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MEMORIES OF 1949

LOOKING back on 1949, English change ringers can regard the year as one of progress. While the number of new ringers is not so large as in the years immediately following the war, there has been a steady influx of new recruits, and if the circulation of 'The Ringing World' is any indication of those who have a sustained interest in the Exercise then the number is an increase of 500.

The main thing that emerged from the Central Council meeting at York was the decision to proceed on the revision of Rules and Decisions of the Council. On all sides there was a desire to tighten conditions and to ensure that what constitutes a true peal should be clearly understood by the Exercise at large. The scheme of representation on the Council is also under review. An interesting agenda is certainly promised next Whitsuntide at Eastbourne.

The fraternal side of the Exercise has been stimulated by a number of big gatherings. At the Henry Johnson dinner, Mr. T. H. Reeves laid down the reins of office as secretary of St. Martin's Guild, a post he had held for 20 years. The Cambridge University Guild celebrated their 70th anniversary, and the Lincoln Diocesan Guild their 50th anniversary. The Ancient Society of College Youths' dinner was of particular interest in view of an account of research into Fabian Stedman's life in London as a civil servant. To the ringer's calendar is to be added another commemoration dinner, that of George Williams, the veteran Master of the Winchester Guild, whose passing is deplored. His name is to be associated with the annual gatherings at Bournemouth.

Ringing tours have more than maintained their popularity. Most prominent of these was the visit of Leicester ringers to Ireland. It not only brought about a better understanding of the principles of change ringing in Ireland, but socially was a means of cementing friendship. The Yorkshire tour of Mr. Frank Knight's party resulted in visits to some towers where the bells are rarely heard. The West Country was again popular with a number of bands. From a peal-ringing point of view the tour in Suffolk and Norfolk was most productive, with 20 peals being rung.

In the realm of performance, there has been hardly a week when we have not had to record a peal of real merit. To assess the most meritorious performance of the year is not easy, and we should like the views of readers on what they regard as the three outstanding peals of the year. Naturally we lift our hats to the peal of Cambridge Maximus at Exeter Cathedral for the Ancient Society. From Leicester there has been a continual outpouring of peals, and some of these are worthy of consideration. The Lincoln band, with their record length of Bristol, the non-conducted peal of London by the Chester Guild ringers, Spliced Surprise Minor in 32 methods at Frampton, Lincolnshire, the Oxford Guild's excursions into the humble field of Doubles, all add lustre to the picture.

Another feature has been the work of the bell foundry, which has added to ringing facilities. We recall Blackburn Cathedral's new 10, the provision of a third ring of 12 for Birmingham and Evercreech, Luton, Thaxted, St. Paul's, Salisbury, Grundisburgh, and there are many others. Some of these improvements are the direct result of ringers' enthusiasm and work; a marked thing is the readiness of the public to subscribe, at a time when money is not too plentiful, for the maintenance of English bells.

The march of time has brought with it the passing of many dear ones. We think of Canon G. F. Coleridge, Canon C. C. Marshall, Messrs. Geo. Williams, F. J. Pitstow, William Taylor, Adam Deas, William Andrews, W. W. Worthington, W. R. Melville, W. Linter, C. Swain, John Potter, F. W. Middleton, Eric B. Hartley, F. A. Smith, W. A. Smith, F. S. W. Butler, C. Marshall, W. Jones, F. G. Briggs, W. B. Frith, W. Woodhead and many others. These are men honoured in their day and generation, whose love of bells and fellow-ringers is ever associated by friends in memories of 1949.

TEN BELL PEALS

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

FREDK. W. ROGERS ... <i>Treble</i>	*FREDK. W. BURNETT ... 6
*E. JOAN SALMONS... .. 2	REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD 7
*NELIA M. LEAHY ... 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 8
*MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 4	ERNEST F. SALMONS ... 9
DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. Rung for the dedication of the new east window, the previous one being destroyed during the war.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*THOMAS BARKER ... <i>Treble</i>	*CHARLES CLEGG 6
CHARLES W. BLAKEY ... 2	ROGER LEIGH 7
*SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... 3	ERNEST T. J. GOWER... 8
*VICTOR J. C. WOOD ... 4	PERCY DERBYSHIRE ... 9
*ERIC BRUNTON 5	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 275). Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Kent Royal as conductor. In memoriam Canon G. F. Coleridge.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT... <i>Treble</i>	†GEORGE J. HAWKINS... 6
BETTY SPICE 2	THOMAS F. KING ... 7
*PETER T. ROBBINS ... 3	ERNEST PARKER 8
PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING 4	GILBERT H. HARDING... 9
FRANK A. PENN 5	FREDK. S. SLATFORD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GEO. R. FARDON. Conducted by GEO. J. HAWKINS.

* First peal of Stedman and first peal on ten tower bells. † First peal of Stedman Caters. In memoriam Canon G. F. Coleridge.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALLEN MORGAN <i>Treble</i>	REGINALD WOODVATT ... 5
DENIS R. MORRIS 2	GEORGE AMBLER 6
*JEAN A. SOUTHERST ... 3	*CYRIL TANSSELL 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 4	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal in the method.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... <i>Treble</i>	VINCENT HEMMINGS... 5
MARGARET ROWLANDS ... 2	JOHN THOMAS 6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3	PATRICK HARRIS 7
GEOFFREY J. HEMMINGS... 4	THOMAS ABBOTTS <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

SEATON, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JACK SALWAY <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE A. WHITEMORE... 5
*ELI HAWKER 2	CHARLES TURNER 6
ROGER KEELEY 3	GEORGE E. RETTER ... 7
JACK ARBURY 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE E. RETTER.

* First peal of Triples 'inside.' First peal on the bells since being augmented from six to eight.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

WILLIAM J. WHITMORE... <i>Treble</i>	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON 5
JOHN KING 2	ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 6
HARRY RICHARDSON ... 3	RONALD C. NOON 7
JOHN E. SKERRIT 4	GEOFFREY E. WATSON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by G. E. WATSON. First peal of Major on the bells for at least 25 years. A welcome to the new Vicar, Rev. M. Clarke. Tenor 28 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

*WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS <i>Treble</i>	*JOHN E. LYDDIARD ... 5
JOHN L. MORRIS 2	*PERCY J. SPICE 6
*HILDA OAKSHETT 3	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT... 7
JAMES BENNETT 4	REGINALD L. SILLS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by REGINALD L. SILLS. * First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells. A birthday compliment to John E. Lyddiard, captain and steeplekeeper.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

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

Tenor 18 cwt. 18 lb.

VERNON SYKES <i>Treble</i>	FRED MELLOR 5
HAROLD ARMSTEAD ... 2	RICHARD BENSON 6
STEPHEN LL. PARRY ... 3	FRED DUNKERLEY 7
IVAN KAY 4	S.S.M. P. H. TOCOCK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by FRED DUNKERLEY. Memorial peal to Benjamin Thorpe, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Middleton's.	Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.
FRED LACEY <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE W. MOODY ... 5
FRANK LORD 2	GEORGE DOBBS 6
GEORGE E. FEERN 3	PHILIP BARNES 7
G. LESLIE LUNN 4	JACK BRAY <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

The conductor's 200th peal as conductor. A thanksgiving for the recovery from a serious illness of the Vicar, the Rev. O. G. O. Larr.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

ARTHUR E. BODYCOTE... <i>Treble</i>	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
*NORMAN G. MCCRUM ... 2	JOHN J. MORRIS 6
SHIRLEY BURTON 3	HERRICK B. BOWLEY ... 7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON 4	ALAN JACQUES <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by H. DAINES. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method. Tenor 14½ cwt.

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HANSLOPE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF BELGRAVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 22 cwt.

ANDREW C. SINFIELD ... <i>Treble</i>	*GEORGE CARE 5
C. HENRY HARDING 2	*RONALD C. NOON... .. 6
RONALD J. SHARP 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... 7
HERRICK B. BOWLEY 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

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

HOLLESLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE A. FLEMING ... <i>Treble</i>	RANALD W. M. CLOUSTON 5
FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD... .. 2	CECIL W. PIPE 6
FRANK L. FISHER 3	GEORGE W. PIPE 7
CHARLES E. FISHER 4	WILLIAM J. BUTTON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

First peal of Surprise as conductor.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WALTER J. LEMON ... <i>Treble</i>	HERBERT F. AUDSLEY ... 5
EDWIN BARNETT 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
*FREDK. W. BUDGEN 3	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 4	FREDK. J. CULLUM... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM.

