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BONDAGE OF STANDARD METHODS.

A few of the enterprising bands about the country have, within the last few weeks, added to the number of new methods rung. All the peals have been in the 'Surprise' class, and it is gratifying to find these companies still intent on showing that ringing need not be 'pegged down' to what we know as the 'standard' methods. But these performances only serve to indicate to what extent ringers, in the mass, limit their practice. 'Standard methods' is an elastic term, which in the course of years has taken on a little wider meaning than the old idea of merely 'Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Treble Bob,' but its scope is still restricted, and yet, despite the vast opportunities and choice offered to the ringers of to-day, the great majority in the Exercise are quite content to plod along in these well-worn paths. As a training ground, 'standard methods,' which means what everybody else rings or ought to ring, may be an excellent foundation, but to be satisfied with the limitations which the term imposes, marks a lack of enterprise that is little short of stagnation. 'Standard methods' has become almost a bondage.

One of the reasons why ringers seem to be tied to this small group of methods is that the older text books contemplated nothing beyond them, and at meetings, where ringers 'most do congregate,' effort is seldom made to introduce anything new. Just recently, in one or two cases, there has been a commendable endeavour to introduce something fresh, and we hope this practice will be greatly extended. After our recent appeal, a correspondent this week makes a suggestion for popularising good but little known methods. The Central Council some time ago published their book of Plain Major methods and contemplate another on Surprise methods in the near future—the work being already in manuscript. But the Plain Major book has not popularised any of the many good methods it includes, and we doubt if a comparatively expensive volume of Surprise methods will do anything much to get the best of them rung, except perhaps just once by those bands who make a hobby of ringing new methods. We need these pioneers to 'blaze the trail,' but to raise the general practice of ringing other than standard methods, something which will make a different appeal to the ordinary ringer is needed. The man who makes music a hobby does not content himself with playing just half a dozen tunes; he is constantly enlarging his repertory. The singer is not satisfied to go through life singing only two or three songs. He moves with the times, and out of the manifold material before him chooses constantly a new selection. The position

(Continued on page 130.)

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of ringers is almost, if not quite, analogous. They have heaps of material; yet there are many who limit their practice throughout their ringing career to a mere handful of methods. Is it not time that they took a different view of their art and began to enlarge the field of methods with which they are familiar?

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Four Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

HERBERT LANGDON Treble	HENRY G. MILLS 7
EDWIN H. LEWIS 2	JOSEPH MARKS 8
EDWIN F. PIKE 3	JOHN A. WAUGH 9
HARRY HOSKINS 4	ERNEST BRETT 10
FRANCIS W. CORNEY 5	ALFRED B. PECK 11
RAYMOND G. COUSINS 6	RICHARD F. DEAL Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by R. F. DEAL.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 18 lb.

ARTHUR H. HINGLEY Treble	J. DENNIS HOLDEN 6
BERT HORTON 2	WILLIAM FISHER 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 3	KENNETH W. KNOWLES ... 8
HAROLD SMITH 4	THOMAS J. ELTON 9
BARNABAS G. KEY 5	ALBERT J. HUBBLE Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. George Hughes, for many years the esteemed conductor of the Wednesbury band, and to Sir Albert Pritchard, an ex-Mayor of Wednesbury and brother of a past Vicar of this church.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE BELL TOWER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERPS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor 31½ cwt.

*EWART ANDREWS Treble	JOHN C. PERKINS 6
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2	ARTHUR J. TAYLOR 7
GEORFREY J. HEMMING ... 3	†RALPH HARRIS 8
MISS AMY R. JOHNSON ... 4	†J. WILLIAM HEATH 9
JAMES HEMMING 5	†JOSEPH E. NEWMAN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caterps. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the Rev. E. O. Burbidge, Vicar of Evesham, and an honorary member of the above association, following the interment in Evesham Cemetery.

MANCHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

KENNETH LEWIS Treble	LIONEL CLOUGH 6
WILLIAM FERNLEY 2	DAVID VINCENT 7
JAMES FERNLEY 3	JOHN WORTH 8
JAMES A. MILNER 4	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 9
HARRY PARKER 5	CHARLES H. PAGE Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (290). Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

This composition is now rung for the first time. Arranged for the conductor's 27th birthday.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	*LOUIS J. LOCEYER 6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 2	†CHARLES J. FRAY 7
*ANDREW J. CORRIGAN 3	*REGINALD A. REED 8
*EDWARD T. GRIFFEN 4	WILLIAM T. TUCKER 9
GEORGE PRESTON 5	WILLIAM E. CHEATER Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. † 100th peal in the tower. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Barbara Moray-Williams, of North Stoneham, to Mr. Magnus Arsaal Arnison, of Raik-javik, Iceland, the well-known Icelandic painter, which took place at the above church earlier in the day.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 24½ cwt.

JOHN CLARKE Treble	GEORGE CORNWALL 5
ERNEST F. SALMONS 2	WILLIAM POSTON 6
ALLEN E. GWYNNE 3	ALFRED T. POULTON 7
H. ERNEST COX 4	JOHN J. WEBB Tenor

Conducted by W. POSTON.

This peal was arranged and rung as a welcome to the new Rector of Ross, Preb. P. C. Barber, who was inducted to the living on February 8th.

IDLE, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in F.

FREDERICK SEAGER Treble	†THOMAS HILL 5
MISS MARY WHITE 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 6
KENNETH SIMPSON 3	WILLIAM FEATHER 7
*FRANK RAYMENT 4	HARRY DAVISON Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by HARRY DAVISON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. First peal as conductor.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 15, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN W. EUSTON Treble	HARRY HOSKINS 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 6
*A. PATRICK CANNON 3	ERNEST BRETT 7
R. GORDON CROSS 4	JOSEPH MARKS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* First attempt for a peal of Surprise.

CHILVERS COTON, NUNATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Monday, February 15, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THORSTANS'.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Treble	HARRY HARRIS 5
JOHN E. S. MORETON 2	ERNEST STONE 6
JAMES DRAYCOTT 3	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH 7
MRS. A. H. BEAMISH 4	*WILLIAM BARRETT Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. BEAMISH.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung on the eve of the eleventh birthday of Freddie Stone, son of the ringer of the 6th, the youngest member of this belfry. Ringers of 2 and 6 have now 'completed the circle' of the tower.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER Treble	ALFRED PRIOR 5
ARTHUR C. CHAPLIN 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
*REV. J. E. F. TREDBENNICK ... 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	ERNEST W. FURBANK Tenor

Conducted by J. BENNETT.

* First peal on eight bells. A birthday compliment for Jessie Chaplin, aged 12, daughter of the ringer of the 2nd.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFT AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Illtyd,

A PEAL OF NEW GRANDSIRE & GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*EDWARD T. BAILEY Treble	CHARLES H. PERRY 5
JOHN W. JONES 2	ERNEST STITCH 6
*FREDERICK HANNINGTON 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
ALFRED W. HEATH 4	ALFRED W. WRIGHT Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by C. H. PERRY.

* First peal in two methods. This composition contains 2,520 changes of each method, with six changes of method, is in three equal parts, has the 24 4-6's, 7-4's and 6-7's at backstroke. It is now rung for the first time.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

*J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Treble	†ERIC B. HARTLEY 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	JAMES H. RIDING 6
THOMAS J. LOCK 3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 7
†ERNEST H. KILBY 4	HARRY KILBY Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by T. J. LOCK.

* 100th peal on the bells. † First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell. Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. A. E. Smith, Vicar of the parish, who is leaving for St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Abbey Church of SS. Mary and Thomas-of-Canterbury,

A PEAL OF HERWARD BOB MAJOR, 8056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

RUSSELL W. CURSON ... Treble	CLIFFORD BIRD 5
GEORGE MAYERS 2	CECIL V. EBBERSON 6
PHILIP W. J. FRYER 3	HARRY TOOKE 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	WILLIAM J. CLOVER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First 'touch' in the method by all. First peal in the method on the bells and for the association. The 48-course composition is now rung for the first time.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ... Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 5
HARRY HOSKINS 2	DEREK M. SHARP 6
*ALAN J. HOPPER 3	HARRY HOVED 7
ERNEST H. OXENHAM 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal as conductor on tower bells.

A DOUBLE BIRTHDAY.

At Heston, Middlesex, on Sunday, February 21st, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: W. H. Stevens 1, H. G. Cooper 2, W. P. Ellingham 3, F. J. Cattermoul 4, H. C. Chandler 5, W. A. Lewis 6, G. S. Bird (conductor) 7, E. R. Gladman 8. A birthday compliment to W. H. Stevens and E. R. Gladman.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E.

STAFFORD H. GREEN Treble	REGINALD E. LAMBERT 5
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 2	HERBERT MARKWELL 6
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 3	FREDERICK WHITE 7
FRANK BENNETT 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

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

Rung, after meeting short for Cambridge Royal, on the 70th birthday of F. J. Lambert, father of the ringer of the 5th.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb. in F.

