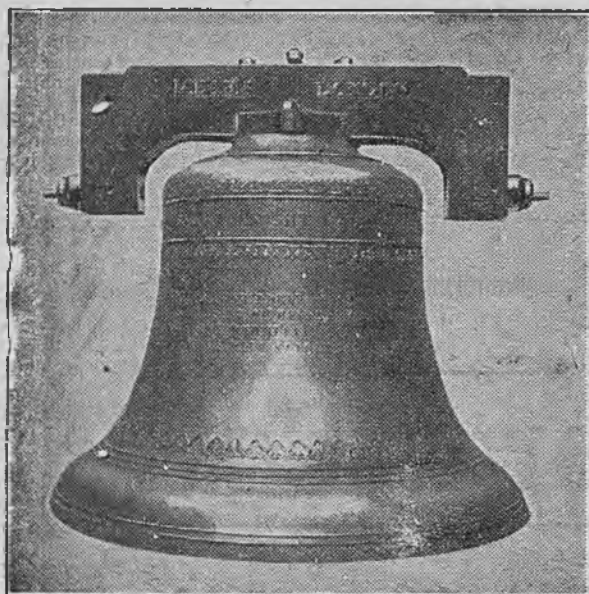
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

At Kington Magna, where the bells were rung on St. George's Day, the King's message to his people was, at the Rector's request, read out to the ringers by the steepkeeeper.

A minor tour, resulting in four peals of Major, took place in Hants last week. It extended over three days. The last of the peals was London Surprise on the new bells at Milford-on-Sea, and the band had a miraculous escape from losing it. Just as the conductor called 'This is all,' at backstroke, his rope broke, came down in front of him and laid on the belfry floor. Has such a thing ever been known before?

Four fathers and four sons have repeated at St. Martin's, Epsom, the performance of exactly sixty years ago in the same tower. They have rung a peal of Grandsire Triples.

The peal at Henstridge on April 18th was rung by members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

Next Sunday is the anniversary of the 12,312 Grandsire Caters rung at Painswick in the year 1817. Even at that date it was not the record length, for a peal of 12,603 had been rung at Norwich in 1737.

The first peal of Grandsire Bob Maximus was rung at Southwark on May 7th, 1792.

Edmonton bells were opened by the Cumberland Youths with a peal of '5,230 Oxford Treble Bobs,' composed and conducted by John Reeves, on May 8th, 1788.

'Many happy returns' to-day to Mr. Albert Walker, Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, and on Tuesday to Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Challis Winney writes that April 29th was the late 'Jack' Hayes' wedding day, and on that date in 1884 he turned in Southwark tenor. It was a vastly different problem in those days, remarks Mr. Winney, compared with to-day, when the bell is tucked up in an iron stock. It was George Mash who persuaded Hayes to tackle the the job one practice night.

Several correspondents have reminded us that Miss Lewis, who has been appointed general secretary of the Warwickshire Guild, is not the first lady to hold such an office. Miss Violet Shorter was secretary of the Ely Diocesan Guild for twelve months, about six or seven years ago, and did most admirable work.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THE MEETING AT CHELMSFORD.

The Essex Association, through the hon. secretary, Mr. F. J. Pitstow, announces the following arrangements in connection with the meeting of the Essex Association at Chelmsford on Whitsun Tuesday:—

The following eight-bell towers will be available for peals on Saturday, May 18th: Writtle, Widford, Galleywood, Great Baddow, Boreham, Feering, and Braintree. Those wishing to take part should send their names as early as possible, but not later than Saturday, May 11th, to Mr. W. Keeble, Rye Mill Farm, Feering, Kelvedon, Essex. Service ringing on Sunday in addition to the above-mentioned towers at the Cathedral (12), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), and Springfield (6).

The headquarters will be the County Hotel. Bed and breakfast at the usual commercial rates. Accommodation can also be given at the Bell Hotel and White Hart Hotel. To prevent disappointment, intending visitors should write and make their arrangements at once.

The Essex Association is celebrating its jubilee on Whit Monday at Chelmsford. Visitors will receive a hearty welcome. For particulars see announcement in notices columns. A private 20-seater bus has been engaged to enable ringers to visit the neighbouring towers from 3 to 8 p.m. on that date.

Luncheon on Tuesday can be had at Hicks Bros.' Restaurant, High Street, Cannon's Restaurant, Duke Street, near Railway Station, also at County Hotel. Previous notice should be given at the latter place. A room at the County Hotel has been reserved for the use of visitors and friends in the evenings of Monday and Tuesday.

The Essex Association invite all members of the Central Council to tea at the County Hotel at the conclusion of the afternoon session on Tuesday.

F. J. PITSTOW,

Hon. Secretary.

45, High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' SECRETARY.

BUST TO BE EXHIBITED IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

A bust of Mr. W. T. Cockerill, the hon. secretary of the College Youths, is to be shown at this year's Royal Academy exhibition. The sculptor is Miss Hiley (daughter of Mr. H. Sesom Hiley, architect, and a student of the R.A.), who has produced a fine work of art, which has received the hall mark of the R.A. by acceptance for the exhibition at Burlington House. The sculptor was commissioned by Mr. E. Alex. Young (hon. secretary of the Central Council), and the bust is a gift to Mr. Cockerill. It was cast in bell metal, provided by Mr. A. A. Hughes, by Singer-Morris, Ltd., and stands upon a Hoptonwood marble base, carved to Mr. Young's design by Mr. J. Rowbotham, also of the College Youths.

