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THE OFFICE AND THE BELLS

LISTENERS to the Very Rev. Michael Parker responding to the toast of Church and State at the recent Henry Johnson commemoration dinner heard the Provost propound a possibility and express a wish. The possibility was that there might be in the future some modification of the present relationship of the Church and the State, and the speaker inclined to the view that some measure of severance would not be entirely undesirable. The wish, added as a rider, was that if any new form of contract came about between Church and State the bells would still remain with the religious body.

Both these statements, the possibility and the wish, are worthy of careful attention. The Very Rev. Michael Parker speaks thoughtfully and with authority, and it doubtless comes as a surprise to most ringers to find so high a dignitary of the Church prepared to consider any degree of the unsanctifying of the State. It leads one to recall that last year the Rev. Canon Guy Warman gave as his opinion (unless we misunderstood his words) that the ideal partnership lay in the State managing its own affairs and the Church attending to its own business. Both these eminent clerics were doubtless confining their considerations to the Established Church, but the ordinary layman will, if he has sincere views on this matter, think in terms of the Christian community as a whole, and will wish for the State, in all its works and all its decisions, to be dominated to a far greater degree by the influence of Christian principles.

For the Sunday service ringer the Provost's added wish may provide even more food for thought. They are strange words, and disturbing, not perhaps because they indicate the likelihood of any detachment of our bells from their sacred office, but rather for the suggestion they provide of the sense of detachment with which some of our clergy regard their bells and their ringers. With the highest regard for the integrity and authority of our leaders in the Church, and with the greatest deference to their experience and views, it may yet be permissible to suggest that there are priests who have not considered fully why their bells ring out for services and what exactly is the significance of the ringing period.

Every Sunday service ringer who takes his responsibilities seriously knows that there is the incumbent who is entirely indifferent to his bells and their function, and that there is the parish priest who pays a kind of lip service to his ringers, but who, in his heart, regards the ringing as something apart, something to be 'fitted in, if possible,' an activity that sounds well before a service and provides harmless pleasure for a number of well-meaning men and women. The earnest ringer knows, too, that there is the incumbent who may, perhaps, be called the spiritually perceptive, who looks upon every activity of his church as contributing to the worship of God. This man calls his ringers Office Bearers in the Church.

And, it must be said, every priest of discernment knows that there are ringers entirely indifferent to the significance of their church bell ringing, and that there are those to whom the Sunday service ringing is just another occasion for enjoying the pleasure of ringing or even an opportunity for practice. The earnest incumbent knows, too, that there are ringers who take a very high view of their responsibilities. These men know that they are Office Bearers in the Church and need no reminding of the fact.

Differing views may doubtless be expressed as to the value and significance of the Sunday service ringing, but surely the highest and noblest way of regarding it is as a part of the church service, a great prelude of annunciation and praise, carefully planned and timed so that it may take its part with all the other musical offerings of the worshipping congregation. Such a consideration as this forces upon the service ringer serious responsibilities in respect of the quality of his offering, just as it provides a choir with inescapable obligations in the standard of its music. It must of necessity bring before the ringer more clearly his duty in attending at the congregational worship, and what is fit and proper in this respect needs careful thought.

Where the incumbent takes this high view of the ringing, and where the ringers are themselves conscious of their office, there can be no indifference, no empty patronage, no mere tolerance. And the Provost's wish is in some measure meaningless, or, at least, pointless. For the bells are dedicated to the service of God and are hallowed for their high office. Who then shall separate them from the service of God?

E. C. S.

TEN BELL PEALS

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., March 24, 1956, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 30 cwt. 2 qr. in D flat.

G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Treble	RALPH G. EDWARDS 6
JOHN PINFOLD 2	ARTHUR V. PEARSON 7
FRANK E. HAYNES 3	GEORGE E. FEARN 8
JOHN H. FIELDEN 4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 9
MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 5	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 2, 1956, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 37 cwt. 99 lb. in C.

STANLEY W. COPLING .. Treble	GEORGE SAYER 6
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 7
ARTHUR G. BASON 3	WILLIAM J. BUTTON 8
*GEORGE P. ADAMS 4	BERT GOGLE 9
ERNEST WHITING 5	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb.

LEONARD STILWELL .. Treble	BRIAN BLADON 6
KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. 2	EDWARD G. TALBOT 7
JOHN HILL 3	ROBERT COLLINS 8
DORIS E. COLGATE 4	STEWART F. W. KIMBER .. 9
JOHN L. MORRIS 5	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Leatherhead District.)

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 COBHAM SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 19 cwt. 12 lb.

GEORGE MARRINER .. Treble	*BERNARD HAWKINS 6
ALFRED H. WINCH 2	ALBERT E. CHEESMAN .. 7
*GILLIAN R. PARSONS .. 3	*EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. 8
*GORDON P. T. PETERS .. 4	ARTHUR H. SMITH 9
*ALBERT J. ADAMS 5	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Royal in the method.

Rung on the eve of Guildford Diocesan Mission Week.

LONDON, E.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN AND ALL SAINTS, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr.

JOHN CHILCOTT (1954) .. Treble	JAMES G. A. PRIOR (1952) 6
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (1951) 2	JOHN S. MASON (1956) .. 7
GEORGE W. CECIL (1947/8) 3	CYRIL J. WATTS (1955) .. 8
THOMAS G. FOX (1950) .. 4	FREDK. E. COLLINS (1953) 9
ALFRED B. PECK (1910) .. 5	JACK A. WAUGH (1949) .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. HALEY.

Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

Rung by the Master, Senior Past Master and Past Masters of the Society. The composer held the office of Master in 1873.

COBHAM SURPRISE ROYAL.

-56, 56-14-50-36-34-30-14, 14-50-14, 14-5.

2nds place at lead. 4ths place bob.

Rung at Leatherhead on April 13th, 1956. Conducted by A. Harman.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 31, 1956, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 4 lb. in F.

*ANTHONY J. BRAZIER .. Treble	JOHN THOMAS 5
JESSIE M. KIPPIN 2	†R. ROGER SAVORY 6
†ROBERT C. KIPPIN 3	†GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 7
MRS. J. THOMAS 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of London. The first peal of London on the bells. The 50th eight-bell peal in the tower.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tues., April 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5000 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp.

WILLIAM A. SMITH .. Treble	TREVOR TAYLOR 5
MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON 2	GEOFF. D. FEARNEHOUGH .. 6
HENRY KIRK 3	GRAEME A. HUGHES 7
REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM 4	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by E. H. LEWIS.

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

First peal in the method on the bells and by all except the ringer of the fourth.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*MICHAEL BROADLEY .. Treble	JESSE HARRISON 5
HARRY WINGROVE 2	WILFRED EDWARDS 6
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER .. 3	ALBERT BRIDGES 7
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER .. 4	*BRIAN EDWARDS Tenor

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* First peal.

A 16th birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Cave's Variation of Washbrook's.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

HENRY O. BAKER .. Treble	ARTHUR G. WATKIN 5
*BERNARD R. MILLWARD .. 2	DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD .. 6
PERCY SWINDLEY 3	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 7
EDWARD V. RODENHURST 4	H. STEWART BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal of Stedman.

Rung for the wedding of Miss Dorothy May Millward and Mr. Richard Drinkwater at this church on Easter Monday. The bride is the daughter of the ringer of the sixth and sister of the ringer of the second.

CONISBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. JACKSON .. Treble	ALEXANDER E. MARSH .. 5
MILTON C. FOWLER 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 6
HOWARD SCOTT 3	WILLIAM H. JACKSON .. 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

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On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in A.

H. GEORGE HART Treble	ALICK CUTLER 5
*FREDA CLAYTON 2	DAVID J. TAYLOR 6
ELSIE K. HART 3	JOSEPH Wm. COTTON 7
WILLIAM WENBAN 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* First peal of Surprise.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Peter D. Beedie and Betty Smith, which took place at this church prior to the peal. Both are members of the local band.

HURST, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Sonning Deanery Branch.)

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 14½ cwt.
JOHN FROOME Treble	MRS. B. C. CASTLE 5
WILLIAM J. PAICE 2	WALTER HUNT 6
*A. ALAN BROWN 3	HAROLD SMITH 7
MRS. H. SMITH 4	BERNARD C. CASTLE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER HUNT.

* First peal. The tenor ringer has now 'circled the tower.'

KINGSWINFORD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 10½ cwt.
*MRS. DOROTHY MORGAN .. Treble	CHARLES PEAKMAN 5
†C. FREDERICK JUKES .. 2	*FREDERICK E. JUKES .. 6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. 3	R. ARTHUR PEAKMAN .. 7
BERT MORGAN 4	DAVID GRIFFITHS Tenor

Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

* First peal at first attempt. † 25th peal.

Rung for the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Morgan, also as a birthday compliment to Mr. Charles Peakman.

USK, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CLIFFORD T. BLUNDELL .. Treble	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 5
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	DAVID J. KING 6
WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT .. 3	LESLIE EVANS 7
*GEORGE DAVIS 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

The first peal in the method on the bells.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

ARTHUR H. REED Treble	WILLIAM F. SLOCOMBE .. 5
*FRANK MATTRAVERS .. 2	GEOFFREY G. GAMMON .. 6
DAVID T. NORTH 3	†GORDON WALFORD 7
REGINALD BEALE 4	WILLIAM G. GIGG Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by REGINALD BEALE.

* First peal of Major. † 50th peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Mon., April 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5184 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

*HENRY H. FEARN Treble	JOHN PINFOLD 5
†EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. 2	†NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 6
†STELLA HUGHES 3	PETER BORDER 7
MURIEL REAY 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* 600th peal. † First peal of Pudsey.

APPLEDORE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 11, 1956, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MAISIE VANTOM Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 5
ROBERT SWIFT 2	*ROBIN HODGSON 6
OLIVE M. BOULDEN 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
JOHN R. COOPER 4	MARK W. MARSHALL .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5088 WHITWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. Treble	*PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5
MRS. P. POOLE 2	*HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 6
*HARRY POYNER 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON 7
J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal in the method

PULHAM ST. MARY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

STANLEY W. COPLING .. Treble	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	ERNEST WHITING 6
*DAVID HEIGHTON 3	GEORGE SAYER 7
ARTHUR G. BASON 4	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

In memoriam Frederick Robert Borrett, who conducted the first peal of Bristol by a band resident in the county on these bells on September 27th, 1911. Mr. Whiting rang the seventh in this peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Thurs., April 12, 1956, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

H. DAVID HOLLAND .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 5
STELLA HUGHES 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
MURIEL REAY 3	NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 7
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 12, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

*JUNE GLADMAN Treble	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 5
†ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 2	†RONALD J. SHARP 6
†ERIC SHARP 3	JOHN W. SINFIELD 7
MALCOLM G. HOOTON .. 4	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* First peal. † 75th peal on these bells. ‡ First peal of Yorkshire.