HENRY WAIN Treble	ARTHUR H. EVERETT 5
*MISS ANNIE WHITE 2	HENRY BRADLEY 6
†JOHN GAYFORD 3	*EDWARD SITCH 7
LESLIE J. CLARK 4	*RICHARD C. CLARK Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by L. J. CLARK.

* First peal of Oxford. † First peal. First peal in the method as conductor.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES A. LIVITT Treble	LESLIE W. JARVIS 5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON 2	WILLIAM WENBAN 6
WILLIAM H. HOAD 3	WILLIAM GORRINGE 7
HARRY BAKER 4	JAMES G. POWELL Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM WENBAN.

HUGHENDEN, HUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY WINGROVE Treble	ROLAND BIGGS 5
WILLIAM HENLEY 2	JESSE HARRISON 6
PERCY NEWTON 3	GEORGE MARTIN 7
*FREDERICK G. BIGGS 4	CECIL C. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* 250th peal.

CHRISTLETON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

*HARRY PYE Treble	JOHN GRIFFITHS 5
*FRED HARTMAN 2	JAMES SWINDLEY 6
ROBERT SPERRING 3	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 7
J. WILLIAM CLARKE 4	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by P. SWINDLEY.

* First peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

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

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

G. RONALD EDWARDS Treble	RICHARD F. ROE 5
J. FREDERICK MILNER 2	COLIN HARRISON 6
ALFRED BALLARD 3	*HARRY BOSWELL 7
*LESLIE W. STEVENS 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS

* First in the method 'inside.' Arranged for Mr. H. Boswell, of Blakenhall, Wolverhampton.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15 cwt. in A flat.

HARRY RABBITT Treble	†THOMAS E. SONE 5
CHARLES H. SONE 2	LUTHER J. HONESS 6
*DORIS E. COLGATE 3	WILLIAM BUTTON 7
TOM SAUNDERS 4	ROBERT COLLINS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal on tower bells. † 50th peal of Triples. The two Toms' 100th peal together. Rung after meeting short for Major, Mr. Rabbitt kindly taking a rope at the last moment.

TERRINGTON ST. CLEMENT, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Campanile of the Church of St. Clement,

A PEAL OF KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb. in F.

ILKESTON VARIATION.	SIDNEY FLINT Treble	EDWARD GREENACRE 5
	JOHN W. T. WRIGHT 2	N. LAN GOLDEN 6
	WALLACE W. COUSINS 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON 7
	FRED WIGMORE 4	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDBEN.

First peal of its kind on the bells. The 20-course composition, with extent qualities, is now rung for the first time. This was Messrs. Claude Cousins' and Fred Wigmore's 50th peal together.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

UPTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four extents each of Original, Reading and Stedman, and ten each of St. Simons', Grandsire and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*MISS ETHEL MARSHALL Treble	†CLIFFORD A. VESSEY 3
*MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 2	†LESLIE LUNN 4
	†JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal of Doubles in six methods.

WELLAND, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 different six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 different six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD MAUND Treble	FRANK LAWRENCE 4
CHARLES YOUNG 2	CHARLES CAMM 5
HARRY PRICE 3	HENRY BISHOP Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. G. Gunnell, who was interred at the above church that day.

LONGDON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 15, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Bob and five 720's of Plain Bob, seven different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD MAUND Treble	HARRY PRICE 4
JOHN THOMAS 2	CHARLES YOUNG 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

First peal on the bells since being rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(CENTRAL BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF NORWICH SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, seven callings. Tenor 16 cwt.
LAURIE NORFOLK 1 *Treble* ROBERT SMITH 4
STANLEY G. SHIPP 2 MANSFIELD GINN 5
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 3 FRANK WARRINGTON *Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

First peal in the method on the bells.

WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, February 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 Double Court, two 720's Oxford Treble Bob and four 720's Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.
CHARLES E. FISHER 1 *Treble* ARTHUR R. SMITH 4
GEORGE R. FINCH 2 HENRY J. VINCE 5
JOE PREASTNER 3 ALDERMAN LING *Tenor*

Conducted by ALDERMAN LING.

* First peal. First peal on the bells since they were overhauled.

EXTON, RUTLAND.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(RUTLAND BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Three Hours,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

F. TOWELL 1 *Treble* K. RUSSELL 4
A. L. WARD 2 F. HUBBARD 5
GEO. GEARY 3 J. H. BLUFF *Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. BLUFF.

First peal in seven methods by all the band.

WORDSLEY, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

J. BASS 1 *Treble* * B. LAWTON 4
J. SOUTHALL 2 P. C. RICHARDS 5
J. H. PAGETT 3 H. KIRKHAM *Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. PAGETT.

First peal on an 'inside' bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Southall, a 21st birthday compliment to his son Ron, and a birthday compliment to Miss Margaret Pagett, niece of the conductor.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

WALTER D. TAYLOR 1 *Treble* WILLIAM DUDLEY 4
HARRY TURNER 2 ALBERT NORTH 5
LESLIE H. THRIFT 3 FRANK B. LOFKIN *Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LOFKIN.

MARESFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ALBERT RELFE 1 *Treble* ARTHUR F. LEWERY 4
GILBERT AVIS 2 WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 5
FRANK H. HICKS 3 ARTHUR J. HART *Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

Rung in honour of the 90th birthday of the Rector, the Rev. A. C. Dudley Ryder.

WANSTROW, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Lightfoot, Wearmouth, York, Durham, London, Wells and Cambridge. Tenor 10 cwt.

P. N. G. RAINEY 1 *Treble* HENRY J. SANGER 4
NORAH G. WILLIAMS 2 RONALD G. BECK 5
KENNETH FORD 3 JOSEPH T. DYKE *Tenor*

Conducted by R. G. BACK.

SOUTHILL, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

HERBERT L. HARLOW 1 *Treble* PERCY TOMPKINS 4
REGINALD WEST 2 LEWIS H. BYWATERS 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3 HERBERT SHERMAN *Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

First peal on the bells since they were rehung and retuned by John Taylor and Co., the 'go' being excellent.

HANDBELL PEAL.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, February 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes.

At ALVERSTONE, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

MRS. E. K. FLETCHER 1-2 JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MISS AMY JOHNSON 3-4 GEORGE W. FLETCHER 7-8

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Umpire—J. Parker.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING BRANCH OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The annual meeting of the Reading Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at Reading on Saturday, February 15th, was well attended. In addition to members of the branch, visitors came from Somerset, Slough, Oxford, Norwich, Newbury, High Wycombe, Abingdon, Slough, Cookham, Farnham Royal and Twyford.

The bells of the Churches of St. Laurence, St. Mary and St. Giles were utilised from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., all the usual standard methods being rung from Stedman and Grandsire Doubles to Cinques, Double Norwich and Cambridge Major. A service was held in St. Laurence's Church, at which the address was given by the Rev. Sherwood, Rector of Tilehurst. This was followed by tea at St. Mary's Church House, to which 66 sat down.

The business meeting was presided over by Canon G. F. Coleridge, the Master of the Guild, in the absence of Dr. Joyce, the chairman of the branch, through illness. All the officers of the branch were re-elected, viz.: Chairman, Dr. Joyce; secretary and treasurer, Mr. E. G. Foster; auditors, Messrs. Cullum and Wiggins; representatives to the General Committee of the Guild, Messrs. Humphrey, Swain and Runham.

The secretary reported an increased balance of £7 ls. 9d., with membership about the same.

The meeting agreed to admit the Burghfield tower to the branch, and also voted a grant of £5 5s. to the fund for the restoration of Tilehurst bells.

Quarterly meetings were fixed for Burghfield, Checkendon and Tilehurst.

The meeting expressed its regret at the absence of the chairman, and the secretary was instructed to write a letter of sympathy, with wishes for a speedy recovery.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. J. Hands, who had been a ringer at Caversham tower for 53 years.

The meeting was addressed by the Guild officials present, Canon Coleridge (Master), the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master), Mr. A. D. Barker (hon. treasurer) and Mr. R. T. Hibbert (hon. secretary).

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rev. Sherwood for the address, to Canon Coleridge for presiding, to the Vicars of St. Laurence's, St. Giles' and St. Mary's for the use of the bells, and to Mr. P. Dyke for so ably serving the tea.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

EXCELLENT SUPPORT FOR MONTHLY MEETING.

Once again, ringers from all parts of the county flocked to Bulkington for a monthly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild on Saturday last. The fact that Bulkington is well situated, coupled with the excellent welcome always extended to visitors, makes the meetings at this village among the most enjoyable held by the Guild.

Members were delighted to see the Rev. J. E. Wigram, from Leamington Hastings, together with three of his ringers. They have just had their bells restored, and the newly-formed band is making excellent headway. The Guild are looking forward to enrolling them all as members before very long.

The bells were raised soon after three o'clock, and from then until tea-time were kept going in a variety of methods. Rounds and touches in the simpler methods were rung for the most part for the sake of the less proficient.

The usual high standard was maintained by Mrs. Hinde and other ladies, who had prepared the tea, and in spite of a rather larger number turning up than had been expected, no one was allowed to go hungry. Close on 40 ringers and their friends were present, representing the following towers: Allesley, Exhall, Coventry, Nuneaton, Chilvers Coton, Bulkington, Arley, Stoke, Bedworth, Wolvey, Leamington Hastings and Shilton.

