

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 636. Vol. XVIII.

FRIDAY, MAY 25th, 1923.

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921.

**BELLS,
CARILLONS,
CLOCKS.**

PROPAGANDA AND INSTRUCTION.

A correspondent puts forward some pertinent suggestions, in a letter which we publish, in connection with the Management of Associations, and he emphasises the importance of greater propaganda and instructional work by the ringing organisations. These are two subjects upon which we have frequently dwelt in this column, and too much emphasis cannot be laid upon them. Many of the associations do very little in either direction, and, apart from periodical meetings, leave the instruction of beginners to the chance interest of some neighbouring ringer, and propaganda to take care of itself. Yet, as a matter of fact, these two things are of real—indeed, vital—importance. The former will raise the standard of ringing and increase the number of change ringers, the latter should be first directed to interesting the clergy of those towers where they are at present ignorant of or indifferent to the objects of ringing associations.

With regard to instructing beginners in the art, there are some ringers who do not agree with the principle of paid instructors. Voluntary effort is no doubt best, and before fees are paid out an association, of course, would have to be satisfied as to a ringer's efficiency as an instructor, but where a man who has the ability to impart knowledge to others is prepared to give his time to instructional work, he ought at any rate to receive his out-of-pocket expenses. The question of instruction is by no means a simple one. Given a capable instructor and a keen and intelligent band, much good can be done in a very short time; but effort is wasted unless tutor and pupils show the necessary qualifications in their respective roles. Another important consideration is how long the instruction should be continued in the case of a receptive band. It is frequently the case that as soon as a few six scores of Doubles can be rung the instructor is withdrawn and the band left to shift for themselves. This, in our opinion, is a very bad policy. To reap the full advantage, the instructional course ought to be continued well beyond this very elementary stage, and one of the reasons for the frequent failure of these courses is that the work is not continued as far as it ought to be.

On the question of propaganda, there are few associations which work on any settled plan. An occasional meeting at some tower unaffiliated with the organisation is held in the hope of winning the support of the incumbent and the ringers, and usually, be it said, this brings success, but the infrequency of such meetings would make it, in the case of some associations, a question of years before all the towers could be reached. What is wanted in many parts of the country is a big 'push,' with propaganda work organised on comprehensive and sustained lines.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

RECORD PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Whit Monday, May 21, 1923, in Nine Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 12675 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	RICHARD F. DEAL 7
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 2	THOMAS LANGDON 8
WILLIAM S. LANGDON 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE 9
WILSON RUSHTON 4	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 10
HERBERT LANGDON 5	HENRY R. NEWTON 11
WILLIAM HIBBERT 6	ALFRED B. PECK Tenor

Composed by HENRY G. MILES. Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

The longest peal ever rung on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

PERCY HARRISON Treble	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 6
LOUIS E. ALLEN 2	ERNEST MORRIS 7
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 8
HAROLD J. POOLE 4	HARRY BROUGHTON 9
SHIRLEY BURTON 5	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. George Dexter and Mrs. E. Dawson, the ceremony taking place just prior to the commencement of the peal.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY.

On Whit Monday, May 21, 1923, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

FRED HAYES Treble	GEORGE TWITCHEN 6
*GEORGE HINTON 2	FRANK W. BOXELL 7
RALPH COLES 3	CECIL E. SMITH 8
EDWARD MARKHAM 4	SIDNEY T. GOODCHILD 9
JOHN GRANSBURY 5	EDWARD R. COLES Tenor

Composed and conducted by FRED HAYES.

* First peal in any method and rung at first attempt. The above are all regular Sunday Service ringers at All Saints' Church.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 5, 1923, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ERNEST WHITING Treble	CHARLES CUTTING 5
*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 2	JAMES BOUGHTON 6
FREDERICK R. BORRETT 3	ALFRED H. WATSON 7
CHARLES BAKER 4	FREDERICK J. ROOPE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

* First peal of Double Norwich.

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Kindly write for Prices. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Estab. 1780.

DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham.

EXETER, DEVONSHIRE.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
(EXETER DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 5, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb.

ARTHUR W. SEARLE Treble	FRANK J. DAVEY 5
WILLIAM S. LETHBRIDGE ... 2	CHARLES G. GLASS 6
THOMAS G. BARTLETT ... 3	JAMES SANDOVER 7
FRANK H. GARDNER 4	ARTHUR MITCHELL Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR W. SEARLE.

First peal by the Cathedral branch. First peal on the 'Thomas' Eight in E Major (obtained by using one of the two new trebles recently given by Mr. Arthur E. Thomas, and seven of the old 10). Conductor's 50th peal for the Devonshire Guild.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 8, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

E. MAURICE ATKINS Treble	Cecil V. EBBERTSON 5
ROBERT HOLLOWAY 2	HARRY KILBY 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 7
* EDWARD LANKESTER 4	PERCIVAL W. NORTON Tenor

Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

* First peal of Stedman.

DEPTFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Ascension Day, Thursday, May 10, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S No. 33. Tenor 14 cwt.

* MABEL A. NYE Treble	ALBERT BRADLEY 5
JOHN CARTER 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER 6
JOHN J. LAMB 3	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 4	CHARLES H. MACKLIN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

* First peal in the method. Rung before the annual thanksgiving service as a compliment to the new vicar, Rev. R. R. Neill, M.A., on taking up the ministry of St. John's, Deptford.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 11, 1923, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK Treble	TITUS BARLOW 5
FREDERICK PAGE 2	WILLIAM H. SHUKER 6
JOSEPH LOWE 3	SAMUEL GREENHALGH ... 7
ERNEST COTTSFORTH 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs S. Greenhalgh and A. Trippier, also as a wedding compliment to Mr. Richard Newton, U.S.A.

SAMLESBURY, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, May 11, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD-THE-LESS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ in E.

ALBC. MARTIN Treble	EDWARD ARMSTRONG 5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 2	FREDERICK HARWOOD 6
ROBERT J. ARMSTRONG ... 3	WILLIAM TAYLOR 7
E. ROGER MARTIN 4	ALBERT E. WOODHOUSE ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

First Surprise peal by the Preston branch, and by all except ringers of 2 and 7. First Surprise peal on the bells.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... Treble	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 5
* ALBERT FLEMING 2	JAMES ROSE 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
HARRY R. ROPER 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

First peal of Cambridge Surprise on the bells. Composition, see 'Ringing World,' March 16th, 1923. * 70th peal.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.)

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CLEAL Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
ERNEST MORRIS 2	DET.-SEGT. H. G. JENNEY ... 6
SHIRLEY BURTON 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 7
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT.

Conducted by FRED H. DEXTER.

First peal in the method by all the band, and the first by a band of Leicester Ringers.

EPSOM, SURREY.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb. in F sharp

RAYMOND PHILPOTT Treble	ALFRED H. POLLING 5
* MRS. W. R. MELVILLE ... 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 6
HENRY HUTTON 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 7
ERNEST WEATHERBY 4	HARRY HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* First peal in the method on lower bells away from the treble. The above band represents past and present members of the Holy Trinity Society, Guildford.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lb.