* First peal of Cambridge. F. J. Cullum's 450th peal and 150th as conductor.

COLERAINE, CO. LONDONDERRY.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Patrick,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-part. Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

JOHN SAVAGE <i>Treble</i>	JAMES EDGAR 5
JOHN T. DUNWOODY 2	FRED E. DUKES 6
*JOHN J. FIELDING 3	*JOHN CAMPBELL 7
WILLIAM PRATT 4	JAMES LEWIS (15) ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

* First peal in the method and on tower bells. First peal of Grandsire on the bells and in the county. First peal on the bells since they were rehung. Rung in honour of the anniversary of His Majesty's accession to the throne.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
At the Church of IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

MRS. I. TODD <i>Treble</i>	JOHN H. FOSTER 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 2	WILLIAM H. RATCLIFFE... 6
CHARLES SHAPLES 3	EDWARD IDDON 7
DEREK WHITFORD 4	PETER CROOK <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by N. J. PISTOW. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

A farewell peal to Mrs. Todd, who is shortly leaving the country to join her husband in Malaya.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE W. FAULKNER ... 5
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON 2	JOHN F. GROVE 6
ALBERT W. BEARD 3	FRANK V. GANT 7
DAVID W. BEARD 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

A compliment from the Association to Alfred W. Brighton on the occasion of his golden wedding.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Comprising 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative, and 1,312 Bristol, with 113 changes of method. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES E. BROWN ... <i>Treble</i>	WALTER TOMLINSON ... 5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE 2	JOHN FREEMAN 6
*BETTY BROWN 3	FREDK. W. STOKES ... 7
CHARLES MCGUINESS 4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise Major.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. in D flat.

WILFRED JARVIS <i>Treble</i>	REV. A. G. G. THURLOW 5
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS 2	GEORGE SAVER 6
FREDK. F. MORTLOCK 3	WM. C. DUFFIELD 7
ARTHUR G. BASON 4	NOLAN GOLDEN <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 3 Hours and 43 Minutes,
At the Church of St. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 35 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in C sharp.

*MILTON C. FOWLER ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... 5
†J. EDWARD CAWSE 2	*ARTHUR FIRTH 6
‡GIBSON JACKSON 3	ERNEST A. THORPE ... 7
†W. ERIC CRITCHLEY 4	JOHN E. TURLEY <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* 25th peal together. † 50th peal together. ‡ First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS

APPLEBY MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wed., Nov. 30, 1949, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

*MAURICE BUCK <i>Treble</i>	F. GEORGE BAILEY 4
FRANK SHARP 2	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD 5
W. GEOFFREY HAIR 3	WILLIAM MILLER <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by W. GEOFFREY HAIR.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

EASTHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 19 extents of Grandsire, eight each of St. Simon's and St. Martin's, and seven of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*PHILIP C. HOLMES ... <i>Treble</i>	†A. TREVOR SUTTON ... 4
CHARLES B. PEMBERTON 2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN... 5
†ANDREW J. H. SCOTT ... 3	THOMAS W. WOOD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ALEXANDER J. MARTIN.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal in four Doubles methods by all the band. A birthday compliment to Messrs. P. C. Holmes, A. J. H. Scott, T. W. Wood and G. F. Pickthall.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*MICHAEL M. QUARMBY... <i>Treble</i>	†R. FRANK PRICE 4
LIONEL H. PINK 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
HAROLD E. WHITE 3	*ERNEST A. BISHOP ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

BREDWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7½ cwt.
*JANICE PARSONS (15) ... *Treble* | LAWRENCE T. MAINWARING ... 4
FRANK SANDFORD ... 2 | LESLIE EVANS ... 5
FREDERICK R. HARRIS... 3 | IVOR W. PROSSER ... *Tenor*
Conducted by LESLIE EVANS.

* First peal. Rung as a welcome to Rev. S. F. Jolliffe on his institution to the parish.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Rossendale and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.
RONALD J. SHARP ... *Treble* | C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... 4
C. HENRY HARDING ... 2 | *WILLIAM STAPLETON ... 5
CLIFFORD W. IZZARD ... 3 | *ANDREW C. SINFIELD ... *Tenor*
Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

* 25th peal together. Rung for the 78th birthday of C. W. Sinfield, churchwarden for 48 years.

STOW, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven methods: Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.
JOHN ELLERTON ... *Treble* | G. LESLIE A. LUNN ... 4
JACK BRAY ... 2 | PHILIP BARNES ... 5
BERNARD O. MANN ... 3 | GEORGE E. FEIRN ... *Tenor*
Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

First peal in seven methods on the bells. For the jubilee of the Guild.

DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.
FREDK. J. LAMBERT ... *Treble* | E. GAVAN D. TONKIN ... 4
WM. A. KITCHENSIDE ... 2 | CHARLES A. BASSETT ... 5
*ARCHIBALD G. GRIMWOOD 3 | FRANK H. HICKS ... *Tenor*
Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal in seven methods. A birthday compliment to the Vicar.

PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in F.
*RONALD PRESTON ... *Treble* | †FRANK VARY ... 4
JULIA M. PRESTON ... 2 | WILLIAM E. COURT ... 5
†ROGER C. PRESTON ... 3 | WILFRED RILEY ... *Tenor*
Conducted by WILLIAM E. COURT.

* First peal. † First peal of Bob Minor. To mark the birth of Robert Michael, son of the tenor ringer.

LAUGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1949, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 of Kent Treble Bob, two 720's of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.
WM. A. KITCHENSIDE... *Treble* | FRANK H. HICKS ... 4
*C. JOHN PIPER ... 2 | BENJAMIN STEPNEY ... 5
ARCHIBALD G. GRIMWOOD 3 | E. GAVAN D. TONKIN... *Tenor*
Conducted by E. GAVAN D. TONKIN.

* First peal in three methods. First peal in three methods as conductor. Rung on the 16th birthday of the conductor. Also an 87th birthday compliment to Mr. W. S. Piper, grandfather of the ringer of the second.

DEEPIING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1949, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three methods, three extents of Oxford and three of Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.
WILLIAM DUFFY ... *Treble* | AUBREY D. MILLS ... 4
MAURICE BENNETT ... 2 | KENNETH W. DUFFY ... 5
GEORGE W. MILLS ... 3 | STANLEY E. BENNETT ... *Tenor*
Conducted by STANLEY E. BENNETT.

First peal of Minor as conductor and 100th peal. Believed to be the first peal on tower bells by fathers and sons for the Guild.

COWLEY, OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1949, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WALTER F. HOLLOWAY *Treble* | *WALTER FERN ... 4
*DAVID WOODLEY ... 2 | *JAMES ADAMS ... 5
*LAWRENCE H. W. BUSBY 3 | GRAHAM WEBB ... *Tenor*
Conducted by LAWRENCE H. W. BUSBY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on recast bells and believed to be the first in the tower. Tenor 6 cwt.

COPT OAK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 9, 1949, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of (1) (Spliced) St. Clement's, Lytham, College, Thelwall, Wavertree, Reverse, Fulbeck, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, London Bob, Childwall, Double Bob and Double Oxford, (2) Single Oxford, (3) Single Court, (4) Double Court, (5) Kent Treble Bob, (6) Oxford Treble Bob, and (7) Cambridge Surprise.
JOHN HAWTIN ... *Treble* | JOHN A. UNDERWOOD ... 4
C. WILLIAM HALL ... 2 | JAMES W. BOWLEY ... 5
SAMUEL MARTIN ... 3 | ROLAND BENISTON ... *Tenor*
Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.
First peal in 19 methods by all. Also first for the Guild in 19 methods. Tenor 10 cwt.