The secretary mentioned the death, at the age of 83, of Mr. George Over, of Rugby. He had been an honorary life member of the Guild since 1908, and was a keen supporter of all church organisations. As a mark of respect, the company stood in silence for a few moments.

Further ringing took place on the tower bells in the evening until a late hour.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

BIG ATTENDANCE AT BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Basingstoke District, held at Basingstoke, was attended by 75 members, the following towers being represented: Basingstoke, Oakley, Yateley, Silchester, Overton, Sherfield-on-Lodden, Baughurst, Rotherwick, Wootton, Bramley, Odiham and Upton Grey. Visitors were present from North Stoneham, Bishopstoke, Highclere and St. Mary Bourne, and Mr. G. Williams, Master of the Guild, was a very welcome guest.

Service was held in St. Michael's Church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Chute, M.A.) conducting the service and preaching an interesting sermon. He extended a welcome to all the ringers and remarked that he thought bellringing was one of the arts connected with the Church that was most precious and was a great force in the country.

Tea was served in Church Cottage, and the Rev. G. H. Jendwine, R.D., presided at the meeting which followed.

Major J. D. Stillwell (hon. district secretary), of Yateley, extended a hearty welcome to the Rev. A. W. Chute, and, in presenting his report, revealed a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The officers elected were: The Rev. G. H. Jendwine, chairman; Major J. D. Stillwell, hon. secretary and treasurer; Mr. C. Ostler, Ringing Master; Messrs. J. Chesterman and H. Balam, representatives on the Executive Committee of the Guild; Mr. G. Ives, auditor. Quarterly meetings were fixed for Sherborne St. John on April 17th, Yateley on July 10th, and Upton Grey on September 25th.

Ringing continued until 8 o'clock, and ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise.

A FAKENHAM CEREMONY.

DEDICATION OF MEMORIAL PEAL BOARD.

A large number of ringers visited Fakenham to attend the dedication of a peal board to commemorate and record a peal of St. Clement's Major rung half-muffled on the church bells as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. P. T. Cooke, formerly for over 39 years a ringer at this tower and latterly of Peterborough.

The beautifully designed board was of selected oak panelled with letters, left raised in sunk panels, decorated and ornamented in style, with neatly carved raised framing and surmounted with the symbol shield of SS. Peter and Paul, and carved large and small bells. The board was the work of Mr. Flint, of Dersingham, who rang the treble bell in the peal.

An appropriate service was arranged and many other friends attended. Mrs. F. Cooke (widow), with Mr. and Mrs. Jorden (son-in-law and daughter), came specially from Peterborough to attend the ceremony and, in addition, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Dersingham, and other relatives were present. The Rector (Dr. E. F. Morison), who conducted the service, made appreciative reference in accepting the board on behalf of the church, and paid tribute to the work of the late Mr. Cooke and his interest, love and time given in the science of change ringing.

After the service the board was hung on the walls in the belfry and the bells were rung during the day.

An excellent tea, to which about 40 sat down, by kind invitation, was provided in the Rectory basement room, and at the close complimentary speeches were made. Praise was accorded to Mr. Flint for his work, and he suitably replied. Hearty thanks were accorded to the ladies and helpers with the tea.

Ringers were present from the following towers: Walsoken, King's Lynn, Dersingham, Gressenhall, North Elmham, Gaywood, Wiveton, Terrington, Brinningham, Bodham, Foulsham and the local company.

FOR BEGINNERS.

FROM KENT TO OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

One of the first Treble Bob methods was Oxford. It came into being long before Kent, which, when it was first introduced, was known as 'New' Treble Bob.

Oxford, especially on the higher numbers, is not, in these days, rung anything like as frequently as is Kent, but in six-bell ringing it forms a very useful contribution to the seven-method peal, which is the least that six-bell ringers should aim at.

To those who can ring Kent Treble Bob, the Oxford method is comparatively easy to learn. Actually it is merely a reversal of the bells in 3-4. Here are figures (at the first lead of the treble) which will show this:—

Kent	Oxford
231546	241536
213456	214356
123465	123465
214356	213456
124365	124365
142635	142635
412653	416253
146235	146235
416253	416253
461523	421563

The reversal of the bells in 3-4, however, leads to some essential differences in the work, but first of all let us look at the similarities of the two methods. All the dodging is precisely the same (though not always, in corresponding places, with the same bells). There is also a 'slow' work common to both methods—the whole pull at lead and 2nd's place alternately from the time the treble leaves the front until it returns—and this slow work is done by the bells in the same order.

Another important point in the relationship of the two methods from the conductor's point of view is that the compositions of one method run true to the other.

And now the differences in the work of the method.

In Kent we had this:

Pass the treble in 2-3, make 3rd's and 4th's and go up.

Dodge with the treble in 1-2, coming out of 'slow,' make 3rd's and 4th's and go up.

In Oxford, each of these bells makes 4th's only and goes back to lead.

Pass the treble in 2-3, make 4th's and go down into the 'slow.'

Dodge with the treble in 1-2, make 4th's and go down to lead.

In Kent, after passing the treble in 4-5 or dodging in 5-6 up with the treble, make 4th's and 3rd's on the way down.

In Oxford both these bells make 3rd's only and go back up to dodge in 5-6.

Briefly, the two bells going up make 4th's and go back; the two bells going down after the treble make 3rd's and go up.

A bob in Oxford Treble Bob causes both the 3rd's places to be made by the same bell, but with a 4th's place (the actual bob) between. Thus the bell that has to make the bob dodges in 5-6 up with treble, follows it down, makes 3rd's, 4th's and 3rd's (a whole pull in each place) and goes up in front of the treble. It comes into the 'slow' work the next lead.

The conductor should note that, while in Kent the bell that is going into the 'slow' comes down behind the treble, in Oxford the next bell to go into the 'slow' is the bell that comes down in front of the treble. That is important to remember when he is calling from a non-observation bell.

Touches of Oxford can be called like touches of Kent, and here is another 720 which will go to either method, without bringing the 'tenors' (5 and 6) up the wrong way at a lead end; in other words, whenever they are together when the treble leads they strike in their natural order, 5-6, at backstroke.

Last week's 720 was: Call the 6th In, Out and In three times. The other 720 is: Call the 5th Out, In and Out three times. If, for this latter, you want to make the 6th the observation bell, you can do so by calling it to make the Bob in the first course, and then call it twice Wrong (successive leads) in the 2nd course; and repeat twice.

The bell that makes the bob in Oxford is the one that dodged in 5-6 up with the treble and the call can be made as it strikes its first blow in 3rd's place. Contrary to Kent, in which the places are made the 'wrong' way (backstroke and handstroke), the places in Oxford are made the 'right' way (handstroke and backstroke).

To call a bell 'Wrong' in Oxford or Kent Treble Bob causes it to have an extra double dodge in 5-6 up, and the call comes in the lead when the bell has dodged in 3-4 up with the treble.

A HALF-PEAL AT BISHOP'S STORTFORD.

At St. Michael's Parish Church, Bishop's Stortford, on Thursday, February 4th, the first five-parts of Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples (2,520 changes) were rung in 1 hour 41 minutes: Miss D. Wacey 1, H. Bird 2, S. Brookes 3, H. M. White 4, F. Bird (conductor) 5, H. A. Wacey 6, E. Ansell 7, W. Wilkinson 8. Longest touch by the ringers 1, 2, 7, 8. The half-peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. A. Wacey.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**CORONATION PEALS.**

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Fenton on Saturday, February 6th. Thirty-four ringers were present from Bucknall, Cheadle, Draycott, Fenton, Hanley, Kidsgrove, Kingsley, Leek, Longton, Norton, Newcastle, Stone, Stoke, Tunstall and Wistan-ton. Tea, served in the Church Hall, was kindly given by the Fenton ringers.

The Rev. J. Howse (Vicar of Fenton) extended a very hearty welcome to all present, and went on to say that he learnt to ring a bell a number of years ago, but had lost touch of ringing. North Staffordshire would welcome a few more ringing parsons, as there was only one, the Rev. J. B. Prith (Rector of Swynnerton).

Two new members were elected, J. Lawson, of Tunstall, and W. Fradley, of Bucknall.

A committee meeting was held after tea, with Mr. Thomas Hurd in the chair, supported by Mr. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary) and Mr. Kenneth Thacker (assistant hon. secretary). The secretary presented a report, stating that the meeting had been called to arrange peals for the Coronation of King George VI. He would like all towers who can ring a peal on Wednesday, May 12th, to do so, and he thought the following should be able to do so: Leek, Stoke, Biddulph, Bucknall, Kingsley, Norton and Stone, and most probably Fenton, Uttoxeter, Burslem and Kidsgrove. He hoped arrangements would be made at that meeting for peals to be rung on Saturday, May 15th, or Monday, May 17th, which was a holiday, at Hanley, Tunstall, Brown Edge, Swynnerton, Longton, Silverdale, Walstanton, Rocester and Draycott. Arrangements had been made for a peal to be rung at Newcastle later in May. The following towers had promised to attempt peals on Wednesday, May 12th: Kingsley, Stone, Kidsgrove, Norton and Hanley.

