



No. 1,302. Vol. XXXI.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th, 1936.

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transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

GILLETT AND JOHNSTON LTD

CROYDON

Founders
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heaviest bells
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in England.

THE SPIRIT OF HENRY JOHNSON.

Since the days when Henry Johnson was at the summit of his intellectual powers and influence, the art of change ringing has made vast strides in the scope of its opportunities and the widening of its practice. Other men in other ages left an equal mark upon the Exercise, and men who have followed him have carried the science far beyond the limits which Henry Johnson knew. To all but a handful of ringers to-day, Henry Johnson is but a name and yet there remains attached to it a vague indefinable something which stamps this Birmingham worthy, not only as an outstanding figure of bygone days, but as an example of the highest type of church bell ringer, not only in the practical exposition of the art, and in patient and painstaking explorations of the problems of his day, but also in selflessness, modesty and courage.

His attributes were not an after death discovery; they were appreciated by his contemporaries. He was honoured in life, which is more than happens to many men of genius, and is the best proof of his outstanding character. In a centre where change ringing has had a firm foothold for nearly two hundred years, and which has produced many men of note, Johnson's services to the art were pre-eminent, and it is for no insignificant reason that for nearly fifty years men have gathered annually in Birmingham from all over the country to show their respect to this great but humble man and all that he stood for.

It is more than likely that with the passing of time Johnson's place in the history of ringing would have been far less appreciated than it is but for the yearly commemorations. Those who knew Henry Johnson in the flesh are, in the natural course of events, rapidly thinning out. Not many more years can elapse before they will all be gone. It may well be, therefore, that Henry Johnson will become, even at these annual dinners, a still more vague though still honoured figure. We shall no longer have with us men who can give us that personal touch, which, fortunately, at the moment, we still can keep through description and anecdote which these survivors of a past generation can pass on to us first hand. But when they all have gone, Henry Johnson's memory will be well worth while preserving by a gathering such as that which has taken place for so many years somewhere near the anniversary of his birth, if only that it may help to keep alive the spirit which dominated the man throughout his life and particularly in his association with our art. The Exercise to-day needs more than ever the maintenance of the Johnson spirit, which gained for him the love and respect of his contemporaries and a niche in ringing history from which he can never be displaced. If only

(Continued on page 150.)

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Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

for the sake of the spirit of good fellowship which they provoke and which was not the least of the endearing characteristics of Henry Johnson, these annual commemorations should go on.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Four Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIDOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

ALFRED B. PECK Treble	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 7
HENRY R. NEWTON 2	GILBERT H. HARDING 8
SYDNEY G. LODGE 3	WILLIAM HIBBERT 9
ERNEST J. TAYLOR 4	HERBERT LANGDON 10
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 5	RICHARD F. DEAL 11
SAMUEL J. HECTOR 6	WILLIAM H. RAMPTON ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.
Rung as a birthday compliment to S. Andrews, H. R. Newton, A. B. Peck and R. T. HIBBERT.

TEN BELL PEALS.

CROYDON.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt. in D

DAVID WRIGHT Treble	*FRANK E. MITCHELL 6
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 2	DANIEL D. COOPER 7
WILLIAM BULFIT 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 8
*FREDERICK L. LEERS 4	HARRY W. SIMMONS 9
ROY A. SIMMONS 5	ERNEST DENHAM Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.
* First peal of Stedman Caters. Arranged as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Gwendolen M. Denham.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS. 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

JAMES HUNT Treble	EDWARD J. WYATT 6
*CLIFFORD WILLIAMS 2	*WILLIAM G. GIGG 7
*S. GEORGE COLES 3	*WILLIAM A. SIVIER 8
*SYDNEY A. WYATT 4	PERCY MERSON 9
ALFRED J. WYATT 5	JOSEPH FOWLER Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by P. MERSON.
* First peal on ten bells. * First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung to welcome the Rev. W. H. Heaton-Renshaw as Vicar.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 19, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

F. STEDMAN WHITE Treble	HENRY E. WHITE 6
*CYRIL J. HIBBERT 2	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 7
REGINALD W. REX 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 8
*ERNEST J. TAYLOR 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
FREDERICK MESSENGER 5	FRED WHITE Tenor

Composed by G. HOLIFIELD, SEN. Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.
* First peal of Caters in the method. F. S. White has been a peal ringer at Appleton for upwards of 60 years.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG ... 6
EDWARD J. CHARMAN ... 2	FRANK I. HAIRS ... 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 3	JACK M. CRIPPS ... 8
KENNETH SNELLING ... 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 9
ALFRED W. GROVES ... 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by FRANK W. ROGERS

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PILHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 10, 1936, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

*MISS D. L. DITCHAM ... Treble	ROBERT BARBER ... 5
GEORGE MAVERS ... 2	†CHARLES LOOME ... 6
CHARLES BAKER ... 3	ERNEST WHITING ... 7
†CLIFFORD BIRD ... 4	FREDERICK ROOPE ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

SCUNTHORPE, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 11, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*HAROLD JUDD Treble	BERNARD GILLATT, JUN. ... 5
*ARNOLD ARMITAGE ... 2	GEORGE W. MOODY ... 6
JACK BRAY ... 3	FRANK LORD ... 7
FRED LACY ... 4	ERNEST BRITAIN ... Tenor

Arranged by J. BRAY. Conducted by F. LORD.

* First peal of Major.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 13, 1936, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

WALTER SCOTT, SEN ... Treble	ALBERT D. CALLAWAY ... 5
FRANK S. TAYLOR ... 2	SIDNEY MOODY ... 6
WALTER J. SCOTT ... 3	WILLIAM UPTON ... 7
EDWARD T. DRAKE ... 4	BERT SIBBICK ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK S. TAYLOR.

Rung especially to commemorate 50 years' faithful service at this belfry of Walter Scott, sen., the captain of this band, and as a wedding compliment to the second son of William Upton, who was married the previous day at St. Peter's, Moulton, near Newmarket, Suffolk. It was also rung on the 127th anniversary of the augmentation of the bells to eight. They were opened with Holt's Ten-Part peal.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

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

Tenor 20 cwt.

*HAROLD G. THOMAS ... Treble	BERTRAM HEAD ... 5
BERTRAM H. HEAD ... 2	GEORGE E. OLIVER ... 6
JOHN ELCOCK ... 3	WILFRED OVERTON ... 7
†WILLIAM G. HEAD ... 4	HORACE W. OVERTON ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by WILFRED OVERTON.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major with a bob bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. G. Thomas, also to Mr. John Overtou, the much esteemed foreman ringer of the above tower, who attained his 85th birthday that day. All are regular Sunday service ringers.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 14, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' Treble	Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.
JACK KAY 2	ARTHUR HEYWOOD ... 5
*JACK ABBOTT 3	EDWARD IDDON ... 6
MISS G. ANNIE CROOK ... 4	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... 7
JOSEPH OWEN 5	WILLIAM R. MOSLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by Miss G. ANNIE CROOK.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Richard Newton, of Boston, U.S.A.

HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Treble	Tenor 22 cwt.
ARTHUR WALKER 2	FRED NEWTON ... 5
HERBERT WALKER 3	CHARLES BROWN ... 6
HORACE FOX 4	HARRY C. WALTERS ... 7
WILLIAM R. TATE 5	ALBERT T. STRANGWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

First peal in the method on the bells.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

CHARLES H. SONE Treble	HARRY BAKER ... 5
GEORGE KENWARD 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER ... 6
THOMAS E. SONE 3	WILLIAM GORRINGE ... 7
WILLIAM SPICE 4	A. PATRICK CANNON ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

A birthday peal for W. Gorrings and his 50th peal. The composition, No. 395, is now rung for the first time.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF UXBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

FRANK CORKE Treble	FRANCIS KIRK ... 5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 2	WALTER AYRE ... 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 7
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composer unknown.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

This is the first peal in the method (Craven's No. 10 Reverse), and was rung without previous practice. The method was published on August 22nd, 1930.

CALDICOT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Treble	Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F.
JOHN W. JONES 2	GEORGE POPNELL ... 5
GEORGE LARGE 3	ERNEST STITCH ... 6
REV. IVOR RICHARDS 4	FRANK SKIDMORE ... 7
JAMES BENNETT 5	ALFRED W. HEATH ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK SKIDMORE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 4th and 7th.

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ANSTHEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

*FRANK MASON Treble	SIDNEY HARRISON 5
G. STEDMAN MORRIS 2	EDWIN CATTELL 6
†R. S. WILLIAM SMITH 3	ALBAN DISNEY 7
ERNEST MORRIS 4	†HAROLD HAMMERSLEY ... Tenor

Transposed by E. MORRIS. Conducted by GEORGE STEDMAN MORRIS.

* First peal away from tenor. † First in the method. ‡ First peal and a 16th birthday compliment.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH THACKRAY Treble	FRANK RAYMENT 5
GEOFFREY CROSSLEY 2	EDWARD CRABTREE 6
HARRY LOTHOUSE 3	JACK STITSON 7
MISS OLIVE RENTON 4	SYDNEY BARRON Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by J. STITSON.