GODSHILL, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four extents of Oxford and three extents of Kent. Tenor 9½ cwt.
BRYAN C. STIRLAND ... *Treble* | LESTER BAILEY ... 4
WILLIAM UPTON ... 2 | PATRICK PAGE ... 5
FRANK S. TAYLOR ... 3 | JOHN H. HUNT ... *Tenor*
Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

SOUTH NEWTON, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 9 cwt.
JACK MUSSELL ... *Treble* | JOHN HARTLESS ... 4
*JEAN M. BROWN ... 2 | FRANK L. HARRIS ... 5
HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS 3 | RONALD N. MARLOW ... *Tenor*
Conducted by FRANK L. HARRIS.

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

WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 20 cwt.
*EILEEN MOUNFIELD (17) *Treble* | WILLIAM SMITH ... 4
*JOSE TURNER (13) ... 2 | FRANK WARRINGTON ... 5
*DAVID PETERS (15) ... 3 | FRANCIS H. NEWMAN ... *Tenor*
Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal. A birthday compliment to Eileen Mounfield.

UPHOLLAND, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.
GEORGE MILLS ... *Treble* | ELLEN RICE ... 4
ROBERT CRITCHLEY ... 2 | JOHN POUNDS ... 5
CUTHBERT ACKERS ... 3 | ARTHUR MAWDSLEY ... *Tenor*
Conducted by ARTHUR MAWDSLEY.

The first peal of Minor on the bells.

(More peals on page 633.)

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.—On Nov. 26th, 1,344 Bob Major: W. Allwood 1, S. Slaney 2, D. Cooper 3, Miss B. Moss 4, H. Wagstaffe 5, C. Wright 6, J. Saxton 7, A. B. Cooper (cond.) 8. For the wedding of Mr. Harold Jackson (member of the local band) to Miss Kathleen Lee.

BRADFIELD, BERKS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Doubles, being 120 Reading, 120 Stedman, 240 St. Simon's, 120 April Day, 360 Bob and 300 Grandsire: W. Young 1, C. Humphries 2, E. W. C. Reeves 3, G. Keal 4, J. Butler (cond.) 5, R. Allun 6. First quarter by 1, 2, 3, 6. First of Doubles by 4 and 5. To celebrate Mrs. Reeves' 50 years' ringing at Bradfield.

BRADFIELD, YORKSHIRE.—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: H. Hurst 1, H. O. Chaddock 2, D. Elaine Wright 3, R. Birch 4, D. Holland 5, N. Chaddock (cond.) 6.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Dec. 11th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: G. Wiffen 1, Basil Redgwell 2, H. E. Hammond 3, H. R. Pelton 4, G. Lindridge 5, J. Warner 6, L. W. Wiffen (cond.) 7, A. Wiffen 8. A birthday compliment to Mr. H. E. Hammond on his 84th birthday.

ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Cyril Price 1, Frank Jones 2, George Pugh 3, Walter Pugh 4, Samuel Jones, sen., 5, Samuel Jones, jun. (cond.) 6, Harry Thomas 7, Edward Price 8. An 81st birthday compliment to S. Jones, sen.

EGREMENT, CUMBERLAND.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Cook 1, A. Eilbeck 2, J. H. Rothery 3, R. F. Grisdale 4, R. A. Johnston (first in method) 5, J. W. Brownrigg 6, H. S. Grisdale (cond.) 7, S. Richardson 8. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, Rev. Bucks.

KETERING, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: B. S. Cope 1, P. J. Eaton 2, G. E. Watson 3, Mrs. G. E. Watson 4, R. F. Turner 5, R. G. Black 6, C. W. Bird 7, J. E. Skerritt 8, B. J. Saddington 9, P. I. Chapman (first as cond.) 10. First of Royal, 1, 2 and 8.

QUARTER PEALS

KINGSBURY, LONDON.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Southgate 1, Roy Stoddard 2, Mrs. E. Eveleigh 3, Maud Lane 4, E. M. Atkins (cond.) 5, W. E. Eveleigh 6, E. H. Eveleigh 7, D. Smith 8. First of Triples for 2, 3, 8. First of Triples 'inside' for 6 and 7.

KINGSCLERE, HANTS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: M. J. Dodd 1, R. C. Christopher 2, S. F. Tuffley 3, R. W. Rex 4, R. F. Crook (cond.) 5, G. K. Dodd 6. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. D. N. Thomas.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. S. Grainger 1, J. H. Lott 2, Miss P. G. Kitchen 3, J. Bullock 4, T. H. Taffender 5, C. W. Othey 6, H. G. Andrews (first in method as cond.) 7, W. Hardy 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Giles', on Dec. 11th, 1,264 Bob Major: Miss Rita Parker 1, Miss M. B. Valentine 2, F. Burgess 3, G. F. Roome (first 'inside') 4, S. F. Earl 5, E. Nobles 6, S. Foskett 7, W. R. Hammons (cond.) 8. First quarter peal of Major for 1 and 2.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: W. D. Ashdown 1, J. Salway 2, A. Holway 3, Miss Q. Pring 4, D. Callard 5, E. E. Retter 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, E. R. Retter 8. A wedding compliment to Brian Pidgeon (Branch Sec.).

SIDMOUTH, DEVON.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Bromfield 1, J. B. Sansom 2, Marion Davis (first quarter 'inside') 3, Betty Smith 4, P. Davis 5, E. Rowe 6, R. Woodley (cond.) 7, B. Vincent 8.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. D. Rivers 1, R. Franklin 2, W. W. Wolstencroft 3, F. G. Groombridge 4, Miss F. Murkett 5, E. L. A. Hudson 6, W. Welling (cond.) 7, E. H. Preston 8. Rung half-muffled for Mr. A. E. Kirk, churchwarden.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.—On Dec. 11th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob: T. Clark 1, A. Wenban 2, R. Wenban 3, E. J. Leversuch 4, C. Wenban 5, J. E. Rootes 6, W. Wenban 7, W. J. Nudds (cond., aged 81) 8.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Jeanes 1, W. Tarr 2, D. Witt 3, C. Williams 4, Pamela Woolley 5, H. Mockridge 6, W. Gigg (cond.) 7, E. Symonds 8. For the anniversary of the King's Accession.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 28th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Bellamy 1, A. Gibbs 2, W. Whitmore 3, H. Richardson 4, G. Jeffs 5, A. Wilson 6, E. Whitmore (cond.) 7, L. Groom 8. First quarter in method by 2, 6 and 8.

THORNE, YORKS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,344 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. H. Jackson 1, W. E. Critchley (cond.) 2, G. Jackson 3, E. J. Padgett 4, J. Thorley 5, R. C. Westney 6, E. Thorley 7, C. Thorley 8. First quarter peal of Cambridge Surprise Major for all except conductor.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.—On Dec. 4th, 1,264 Grandsire Triples: W. Alterton (first quarter) 1, Mrs. V. Lathbury 2, G. Curtis 3, R. Andrews 4, L. Houghton 5, B. Calcombe 6, R. Lathbury (cond.) 7, G. Barnett 8. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Curtis.

WEMBDON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: O. Pole 1, E. Norman 2, H. Davis 3, C. Clarke 4, F. Sweet 5, R. Short (first as cond.) 6. First of Minor by 1 and 2. First 'inside' by 3.

WEST MALLING, KENT.—On Dec. 4th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Margaret Baker 1, R. Sills 2, J. Morris 3, Edna Sills 4, B. Baker 5, F. Knight 6, P. Wright (cond.) 7, F. Wright 8. A farewell to R. Sills on his call-up to the Army.

WESTON-BY-WELLAND, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On December 13th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire): Miss Frances Hart 1, C. Windram 2, F. Wallington 3, E. J. Sharp 4, W. Hector (cond.) 5.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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

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'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

From January, 1950, 'The Ringing World' will be enlarged to 16 pages and sold at 4d. Orders for postal copies should be sent to Mrs. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, at the following rates: 12 months £1, 6 months 10s. 6d., 3 months 5s. 6d.

Eight members of the Leicester Diocesan Guild had a field day on Saturday, December 17th, when they took part in four peals in the one day. Superlative Surprise Major was rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, London Surprise Major at Thurcaston, Bristol Surprise Major at Anstey and Cambridge Surprise Royal in the evening at the Bell Foundry. This is the first time that three peals of Surprise Major and one of Royal have been rung in a day. In offering congratulations we trust that memories are not too blurred for a full story for our readers.