Mr. C. H. Page promised to arrange two peals, and Mr. J. E. Wheeldon proposed that all peals rung in May should be recognised as Coronation peals, and that further arrangements be left to the discretion of the ringers.

A proposal to hold an annual dinner was discussed. It was pointed out by the secretary that only two dinners had taken place, one in 1911, and the other, the jubilee dinner, held in 1933. He thought it was most essential for an association to hold a social evening once a year.

Mr. A. W. Hall thought a dinner would probably help to get younger ringers to take a more active part in the association's work.

It was proposed by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon, seconded by Mr. C. H. Page, that representatives should inquire at their towers to see if the proposal met with approval.

CORNISH BELLS RECAST.**POUGHILL PLEASED WITH NEW PEAL.**

The delightful and unspoiled village of Poughill, situate midway between Bude and Stratton, North Cornwall, celebrated in true style the dedication of its recast ring of six bells on Saturday, February 20th. The Lord Bishop of Barking (Dr. J. T. Inskip) performed the ceremony.

The bells have been silent since May, 1935, when it was found that the old frame was unequal to the strain placed upon it, and that the bells themselves were in a poor condition. On Saturday the new bells made up for lost time and they were tried 'true and proper.' The ringing was of a very mixed character, rising and falling in peal predominating. One or two 'scientific' hands managed to get made up and were allowed to have a pull.

All who were conversant with the old peal commented upon the vast improvement in the tone and 'go,' but such improvement is expected when Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, are entrusted with a job of this sort.

The 2nd and tenor are the oldest bells in the peal. They bear the inscription: 'IP x CP 1790. Digory Jose, Vicar. John Bray and Thomas Taylor, Churchwardens.'

The 3rd and 4th were recast in 1861 by John Warner and Sons.

The treble was cast in 1907 by Llewellyn and James and inscribed, 'T. W. Lemon, D.D., Oxon., Vicar. S. Prouse, Churchwarden. Maria Somes, of Annery House, N. Devon, Lady Patron.' There was a similar inscription on the 5th, also recast in 1907, but dating originally from the 18th century.

Each of the bells now also contains a reference to the recent work done by the firm of John Taylor and Co.

An entirely new all-metal bell frame has been erected to carry the bells, which have been provided with the latest type of bell fittings. Ringing is still carried on from the ground floor, but as the draught of rope is not exceptionally long it is a comfortable place to ring at.

The weight of the old tenor at Poughill was 9½ cwt.; the weight of the new tenor is 12 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in F sharp.

Following the dedication service, tea was provided in the Village Hall at a very moderate cost of sixpence, but the meal did not interfere with the ringing, as bands could go in and out according to the ringing programme.

A number of visiting ringers also took the opportunity of visiting Stratton, where permission to ring had been obtained.

Owing to a misunderstanding in connection with a service, ringing at Poughill was curtailed, but it enabled the visitors to find out that Stratton bells have lost nothing by usage.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Rector of Maresfield, Sussex, the Rev. A. C. Dudley Ryder, has just celebrated his 90th birthday, and on Saturday a peal in honour of the event was rung at the Parish Church. The Rector met the ringers after the peal and entertained them to tea. It had been intended to attempt Cambridge Surprise, but, meeting short, Bob Minor had to be substituted, Mr. G. Avis standing in at a moment's notice.

The augmenting of the ring of six at Llanfrecchfa is being done, but the dedication will not take place until after Easter.

The tenor bell of Ightham Church (Kent) has been repaired by welding specialists three times, and on each occasion it has again become cracked. The bell has now to be recast. This bell is dated 1620 and was cast by John Witnar.

There will be no more ringing at St. John's, Cardiff, for a time. The tower is undergoing repairs.

The two back bells of the ring of eight at St. Peter's, Carmarthen, have been put on ball bearings.

A SECRETARY'S 25 YEARS' SERVICE.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MR. C. T. COLES.

In October, 1935, Mr. C. T. Coles completed 25 years' service as a secretary of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, and it is proposed to mark this by giving him a testimonial at the annual meeting of the association, to be held on April 17th.

There must be hundreds of ringers throughout the country who will be glad of this opportunity of showing their respect and affection for Mr. Coles, who has not only done a vast amount of work for his association, but has devoted himself to furthering the art in many directions, including long service on the Central Council. All who would like to contribute to the testimonial should send their donations to Mr. W. H. Hollier, hon. treasurer, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick, W.4, or Mr. E. C. S. Turner, hon. secretary, 65, Kingsley Avenue, West Ealing, W.13. The other members of the committee are Messrs. J. A. Trollope and G. W. Fletcher (vice-presidents of the association), G. R. Goodship, G. M. Kilby and T. J. Lock.

TO POPULARISE NEW METHODS.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I suggest that the most practical way to popularise new methods is for the Methods Committee to pick out a number of methods of special value, chosen for musical and other suitable reasons, and recommend these for adoption as 'standard methods,' as additions to, or in place of, the existing standard methods.

These should then be universally rung by the associations at meetings, and thus give ringers a chance to learn and ring them. At present, with the exception of a few isolated instances, the opportunities of ringing these methods are practically nil for both old or young ringers. I believe this would also add to the attractiveness of meetings to many who are just a little tired of ringing the same old methods meeting after meeting with nothing of fresh interest.

I quite realise, of course, that it is not an easy task, but as there seems to be a new type of ringer coming into existence who is willing at least to try something besides the old, if he gets the opportunity, it is worth while endeavouring to give it him, and at the same time show appreciation of the immense amount of work done by the producers of these new methods.

LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS.

Church, Lancs.

SUGGESTED MEMORIAL TO LATE REV. B. H. T. DRAKE.

ELY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS OFFER SUPPORT.

A meeting of the Central Branch of the Ely Diocesan Association, held at Chatteris, offered to support a scheme for a memorial to the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake. There was only a moderate attendance early, but Mr. A. J. Abram, on behalf of the local company, gave the members a warm welcome. Some good practice took place. Tea was partaken of in St. Peter's Hall, after which a short business meeting was held, Mr. F. W. Thulbon, Ringing Master, presiding.

The question of a proposed memorial to the late general secretary, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, was discussed, and the meeting decided that 'should the Central Council prefer to do anything of this kind (the rev. gentleman was their librarian), members of this branch would support such a suggestion at the annual general meeting of this association.'

'GRAN'FERS' CELEBRATE.

On Friday, February 5th, two members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild became grandfathers, and to celebrate the event the 'omit' 504 Stedman Triples was rung on the back eight of St. Laurence's, Reading: E. Humfrey 1, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 2, C. Pullen 3, G. Foster 4, H. Smith 5, L. Sadler 6, W. Hibbert 7, Grandad E. J. Foster 8. This should have been a good touch of Stedman Cinques, but owing to the inclement weather the tower was far from full. The other 'Granfer' (ex-Sergt.-Major W. Hibbert, R.I.A.) celebrated at East Ilsley. However, at both places the two daughters were 'toasted' and wished a long and happy life.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STALWARTS AND YOUNGSTERS AT WESTERN BRANCH MEETING.

The Western Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association held its first meeting of the year at Wychbold, near Droitwich, last Saturday, in cold but fair weather. The church is situated upon a seam of salt, which is causing some concern about the safety of the church in the future, owing to the tremendous amount of brine pumped out of the earth by the salt works at Stoke. The ground in several places has sunk, and Judge Amphlett's home, not far distant, has been condemned for this reason, but up to the present no serious cracks have appeared in the church's fabric.

The bells, recently rehung by Taylor's, are handy and light, and were made good use of by about fifty members present, including very welcome visitors from Clent, Bromsgrove, Kidderminster, Smethwick and Coventry. A gratifying feature was the presence of many of the new recruits gained last year, and these were given ample opportunities by the Branch Ringing Master. To see treble and tenor ringers on an 'inside' bell certainly justified the time given to these new members, and, as many of them are now taking 'The Ringing World,' they will doubtless read this report and may be assured of similar treatment at future meetings. The more advanced members, besides getting a 'kick' out of their efforts in helping the learners, relieved the tedium of Doubles by touches of Cambridge, Double Oxford and St. Clement's.

A short service, fully choral, was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Gibbs), who gave a very interesting address on the lines familiar at these meetings. It was pleasing to note the presence in church of the Rev. A. H. Lewis, Vicar of St. Peter's, Droitwich, and an honorary member, who was accompanied by Mrs. Lewis. The Parochial Church Council very generously provided the tea, which was served at The Croft at the kind invitation of Miss C. E. Mule, the Vicarage Room being too small to accommodate both ringers and the choir.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar presided and was supported by Mr. W. Short (Master of the association), Messrs. C. Camm (Branch Ringing Master), G. E. Large (branch secretary) and W. Ranford (Central Committee). Apologies were tendered for Mr. E. P. Thomas (vice-president) and Mr. E. Barber (auditor).