First peal in the method by all except the treble ringer.

PENTRE RHONDDA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 27 cwt.

GEORGE WINES Treble	WILLIAM PAGE 5
FREDERICK LASBURY 2	JOSEPH LOVETT 6
HERBERT DAVIES 3	TOM PAGE 7
THOMAS HAMLIN 4	HENRY CRABB Tenor

Conducted by TOM PAGE.

Ring as a birthday compliment to ringer of the 4th, who was 74 years old the same day. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church, and, between them, have put in 232 years' service at this tower, viz., 42, 23, 26, 41, 30, 12, 30 and 28 years respectively.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*JOHN H. BAILESS Treble	PERCIVAL A. ALDEHAM 5
FRANCIS R. DRACON 2	CECIL E. CARR 6
WILLIAM A. WOOD 3	FRANK K. MEASURES 7
EDWARD J. CLOUGH 4	ALFRED BALLARD Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal on eight. First peal as conductor. Ring to welcome the Rev. J. W. Burford, who was inducted the previous Thursday.

WASHINGBOROUGH, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

*JOSEPH LUNN Treble	†JACK MILLHOUSE 5
†MISS ADRIANE A. STOKES 2	†GEOFFREY M. MAYER 6
†KENNETH W. MAYER 3	G. LESLIE A. LUNN 7
†CECIL J. MAYER 4	GEORGE E. FEIRN Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

Conducted by G. E. FEIRN.

* First eight-bell peal. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal of Bob Major. G. E. Feirn's first peal of Bob Major as conductor and his 50th peal for the Lincoln Guild. The average age of the band is 20 years 8 months. It is believed to be the youngest band to ring an eight-bell peal for the Guild.

SILVER JUBILEE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

Next week 'The Ringing World' will celebrate its Silver Jubilee with an enlarged issue containing special articles.

Every ringer should secure a copy of this issue and readers will render a service by bringing this to the notice of ringing colleagues who at present are not regular subscribers. Orders should be placed with newsagents at once.

EXETER, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
(ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

EDWIN SHEPHERD Treble	JAMES E. LILLEY 5
WILLIAM H. HOWE 2	WILLIAM RICHARDSON 6
THOMAS J. BARTLETT 3	CHARLES R. LILLEY 7
ARTHUR M. SEARLE 4	ALFRED G. BETTS Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the bells.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt.

REGINALD POSTON Treble	*ROBERT E. SUMMERS 5
H. ERNEST COX 2	ALFRED T. POULTON 6
JOHN J. WEBB 3	CHARLES L. SADLER 7
WILLIAM T. POSTON 4	WILLIAM POSTON Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by W. POSTON.

* 100th peal for the Hereford Guild. C. L. Sadler has now 'completed the circle' in this tower. First in the method for the Guild.

GAINSBOROUGH, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*EDWARD DALINGWATER ... Treble	JOHN WALDEN 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 2	*GEORGE W. CREASEY 6
MRS. ROBERT RICHARDSON ... 3	ROBERT RICHARDSON 7
FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 4	†JOHN A. FREEMAN Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

* First peal in the method. † 100th peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

NORTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

SIDNEY ROMANS Treble	†THOMAS BORBHAM 5
ALFRED G. HANNIS 2	THOMAS BALDWIN 6
*GEORGE SIMMONS 3	JOHN F. BALLINGER 7
WILLIAM HUNT 4	†HENRY BALL Tenor

Conducted by J. F. BALLINGER.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal. ‡ First peal on eight bells. First peal of Triples on the bells, which were recently augmented to eight by the gift of two trebles by Miss Hughes.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 16, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALFRED J. BULL Treble	WILLIAM T. BERSON 5
GEORGE OLLIVER 2	KENNETH SNELLING 6
NELSON ELLIOTT 3	CECIL NICE 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP ... 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 6
JOHN SADDINGTON ... 3	LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 7
WILLIAM SMITH ... 4	LESLIE W. STEVENS ... Tenor

Conducted by J. FREDERICK MILNER.

ELTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 20, 1936, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

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

*JIM HURRELL ... Treble	HARRY HOSKINS ... 5
*CHARLES A. BINES ... 2	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 6
ERNEST BRETT ... 3	*JOHN E. LYDDIARD ... 7
JOHN J. LAMB ... 4	JAMES E. DAVIS ... Tenor

Composed by F. HOLDEN.

Conducted by J. E. DAVIS.

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

SIX BELL PEALS.

MALDON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 11, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Double Court, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, 1,440 of Kent Treble Bob, 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob and 720 Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

RICHARD BIRD ... Treble	†FREDERICK P. LEWIS ... 4
*FREDERICK WHITE ... 2	FRED CHALK ... 5
MISS AMY E. WALDOCK ... 3	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by HORACE J. MANSFIELD.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. Ring as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. H. Waldo.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 11, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 8 cwt.

*GEORGE BALLS ... Treble	BERT F. LEGGETT ... 4
JAMES H. EDWARDS ... 2	WILFRED G. GUSTERSON ... 5
EDWARD LEGGETT ... 3	*FREDERICK CLARK ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD LEGGETT.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. All are Sunday service ringers at this church.

GREAT HORKESLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 13, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JAMES H. EDWARDS ... Treble	FRANK SMITH ... 4
WILLIAM CHALK ... 2	WILFRED G. GUSTERSON ... 5
EDWARD LEGGETT ... 3	GEORGE TOWNES ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE TOWNES.

Ring as a welcome to the new Rector of the parish, the Rev. G. B. Crosthwaite.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY)

On Thursday, February 13, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

T. COLIN RYDER ... Treble	ARTHUR FIRTH ... 4
ALBERT NASH ... 2	TOM BROTHWELL ... 5
JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 3	REGINALD PAYNE ... Tenor

Conducted by A. NASH.

BUTCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double and Single Court, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 8 lb.

MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... Treble	DAVID MACKAY ... 4
*HERBERT W. KNIGHT ... 2	RONALD G. BECK ... 5
KENNETH FORD ... 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

LEVERINGTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

FRED WIGMORE ... Treble	WALLACE COUSINS ... 4
GEORGE MASON ... 2	LEWIS BUSH ... 5
JOHN FRANCIS ... 3	CLAUDR COUSINS ... Tenor

Conducted by FRED WIGMORE.

BEDFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt.

LEWIS J. BATLEY ... Treble	DAVID CRACKNELL ... 4
HERBERT C. FORDHAM ... 2	PERCY G. POTTER ... 5
GEORGE FILBEY ... 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

ALGARKIRK, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 21, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in 30 methods, viz.: (1) Plain Bob, Double Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck and Reverse Bob (2) Sandal, Kingston, Capel, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob; (3) Wath and Carishrooke Delight; (4) Marple, Taxal, Old Oxford, Willesden, Newdigate and College Bob IV. Delight; (5) Algarkirk Alliance and Bastow Little Court; (6) London Bob, Double Oxford, Thelwall, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College Single and Wavertree; (7) Double and Single Court. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE W. BURRELL ... Treble	HAROLD BARSLEY ... 4
ARTHUR YOUNG ... 2	CYRIL R. BURRELL ... 5
HARVEY E. BURRELL ... 3	VERNON TAYLOR ... Tenor

Arranged by A. G. DRIVER.

Conducted by V. TAYLOR.

First peal in 30 methods by all. First peal in 30 methods for the Guild. There were 132 changes of method.

TO ARCHITECTS AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES

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NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

PERCY HARDING... .. Treble	JOHN GIDDINGS 4
HAROLD HARDING 2	WILLIAM C. WEST 5
*FRANK SLATFORD 3	*ROY HARDING Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. WEST.

* First peal. All the above are Sunday service ringers at this church with the exception of the conductor, and as such are the first to ring a peal on these bells.

WESTON, BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Ipswich, Lightfoot, Durham, York, Wells, London and Cambridge. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM H. CROCKER ... 1 reble	DAVID MACKAY 4
NORMAN G. WILLIAMS 2	RONALD G. BECK 5
KENNETH FORD 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by R. G. BECK.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

HITCHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 each of Netherseale Surprise, Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 11 lb. in G.

*JAMES A. GLASS... .. Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 4
LEONARD STILWELL 2	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... 3	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in seven methods.

NEWTON-IN-THE-ISLE, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 19, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 10 cwt.

WALTER STORRY Treble	ERIC SHINKINS 4
*CECIL BUTTERS 2	THOMAS BUSH 5
JOHN RICHARDSON 3	LEWIS BUSH Tenor

Conducted by LEWIS BUSH.

* First peal.

SELSTON, NOTTS.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, February 19, 1936, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 Cambridge Surprise, three 720's Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's Kent Treble Bob.

*THOMAS STORR Treble	ARTHUR BROWN 4
FRANK COOKE 2	HAROLD DOUGHTY 5
F. GERARD RAWSON 3	A. LESLIE RAWSON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK COOKE.

* First peal of Minor. Rung to celebrate the wedding anniversaries of the 4th and 5th ringers.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, seven callings.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE SIMMONS Treble	*WALTER A. LEE 4
*ARTHUR BOGGY 2	HARRY C. JONES 5
*ERNEST WILLIAMS 3	*JOSEPH HOPCRAFT Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. JONES.