Will those who have rung 40 or more peals during 1949 please send the following particulars: Number rung in tower and 'in hand,' and number of each conducted? We should also like photographs of those who completed 100 peals in 1949.

Bexhill Grammar School boys rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles in honour of the school speech day and commemoration service on December 12th. The boys are now seriously considering forming a ringing club in the school.

Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, celebrated his 84th birthday on December 5th. A peal in honour of the happy occasion at Bridgend came to grief through a miscall. On December 10th an attempt was made for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Aberavon. A good start was made and after about 20 minutes the light was put out at the main. Afterwards 1,632 Cambridge Surprise Major was rung by J. Evans 1, E. Stith 2, A. Hoare 3, T. M. Roderick 4, G. I. Lewis 5, J. Lovett 6, F. Lasbury 7, A. J. Pitman (cond.) 8. This was the longest length in the method by 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

BELFRY GOSSIP

For longevity in ringing go to Chedzoy, Somerset. Mr. B. Jeanes is the fourth member of his family to complete 50 years as a ringer. The others were Mr. H. Chapple (85½ years of age) 59 years, the late Mr. R. Hooper 51 years, and Mr. T. Jeanes 50½ years. He now rings at Bridgwater. On December 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles was rung at Chedzoy in honour of his half-century of service by W. Chiswick 1, S. Baker 2, P. Tucker 3, B. Jeanes 4, T. Chapple (cond.) 5, C. Newton 6.

The peal as Blewbury, Berks, on Dec. 3rd was the first by the local service band for 27 years.

The attempt for 6,496 Spliced Surprise Major in six methods will be made at Frodsham on December 31st and not January 31st as stated on page 606.

The band who rang Glasgow Surprise at Frodsham recently would like to offer apologies to the band who first made the 4th place bob (at Willesden on August 11th) in this method.

The peal of Stedman Caters at Trowbridge on December 10th was rung on the 40th anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples at Trowbridge in which Gilbert Harding, Thomas King and William Prescott took part. It was the first peal of Triples of Gilbert Harding and also of that Trowbridge stalwart, Sam Hector.

Apropos recent correspondence on Spliced Oxford and Kent Minor, Mr. A. D. Barker writes: On January 30th, 1926, a peal of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung at Stoke Poges consisting of seven different 720's. All 5-6's were at backstroke and without bobs. One of the band was 16, another 17 and two 18 years of age.

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SOMETHING NEW FOR THE NEW YEAR

'STEADFAST.'

There are, of course, hundreds of new methods for even-bell rings, but they are nearly all Surprise methods, and, as such, appeal only to the more expert hands. Here is something rather different, which may have an appeal to the average band as offering some degree of interest in practice, and a change from the Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob so often constituting the manageable repertoire. Oftentimes a method, mastered in one stage, is found to have no acceptable extension to other stages; but this method, which is a principle of the Stedman type, runs true to form from Minor to Maximus, and can be rung straight away by any competent Stedman band. So it should have a two-fold appeal to those who like to have their tenor turned in.

If we apply Grid Analysis to the Stedman method we derive a specification or 'formula' for producing the principle on all numbers, both odd and even. Translated into plain terms, the formula yields this:—

Let a front-group of bells of minimum number do plain hunting to their extent, forming a 'set' of rows, then reverse the hunting from forward to backward for the next set. While the sets thus alternate, let the bells above do a treble-bob form of hunt, an exchange of two bells taking place between front and rear groups at every set-junction.

Boiled down, that becomes just this:—
'Extended treble-bob hunting on all bells above a minimum, reversing, plain hunting, front group.'

In the front bell-group it is, of course, the forward hunting which gives the quick sets and the backward hunting which gives the slow sets.

The Stedman we know so well being on odd numbers, the front group is an odd number, of minimum 3, giving sets of extents of six change rows, causing the back-group bells to do a treble-bob hunt of the double-dodging kind.

With the formula applied to even numbers, the front group becomes an even number, of minimum 4, giving sets of extents of eight change rows, causing the back-group bells to do a treble-bob hunt of the triple-dodging kind. (The dodging, being, of course, in 5-6. 7-8. 9-10, 11-12.)

And so we find, as in Stedman, Quick-work, Dodging, Slow-work and Dodging again, with bells coming to lead at hand in a Quick set and at back in a Slow set. Also the same rule applies for the 'way into' the front work from the dodging; thus:—

When dodging in 5-6 down, if you are QUICK to strike your course bell (i.e., at start of dodging), you go in QUICK; but if you are SLOW to strike your course bell (i.e., at end of dodging), you go in SLOW.

An even more remarkable indication of the validity of the working of Grid Analysis in these matters is that the 'blue line' of the Slow work in the method is found to be similar to that of Stedman, but 'extended' to cover the four bells therein, so that all 3rds places become 4ths, the rest being as in Stedman: First whole turn, first half turn, last half turn and last whole turn, all in their correct order. The two extra change rows in the set, however (8 instead of 6 as in Stedman) give rise to just one extra tit-bit at the entry of the Slow, and its reverse at the exit from the Slow. This is called the 'Turn IN'—4ths, lead and 3rds; and the 'Turn Out'—3rds, lead and 4th. There is no need to take up space here with a diagram. A few seconds with pencil and paper will give the blue line for the Slow work without any difficulty.

From its connection and consistency with the Stedman methods it has been named

'Steadfast.' Here are comparable stages of Doubles and Minor:—

Stedman.	Steadfast.	
	2135 46	
	Q 1234 56	
	2143 65	
Q 432 51	2413 56	
Q 453 12	4231 65	
543 21	4321 56	
534 12	3412 65	
354 21	3142 56	
345 12	1324 65	

S 431 52	S 3126 45
341 25	3216 54
314 52	2361 45
134 25	2631 54
143 52	6213 45
413 25	6123 54
Q 142 35	1632 45
	1362 54
	Q 3165 24

As Steadfast is an even-bell method rounds is the first row of a set (back-stroke), and for the treble to move straight up on 'Go', it must be a Quick set to start.

Note that the only 3rds places in Steadfast. (in the Turns In and Out) come at the parting of the sets.

Calls are made exactly as in Stedman.

The method received its 'baptism' in the tower of St. Mary Magdalene, Upton, Devon, on Friday, Aug. 19th, 1949, when members of the Universities' Association, after a look at the blue line and the go-offs, rang the plain course in the Major.

A. Y.-B.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

WEST DORSET BRANCH.

The annual meeting on December 10th at Bridport brought together about 50 ringers from nine towers in the branch, with visitors from Abbotsbury, Stratton, Bovingdon and Templecombe.

Canon G. C. Clare conducted the service in church, the lesson being read by the Rev. C. F. Chase. The Rev. O. L. Willmott, Vicar of Lodgers, gave an arresting address on the character of English bellringing and bellringers.

The business meeting was held after tea in the Church Hall, the Rev. C. Carew Cox, branch chairman, presiding. At the outset Mr. L. Hayball and the chairman paid a tribute to the late Mr. Harry Bull, of Hawkechurch, a long standing member of the Guild, and all stood in silence for a moment to his memory.

The accounts showed a satisfactory credit balance of £23 8s. 8d. All the officers were unanimously re-elected, and four new members, Messrs. C. Chard, R. Drake, J. Drake and E. Bonnell, from Lodgers, were welcomed.

Future meetings were provisionally arranged to be held at Burton Bradstock, Lyme Regis, Corsecombe and Powerstock.

A communication from the Central Council in connection with the formation of a roll of honour of ringers who gave their lives in the last war elicited the happy fact that all who served from the towers represented at the meeting had returned safely. Members were glad to hear that Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart, of Ferndown, was making satisfactory progress after an operation in Wimborne Hospital.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was moved by the chairman to Canon Clare for his welcome, to the incumbents who had granted the use of their bells that day, to the Rev. O. L. Willmott for his excellent address, to Mr. B. Elsworth, the branch organist, and to the hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. Lathey, for his arrangements.