BELFRY ACOUSTICS.

The following is the report of the Towers and Belfries Committee on Belfry Acoustics, to be presented to the Central Council at the Chelmsford meeting:—

It is important in the case of rehanging and tuning to pay great attention to acoustic conditions. The tower is cleared of many large beams, thick planks and the accumulation of the dirt and dust of ages, which all tend to deaden sound, and into this empty room are placed the bells, rendered by tuning more powerful in tone than before.

Much excellent advice is given in Section II. of the 'Preservation and Repair of Bells, Frames and Fittings,' published by the Council, and need not be repeated here.

So far as the noise outside the tower is concerned, there is nothing to add to this except to draw attention to the sound-deadening material known as Cabot's Quilt, which is of use in forming a lining to the wooden shutters suggested for the belfry windows.

As to the inside, and dealing first with the difficulty of hearing one or two bells in a ring, the committee has notes of a successful experiment recently carried out by Mr. Hesse in the Haslemere tower on the lines laid down in the above publication. In the same connection special mention should be made of the ingenious, though very simple, contrivance of Mr. Pates in the tower of St. Mary's, Cheltenham. Here the treble swings side by side with the tenor, and although a shute was placed near the mouth of the treble it was quite inaudible in the ringing room after the first pull off in rounds. Something was wanted to throw the treble sound towards the shute, and at the same time to throw the tenor sound away therefrom. This was effected by boarding in the lower half of the tenor and treble wheels with half-inch match boarding. The result is all that could be desired.

Then with regard to the comfortable hearing of a whole ring in the ringing room, too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of there being at least 2ft. 6in. between the floor immediately under the bells and the ceiling of the ringing room, with no connecting shutles of any kind. If it can be 8ft. or 10ft., so much the better.

In cases where a plastered ceiling is not practicable, e.g., where wires and cranks of chiming hammers have to be accommodated, it will be necessary to have a wooden ceiling, and in this case much can be done with Cabot's Quilt, Celotex, Lead (2lb. per foot) or Felt, laid above the ceiling.

In any case, it is well to have some sound-deadening material immediately under the bells, and in some cases round the walls of the belfry as well. This, of course, applies to towers where the ringing room is obviously too near to the bells and cannot be lowered.

Cabot's Quilt is composed of seaweed or eel grass that comes from Nova Scotia. It is usually made up into mats, but may be obtained loose for packing in between floors. It can be obtained through the leading bell foundries. Celotex is a felted board made of sugar-cane, and can be obtained through any architect or builder.

A case is known of a heavy ring of eight to which the ringers' floor is so near that the sallies go round the wheels. There is only one floor between the ringers and the bells. The noise was, of course, unbearable, but a vast improvement was made by laying down Cabot's Quilt directly under the bells, the layers increasing according to the size of the bell.

There are many towers where both acoustic and other conditions would be far better if the bells were rung from the ground level. When the bells are being rehung this may well be considered. Often it brings the ringer to exactly the right distance from the bells, but it has also certain possible disadvantages.

The alternative plan of a ringers' loft or gallery open to the church has very much to recommend it. This is especially adapted to a west-end tower with a high arch on the east side, and perhaps a large west window, with the floor of the tower required for church seating or a baptistry or a choir vestry. A floor is put in 8ft. or 10ft. from the ground, it may be of deal; across the east arch runs an oak front, or a light iron railing, just high enough for safety. The window remains visible, and is in no way spoilt by the hanging ropes, as is sometimes supposed to be the case. The floor is reached by a wooden staircase from inside the church. The ringers have perfect ventilation without draught, are in good light and within good hearing of the bells.

Examples may be seen at Aldermaston, Bletchley, Clapham Park, St. Peter Mancroft, Painswick, Wokingham All Saints', and very many other places.

C. W. O. JENKYN, Convener of the Committee.
C. D. P. DAVIES.
J. H. B. HESSE.
E. H. LEWIS.
E. A. YOUNG.

BISHOP'S CONGRATULATIONS.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples were rung at St. Michael's Church, Minehead, on Sunday, in honour of a visit of the Bishop of Taunton. At the commencement of his sermon at evening service, the Bishop congratulated the ringers on their quarter-peal, and remarked upon the perfect striking of the bells. The ringers were W. Folly 1, C. Strawbridge 2, L. Mason 3, F. Bulley 4, F. Date 5, W. Hoyle 6, J. Pugsley (conductor) 7, W. Male 8.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH, CLERKENWELL.**A GREAT CITY RESTORATION.**

The new ring of eight bells in the famous Church of St. James, Clerkenwell, recast and rehung with new fittings by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Stepney on Sunday, April 28th, at 6.30 p.m. His Worship the Mayor, the Mayoress and members of the Finsbury Borough Council were in attendance.

The old bells had an unenviable reputation for years. The fittings were old fashioned and out of repair, and the oak frame had lacked attention, with the result that it was hard work for the ringers to ring the bells.