JOSEPH H. ILIFFE Treble	FREDERICK S. PRICE 5
* EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 2	JAMES F. GEORGE 6
HENRY HARRISON 3	Cecil J. BAKER 7
ALFRED MOSS 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late J. A. Walker, who had held every office in the Parish Church; also to the late Edwin Trueman, and the late Mr. Chas. Mitchell, J.P., aged 92. All three had held offices on the Town Council, and were interred during the week.

ROTHWELL, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

CHARLES E. LAWSON Treble	GEORGE TINGLE 5
WILLIAM WOODHEAD 2	FREDERICK W. DIXON 6
WILLIAM E. H. ASH 3	FRANCIS BARKER 7
GEORGE E. ROBINSON 4	GEORGE W. STEEL Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by F. W. DIXON.

F. Barker's 150th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to the mother and sister of the treble ringer.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Barnabas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 15½ cwt.

JONATHAN PRESTON Treble	WILLIAM DAVIES 5
CHARLES COTTRELL 2	WILLIAM J. MEERS 6
GEORGE F. SWANN 3	JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... 7
HERBERT C. SPENCER 4	*CHARLES H. VITLER... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. MEERS.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Alfred Henry Matthews and Miss Eva Winifred Salter, at the above church on May 12th, 1923.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE H. HOWSE Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
OLIVER SIPPETIS... .. 2	HERBERT MARKWELL... .. 6
ROBERT J. DAVE... .. 3	FREDERICK H. WHITE 7
STAFFORD S. GREEN 4	KEITH HART... .. Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PISTOW. Conducted by KEITH HART.

BRITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

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

Tenor 18 cwt.

SIDNEY ANSTEAD... .. Treble	JOHN WHEADON... .. 5
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 2	*JOHN S. MORTON 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

* First peal of Double Norwich with 'inside' bell.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S NO. 33.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	FRANK WARD 5
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 2	JESSE SCREEN 6
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 3	ALFRED ROWLEY 7
JOSEPH FAULKNER 4	REUBEN HALL Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED ROWLEY.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PISTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 25 cwt.

CHARLES NORRIS Treble	FRANK BELSEY 5
FREDERICK RICHARDSON 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 6
RICKS PAINE 3	WILLIAM HAIGH 7
*HARRY SPRINGATE 4	*GEORGE LAWRENCE Tenor

Conducted by W. HAIGH.

* First peal in the method.

MILNROW, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'.

Tenor 20 cwt.

R. BUCKLEY... .. Treble	H. DAVENPORT 5
JOHN FITTON 2	JAS. LEES 6
MISS R. BELL 3	JOHN H. C. MASSEY 7
MRS. WM. CRABTREE... .. 4	WM. CRABTREE... .. Tenor

Conducted by WM. CRABTREE.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. T. Platt on attaining their golden wedding day. Mr. Platt was sexton at this church for 39 years and one of the first band of ringers. After the peal Mr. and Mrs. Platt entertained the ringers, with other friends, to tea.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER WALLATER Treble	HERBERT KNIGHT 5
JOHN BASS 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
*EDGAR MARLOW... .. 3	WILLIAM FISHER 7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of London Surprise.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Within-the-Wall,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD HARRISON Treble	JOHN HAYES... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	GEORGE R. JONES 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 7
HARRY OVERTON... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PISTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

HARRY FOLKARD Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
*FREDK. W. GOODFELLOW ... 2	ARTHUR HARDING 6
JOSEPH MILNER 3	WILLIAM WELLING 7
GEORGE SPENCER 4	ALBERT BECKENSALE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. T. Beadle, vice-president of the association, on attaining his 73rd birthday. * First peal of Triples in the method.

PRESTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

E. ROGER MARTIN Treble	FRED HARWOOD 5
ALEC. MARTIN 2	ALBERT E. WOODHOUSE ... 6
*J. RICHARD TAYLOR 3	WILLIAM TAYLOR 7
EDWARD ARMSTRONG 4	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS Tenor

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method. Rung half-muffled to the memory of Sir Harry Cartmel, O.B.E., who was interred at St. Anne's on the same day. He was six times Mayor of Preston, and a very prominent public man.

Groombridge & Palmer, CHURCH BELL HANGERS.

Inquiries invited for new or repair work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

6, Vauxhall Road, Skirbeck, Boston, Lincs.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16 cwt. o qr. 16 lb. in E. *

*WILLIAM JAMES JOHNSON...Treble	*ALBERT CALLAWAY 5
WALTER SCOTT, SEN. ... 2	*WALTER J. SCOTT, JUN. ... 6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
HARRY BARTON 4	*WILLIAM JOHN CHAMBERS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

A centenary peal to perpetuate the memory of the father of change ringing in Newport, Mr. Wm. Rayner, who died in this borough, 15th May, 1823, and was interred at Arretton Church, his tomb being suitably inscribed with a ringer's verse. * First peal in the method.

CARISBROOKE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. in E Flat.

*WILLIAM J. JOHNSON ...Treble	*ALBERT CALLAWAY 5
*WILLIAM UFTON 2	J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON ... 6
*HARRY ALFRED PHILLIPS ... 3	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 7
HARRY BARTON 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS ...Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal in the method upon the bells. * First peal of Major.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S 12-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

FRANK HOPGOOD ...Treble	*MAURICE W. NORMAN ... 5
*MISS VERA ROBINSON ... 2	STANLEY C. DAVIS 6
FRANK LUSH 3	JAMES R. MACKMAN 7
*ARTHUR LOVEJOY 4	HARRY SIMMONDS ...Tenor

Conducted by S. C. DAVIS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Mrs. Robinson, 'Fair Home,' kindly entertained the band after the peal.

FULBOURN, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 17, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VIGOR AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*EDMUND WEBB ...Treble	ARTHUR G. KING... .. 5
JOHN T. NEWINGTON ... 2	ARTHUR J. PAGE 6
†CHARLES R. HALL 3	GEORGE D. BRIDGE 7
JOHN W. B. GIDDENS ... 4	BASIL D. BUTTRESS ...Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOLL. Conducted by BASIL D. BUTTRESS.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major on an inside bell. Rung with the bells fully muffled as a token of respect to the late Rev. J. V. Durell, 50 years Rector of this parish, who died on Sunday, May 13th, 1923.

CORSTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ...Treble	EDGAR GUISE 5
*GERALD GRIFFIN 2	ALFRED E. REEVES 6
ALBERT STOWELL 3	WILLIAM A. CAVE 7
†STANLEY BADMAN 4	WILLIAM KNIGHT...Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

* First peal in the method. † First of Triples in the method.

PENSHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB AND SINGLE.

*LEONARD GOATER ...Treble	CHARLES BAKER 5
JAMES MAYNARD 2	GEORGE EDWARDS 6
HARRY SEAL 3	ERNEST EVEREST... .. 7
ARTHUR WILES 4	HARRY BAKER ...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE EDWARDS.

* First peal. Ringer of 2 hails from Speldhurst, 4 and 7 from Chiddingstone, the remainder locals. H. Seal has now rung a peal on each bell in the tower.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MORRISTON, GLAMORGAN.

THE WEST WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

†L. PELZER ...Treble	W. DOBBINS 4
J. HAMMOND 2	*G. LEWIS 5
*J. T. WILLIAMS... .. 3	*G. WILLIAMS ...Tenor

Conducted by J. HAMMOND.