Ringling during the afternoon and evening included call changes, Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob Doubles and Triples, Double Norwich and Cambridge Major.

Gloucester and Bristol SWINDON BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Christ Church, Swindon, on Dec. 10th, and there were visitors from Cirencester, Melksham, Chippenham and Olney, Bucks, in addition to the branch members. The usual ringing and service took place, and the company was entertained to tea.

At the business meeting sympathetic reference was made to the passing of Mr. W. M. Greenaway. The retiring chairman (Mr. W. H. Trueman) and secretary (Mr. W. B. Kynaston) were re-elected, and it was proposed that meetings be held at St. Mark's, Swindon, Malmesbury and Rodbourne Cheney during the next three months. A collection for the Association Belfry Repair Fund realised £1 10s.

CHELTENHAM BRANCH ANNUAL.

Twenty-three members and 12 visitors attended the annual meeting at Charlton Kings, the Vicar presiding. The annual report, presented by Mr. C. Rouse, stated that the branch had now reached the end of its 30th year. Of the 19 members elected at the first meeting, only two, W. Townsend and G. H. Walters, were still on their list. During the 30 years 72 meetings had been held and 62 peals rung in their area for the Association.

The dinner, revived after an interval of ten years, was a success and it would be a pity to let it drop again. There was no doubt as to the success of the branch outing, but some members felt that the experiment of allowing ladies in the party should not be repeated.

No new members had been made during the year and they had lost three by death. Paid-up membership was 69, against 85 last year. He advocated more frequent meetings as a means of stimulating interest.

Ringling for Sunday service had not been so frequent in some towers as it should be. More members were needed and every effort should be made by all to find those who were willing to learn. 'We shall have to make a very great effort if we are to retain our position as one of the strongest branches, there having been great progress made in other areas.'

Mr. T. Boreham was re-elected chairman and Mr. C. Rouse, secretary, was also re-elected after saying it would be impossible to put in so much work again. Thanks were largely due to Mrs. West, who was now seriously ill in hospital. Mr. G. Kilmister, of Badgeworth, was elected representative on the Management Committee.

A service was held and ringling ranged from rounds to Cambridge.

MIDDLESEX JOINT MEETING

The occasion of the joint meeting between the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Middlesex and London Diocesan Guild, held at St. Ann's, Highgate, and St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on December 10th, had a most successful and encouraging response. Approximately 60 ringers attended, the gathering being composed of those from all districts of London and visitors from places as far apart as Cambridge, Croydon, Hertford, Reading and Southampton.

Ringling at both towers took place with crowded ringing chambers and consequently there was little time between touches, but care was taken to see that everyone was catered for, and the methods ranged up to Cambridge Surprise, with some rounds for those as yet not far advanced.

Mr. C. J. Matthews, Past Master of the Cumberlands, welcomed the Middlesex Association, but was sorry to announce that the present Master, Mr. G. H. Cross, had just entered hospital for an operation. The meeting wished Mr. Cross an early and complete recovery. Mr. A. W. Coles, vice-president of the Middlesex Association, replied with thanks to all concerned, including Mr. T. Bevan, who had made the arrangements for use of the bells, evening service and tea.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOSE OUTSIDE THE PALE

Dear Sir,—I feel that I must congratulate you on the admirable sentiments expressed in the final paragraph of your leader, 'The Lincoln Jubilee,' in the issue of December 9th.

The fact that it is the small town and village bands who perform their duties faithfully, who are the backbone of the ringing world, is a doctrine which I have been trying to drum into you for some time. One can only hope that your conversion to the true faith is genuine and lasting.

May I suggest a further stage in your education?

Make a point as frequently as you can to visit isolated towers—the more isolated the better—and, without disclosing your identity, try and find out how interested the band is in the Central Council, Guilds and 'The Ringing World.'

I suggest questions on these lines:—

What is the name of your Association?

Who are the Ringing Master and secretary?

How is your Guild or Association subdivided?

What are the names of your district or branch chairman and secretary?

Do you attend any ringing meetings, and how frequently do you ring away from your own tower?

What is the Central Council and what does it do?

Does anyone in your tower take in 'The Ringing World'?

Having collated your replies, I feel certain that you would be forced to the following conclusions:—

That the average village band has no interest outside about a five-mile radius.

That the disbandment of the Central Council would not even be a matter of fleeting interest.

That about 50 per cent. of ringers have a vague interest in their own Association and about 75 per cent. in their own branch or district.

That not more than 25 per cent. of known ringers are the least interested in 'The Ringing World.'

Your paragraph which I have referred to above is oddly at variance with the first sentence of the last paragraph of your leader of October 28th. The fact is that to the small town or village band it would not make the slightest difference if the Central Council was disbanded, 'The Ringing World' ceased publication, and very little difference if their local Association ceased to operate.

If and when you realise how little the Central Council, large Guilds and 'The Ringing World' count in the scheme of things, your conversion to the true faith will be complete.

—Yours faithfully,

T. V. LISTER (Group Captain).

Apperley, Glos.

[It is the sole purpose of 'The Ringing World,' working in conjunction with the Central Council and the Guilds, to advance change ringing. We agree that in 'the scheme of things' we are of little count to those uninterested in our art. So is the Church Assembly to many members of the Church of England, but it is very real to those conscious of its work and responsibilities.—Editor.]

In response to the Rector's written request, eight members of the Sheffield and District Society visited Bradfield Parish Church, in snow and ice, on December 10th to help him and his ringers in their efforts to master the art. After a useful and enjoyable afternoon's ringing on the six bells, the Rector (the Rev. A. King) and his wife kindly provided refreshment at the Rectory.

BRITISH BELLS AND AMERICAN FILMS

Dear Sir,—I was extremely interested in the letter from Mr. P. J. L. Purslow re the touch of Grandsire Triples, which I also heard in Saturday Night Theatre on November 19th. On December 10th in the same programme a play was presented called 'Our Town.' It was about a small town in America with a typical small American church. At one stage in the play there was a wedding at the church and before the ceremony I heard eight bells ringing, which sounded like Westminster Abbey bells. Surely a small town in America with a small church would not possess eight bells. Could anybody please help? Perhaps the B.B.C. have the answer.—Yours faithfully,

F. STUART WORTH.

R.N. Hospital, Plymouth.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS GREETING

Dear Sir,—In the radio play, 'The man with a cloak full of holes,' Christopher Columbus, on his triumphant return from his voyage of discovery in 1492, was greeted by the ringing of some excellent Stedman Triples on tower bells (suspiciously like those of Westminster Abbey), which could be clearly heard in the background of the celebration din.

I have informed the B.B.C. that, quite apart from the fact that neither Spain nor Portugal has ever possessed a ringing ring of bells, Fabian Stedman, the author of the method depicted, was not born until shortly before the middle of the seventeenth century.

As a record was obviously used, it would be interesting to know whether the bells were, in fact, those of Westminster Abbey.—Yours faithfully,

T. R. BUTLER.

Liverpool 9.

THETFORD'S 37 YEARS' BLANK

Dear Sir,—I was pleased to see in 'The Ringing World' of December 16th that at last another peal has been rung at St. Peter's, Thetford. I well remember the last, a peal of Bob Major, conducted by the late Thomas Fitzjohn on December 1st, 1912. How proud I felt that day, having rung a peal in my own tower. Thirty-seven years is a long time, but these things help to take one back to one's youth.

I should also like to take this opportunity to thank all friends who have written and visited me during my long illness, and am pleased to say I hope soon to be back in harness.—Yours sincerely,

FREDERICK A. SALTER.

110, Noel Street, Nottingham.

THANKS TO NEWCASTLE

Dear Sir,—I had to be in Newcastle-on-Tyne on Wednesday, December 14th, on a distasteful but necessary piece of duty. May I say thank you to the ringers of St. Nicholas' for lightening the end of a hard morning's work? I was too much occupied to listen with any close attention, but the half-hour's ringing to which they treated me from 12.30 till one o'clock was a fine refreshment for the mind and spirit.—Yours sincerely,

A. M. HOUGHTON.

YATTON BELLS TO BE RESTORED

The Church Council of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Yatton, Somerset, have entrusted the restoration of the ring of eight (tenor 22 cwt. approximately) with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The cost is in the region of £1,400.