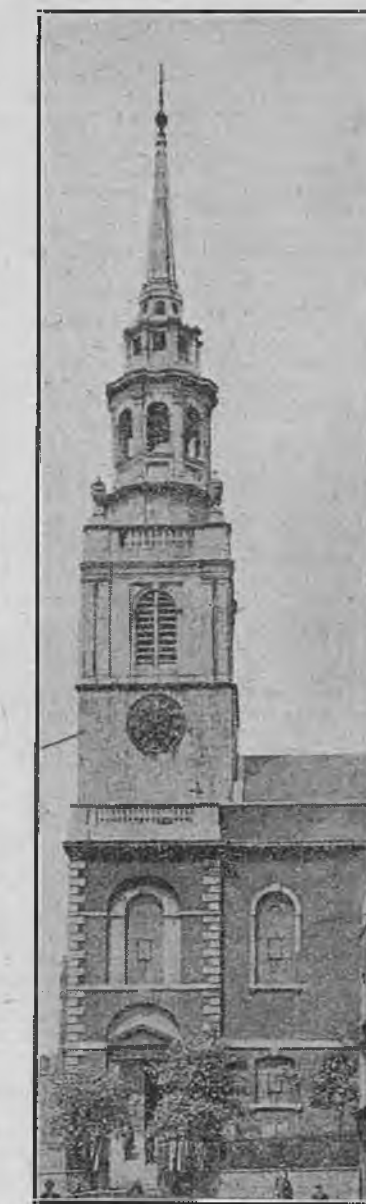
In order to remedy this state of affairs the existing wood frame has been materially strengthened by the insertion of corner plates and stout vertical bolts; and the fittings have been replaced by cast iron headstocks, ball bearings and all the latest improvements that have been evolved in recent years by the bell founders, in order that the strain on the tower should be reduced to a minimum and the work of the ringers made easy.

The bells, too, were unsatisfactory in tone, their harmonics were false to such an extent that nothing short of recasting could convert them into a musical peal. This course was, therefore, adopted, and each of the eight bells has now been tuned to sound a perfect five-tone chord. It is interesting to note that this is the first ringing peal of bells in the county of London to be tuned on this system, sometimes known as the Simpson Principle.

General acoustic requirements have also not been lost sight of: The louvre openings of the belfry have been partially blocked inside the walls so as to prevent the sound beating down on the neighbourhood unduly.

A special device, a patent of the firm, has been fitted to the tenor, namely, a clapper control. This releases the clapper from the bell immediately after the blow, thus rounding off the peal musically. The attachment can be put in or out of action at will by the ringers, but it certainly improves the effect of the peal outside the tower.

Inside the tower, the ringers' comfort has not been forgotten. The Ringing Room has been painted and redecorated, linoleum has been laid on the floor and electric light installed. In fact, by the happy co-operation of the Vicar and churchwardens with the

**ST. JAMES', CLERKENWELL.**

bell founders, a model belfry has been aimed at, and it is hoped that the authorities' desire that Clerkenwell should have a peal of bells and a belfry of which the parish might be proud, will be rewarded by a speedy formation of a capable band of ringers, willing to serve the church in the exercise of a centuries' old craft.

Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were cast originally in 1791, No. 4 in 1837, and No. 2 was recast previously in 1801, and No. 3 in 1904. All the old inscriptions have been reproduced and the old metal used again. The tenor is 24 cwt. 2 gr. 21 lb. in E flat.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who have carried out the whole of the bell restoration work, have a special interest in Clerkenwell, for

it was in this borough that Mr. William Gillett, the founder of the firm, first set up his factory a hundred years ago, before he moved to Croydon in 1844.

The present head of the firm, Mr. Cyril Johnston, was chairman for four years of the British Horological Institute, which is in Clerkenwell, and has many personal associations in the locality.

St. James' Church, Clerkenwell, holds a unique position, inasmuch as by an Act of Parliament in 1784, in the reign of George III., for pulling down the church and building a new church, the church with its appurtenances is vested in the trustees, the following being an extract from the Act:—

'and the property in the bells, pews, seats, books, and all goods, chattels, and ornaments, in the said new church and churchyard shall also be vested in the said Trustees for ever upon the same trust.'

THE REDEDICATION.

A crowded congregation was present at the service on Sunday evening, when the Bishop of Stepney rededicated the organ and the bells. The Mayor and Mayoress of Finsbury, the town clerk and members of the Corporation were in attendance, and preceded the choir in procession to pews reserved for them. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. G. J. Parker, with whom his people were that day celebrating the successful restoration of the organ, the spire and the bells at a cost of more than £3,500. For the actual ceremony, the clerical and civic procession moved to the base of the tower, where the Bishop rededicated the bells, tolling the tenor twice and offering the customary prayers.

In a sermon that must have been one of the most impressive and eloquent ever delivered on such an occasion, the Bishop congratulated the Vicar, wardens and parishioners on the splendid result of their endeavours, for certainly St. James', Clerkenwell, had given a lead to the churches of the diocese, and he wished that the numerous other churches, so sadly in need of similar attention, would follow their bright example. He wished at least one message of his to remain in the minds of his hearers. Whenever, after that day, they heard the bells of that church ring out, he wanted them to remember that a man's destiny should not control him; whatever the temptation or the trials, a man could rise triumphant over all these things—he could control his own destiny.