Rung as a compliment to C. Henry Harding and Miss Mary Arkinstall on their engagement.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16½ cwt. in E flat.

JOSEPH LOVATT Treble	*KEITH G. JONES 5
EDMUND J. MORRIS 2	*TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. 6
TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 4	GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by T. W. WORSLEY.

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

* First peal of Kent T.B

ALDENHAM, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

BERTIE A. CORNELL Treble	ERIC EDMONDSON 5
*MICHAEL D. FROST 2	*JOHN E. EWER 6
*FREDERICK W. ELLIS 3	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM 7
*GERALD PENNEY 4	BERTRAM C. JOHNSON .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by THOMAS J. SOUTHAM.
* First peal at first attempt.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

A Variation of Middleton's. Tenor 13 cwt.	
JOHN E. ROOTES Treble	KENNETH R. DUNSTAN 5
JOHN R. MAYNE 2	D. KAY ADKINS 6
JOAN WILCOCKSON 3	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD 7
WILLIAM WENBAN 4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY Tenor

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

F. H. Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.	
MARY C. PAYNE Treble	ERNEST J. JELLEY 5
*RICHARD E. PRIME 2	HARRY POYNER 6
JOHN M. JELLEY 3	PETER J. STANFORTH 7
*JEAN M. BROOKS 4	†BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY POYNER.

* First peal of Stedman. † 300th peal on tower bells. First peal of Stedman as conductor.

MICKLETON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E.

KILBY R. HOLTOM Treble	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5
JOHN THOMAS 2	DONALD H. NIBLETT 6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE 7
*DAPHNE R. CASTELL 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal of Yorkshire. The first peal of Major on the bells.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.	
G. KING Treble	R. E. LAMBERT 5
W. GORRINGE 2	S. PONTING 6
*E. AVERY 3	W. KITCHENSIDE 7
F. LAMBERT 4	J. POWELL Tenor

Conducted by W. GORRINGE.

* First peal on an 'inside' bell. The ringer of the treble has 'completed the circle' at this tower.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Brenda, daughter of the ringer of the third.

SHERFIELD-ENGLISH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in A flat.

*ROBERT C. KIPPIN Treble	MAURICE J. BUTLER 5
†MICHAEL J. THOMAS 2	ADRIAN J. TUMBER 6
NELIA M. LEAHY 3	PETER NASH 7
JESSIE M. KIPPIN 4	J. MICHAEL LAKIN .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by ROBERT C. KIPPIN.

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

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the second.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

ASH, MARTOCK, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire with 14 different callings. Tenor 6 cwt.

WILLIAM E. TURNER .. Treble	E. T. PAUL FIELD 4
*PERCY COX 2	*H. E. GEORGE JEANES .. 5
*SIDNEY W. WHITE 3	ARTHUR J. CALLOW .. Tenor

Conducted by E. T. PAUL FIELD.

* First peal in two Doubles.

Rung (by special request of the Vicar) as a compliment to Mrs. Keziah Jacobs, who celebrated her 90th birthday on the previous day.

SUTTON-IN-THE-ISLE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 31, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. in E.

DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. Treble	LESLIE LIGHTFOOT 4
GEORGE A. WALKER 2	GEOFFREY A. LUCAS 5
STANLEY SHIPP 3	ARTHUR YARROW Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

CLAPHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 2, 1956, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods, viz.: (1) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, (2) Kent Treble Bob, (3) Oxford Treble Bob, (4) St. Clement's and Double Oxford Bob, (5) Single Oxford and Plain Bob, (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 5½ cwt.

ROY A. WARD Treble	MALCOLM G. HOOTON 4
PETER J. SHIPTON 2	*AIDAN BUTCHER 5
JAMES R. TAYLOR 3	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal. 25th peal as conductor.

NORTH CREAKE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 2, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

ROY OWEN Treble	ROBERT ALLCOCK 4
SAMUEL H. WATERFIELD .. 2	TONY OWEN 5
GEORGE GREEVES 3	GEOFFREY R. DREW .. Tenor

Conducted by TONY OWEN.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 4, 1956, in 2 Hours and 18 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DISLEY DELIGHT MINOR

Being four extents and a 2,160. Tenor 8½ cwt.

MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON Treble	*TREVOR TAYLOR 4
BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE 2	*GEOFF. D. FEARNEHOUGH 5
*GRAEME A. HUGHES 3	WILLIAM A. SMITH .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. SMITH.

* First peal of Treble Bob Minor. The first peal in the method by all and for the Guild.

CASTLE ACRE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent T.B., two extents of St. Clement's Bob, three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

SAMUEL H. WATERFIELD .. Treble	*ALAN A. COOKE 4
GEORGE GREEVES 2	GEOFFREY R. DREW 5
TONY OWEN 3	GEORGE A. COOKE .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. COOKE.

* First peal 'inside.'

Rung as a farewell to Geoffrey R. Drew, who is leaving on April 9th for service in the R.A.F.

COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor 7½ cwt.

SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD .. Treble	MARGARET BARKER 4
MARGARET S. RHODES 2	D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 5
J. MARTIN THORLEY 3	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.

HULME, MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Manchester Branch.)

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents in 18 methods: (1) Wragby, Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (2) Willesden, College Bob IV, Old Oxford and Newdigate Delight; (3) Oxford, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal and Capel Treble Bob; (4) College Exercise, Norbury, Duke of Norfolk and Ockley Treble Bob; (5) Oxford Treble Bob; (6) and (7) Kent Treble Bob. Thirty changes of method. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*DEREK YATES Treble	†GEOFF. D. FEARNEHOUGH 4
†DEREK TAYLOR 2	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. 5
†TREVOR TAYLOR 3	WILLIAM A. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal. † First peal in 18 spliced Minor methods. First peal in 18 methods as conductor. The most Minor methods yet rung to a peal for the Association.

PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings) Tenor 10 cwt.

CLIVE L. PROSSER Treble	CHARLES PHILLIPS 4
LESLIE H. COLCOMBE 2	REGINALD G. POWELL .. 5
TRACEY H. YOUNG 3	PERCY H. YOUNG Tenor

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

The first peal on the bells after being restored by John Taylor and Co.

GOODWORTH CLATFORD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in ten methods, viz.: (1) London Surprise, (2) Beverley and Surfleet Surprise, (3) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (4) Cambridge Surprise, (5) Double Oxford and St. Clement's, (6) Double Court, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

MAURICE J. DODD Treble	*PETER NASH 4
REGINALD W. REX 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD 5
ADRIAN J. TUMBER 3	J. MICHAEL LAKIN Tenor

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

* 50th peal. First peal in ten methods by all except the ringer of the second, and the most methods yet rung to a peal of Minor for the Guild.

PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*PETER F. WINDLEY Treble	LESLIE EVANS 4
*MOLLIE TILBURY 2	*ARTHUR W. DAVIS 5
AUSTIN T. WINGATE 3	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal in seven methods. The first peal of Minor on the bells.

SILSOE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(St. James' Guild.)

On Mon., April 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in B.

*ANN CULPIN Treble	PETER J. LAWTON 4
ROY A. WARD 2	DESMOND R. BRAZIER .. 5
THOMAS P. HARRIS 3	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

* First peal of Minor. This is the quickest peal yet rung for the Association on tower bells, and it was rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Benton, who was inducted the previous day.



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CROYDON



HOPE BOWDLER, SALOP.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., April 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.
 PETER F. WINDLEY Treble | *JOHN J. G. ELLAMS 4
 F. ERIC ROBERTS 2 | †LESLIE EVANS 5
 MOLLIE TILBURY 3 | WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Minor in four methods. † 300th peal for the Guild.
 The first peal in four methods on the bells.

BLUNHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of London, Wells, Durham, York, Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 20 cwt., approx.

BRYAN S. COPE Treble | BRYAN PATTISON 4
 STEPHEN IVIN 2 | DEREK P. JONES 5
 JOHN W. SINFIELD 3 | PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

This peal was specially arranged as a compliment to C. H. Harding and Miss Mary Arkinstall on their engagement.

KIRBY BELLARS, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In ten methods, being four extents each of Stedman, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place Bob, Plain Bob, St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's Bob, and six of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in F sharp.

ERNEST J. JELLEY Treble | †ALFRED E. HINMAN 3
 *BRIAN G. WARWICK 2 | BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 4

JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor
 Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* 400th peal. † First peal in ten methods.

PACKINGTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY ROOD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, called differently. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 lb. in B flat.

JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. Treble | FRANCIS R. LOWE 4
 *J. CHRISTOPHER RIGG .. 2 | JOSEPH W. COTTON 5
 ALAN G. FOSTER 3 | WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH W. COTTON.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.'

QUENIBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
 (Syston District.)

On Sat., April 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents of Stedman and eight each of St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's Bob, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*CHARLES LOWE Treble | ROYSTON WILMORE 3
 ERNEST F. PAYNE 2 | GEOFFREY J. LOWE 4

B. STEDMAN PAYNE Tenor

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

* First peal of Doubles.

The band are all tower captains of this district. This is the first peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 8, 1956, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes,
AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor size 15 in C.
 BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | MRS. B. G. WARWICK 3—4
 ERNEST MORRIS 5—6

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT 3, COLLEGE ROAD, W.13,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 16 in B.

*JOHN E. CHILCOTT 1—2 | WILLIAM T. COOK 5—6
 R. JAMES COOK 3—4 | ALAN F. THIRST 7—8
 Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.
 * First handbell peal.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 18 in G.

BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | MRS. B. G. WARWICK 5—6
 HARRY POYNER 3—4 | JOHN A. ACRES 7—8
 JOHN M. JELLEY 9—10

Composed by E. J. LINDLEY. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
 A birthday compliment to Mr. W. Poyner.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., April 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH.

A PEAL OF 5077 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 1—2 | PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5—6
 ALFRED BALLARD 3—4 | HARRY POYNER 7—8
 JOHN A. ACRES 9—10

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.
 Rung as a 79th birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of 3-4.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 1 Minute,
IN ST. MARGARET'S SELECT VESTRY HALL.

A PEAL OF 5016 SPLICED PLAIN MAJOR

In five methods, consisting of 2,256 Plain Bob, 984 Little Bob, 816 Double Bob, 816 Reverse Bob and 144 Gainsborough Little Bob, with 294 changes of method. Tenor size 14 in D.

BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | JOHN A. ACRES 5—6
 ERNEST MORRIS 3—4 | MRS. B. G. WARWICK 7—8
 Composed by F. N. GOLDEN. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
 First peal in five Major methods 'in hand' by all and for the Guild.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 11, 1956, in 1 Hour and 54 Minutes,
AT 24, DOYLE AVENUE, HILSEA,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods, being one extent each of Reverse Bob, Double Bob, Single Court and Single Oxford Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor size 7 in D.