* First peal. † First peal, one-armed ringer (left arm). This was the first peal rung in the tower. J. Hammond hails from Neath.

HAMPTON BISHOP, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ERNEST C. WELSH ...Treble	*THOMAS H. TAYSON... .. 4
WILLIAM WILLIAMS 2	*HERBERT J. TAYSON... .. 5
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON ... 3	CHARLES EDWARDS ...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES EDWARDS.

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

BUCKNALL, STAFFS.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1923, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Burslem, City Delight, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent.

*CHARLES BOWEN ...Treble	ALICE PRESTON 4
†ALICE WHBELEDON 2	†WILLIAM FRADLEY 5
CHARLES PRESTON 3	WILLIAM WHBELEDON ...Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FRADLEY.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. † First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 1, 1923, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT SUPERLATIVE VILLA,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5,000 CHANGES;

EDWARD JENKINS 1-2	FRANCIS BIBBY... .. 5-6
JOHN E. BIBBY 3-4	WILLIAM BIBBY 7-8

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal in the method 'in hand' by all.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1923, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor size 18 in G.

RAYMOND PHILPOTT 1-2	ALFRED H. PULLING 5-6
ARTHUR J. BARTLETT 3-4	WILLIAM T. BRESON 7-8

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

Witnesses: MRS. GREGORY, MRS. PULLING.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS.

PRESENTATION TO MR. SAM THOMAS.

The annual meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society was held at the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, Ranmoor, on Saturday, May 5th, and in spite of a disappointingly wet afternoon, proved very successful. About 80 ringers and friends (including quite a number of ladies) were present from Sheffield (All Saints', Pitsmoor; the Cathedral, St. Mary's, Handsworth, St. Marie's R.C., and St. John's, Ranmoor), Barnsley, Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Dore, Eckington, Ecclesfield, North Wingfield, Norton, Rawmarsh, Rotherham (Parish Church and St. Stephen's), Whiston, Wortley, etc. The peal of eight bells (tenor 15 cwt.) was kept going at intervals from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., some very good striking being accomplished in all the standard and several Surprise methods. It not being possible for all the members to be in the tower at once, many took the opportunity of making a closer acquaintance of this exceedingly beautiful church, one of the finest examples of modern architecture in the country, and of admiring its noble proportions and decorations. The church, though modern, already has something of a history, and its fine environment, situated in one of the most delightful of the many beautiful suburbs of Sheffield, overlooking the beauties of Endcliffe Vale and the hills beyond, coupled with the almost unlimited facilities for change ringing and the warm welcome always extended to visiting ringers, make it an ideal headquarters for the society.

The first church built from designs by Mr. E. M. Gibbs, and consecrated by Archbishop Thomson in 1879, was, with the exception of the tower and spire, totally destroyed by fire on the first Sunday morning of 1887. The fine organ and many beautiful memorials all perished in the flames. Rebuilt from designs by the same architect at a cost of about £14,000, it was reopened in 1888, and a tablet in the porch records the fact. The present beautiful building is in a style influenced by French Gothic. The spacious and lofty nave has 750 sittings, and presents a stately appearance. A notable feature is the triforium, unusual in parish churches, and an apsidal chancel. As might be expected in such a wealthy district, the church has been enriched by many beautiful and costly gifts, including some very beautiful windows, and a fine organ. The bells, though a musical peal, and one on which there have been many notable performances, are hardly up to the exceedingly high standard of the rest of the church, and it is the hope of the local company that the church may one day possess a fine peal of ten to harmonise with its other beauties.

A short musical service was held in the church, opening with the Te Deum, and including some well known hymns, which were heartily sung by those present. An interesting address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls), himself an enthusiastic ringer, and an incumbent who, in the Sheffield Diocese at any rate, holds the unique distinction of being Ringing Master in his own tower, and who in spite of many and urgent calls on his time, including often two sermons on a Sunday, is seldom absent from his place in the belfry.

A tea was held in Parish Hall, followed by the annual business meeting, at which the Vicar presided. The balance sheet (which showed a small balance on the right side) was presented, and a short report of the previous year was given by Mr. Sam Thomas, who explained that he had been asked to undertake the duty; the late secretary (the Rev. J. F. Amies) having left the district, and the new secretary not having yet been officially appointed. The report showed a gratifying year of progress, with a membership reaching 300 and 30 affiliated towers. About 25 peals has been rung in most of the standard methods, and several Surprise methods, including Norfolk and Cambridge.

RECOGNITION OF MR. THOMAS'S VALUABLE WORK.

At this point the Bishop of Sheffield arrived, and after being given a hearty reception, and expressing his regret that pressure of other engagements had prevented his earlier attendance, at once proceeded to make a presentation to Mr. Sam Thomas, at the request of the chairman. The presentation, which had been kept a secret until the last moment, and came as a complete surprise to Mr. Thomas, consisted of a very handsome smoker's cabinet (fitted up with tobacco, cigars and cigarettes), with a suitable inscription on an attached plate, and an exceptionally beautiful illuminated and framed address, worked by Mr. Tom Lee, of Norton, himself a change ringer, and one whose work in illuminating peal records and the like is well known in the district. The address, dated 1890-1923, recorded Mr. Thomas' 33 years' association with change ringing in the district, and his 21 years' association with the Sheffield District Society, for many years as president, and later as its secretary. It recognised his untiring and disinterested efforts in the cause of change ringing, particularly in the training and encouraging of young bands, and concluded by expressing the hope that he might be spared for many years to carry on his good work, and asking his acceptance of the

presentation with the most cordial good wishes of the society. It was signed by all the officers of the society on behalf of the subscribers.

The Bishop again expressed his regret at the fact that other engagements had interfered with his presence at the meeting, but stated that at all costs he had been determined to be in time to make the presentation to Mr. Thomas. He knew well the value of the work of the ringers, and especially of men like Mr. Thomas, who threw themselves heart and soul into the work, and he could, as Bishop, bear testimony to the appreciation in which their services were held, and especially those of Mr. Thomas, in sticking to it and persevering in the task of training up and encouraging young bands. He had the greatest possible pleasure, he said, in presenting these tokens to Mr. Thomas on behalf of the society, in associating himself with its sentiments and in wishing the recipient a long and happy life.—The text of the address was then read out by Mr. G. Lewis (president).

Mr. Thomas, who confessed himself taken completely by surprise, and remarked that everyone had been in league against him, and that he felt quite unable to make a speech, assured those present that he felt that he did not deserve what had been done, and expressed his sincere thanks to the subscribers. What he valued most was the unanimity and spontaneity of it all. He assured those present that he was no back number yet, and that he should continue to do all that he could for the art. He asked to be excused from saying more, as he felt too full and too affected to speak.

It might perhaps be mentioned that the presentation was in the first mainly due to the disinterested efforts of the late secretary (the Rev. J. F. Amies), whose departure from the district was much regretted, and whose services to the society, though short, were much appreciated. An appeal was sent out to the various towers in the society, and only a small subscription was asked for, but the response, much to the gratification of the organisers, was considerably beyond expectations, and came as a further proof of the esteem in which Mr. Thomas is held.