Work includes the recasting of the front four bells, retuning the remainder and re-hanging on a steel frame. The frame will be installed some 12ft. lower than the present frame. The 7th bell (pre-Reformation) is to be retained.

What's In a Name?

By MARGARET WOOLLEY.

There is nothing new in the idea of grouping ringers into peal bands according to their surnames; it has been done before in theory and in practice. Possibly, however, some of the following combinations have not been noticed before. All the names have appeared in 'The Ringing World' within the last two months.

- (a) Lords and Commons: King, Bishop, Duke, Nobles, Lord, Barron, Knight and Squires.
- (b) Bishops: Birmingham, Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Durham, Exeter, Salisbury and Bath-and-Wells.
- (c) Ecclesiastical: Bishop, Deacon, Dean, Monk, Prior and Pope.
- (d) International: Brittain, England and Holland; Fleming, Scott and Pole; French and Welch.
- (e) Nautical: Fleet, Goodship, Hull, Manship, Mariner, Seaman, Shipp, Waterman, Derrick and Winch.
- (f) Waterways: Beck, Brooks, Burns, Bywaters, Dyke, Poole, Rivers and Wells.
- (g) Rowing (a handbell band): Cox, Rowe, Steere and Henley.
- (h) Cricket: Ball, Bowler, Fielding, Gulley, Legg and Over.

Incidentally there is at least a major band of 'famous cricketers' available!

- (i) A slow band: Ambler, Miles, Palmer, Pilgrim, Walker and Wander.
- (j) A 'quick band': Dash, Fleet, Gallop, Rush, Sharp and Speed.
- (k) Topographical: Cave, Fenn, Heath, Hill, Lane, Marsh, Moor and Wood.
- (l) Agricultural: Farmer, Garner, Grain, Meadows, Orchard, Reeve, Root and Rye.
- (a) Hunting and Shooting: Badger, Buck, Fox, Hare, Hart, Hinde, Partridge, Stag, Basset, Fowler, Hunt and Butt.
- (n) Financial: Banks, Bond, Charge, Deal, Dear, Price, Purchase and Worth.
- (o) Emotional: Anger, Bliss, Care and Hope; Meek, Moody, Savage and Wild. (These can be made up to a Royal band at the cost of a bad pun, with Bould and Sangwin.)
- (p) Measurement: Acres, Bayles, Bushel, Measures, Miles and Peck.
- (q) A Seasonal Band: Fogg, Frost, Hoare, Sleet, Midwinter and Winters.

Other possible groups which readers may care to work out for themselves could be described as culinary, legal, ornithological, mountainous and geographical. Someone may also find a fourth Conservative statesman to combine with Churchill, Eden and Chamberlain!

SUFFOLK GUILD

A most successful meeting was held at Stoke (6) and Clare (8) on December 17th. Stoke-by-Clare has a reputation for its hospitality, and the bountiful tea and roaring fire and a bottle of port given by the churchwarden were ample reward for those attending. Mrs. Leslie Mills, Master Donald Mills, aged 10, of Bures, and Miss Rosemary Seabrook (14), of Clare, were elected members. A total of 30 or more from the district and Essex and Cambs visitors much enjoyed a good variety of methods on these two well-kept rings. The annual district meeting will be held at Sudbury early in February.

WORCESTER.—At the Church of All Saints, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: H. Bentley 1, T. W. Lewis 2, R. G. Morris (first on 10) 3, Miss C. A. Harding 4, W. Lewis 5, W. H. Compton 6, C. Tansell 7, J. J. Jeffries 8, D. R. Morris (cond.) 9, G. Ambler 10.

**BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., Dec. 10, 1949, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 2,160 and four 720's, different callings.

JOHN E. COOK Treble	*LOUIS WILDERS 4
*OWEN A. NEEDHAM 2	JOHN WALDEN 5
*AMOS INGALL 3	MOSES BILLINGS Tenor

Conducted by MOSES BILLINGS.

* First peal of Surprise. First of Surprise as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

*On Sun., Dec. 11, 1949, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 6 six-scores of April Day, 15 of Plain Bob, 15 of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 6 of Grandshire. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES RANFORD Treble	THOMAS COOPER 4
C. WILLIAM NUTT 2	FREDERICK MERRICK 5
ROLAND E. LEWIS... .. 3	WILLIAM RANFORD Tenor

Conducted by C. WILLIAM NUTT.

HANDBELL PBALS

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor size 14 in D.
ALBERT H. WARD 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN... .. 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3-4	*MICHAEL J. E. BEST (15) 7-8

Conducted by MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY.

* First peal 'in hand.'

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor size 14 in D.
ALBERT H. WARD 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
*JAMES E. DANIELS (16) ... 3-4	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 7-8

Conducted by MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY.

* First peal of Triples away from the tenors.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

*On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOLS,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

*ALFRED MOULD 1-2	ERNEST MORRIS 5-6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD... 3-4	*JACK BAILEY 7-8

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal 'in hand.'

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sat., Dec. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF CHRIST CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*ALAN A. POTTS 1-2	JOHN WORTH 5-6
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3-4	PETER LAFLIN 7-8

*JOSEPH WHITTAKER ... 9-10

Composed by EDWARD FRANCIS. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.
* First peal of Royal 'in hand.' First peal of Bob Royal as conductor. A birthday compliment to ringer of 7-8. Tenor size 17

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sun., Dec. 4, 1949, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,
AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.	
GEORGE E. FEARN 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
PHILIP BARNES 3-4	GEORGE E. FEARN 7-8

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by JACK BRAY.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sun., Dec. 4, 1949, in 2 Hours and 9 Minutes,
IN THE CATHEDRAL BELFRY,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Dexter's Variation.	Tenor size 15 in C.
HAROLD J. POOLE 1-2	*ARTHUR V. DAVIS 5-6
ALFRED BALLARD 3-4	*MARY E. DAVIS 7-8

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Stedman on handbells. † First peal of Stedman.

**LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sun., Dec. 4, 1949, in 1 Hour and 47 Minutes,
IN ST. PETER'S VICARAGE,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being ten callings. Tenor size 14 in D.

*EDWARD F. M. SAMSON... 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 3-4
	MARY E. DAVIS 5-6

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal on 'inside' pair.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Mon., Dec. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S SELECT VESTRY HALL,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5077 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.	
JOSEPH A. FENTON 1-2	ALAN CATTELL 5-6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS 7-8
	JOHN BRAMLEY 9-10

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Tues., Dec. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*PETER J. STANFORTH ... 1-2	HAROLD J. POOLE 5-6
ALFRED BALLARD 3-4	†NORMAN G. MCCRUM ... 7-8

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 50th peal this year. † First peal on handbells. Tenor size 15 in C.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Tues., Dec. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor size 14 in D.
ALBERT H. WARD 1-2	WILLIAM G. YOUNG 5-6
DANIEL T. MATKIN 3-4	FRANCIS S. WILSON 7-8

Conducted by WILLIAM G. YOUNG.

First peal as conductor on a 'working' pair. Arranged so that the two veterans, Messrs. Ward and Wilson, who are 77 and 74 respectively, could ring another peal together. Also a compliment to John W. Jones, of Newport, Mon., who was 84 on December 5th.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Wed., Dec. 7, 1949, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT NEWSTEAD, STOKE ROAD,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ALFRED JORDAN 1-2	EDGAR VALLANCE 5-6
ALFRED BALLARD 3-4	HECTOR KNIGHTS 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by EDGAR VALLANCE.

Rung for the birthday of the conductor. Tenor size 12 in F.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Thurs., Dec. 8, 1949, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

No. 16.	Tenor size 17 in A.
WILLIAM G. YOUNG 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
*MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3-4	ROY C. HURST 7-8
	ALBERT H. WARD 9-10

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* 100th peal this year. The conductor's 100th peal as conductor 'in hand.'