At the close of the service, the Bishop, the Mayor and many visitors were specially interested in the old registers, dating back to the middle of the 16th century, that had been restored with great skill.

Before and after the service a special band of Middlesex County Association, organised by the hon. secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, and including Mr. W. Pyc, Master of the Association, rang the bells; and the Bishop specially complimented Mr. Cyril Johnston on the tone of the recast peal, which he much admired.

A meeting of the Middlesex County Association is to be held at Clerkenwell to-morrow, and will be in the nature of a ringers' opening of the bells. In connection with this a social will be held at the Victoria Hotel, Charterhouse Street, corner of Farringdon Road, at 8 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.

DEATH OF AN OLD SUFFOLK RINGER.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Mr. J. Larter, who passed away at his residence at Reydon, near Southwold, on Wednesday, April 24th, after only a few days' illness, at the age of 74 years. He joined the Norwich Association soon after its formation, and was district secretary for the Halesworth District for many years. There being no bells in his own parish, he rang in all the churches round about, and was widely known by a large circle of friends, his greatest hobby being instructing young ringers. There are few ringers who have travelled and walked more miles than he did for this purpose. He was in the employment of the Earl of Stradbroke as foreman for approximately forty years, and lived at the timber yard until he retired four years ago and went to reside at Reydon.

The funeral took place at Reydon Parish Church on Saturday afternoon, the Rev. Ashton, of Uggleshall, officiating. In addition to the family mourners there were present many old friends of the deceased, including Mr. J. Hill (late Butler), Mr. Haggarth (head gardener), Mr. R. Thompson (foreman, also a bellringer). The ringers present were Messrs. G. and R. Pearce, of Wenhampton, E. R. Goate, J. Snadding and C. F. Sayer (Beccles), J. Howard and R. Thompson (Halesworth), L. Hammond (Chediston), W. Kerrison (Wissett), F. Ford and P. Self (Brampton), E. Grindell and E. Goodwin (Southwold), E. Bailey, sen., E. Bailey, jun., W. Durrant, W. J. Sawyer, A. J. L. Naunton and F. W. Naunton (Wrentham). Immediately after the committal prayer, a course of Bob Major was rung over the grave by J. Howard 1, A. J. L. Naunton 2, J. Spalding, 3-4. E. R. Goate 5-6, F. W. Launton 7-8.

The funeral arrangements at the deceased's express wish were carried out by his brother ringers, Messrs. Naunton Bros., of Wrentham. In the evening from 5 to 7.30 various touches were rung on the Southwold bells with half-muffled clappers as a last tribute of respect. A half-muffled peal was also rung at Wrentham on Sunday.

There were many floral tributes, including a beautiful wreath from the Earl and Countess of Stradbroke.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICERS.

The annual meeting was held on Saturday, April 20th, at Pontefract (All Saints'), some 40 members being present, representing towers at Arkey, Barnsley, Goole, Hatfield, Hemingbrough, Howden, Hull, Leeds, Selby and Snaith.

A short service was held at which the address was given by the Rev. C. C. T. Naters, Vicar of Pontefract. Tea was provided in the All Saints' Church House by the local company, and was followed by the business meeting, the Vicar of All Saints', the Rev. A. G. Shipley, M.A., presiding.

On the motion of Mr. P. J. Johnson (Leeds), hon. general secretary, the following officials were re-elected: Mr. G. S. Miller (Hull), Mr. R. B. Smith (Howden), to the committee; Mr. F. W. Dale (Hull), to the general committee; and Mr. A. B. Cook (Hull), hon. district secretary, who was accorded a special vote of thanks for his past services, and who acknowledged the continued confidence which the members placed in him.

Four new members were elected: Messrs. D. Fewster and J. M. Pickering, of St. Patrick's, Patrington, and Messrs. G. Cawkhill and R. Newham, of Howden. An invitation from the Rector of Hatfield to hold the summer meeting there was unanimously accepted.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar of All Saints' for the use of the bells, service and presiding at the meeting, the Vicar of Pontefract for his address, and the organist, also the local company and Mr. W. Pearson for the competent arrangements.

ANOTHER RING OF EIGHT IN DEVON.

NEW OCTAVE AT KINGSTEIGNTON.

Kingsteignton, Devon, is now in possession of a fine ring of eight bells, cast and hung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. There was previously a peal of six in the tower, successors to an earlier ring. The new octave, which is, of course, tuned on the five tone harmonic principle and hung in a new frame with all the latest modern fittings, has cost about £650, all of which has been raised by voluntary subscriptions.

The dedication was performed on Saturday week by the Bishop of Exeter, who, in an address, congratulated the parishioners on the mighty work they had completed, and added that the bells could speak a message to them that no human tongue could teach. The bells told them all things that interested them as a community. They were essentially a part of the whole social organisation of their civilisation. People forgot at times that they were a community and talked only as a set of individuals. He deprecated the selfishness of that old idea. Thinking of themselves alone conducted to what he described as a miserable life.