Following the presentation to Mr. Thomas, the society's silver cup and framed certificate, for the best year's attendance for Sunday Service ringing, were presented by the Bishop to Mr. F. Watkinson, representing the Handsworth company, the Bishop genially remarking that he always seemed to be presenting things to Handsworth—they had a splendid Rector, and did well in everything that they took up.

Other calls on his time intervening, the Bishop had to leave at this point, and smilingly declined a formal vote of thanks—an informal one was, however, accorded to him as he rose to leave, in the shape of very hearty applause.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mr. F. Watkinson (Handsworth), in place of Mr. G. Lewis (Ecclesfield) resigned; vice-presidents, Mr. A. Knights (Chesterfield) and Mr. J. Holman (Sheffield Cathedral); hon. treasurer, Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey (Ranmoor); hon. secretary, Mr. Thomas William Chown (Sheffield Cathedral), in place of the Rev. J. F. Amies (Chesterfield) resigned; peal secretary, Mr. Sam Thomas (Ranmoor); hon. auditors, Mr. J. Flint (Bolsover) and Mr. G. Hollis (Chesterfield).

The committee was re-elected, with the addition of Messrs. A. Robinson (Dore) and Measures (St. Stephen's, Rotherham), with the cup sub-committee as before. The fixtures for the ensuing year were confirmed—the next annual meeting, in accordance with the rules, being fixed for Chesterfield, the hope being expressed that by that time that popular peal of bells would be again available and the wonderful crooked spire in a stable condition.

Twenty-one new members were elected—a sure sign of progress—from Dore, Norton, Rawmarsh, Rotherham (St. Stephen's), Sheffield (Cathedral, Ranmoor, and St. Marie's, R.C.), and Whiston.

A number of business matters were discussed—including the question of the control of the ringing at the various meetings; services at each meeting; and the provision of fixture cards. No resolutions were passed on the first two items, but in regard to the last, the recommendation of the committee was accepted, i.e., that small fixture cards should be printed as in pre-war days, with all the details of the society and the year's fixtures recorded on them, and that members should be charged 1d. per card—these cards to take the place of the large tower fixture cards previously supplied.

A hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers was proposed by Mr. Sam Thomas, and seconded by Mr. Cockey, and responded to by Mr. G. Lewis.

Mr. R. Harrison, in a racy speech, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, organist, local company, and ladies—expressing the opinion that now that his old friend, Mr. Thomas, had been able to rejoin, one would soon be hearing of things doing at Ranmoor as in the old days.—Mr. C. Haynes suitably responded.

Mr. Potter (Barnsley) proposed a vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation, to Mr. Tom Lee for his exceptionally fine work in the illuminating of the address to Mr. Thomas, and to his generous action in doing it as his contribution to the presentation.—Mr. Lee, in

response, referred to his work as a labour of love, and acknowledged the help and encouragement he himself had always received from Mr. Thomas in the art of change ringing.

Messrs. G. Hollis and F. Willey proposed a vote of thanks—carried by acclamation—to the chairman (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls), and for the great interest he always showed in ringing matters.—The Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls, in responding, extended a most hearty welcome to the society in their visits to Rammoor.

Some very good handbell ringing was indulged in during the evening, and was much appreciated by those present.

COLLATON CHURCH BELLS.

On Saturday the new peal of bells at Collaton, Paignton, Devon, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter at 3.30 p.m. The opening ringing will be done by the Mid-Devon Guild (Paignton), after which the bells will be open to visiting ringers.

The bells were recently completed by Messrs. W. Aggett and Sons, of the Bell Works, Chagford.

TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL AT COURTEENHALL.

One of the most successful festivals held by the Towcester and District Association took place at Courteenhall on Saturday, May 12th, on the kind invitation of the Rev. Archibald Wake. The proceedings commenced with a service in church, followed by the annual business meeting, and a capital luncheon served by a committee of local ladies in the Schoolroom. The President (Major C. O. B. Nicholson) occupied the chair, and was supported by Lt.-Col. Sir Hereward Wake, D.S.O., the belfries represented being: Alderton, Courteenhall, Lichborough, Passenham, Blakesley, Gayton, Lois Weedon, Pattishall, Cold Higham, Green's Norton, Leckhampstead, Towcester, and Wicken, and unattached members from Northampton.

The Rev. A. Wake is one of the founders of the association, and the amount of work done by him to assist it in various ways has been enormous. No one is happier among bell ringers than the genial Rector of Courteenhall. His generous and unstinted hospitality will long be remembered by those who participated in this year's festival.

A tribute was paid by Lt.-Col. Sir Hereward Wake to the oldest member of the association—Mr. T. Birch, of Pattishall—who has been a ringer for 61 years.—Mr. Birch, in reply, said he had attended every festival of the association since its foundation in 1894, and hoped to attend a few more.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

A meeting of the Gainsborough district was held at Stow on Saturday, May 12th. It was not so successful as had been anticipated, the only tower represented being Gainsborough, in addition to two ringers from Scothorne and one from Lincoln, but those who did put in an appearance consider themselves amply recompensed for their presence, first by the very hearty manner in which they were received by the Stow members; secondly, by the quality of the ringing during the afternoon and evening. The methods rung included Cambridge Surprise Minor and Erin Doubles, this being the first occasion upon which these two have been introduced at a Gainsborough district meeting. The Guild's form of service was said at 4.30 p.m. The Rev. J. Barber (Rector) officiated, and gave a very appropriate address, basing his subject upon the festival of the Ascension.

Subsequently an excellent tea was provided in the Schoolroom, and was followed by the business meeting.

It was proposed and seconded, that, owing to the triennial festival of the Lincoln Diocesan Guilds Union having been fixed for June 9th, the Messingham meeting, which had previously been arranged for that date, should be held on June 16th.—This was carried unanimously.

Votes of thanks to the members of the Stow company for their very kind hospitality, also the Rev. J. Barber for the use of the bells and for presiding at the meeting, were carried with applause.

These were duly responded to from the chair, and concluded the business.

A Grimsby district meeting was held at Bigby on Saturday, May 5th. The bells were kept going in various touches during the afternoon and evening. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. T. Parry, vice-president of the district), assisted by the Vicar of Ulceby, and was sung heartily by the ringers.

Tea, kindly given by Mrs. Parry and the Rector, was much enjoyed by the fifty-one members present, who were waited on by the ladies of the village.

A business meeting followed, and after disposal of routine items, a vote of thanks to the Rector, Mrs. Parry, and the other ladies, as well as to the organist, was carried.

GRIMSBY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on May 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung in 46 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect for the late Mr. W. Oldroyd: N. Dales 1, F. Overton 2, T. Fitzjohn 3, E. W. Abbot South 4, F. Metcalf 5, S. Bromfield 6, H. Mingay (conductor) 7, R. S. Long 8.

JOHN TAYLOR & Co., LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The first peal of Stedman Caters (composed and called by John Reeves) was rung on May 28th, 1787, at St. John's, Horsley Down, London. We never hear of these bells being rung now. There is probably good reason for it. The bells, we believe, are hung in three tiers, and the belfry is exceptionally small.