S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 1—2 | ROBIN G. LEALE 3—4
 ROGER BALDWIN 5—6
 Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

First peal in five methods by all the band.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., April 12, 1956, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S BELFRY.

A PEAL OF 5016 SPLICED ROYAL

In three methods, consisting of 1,056 Little Bob, 2,640 Plain Bob and 1,320 Double Bob, with 264 changes of method. Tenor size 17 in A.

BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | *JOHN A. ACRES 5—6
 *HARRY POYNER 3—4 | *ERNEST MORRIS 7—8
 *MRS. B. G. WARWICK 9—10

Composed by F. N. GOLDEN. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
 * First peal of Spliced Royal. First peal of Spliced Royal as conductor. First peal of Spliced Royal in three methods and 'in hand' for the Guild.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 15, 1956, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,
AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 18 in G.

*BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | JOHN A. ACRES 5—6
 †MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 3—4 | ERNEST MORRIS 7—8
 JOHN M. JELLEY 9—10

Composed by E. J. LINDLEY. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
 * 100th peal 'in hand.' † 300th peal.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD**Dorchester Branch at Upwey**

The valley of the River Wey echoed to the sound of the six bells of the ancient Church of St. Lawrence when the Dorchester Branch held their spring meeting at Upwey on April 14th. The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. S. Bryant), who gave the Branch a hearty welcome.

The lesson was read by the Rev. Canon A. Wilkinson Markby, chairman of the Branch.

An excellent tea was partaken at the Clovelly Tea Rooms, and the business meeting which followed was conducted by the chairman, supported by the vice-chairman, the Rev. S. P. Rowcroft (Abbotsbury) and the Rev. A. S. Bryant.

The date of the June meeting at Milton Abbey was left to the decision of the secretary in consultation with the Vicar. It was decided to hold the next Branch practice at St. Peter's, Dorchester, on April 21st.

A belfry nomination of Mr. H. Jeanes as a non-resident life member was ratified. An appeal on behalf of the Restoration Fund for Bow Bells was considered and, after discussion, it was agreed that the matter should be put forward at the Guild Festival to be held at Sherborne Abbey on May 12th.

The Rev. A. S. Bryant stated that in the Upwey Church records it was noted that in 1666 the people of Upwey had contributed no less than £700 to the restoration of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The chairman thanked the Rector for his wonderful address, and, in reply, Mr. Bryant said it was a real joy to hold a ringers' meeting.

J. H. H.

A NORFOLK WEDDING

At Ashill, on Easter Monday, a member of the Caston company, Mr. Alfred Shingfield, sixth son of Mrs. and the late Mr. L. Shingfield, of Caston, was married to Miss Sylvia Stebbings, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Stebbings, of Ashill. The ceremony was performed by the Rector (the Rev. E. J. Toase), and Mr. E. W. Smith was the organist.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a satin dress with full-length veil and orange blossom headdress, and carried a bouquet of red carnations and trailing fern. There were seven bridesmaids, five of them sisters of the bride. All wore spring-coloured dresses of different shades. Mr. R. Shingfield, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

Ringing was carried out by Messrs. T. A. Potter, J. Potter, G. Grix, R. C. Button, W. M. Mann, C. E. G. Banham, S. H. Waterfield and Dr. P. H. A. Jonason, all of whom afterwards attended the reception. The couple are making their home at Norwich Road, Carbrooke.

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

There was a strong gathering of members at the monthly meeting of the Society at South Anston on April 7th. A variety of methods rung during the afternoon included touches of Little Bob, Stedman and Grandsire. A course of London Major by the 'experts' was quite the best ringing of the day.

A meat tea was served in a nearby chapel, and in the absence of the secretary no business meeting was held. Further ringing took place in the tower covering many methods, outstanding of which were Duffield, Cambridge, Superlative and Yorkshire.

J. E. T.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION**Renewed Activity at Epping**

There was almost a record attendance when the South-Western Division held its quarterly meeting at Loughton on April 7th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. and was followed by a service conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Mr. Ottaway). About 70 ringers sat down to an excellent tea in the adjoining Church Hall.

At the business meeting, which followed tea, the chair was taken by Mr. John Crampion. Silent tribute was paid to the memory of two members who had passed on since the last meeting. These were Mr. Goodwin, of Havering, who had been a ringer for over 50 years, and Mr. Theobald, of Leytonstone, a member of the 'old time' band at that church, and ringer of 189 peals.

Mr. Chalk told the meeting that he had recently paid a visit to Epping and was pleased to report a renewal of activity there under the leadership of Mr. Statham. Eleven new ringing members were elected from this tower, and the Vicar of Epping was made an honorary member. Three honorary members were elected from Loughton, one full ringing member and two probationary members. There were two new ringing members from Wanstead, and one new member from Woodford was confirmed. Three new ringing members from Rayleigh completed the picture.

Mr. Gant announced that the annual dinner of the Essex Association would be held at the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, on October 6th.

After Mr. Chalk had paid tribute to the work of Mr. Last at Wanstead, Mr. Gant thanked the Rector and the local ringers and their wives for the efficient arrangements made.

J. E. H.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICES: c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers..

HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A. BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford, Kent. Telephone: Bexleyheath 8689.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 16, Comeragh Road, West Kensington, London, W.14. Telephone: Fulham 4935.

FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Unfortunately, owing to the loosening of the pins which secured the counter-balance to the clapper of the ninth causing the bell to cease to strike, the peal attempt for Stedman Caters at Worcester Cathedral on April 7th was lost after 3½ hours' ringing. The attempt was in honour of the appointment of the Rt. Rev. L. M. Charles-Edwards as Bishop of Worcester. Afterwards the ringers were entertained to tea in Church House, where Bishop Charles-Edwards expressed his appreciation of the ringing and sympathised with the band in their loss when in sight of the end. The band consisted of G. J. Hemming 1, R. G. Morris 2, S. T. Holt (cond.) 3, D. R. Morris 4, A. Morgan 5, E. F. Cubberley 6, G. C. Hemming 7, D. Beacham 8, R. Woodyatt 9, T. W. Lewis 10.

Friends of Mr. G. S. Morris, of Lyme Regis, will be glad to hear that he is recovering after an operation for hernia on April 14th, but will not be ringing for five or six weeks.

'In reply to Mr. Brian T. Hale, the six bells of Holy Trinity, Lane End, are all by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, 1878.'—Walter Avery, Lane End, High Wycombe.

In three consecutive peals Mr. B. G. Warwick rang his 300th tower-bell peal (Stedman Triples at All Saints', Leicester, on April 14th), 400th peal (ten Doubles at Kirby Bellars the same day) and 100th handbell peal (Plain Bob Royal on April 15th).

On April 14th a number of Mid-Devon Branch members visited Highweek Parish Church, Newton Abbot, where a good afternoon's instruction was given to four members of the Buckfast Abbey ringers. A sumptuous tea was afterwards much enjoyed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lilley, and the remainder of the time was spent with handbells.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The second edition of Dove's 'Bellringers' Guide to the Church Bells of Britain' has now been published. There are no fewer than 2,000 amendments and two new appendices—post-war losses and transfers of ringing peals. In addition, the binding has been improved. A review of this valuable guide to every keen ringer will appear in an early issue.

The peal at Measham (p. 227) was rung for the Midland Counties Guild (not Association).

Mr. Cecil V. Ebberson, of Snettisham, conveys through 'The Ringing World' his best wishes to his old friend Mr. Frank Bennett.

Toddington (Glos) bells—a ring of six—have recently been rehung, and were rung for the first time at Easter. It is hoped that the Cheltenham Branch will be holding a meeting there in the very near future.

The peal at Queniborough, Leicestershire, was the first for 23 years for Charles Lowe, the tower captain. The band would like to thank the Vicar, himself a ringer, for saying a prayer in the belfry before the attempt and entertaining them to tea afterwards.

The first peal attempt on the new bells at Wragby, Yorks, on Easter Monday came to grief during the third extent. A quarter peal of Treble Bob Minor was, however, scored. Afterwards it was learnt that Mr. H. Chan and Mr. D. Smith, two noted peal ringers, had not rung a quarter peal since the war.

The bells of York Minster were heard yesterday afternoon prior to the broadcast in the Home Service of the enthronement of the new Archbishop. On Sunday, May 6th, in the North Home Service, there will be a broadcast of the bells of Beverley Minster previous to the 9.30 a.m. service.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

THE annual general meeting was held at Bishop's Stortford on April 7th and was attended by well over 100 members and friends from all parts of the county. The question of transport to this outpost on the Essex border was solved by three of the District secretaries organising coach parties, and so support was ensured from the outset.

The day's proceedings commenced with ringing at Little Hadham (5), Braughing (8), Standon (6) and Much Hadham (8), and this provided quite a ringing tour for the coach and car parties.

After an excellent lunch at Bishop's Stortford off went the coaches, etc., to Thorley (6) and Sawbridgeworth (8, tenor 25 cwt.) and then returned to St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford (10, tenor 18 cwt.) for further ringing.

The annual service was conducted by the Vicar, who gave the address. The lesson was read by the president (Mr. C. W. Woolley), a course of Bob Major was rung on handbells by four officers, and a collection was taken for the Voluntary Bell Fund.

After tea, at which the Vicar presided, the president welcomed the visitors (especially Mr. R. Heazel, Master of the Essex Association), and in one of the best addresses ever heard at an annual meeting observed that, although this meeting showed increased interest, it could only be regarded as a success if the members continued to attend the annual meetings wherever they may be held in future years. He referred to the financial crisis through which the Association has safely passed, and urged the members to take an active interest in its affairs and not be content to leave everything to the officers and committee.

The list of members who had unfortunately passed away since the last annual meeting was read, and the members present stood for a moment in silent memory of George Hughes (Stanmore), W. Howard, A. E. Halsey, W. H. L. Buckingham, J. C. Mitchell (St. Albans), W. Stanley (Stevenage), A. Bray (Baldock), F. Warrington (Cambs) and C. C. Mayne (Harrow Weald).

Arising from the minutes, a letter from the Central Council secretary concerning peals in irregular methods was brought to the notice of the Association. The Rev. M. G. Bryant (Northaw) and Miss S. Haslam (Much Hadham) were elected members, Messrs. L. T. Hansell and W. Little, of St. Albans Cathedral, were re-elected, Mr. F. J. Cullum (Erith) and Miss A. Gladwell (Reading) were elected non-resident members.

The annual report of the General Committee was read by the general secretary (Mr. H. V. Frost) and was adopted on the proposition of Mr. W. Ayre, who also paid tribute to the work of Mr. T. J. Southam and Mr. G. Dodds.

AN ENCOURAGING REPORT

The report stated that the ringing membership had increased by 50 members, many being young ringers. The District secretaries deserved most of the credit for maintaining and increasing interest as well as raising the funds of the Association towards the target of a sound financial position.