Parties of ringers were present from Wolborough, Moreton, Chagford, Bovey Tracey, Chudleigh, East and West Teignmouth, Ippeton and Highweek. All expressed themselves delighted with the music and 'go' of the bells.

The notes, inscriptions, and weights of the bells are:—

Treble F.—Presented by George H. and Alethea Beer, 1929.

4 cwt. 2 q. 10 lb.

2nd, E.—Presented by S. and W. Couch, in memory of their mother, H. R. Cooke, Vicar; T. J. H. Partridge, A. P. Yeoman, churchwardens, 1929. 4 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

3rd, D.—Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London, Defunctos Plero, Plebem Voco, Festa Decoro, Donum Johannis Whidborne, 1869. 5 cwt. 0 qr. 2 lb.

4th, C.—Mr. Samuel Mudge and Mr. Nicholas Watts, churchwardens, Thomas Bibbie, Fecit, 1766. 6 cwt. 0 qr. 1 lb.

5th, B flat.—Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London, 'Gaudemus Gaudetibus Dolentibus,' Donum Johannis Whidborne, Anno Domini, 1874, John H. Hext, Vicar. 7 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

6th, A.—Tri Vni Deo Sit Gloria Sempiterna, I. Byrnell, W. Wayne, wardens, I.P., E.S., 1726. 9 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb.

7th, G.—Soli Deo Detur Gloria, T.P., 1623. 11 cwt. 2 qr.

Tenor, F.—God Save the Church, the Rev. Christopher Beeke, Vicar, William Wayne, Richard Westlake, churchwardens, 1745, Tho Wroth, Fecit; recast 1919; John Nightingale, Vicar; Thomas Butland, Virginia Quinton, churchwardens; 'Peace on earth, good will towards men.' 16 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

WELLINGTON BELLS RESTORED.

The bells of the Parish Church of Wellington, Shropshire, have recently been restored, and hung on ball bearings in a new steel frame. The work has been admirably carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

On Tuesday, April 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins. by: H. Whalley 1, W. Saunders 2, E. V. Rodenhurst 3, J. B. Tyler 4, L. Bishop 5, H. Hayward 6, W. A. Fletcher (conductor) 7, W. Thomas 8. The ringers expressed themselves as highly pleased with the 'go' of the bells, and congratulated Mr. Tyler, who has been responsible for the rehangings, on the satisfactory completion of his work.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Coalbrookdale on Saturday, April 27th. The church is beautifully situated on the side of a hill, and the bells are a very fine peal of ten by Mears and Stainbank. About 25 members and visitors were present from Shrewsbury, Alberbury, Malinslee, Worthen, Wellington, Bridgnorth, Sheriffhales, Crewe, Birmingham, and the local tower, also two lady ringers from Cardington, who rang rounds on ten very well considering that their own tower contains only four bells.

Ringing began at three o'clock and continued until five, when tea was partaken of in Trinity Hall. The business meeting followed, the Vicar, the Rev. T. Eland, presiding.

It was explained that this meeting would have been held at Wellington, but permission could not be obtained. The tower there is very close to the shops, and numerous complaints are received if the bells are rung on a Saturday afternoon.

Nine new members were elected from Whitchurch.

It was unanimously decided that Mr. W. Saunders attend the Central Council meeting at Chelmsford if possible, and that his expenses be paid.

Mr. A. Woodvine proposed that the association print a balance sheet annually for circulation amongst the members, and this was carried. The next meeting will be held at Moreton Corbet on July 20th, if possible.

Mr. Saunders proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the hon. secretary (Rev. F. Tennison) for his presence at the meeting and his continued interest in the association. This was carried with applause, and in the course of his reply the Rev. F. Tennison said how grateful the members were to the Vicar of Coalbrookdale for the use of the bells and hall.

This concluded the business, and the members then returned to the tower for further ringing until 8.30. The methods rung during the day were Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Southern District of the London County Association and the North Southwark Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, April 20th, at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Woolwich, and was fairly well attended. Ringing took place under the supervision of the District Master, Mr. H. Mance, some very good touches in various methods being brought round, including a course of Cambridge. The beginners, also, were not forgotten, everyone being accommodated.

A very bright service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. M. Pickering), who gave the association a hearty welcome, and a helpful address. One of the local young ringers presided at the organ, and the hymns and psalms, etc., were well rendered. Tea followed in the Mission House, where the party were the guests of the Rector, churchwardens and the local band. A splendid repast, thoroughly enjoyed by all, was presided over by the Rector, supported by the Master and the local Ringing Master (Mr. Aldridge). The business meeting followed, with Mr. Mance in the chair. The routine business was soon got through, but there was an animated discussion under the heading of 'other business.' This arose because a tower had not been obtained at which to hold a meeting, and it was stated that it was partly owing to the fact that the local band were not first asked their permission. The secretary maintained that the proper person to ask was the incumbent, whilst a member moved a resolution that the secretary be instructed to obtain sanction first of the local band. The resolution was, however, lost.

During the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, for arranging and conducting the service, also, as part host with the churchwarden and local ringers, for supplying the tea, to the ladies who prepared and served the tea in such great style, to the organist, and, last, but by no means least, to Mr. Cyril E. Palmer, local secretary, whose help in arranging details was regarded as most valuable by the district secretary.