The record peal of Bristol Surprise Major (15,264) was rung at Hornchurch, Essex, on May 28th, 1912.

On May 29th, 1901, the first (and only) peal rung on the sea was accomplished on the s.s. 'Cambria' between Dublin and Holyhead, and the same day the first Surprise peal in Wales was rung.

The first peal of New Cumberland Surprise was rung at Burton on May 31st, 1886, and on the same day of 1898 the 'four eights' of Stedman Caters were rung on handbells at Aston.

Birmingham ought not to miss the celebration of an interesting peal next Sunday week. Exactly 150 years ago on June 3rd the first twelve bell peal in Birmingham was rung. This was a 5,324 Grand-sire Cinques, and doubtless this will be fittingly commemorated in the tower, where, probably, more twelve bell peals have been rung than anywhere.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, last week. It is believed that the previous peal of Treble Bob on the island was rung on the old Carisbrooke bells by the College Youths, in the Oxford Variation, over a century ago; the band arriving by sailing boat from London via the Straits of Dover.

The Newcastle Cathedral Guild have been 'broadcasting' handbell ringing. On the Royal Wedding Day they broadcasted from the Newcastle station a touch of Grandsire Triples. On Sunday week they opened the evening wireless concert with some popular changes on eight bells and 70 changes of Grandsire Triples. These were taken much slower than on the first occasion, and the effect was reported to be much better. The experience shows that changes should not be rung faster than 16 or 18 to the minute for broadcasting purposes. The Guild again opened the programme on Whit Sunday evening.

Miss Vera Robinson, daughter of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, rang her first peal on May 16th. It was for the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which her father was for so long the Master.

Six of the band who took part in the peal at Corston on Saturday have a great appreciation of the energies of the other two (Messrs. Knight and Stowell), who, when the usual means of travelling failed them through overcrowding, promptly set out to walk the seven miles to the tower, and thus enabled a start to be made only 35 minutes after the appointed time. Owing to another engagement, the Master of the Bath and Wells Association (Rector of Corston) could not, as he usually does, welcome the whole of the band in the tower before starting, but he wished success to those who were present.

Last Saturday week the restored peal of six bells at Blessington, Co. Wicklow, Ireland, were reopened, after restoration, by ringers from Dublin. On the following day a sharp skirmish took place in the village between Free State and Republican troops!

Four resident lady change ringers of Kent took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples last Saturday at Marden, all of them ringing 'inside' bells. This is going one better than the previous occasion, when three resident Kent ladies rang in a peal at the same tower about ten weeks ago.—Miss Thomas cycled from Mersham, a distance of, approximately, 24 miles, and rode the 'iron horse' home after the peal, making in all somewhere near 50 miles.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the South and West District was held at St. Mary's, Ealing, on Saturday, May 12th, and was attended by nearly 40 members. Ringing commenced about 3 p.m., with several touches with the Ringing Master Mr. R. Holloway, present. Service was conducted by the Rev. F. L. Rees, who gave an excellent address, and welcomed the association on behalf of the Vicar (the Rev. C. J. Sharp), who, after service, entertained the visitors to tea at the Church Hall, his kindness being much appreciated.

The Rev. F. L. Rees presided over the tea and business meeting, at which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Mrs. Sharp for their kind hospitality. Thanks were also given to Miss Sharp (the organist), the Rev. F. L. Rees, Mr. Hunnisett for assistance and welcome on behalf of the local ringers, and Mr. Page for his instruction in making the St. Mary's band so efficient in change ringing.

The Vicar paid a brief visit and received a great ovation. He acknowledged the thanks accorded to him. After some handbell touches the tower was again visited.

STEDMAN CINQUES RECORD.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE.

The attempt to beat the record length of Stedman Cinques made by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths at Southwark Cathedral on Monday was successful. The intention was to ring a peal of 15,051 if possible, and although this length was not accomplished, a peal of 12,675 changes was brought round in 9 hrs. 47 mins., thus exceeding in length any previous peal on twelve bells.

The task was a stupendous one, and one which deserves the admiration of all ringers. For more than nine and three-quarter hours those twelve men rang some of the finest Stedman Cinques that ever were heard, for all listeners agree that from first to last the ringing was magnificent. The bells went off into changes at two minutes past nine in the morning, and so even was the ringing that the first ten courses came up in 62 minutes, the next ten in the same time, and each of the two succeeding ten courses in only one half-minute more. Hour after hour the ringing went on with clocklike regularity, but after the record had been broken it was deemed wise to bring the bells round, for Mr. Alfred Peck on the tenor was feeling the strain of the long sustained effort. No one can wonder at that. To ring a 50 cwt. bell for that length is a tremendous triumph, and everyone must agree that a 12,675 in hand is worth a good deal more than 15,051 in the bush, so to speak. Great credit is due to everyone of the band, and it should not be forgotten that there were, in addition to men of tried merit and long experience, two youths in the peal, one of whom, Wilson Rushton, is only 17½ years of age.

One of the things which enabled the peal to be rung was the attention given to the bells by Mr. Albert Hughes, who four or five times during the peal went up among the bells, and with great coolness and dexterity oiled all the bearings.

When the bells ran smoothly round, a considerable number of ringers had assembled, and the successful band received the hearty congratulations of all.

Southwark Cathedral has been the scene of some great ringing triumphs in the past, and among the greatest of early performances were peals on these historic bells. The first peal of Treble Bob Maximus ever rung was achieved here by the College Youths on March 12th, 1758, and various longer lengths in this method were rung there until on March 22nd, 1802, the Cumberlands pulled off a 7,104 in 5 hrs. 30 mins., 'the greatest performance ever done on twelve bells, which was completed by twelve men only.' This peal took precedence, in point of length, of the 7,008, rung in 5 hrs. 48 mins. by the College Youths in 1784 at the same church.

As far as we are aware there have been no exceptional lengths of Stedman Cinques rung at Southwark, although in an attempt to beat the then Painswick record of 8,448 (made in 1858) over 8,000 changes were rung in about six and a half hours, the peal being upset through confusion caused during 'lighting up' in the belfry. The peal was afterwards rung at Cornhill in 1861, the length being 8,580, and the time 6 hrs. 41 mins.

The succeeding longer lengths in the method were 9,238, in 6 hrs. 48 mins., at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on Feb. 28th, 1881, and the 11,111 in the same tower, rung in 8 hrs. 2 mins. on Dec. 26th, 1901. There are still two survivors of the 1881 peal, Messrs. John Buffery and H. Johnson, junr.

PEAL ATTEMPT AT OVER ABANDONED.

Owing to one member of the band being unavoidably prevented from taking part in the long peal attempt at Over on Monday last, the enterprise was abandoned, as the shortness of the notice rendered it impossible for a substitute to be found. The band hope to make the attempt now on August Bank Holiday.

A SUSSEX RESTORATION.

Many welcomed the joyous pealing of the church bells at East Grinstead, Sussex, after many months' silence owing to repairs.