Restoration work at Elstree had also been carried out, the six bells had been recast and rehung, while the bells at Kimpton, Knebworth and St. Stephen's, St. Albans, were to be rehung in the near future.

Peal ringing, on the whole, had maintained its usual level, which was most encouraging in view of the statement in 'The Ringing World' that there was a drop in peal ringing throughout the country. The three peal books were now complete with all peals entered up to the end of 1954, and Mrs. J. Dodds, who had accomplished in one year the monumental work of correcting, inserting and completing upwards of 450 peals, had rightly earned their grateful

thanks for her work. The register of compositions had been taken over by Miss P. Martin, who had entered a vast number of figures which had been audited by Mr. H. Cashmore.

Financially the Association was now free from debt, the generous interest-free loan of £150 made in 1952 had been entirely repaid, and thanks were due to all concerned for all they had done.

The accounts were presented by the hon. treasurer (Mr. G. W. Debenham) and showed an excess of income over expenditure of £17 8s. 5d. on the year. Cash at bank, £201 17s. 11d. Reserve Fund, £66 5s. 9d. The Benevolent Fund stood at £22 12s. 1d. with £65 12s. 8d. on deposit. The Voluntary Bell Fund balance was £46 19s. 3d. The accounts were adopted.

It was decided to grant five guineas each to the Kimpton, Knebworth and King's Langley Bell Funds from the Voluntary Bell Fund, and two guineas to the Bow Bells Appeal from the General Fund.

It was decided to appoint a peal secretary and make the necessary alteration in Rule 5 to allow this appointment.

In the election of officers Mr. W. T. Holmes, of Hatfield, was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year; the other officers were re-elected and the new peal secretary is Mr. B. C. Johnson, of St. Albans.

The proposition from the Watford District regarding the position of Stanmore band (Middlesex) was discussed, and it was agreed to allow them the same privilege as resident members.

On the proposition of Mr. W. D. Foote it was agreed to transfer Northaw tower from the St. Albans District to the Eastern District.

The forthcoming joint summer festival meeting with the Bedfordshire Association at St. Albans on June 16th was mentioned by the general secretary, who gave details of some of the arrangements and asked for the full support of the members.

Mr. W. Ayre proposed a vote of thanks to all who had in any way assisted with the arrangements of the meeting.

Mr. R. Heazel replied on behalf of the visitors, and members adjourned to the tower for further ringing on the excellent ring of ten bells.

H. V. F.



Next Thursday is the 80th birthday of 'the Grand Old Man' of Birmingham, Mr. Albert Walker. He still enjoys a peal and called one of his favourite methods, Stedman Cinques, as recently as March 3rd at Wolverhampton. 'A happy birthday, Albert,' is the sincere wish of the whole Exercise, and especially his friends of the St. Martin's Guild and the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Bells will be heard before the broadcast Rogation Service on Sunday, May 6th, from Appledore Parish Church, Devon, and before the service from Wincanton Parish Church, Somerset, on Sunday, May 27th. (Both services broadcast from 9.30 to 10.15 a.m. in the West Home Service only.)

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THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Mr. W. A. Wood's Long Service Appreciated

THE annual meeting of the Leicester Diocesan Guild was held in Leicester on Saturday, April 7th.

During the afternoon the bells of St. Margaret's, St. John's and the Cathedral were rung to a variety of methods.

At 4.30 p.m. a service was held in the Cathedral conducted by the Rev. F. W. Pratt, chaplain of the Cathedral and priest-in-charge of St. John's. The Ven. W. J. Lyon, Archdeacon Emeritus of Loughborough, read the lesson, and the sermon was preached by the Provost, the Very Rev. M. Armstrong. He welcomed the Guild to the Cathedral and said that it was the first time he had had an opportunity of preaching at the annual service. He regretted that neither he nor the Rev. F. W. Pratt would be able to be present at the meeting.

Following the service tea was served in St. John's Schoolroom for the 130 ringers and wives who had sent their names in by the required date. This was necessary owing to the limited accommodation available. Because of this few visitors were present.

At the business meeting, held after tea, the Ven. W. J. Lyon took the chair. He was supported by Messrs. P. L. Taylor and E. C. Turner (vice-presidents), Mr. W. A. Wood (general hon. secretary) and Mr. W. S. Burton (peal secretary).

Opening the meeting, Archdeacon Lyon said how happy he was to be back among the ringers of the Diocese. As Rector of Loughborough he was always pleased to welcome ringers to the Parish Church.

Arising from the minutes of the previous annual meeting the chairman noted how frequently the name of Mr. H. J. Poole occurred in the minutes. He thought that this was a convenient time to take note of his tragic death. He worked for the Guild and made it what it was. In his opinion there was not a more enthusiastic ringer in the Diocese. He knew him personally, as he often came to ring at Loughborough. The Guild had lost a most valued member. The chairman then asked the meeting to stand in Mr. H. J. Poole's memory.

TOTAL BALANCE £334

Mr. A. E. Rowley, hon. treasurer, presented the balance sheet. He said that for the first time in the history of the Guild he had to present the accounts without being audited, but due to circumstances beyond his control he had not been able to complete the balance sheet until the previous evening.

Although expenditure exceeded income by £36 5s. 7d. during the year, there was a balance of £93 16s. 1d. in the General Fund. A grant of £21 had been made to Queniborough from the Bell Repair Fund, which left a balance of £176 18s. 7d. There was also a balance of £63 14s. 7d. in the Catering Reserve Fund. The total balance in hand was, therefore, £334 9s. 3d.

The report was adopted, subject to audit, on the proposition of Mr. E. Rawson, seconded by Mr. J. H. Cook. Thanks were expressed to the hon. treasurer for his work.

Mr. K. Roe commented on the fact that each year it was necessary to draw from the reserve to meet current expenditure. He wondered whether the subscription should be raised.

The hon. treasurer replied that the matter would be considered by the General Committee.

27 FIRST PEALERS

Mr. S. Burton, hon. peal secretary, in his report, said that 168 peals had been rung in 1955 compared with 197 in 1954. He thought that the drop in numbers was due to the loss of the president. Nevertheless the Leicester Diocesan Guild rang more peals than any other Guild or Association during 1955. There were 27 people who had rung their first peal, three people had conducted their first peal. The conducting was shared by 36 people, which was a healthy sign.

New methods rung for the first time were Bristol Alliance Major, Humberstone-Delight Major, Arnesby Surprise Major, Bruntingthorpe Surprise Major, Countesthorpe Surprise Major, Donisthorpe Surprise Major, Edmondthorpe Surprise Major and Woodstock Surprise Major.

Mr. C. Harrison, in proposing the adoption of the report, said that the peal secretary should receive the grateful thanks of the Guild for all the work he did. It was seconded by Mr. P. J. Staniforth and carried unanimously.

LAPSED MEMBERSHIP PROBLEM

The hon. general secretary's report was presented by Mr. W. A. Wood. He said that all Districts generally had reported a favourable year. There had been improved attendances at meetings, some progress in ringing and increased social activities. District officers would, however, welcome more support at some monthly meetings. The wastage of members had not yet been checked. To date a total of just over 1,200 new and non-resident members had been received into the Guild. (For 1955 the figures are 89 new and 20 non-resident.) During the year 578 subscriptions were received, 48 of these being from junior members. It would seem that it is too easy to become a member and that too low a value was then placed on Guild membership.

For the last six months of the year the presidential duties had been carried out by the two vice-presidents working together and sharing the duties of chairman at the General Committee and the quarterly meetings. They had been mainly responsible for working out the arrangements for the facilities necessary for the Central Council meeting on Whit Tuesday. Ringing arrangements were being made by Mr. S. Burton, hon. peal secretary.

Mr. Wood then expressed the thanks of the Guild to the clergy for their co-operation, to the many helpers who arrange teas at the meetings and to the District secretaries for their work during the year.

In conclusion Mr. Wood said that largely due to the devoted work of the late president, there is in the Leicester Diocesan one of the leading Guilds in the country. He hoped it would be kept so.

BALLOT FOR NEW PRESIDENT

There were three nominations for president, Mr. P. A. Corby, Mr. P. L. Taylor and Mr.

E. C. Turner. Voting was by ballot, Mr. F. Roe and Mr. F. J. Williams (both of whom have been transferred to the non-resident list of members) acted as tellers.

The chairman announced the result of the ballot as follows:—Mr. P. L. Taylor 48 votes, Mr. E. C. Turner 44, and Mr. P. A. Corby 15.

Archdeacon Lyon, in handing over, congratulated the Leicester Diocesan Guild on electing Mr. Taylor as president.

Mr. Taylor, on taking the chair, thanked all for their confidence. He would do his best and hoped the Guild would go from strength to strength. It was up to them all to keep the Leicester Diocesan Guild on top.

Other officers elected were: Mr. P. A. Corby and Mr. E. C. Turner, vice-presidents; Mr. A. E. Rowley, hon. treasurer; Mr. S. Burton, hon. peal secretary; Mr. B. G. Warwick, hon. general secretary.

The chairman said he was pleased to welcome Mr. B. G. Warwick as the new hon. general secretary, and expressed his thanks to Mr. W. A. Wood for all that he had done.

24 YEARS' UNBROKEN SERVICE

The hon. treasurer, Mr. A. E. Rowley, then paid tribute to the work Mr. Wood had done. They had been in office together since 1932. Then Mr. Rowley was elected secretary of the Hinckley District with Mr. Wood as chairman. When Mr. Rowley moved to Ibstock, Mr. Wood then took his place as secretary, which he held until 1948, when he became hon. general secretary of the Guild. 'Thus,' said Mr. Rowley, 'Mr. Wood has given 24 years' unbroken service to the Guild.'

Mr. Rowley then presented Mr. Wood with a wrist watch, which had been subscribed by all members of the Guild. Mr. Wood replied, thanking members very much for their gift.

Mr. E. C. Turner, vice-president, said that the tribute should be paid to the secretary's wife, who had always helped in whatever way possible. Taken completely by surprise, she was presented with a bouquet by Miss Nancy Marklew. On behalf of his wife Mr. Wood suitably replied.

Following this pleasant interlude, the chairman stated that as Mr. B. G. Warwick was now ineligible to act as auditor a new one would have to be elected. Mr. G. Newton proposed, and Mr. J. H. Cook seconded, that Mr. W. J. Root act as auditor. This was carried unanimously.

The election of 12 new ringing members was duly confirmed.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bottesford on July 21st.

The chairman and peal secretary then outlined arrangements for the Central Council meeting on Whit Tuesday. Full details were being published in 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. E. C. Turner paid tribute to the hard work done by Mr. P. L. Taylor during recent months. Many people had worked very hard and he wondered how one man managed. He was very pleased to welcome Mr. P. A. Corby as vice-president. He had done good work in the Melton District. Mr. Turner concluded by asking all members to give their support to the general officers and to Mr. P. L. Taylor in particular.