* First peal. First peal as conductor, and first peal by an entirely local band at this church.

HANDBELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT 156, DEREHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 1-2	ALBERT ROUGHT 5-6
GEORGE H. CROSS 3-4	BEN S. THOMPSON 7-8

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

Witnesses—Mrs. B. J. Howchin and Mrs. G. H. Cross.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLAN F. BAILEY 5-6
JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... 3-4	A. ERNEST JONES 7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Witness—J. N. BAILEY.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GROUPING OF EASTERN DISTRICT TOWERS.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Beverley Minster on Saturday, February 29th, and was attended by over 40 ringers, representing Cottingham, Hemmingbrough, Howden, Hull, Market Weighton, Ripon, Selby, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sutton-on-Hull, York and the local company—an excellent gathering considering the shocking state of the weather.

Service was held in the Minster, and an address was given by the Vicar, Canon W. H. Riggs, D.D.

Tea was followed by the business meeting in the Parish Room, over which the Vicar presided. Four new members were elected, viz., Miss Marion Henry, of Cottingham, Mrs. Scarth, of Pickering, Mr. Leslie Barrow, of Hedon, and Mr. John Knox, of Hull.

Bridlington was selected as the place of the June meeting, or, failing Bridlington, Hatfield.

It was decided to support the Northern District by holding a joint meeting at Helmsley in April, Mr. E. Hudson, the Northern District secretary, having asked the Eastern District members to combine with the Northern in holding the meeting.

All the retiring officers were re-elected for a further period of three years.

After discussion it was decided to leave in the hands of the vice-president and district secretary arrangements for the grouping of towers for special practices and meetings, it being hoped by these means to improve the standard of ringing and give more encouragement to towers in isolated districts.

Mr. Cryer moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar, and said how sorry he was that the Vicar was leaving Beverley. He wished him 'God-speed' on his departure to a living in Cornwall.—The motion was seconded by Mr. Howell, who remarked on Canon Riggs's kindness at all times to the ringers of the Yorkshire Association.

Canon Riggs, in replying, said how happy he had been to welcome the association to Beverley, and added that he would look back on his 15 years at Beverley with pleasure. That was his last public function before leaving Beverley. He hoped the ringers would give his successor a good welcome.

Mr. West proposed and Mr. Hull seconded a vote of thanks to the local company, which was responded to by Mr. Middleton.

Further ringing concluded a very good meeting.

DEATH OF A MILNROW VETERAN.

The death took place on Wednesday, February 19th, of Mr. John Fitton, of Milnrow, at the age of 81 years. The late Mr. Fitton had been a ringer at Milnrow for 64 years and was a life member of the Lancashire Association. He had taken part in 61 peals and was a very keen and devoted ringer, regularly attending both at Sunday service and practice ringing.

The funeral took place on Saturday, February 22nd, in the Milnrow Churchyard in the presence of a large gathering of ringers and friends. As the cortege arrived at the church the bells were ringing fully muffled. Messrs. J. C. Bennett, W. Staff, H. Hamar, S. Parry, A. Buckley and J. H. C. Massey, six of his brother ringers, acted as bearers, and ringers were present from Newhey, Rochdale (Parish Church and St. Alban's), East Orompton, Hamer, Middleton, Bacup (St. Saviour's), with Messrs. T. Isherwood, S. W. Dunn, A. Sidebottom and J. Shaw (unattached). After the coffin had been lowered to its last resting place a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells over the grave by Mrs. W. Crabtree, Miss R. Bell, Mr. W. Crabtree and Mr. H. Devonport.

In the evening a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the tower bells by Mrs. W. Crabtree 1, H. Hamar 2, Miss R. Bell 3, S. W. Parry 4, G. Staff 5, H. Devonport 6, W. Crabtree (conductor) 7, J. H. C. Massey 8.

DEDICATION OF NEW TREBLES AT RICKMANSWORTH.**A JUBILEE COMMEMORATION BELL.**

The two new trebles, to complete the ring of ten, at St. Mary's Parish Church, Rickmansworth, Herts, were dedicated and rung at a service held on Sunday evening last. Pre-service ringing was performed on the existing eight bells, the actual dedication of the two new bells taking place after the first hymn.

The Vicar (the Rev. Canon W. B. Belcher) preceded the choir to the western porch, where hung extension ropes from the new bells, the whole congregation facing westwards. After short prayers, the Vicar swung each bell in turn, dedicating the first treble in memory of Harriet Alice Millett, the mother of one of the local band, and the second in memory of the Jubilee year of our late revered Sovereign King George V. Following two collects, the new trebles were raised and for the first time the pealing of the ring of ten was heard by the congregation and neighbourhood.

Subsequently, in a simple, stirring sermon based on the scriptural verse, 'The sound has gone out to all lands,' the Vicar spoke of the primary purpose of the bells being to summon people to the House of God. The sound of the bells, he said, was a challenge to unbelievers and to those that needed encouragement in the Christian life besides giving a welcome to those who come to worship God. These two bells, he continued, stand for all that is noble and fine, the one to a devoted mother, the other to a devoted King, both servants of the same God. The Vicar concluded by quoting the inscriptions from the old bells, mentioning that the first historical reference to the original bells hung in the steeple was in 1552.

A company of upwards of 35 ringers from various towers as far apart as Lincolnshire and Sussex gathered in the ringing chamber after the service, and various touches of Caters and Royal were indulged in.

Mr. J. P. Fidler, from Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who carried out the work, was present, and received many congratulations, not only on the excellent tone of the new bells, but also on the amazing improvement of the ring as a whole as a consequence of the additions.

The dedication ringing of the ten was performed by the local band: A. E. Millett 1, J. E. Jones 2, W. Crowsley 3, C. Lord 4, J. Foster 5, A. W. Howlett 6, A. Jones 7, T. Long 8, F. W. Elliott 9, E. Hookham 10.

The Vicar visited the ringing chamber and extended a welcome to all the visiting ringers.

The inscription on the Jubilee bell reads:—

'The people of Rickmansworth placed me here,
To ring out their thanks in Jubilee year.'

LEICESTER AND DISTRICTS' ANNUAL DINNER.**THE BEST YET!**

In spite of dreadful weather—snow and sleet galore—the Leicester and Districts' annual dinner this year proved to be the best yet! The bells of St. John the Divine (10) and St. Margaret's (12), 5 to 6 p.m., were made good use of during the afternoon, in various methods from Grandsire Triples to Stedman Cinques. At 6.30 a company of well over 100 assembled at the George Hotel, and it is rumoured that if the members go on increasing at these annual 'do's,' the management contemplate enlarging the dining room. Those present came from Anstey, Aylestone, Belgrave, Billesdon, Burbage, Ratley, Sileby, Syston, Loughborough and other places, and friends from Kettering, Rugby, Southwell, Oakham and elsewhere.

The social which followed was quite an impromptu affair, there being no 'set' programme and no speeches of any kind. It opened with a perfect course of Stedman Caters on handbells by C. Harrison, G. S. Morris, E. Morris, H. J. Poole and J. Morris. Then followed violin solos by a gifted member of the Police Force, and humorous ditties from a like source were very much enjoyed. Handbell tunes by C. H. Webb, F. E. Wilson, E. Morris and H. J. Poole were appreciated, but the tit-bit was the monologue by 'Dirty Daniel,' whose discourse on 'peas' brought down the house! His identity was discovered, however, when he gave the evergreen 'Ilkka' moor bart hat,' and we knew the 'Fidler,' who for his efforts was awarded a rubber duck! Later on, 'A flat,' not to be outdone, contributed his famous 'Farm-yard,' and he too received a duck. To see these ducks hobnobbing made one wonder if this is an omen for further 'duck suppers'!

The Sergeant-Major may be Dexter-ous at froth blowing, but at balloon blowing he is nowhere. This competition was won by the two Harrisons—Colin and Sidney. Anstey Bell Fund came in for a small donation when the chairman announced a penny raffle for a 'prize worth having—an ornament to any home.' Rathy won this and we trust good use will be made of it!

Miss Haigh sang dainty Scotch songs, and Mr. Joe Morris gave his old favourite 'Johnny.' Further courses on handbells of Stedman Cinques and Triples, Rugby Major (?) and Musical Minor all helped to make up an enjoyable evening. The phrase 'all that could be desired' aptly applies to this social gathering, and any present who did not enjoy themselves would be well advised to see a doctor at once!

E. M.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The first peal of Triples on the bells at Norton, Glos.—a peal of Stedman on Saturday, February 15th—was rung on the 16th anniversary of the peal of 13,001 Grandsire Cinques at Painswick. This peal occupied 8 hours 45 minutes, and three of the band took part in the peal at Norton, Messrs. A. G. Hannis, T. Baldwin and J. F. Ballinger.

Mr. M. F. R. Hibbert asks us to state that the long course composition of Erin Triples, rung at Denham, for what was believed to be the first time, had been rung at Wednesbury on February 3rd, 1912, conducted by A. G. Wallater.