After evensong, on Sunday, May 13th, the Vicar (the Rev. W. W. Youard) conducted a special dedication of the seventh bell, which had been recast. Afterwards a 504 Grandsire Triples was rung by T. Potter 1, G. Tizzard 2, G. Hewitt 3, N. E. Hope 4, H. Coomber 5, T. Tullett 6, J. Wren (conductor) 7, S. Chesson 8. In addition to the recasting of the seventh bell, all have been returned and rehung on ball bearings, and the result appears to be eminently satisfactory. The work has been done by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the firm that cast the original bells 110 years ago.

A HALF-PEAL.

At Rainford, Lancashire, on Tuesday, May 15th, the first half of Holt's ten-part (2,520 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 34 mins.: J. Rigby 1, W. Hesketh 2, H. Hesketh 3, G. Saint 4, S. Cadwallender 5, R. Hutton 6, J. W. Hall (conductor) 7, Prince Bagley 8. Longest length by ringers of treble, 2nd, 4th, 6th and tenor.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TUESDAY'S MEETING AT SALISBURY.

The third session of the eleventh Council was held at Salisbury on Whit Tuesday. Excellent arrangements for the visitors had been made by a committee of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and many of the members spent an enjoyable holiday in the Wiltshire capital. On each day, from Saturday to Tuesday at the various churches, the bells were available, and on Sunday, by special permission of the Earl of Pembroke, a party visited Milton House, where they spent an interesting time.

On Monday a party of over thirty had a delightful charabanc trip through the New Forest, and were able to ring at Fordingbridge, Ringwood, Wimborne and Cranborne. A social gathering took place in the evening at the headquarters at the Cathedral, where accommodation was placed at the disposal of the ringers.

The meeting on Tuesday was held in the Chapter House at the Cathedral, the chair being taken by the President (the Rev. Canon Coleridge). There were also present the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (hon. librarian), Mr. E. Alex. Young (hon. secretary and treasurer), and 58 members.

The proceedings having opened with prayer, a welcome was extended to the Council by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, who was accompanied by the Dean and Archdeacon Carpenter, and the Bishop was afterwards thanked by the President.

The minutes having been passed, the Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts, which showed that the year began with a balance at the bank of £74 10s. 8d., affiliation fees amounted to £12 10s., interest on stock to £4 8s. 2d., and there was cash in hand 15s., and a balance of 3s. due to the hon. secretary. The expenditure included: Books and stationery, 17s. 6d.; notices and printing, £4 5s. 3d.; postage and petty expenses, £7 10s. 6d., and loss on sales of publications, £2 15s. The balance at bank was £76 18s. 7d.

The accounts together with the librarian's report and balance sheet, were adopted.

The following hon. members whose term of office had expired were re-elected: Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Mrs. Edwards, Mr. J. George and Mr. H. W. Wilde.

Messrs. E. Bishop (Gloucester and Bristol), J. Hughes (Dudley Guild), new members, were presented to the President.

The Hon. Librarian reported that between 1,100 and 1,200 names had been received for the Roll of Honour, and it was agreed that it be written in copper plate writing on the best paper, with the best ink suggested by the authorities of the British Museum, the leaves being afterwards bound, the title page only to be illuminated; the words from the King's Scroll are to appear on first page, with the words, 'Their name liveth for evermore,' on the last page; the names to appear in alphabetical order, followed by the initials, the town at which the man was a ringer, and the name of the Association or Guild in which he resided, written in abbreviated form.

It was resolved that the Council's expenditure on the roll should not exceed £20, but a suggestion by Alderman Pritchett that if there was any additional expense it should be raised by subscription, met with warm approval, Alderman Pritchett urging that they should be loath to limit the cost, and that many of them would be glad to subscribe to make the roll worthy of that Council.

The Peal Collection Committee had nothing to report, except that the remainder of the collection of peals of Treble Bob was in the hands of the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson. It was hoped a definite report as to the position would be available at the next meeting.

Mr. W. Willson presented the report of the Literature and Press Committee, in which special reference was made to the action taken to prevent the long peal attempt at Evesham.—The Rev. C. E. Matthews seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Rev. H. Law James, for the Methods Committee reported that the work was in the hands of Mr. Lewis, and as soon as he could complete it the collection of Plain Major methods would be printed.

The Rev. A. T. Beeston presented the Peals Analysis Committee's report, the essential particulars of which have already been published, and the committee were thanked for the labour exercised on the report.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn moved the adoption of the report of the Towers and Belfries Committee, which included the findings of the Conference between the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings and the committee upon the question of preservation of towers and bells. The summary of the findings has already been published in these columns.

The report was adopted, after a short discussion, and a motion was subsequently passed that 'this Council does not desire to exercise any rights of copyright on the report of the conference.'

The Analysis Committee's report upon the nomenclature of methods came up for consideration, and was adopted, but a discussion arose as to the alteration made by the committee in the names of College Single and Canterbury Pleasure. Eventually it was decided, by 28 votes to 20, to proceed to the next business.

GILLET & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921

The Rev. A. T. Beeston presented the report of the Records Committee, which was adopted, and it was agreed to have the schedule typed and put into the library for circulation.

The Hon. Secretary reported for the Museum Exhibit Committee, who have had the promise of Mr. John Carter's machine for five years, and also the promise of bell exhibits from various founders, while he (Mr. Young) had had made a model of a ring of six for the purpose. It was also suggested that there should be a wall exhibit of diagrams. The report was adopted, the diagrams to be those in use in Snowdon's 'Standard Methods.'

Mr. Cave offered to print courses of methods in large figures for the exhibit, and his offer was accepted with thanks.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards proposed, 'That this Council, meeting in the Diocese of Salisbury, in which Sir Christopher Wren was born and baptized, expresses the fervent hope that no sanction will be given to any further demolition of the churches, with which he adorned the City of London, and which bear such a valuable witness to the Christian religion in the world's busiest centre of secular activities.'

After a short discussion, in which opinion was expressed that the subject was outside the scope of the Council's business, 'the previous question' was moved and carried.

The Rev. H. Drake, with assent to an alteration in the form of the motion of which he had given notice, moved a resolution as follows: 'That this Council recommends that first or record peals should if possible be rung for a society within the limits of that society's area.'—The motion was held to be impracticable, and on being put to the meeting was lost.

The Rev. H. Drake also moved, 'That the Peals Analysis Committee be asked if they can add a column showing the ratio between the number of members and the points gained by each society.'—This, however, found no seconder, and was accordingly dropped.

The following resolution, moved by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and seconded by the Rev. E. S. Powell, was carried nem. con.: 'That in compositions of 5,000 changes or upwards on seven or any higher number of bells in which the plan of splicing various methods is adopted, it is essential that there should be no repetition of a row throughout—that is to say, that the whole composition shall be "true" in the universally accepted sense of that word.'

A card of instructions on the care and use of bells suitable for hanging in a tower was considered in detail, and adopted, and the Rev. H. Drake offered to bear the cost of printing up to £5. He was heartily thanked for his offer.

It was decided to approach the Dean of Westminster with a view to holding next year's meeting in the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster Abbey.

A vote of congratulation was passed, on the motion of Mr. C. T. Colds, to the Ancient Society of College Youths upon their record performance on Monday.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the Chapter House, and to the Salisbury Guild for their excellent arrangements, especially to Major Hughes D'Aeth (Master), the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (hon. secretary), Mr. T. H. Beams, who was in charge of headquarters, and Mr. Martin Stewart.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the President.