In closing the meeting the president thanked Mr. S. Harrison for arranging the tea and meeting in St. John's schoolroom. B. G. W.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE BELLS

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed once again to trespass on your valuable space concerning the above? The accusation of Mr. W. Birmingham that I have staked a claim on the above ring cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged. Were I to write to one of our leading Pool promoters saying that as they seemed to have a large surplus of money to throw around, and I was in a position to use a large sum, would that be regarded by them as making a claim? No! However, had I the maximum number of points on their Treble Chance Pool and despatched a hurried telegram to say so, it would be regarded as such!

Bearing this in mind, the majority of your readers will, I think, have sufficient common-sense to differentiate between a suggestion and a claim. I could have suggested that they be transferred to the rugged and massive tower of Christ Church, Spitalfields, which would accommodate them all on one level. Would I like to see Spitalfields bells deposited to make room for them? Not on your life!

My chief object in writing was to point out that if the Institute bells were looking for a home, Bow is looking for a ring of bells, and is quite capable of carrying the weight of metal! I had the privilege and pleasure of first ringing at the Institute on the occasion in May, 1935, of the Silver Jubilee of King George V. and Queen Mary. We rang two excellent touches of Stedman Caters, and one ringer, whom I had never met before, and was addressed by the others as 'Taff,' afterwards invited me to go for a drink! Another asked me to take part in an attempt for a peal of Cinques at Southwark Cathedral that evening. This I regretfully had to decline as I had been awake since 4 a.m. Strange treatment indeed for one who had invaded what Mr. Birmingham alleges to be a closed shop!

The bells of St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey or the Institute are not the playthings of the Exercise. Tradition demands that they be manned by ringers who are safe for all practical purposes and that the striking shall be as near perfection as the varying conditions in each tower will permit. If a closed shop means the exclusion of poor strikers, bad handlers and stay bashers, then I am sure there is no need for any justification of it on my part!

Concerning paid ringing, may I put forward a point apparently overlooked by Mr. Birmingham? Those who ring at these towers have to travel many miles to do so. Does he not realise that in some cases the cost of transport would be in excess of the fee paid? When ringers ring for special occasions, should the travelling expenses fall on their own pockets all the time? I may be wrong, but at least I don't think so.

Getting back to the Institute ring. For the past 25 years I have owned a copy of 'History and Art of Change Ringing,' so am as well informed on these as Mr. Birmingham or Mr. Caple. In the event of the removal of the bells it would, of course be the prerogative of Her Majesty to say what was to happen to them, and whatever we, as ringers felt, we, as her loyal subjects, could not complain if she chose to consign them to the scrap heap! Were they to go to Bow they would lose their identity as the 'Institute' ring and become Bow Bells, even though they had not been cast for the purpose. A service of dedication in Bow Church would make them so. Do the people of Eastington, Glos, still speak of 'those bells from Frocester,' or the people of Acomb, Yorks, still refer to 'those bells from Bishops-hill'? No! They have become the voice of the towers in which they hang.

Assuming that the Institute ring were taken to Windsor and replaced what Mr. Birmingham calls the 'tuneless old bells' of the Curfew Tower, would they be accepted as part of the furniture or be referred to as 'those bells from Kensington'? Of course, that would be a different story. In so far as he advocates the removal of a grand London ring to a tower close to his own home Mr. Birmingham has made it clear to all that he has an axe to grind! I only hope I have succeeded in making it plain to all that I haven't!

WILLIAM A. STOTE.

Coventry.

THE RIGHTS OF THE VISITING RINGER

Dear Sir,—The query raised by your correspondent, Mr. Spavins, and which I have heard voiced elsewhere, seems to have a spiteful air.

Surely we have sufficient reason to subscribe to the Bow Bells Fund, to restore a national heritage destroyed by enemy action, without asking that our subscription should entitle us to ring on the rehung bells.

But, the Bow Bells fund aside, why should any ringer, even if of sufficient ability, be allowed to ring at any tower, as your correspondent, Mr. Birmingham, suggests? Surely this is a matter for the resident band to decide, and they can hardly be blamed if they will not allow a perfect stranger with no credentials whatsoever to take a rope for Sunday service ringing.

It would be a pity indeed if the fellowship of ringers were to be curtailed, but on the other hand this freedom which we enjoy should not be abused and hospitality taken for granted.

—Yours sincerely,

P. H. WHITAKER.

Spendon, Derbys.

RINGING MEETINGS

Dear Sir,—In connection with the correspondence under the above heading the following may be of interest.

At the annual gathering of a very important section of ringers it was—and still is—the practice of members to visit various towers in the district during their stay. Upon this occasion a considerable number of well-known ringers from all over the country visited a tower which had the reputation of having a very nice eight. The local band turned up to welcome their visitors and with some curiosity as to what sort of people they were who were only known to them by reports from time to time in 'The Ringing World.' The occasion was rather overwhelming—for the locals. The visitors soon took charge of the proceedings with the locals taking a back seat, not being up to the standard of the Surprise methods that were set going.

After a time one of the locals felt that he would like to take some part in the proceedings and during a short lull between the touches, when a discussion was taking place as to whether the next touch should be Cambridge, London, Bristol, Superlative—or some of each—he plucked up courage and suggested a touch of Grandsire. This suggestion was received in dead silence, and then one of the visitors politely asked if the questioner could ring Grandsire, to which he replied that providing the other seven could, he felt he could manage it.

Again silence for a moment and then a hearty laugh went up. The local got his touch of Grandsire, in which several well-known ringers took part, and his only regret was that he did not get their autographs of an occasion which to him will always be a pleasant and amusing one.—Yours truly,

FRANK HUCKLE.

Barham, Kent.

PEAL RINGING IN COUNTIES

Dear Sir,—With the conclusion of the series, I should like to express my appreciation of the work of the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead. I hope I shall not be alone in doing this.

From time to time letters have appeared in these columns pointing out mistakes that have been made in the articles, and I have felt that the tone and criticism of these has sometimes been quite unjustified. In conversation, too, I have heard people saying that many more peals had been rung in a tower than as published, yet the point that the records were from 1881 onwards was often made in the articles.

Mr. Felstead has done a good job of work and the records will prove invaluable. In work of this nature mistakes are inevitable. I hope, however, that in future people who correct them will do so more kindly.

Tewkesbury.

DAVID BEACHAM.

MISUNDERSTANDING OVER JOINT MEETING

Dear Sir,—In the report of the annual meeting of the East Grinstead Guild ('Ringing World,' March 30th) it was stated that the Guild had accepted an invitation to hold a joint meeting with the Northern Division of the Sussex County Association. It appears that this statement is not correct, as I am informed by Mr. I. Butcher, the Divisional secretary, that at our February meeting he was asked if a joint meeting could be arranged, if both sides were agreeable, and when this matter was brought up at our annual meeting I was under the impression that the matter had already been discussed by the Northern Division, but this was not so, and I apologise for any misunderstanding that may have arisen.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES A. BASSETT.

Wadhurst.

PEAL OF STEDMAN AT SOUTH WIGSTON

Dear Sir,—I feel that I would like to hear more on the subject of a recent peal (?) of 'Stedman' at South Wigston. I had hoped that it would be unnecessary to write this letter but in the interests of 'peal ringing' I think it is essential.

The peal was obviously not a good one, and it has received rather damning criticism from a listener. After this, if the performance is to be accepted as a 'peal,' surely we should hear the views of the conductor.

If the printed allegations are not refuted it tends to make one wonder of this 'peal' is typical of many, and that it was just unfortunate that it was overheard.

It should not be necessary to doubt any peal reported, yet distrust and suspicion must now enter into the minds of many people who read of the past and present performances of the ringers concerned.

I hope the conductor will take this chance of either withdrawing the peal or explaining why it was recorded, thus avoiding the reputation which may well become his and his compatriots.

I conclude by saying that I am surprised and dismayed at the apathy of several thousand ringers at the report of this performance.—Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL J. E. BEST.

Bournemouth.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Peals.—Ash Martock 3s., Leatherhead 5s., Cheltenham 2s. 6d., Martock 4s., Collingbourne Kingston 3s., Headington 3s.

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GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

Appointment of New Hon. Secretary

THE annual general meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Cirencester on April 7th, in the Church Hall, Cirencester, about 130 members having signed the attendance book. The Master (Mr. C. R. Harding) presided.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. W. A. Peel (Tortworth). Apologies for absence were received from the following: Lord Bishop of Gloucester, Rev. A. D. H. Allan, Mr. H. V. Robinson, Rev. Canon W. H. Thomas, vice-presidents; Dr. R. J. Brocklehurst (Bristol) and Mr. G. Kilmister (Cheltenham).

Arising from the minutes of the last annual meeting at Tewkesbury, Mr. Barry spoke of the Gloucester Guild of Ringers. Mr. Hansford asked what was the position with regard to the Association's ring of handbells. The secretary gave the necessary information.

The Master (Mr. C. R. Harding) in his report stated that the year had been a memorable one and he had the honour of welcoming to Bristol the Ancient Society of College Youths and also the Central Council. He thanked Mr. Skidmore and Mr. A. Tyler for their work, which gave so much pleasure to the Council.

Peals rung during 1955 remained about the same number and membership was also about the same.

The hon. secretary (Mr. F. Skidmore) in his report gave membership at between 1,000 and 1,100. The Chippenham Branch was now working again.

Mr. S. G. Riches, the hon. treasurer, stated that the total funds of the Association had increased from £375 to £433 and the Belfry Repair Fund was up by £60 to £259.

These reports were adopted as were the Branch and belfry elections during the year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. R. J. Brocklehurst (Bristol) was elected a vice-president, and all the existing vice-presidents were re-elected. In accordance with the rules, only one nomination was received for the office of Master, that of the present Master, Mr. C. R. Harding, who was in consequence re-elected for another year. Mr. Harding promised to do all in his power to uphold the prestige of the Association.

Mr. F. Skidmore had intimated in his report that he wished to resign as hon. secretary in favour of a younger man who had the enthusiasm and ability to take over the job, which was now in good shape, and to give any assistance (if required) to his successor. Efforts were made to persuade Mr. Skidmore to continue for another year, but all to no avail.

Mr. Oakhill, Mr. C. R. Harding, Mr. J. G. Jefferies, Mr. A. L. Barry and Mr. T. Boreham spoke of the excellent work Mr. Skidmore had put in during six years of office. These marks of appreciation were received with general acclamation. There were two nominations for this position—Mr. C. Rouse (Cheltenham) and Mr. W. F. Scudamore (Bristol Rural). The election was by ballot, Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas consenting to act as scrutineers, and resulted in Mr. Scudamore being elected with 69 votes to Mr. Rouse's 61.

Other elections were: Mr. S. G. Riches, hon. treasurer; Mr. A. Reeves, hon. peal secretary; Mr. E. F. Hancock and Mr. J. M. Stallard, hon. auditors; six members to the Management Committee (Rule 7) re-elected en bloc; also the Association advisers.