One life, one honorary life member, four honorary and twelve performing members were elected.

Mr. Short proposed that the quarterly peal be rung at Wychbold, and to include as many of the local ringers as were capable, emphasising the need of encouraging local bands. Mr. W. H. Raxter was appointed conductor.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Longdon, where, Mr. Camm said, there would be an opportunity to get a newly-formed band to join the association.

The rest of the business was of a routine character and soon disposed of, after which Mr. Short thanked the Vicar, choir, organist, ladies and the local band for the part they had all played in making the meeting so enjoyable. The secretary, in seconding this, said it had been a pleasure to arrange this meeting, and he had had his task made easy by the willingness and co-operation of all the kind friends at Wychbold.

The close of the meeting brought an old member, Mr. E. F. Spalding, to pay his 37th subscription, and mention may be made of some other 'old-timers' present—Tom Elcox, of Areyley Kings, Charlie Smith, of Dodderhill, and Tom Davies, of Droitwich, the last of whom, with George Green, having overcome many difficulties and setbacks, has now a promising band of eight youngsters. On the homeward journey one was set pondering over the activities of these stalwarts through the years, remembering with pleasure that they, along with others whose names are more familiar, are still with us to inspire, by their loyal service to the association, those who have similar paths to tread.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS' GIFT TO CHURCH.

SCREEN IN MEMORY OF HIS WIFE AT NORTH STONEHAM.

A handsome west screen has been erected in North Stoneham Church, Hants, by Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, in memory of his wife. The dedication ceremony was performed by the Rector, the Rev. F. J. Peile, M.A., on Sunday, February 21st, in the presence of a large congregation.

The screen is of dark oak, designed by Mr. E. A. Young, to harmonise with the fixtures of the ancient building, and it takes the place of the curtains which hitherto inadequately served to screen the ringing chamber from the nave of the church. It is a valuable addition to the comfort of the ringers, as those who took part in Saturday's peal of Treble Ten and in the service ringing on Sunday were quick to testify.

The work of erection was carried out by Mr. James Parker, of Edmonton, who was a welcome visitor at the weekly practice during his stay in Eastleigh, and assisted in ringing Cambridge from Minor to Royal, Superlative and London: a full programme for one night, especially as the learners had their turn as well.

It will be remembered that Mr. and Mrs. Williams gave the two trebles to North Stoneham Church to commemorate their golden wedding.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the London County Association and North Southwark Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, February 13th. Ringing took place in the afternoon at St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, St. Lawrence Jewry, St. Mary-le-Bow and St. Clement Dances. A splendid service followed at St. Clement Dances, the preacher being the Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Stepney, who had a congregation of ringers numbering about 100 persons. He took for his text 1st Cor. x. 31: 'Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.' The Bishop began by saying that bellringers gathered together in the love of art. Ringing, like all other arts, had its foundation in and was dependent on the Christian religion. In the earliest days artists were inspired by a religious motive, as shown by the fact that they invariably depicted Biblical subjects. He emphasised that ringers likewise should dedicate their endeavours to the glory of God. In his experience of bellringers one of the greatest joys they possessed was that wonderful gift of friendship. The trouble to-day abroad was due to suspicion caused by lack of comradeship, and in times of distrust between nations the world is sorely in need of the human touch and the drawing together in real live friendship. He begged all ringers to spread abroad the spirit of goodwill and comradeship.

Tea was taken at a nearby restaurant, at which 72 members sat down. Afterwards some adjourned to St. Clement's for more ringing; others stayed behind to hear handbell ringing by various parties.

The business meeting in the Parish Room followed. Four new members were elected and the election of six others ratified. The presentation of accounts by one of the auditors revealed a satisfactory position, the year finishing with a small balance of income over expenditure. The accounts were adopted. The records of 16 peals rung last year were accepted and will be sent to peal writer.

The report on the year's progress and position was given by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), who referred to the satisfactory practices both at St. Clement's and Lambeth. There was, however, still room for further advancement. The peals rung during the year showed that 49 persons had taken part.

Respect was paid to those members who had passed away during the year by the meeting standing in silence.

The secretary (Mr. T. W. Taffender) said he was disappointed not to have the annual report for sale that evening, as the printer could not get them ready in time. After explaining the contents of and the work involved in compiling the report, he said he would be glad if members could encourage the sale of them at the small charge of sixpence, which would only cover cost of production on this the original production.—The election of officers, which usually causes some amusement and waste of time, was on this occasion soon disposed of, as the officials were all re-elected as follows: Master, T. H. Taffender; secretary, T. W. Taffender; assistant secretaries, F. E. Hawthorne and N. H. Manning; treasurer, E. A. Young; stewards, T. Wyatt and P. Carter; trustees, A. H. Keighley and F. E. Dawe.

Dissatisfaction was expressed concerning the demolition of All Hallows' Church, Lombard Street, E.C., and the removal of the bells. The secretary pointed out that the authorities had been written to, but no reply had been received. It was hoped that the bells would be hung in a tower sufficiently strong to enable them to be rung for service.

Votes of thanks were recorded for the arrangements of the day, especially at St. Clement's and the other towers where ringing had taken place.

As there was only one band prepared to enter the handbell contest for the Dawe Cup, another band was summoned from a local tower in order to make a contest. The bands then completed their methods, and the result from the three judges was soon forthcoming. They decided that the contest was a draw. The evening concluded with some Grandioso Cinques by the brigade from Dartford ringing four bells each.

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POLICE RINGERS VISIT LIVERPOOL.

NATIONAL GUILD HOLD THEIR ANNUAL MEETING.

Reception by Lord Mayor.

The annual meeting of the National Police Guild was held in Liverpool on Saturday, February 13th, the following forces being represented: Metropolitan, Manchester City, Leicester City, Birmingham City, Cardiff City, Liverpool City, Reigate Borough, Bolton Borough, Northampton County, Lancashire County and Leicester County.

Visitors commenced to arrive about 10 a.m., with the exception of the Metropolitan 'early birds,' who, having travelled throughout the night, were already on the scene of action. The bells of St. Francis Xavier's Roman Catholic Church, Salisbury Street, were rung to various methods until about noon, and then a move was made to the Bear's Paw Restaurant, in Lord Street, for luncheon. The Guild were honoured by the presence of Mr. A. K. Wilson, Chief Constable of Liverpool; the Rev. D. Raiton, Rector of Liverpool; the Rev. A. Scott, of Bolton, the president of the Lancashire Association; Mr. W. H. Shaker, hon. secretary of the association; and Mr. G. R. Newton. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. O. J. B. Cole (Chief Constable of Leicester), Supt. W. Green (Deputy Chief Constable of Oxfordshire), Supt. A. Wiggins (Deputy Chief Constable of Berkshire), Supt. C. P. Hilton (Surrey County), and other members of the Guild.

After luncheon, the president of the Guild, Supt. F. R. Williams, Manchester City, extended a welcome to the guests. Suitable replies were made by the Rev. D. Raiton and Mr. A. K. Wilson. The latter said he knew nothing about bellringing, but he was very interested in a course of Grandsire Triples rung on the handbells shortly afterwards.

An official reception was given by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Alderman Denton, and the Lady Mayoress at the Town Hall at 3 p.m. In welcoming the Guild, Alderman Denton referred to the important part to be played by bellringers in the forthcoming celebrations for the Coronation, and appealed to all ringers to do all they could to make the celebrations successful.

The president of the Guild replied on behalf of the Guild members and the Rev. D. Raiton for the ringers of Liverpool. A course of Grandsire Caters was then rung on the handbells by members of the Manchester City and Leicester City Forces, followed by the tunes 'Blue Bells of Scotland' and 'Drink to me only.' The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were very interested in the ringing.

VISIT TO NEW CATHEDRAL.

A visit then followed to the new Cathedral. Canon Soulsby very kindly conducted the party through the Cathedral and explained in detail the various parts of it. Truly a magnificent building now, but what a pleasure in store for those who may be able to see it completed.

Tea was partaken of at the Bear's Paw Restaurant, after which the business meeting of the Guild was held.

The following officers were re-elected: Supt. F. R. Williams, Manchester City, president; ex-Chief Inspector W. Bottrill, Metropolitan Police, vice-president; Inspector H. J. Poole, Leicester City, hon. secretary and treasurer; Sergt. H. G. Jenney, Leicester City, auditor. The following members constitute the committee: Sergt. H. G. Jenney, Leicester City; P.C. N. Bagworth, Metropolitan; P.C. D. Brown, Manchester City; P.C. E. C. Birkett, Liverpool City; ex-Sergt. W. Dowding, Birmingham City; ex-Sergt. A. Lawrence, Herts County; ex-P.C. F. Page, Manchester City; and ex-P.C. W. Clayton, Reigate Borough.

Congratulations of the Guild were extended to Supt. F. R. Williams on the recent honour conferred upon him in receiving the King's Police Medal.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting of the Guild in February, 1938, at Nottingham.