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Fri., Dec. 9, 1949, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.	
WILLIAM G. YOUNG 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3-4	KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER ... 7-8

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sun., Dec. 11, 1949, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT 129, STOKE ROAD,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten different callings.	Tenor size 14 in D.
*HAROLD A. MAY 1-2	†ROGER O. FRY 3-4
	T. MARK WHITE 5-6

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

* First peal of Grandshire Doubles. † First peal 'in hand.' First peal on six handbells by all the band. An 80th birthday compliment to Mrs. R. White, grandmother of the tenor ringer.

Book Review

'Introduction to the Theory of Finite Groups,' by W. Ledermann. University Mathematical Texts (Oliver and Boyd), 1st Edition, 1949, 8s. 6d.

This is a welcome addition to the very few books which are of importance to the composer. The Theory of Groups is expounded in a straightforward way, which, however, will only appeal to the mathematician. Most of the fundamental ideas of part composition will be found buried in its pages. The later chapters are indigestible on a first reading, but may possibly yield fresh angles on composition.

There seems to be nothing in the book which is irrelevant. It serves to stress the chaos which exists in the naming of technical terms between mathematicians and ringers. The terms 'transposition' and 'permutation' are used in senses entirely different from those generally accepted by ringers; this, of course, does not alter the basic ideas behind the names, but it is confusing. The three basic ideas in change ringing are:—

(a) Arrangements of the figures (bells) in particular order.

(b) The way in which one particular order gives way to another may be thought of in two ways: (b1) Paying attention to the way in which the figures replace one another irrespective of which positions they happen to be in for the particular case. (b2) Paying attention to the way in which the figures change positions irrespective of which figures they are.

(a) is invariably called row' (change ringing), 'permutation' (some text books). (b1) is called 'permutation' in the above book, but apparently has no name for the ringer. (b2) to the ringer is transposition.' In the above book, 'transposition' is used for (b1), in which only one pair of figures change places. Above all, we have the bogey-man 'change,' which has apparently no precise meaning at all. The more I read old correspondence on this matter the more confused I get.

The preface truly says, 'Elementary expositions of the subject are not readily available in English,' then tongue-in-cheek later states 'of such an elementary character that it can be readily understood by an honours student in his second or third year.' Notwithstanding, the book brings Group Theory within the reach of all interested. The time seems ripe for us to revise our naming of the three fundamental ideas.

B. D. P.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT.

Whitwick was the venue for the last meeting of 1949. About 30 ringers and friends gathered for what was one of the most successful meetings of the year.

Quite a number of methods were successfully brought round, including Cambridge, St. Clement's and College Major. Also by an entirely Loughborough District band a course of Yorkshire Major was rung. This is believed to be the first time it has been rung at a Loughborough District meeting by a local band. The local band rang a touch of Spliced Minor in eleven methods.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. F. G. Hogarth, who in the course of his address spoke of the spirit of service and co-operation.

Tea, provided by the local ringers and members of the Mothers' Union, was held in the school. The contribution, amounting to £2, was given to the Church Restoration Fund.

At the business meeting it was decided that the next meeting should be the annual, this to be held at Loughborough on January 28th as a joint meeting with the Ladies' Guild, Midland District.

After the meeting ringing continued until 8 p.m., ending what had been a year of real progress in the Loughborough District, not only in the methods rung, but also in the quality of the striking
J.A.U.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild

NORTH DORSET BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the North Dorset Branch was held at Sherborne on December 10th. Towers represented were Cann, Childe Okeford, Ferndown, Gillingham, Hazelbury Bryan, Manston, Kington Magna, Sherborne, Shaftesbury, Shroton, Sturminster Newton, Stoke Trister, Stourpaine and Yetminster. There were also visitors from Buckland Newton, Ditchat, Horsington, North and South Cadbury, Piddlehinton and Yeovil.

Ringing was followed by the Guild service. The secretary officiated, the Rev. R. M. Taylor read the lesson, and the address was given by the Vicar of Sherborne, the Rev. S. B. Wingfield Digby.

At the business meeting the secretary read the financial statement for 1949, which showed an income of £22 12s. 9d., expenditure to date of £6 14s. 4d., leaving a credit balance of £22 18s. 5d.

The Revs. R. M. Taylor, F. L. Edwards and Wm. Uphill were re-elected as chairman, vice-chairman and secretary and treasurer, respectively. The Rev. B. S. Wingfield Digby and Mr. J. Ralph were elected to the Branch Committee. Messrs. P. Thomas, Durweston, and T. E. Lamey, Hazelbury Bryan, were elected ringing members, and Mr. R. G. Field, Evercech, as life member.

The name of the late W. E. Green, of Hazelbury Bryan, is to be placed on the National Ringers' War Memorial Roll of Honour. Thanks were expressed to the Vicar of Sherborne and to the Abbey organist.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS EXETER BRANCH.

The meeting at St. David's, Exeter, was attended by a large number of branch members and visitors from other branches. The service in the Parish Church was taken by the Rev. C. M. Major, who welcomed the gathering.

About 40 took tea in the St. David's Institute. At the business meeting, which followed, Mr. A. W. Searle presided in the absence of the chairman, Mr. T. Bartlett, indisposed.

Regret was expressed at the absence of the Rev. Preb. E. V. Cox (president) in hospital and Mr. T. Bartlett through illness. A silence was observed in memory of the Rev. Canon Coleridge, the oldest member of the Devon Guild.

The officials of 1949 were re-elected: Mr. T. Bartlett (chairman), Mr. E. J. Ryall (hon. secretary and treasurer), Mr. E. W. Biffin (Ringing Master), Messrs. H. Corry, H. Pook and E. W. Biffin (Guild Committee). During the afternoon ringing was at St. David's and in the evening an enjoyable time was spent at the Cathedral belfry, by kind permission of the Dean.

A PEAL AT LISKEARD

A peal has been rung at Liskeard, Cornwall, the first for 46 years, that being one by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson and his touring band in 1903. Talk of the attempt began in the summer, and it was hoped that Mr. W. G. Hiscott, at one time a most active Plymouth ringer, now living at Liskeard, would stand in, but when the time came he felt he could not.

When the fixed date—October 22nd—came, four each from Devon and Cornwall met. Local interest was encouraging, and six ropes had been spliced, but after 1½ hours down came the third rope. The most disappointed man was the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Parsons, who demanded that a further attempt be made, and the same band met four weeks later to ring the kind of peal that does method ringing good in this 'stone' area.

The Vicar and Mrs. Parsons climbed the tower immediately rounds came to offer congratulations. Liskeard tower is very fine, having been rebuilt in 1901, but the bells are a mixed lot and have for long had a 'reputation.' The tenor is by an unknown founder.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

WIRRAL BRANCH 'AT PLAY.'

The third annual social, held this year at St. Bridget's Parish Hall, West Kirby, on Nov. 25th, was attended by over 230 ringers and friends and proved most entertaining.

The young West Kirby ringers, under the guidance of Mr. W. R. Stanley, are to be congratulated upon the decorative transformation they had wrought and the hall had a real festive atmosphere.

Almost from the word 'go' everyone was determined to enjoy themselves, and the interval with its consequent lavish refreshments soon arrived. The Rector's warden (Mr. T. Morgan) apologised for the Rector's unavoidable absence owing to a slight indisposition.

Balloons and streamers added to later jollities and, as usual, midnight arrived before the programme of dances, games and novelty items had been exhausted. A fleet of buses conveyed the party home.

From concluding speeches, applause and subsequent remarks all present voted the function a huge success. The Social Committee, Messdames G. Webster and M. Webster and Messrs. W. R. Stanley, J. A. Webster, W. O. Wharton and A. J. Martin, are to be complimented on its excellent organisation.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD

The quarterly meeting was held at Halesowen on December 3rd. The Rev. H. Davies, curate-in-charge of Hasbury, conducted the Guild service and presided at the meeting following, which was attended by 60 members and friends.

The election of two members was ratified. The arrangements for the annual meeting on March 18th, made by the secretary, were confirmed.

Further ringing until nine o'clock brought another successful meeting to a close.