The Management Committee had decided that, in view of the fact that there was very little time between the annual meeting and Whitsuntide, the election of Central Council

representatives should be brought forward one year to enable the elected members to have sufficient time to make their arrangements with regard to accommodation at the place where the Council were meeting. The present representatives were all willing to stand for another term of three years, and there being no further nominations they were re-elected en bloc as follows: Mr. F. Skidmore (Bristol Archdeaconry), Mr. T. Boreham (Cheltenham Archdeaconry), Mr. A. L. Barry (Gloucester Archdeaconry) and Mr. W. B. Kynaston (Swindon Archdeaconry).

The secretary outlined the position with regard to the proposed peal tablet for the Coronation peal rung at Painswick. He had received the co-operation of the Vicar of Painswick, the Rev. H. F. Heal, also an estimate for the job from a firm of monumental masons at Ross-on-Wye, for a stone tablet, the drawing of which was passed round the meeting. The cost would be in the region of £60, and in view of the important national occasion it was decided to proceed with the job. Mr. Skidmore promised to see the project finalised.

BRANCH TERRITORIES

This question had been before the meetings for about four years, in an endeavour to make the Chippenham Branch larger in towers and membership, and it had been decided to include in the Chippenham Branch, Marshfield (8), Bristol Rural; Tetbury (8), Shipton Moyne (6) and Long Newton (6), Cirencester; and Malmesbury (8), Swindon Branch. These changes to take effect as from January 1st, 1957.

The next year's annual meeting is to be held at Newent, North Forest Branch, on Saturday, April 27th.

Mr. Hansford asked that the rules covering voting should be altered. That only performing members should be allowed to vote, and not honorary and associate members. This was opposed by Mr. C. Rouse, Mr. F. Skidmore, Mr. W. H. Trueman, Mr. H. W. Bishop and Mrs. F. Skidmore, the general opinion being that all annual subscription members in whatever category should be allowed to vote.

Mr. J. G. Jefferies proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the officers for the way the affairs of the Association had been managed during the past year. This was cordially received. The Master suitably responded.

This concluded the business, and the Rev. W. A. Peel closed the meeting with prayer at 4.35 p.m.

A move was made for tea, at which Canon R. H. Sutch, Vicar of Cirencester, was the guest. The Master thanked the Vicar for his welcome to Cirencester and for the use of the bells and for the service which was to come at 6 p.m.; also to Mr. F. J. Lewis for having everything ready in the belfry, to all the incumbents for the use of their bells during the day, and last, but not least, Mr. R. E. W. Wenban, the Cirencester Branch secretary, who had been responsible for all the local arrangements, which had been admirably carried out, and were appreciated by all.

The service in the Parish Church was a grand finale to a very pleasant meeting, the address given by the Rev. T. P. Hearn, Childswickham, being most appropriate, his text being from the Psalms: 'All the foundations of the earth are out of course,' as applied to present day conditions.

This brought to a close one of the best meetings the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association has held in recent years. F. S.

Organisers of outings, etc., are asked to note that there will be no ringing at St. Thomas', Bristol, until the belfry floor has been repaired.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Restoration of Ancient Churches

THE tenth annual meeting of the Guild was held at Southwell Minster on April 7th. The Minster bells were available from 2.30 until 8.30 with a break for Evensong, tea and the business meeting. Southwell Minster celebrates its millenary this year and so it was fitting that the annual meeting should be held in this noble setting far removed from the mad ding crowd.

Upwards of 75 members and friends attended the meeting, 64 sitting down to tea in the Trebeck Hall.

In the absence of Canon R. F. Wilkinson, the chair at the business meeting was taken by the Provost (the Very Rev. H. C. L. Heywood), who is well known for his hustle, and on this occasion he again revealed his ability of getting through a long agenda in the minimum of time.

A minute's silence was observed for five deceased members, namely, Messrs. C. Carr, E. A. Rigden, T. Jennison, C. Glenn and Mrs. L. L. East.

The annual report being still in the hands of the printers, the reports of the general secretary, treasurer, each District secretary and the Peal Committee were put before the meeting and approved.

The Income and Expenditure Account showed a surplus of income for the year of £10 17s. 9d. The Capital Account now stands at £120 2s. and the balance of the Bell Repair Fund is £92 19s. Since the accounts were made up donations of £10 10s. each have been made to Bunney and West Bridgford. Promised donations to Shireoaks and Laxton still await the completion of the restoration schemes.

Miss R. Carey and Mr. C. White were elected members of the Guild and the Rev. W. N. Metcalfe, of Bunney, a vice-president.

The only change amongst the officers was the substitution of Mr. F. Dakin as an auditor in place of Mr. B. M. Buswell, and the election of the latter as Central Council representative and peal secretary in place of the late Mr. Clement Glenn.

A grant of £5 5s. was made to St. Mary-le-Bow Cheapside, London, out of general funds.

An item on the agenda which resulted in an excellent discussion was the Bishop's Appeal Fund. This fund has been opened by the Bishop for the restoration of ancient churches and the provision of new churches in the Diocese, and aims at raising £200,000 over a period of seven years. Many thinking ringers have felt that something should be done by the Guild, but the difficulty has been in deciding what form it should take without cutting across individual parish efforts.

Various novel ideas were put forward and after a full ventilation of opinion it was resolved that during the remaining six years of the appeal the Guild should make a donation towards the restoration of ancient churches out of general funds if, in the opinion of the committee, the financial position warranted it, and that for the year 1956 one half of the surplus for the preceding year ending December 31st, 1955, should be donated to the fund, and that in subsequent years the amount should be left to the committee's discretion. This resolution was carried unanimously and was thought to be a practical solution to the problem.

Mr. John Segar explained that he and Mr. P. A. Corby had put forward a motion to the Central Council deploring the frequent misuse of the symbol x in peal compositions and asking for the position to be clarified. Mr. Segar explained that he had acted as a private individual. Nevertheless his action was endorsed.

A vote of thanks to the Provost and all those who had helped to make the meeting a success was proposed by Mr. Bartlam.

QUARTER PEALS

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCS.—On April 1st, at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Halliday 1, N. Bennett (first of Triples) 2, J. Coffey (first of Triples 'inside') 3, D. F. Yates 4, R. M. Edwards 5, A. W. Stone 6, D. Ogden (cond.) 7, P. R. Harrison 8. Rung to celebrate the reopening of the church after restoration and redecoration.

BARKSTON, Lincs.—On Mar. 22nd, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. R. Platt 1, B. Hunt 2, F. W. Pinchbeck 3, W. R. Read 4, P. E. Parry (cond.) 5, B. Buttery 6.

BLAYDON-ON-TYNE, CO. DURHAM.—On April 16th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, Stedman, Plain Bob, and 300 Grandsire): R. W. Leighton 1, C. McGuinness 2, K. Arthur (cond.) 3, K. Cheeseman 4, J. A. Ainsworth 5. Rung to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the installation of the bells.

BLOOMSBURY, W.C.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on April 15th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Hawkins 1, J. Tomset 2, G. Parsons 3, M. Sinden 4, A. Lewry 5, F. Corfield 6, J. Euston 7, M. Oakshott 8. For evening service.

BOLSOVER, DERBYS.—On April 1st, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Mrs. B. Holmes 1, A. B. Cooper 2, A. Keller (first in method) 3, K. Rutland (first in method) 4, J. Saxton 5, H. Wagstaffe 6, D. Cooper 7, S. Slaney (cond.) 8.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (1 and 2 leading): E. Turner (13) 1, M. Edmonds (13) 2, C. A. Gerrish 3, M. H. Williams 4, W. T. Pett (cond.) 5, D. W. Davies 6, T. E. Hiddins 7, D. L. Hughes 8. An 83rd birthday compliment to Mr. Samuel Gerrish, father of the ringer of the third.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—On April 15th, at the Church of St. Peter, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: W. C. Hart 1, G. North 2, Miss R. K. How 3, W. A. Riddington 4, A. W. Gravett 5, C. Riddleston 6, R. Beale 7, A. W. Bond (first as cond.) 8. For Evensong.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On April 15th, 1,500 Minor (240 London, 180 St. Clement's, 180 Double Court, 240 Cambridge, 240 Kent, 240 Oxford, 180 Plain Bob): D. Sims 1, S. W. Bigmore 2, G. M. Rouse 3, K. Everett 4, A. T. M. Perry 5, H. Stebbings (cond.) 6. For morning service.

ELING, HANTS.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. D. Hill 1, W. G. Buchanan 2, B. J. Wyld (first as cond.) 3, M. W. Edwards (first 'inside') 4, G. Buchanan 5, R. Buchanan 6. First quarter for 1 and 2. Rung by a local band for Easter festival.

ELSHAM, Lincs.—On April 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Raith 1, R. T. Harrison 2, A. W. Hoodless 3, S. Neave (first quarter) 4, W. A. Crowder 5, M. W. Crowder (first quarter, cond.) 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Orchard and Mr. Morrison, which took place this day.

GRIMSBY, Lincs.—On April 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Drury 1, Miss M. Hamilton 2, C. Kennington 3, J. B. Budd 4, Miss G. I. Rusby 5, F. Kennington 6, S. Broomfield (cond.) 7, H. Hadwick 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mayor of Grimsby (Ald. J. C. B. Olsen), who was laid to rest on this day.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles: Linda Foreward 1, T. Smith (cond.) 2, G. Collet 3, J. Cruickshank 4, R. Trebilcock 5, R. Brown 6. Rung as a farewell tribute to Mr. and Mrs. A. Stone on leaving the parish after many years of energetic work.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' Church, on April 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. E. Dyer 1, H. S. Peacock 2, J. R. G. Spicer 3, M. J. Dyer 4, A. T. Howes 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6. For Easter morning service.

LYDD, KENT.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. E. Boulden 1, Miss M. Vantom 2, Miss O. M. Boulden 3, H. S. Humphrey 4, J. R. Cooper 5, S. J. Boulden 6, R. Swift (cond.) 7, A. L. Terry 8. Rung to commemorate the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Lydd Airport on this day.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On April 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Cordell 1, Wendy Bowak 2, J. McPhail 3, N. King 4, Daphne Hyams (first quarter) 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. For morning service.

PENN, STAFFS.—On Mar. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Roden 1, D. Smith 2, C. Eyre 3, E. Stitch 4, G. Smallwood 5, C. Griffiths 6, E. Bowyer (cond.) 7, J. Bloore 8. Rung half-muffled for the father of B. Ford, a local ringer. Also 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Stitch 1, C. Griffiths 2, Miss J. Eyre (first quarter) 3, J. Roden 4, G. Smallwood 5, A. Williams 6, E. Bowyer (cond.) 7, C. Eyre 8. For Confirmation service.