Ringings afterwards took place on the peal of twelve bells at St. Nicholas' Church until about 8 p.m., and then a return was made to the Bear's Paw Restaurant for the social evening. Entertainment was provided by P.C.s Frankland and Hughes (Liverpool City), P.C. W. Pye (Manchester City), ex-Sergt. W. Dowding (Birmingham), Mr. S. Jones, Mr. B. Lloyd and Mr. Frost (Liverpool). Selections on the handbells were rendered very effectively by Mr. I. Booth and Miss Booth, of Standish, near Wigan, Miss F. A. Poole, the Guild secretary's sister, accompanying on the piano.

The thanks of the Guild are due to Chief Inspector J. Meldrum and P.C.s E. C. Birkett and T. R. Butler, of the Liverpool City Force, for the excellent arrangements which were made. Also to Mr. G. R. Newton and other members of the Lancashire Association who assisted in any way to the making of such a successful meeting and enjoyable day.

THE LEICESTER PARTY'S EXPERIENCES.

The Leicester contingent, writes a correspondent, met at 7 a.m. and all reported promptly, with the exception of one 'Raw-son of a Gun,' renowned, apparently, for punctuality. The party numbered 24 and included the 'ever-present,' dare we say 'evergreen,' 'F. H. D.' The journey commenced in good style in a specially reserved saloon, and soon the handbells were tinkling (tinkling's right) with tunes and changes. After a time, it was obvious that more than one member of the handbell band was interested in scenery, and on reaching Derbyshire it was a case of 'all eyes on deck' for 'Abraham's

Heights.' Either something was amiss with our look-out or the heights had been lowered, because nothing was seen of them. Someone suggested that there was a famous mill in the district, but we neither saw the 'Mill' nor the stream.

On reaching Ambergate we were officially received by a representative of the L.M. and S. Railway Co., a porter aged 14 years, who rubbed his ear against the saloon window in an effort to hear more of the bells. Judging by the wagging of his ears and the astonished look upon his face, he had never heard anything so weird before. He handed his cap through the window to receive a collection made for him and his face fairly 'lit up' as we left him on the platform.

Please note that this 'lit-up' has no connection with the 'lit-up' in the 'Dexter Code.'

During this time a member of the 'solo' school had been making steady progress, and it was a question whether or not he would require a 'Carter' to carry off the bunce. 'The Unlucky Old Soldier' was in the school again.

We arrived at Liverpool in good time and made our way to St. Francis Xavier's Church, Salisbury Street. The next spectacle we observed was a Guild member and another ringer, quite tall enough for a policeman ('no names, no packdrill'), trying all the doors of a licensed house. Their efforts were in vain. Cries of 'Shame' from the crowd. 'Open doors' was not until 11.30 a.m. and it was now only 11.28 a.m.! This time they certainly were not 'Lit-up,' but very much 'Blacked-out.'

Our next concern was the luncheon delay. A complete party was missing and the only news of them was that they had gone to ring at a church a few miles out of Liverpool. When they did arrive no one would wear the blame, and the only reasonable excuse forthcoming was that the church in question had been moved further from Liverpool.

SEVEN IN A TAXI FOR FOUR.

If there was one thing more than another we all wanted to see it was the famous Mersey Tunnel. The following is an account of one of the parties: During our visit to the new Cathedral one female excursionist mentioned to a policeman on duty outside the Cathedral that we wanted to go through the tunnel. He made no more to do than order at once a taxi. Maybe he was on commission. Anyhow a great struggle followed; half the party in the Cathedral and waiting to see more of that and the other half outside marking time on the taxi driver. Poor Fred (not Dexter this time) was the runner between the parties, pleading to each for a mutual settlement. Eventually we all assembled at the taxi. Now for another calamity—taxi to hold four persons and seven in the party. After some argument the taxi driver exclaimed, really as a last hope, 'Well if you don't mind the crush, I don't.' In we all pushed. What a crowd. Poor Fred could neither stand up nor sit down. When he did eventually get down he appeared to make room for three more. We could hear the springs playing a tune on the back axle as we went bouncing through the streets. The next trouble was a scarcity of fresh air, but fortunately we were able to get a window open before the tunnel entrance was reached. Someone said, 'What a pity the Roes are not here.' Surely a misunderstanding; we were going under the Mersey, not over it—no rowing needed. For the benefit of those who have not visited the tunnel, it may be well to explain that there is a lane for slow traffic and one for fast traffic in each direction through the tunnel. What a scream went up as the driver cautiously entered the lane for 'Slow traffic.' Never a better example of 'safety first.'

After the wonderful experience of the tunnel we wanted to return to the cafe for tea. Then came a guessing competition for the name of the cafe. We knew it was something to do with an animal's foot, 'Cow-heel' was one suggestion. 'Sheep's trotter' another, and in despair someone shouted 'The Boar's Head.' It's something to do with a poor bear. Ah! 'Bears Paw,' that's it. The taxi driver landed us back safely and no one enjoyed the trip more than he did.

We fully enjoyed the evening's entertainment, but had to leave before the finish. Another 'hold-up.' One of our Freds put on a coat—not his own. Unfortunately, it was not nearly so good as his own—hence the delay for the change.

The journey home was enjoyed in various ways. Solo school, handbell band and the 'shut-eye' party. Leicester was reached about 3 a.m. all well satisfied with the splendid day.

One important item missed. F. H. D. did not ring on the peal of twelve, but this time it was not our fault, but his. If he admits it, it must be so.

PASSING OF A HAMPSHIRE VETERAN.

The death took place at New Alresford, Hants, on February 10th, of Mr. Edwin Knight, after a short illness, at the age of 84 years. He had been connected with the bells for nearly the whole of his life and for many years was captain of the local band. He was not a change ringer, but he loved and took especial pride in the church bells and was a most regular attendant at Sunday service ringing. No one was more delighted than he when the recent restoration of the bells was completed.

He was laid to rest on Saturday, February 13th, and many of his old friends gathered to ring a muffled farewell. The whole nill and stand was rung 84 times by the local band, assisted by Mr. G. Noice, district secretary of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

THREE GENERATIONS.

THE HARRISON FAMILY AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

In our last issue we recorded a peal of Bob Major in which three generations of yet another family took part together. Geoffrey Harrison, aged 13, rang with his father and grandfather. This photograph of them was taken in the ringing room at the Bell Foundry tower.

Mr. Robert Harrison began his ringing career at the Parish Church, Sheffield; this was whilst still in his teens, in 1888,

It was natural for Geoffrey to accompany his father into the Foundry Campanile on practice nights, and at nine years of age he could handle any of the ten bells there. He was determined to ring a peal before he was thirteen, and fate nearly intervened to prevent this—a week before he was thirteen Geoffrey was laid up with the 'flu, and then his father started with the same symptoms, which seemed to put 'paid' to any idea of getting the peal. However, they pulled round in time to make the attempt and score on January 27th, as has been previously recorded.

There had been the thought of including 'Grandad,' but there was a little doubt as to whether Geoffrey would have the stamina to stand



THREE GENERATIONS OF THE HARRISON FAMILY.

and since then he has been associated with the Cathedral and St. Marie's companies, except for a brief spell in London in 1891-2. He has rung 45 peals.

His son, Colin, also first learned to ring a bell at the Parish Church, Sheffield, as a boy ten years old. He served four years in the Army during the Great War and upon his return joined the Cathedral company and later the St. Marie's company. In 1928 he took up his present post with Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, over whose foundry he has acted as guide to hundreds of ringers. He has rung 120 peals, ranging from Minor to Maximus, and conducted peals from Minor to Cinques.

the time, so the idea was abandoned until he had proved differently, and, as we recorded last week, the three generations took part in a successful peal of Bob Major on Monday, February 8th. Young Geoffrey is only a lightweight, but he has got the knack all right and has started what everyone hopes will turn out to be a promising ringing career.

Other families who have in recent years had the distinction of ringing peals in which three generations have been included have been the Bernetts, of Crayford, the Groombridges, of Kent, the Tillets, of Ipswich, the Symonds, of Suffolk, and the Paulsons, of Derbyshire.

SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

WILL W. D. CROFTS MEMORIAL DINNER BE REVIVED?

The annual meeting of the Society of Sherwood Youths was held on Saturday, February 13th, in St. Mary's tower, Nottingham, the Master, Mr. A. Coppock, presiding.

The accounts were presented and passed and three new members were elected.

On the proposition of Mr. Metcalf, seconded by Mr. Kirton, the officers were all re-elected.

The possibility of reviving the W. D. Crofts memorial dinner was put forward by one of the members and several expressed regret that this gathering had been allowed to lapse. After a short discussion the matter was commended for further consideration.

Suitable places of meeting for this year were then considered, and an invitation from Mr. Kirton to visit Bottesford in the summer was accepted. The usual votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

Further ringing was then enjoyed, a variety of methods being rung and every touch save one being successfully brought round.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Chichester on Saturday, February 13th, when 30 members attended from the following towers: Arundel, Angmering, Bosham, Heene, Lymminster, Portsmouth, Portsea, Rudgwick and the local band.