As a consequence of the discussion, a somewhat late return was made to the tower, when more ringing was indulged in, but some members had to leave early, as Woolwich is right at the extremity of the district's activities.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A RINGER.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I ask for a little space in your columns to give a few details about the vacant post at Sherborne Abbey, to which reference was made in 'Belfry Gossip' last week? I learn that the office is one of whole-time employment, and the emoluments amount to about £100 a year. The vergor has to attend to the cleaning and heating of the building, work in the Abbey close and so forth, besides the official duties at the church services. In the event of some capable ringer obtaining the appointment, there will be a great opportunity of doing valuable service in the cause of ringing. The eight massive bells afford a most interesting field of enterprise.—Yours faithfully,

F. LL. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

A SHEFFIELD CHURCH'S JUBILEE.

ORIGINAL RINGERS TAKE PART IN CELEBRATIONS.

The celebration of the jubilee of the Church of St. John, Rammoor, Sheffield, took place on Wednesday, April 24th. The original church was erected by the late John Newton Mappin, and opened April 24th, 1879. It was destroyed by fire on January 2nd, 1887, and re-opened September 9th, 1888. The service was conducted by the Rev. C. Cole-Hamilton, M.C., Vicar of Sholing, and the same hymns and psalms were used as when the church was consecrated by Dr. William Thomson, Archbishop of York.

The bells were rung previous to the service, and several touches were brought round. Three of the ringers who took part were Messrs. G. Holmes, W. Bugar and J. Dixon, who participated in the ringing forty-nine years ago, when the bells were first opened, and later rang in the first peal on the bells early in 1881.

The bells were also rung in the evening, the local company being assisted by Messrs. R. Harrison, sen., R. Harrison, jun., W. Bugar, J. Dixon, and S. Lee. The Rev. Canon J. R. Lee Nicholls, M.A., rang the third in a short touch of Stedman Triples before the morning service.

TREBLE TEN AT BLACKBURN.

The peal of Treble Bob Royal at Blackburn, which is recorded in this issue, represents a step forward by the Preston Branch. It was rung at the first attempt. The ringer of the 4th had never previously had a pull on ten bells, and all excepting the conductor scored their first peal of Treble Ten. The composer is a Preston Branch ringer, and the composition is now rung for the first time. Grateful thanks are tendered by the band to the Blackburn Cathedral ringers for making the attempt possible, and for their kind congratulations after the peal.

F. G. NEWMAN FUND.

Previously acknowledged £17 15s., Mr. G. Williams 5s., Mr. G. Austin 2s. 6d., Mr. E. Brett 2s., Mr. J. S. Hawkins 2s., Mr. W. G. Whitehead 5s., H. A. R. 2s. 6d., Mr. W. Idle 2s., Mr. C. J. Burgoyne 2s.; total £18 18s. Further contributions should be sent to Mr. W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary, Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.

On Tuesday, April 16th, in 55 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,260 changes) was rung on the Cathedral bells: S. J. Wolfe 1, C. McGuiness 2, G. Flintham 3, T. Pyle 4, J. A. Freeman (conductor) 5, C. H. Chester 6, J. Walden 7, H. L. Pask 8, H. Walker 9, J. Vickers 10. First quarter-peal of Caters on the bells, and rung as a birthday compliment to the Dean of Lincoln (the Rev. Dr. T. C. Fry), who was 83 on the 16th. It was rung after meeting short for Cluques.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

The members of the Southern District of the Surrey Association met at Leigh Church on April 6th. During the afternoon ringing took place, members numbering over 30 from Buckland, Burstow, Charlwood, Horley, Leigh, Limpsfield Chart, Reigate and Redhill towers being present. Many visitors from Beddington, Crawley, Croydon, Leatherhead, Newdigate, Swindon and other towers were also present. A service was held in St. Bartholomew's Church, and was conducted by Rev. T. Kane, Vicar of Leigh, and Miss A. M. Mitchell (organist) presided at the organ. The Vicar gave a short address.

An excellent tea was provided at the Plough Inn by Mr. W. Parsons, and was followed by a meeting, Rev. T. Kane being elected to the chair. Mr. F. Sanders, of Buckland, was elected to the committee, a vacancy having been created by the election of Mr. D. K. Birch, of Merstham, to be Master of the Association. Two peals had been recorded since the last meeting, held at Charlwood in January.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Limpsfield Chart in June, and the quarterly peal will be attempted at Betchworth, and conducted by Mr. G. F. Hoad, of Reigate, subject to its being possible to make the necessary arrangements.

Rev. T. Kane was elected an hon. member of the association, and the following were also elected members of the association: Messrs. G. H. Weller, P. Pescud, S. Beadle, R. Beadle, A. Warren, G. D. Weller and J. Weller.

At the conclusion of the meeting, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. T. Kane for taking the service, for addressing the members and for occupying the chair at the meeting. Miss A. M. Mitchell was also accorded a hearty vote of thanks for presiding at the organ; Mr. G. H. Weller was thanked for making the excellent arrangements, which contributed to the success of the meeting.