The peal at St. David's, Exeter, recorded in this issue, was rung as a jubilee peal for Mr. A. W. Searle, in the belfry where he learned to handle a rope. It was also a diamond jubilee celebration for Mr. E. Shepherd and Mr. W. Richardson. In addition, it was a golden wedding peal for Mr. E. Shepherd.

Mr. Harry Mason, of Goodrest, Hagley, chairman of the Birmingham Gun Barrel Co., Ltd., of Haysech, Old Hill, who died December 7th last, aged 72 years, has left estate of the value of £15,588 11s. 6d., with net personalty £15,509 15s. Mr. Mason was long connected with Midland ringing circles, and a well-known member of the Worcestershire Association, St. Martin's Guild and Dudley and District Guild.

The ring of five bells of Bulwick Church, Northants, is being rehung with new fittings in new frame by John Taylor and Co.

Two veteran ringers who attended the Henry Johnson commemoration on Saturday were present at the first dinner 48 years ago. They were Mr. F. E. Dawe and Mr. Tom Miller. Incidentally it is interesting to know that the latter rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques as long ago as 1880!

One of the Birmingham veterans whom ill-health compelled to miss Saturday's dinner was Mr. Tom Russam. He is 81 and has played an active part in ringing in Birmingham for two generations.

Mr. Harry Withers, who has just retired from the service of Messrs. Cadbury, of Bournville, where he was the firm's first carillonneur, still holds the record for the longest unbroken attendance at the Johnson dinner. He was present on Saturday for the—well, we don't quite know how many times, but it is about 40 in succession.

The Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild has lost another old and esteemed member in the person of Mr. George Passingham, of Fareham, who has died at the age of 77 years. He rang the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Triples at Fareham as long ago as 1887. He was buried at Fareham on Monday.

Mr. Joseph J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, known best, perhaps, for his famous twelve-part peal of Grandsire Triples, will celebrate his 83rd birthday to-morrow, and friends are meeting at his village tower that afternoon to celebrate the event. Ringers everywhere will join in congratulations to the veteran.

BELL BROADCASTS.

PRAISE FOR CROYDON.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was a real pleasure to listen to the splendid performance by the Croydon Parish Church band when they broadcast on Sunday morning last, and anyone who has rung on these bells in recent years will, I think, agree that the ringers deserve the highest praise for their excellent striking.

The performance was not unduly marred by the announcer, who was mercifully short—an example which might well be emulated by the Sunday evening announcers.

Should this happen to be the 'swan song' of these bells 'over the air' before they are broken up, those who listened-in will at least have a memory of a grand peal beautifully rung.

Leeds.

R. H. DOVE.

'HATS OFF TO THE B.B.C.'

Dear Sir,—Might I suggest that all interested ringers who are listeners on the radio make an opportunity to thank the B.B.C. for all they do for our art. To-day, Sunday, March 1st, with your article in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' still fresh in mind, I sat down to listen to the broadcast of His Majesty the King. Five minutes before this was timed to begin all programmes were stopped and millions of people all over the world were prepared for His Majesty's message with four minutes of that wonderful recording of the bells of Bow. Surely bellringing at its best never received such publicity. Also I would point out that the B.B.C. seem to like to put bell music in the programmes. I can recall many times, in plays and local features, when the sound of bells has been put in, which indicates, I think, that the B.B.C. like bells to be heard.

To-night, I listened in to the broadcast from Derby on Midland Regional, and here again the B.B.C. are to be congratulated. On this occasion the bells were faded in and allowed almost four minutes without interruption. Then the bells were faded down behind the announcer's voice until they almost blended with the organ, which was faded in towards the end of his remarks. I should imagine that to a non-ringer this would appear to have a good effect. Might I add that the Derby band struck well and gave us something worth listening to. So away with grumbling. I say, 'Hats off to the B.B.C.'

Manchester.

RICHARD LONGDEN.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

Representative Gathering at Birmingham

St. Martin's Guild Prosperity.

There was once again a large and representative gathering of ringers at Birmingham, when, on Saturday, the 'Henry Johnson' dinner was held for the 48th time. This occasion is always one of the most attractive social events of the year in the Exercise, and visitors were present from many distant places. In the afternoon there was the opportunity of ringing at the famous Church of St. Martin and at Bishop Ryder's, and for the first time for many years Aston Parish Church bells were available. Here there is a fine new ring of twelve, opened last year, and naturally attracted the attention of all who could get to the tower. There is, of course, an intimate association between Henry Johnson and Aston, for it was here that he did much of his ringing and in the churchyard he lies buried.

An excellent dinner was served in the Connaught Room at the Imperial Hotel, to which nearly 140 sat down. Canon T. Guy Rogers (Rector of Birmingham) presided with his customary geniality, supported by the Rev. H. McGowan (Vicar of Aston) and Mrs. McGowan, the Rev. H. Sproule (curate), the Rev. Canon Blofeld (Vicar of Edgbaston), the Rev. C. H. Williams (Vicar of Bishop Ryder's), the Rev. A. E. Fraser (Vicar of Solihull) and Mrs. Fraser, Mr. F. W. Stevens (churchwarden of St. Martin's), Mr. W. R. Heaton (Solihull), Mr. E. P. Duffield (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild) and Mrs. Reeves, Mr. F. E. Haynes (Ringing Master), Messrs. A. Paddon Smith, J. H. Shepherd, J. George (the oldest ringer present) and A. Walker (vice-presidents), Mrs. A. Walker, Mr. Rupert Richardson (Master, Lincoln Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. Richardson. Ringers were present from many of the towers in the diocese and there were visitors from London, York, Sheffield, Bristol, Gloucester, Derby, Liverpool, Bath, Oxford, Coventry, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Loughborough, Croydon, Appleton, Rotherham, Davenham, etc.

THE MASTER'S GREETINGS.

The Hon. Secretary said letters of apology for absence had been received from, among others, the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, the Lord Bishop of Birmingham, Mrs. Guy Rogers, Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), etc. Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Master of the Guild, wrote thanking the members for re-electing him and expressing regret that he would be unable to be present at the dinner. 'As the members of the Guild insist upon re-electing me Master, notwithstanding my age (81) and infirmities,' he wrote, 'I cannot refuse an honour that is so kindly meant, and if my ringing friends are content with a Master who can only be so in name, there is nothing more to be said. I need hardly say,' he continued, 'that I deeply regret my enforced absence from the dinner after so many years, and that I shall be thinking of you all the time and wishing I could be there to propose "Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild," but there comes an end to all things, and I am happy to think I have been spared to be with you for so many years. Please give my kindest regards to all my old friends. Every good wish for the welfare of the Guild and each and every one of its members.'

After the toast of the King had been enthusiastically honoured, Mr. Frank Smallwood proposed 'Church and the State.' He said they, as ringers would yield to none in their loyalty to the Church. They were good churchmen; they knew what the Church stood for and they tried to live up to it (applause). They watched with pride the efforts which the Rector of Birmingham was making towards that most desired end, Church unity, and they admired the way he took his stand in the Dissenters' pulpits (applause). Fifty years ago that would have been such a shock to the parishioners of St. Martin's that they would have felt themselves justified in predicting the end of the world (laughter). Proceeding, Mr. Smallwood deprecated treating the toast as so much for the Church and so much for the State. They should be taken together and indivisible. They did not want to see the State controlled by the Church, nor the Church controlled by the State. They had followed with interest and sympathy, he said, the recent deliberations of the Church Assembly, and whatever was the outcome, as ringers they would be prepared to abide by it. They had recently got a new head of the State, and ringers would concede to him full loyalty and support. They had already shown their loyalty in many ways, by ringing peals for his accession, and they had shown their loyalty also by the muffled ringing which took place on the occasion of the lamented death of King George. In coupling with the toast the names of the chairman and the Rev. H. McGowan, Mr. Smallwood referred to the work which the latter had done in securing the recasting, augmentation and rehanging of Aston bells, and said St. Martin's Guild was glad to be able to return to its other headquarters and to know that at Aston ringing was going 'great guns' again.

SERVICES RENDERED BY RINGERS.

The Chairman first responded, and remarked upon the present happy partnership which existed between Church and State, compared with the condition of things in some other countries. He hoped the outstanding title problem was going at last to be settled in that spirit so characteristic of this country, which some called the spirit of com-

promise, but which he would rather call the spirit of mutual consideration. Canon Rogers expressed pride in the services rendered by ringers, and said he was exceedingly proud of the ringers of St. Martin's and the happy relationship which existed between him and them (applause). It had been a great happiness to him that evening to meet and shake hands with ringers from all parts of England and to know that they appreciated that gathering and the hospitality and kindness, which led to a mutual increase of friendship (applause).

The Rev. H. McGowan also replied in a humorous speech. He said one of the most encouraging things about the reinstatement of Aston bells had been the marvellous spirit in which the old ringers had rallied round and the help they had received from St. Martin's in getting the twelve bells rung. Taylors had distinguished themselves by the bells they had provided, and he felt that all who visited the tower would feel the same about them. The speaker reminded the company that Henry Johnson was buried at Aston and that over his grave was a very distinguished monument provided by the ringers of England. Ringers deserved well of the Church, and in his experience he had found that they were often a great help in many ways besides in the belfry (applause).