At the business meeting the Divisional Secretary and Committee of Advice were re-elected. One change was made on the General Committee, Mr. E. Treagus, of Arundel, being elected in place of Mr. Adams.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Dean of Chichester Cathedral for the use of the bells, on which ringing took place during the afternoon and evening. The methods rung ranged from rounds to Double Norwich.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS IN GRIMSBY DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Grimsby District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at St. James', Grimsby. The bad weather kept a large number away, but members attended from Bigby, Burton-on-Stather, Scunthorpe, Louth, Alford, Ulceby, Killingholme, Barrow-on-Humber, Thornton Curtis and the local members. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. Lisle Marsden), who gave an interesting address.

Twenty-one sat down to tea. In the absence of the president (Ven. Archdeacon Parry), the Vicar kindly presided at the business meeting.

The secretary's and Ringing Master's reports on the past year's work were presented, and a vote of thanks passed to them.

Apologies were received from the Guild Ringing Master (Mr. R. Richardson) and the president of the branch.

The secretary reported that they had lost a few members during the past year and quite a number had not paid their subscriptions. He hoped they would make amends during 1937.

The Vicar was welcomed as an honorary member. It was reported that the District Bell Fund amounted to 7s. 6d., and the Bell Fund accounts were accepted.

The places and dates of meetings, proposed by the District Committee, were accepted, viz.: Thornton Curtis, April 10th; Alford, May 8th; Bigby, June 19th; Burton-on-Stather, July 17th; Barton-on-Humber, September 11th (subject to alteration). Combined practices were arranged for Waltham on February 13th, Barton-on-Humber on March 6th, and Elsham on March 13th.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for conducting the service, for the use of the bells and for his excellent address, to Mr. H. Rushby for presiding at the organ, and to the caterers for the excellent tea.

In reply, the Vicar said he was very glad to welcome them at Grimsby. Members then returned to the tower for further ringing.

THE LATE MR. J. W. MALYAN.

'FATHER' OF RINGERS AT ST. STEPHEN'S, ST. ALBANS.
As we briefly recorded last week, the death has taken place at St. Albans of Mr. John William Malyan.

Mr. Malyan, who was 52 years of age, died at his home after a long illness. He leaves a widow and one daughter, with whom much sympathy is felt.

Mr. Malyan started his bellringing career in 1902 at St. Albans Abbey, after which he identified himself with St. Stephen's Church, where he became a member of the choir in the time of the late Rev. W. D. W. Dudley. He had been the conductor of the St. Stephen's Society of Ringers since about 1906 and had taken part in the ringing of over a hundred peals. Members of the present St. Stephen's company regarded him as the 'father' of the band because he instructed them all in the art of campanology.

In his younger days, Mr. Malyan was a keen footballer. He played in local junior games and for two seasons before the war he captained St. Albans City's second eleven.

The first part of the funeral service, held in St. Stephen's Church, was conducted by the Rev. B. E. P. Mitchell (Vicar of St. Michael's), who gave a brief address in which he paid tribute to deceased's courage and fortitude during his long and painful illness and expressed sympathy with the relatives. Mr. Mitchell also officiated at the graveside. Handbells were rung over the open grave after the committal by Messrs. W. Ayre, G. Debenham, F. Kirk and C. Jeffs.

Before the service, and afterwards, the following members of the St. Stephen's band rang half-muffled touches of Grandsire Doubles in memory of their late conductor: Messrs. G. Pratt (conductor), R. Ewer, A. Ewer, R. Andrews, R. Bedford and A. Halsey.

In the evening half-muffled touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were rung at St. Michael's Church, St. Albans, by Messrs. F. Giddings, A. Eaton, A. Halsey, sen., L. Turner, F. Peters, E. Hunt and S. Farmer (St. Michael's), F. Kirk (St. Peter's) and C. Ewer (St. Stephen's). A half-muffled touch was also rung at St. Albans Abbey.

A numerous congregation attended to pay a last tribute of respect, and among the ringers present in addition to those already mentioned were Messrs. F. L. Whiteman, T. Blow and C. Walklate representing the Cathedral Society of Change Ringers, and Messrs. J. F. Chatley and E. J. Gale were present on behalf of St. Peter's Society.

Among the many wreaths were the following: 'With deepest sympathy, from his fellow-workmates at Messrs. Dunham and Martin'; 'In affectionate remembrance of our Conductor Jack, from his fellow-ringers at St. Stephen's, George, Reg, Bob, Abel, Dick and Ron. This is all. Stand'; 'With deepest sympathy, from the Cathedral Society of Change Ringers'; 'With deepest sympathy, from St. Peter's Society of Change Ringers'; 'With deepest sympathy, from St. Michael's Women's Meeting and Mothers' Union.'

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MR. A. E. SHARMAN GIVES UP LUTON DISTRICT SECRETARYSHIP.

The annual meeting of the Luton District was held at the Priory Church, Dunstable, and was fairly well attended. The bells were rung to various methods from 2.45 p.m. to tea time. Tea was served in the Temperance Hotel, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Rector of Dunstable (Canon H. A. Griffith), supported by the Mayor of Dunstable (Councillor F. Kenworthy), Councillor S. G. Biswell and others.

The chairman congratulated the district secretary on being (since their last meeting) elected to the Town Council.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were: Chairman, Mr. A. King, Luton; hon. secretary, Mr. F. J. Plummer, Leighton Buzzard; to the General Committee, Mr. H. H. Smith, Husbome Crawley, and Mr. H. D. Harris, Woburn.

Mr. A. E. Sharman, on resigning the post of district secretary, said that it was on February 14th, 1920, that he was first appointed, almost 17 years to the day. That was a long time in the life of a voluntary organisation. He felt compelled to resign owing to the pressure of other work. He hoped the members would help Mr. Plummer all they could.

The Rector said the news that Mr. Sharman intended to resign had come as a shock to him, and he proposed that the best thanks of the members should be accorded to Mr. Sharman for all he had done and be recorded in the minutes.

The four quarterly meetings were fixed as follows: Luton, April 17th; Woburn, July 17th; Leighton Buzzard, October 16th; and Dunstable, February 12th, 1938.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the bells, and a course of Grandsire Caters 'in hand' was afterwards rung. The tower was again visited and the bells were kept busy in many methods until 8 p.m.

Mr. Sharman, although giving up the secretaryship of the Luton District, still retains the more important office of general secretary of the Bedfordshire Association.

BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, February 14th, for evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): S. Appleby 1, J. Sharpe 2, S. Jesson 3, A. Appleby 4, R. Brown 5, A. Ellis 6, F. Dewey (conductor) 7, W. E. Clarke 8. Specially arranged and rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Phyllis, daughter of the conductor.

DEVON GUILD.

NORTH-WEST BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

Great Torrington was the venue of the annual meeting of North-West Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers, and members from Bridgwater, Holsworthy, Petersmarland, Poundstock, Pyworthy, Plymouth and Sutcombe assembled in support of the chairman, the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill.

The service in the Parish Church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Keble Martin), the Revs. W. H. Swale and W. H. Ravenhill being also in attendance. In his address the Vicar stressed the desirability of sympathy and unanimity between all who work in the service of God.

A collection was made on behalf of the Guild Church Bell Restoration Fund.

Tea was served in the Globe Hotel, after which followed the business meeting, when the report and balance sheet were accepted. Five members of the Poundstock band and Mr. Gomer (Weare Gifford) were elected to the Guild.

The Rev. W. H. Ravenhill (chairman), Mr. J. W. Sangwin (hon. secretary), Mr. W. J. Shears (treasurer) and Mr. F. Sangwin (Ringing Master), with the representatives to the Guild Committee, were re-elected for the ensuing year and heartily thanked for past services.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Rev. Keble Martin for his interesting address and the use of the bells, as well as to the organist (Miss Wright).

Ringling on the beautiful peal of eight, recently rehung by J. Taylor and Co., tenor 15 cwt., consisting of rounds, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, continued till 7.30 p.m., when the bells were lowered in a style worthy of the best 'Devonshire' tradition.

DEARTH OF YOUNG RINGERS.

SUSSEX FINDS DIFFICULTY IN FILLING GAPS.

The dearth of young ringers in Sussex was referred to at the annual dinner of the Southover (Lewes) Guild, held on Tuesday, Feb. 9th, at the King's Head Inn, when the Rector (the Rev. D. G. Matthews) presided and was supported by Mr. H. E. White and Mr. R. Curtis (vice-presidents).

After the loyal toast had been honoured, Mr. F. Bennett (Brighton) proposed 'The Southover Bellringers' Guild,' and referred to the loss they had sustained in the recent death of Mr. R. J. Dawe. Proceeding, he said the trouble nowadays was that the old enthusiasts were passing on and few younger men came forward to take the vacant places.

Mr. G. P. Elphick (hon. secretary of the Guild), responding, said although the Guild was running very well they wanted more young men to take an interest in bellringing.

Mr. A. J. Turner (captain of the Guild) proposed 'The Sussex County Association,' and referred to the times when bellfries were not kept in as good a condition as they were to-day. In those days the bellfries were often a source of danger to the ringers and there was no authority to inspect them.