The members afterwards returned to the tower, and the ringing of standard methods was resumed.

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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Woolhope on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) available 3.30 to 8.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brindle Parish Church on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 2.30.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at St. Peter's Church, Burnley. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. A good attendance requested.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting will be held at Worksop on Saturday, May 4th. It is hoped a good number will attend. There being plenty of cafés and restaurants open, visitors will make own arrangements for tea. Fixture cards will be available for forthcoming two years.—R. Harrison, Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Easton on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m.—W. Arnold, Dis. Sec., Holt Street, Earl's Colne.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Thaxton on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Other arrangements as usual. Those requiring tea kindly advise me.—C. Beeston, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—There will be a meeting for ringing practice on Saturday, May 4th, at Christ Church, Ealing, from 6 to 8 p.m., before a dance, organised by the Christ Church, Ealing, ringers, in the Parish Hall at 8 p.m. Admission 1s. 6d. All ringers and friends welcome. Tickets can be obtained at the door, or from W. G. Wilson, Assistant Dis. Sec., 9, Grove Cottages, Ealing, W.5.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Creton on Saturday, May 4th. Usual arrangements.—K. J. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District and Ladies' Guild, Northants District.—A joint meeting will be held at Huntingdon St. Mary's (8) on Saturday, May 4th. Godmanchester bells (8) also available from 6 p.m. Service at St. Mary's 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Walden Café, George Street, at 5.15 p.m.—C. Fields, High Street, St. Neots, Hunts.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Durham on Saturday, May 4th, when the bells of the Cathedral, St. Nicholas' and St. Oswald's will be available. Meet at St. Oswald's at 2.30. Tea at Pattinson's Café.—Frank Ainsley, Dis. Sec.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—The annual meeting for election of officers, etc., will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, May 4th. Tower open 5 to 9 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The May meeting of the Bedford District will be held at Thurleigh on May 4th. Bells (6) available 2.45. Tea at 5.—J. T. Newington, Dis. Sec., 32, Grafton Road, Bedford.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at South Petherton on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Amport and Thruxton on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service in Amport Church 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—The Rev. F. C. Sear, St. Mary Bourne Vicarage, Andover.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Shiplake on Saturday, May 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Ringers' service and tea. All intending to be present please notify the secretary.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec.

FRESSINGFIELD AND FRAMLINGHAM RINGING ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Cratfield Church on Saturday, May 4th, at 6 p.m. Bells will be available from 3 p.m.—L. E. Etheridge, Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at St. James', Clerkenwell, on Saturday, May 4th. The bells, recently recast and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Social at the Victoria Hotel, Charterhouse Street (Farringdon Road corner) at 8 p.m. A musical programme is being arranged. A hearty welcome is extended to all ringers.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meetings for May: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 5th, at 10 a.m.; Monday, the 6th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 14th, at 8 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on May 9th and 23rd, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 14th, Southwark Cathedral on the 16th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 28th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 30th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Owing to the parish outing the half-yearly meeting arranged for St. Helens on May 11th is cancelled.—W. H. Shuker, A. Tomlinson, C. I. Davies, Hon. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. Division.—The next meeting will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Usual arrangements. All those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. E. Davies, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, not later than Thursday, May 9th.—H. W. Kirton, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The festival will be held at Bridport on Saturday, May 11th. Service at 12.30. Preacher: Right Rev. Bishop Joscelyn. Luncheon at Greyhound Hotel 1.15 p.m. Charge 1s. Annual business meeting to follow. Towers open: Beaminster, Bradpole, Bridport, Whitchurch Canoniconum (8), Burton Bradstock, Litton Cheney, Loders, Netherbury, Symondsby (6). All ringers welcome. Those requiring lunch please send in their names to T. Hervey Beams, Bradpole, Bridport, Dorset, by May 6th.—F. Llewellyn Edwards, Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Brading on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at the Parish Hall and business meeting. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, May 7th?—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., No. 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Corston on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) at 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. A good attendance is requested.—Theo Grant, Branch Sec., Swainswick, Bath, Som.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Woking Parish Church, St. Peter's (at Old Woking). The two new church bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford on Saturday, May 11th, at 3.30 p.m. All ringers will be heartily welcomed to the dedication and are cordially invited by the Vicar, churchwardens and bellringers to tea at the Church Hall after the service. Will those coming to tea kindly notify the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Edwards, Church Street, Old Woking, not later than Wednesday, May 8th?

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Cranbrook on Saturday, May 11th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, at 9d. per head, after service, followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. each will be paid to members attending. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, May 7th.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Deanery Branch.—The annual spring meeting will be held at Shipton-under-Wychwood on Saturday, May 11th.—J. Keyte, Hon. Sec., Charlbury, Oxon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Twywell on Saturday, May 11th. Usual arrangements. It is hoped as many as possible will attend as business is important.—J. Nickerson, Branch Sec., Halford Street, Thrapston.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 11th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Arrangements as usual. All ringers welcome.—Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Shelley on Saturday, May 11th. Bells ready 1 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Tickets can only be given to those who apply before May 7th. Address: A. Goldthorpe, Red Hill, Shelley. All ringers and friends invited.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The monthly practice at Netherton, Saturday, May 11th, 3.30.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, May 11th, at Warehorne. Tower opens at 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Ruckinge tower opens 6 till 8 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton District.—Quarterly meeting at Froyle on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Sir Hubert Miller, Bart., kindly invites all members to tea at the Shrubbery House after service. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Thursday, 9th?—B. C. Taylor, Binsted Vicarage, Alton.