A PICTURE OF JOHNSON.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, in proposing the toast to 'The Memory of the late Henry Johnson,' said Johnson was born at Lichfield 127 years ago and very soon came to Birmingham. He was, as they all knew, a striking example of what a man should be. He (the speaker) made Henry Johnson's acquaintance immediately after his 72nd birthday, when he rang in the then longest peal of 9,328 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's. He rang one peal with Johnson, one of the finest five thousands of Stedman Cinques that could ever be rung, and when Hullsworth, the conductor, who had the deepest voice he had ever heard in a belfry, growled 'This is all,' Henry Johnson, jun., who was also in the peal, turned round and said, 'Beat that in London if you can.' He (Mr. Dawe) rang with Johnson on many occasions, and they were the greatest friends. He had profound respect for the old gentleman, who was of a most lovable character and had a delightful personality. He could picture him in a slate-coloured suit of clothes, a hard felt black hat, with his silvery hair, a fresh complexion with the bloom of health, and a clear grey eye even at his great age. To Henry Johnson and the late John Cox, of the Royal Cumberland Society, he owed a debt of gratitude for all he ever knew of composition. He had still got the proof scales which Johnson gave him, and now he had a little more time at home he would look out these old papers and letters which he had from Johnson and take an early opportunity of handing them to the Guild. They would be worth having (applause). Mr. Dawe continued that he remembered going to the first Johnson dinner on the day that Johnson was 80 years old. On that occasion the old man was at his best. It was marvellous for an old man of 80 to get up and talk to them as he did. On that occasion he represented the Ancient Society of College Youths, of which he was then the Master. It was a national gathering, and he wondered if there was anyone else present that evening who attended that first gathering. He had been present at many similar gatherings since and had always been received with the utmost kindness and courtesy and had enjoyed the ringing he had had in Birmingham, where the Sunday ringing was as good as could be heard anywhere in the country. The spirit which obtained in Johnson's day obtained now, and would, he felt sure, continue into the future in a manner that time would never crack or sever.

EIGHT WHO RANG WITH JOHNSON.

Mr. Dawe asked those present who rang with Henry Johnson to stand, and this revealed that there were eight present. Mr. Dawe added that he hoped they would long be spared to meet again and enjoy one another's company as much as they were doing that evening.

The toast was drunk in silence.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, who, in the absence of the Master, proposed the toast of 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild,' said they would all be sorry at the absence of Alderman Pritchett. Of course, he was in his 82nd year and had lately been suffering from a bad chill, and they could well understand why he was not with them that evening. Mr. Reeves would convey to the Alderman the kindest regards and best wishes from all in that room (applause). It was difficult, continued Mr. Smith, to be called upon to follow a man, a silver-tongued orator, such as Alderman Pritchett was, for it was difficult to imagine a more pleasant speaker, particularly when he was proposing that toast, as he had done year after year. He could not attempt to copy his methods, but he could in some degree keep to the order of his speech. He used to lead off by mentioning those members whom they lost during the twelve months by death, and it was his (the speaker's) sad duty to mention the names of four who had passed away since the last Johnson dinner was held. Their old friend Harry Mason was a regular attendant at those gatherings. He was 72 years of age, and although he was never a twelve-bell ringer, he was a most excellent man and a loyal churchman, and a regular ringer on eight bells. On ten he was not so happy and on twelve he practically confessed he was positively miserable (laughter). The Rev. C. A. Clements was a Cambridge man and at one time curate at Oldswinford. In those days he always postponed everything that might turn up on a

(Continued on next page.)

GUILD'S EXCELLENT OFFICERS.

(Continued from previous page.)

Tuesday evening to come in to the practice in the Bull Ring, and he always caught a very late train home. Those were in the pre-war days (laughter). There were many others in that gathering who had enjoyed the hours in his company after the practices at St. Martin's. He was later preferred to Grappenhall. They very much regretted to know he had passed on. Another who had gone from them was Mr. George Pigott, of Smethwick, who died just twelve months ago. It was nice to know they still had with them and in that room that night one of his brothers. The last he had to mention was Mr. Charles Cook, of Perry Barr, not known, perhaps, to many of those present, but one who was just a regular ringer at his own church. He never travelled very much, but had been a member of the Guild for many years. In a sense, said Mr. Smith, he thought they were fortunate, they had only lost four members in the last twelve months, and they must be thankful that death had dealt lightly with them.

A PROSPEROUS GUILD.

With regard to the prosperity of the Guild, he thought he could say they were prosperous. Their bank balance grew from year to year. One of these days, perhaps, the members would get a dividend or a bonus distribution on their shares (laughter). Considering their activities, it was good to know that they were on the right side as far as money was concerned. The chief event within the last twelve months was, of course, the opening of that magnificent ring of twelve bells at Aston. They were all very delighted to have with them that night the Vicar of that famous old church. It had already been referred to as their 'other headquarters.' The Guild comprised the ancient St. Martin's Youlds, which was later the St. Martin's Society, and the Holt Society of Aston. They were amalgamated and the two churches were always regarded as headquarters. Unfortunately for the Guild, Aston bells got out of order and became impossible to ring. Now, under the Rev. H. McGowan, they had not only been restored, but they were fortunate in having a new peal of twelve. They could once more claim to be double-headed, and in that way, perhaps, they were a little remarkable.

Proceeding, Mr. Paddon Smith referred to the recent expression of national mourning in the ringing of the bells of this country. It was, he said, time that ringers gave up the mode of describing muffled ringing as 'muffled clappers.' The clappers were only part of the machine used to ring the bell, like the wheel, the stock and the slider. It had nothing to do with the tone, and yet they read of bells being rung with half-muffled clappers. Imagine, he said, a writer on the day of the King's funeral, standing in the country describing the effect as he stood on the top of a hill overlooking a valley on a typical winter afternoon and saying from the grey tower below came the mournful sound of the muffled clappers. 'Well, I ask you?' said Mr. Smith. 'It seems to me perfectly stupid.'

It would be impossible, continued Mr. Smith, to have prosperity in their Guild unless they had really good officers, and they were very fortunate in this respect in Birmingham. They had a good Ringing Master in Frank Haynes, a 'youngster' who was bringing new ideas to the job. Everyone was perfectly loyal to him, with the result that ringing at St. Martin's and in other belfries was successfully carried out, but sometimes the practices were rather thinly attended. He would ask those members who could possibly manage it to be a little more regular in attendance on Tuesdays at St. Martin's. Some of them could not get there, but there were plenty who could. Mr. Reeves was the best secretary the Guild ever had, but he had a long way to go before he had finished his sentence (laughter). His three immediate predecessors each occupied the office for 20 years. Mr. Reeves had only done seven years yet, and they would not remit any of the remainder (laughter and hear, hear). Mr. Reeves was an excellent secretary, and it was nice to know they could almost see in him his father, Mr. Sam Reeves, who, in his day, was Master of St. Martin's Guild. If he were alive to-day he would be very proud of Mr. Thomas Reeves, as they all were. Long night he remain in office (applause).

(To be continued.)

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RIDDLES OF THE PROPOSED NEW RULES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to endorse the reasoned statement by Mr. E. Barnett, which appeared in your last issue, and commend to other members, that Rule 8 must terminate at 'held' and Rule 4(a) at 'ringers' fund,' as obviously rules(?) such as those proposed by our esteemed friend Mr. W. J. Jeffries are utter nonsense. Will Mr. Jeffries answer the following:—

Rule (riddle) 8: When is the Ringing Master not the Ringing Master?

Rule (riddle) 4(a): If one of his service ringers left and failed to join another band, would he remain a member of the K.C.A.?

Rule 8: If his object is a tilt at the present R.M., surely the proper course is to nominate another at the next annual district meeting.

Rule 4(a): This apparently is a gibe at the unattached 'peal grabbers,' but, even so, he must admit that for practices and peal attempts he has found them very useful.

No, no more leg pulling, please, is the earnest desire of

'ONE OF THE SEVEN.'

PROPOSED REVISION OF RULES.

Dear Sir,—It is regrettable that the personal differences of opinions between responsible officers of the association should be allowed to be placed before your readers. In regard to Mr. E. Barnett's letter to you, published in last week's issue, it is purely a case of six of one to half a dozen of the other. Mr. Barnett accuses Mr. Jeffries of obstinacy, but he was just as obstinate over Rule 4(a) ending at funds (see last week's issue) as Mr. Jeffries was over Rule 8.

I am as deeply interested in this proposed revision as either of these two men, but I shall express my views in the right place, and, I hope, the right manner. If my propositions are not acceptable to the majority, then majority rule wins, and I stand by it. This is part of the constitution of any association, and must be adhered to. I trust we shall read no more about this matter, at least until after the annual meeting of the association, when all the members will have a chance to pass opinion.

ALEC E. RICHARDSON.

MR. HERBERT KNIGHT'S 38th ELECTION.