Afterwards a party of over 60 partook of tea in the Church House, at the invitation of Archdeacon Carpenter, and many of the visitors joined in a 'conducted' visit to the Cathedral. In the evening a reception by the officers of the Salisbury Guild took place at the Cathedral Hotel.

MUFFLED RINGING.

The ringers of Nottingham and district, on May 11th paid a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Kenneth Cobbin, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Cobbin, Mr. Cobbin being the Ringing Master of St. Peter's company. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,278 changes) was rung, with the bells half-muffled, by the following members of the M.C.A.: F. Bailly 1, G. R. Goodship 2, T. H. Kirkby 3, E. C. Sheppard 4, A. R. Coppock 5, F. Bradley 6, W. A. James 7, F. Johnson (conductor) 8, G. West 9, A. R. Leader 10.

On Whit Sunday, at Egreymont, Cumberland, for morning service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells fully muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. Jos. Spedding for many years a sidesman at the Parish Church, who was killed on Tuesday whilst following his employment. He was interred on Friday. The touch was also as a token of respect to Mr. Thos. Tidyman, who was a Sunday Service ringer for a number of years, and who died after a long illness, and was interred on Thursday: Wm. Cook 1, I. B. Douglas 2, Ben Douglas 3, J. J. Spedding 4, Wm. Douglas 5, Jno. Rothery 6, Wm. Norman 7, G. W. Tambe (conductor) 8.

STANTON, SHROPSHIRE.—On May 13th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins.: H. Clay 1, R. Turner 2, W. Lycett 3, S. France 4, E. V. Rodenhurst 5, W. Clay (first 720 of Minor as conductor) 6.

NANTWICH BELLS.

AUGMENTATION AT A FINE OLD CHESHIRE CHURCH.

The ring of bells at Nantwich, Cheshire, have just been augmented to eight by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and as already recorded, the first peal was rung on them on May 5th. The history of the old bells has recently been told in the Nantwich 'Parish Magazine.' In the year 1600 there were five bells in the tower. In 1608 the 'Great Bell' was 'new cast' by George Lee, of Congleton, the weight being 2,500lbs. In the following year the 4th was recast, at the same time that 'the timber works of the rouse of the steeple, weathercock poole and the tow floures in the steeple were new made.' The next reference to the bells in the records is in 1669, and is as follows: 'Our Great Bell in Nantwich, being above 2000 li. in weight, chanced to be cracked, and was cast anew at Wellington, in Shropshire, by one Clitheroe. Robert Parker, Mercer, and Jon. Dean, Barber, Churchwardens anno 1669, wch. cost the parish near £30.' Forty years later it was deemed advisable to recast the whole peal, and the Wiltshire Journal states: 'Sept. 17th, 1713. The five bells belonging to the Church of N. were taken down in order to cast into six by Abram Rudhall.'



The bells cast in the year before Queen Anne died have remained until the present day, and one did not even require tuning when the recent restoration was carried out. The rehanging of 1713-14 was, however, marred by a tragedy, for the registers record under date January 22nd, 1714: 'Mark, son of Mark Topham, Kill'd by the 4th bell Clapper.'

The peal, as hung by Abram Rudhall, consisted of six bells, of a total weight of some three tons, the largest—tuned to the note F—weighing about 15 cwt., and measuring about 3ft. 8in. across the mouth. The inscriptions are as follow: ' (Treble) Prosperity to this Town and Parish, A.R. 1713, (2) Peace and Good Neighbourhood, A.R. 1713, (3) Abr. Rudhall cast us all, 1713 (4) God save the Church and Queen Ann. A.R. 1713, (5) Prosperity to all our Benefactors, A.R. 1713, (Tenor) Tho. Talbot, Humphrey Hales, Churchwardens, 1713. They were hung in a massive oak frame, but this arrangement was never quite satisfactory,' says the Parish Magazine, 'tending to throw considerable strain on the tower, and making good ringing somewhat difficult. Apparently little attention was given to them until 1878. In this year the bells were quarter-turned, the frame was repaired and strengthened, and new wheels and ropes fitted, at a cost of £113 8s.'

HOUNDSLOW.—On Sunday, May 6th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: W. F. Ellingham 1, W. G. Parker 2, J. Milner 3, A. Price 4, F. G. Goddard 5, J. Kent (conductor) 6, C. J. Tricker 7, D. G. Archer 8. Rung as a welcome home to the Vicar after his recent illness.

CRADLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.—For evening service, on April 22nd, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. Pritchard 1, R. Lewis 2, G. Lewis (conductor) 3, C. Bowers 4, D. Horne 5, G. Jordan 6.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CARDIFF.—At St. John's Church, on Whit Sunday, for Communion service, 7 a.m., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 46 mins.: W. H. P. Evans 1, F. Hannington (first quarter-peal) 2, F. Smith 3, E. Coombes 4, W. Heath 5, A. Parnell 6, F. Viles (conductor) 7, S. R. Barker 8.

YATELEY, HANTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Whit Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: B. Goodall 1, W. G. Bunch 2, A. Hearmon 3, C. Bunch 4, G. Butler 5. — Read (conductor) 6, S. Riddell 7, G. Ives 8. Arranged for Mr. Read, a visitor from Petersfield. The others are Sunday Service ringers at the above church.

TOTTENHAM.—On Whit Sunday, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: W. Ellis 1, H. Barnett 2, W. Crabb 3, H. Ellis 4, W. Dickinson 5, F. Richardson 6, C. Button (conductor) 7, W. Palmore 8.

FULBOURN, CAMBS.—On Sunday, April 29th, at the Church of St. Vigor and All Saints, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes), composed by H. Haigh: E. Webb 1, Miss V. Shorter 2, C. Hall 3, J. W. B. Giddens 4, J. T. Newington 5, A. Page 6, G. Bridge 7, C. E. Patten (conductor) 8.

CHICHESTER.—On Whit Sunday, for Matins, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: Miss E. M. Burnett 1, W. Falconer 2, J. H. Blake 3, F. B. Tompkins 4, H. D. Falconer 5, W. L. Ayles 6, H. L. W. Aitken (conductor) 7, M. Heffer 8. The ringers of the 6 and 7 hail from St. Thomas's, Portsmouth.

WICKEN, BUCKS.—On Whit Sunday, for evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples: C. Read 1, A. J. Green 2, F. Case 3, J. Roberts (conductor) 4, D. Chexfield 5, G. Cooper 6, L. Smith 7, G. Green 8. All belong to the local band.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Whit Sunday, for Divine service, at St. Mary's, 624 Stedman Triples: J. J. Symons 1, J. D. Harris 2, T. R. Taylor 3, W. Tate 4, R. J. Stone 5, J. W. Parker (composer and conductor) 6, F. W. Rogers 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8. Also 224 Cambridge Surprise Major.