AN IDEAL TONIC.—Visit Bushey, Saturday, May 11th. Cheap tickets from all stations. Bells available 3.30 to 8.30. Evensong 5. Tea 5.30. Number for tea by 7th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Everdon (6) on Saturday, May 11th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Whitsun meeting will be held at Whitley Bay on Saturday, May 11th. The bells of St. Paul's will be available after 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting at the Victoria Hotel at 4.30 p.m. and tea (1/6 per head) at 5 o'clock. Members intending to be present please advise me by the 8th.—Geo. S. Taylor, Sec., 129, St. Leonard St., Sunderland

A JOINT MEETING of the Surrey Association (North-Western District) and the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Leatherhead District) will be held at Ewell on Saturday, May 18th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow in the Church Room. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. C. E. Read, 1, Grove Villas, High Street, Ewell, not later than Wednesday, May 15th?—D. Cooper and A. R. Pink, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hough-on-the-Hill (6) on Saturday, May 18th. Service in the church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. H. Haynes, Hough-on-the-Hill, Grantham, not later than Wednesday, May 15th.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Our next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Helmshore, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Petworth on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at Mr. Knight's Restaurant, Lombard Street, 5 p.m. All those intending to be present kindly advise by Wednesday previous to the meeting. Half railway fares, 1s. 6d.—A. W. Groves, Amhurst, Dominion Road, Worthing.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Chippenham, Whit Monday, May 20th. St. Paul's (8) and St. Andrew's (8) available from 10 a.m. Other bells available by arrangement. Service 12 noon. St. Andrew's Church. Luncheon 1 p.m., 2s. 6d. (cold). Book direct to Mr. Dunford, Bear Hotel, Chippenham, on or before May 15th. General business meeting 2.30.

p.m., St. Catherine's Schoolroom. Important business. Motions proposed include deletions to Rules I. and III. and additions to Rule XIII. and III. of branch rules. Copies and proposers may be had upon application. Tea 1s. per head, Bear Hotel. Some principal officials retiring and do not seek re-election. Please notify me for tea on or before May 18th.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—50th Annual Meeting Jubilee Celebrations at Chelmsford, Whit Monday, May 20th. 11 a.m., service at the Cathedral, with an address by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford. 12 noon, meeting at the Cathedral Hall. 1.15 p.m., lunch at the Corn Exchange. Tickets: Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d., applications for which to be made with a remittance to Mr. E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath. — Chas. H. Howard, Master; F. J. Pitstow, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, 45, High Street, Saffron Walden.

NORFOLK GUILD.—General meeting will be held at Pulham Market on Whit Monday, May 20th. The ring of bells at Pulham Market (8) and St. Mary, Pulham (8) will be available. Dinner at the King's Head, St. Mary, Pulham (2s. 6d. per head), at 1.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Members requiring dinner to notify the secretary not later than Thursday, May 16th, in order that the host will have the number specially to provide for. — Arthur L. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting will be held at Gresford on Whit Monday, May 20th. Further details in next issue. —W. Cathrall, Hon. Sec., 20, Ffordd Estyn, Garden Village, Wrexham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Kettering on Whit Monday, May 20th. The Central Committee will meet at 10.45 a.m. in the Parish Hall (near the church). Service in the church of SS. Peter and Paul at 12 noon, when the preacher will be the Very Rev. the Dean of Peterborough. Lunch at the Royal Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Applications for lunch tickets must be made not later than Monday, May 13th, to the general secretary, with remittance, 2s. 6d. The bells available are Kettering (10) throughout the day, and Burton Latimer (8), Rothwell (8), Desborough (8), Weekley (6), Isham (6) and Barton Seagrave (5) after the meeting.—R. G. Clark, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Gedding-ton, near Kettering.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Whit Monday, May 20th. The towers of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' will be open from 2 till 3.30 and after the meeting. The Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 7.30 till 9 p.m. Special service in St. Peter's Church, at 4 p.m. A meat tea will be provided in Parish Hall, adjoining church, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea 2s. 6d. (1s. 3d. to members). Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members. Those intending to be present should notify honorary general secretary not later than Tuesday, May 14th.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Gen. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District. — District meeting at Chiddingfold on Saturday, May 25th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea (1s.) and business meeting. Numbers for tea to me by Friday, May 17th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., Merrow Cottage, East Clandon, Guildford.

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LATE NOTICES.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Members make own arrangements for tea.—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual Festival at Hereford, Whit Monday, May 20th. Service in Cathedral Ladye Chapel, 12.15. Dinner at Booth Hall Hotel, 1 p.m., 2/6. Dinner tickets from Mr. A. W. Davis, 102, Rylands St. Business meeting after dinner. Finging throughout the day.—H. S. T. Richardson, Hon. Sec., St. Nicholas' Rectory, Hereford.

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