WOLVERHAMPTON LEADER'S LONG SERVICE.

For the 38th time Mr. Herbert Knight has been elected captain of St. Peter's Society, Wolverhampton. Other officers re-elected were Messrs. G. A. Baker (secretary and treasurer), Mr. F. Brotherton (librarian) and Mr. T. Smith (representative to the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford).

The elections took place at the annual meeting which followed the annual supper of the society, over which the Rector (the Rev. Canon J. Brierley) presided. He expressed thanks to the ringers for their services, and described their activities as a valuable piece of work done in the best spirit of the church.

The secretary, in his report, referred to the peal of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Peter's on August 24th last year, in which Mrs. R. Richardson took part. It is believed to be the only peal in St. Peter's in which a lady has rung. Appreciation was expressed at the efforts of the former Rector (Archdeacon Hodson), the wardens and the Church Council in having had the bells overhauled at a cost of £122, towards which the ringers had made a donation of £5. Mention was made of touches of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters at 6 a.m. last Easter Day—a record for so early in the morning—and the receipt of a Christmas greeting from the ringers at Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, Tasmania.

Thanks were accorded the wardens—Messrs. S. H. Tonks and W. M. Pinson—and Mr. C. H. Clapham for continued interest in the society and its annual gathering.

A musical programme, including selections on handbells, followed.

WELL-KNOWN HAMPSHIRE RINGER DEAD.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Arthur E. Smith, which took place suddenly at King's Somborne, on February 17th. The funeral took place on February 21st, and the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild were represented by the Master, Mr. G. Williams (North Stoneham), Mr. W. Andrews (Winchester), Mr. E. J. Harding (Portsmouth), Mr. W. Linter (Fareham), Mr. J. Smith (Wickham) and Mr. G. Pullinger (Bishopstoke).

Following the lowering of the coffin, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells over the grave by E. J. Harding 1-2, W. Andrews 3-4, G. Williams 5-6, W. Linter 7-8.

Mr. Smith was of a very jolly nature, and well known to Hampshire ringers. His car was often at the disposal of members for getting to out-of-the-way towers. He had taken part in three peals for the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, and was very interested in all matters connected with ringing. He was largely instrumental in getting the old five bells at King's Somborne rehung and increased to six a few years ago.

As senior member of a firm of agricultural engineers, he was well known to farmers in the counties of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**A CONTRAST WITH 50 YEARS AGO IN READING BRANCH.**

Canon G. F. Coleridge, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, speaking at the annual meeting of the Reading Branch, at Reading on Feb. 22nd, contrasted the position of the branch to-day with what it was 50 years ago, when he was hon. secretary. In those now rather distant days the district consisted of only the three Reading towers, Caversham and Tilehurst, and they used to hold committee meetings seated on barrels in a room in Mr. William Newell's brewhouse. They transacted their business all right, but, said the Canon, amid laughter, the smell of the malt and hops and other things in the brewery drove out any desire to drink the finished product. He could not call to mind a single instance when any member of the committee ever had anything to drink after the meeting. In those days the branch had only about a third of its present membership, but they were a very happy party. It was about 52 years since he took over the secretaryship, which he had to relinquish on going to Crowtherne ten years later, but his interest in the branch would remain as long as he had breath in his body. He hoped it would continue to flourish and increase. Commenting on the presence of a number of youthful ringers from Checkenden, Canon Coleridge said this was a happy augury for the future. He urged these youths to continue their interest in this branch of church work, and in their pursuit of knowledge of the art, he told them they would find great help from the articles for beginners appearing in 'The Ringing World.'

The meeting was held in St. Mary's Church House, under the chairmanship of Dr. J. L. Joyce (chairman of the branch), who was supported by the branch hon. secretary (Mr. E. G. Foster), and, in addition to Canon Coleridge, the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master of the Guild), Mr. A. H. Wright (Guild treasurer) and Mr. R. T. Hibbert (Guild secretary).

The balance sheet, which was adopted, showed that the balance in hand had been raised from £3 16s. 10d. to £9 9s. 4d., largely owing to the fact that last year the branch did not pay for teas at the annual meeting. £8 had been remitted to general treasurer.

In his report, the hon. secretary stated that there were 21 honorary members and 151 ringing members, a reduction of eight in the latter. Three satisfactory quarterly meetings were held, and it had been decided by the committee to establish a bell restoration fund in the branch.

All the officers were re-elected, and Mortimer (in the spring), Nettlebed (in the summer) and Henley (in the autumn) were selected for the quarterly meetings.

TILEHURST BELLS NEED REHANGING.

Representatives of towers gave their reports on their respective bellfries, the Chairman commenting that, on the whole, they seemed satisfactory.

Among the reports was one in respect of Tilehurst, where the bells badly need rehanging. In this connection Mr. Hibbert, who had made an inspection, said the fact that six of the bells swung the weakest way of the tower had a great deal to do with the trouble.

The Vicar of Tilehurst said a sum of £260 was needed to carry out the necessary work, and he was prepared to put the matter before his Church Council. It would be a thousand pities to allow the bells to go all to pieces, and, while they were at present able to do a little ringing, there was no reason why they should not do more ringing if the bells were in a better state. The parish was already committed to repaying £600 for a new hall, and, in addition to what they at present received, they had to raise £330 a year for the church to pay their way. If they undertook the bell restoration scheme and raised a fund by a special effort, he hoped the ringers of the district would rally to their support.

Mr. Hibbert said now was the time for the Vicar to make an application to the Guild for help. He hoped he (Mr. Hibbert) would live to see the bells at Tilehurst, Sheffeld and Swallowfield all made to 'go.'

At the outset of the meeting the Chairman had welcomed visitors from other branches of the Oxford Guild and from the Herts Association, Guildford Diocesan Guild and Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. S. Goldsmith acknowledged the welcome given and congratulated the branch upon the able officers it had at the head of its affairs.

The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

In the afternoon there had been ringing on the twelve bells at St. Laurence's Church, and the rings of eight at St. Mary's and St. Giles'. Service was held in St. Mary's Church, conducted by Canon Parham, who, in an interesting address, said the craft of the ringers was exercised primarily for the glory of God, and it was this which gave dignity and importance to the office of church bellringer. Ringers were regarded, for the most part, as important workers in the parish in which they served, and for that reason he always liked, when speaking to a company of ringers, to express on behalf of the clergy and congregation their thanks and gratitude to the ringers. In the exercise of the craft in which they found so much pleasure and interest the ringers themselves should recognise they had a vocation which was an act of service to God, and that in it they should give of their best. Their service should not begin and end in the belfry; it should be a prelude to the offering of worship in the fellowship of the Church and of the life of service rendered in the performance of the duties of every day. Service rendered in that way, in praise and

adoration, and with humble love and gratitude in their hearts, would not fail to meet with love's reward.

A collection, amounting to 21s. 6d., was made for the purpose of establishing a bell restoration fund in the branch.

NEWBURY BRANCH AT SHAW.

A meeting of the Newbury Branch was held at Shaw on Saturday, February 15th, when upwards of 30 ringers attended during the afternoon and evening. The following towers were represented: Beedon, Brightwalton, East Ilsley, Newbury, Peasemore, Shaw and Thatcham. Visitors attended from Abingdon, Beenham, Burghclere, Highclere and North Stoneham. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford), who gave a very inspiring address. Mr. W. A. D. Morris was at the organ. Tea, to which 27 sat down, was served in the Parish Hall.

The Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford (chairman of the branch) presided over the business meeting, supported by the Rev. R. Howes (Vicar of Beenham).

The next meeting was fixed for Peasemore on April 25th.

The Rev. R. Howes thanked the Rector of Shaw for his address and welcome.

Votes of thanks were also accorded to Mr. Morris for playing the organ, and to Mrs. Owen and other ringers' wives who helped in providing the tea.

The tower was again visited, and Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Minor rung.

V.W.H. BRANCH MEETING.

The spring meeting of the Vale of White Horse Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Longcot.

Touchees of various methods were rung during the afternoon, and service was conducted by the Rev. B. M. Hawes (Vicar of Longcot), who also gave an interesting address. Mr. K. Edwards was at the organ.

Tea was served to 26 ringers and visitors in the Schoolroom, and was followed by a short business meeting, at which the Rev. A. J. de D. Denne (chairman of the branch) presided, supported by the Rev. B. M. Hawes, the Rev. C. G. Seymour Metford (Vicar of Shrivenham), the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master of the Guild), Mr. R. Gilling (branch secretary), and members from Longcot, Faringdon, Buckland, Shellingford and Shrivenham, with visitors from High Wycombe, Abingdon, Bicester and Swindon.

It was proposed to hold the annual meeting at Faringdon and the next by-meeting at Shrivenham.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Longcot for allowing the meeting to be held there and for his impressive address, to the organist for giving his services and to the ladies who did the catering. The Chairman said he was very pleased to see such a good attendance and thanked the visitors for coming.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg replied and gave a few words of encouragement to the members of the branch.

The ringers then returned to the tower and ringing continued during the evening.