LATE NOTICES

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Annual district meeting, Jan. 7th, Market Harborough. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Schoolroom. P.C. for tea by Jan. 3rd to F. Wallington, St. Mary Road, Market Harborough. 6326

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Penny Stratford, Saturday, Jan. 7th, at 5 p.m.—R. H. Howson. 6321

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting, St. John's, Devizes, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Bells also available, St. Mary's and St. James'. Names for tea.—F. Salford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 6319

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, Jan. 7th, All Saints', Wigan. Bells (10) 2.30. No arrangements for tea. Cafes nearby.—J. Burns. 6325

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—Annual meeting, Tiverton, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Names for tea by Jan. 4th to E. J. Taylor, National Provincial Bank, Tiverton. 6324

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Annual dinner and social, Jan. 14th, Working Men's Club, Stoney Stanton. Bells 4 o'clock. Dinner 6.30. Tickets 6s. Late buses to all parts of district, fare 1s. Buses from Stanton leave Lawns, Hinckley, 15 and 45 minutes past hour; Boulevard, Leicester, 15 minutes past hour. Names for dinner and late bus with remittance to Mr. C. Turner, Barian, Cowper Road, Hinckley, by Tuesday, Jan. 10th.—P. Measures, Dis. Sec. 6322

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Annual meeting, Weedon, Jan. 14th. Tea for those who send names to Mr. V. Perry, The Yews, Weedon, Northampton, by Thursday, Jan. 5th. 6323

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no charge one-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

MISCELLANEOUS

BACK NUMBERS.—A limited number of back numbers for most issues of 1946 and 1947 are available, post free 4d. per copy.—Apply Editor, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies should send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter-peals are submitted.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

PUBLICATIONS

'**CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,**' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

'**SCOTTISH RINGS OF BELLS,**' by Ranald Clouston, 2s. post free from the author at The Châlet, Yaxley, near Eye, Suffolk. This book gives full particulars, including weights of all known rings in Scotland. 6199

No better pen picture of early ringing societies has been published than J. Armiger Trollope's 'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' illustrated, 5s. 6d. post free.—'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Chelmsford, no practice December 31st. 6306

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District. — Somersham, Saturday, Dec. 31st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—S. Gilbert, Dis. Sec. 6255

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice Monday, Jan. 2nd, 7.15, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Meeting, Jan. 7th, St. Mary's, Putney Bridge, 2.45. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Business, All Saints', Fulham, 5.45. Ringing 7 p.m. Annual general, Feb. 4th, Southwark Cathedral and other towers. Everyone welcome to all meetings.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921. 6230

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Cathedral (12) bells 1.30 to 2.30, 6 to 7.30; St. Maurice's (6) 1.30 to 2.30, 6 to 8. Meeting 2.30 at the Tea Rooms above Smith's Book Shop, High Street, Winchester. Tea (4.30) only for those who notify by Tuesday, Jan. 3rd. Service, Cathedral, 5.15.—L. A. Tremeer, 34, The Dean, Alresford. 6249

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden (8), Jan. 7th, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea by Jan. 3rd to R. A. Whitehead, 19, Deakin Leas, Tonbridge. 6235

STAFFORD ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY.—Meeting at Sedgley, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 3. Service 4.45. Tea 5.30. Names for tea by Jan. 3rd to Rev. C. H. Barker, Swindon Vicarage, near Dudley. 6282

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery.—Annual meeting, Martock, Jan. 7th. Please notify early for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock. 6283

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting, Bocking, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Names for tea to Mrs. Moore, 244, Broad Road, Bocking, Braintree. 6285

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. Division.—Annual meeting, Hornchurch (8), Jan. 7th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and meeting. Elections, etc. Further ringing till 8 p.m. Numbers for tea by Jan. 4th to F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch. 6280

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to W. Nicholls, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgeford, by Wednesday, Jan. 4th, latest.—W. Thornley. 6305

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Chesterfield, Jan. 7th. Committee 3.30. Names for tea 5 to Sam Scattergood, 797, Sheffield Road, Sheepbridge, Chesterfield, by Jan. 4th. General meeting 6.—William Lancaster, Gen. Sec. 6256

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—Saturday, Jan. 7th, St. Luke's, Brislington. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify for tea.—A. Bennett, Hon. Sec. 6297

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Annual meeting, Kettering, Jan. 7th. Bells (10) 3. Names for tea before Tuesday.—G. Watson, 81, Church Street, Burton Latimer. 6300

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, on Saturday, Jan. 7th, at 6 p.m. prompt. St. Martin's bells available at 5.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec. 6301

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Oxhey (8), Jan. 7th. Practice meeting 3. Tea 5.30.—S. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford. 6302

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kington District.—Annual meeting at Eardisland, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Meeting after. Names for tea to me by Wednesday, Jan. 4th.—J. Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster. 6312

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Horsham (8), Jan. 7th, 3. Names for tea by Jan. 4th to G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 6316

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bedford (8) on Jan. 7th, 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock in St. Peter's Hall.—P. L. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6317

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Kirtgn-on-Holland on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5, in Parish Hall. Names for tea to me by Monday, Jan. 2nd.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 6318

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Upottery, Jan. 14th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea after. Names for tea to the Rev. F. J. Prowse, Upottery, Honiton, not later than Jan. 7th. 6248

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Annual district meeting at Apsley (6) on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells 3. Handbells also available in Woodbarner's Cafe, near church, from 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. V. Good, 44, Belmont Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, by Jan. 11th.—Pamela A. Martin, Dis. Sec. 6308

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Annual meeting, Bishop's Stortford, Jan. 14th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will all members please make an effort to attend. Names for tea by 11th.—A. S. Carter, 93, North Road, Hertford. 6281

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Wellingborough, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Names sure by Tuesday previous.—A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough. 6304

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—The annual general meeting will be held at Harlow Town on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, followed by business meeting. Names for tea, please.—G. Blake, 96, Burford Street, Hoddesdon, Herts. 6286

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Annual general meeting will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Number for tea to A. H. Everest, Rose Cottage, Boreham. 6307

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting, Horsham St. Faith's, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, in Church Hall. Business meeting follows. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 10th, please.—H. Tooke, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. 6309

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Repton on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to S. H. Jones, 6, Brook End, Repton, near Derby, by Jan. 12th.—J. Cotton. 6310

LINCOLN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Annual meeting, Metheringham (8), Jan. 14th. Bells available 2. Service 4.15. Tea for those who notify me by the Tuesday previous.—John Freeman, Hon. Sec., 95, Sincl Bank, Lincoln. 6311

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Annual meeting, Leicester, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Tea and meeting 5, St. Martin's Day School, Friar Lane. Ringing details later. Names for tea by Jan. 10th to W. Root, 70, New Parks Boulevard, Leicester. 6314

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting at St. Peter's, Colchester, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) from 2 to 5 and 7 to 8. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting, St. Peter's Hall. Names for tea by the 10th, please.—H. J. Millatt, Hon. Sec., 106, Hythe Hill, Colchester. 6315

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual dinner at Newark Town Hall, Jan. 28th, 6.30. Parish Church bells (10) available. Accommodation limited. Tickets 10s. 6d. each from J. W. Raithby, 145, Farndon Road, Newark. 6220

DEVON GUILD.—South-West Branch.—Annual meeting, Revelstoke, Jan. 28th. Usual arrangements. Names by Jan. 21st to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 6278

MR. W. ROGERS' 100 PEALS

Congratulations to Mr. W. Rogers, of Rotherfield, Sussex, on completing his first 100 peals. His list is appended:—

Triples: Grandsire 11 (conducted 4), Stedman 2.

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Caters: Stedman 4, Grandsire 3, Double Norwich 1.

Royal: Cambridge 1, Yorkshire 1, Kent 1, Plain Bob 3.

Cinquets: Stedman 2.

AN 81st BIRTHDAY

The peal of Bristol, rung at St. Thomas', South Wigston, on December 7th, was a birthday compliment to Mr. John E. Clarke, who attained the age of 81 on December 5th. We are delighted to say that Mr. Clarke is still an 'ever present' Sunday service ringer at the above church and trust his 'happy returns' will be many to enable him to continue to follow the art that has meant, and still does mean, so very much to him.

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