PORTSMOUTH.—On April 7th, at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, 1,568 Spliced Surprise Major (being 832 London, 320 Bristol, 160 Cambridge, 128 each of Superlative and Yorkshire, with 36 changes of method): T. R. Taylor 1, Miss S. K. M. Knight 2, R. Baldwin 3, R. G. Leale 4, W. T. Becson 5, C. E. Smith 6, F. W. Rogers (cond.) 7, A. T. Greenwood 8.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Mar. 17th, 1,320 Plain Bob Minor: Miss A. New (first quarter) 1, J. Wightman 2, W. J. Paice 3, L. Paice 4, C. W. Barlow 5, W. J. Parker (cond.) 6. Also on April 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss A. New 1, Miss S. Revell 2, W. J. Paice 3, W. J. Parker (cond.) 4, C. W. Barlow 5, W. Collins 6.

SANDHURST, GLOS.—On April 10th, 1,260 Doubles (420 Grandsire, 360 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 240 All Saints): P. Hurcombe 1, M. Ling 2, F. E. Tranter (cond.) 3, C. Wixey 4, W. C. Wixey 5, S. Pugh 6.

SEND, SURREY.—On April 14th, 1,260 Doubles (360 Reserve Canterbury Pleasure, 480 Grandsire and 420 Plain Bob): D. Pollard 1, J. Martin 2, Miss D. Gibbons 3, Miss H. Hancock 4, D. Wright (cond.) 5, Miss P. Drury 6. For Mission Week.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On April 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (five variations of Morris' 240 and 60): Miss A. Culpin 1, D. R. Brazier (cond.) 2, A. W. Allen 3, P. J. Lawton 4, J. F. Olney 5, Miss S. J. Devereux 6. Rung to welcome the Vicar-designate (the Rev. J. A. Benton) to the parish.

SOUTH NEWTON, WILTS.—On April 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Jane Shelton (13, first quarter) 1, Miss Y. Eloie 2, Miss M. Page (cond.) 3, Miss A. Bacon 4, R. N. Marlow 5, J. Maidment 6.

STEPNEY, E.—At the Parish Church of St. Dunstan and All Saints, on April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10 callings): P. Shute (first quarter) 1, L. J. Fox (cond.) 2, G. J. Boomsma 3, H. G. Weedon 4, R. W. Sumner 5, S. Smith 6. For Evensong.

STOKY, DOYLE, NORTHANTS.—On April 6th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Southrepps, 600 Plain Bob, 180 Grandsire): P. G. K. Davies 1, A. J. Frost 2, F. Crosier 3, D. James 4, B. S. Cope (cond.) 5. Rung in honour of the engagement of Mr. C. H. Harding and Miss M. Arkinstall.

SOUTH HACKNEY, E.—On Mar. 18th, 1,280 Cambridge Major: L. Batley 1, Mrs. R. F. Deal 2, R. Smith 3, C. A. Hughes 4, J. Armstrong 5, R. F. Deal 6, C. Willington 7, J. H. Crampton (cond.) 8.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. G. Pusey (16, first quarter) 1, A. L. Dunn 2, P. Cooper 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, R. Smith (cond.) 5, R. W. Webb 6, F. B. Cookson 7, Jill Tombs 8. For Evensong.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKS.—On April 1st, 1,440 Minor (720 Reverse Canterbury, 720 Plain Bob): Miss D. Honey 1, Miss J. Jones 2, James Honey 3, Jonathan Honey 4, W. G. Cudd 5, A. R. Pink (cond.) 6. First of Minor in two methods to be rung in this tower by a Sunday service band. For Easter.

THORNER, YORKS.—On Mar. 31st, 1,260 Minor (360 each of St. Clement's, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and 180 Plain Bob): Margaret Barker 1, Sheila M. Schofield 2, N. Smith 3, D. Atkins 4, A. E. Hartley 5, J. M. Thorley (cond.) 6.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, SOMERSET.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. R. Young 1, R. O. Fry (cond.) 2, Miss B. K. Whetherly (first 'inside') 3, A. F. Lee 4, T. J. Milsom 5, J. R. Hobbs 6. A 16th birthday compliment to the ringer of the third. Also on April 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. R. Young 1, J. R. Hobbs 2, T. J. Milsom 3, L. R. G. Taylor 4, A. Lee (cond.) 5, R. S. N. Brown 6. Rung after the wedding of the Rev. R. E. S. Bennett to Miss Joyce Vera Berbridge. The bridegroom is leaving Twerton to become Vicar of Great Staughton, Hants.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—On April 15th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Hayes 1, F. C. Maynard 2, H. Rumens 3, E. E. Holman 4, R. Lumsden 5, R. J. Chapman (cond.) 6, A. J. N. Boyack 7, F. C. Taylor 8. Rung for Evensong and as a birthday compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Morton, grandparents of the conductor.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On April 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. N. Wood 1, W. A. Yates 2, G. E. Green 3, R. H. Howson 4, H. C. Edwards 5, G. W. Holland 6, J. A. Green (cond.) 7, T. E. Roberts 8. A birthday compliment to Mr. A. J. Green.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.—On April 1st, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. Denson 1, N. Robinson 2, G. Walker 3, D. Mortlock 4, A. Yarrow 5, G. A. Lucas (cond.) 6. For Sung Eucharist.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFS.—On Mar. 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Rachael Snell 1, Phyllis Holborn 2, P. S. Whalley 3, W. Massey 4, E. G. Kettle 5, G. W. Biddulph 6, D. R. Whalley (cond.) 7, E. A. Edge 8. First of Stedman for 1, 2 and 3. Rung on the eve of the 21st birthday of the ringer of the third.

WRAGBY, YORKS.—On April 2nd, 1,320 Treble Bob Minor (720 Wragby, 600 Woodbine): J. W. Buxton 1, H. Chant 2, C. Rusby 3, H. Rusby 4, N. F. Moxon (cond.) 5, D. Smith 6.

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OBITUARY

MR. GEORGE EDWARDS

The death occurred on Easter Sunday of Mr. George Edwards, for many years the captain of the Penshurst, Kent, ringers.

Mr. Edwards commenced his ringing career at Chiddington over 60 years ago and rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, on November 29th, 1894. In the following year he rang in a peal, which was his first as conductor, and the last peal he rang was on November 2nd, 1946, which was in honour of his golden wedding. His peals, which number 103, include 66 of Grandsire Triples, 30 of which he conducted and were rung in 18 towers, 100 of them being rung for the Kent County Association. On May 26th, 1928, he conducted at Penshurst a peal of Grandsire Triples, all the ringers being members of one Lodge of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, and at Tonbridge on July 16th, 1930, he took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples rung 'non-conducted.'

He was well known in the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association and for over 20 years represented the District on the committee. He was present at all the ringing meetings in the District and his chief delight was to help a young beginner through his first course or touch.

For many years he sang in the choir at Penshurst and only advancing years and frailty caused him to give up ringing and choir work.

A loyal member of his band and the Association as well as a good friend to many in the district, Mr. Edwards will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

On April 19th, which would have been his 87th birthday, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in memory of an old friend. Those taking part were: L. Goater 1, R. D. Divall 2, Miss D. Colgate 3, E. J. Ladd (conductor) 4, T. E. Sone 5, W. H. Dobbie 6, B. Collison 7, R. Collins 8.

LATE NOTICES

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Buckminster, April 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Institute. Wymondham bells after tea.—Mrs. P. A. Corby. 8211

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, May 5th, at Emmanuel Church, Southport. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea free only to those notifying Mr. R. Kenrick, 19, Glenpark Drive, Southport, by Wednesday, May 2nd. 8214

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY AND DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Chesterfield District).—Joint meeting at Cresswell (8), May 5th, 3 p.m. Tea available at nearby cafe.—J. Seager, Sec. 8215

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Quarterly meeting, Liss, Saturday, May 5th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Church Hall. Numbers for tea by 2nd to C. E. Bassett, Warsash, Southampton. 8207

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western.—Crusader meeting, Fyfield, May 12th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea. Names for tea, please, to Mr. F. Blatch, Rose Bank, Fyfield, Ongar. 8206

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at York on Saturday, May 12th. Minster bells (12) available 2-3.55 p.m. Evening in Minster 4. Tea at Festival Restaurant, Jubbergate, 5 p.m. Business meeting at York Institute of Architectural Study, Micklegate, at 6 p.m. Bells (6), recently rehung, available after meeting. Names for tea by 10th to Miss M. E. Wilkinson, 10, St. Oswald's Road, York. Subscriptions due and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford 9. 8208

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

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MISCELLANEOUS

ROMSEY, HANTS.—The Abbey Church of SS. Mary and Ethelreda.—The correspondent is now Mr. H. J. Page, 56, Alma Road, Romsey. 8175

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MEETINGS

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at New Mills, April 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m.—C. K. Lewis, Sec. 8170

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Tilney All Saints, Saturday, April 28th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 8159

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Arkesden (6) on Saturday, April 28th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. in the Green Man Inn. Names, please, to G. Blake, Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 8109

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Croadall (6) on Saturday, April 28th, from 6 to 9 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8146

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Anstey, April 28th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Special method, Killamarsch T.B.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 8130

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Ospringe, April 28th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and business to follow.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 8114

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting, Kirtlington (8), Saturday, April 28th. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m. 8157

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Hampstead Norris, Saturday, April 28th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please send names for tea to Mr. J. Wearing, Church Rd., Hampstead Norris.—Patricia Gaunt, Branch Sec. 8154

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting, Cookham, April 28th, 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting afterwards.—Butler, 17, Forest Road, Windsor. 8172

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Meeting to be held at Radcliffe-on-Trent, April 28th. 8169

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, Saturday, April 28th, changed to Rotherfield. Bells (8) 3 p.m.—H. Reynolds, Sec. 8155

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Surprise practice, Crawley, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells 3 p.m.—I. Butcher. 8129

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly meeting at Odiham (Hants), Saturday, April 28th. Bells from 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 8158

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Combined practice, Redhill, Thursday, May 3rd, 7.15 p.m. 8197

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Birmingham, May 5th. Train, Paddington, 9 a.m. Refreshments on train. Towers available: Cathedral (12), 11.45 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.; St. Martin's (12), 2 to 3 p.m.; Aston (12) and St. Chad's (8), 3.30 to 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. prompt at Corner Cupboard, Union Street. Names for tea to Mr. G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28, by May 2nd.—A. B. Peck. 8188

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Next meeting at Kirkburton (8), Saturday, May 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided 5 p.m. Please bring own sandwiches. Business meeting to follow and bells afterwards. Good bus service; all ringers welcome. 8184

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION (Taunton Branch) and **DEVON GUILD** (N.E. Branch).—Joint meeting, Ashbrittle, Saturday, May 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please.—A. H. Reed, George Street, Taunton. 8194