The Deputy Master and a few others paid a visit to the Uffington and Great Coxwell towers.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**NORTHERN DIVISION AT COGGESHALL.**

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association was held at Coggeshall, and, despite adverse weather conditions, 40 ringers were present from Chelmsford, Earls Colne, Springfield, Braintree, Kelvedon, Witham, Great Tey, Feering, Dunmow, Halstead, Pebmarsh, Great Bardfield, Sudbury, Greenstead Green, Coggeshall, Bocking and Colchester.

Service was conducted by the Rev. A. Gordon Wright (Vicar of Pattiswick). The Rev. F. Pickford and Mrs. Pickford (of Coggeshall) were also present. The Vicar, in his address, said if the bells remained silent in this country, it would be a tragedy. The service was choral, Mr. G. E. Hearn being at the organ.

The company was afterwards kindly entertained to tea at the Woolpack Hotel by the Rev. and Mrs. Pickford, after which the District Master (Mr. A. A. Saunders) presided at the business meeting. The next place of meeting was fixed for Felsted on April 25th.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Pickford for the use of the bells, also to him and Mrs. Pickford for kindly entertaining them to tea.

The Vicar said he very much appreciated their thanks. He thanked Mr. Beckwith and the district secretary (Mr. F. Ridgwell); also the ringers from other towers who had done so much to help the local ringers. He urged them to stick to it after so much had been done for the bells by the late Miss Gardner. The effect of the bells, he said, was incalculable.

Mrs. Pickford also returned thanks.

Mr. F. Claydon proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Gordon Wright, who suitably replied.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Touchees in various methods from Bob Minor to London Surprise Major were rung during the afternoon and evening.

MUFFLED BELLS.

ONE WAY AS CORRECT AS ANOTHER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Some of your correspondents are asking which is the correct way to ring muffled for royalty. The answer is that no way is more correct than another; the only question is which sounds the best. Probably the most effective is to ring the 'whole pull and stand' half-muffled very slowly, with a whole pull on the tenor alone between each change and varying the order in which the bells are rung. To do this properly you would want a good band. Seventy rounds 'whole pull and stand' is monotonous. When changes are rung, either in touches or peals, half-muffled is infinitely superior to fully muffled, but quick ringing ruins the effect, and Major is preferable to Triples.

We took three hours and three quarters to ring a peal of Bob Major at St. Mary's, Ealing, with a tenor of 19 cwt., and the ringing was by no means too slow. With short touches even slower ringing sounds better.

A very interesting article can be written on the use of bells at funerals, and perhaps one day you may like to publish it. Meanwhile I may point out that muffled ringing was introduced by ringers to commemorate ringers. The tolled bell is the only official way of commemorating royalty. Fully muffled ringing is not much more than 200 years old and half-muffled considerably less.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

CENTRAL COUNCIL GUIDANCE WANTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letters which appeared in 'The Ringing World' concerning how bells should be muffled, I take it that uniformity is aimed at. I feel sure that as practically all associations and guilds are affiliated to the Central Council, and have agreed to abide by the Council's decisions, the onus for a ruling on the matter falls on the Council.

However, in order to avoid unnecessary delay, I would suggest to those members of the Council, who will meet at Whitsun, to give some thought to this matter before the Council meeting and submit suggestions or opinions in writing to the secretary, who could tabulate the same in readiness for the Whitsun meeting.

It would not then take long for the Council to come to some definite instruction on the matter, and I feel sure that this could be included in the Rules and Decisions of the Council for the guidance of everyone.

Liverpool.

CLAUDE I. DAVIES.

IMPRESSIVE PRACTICE AT SEDBERGH.

Dear Sir,—Our custom here, at Sedburgh, is to ring a touch, about 600, with the bells muffled, then slow up. After a few rounds the treble sets, after a few more the 2nd sets and so on, increasing the interval as each bell sets, until the tenor remains by itself. It then rings the age of the deceased. I do not know where the custom comes from, Cambridge possibly, but we have always done it, and it is most impressive.

Sedburgh, Yorks.

G. F. WOODHOUSE.

DIFFERENT VIEWS OF CLERGY.

Sir,—The bells at St. Mary's, Dover, were fully muffled with the exception of tenor at backstroke on January 21st. The Vicar chimed the tenor at midday 70 strokes to correspond with the years of the King's age. In the evening the bells were rung, also on the following Sunday. On the Sunday evening the Vicar asked if the bells could be half-muffled, but I told him that I couldn't do that, as it was the general practice all through the country for the bells to be fully muffled for the passing of the reigning King. This, I believe, was the opinion of most ringers, but now times have altered and we have to acquaint ourselves with modern opinion. The leading tower, Westminster Abbey, has settled this, as they rang the bells half-muffled at the commencement of the last journey of the body. Probably the wireless has caused this change, for on this occasion the half-muffled ringing was very impressive.

There are many different opinions. Some think that all should be treated alike at death. The Rector of St. James', Dover, took a different view, and said no bells were to be rung from the time of the death to the day of the funeral, so that the bells were not rung for either service on the Sunday.

It appears, therefore, that if the Central Council discuss the subject and decide on any set rules about it, the clergy, who are in charge of the bells of a church, may still hold different ideas about muffling the bells. What the ringers have done on this occasion they have done with a real good spirit to do the best they could.

C. TURNER, Captain, St. Mary's, Dover.

EX-CHOIRBOYS CELEBRATE CHOIRMASTER'S JUBILEE.

Mr. Courtenay Woods has just completed 50 years' service as organist and choirmaster at Solihull Church. To celebrate this, on February 22nd, the band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): W. Leeson 1, H. Bragg 2, J. N. Jukes 3, T. Warner 4, H. Shepherd 5, E. C. Shepherd (composer and conductor) 6, J. Bragg 7, S. Bragg 8, E. Bragg 9, V. W. Rigg 10. Each member of the band is an ex-choirboy who served under Mr. Woods. The ringers at Solihull wonder if this is unique.

FOR BEGINNERS.

CALLING PEALS OF BOB MINOR.

In the old days of Minor peal ringing it was held that a 5,040 should be made up of at least seven different methods, and when a peal was rung in less methods it was hardly thought 'proper' by many ringers. Ideas have developed since those days, and just as, in one direction, ringing has extended to the introduction of many methods in one 720—a thing which our forefathers would probably have denounced if they had thought it possible—so in the other direction we have come to admit that a peal has equal claim to recognition if the seven 720's are made up of one and the same method.

There are often reasons why, if a peal is to be rung, it must be limited to one method, but where this is necessary the conductor can, and should, if possible, ring seven different 720's. Here, however, he sometimes comes up against a 'snag,' for he may find it difficult to learn, especially if time is limited, seven totally different callings.

It is, however, possible to get seven different 720's without having to memorise seven different callings. (Parenthetically we shall not be surprised if we do not hear something about this from someone—but never mind, we will deal with him when the brick comes through the office window.)

Conductors, we take it for granted, know all about the two old 720's, in one of which the tenor is called Wrong, Right and Wrong, and the other in which the 5th is called Right, Wrong and Right.

Unless you care to do so, you need not memorise the calling of five other 720's to complete the peal. Take, for example, a two-part 720, obtained with bobs and the use of two singles only. The bobs produce a true 360. In that 360 there is included not only the 23456 at the start, but also the lead heads 34256 and 42356, which really divide the 360 into three parts, although they are not called alike, nor are they necessarily of the same length.

You learn the calling from 23456, and also where the 34256 and the 42356 occur. To get three different 720's 'within the meaning of the Act,' all you have to do is to use the same calling, beginning it in the three different places—much in the same way as you ring the same method, although you start in a different place when you ring a different bell.

Let us illustrate what we mean:—

A.	B.	C.
23456	45362	25463
— 23564	56423	56234
— 23645	62534	63542
34256	— 62345	— 63425
	— 62453	— 63254
	25634	35642
	— 25346	54326
	54263	42563
	46532	— 42635
	— 46325	23456
	— 46253	
	65432	
	53624	
	— 53246	
	34562	
	— 34625	
	42356	

The figures are a 360 divided into the three parts, with part ends when 5-6 are at home. It is equally true whether you begin with the calling of A, B or C, and your singles to complete the 720 are inserted 360 changes apart. Whichever section you begin with will produce the 'part ends' in the same order, because, for example, 42356 from 34256 is the same transposition as 34256 from 23456.

In the Central Council's Collection of Minor Methods you will find a number of compositions given which can be treated in this way, and while if you use this method of calling your peal you cannot, perhaps, be said to have used seven different compositions, you have certainly rung seven different 720's, because the leads do not come up in the same order.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

VISIT TO ST. MICHAEL'S, HEADINGLEY.

The February meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held one week earlier than the fixed day in order to avoid clashing with the Ladies' Guild, who were invading this area on the following Saturday. The bells were rung up at 3.15 p.m., and ringing continued until 9 p.m. except for a break for tea and the business meeting.

The latter was held in the tower, the chair being taken by the president. Members were present from Armley, Batley, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Burley, Calverley, Drighlington, Headingley St. Chad's, Holbeck, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Shipley, Sherburn, Sutton-on-Hull, Tadcaster and the local company.