Responding, Mr. S. E. Armstrong (hon. secretary) said the Sussex County Association were finding a dearth of young ringers. There were so many other attractions for the young men of to-day that it was very hard to get them interested.

Mr. W. Ward proposed 'The President and Vice-Presidents,' and said that the Rector of Southover had been with them over six years. He had interested himself to a great extent in all the activities of the church, especially the bellringers. He joined heartily in everything which they did and they hoped that Mr. Matthews would have many more years with them. With the toast he coupled the name of Mrs. Matthews, and musical honours were accorded.

The Rev. D. G. Matthews remarked on the excellent secretary and treasurer the Guild had and on the businesslike way in which the Guild was managed.

Mr. F. Crees proposed 'The Host and Hostess,' and Mr. and Mrs. J. Muzzell replied.

The musical programme was sustained by Messrs. A. J. Turner, J. Crees, T. Woolston, F. Taylor, W. Ward, G. Elphick and others.

MR. JOSEPH SADDINGTON'S LONG SERVICE.

SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

Mr. Joseph Saddington, of Burton Latimer, Northants, has completed 60 years as a ringer, first at Cranford and the last 18 years at Burton Latimer. For evening service on Sunday, February 14th, and to mark this long period of service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) was rung at Burton Latimer when the veteran ringer took part: G. Lines 1, M. Hobbs 2, H. Turner 3, F. J. Tite 4, J. Saddington 5, B. J. Saddington 6, B. P. Morris 7, R. G. Black (conductor) 8.

At the annual meeting of the Parochial Church Council recently, the Rector (the Rev. H. T. Edwards, M.A.) presented Mr. Saddington with a clock and added that his record of service to the church was one of which any Christian might be proud.

All his ringing friends wish Mr. Saddington health and strength long to continue, and to add more years to this wonderful record.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

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All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 49th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, Feb. 27th, at 6 p.m. prompt, when the chair will be taken by Rev. H. McGowan, M.A., Vicar of Aston. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Aston Parish Church (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock.—Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—A meeting is to be held at Gamston, near Retford, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. All ringers welcome. Tea 5 p.m.—E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec., 171, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Next meeting at Tilney All Saints on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. We should like *you* to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Somersham on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Rolleston-on-Dove on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m. North Staffs and Derby District members cordially invited.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Burnham (8 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 27th, at 3 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Mottisfont on Feb. 27th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Romsey bells available 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. We ask *you* to come and have a pleasant time with us.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. A hearty welcome extended to all.—Ernest Cooper, 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

YETMINSTER, DORSET.—The treble bell, to complete the ring of six (tenor 19 cwt.), supplied by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Salisbury on February 27th. All ringers welcome.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, Wigan and Bolton Branches.—This meeting will be held at Hindley on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—S. Forshaw, 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Whitwick on Saturday, February 27th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. First meeting here since 1933, so please come in crowds and encourage the local band.—H. O. Over, 180, Ashburton Road, Hugglescote.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. James', Rusholme, on Saturday, February 27th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 5, 1s. each. Meeting in the Parish Room. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. Huxstep, 12, Birchfields Avenue, Rusholme. Subscriptions due.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on March 2nd and 30th; St. Magnus' on the 4th and 18th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 9th; and *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 16th at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A combined practice will be held at All Saints', Gosforth (10 bells), on Thursday, March 4th, at 7.30. Ringers are urged to attend to make sure of a successful meeting.—K. Arthur, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (Christ Church) on Saturday, March 6th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's tower open from 7.30 till 8.30 p.m. Will those intending to be present let me know Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. E. Pankhurst, Div. Hon. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The 119th anniversary will be celebrated Saturday, March 6th. Bells available all day. Dinner at 5 p.m. Please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, with tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, March 2nd, certain.—E. Stitch, 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, Mar. 6th. Bells available from 3 o'clock and in the evening. Service 5 o'clock. Tea (1s. per head) at the Institute 5.45. Meeting 6.30. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Thursday, March 4th.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., 10, Courtney Road, Croydon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Biddenden on Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Subscriptions for 1937 are now due.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present advise me by Wednesday, March 3rd, and oblige? Subscriptions for 1937 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at Hampstead on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing: St. Ann's, Highgate (8), 3-4.15 p.m.; St. Stephen's, Hampstead (10), 5-5.45. Service in St. Stephen's 6 p.m. Tea in Church Hall 6.30. Ringing after tea, Hampstead, until 8, Gospel Oak (6) 8-9 p.m. We expect to see every Cumberland in North London at this meeting. Names for tea by 3rd to N. Summerhayes, Asst. Sec., 26, Wilmot Road, Dartford.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Stowmarket on Saturday, March 6th. Tea at Dykes' Restaurant, 5, Station Road, at 4 p.m., 1s. each, meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at South Normanton on Saturday, March 6th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Please notify me how many will require tea by Thursday, March 4th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley, on Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready 3 p.m. No branch business meeting, as the general committee meet during the afternoon. A hearty invitation given to all ringers to attend. Teas arranged, 1s. per head, only for those who notify Mr. F. G. Bradley, New Road Parade, not later than Wednesday, March 3rd.—J. Char-nock, Branch Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting.—C. W. Cook, District Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Daresbury on Saturday, March 6th, at 3 p.m. Kindly advise me by March 3rd if requiring tea.—J. E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec., Post Office, Grappenhall.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held jointly with the Ashford District of the Kent County Association at Biddenden on March 6th.—P. Page, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A meeting for practice will be held at Wednesbury on Saturday, March 6th, from 3 p.m. All are welcome.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Holt on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Newcastle on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Will those requiring tea please notify me by March 3rd?—Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 6th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea will be provided for those only who notify me not later than Tuesday, March 2nd. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 49, Hellier Street, Dudley, Worcs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A meeting will be held at Lowick, near Thrapston, on Saturday, March 6th. Bells (6), recently rehung, ready at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—W. J. Whitmore, Raunds, Northants.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Next meeting at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, Mar. 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A peal board recording the peal of Grandsire Caters, rung by members of the Wigan Branch, will be unveiled and dedicated by the Rector at 4.20 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in School at 5.15, 1s. each. Please notify Mr. G. T. Jenks, 199, Warrington Road, Pemberton, Wigan, for tea. Special invitation to Liverpool ringers.—S. Forshaw, Branch Sec., 38, Poolstock Road, Wigan.

SHAFTESBURY, DORSET.—The ring of six, tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr., has been restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Dorset on Sunday evening, March 7th. All ringers welcome.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Sunday, March 7th, at 3 p.m., a service will be held at St. George's Church, Bolton. During the service, the Bishop of Manchester will dedicate a church memorial to the late Canon Elsee. Ringing from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., Bolton Branch.

KINGSDON, SOMERSET.—The ring of 5 (tenor 26 cwt.), rehung in a new frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells on Monday, March 8th, at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street, at 3.15 p.m., on Saturday, March 13th.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bishop's Cleeve on Saturday, March 13th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30 by kind invitation of the Rector (Rev. T. Jesson). Business meeting to follow. Please notify by the 10th.—Walter Yeend, Branch Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

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ELY ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Whittlesey, near Peterborough, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged. Please come and, until then, kindly while your time in Bob Major, Double Norwich and Cambridge Superlative and London Surprise. Book the date and *don't* be late, my friend said. Tea can only be arranged by notification March 9th latest.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Ashtree, Mill Road, Over, Cambs.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Ambrose's, Bristol, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those desiring tea kindly let me know by March 10th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Longwood, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service in the church at 4.15 p.m. Tea in the Schools at 5 o'clock at a charge of 1s. 3d. to all who send in names to Mrs. Winterbottom, 20, Thornhill Road, Longwood, by Tuesday, March 9th. Business meeting for election of officers at 6 o'clock. The recast bells of Lindley Parish Church will also be available throughout the day. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at St. Helen's Parish Church on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m., price 9d. Meeting to follow. Subscriptions due. Visitors welcome.—H. Grundy, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Chiswick, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells from 3.30. Quarterly business, etc., details later.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual dinner will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, W.C.1, on Saturday, March 13th, at 6.30 p.m., when the chair will be taken by the Master, supported by the Rev. Pat McCormick, Vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The bells of St. Olave's, Hart Street, will be available from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., St. Bride's, Fleet Street, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., and St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 5 p.m. to 5.55 p.m. Tickets (5s. 6d. each) available from Messrs. G. H. Cross, G. W. Steere, G. Gilbert, R. Heazel, G. Radley and E. J. Butler. Application for tickets with remittance should be made not later than Monday, March 8th.—J. E. Bailey, Hon. Dinner Sec., 26, Wilmot Road, Dartford, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Members and non-members welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Secretary, 35, Berwick Road, Squires Gate, Blackpool.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ashford on Easter Monday. Ringing, service, lunch, business meeting and more ringing. Keep this day free. Full particulars next week.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—The meeting arranged for Aldenham for March 13th has been postponed till April 17th.

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