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, May 5th, at Wilden (5) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30, with tea at 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. All names for tea to Mr. R. Ruff, Chequers Hill, Wilden. Beds. No names no tea.—Phyllis Gray, Hon. Dis. Sec., 18, Durler Avenue, Kempston, Bedford. 8192

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Rise, Saturday, May 5th. Bells (5) available 2.30 to 8 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea in Memorial Hut 5 p.m. (price 3s.). Names for tea by Thursday to Mr. C. W. Gray-Nicholson, Hinds House, Park Farm, Rise, Skirlaugh, Hull. 8204

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 5th, Chatteris. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 8181

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Meeting, Great Holland, Saturday, May 5th. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in the Rectory for those who notify me by Tuesday, May 1st.—J. H. Gould, Fir Tree Cottages, Great Bromley. 8162

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division.—Meeting at Southminster (6) on Saturday, May 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Buses depart Maldon 1.15, 1.45, 2.25 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, Cornerway, Boreham. 8151

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Bristol Rural and Bristol City Branches.—Combined meeting at Warmley, on Saturday, May 5th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. (rehung by John Taylor). Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 1st, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, near Bristol. 8183

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Guildford, May 5th. Bells of Cathedral Church and St. Mary's 2.30 to 3.45 p.m. Service at St. Mary's 4. Tea and meeting, Congregational Hall, North Street, 4.45 p.m. Bells of St. Nicolas' and Stoke after the meeting. Numbers for tea to Miss W. Oliver, 36, North Place, Guildford, by May 2nd, please.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec. 8128

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Meeting at Bushey (8) on Saturday, May 5th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names essential, to K. Dunstan, Dis. Sec., 8, Bridge Road, Hunton Bridge, Kings Langley. 8182

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Smarden (6) on May 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea must reach Mr. P. Reeves, 5, The Oaks, Smarden, by Tuesday, May 1st.—W. P. Garner. 8145

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Leigh, Saturday, May 5th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5 p.m. Names for tea (with cash, please) by Thursday, May 3rd, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 8134

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Church Kirk, May 5th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 8190

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Fylde and Lancaster Branches.—Joint meeting at Scorton (8), Saturday, May 5th. Bells 2.30 to 8 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to S. Anderson, Springfield Farm, Scorton.—J. F. Turner, R. F. Eccles, Branch Secs. 8202

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, May 5th, at Norwich. Bells available: Mancroft (12), 3.15 to 4 p.m.; St. Giles' (8) and St. George, Colegate (6), 1.30 to 4 p.m. Bells also available after business meeting. St. John de Sepulchre (8) and St. Miles' (8) by request only by complete companies of eight. Service, Mancroft, 4 p.m. Address by the Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Thetford (clergy attending, please robe). Tea, Chantry Hall, 5 p.m. Names for tea must be notified by May 2nd to Mrs. F. N. Golden, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich. Business meeting 5.30 p.m. Standing committee meeting at 2.45 p.m. to be held in the Vestry, St. Peter Mancroft.—W. Love, Gen. Sec., 52, Spencer Street, Norwich. 8142

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Stewkley on Saturday, May 5th. Bells (8) 5.30 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 8196

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Henley-on-Thames, Saturday, May 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea in Chantry House. Names for tea to Mr. C. J. Tigwell, 34, Gainsborough Road, Henley, by Wednesday, May 2nd.—R. G. Burton. 8199

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Hazelbech, Saturday, May 5th. Names for tea to me, please, by Tuesday previous.—W. J. Kinchin, Hon. Sec., Main Street, Yelvertoft, Rugby. 8193

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Tickets: 11s. 6d. each
Application for tickets to Daniel T. Matkin, 26, Wellington Road, Bournemouth (Central). Phone Bournemouth 6342. Towers open for ringing: St. John's, Surrey Road, 2.30 to 3.45 p.m.; St. Peter's, Bournemouth, 4 to 5.30 p.m. 8186

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Meeting at King's Cliffe, May 5th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., for those who notify by Tuesday previous. Names to G. Bush, 18, Princes Street, Peterborough. 8187

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting at Upavon (6) May 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea to F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 8198

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Eastwood (8) on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Sun Inn, Market Place (3s. 6d. each) Names to me by previous Tuesday.—C. W. Towers, Thrumpton, Nottingham. 8148

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, May 5th. St. Nicholas', Brighton. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, Union Hall, 5.15. Ringing: Good Shepherd, 3 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's, 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Individual names for tea must be received by Wednesday, May 2nd, to R. Percy, 24, Oldfield Road, Willington, Eastbourne. 8131

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting, Freshwater, May 5th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify Mrs. Guy, 16, Cypress Road, Newport. 8191

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice, St. Mary, Lambeth, 7.30 on Monday, May 7th. General meeting on Saturday, May 12th. All Halls, Chertsey Road, Twickenham, 3 to 4 p.m. Tea and business 4.30 to 6, the Vicarage, Church Street, Isleworth. Service 6.30, All Saints', Isleworth. Ringing at Isleworth 7 to 9 p.m. Names for tea, please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. Tel.: HOU 3921. 8174

GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS.—Annual meeting on May 12th at Abbots Langley, Watford, beginning 3 p.m., followed by annual dinner. Members attending should notify D. L. Gullick, Stevenage, Herts. 8125

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Tring (8), May 12th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by May 9th to Mr. Badrick, 63, Dundale Road, Tring.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 8205

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Spring meeting at Redenhall (8), Saturday, May 12th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 3.40. Tea in St. George's Hall, Harleston, 5.45 p.m. for all who notify Mr. Wm. Platt, 11, Mendham Lane, Harleston, Norfolk, by Tuesday, 8th.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec. 8195

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Berks Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Harwell on Saturday, May 12th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30. Names by 8th.—A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks. 8178

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Oxford City Branch.—Meeting, St. James' Church, Cowley, Saturday, May 12th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4. Names for tea by May 8th to Mr. W. Holloway, 17, Westbury Crescent North, Cowley, Oxford. 8210

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davertry Branch.—Meeting at Harpole on May 12th. Important: Names for tea to Mr. H. Haynes, Road Hill Cottage, Harpole, Northants, by Saturday, May 5th. 8189

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival, Sherborne, May 12th. Meeting, Digby Church Hall, 2.15 p.m. Guild service, Abbey, 4. Meat tea, Church Hall, 5 p.m. (price 4s), by ticket only from F. Slatford, Church Lane, North Bradley, Trowbridge, before May 9th. Bells: Abbey, 1 to 2 p.m.; Gillingham, Mere, Wincanton, Blandford, Milborne Port, Charlton Horethorpe (all 8), Buckhorn Weston, Bourton, Bradford Abbas, Thornford, Stalbridge, Yetminster, Zeals (6 bells), from 12 noon to 1.30 p.m., and after 6 p.m.; Yeovil (10 bells), after 7 p.m.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham. 8185

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Market Drayton, Saturday, May 12th. Bells available from 2.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, May 9th, to Mr. F. Price, The Grove, Bentley's Road, Market Drayton. 8203

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Practice meeting, Burstow (6), May 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Service uncertain. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5.15 p.m., Garage Café, Keepers Corner. Names for tea to Mr. L. Penfold, Rebow, New Road, Smallfield, Horley, by May 9th. 424 bus, Reigate—East Grinstead, for church and tea. 8201

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting on Whit Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Service, conducted by the Provost, in the Cathedral at 11 a.m. Address by the Rt. Rev. F. D. V. Narborough, M.A., B.D., Bishop of Colchester. Annual meeting to follow immediately after the service in the Chapter House. Tea and coffee available in the Cathedral Hall 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. Lunch 1.30 p.m., Cathedral Hall, and tea as a running buffet from 5 to 6.15 p.m. Lunch (4s. 6d.) and tea (2s.) tickets from A. H. Everett, Cornerways, Plantation Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, by May 16th, and please enclose stamped addressed envelope. Ringing—arrangements: Cathedral, 9.30 to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m.; Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6), from 3 to 6 p.m.; Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6), from 6 p.m.—F. V. Gant, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8179

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Festival and annual general meeting at Ross on Whit Monday, May 21st. Service, Parish Church, 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15. Annual meeting 5 p.m. Bells available from 11 a.m.: Ross (8), Weston-under-Penyard (6), Bridstow (8), Foy (6), Aston Ingham (6), Upton Bishop (6).—W. R. Thomas, Gen. Sec. 8132

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual dinner on Saturday, October 6th, 1956, at the Old Bell, Holborn, 6 for 6.30 p.m. Tickets, price 13s. each, now available from the undersigned, and early application is requested.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec., Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 8200

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On April 15th, 1.296 Woodbine Treble Bob: C. Fennell 1, W. J. Paice (cond.) 2, L. W. Paice 3, J. E. Wightman 4, W. J. Parker 5, W. Collins 6. First of Woodbine by all. For Evensong.

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QUARTER PEALS

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On April 1st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: J. Sims 1, E. Bragg 2, E. Stewart 3, W. Viggers 4, K. Williamson 5, S. J. Corke 6, R. Corke 7, D. M. Macpherson (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

BEDFORD.—At St. Paul's Church, on April 1st, 1,216 Treble Bob Major: R. A. Lennard 1, J. R. Taylor 2, P. J. Shipton 3, C. Wright 4, L. H. Bowler 5, S. Foskett 6, C. E. Jeffries 7, S. J. Ivin (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

CHENIES, BUCKS.—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Atkins (first quarter) 1, R. J. Picton 2, R. W. Picton (cond.) 3, D. J. Goodman 4, D. Gray (first quarter) 5, G. Hazlewood 6. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 5th, who is leaving the district.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Boyce 1, E. Jones 2, F. W. Richardson 3, T. A. Easterby 4, E. B. Crowder 5, J. Dafters 6, S. Ball (cond.) 7. For morning service.

FRINDSBURY, KENT.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. C. S. Benson 1, Miss D. Borer 2, Miss J. Highley 3, S. T. Jarrett 4, R. C. Burns 5, P. F. Borer 6, C. S. Jarrett (cond.) 7, A. J. Hewitt 8. For Easter Evensong.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Schofield 1, A. Foxall 2, R. Biggs 3, Miss D. Coker (cond.) 4, N. Cornwall 5, D. Cornwall 6, A. E. Cox 7, V. Evans 8.

KINGSTON SEYMOUR, SOMERSET.—On April 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Ruth Gaunt (first away from tenor) 1, E. R. Norton 2, L. Derrick (cond.) 3, C. Kortright 4, W. Neath 5, H. Hardwidge 6.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss V. Tester (first quarter) 1, Mrs. R. F. Deal 2, C. Hughes 3, L. Batley 4, C. Willmington 5, J. Crampton (cond.) 6, R. F. Deal 7, J. McPhail 8.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.—On April 8th, 1,344 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. T. Denson 1, N. Robinson 2, S. Shipp (cond.) 3, G. E. Crisp 4, D. E. R. Knights 5, G. A. Lucas 6. For Matins.

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