Three new members were elected, viz., the Rev. P. Thorman and Messrs. A. Smith and L. Stokoe.

The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was accorded on the motion of Mr. J. Ewbank, seconded by Mr. A. E. West. Mr. P. J. Johnson replied for the local ringers.

The next meeting is to be held at Bramley on Saturday, March 28th. This meeting will be the annual nomination meeting, and members are asked to give serious consideration to the nomination of officers for the coming financial year.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on March the 31st, St. Magnus' on the 19th, Southwark Cathedral on the 12th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 17th, at 7.30 p.m., St. Andrew's on the 26th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor Church, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (10) available 2.30 p.m. Mr Geo. Lewis, Ringing Master, will arrange touches from Minor to Royal. Committee meeting 3.30 p.m. Service by Vicar (Rev. H. C. Foster) 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield. Take Fulwood car for Ranmoor at Leopold Street; fare 1½d. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield 3.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Swanbourne on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Meeting and tea to follow. Those requiring tea please send in good time. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 7th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, 49, Hellier Street, Dudley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Potterne on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Short meeting to follow. Southbroom bells available during the evening. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, March 7th, at Oldham Parish Church (12 bells). There will be no business at this meeting, so please turn up.—H. Hamer, Hon. Branch Sec., 3, Nail Street, Milnrow.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—All ringing friends are invited to Farnham Royal on Saturday, March 7th, at 6 p.m., to join in ringing 'many happy returns' to Mr. J. J. Parker.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Low Bentham on Saturday, March 7th. Bells will be ready by 2 p.m. Tea will be served at 4.30 p.m., price 1s. 3d. Please come and make an enjoyable meeting.—E. Swain, 29, Beecham Street, Morecambe.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at West Ham on Saturday, Mar. 7th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea to follow.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The meeting to be held at St. John's, Blackpool, has been postponed to Saturday, March 21st. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Mar. 14th, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea 5.30. Please let me know by Friday, 13th, numbers for tea.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., Police Section House, Ixworth Place, Chelsea, S.W.3.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dodderhill, Droitwich, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 4.15, followed by tea in the Parish Hall 5 o'clock (by kind invitation of the Vicar) and meeting. It is essential that all those intending to be present notify me not later than Tuesday, March 10th.—G. E. Large, Branch Sec., Grange Cottage, Hawford, Worcester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in the School at 5 p.m., but please notify Mr. F. Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, by Thursday, March 12th. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., immediately after tea.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., 235, Greenhill Road, Bramley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A combined meeting of the Maidstone and Tonbridge districts will be held at Linton on March 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Association service at 5, followed by tea, at the kind invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. A. M. Haire). Please be sure to send names for tea to Mr. C. H. Sone, The Bungalow, Linton, before Wednesday, March 11th. All ringers welcome. Good bus service from Maidstone and Marden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at St Mary's, Finchley, on Saturday, Mar. 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, usual terms, at 5.30. Please send me 2 card. All welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Swainswick, near Bath, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. A bus will be run from the Grand Parade, if a sufficient number apply for seats to Miss A. E. Watson, Naille, Swainswick, Bath, by March 9th.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please note the date.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the division, for election of officers, etc., will be held at Barcombe on Saturday, March 14th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Half rail fare, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members attending this meeting. As the tea is by kind invitation of the Rev. H. Farrar, and will be held at the Rectory, it will be appreciated if all who intend to come let me know by the previous Wednesday.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 1b, Chester Terrace, Brighton 6.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Town on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 73, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea 5.30 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern and Western District.—A joint meeting will be held at Gateshead on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. and tea at 4.30 in the Anchorage. Please advise Mr. J. McRobie, 58, Bensham Road, Gateshead. All welcome and please make this meeting another success by attending.—J. A. Brown and F. Robson, Hon. Joint Dis. Secs., 13, Grainger Road, West Hartlepool.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—The suggestion that the secretary of the Guildford District deprecates the attendance of visitors either for peal attempts or at district meetings is utterly absurd and all visitors will be heartily welcomed at the district meeting at Cranleigh on March 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Please send numbers for tea to Mr. R. Whittington, Guildford Road, Cranleigh, by March 10th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Denver, near Downham Market on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch for Newport Pagnell Rural Deanery.—A meeting at Sherington (5) on March 14th; 2.30 begin; 4 service; tea afterwards. Please send number for tea to the Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A meeting for general practice will be held at Wombourne on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 o'clock. All will be welcome. Bus (11b) leaves Victoria Square, Wolverhampton, at 2.30.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Daresbury on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Kindly advise me by the 11th inst. if requiring tea.—John E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec., P.O., Grappenhall.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Meeting will be held at South Kirkby on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. A. Dunn-Birch, 15, Northfield Grove, South Kirkby, near Pontefract, by Thursday, 12th.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Slaugham (8) on Saturday, March 14th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next half-yearly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Kendal, on March 14th. Bells (10) will be ready at 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.20 and meeting 4.45.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Poolstock, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the School. Meeting to follow. For tea please notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan, before Wednesday, March 11th. All ringers heartily welcome.—William O. Farrimond, Hon. Branch Sec., 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Braunston (6) on Saturday, March 14th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Heighington, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Ringers requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, March 11th.—R. Jeff, 29, Reid Street, Darlington.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Winslow on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Please book the dates and attend these meetings: Chiswick, March 14th; Feltham, April 4th; and Isleworth, May 9th. Details later.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Next meeting at North Muskham on Saturday, March 14th. Come and try this fine six. Those who want tea *must* notify Canon Williams, Muskham Rectory, Newark, by Wednesday, March 11th.—R. Towler, Acting Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hazelbury Bryan on Saturday, March 14th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and short business meeting. Sturminster Newton bells also available.—J. Ralph, Kington Magna, Gillingham, Dorset.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Meppershall on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. We are looking forward to a good meeting, as this part of the county is very rarely visited, and is in much need of help. All ringers welcome, please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

OXHEY, Saturday, March 14th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at 5.30. Stations: Bushey and Oxhey, and coach service. Herts Association change ringers. — C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District. — The next meeting will be held at Kegworth on Saturday, Mar. 14th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. J. Sutton, Market Place, Kegworth, on or before Friday, March 13th. — H. Kirby, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hathern Road, Shepshed.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Cathedral, London Bridge, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 o'clock. Preacher, Rev. J. C. Kinnear (St. John's, Croydon). Tea and meeting to follow at the Chapter House. Notifications for tea should reach me by Wednesday, March 18th. — Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., 10, Courtney Road, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — The annual meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. per head. Please notify Mr. J. L. Gilbert, 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Handsworth, Sheffield, by Wednesday previous. The business meeting for election of officers, etc., will be held after tea. Subscriptions for 1935-6 are now due and the annual report available. — F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

TAMERTON FOLIOT, DEVON. — The ring of 6, rehung in a new frame by Gillett and Johnston, will be rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 21st. Visiting ringers please notify the Vicar, Rev. F. B. Soady, before March 15th, and also state if tickets are required for the tea in the Parish Hut, after the service.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Helens Parish Church on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. Service 5.15. Meeting in the schools. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, Rev. Canon Child. All ringers heartily invited. Come and join us. — H. Grundy, Hon. Sec., Alness, Green Leach Avenue, St. Helens.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District. — The next meeting will be held at Overseal on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Short service 4.30., followed by tea and meeting in schoolroom. Please make this a record meeting. All welcome. Don't forget the p.c. re tea to be sent by Thursday, March 19th, to J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Coronation Street, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Ashford District. — Romney Marsh and District Guild. — The first quarterly meeting will be held at Headcorn on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Important business meeting after. Please notify me of your intention to be present by March 18th. — Frank Conley, Dis. Sec., 11, Park Road, Ashford, Kent.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern Division. — The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Mary's) on Saturday, March 21st. Tower open 2.30. Service 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's bells from 6.45. Those intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting. — A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 12, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual committee meeting will be held in the Chapter House, Christchurch, Oxford, on Saturday, March 28th, at 3.15 p.m. Any notices of motion or applications for restoration grants should be in the general secretary's hands before March 7th. — R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

DEATH.

FIELD. — At 41, Brunswick Road, Sutton, Surrey, on Feb. 22nd, the Rev. E. S. Field, aged 69 years; 28 years Vicar of Buckland Newton, Dorset.

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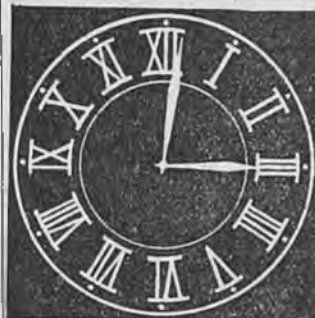
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MEMORIAL QUARTER-PEAL.

At Lydiard Millicent, Wilts, on Saturday, February 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: W. C. Chandler (first quarter-peal) 1, W. B. Kynaston (conductor) 2, A. H. Strange (first quarter 'inside') 3, C. J. Hathaway 4, R. Shalles 5, F. Wheeler 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. A. H. Harrison, Rector of Lydiard Tregoze.



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