HAWKHURST, KENT.—On Whit Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Rummery (first quarter-triples) 1, Mrs. H. Baker 2, G. Talbot 3, W. A. Penfold 4, J. Powell 5, H. Baker 6, G. Billenness (conductor) 7, H. M. Batehup 8. — Also a quarter-peal in the same method, for evening service: E. Tumber (first quarter of triples) 1, G. Talbot 2, W. A. Penfold 3, J. Blake 4, J. Powell 5, O. Waghorn 6, G. Billenness (conductor) 7, H. M. Batehup 8. Mr. and Mrs. Baker are from Frittenden; E. Tumber (Teynham); the rest local.

BUCKLEY, FLINTS.—North Wales Association. —At St. Matthew's Church, before evensong, on Whit Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,263 changes), in 48 mins.: A. N. Jones 1, G. Dymont 2, E. Shone 3, P. Roberts 4, S. Birks 5, J. T. Hopwood 6, E. Missham (conductor) 7, Wm. Bellis 8. Rang with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Henry Hayes, who for a number of years was clerk of the church, also churchwarden.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, on Whit Sunday, for the 7 a.m. service, 504 Grandsire Triples. — For Matins, 546 Grandsire Triples. — For evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: G. Street 1, F. Green 2, E. Green 3, E. Hendley 4, E. Whitfield 5, E. Collins 6, W. Cheater (conductor) 7, E. Bradford 8.

KENSINGTON.—On Whit Sunday, May 20th, for evening service, at St. Mary Abbots, 1,243 Stedman Caters: A. Cutmore 1, F. V. Simkins 2, O. W. Roberts 3, G. W. Frayne 4, H. G. Miles 5, A. E. Bradley 6, P. L. Miles 7, W. H. Wood 8, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 9, P. E. Clark 10.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.—At St. Peter's Church, on Whit Sunday morning, May 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: B. Collison (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, F. Ballard 2, D. M. Findlay (first quarter-peal in the method) 3, F. White 4, H. Cook 5, E. Vickers (first quarter-peal in the method away from treble) 6, S. H. Green (conductor) 7, A. E. Richardson 8.

FRAMPTON, Lincs.—At St. Mary's Church, on May 13th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,263 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Taylor 1, F. Batterham 2, G. Coleman 3, J. Young 4, S. Bennett 5, A. Bennett (conductor) 6.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.—On Sunday, May 13th for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: A. Macro 1, E. Hunt 2, T. Stagg 3, H. Mason 4, W. Egling 5, F. A. Salter 6. — Also 720: E. Hunt 1, T. Stagg 2, O. Ford 3, H. Mason 4, W. Egling 5, F. A. Salter 6. Both conducted by F. A. Salter. E. Hunt and H. Mason hail from Shropham; W. Egling from Harling, and the rest from Thelford.

LIVERPOOL.—At the Church of St. Peter, Woolton on Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Grace 1, E. L. Humphriss 2, G. R. Newton 3, J. Almond 4, A. Almond 5, J. Seddon 6, B. Trevitt (conductor) 7, J. Stevenson 8. Rang on the 81st birthday of Alderman A. S. Mather and also in honour of the visit to this church of the Lord Bishop of Coventry (a former Vicar), to dedicate four memorial windows to the memory of the late Mrs. Mather.

BEDWELLY, MON.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: T. Lewis 1, G. Popnell (conductor) 2, W. Williams 3, W. L. Williams 4, W. Powell 5, L. Rowlands 6, T. Popnell 7, M. Thomas 8. First quarter-peal for all the band except the conductor and 3rd ringer.

GREEN & NORTON.—On Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, 720 Double Court: J. M. Gray 1, F. Hopper 2, J. A. Townsend (first attempt in the method) 3, A. Mansfield 4, G. Mansfield 5, J. W. Sharp (conductor) 6.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, May 13th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 580 and 192 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. H. Dyson 1, W. J. Sadler 2, G. Wiffen 3, C. H. Howard (conductor) 4, L. E. Hammond 5, G. Lindridge 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

MALVERN LINK, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, April 29th, for evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples: H. Chance 1, W. Niblett 2, F. Price 3, E. E. Barber 4, H. Price 5, R. G. Knowles 6, C. Camm (conductor) 7, A. Richings 8. Longest touch of Triples by 3 and 5.

BARNES.—On Whit Sunday, for afternoon service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. O. Stacey 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, H. Rivers (first quarter-peal of Grandsire) 4, R. Mackrill 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6, C. Hunt 7, J. Willmott 8.

THE MANAGEMENT OF ASSOCIATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your reports of numerous annual meetings of Associations held recently provide much material for reflection concerning the management of these bodies. For instance, some Associations have practically doubled their balance on the general account in a year's working, others have such huge balances that they are considering the investment of the same. Whatever can be the eventual use for it? On the other hand, at least one Association has discussed a motion to increase the fee for membership, and yet another has agreed to charge 6d. for a copy of the annual report! At the same time, there is a notable absence of any statistical matter, e.g., the number of members and towers belonging to each Association compared with a year ago, or the percentage of towers affiliated to each Association as against the towers with rings of bells unaffiliated in each area, etc.

As to the financial aspect, I cannot think of any benefit accruing from the accumulation of large balances, for surely it must be far more advantageous to keep the membership fee at a lower basis, and thus encourage more to join. It must be admitted, too, that members in remote country districts get very little for their money. However, I think the system of the Bath and Wells Association in this respect is worth copying. Next, as to the printing of the annual reports which, owing to abnormal conditions, has become a serious item. I consider each member ought to be presented with an annual report of the essential facts, statistics and financial state of the Association to which they belong, together with the list of officers, rules, etc., which could all be printed on a 4-page leaflet if the space were properly utilised. The printing of the list of peals which at present entails the largest proportion of expense could then be dealt with as a supplemental report and sold at cost price, which I consider would be a far better method of raising the necessary money than a booking fee for peals and much less trouble to everyone concerned. By the way, I should like to mention that I have never yet seen peals set out in a report in an economical manner. It would be quite easy to print nine peals on a demy 8vo. page by printing them in three columns.

Lastly, as to propaganda work undertaken by the Association, I have an insistent feeling that we are not going ahead with the same energy that we did in years past. Thirty years ago my Diocesan Association was giving instruction to five bands in one year, but for some years now they have done nothing in that direction. Then there is still an inexplicable ignorance with many incumbents and bands of ringers concerning the objects of an association to be overcome. Is it not possible that the issue of an informing circular from time to time would increase their knowledge and interest? At any rate, one feels that there is a great work yet to be accomplished. May I also recall a letter which you kindly printed in your journal some two years ago anent the desirability of introducing change ringing in leisure hours in our public schools and theological and training colleges, through which the future clergy and schoolmasters generally pass? I suggested a deputation from the Diocesan Association immediately concerned in each area to point out the great advantages to students, especially those intending to take up work in the Church, of making themselves acquainted with the art, and to offer, on behalf of their Association, the voluntary services of qualified instructors. You, sir, very kindly published a leading article on the subject, and suggested that it might be considered by the Central Council. I think every good ringer agree that the parson who is an enthusiastic ringer is a valuable asset in their work, and generally a good fellow withal.—Yours faithfully,

TOUCHSTONE.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**ENJOYABLE MEETING AT STANMORE.**

In remarkably fine weather, a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Stanmore and Harrow Weald on Saturday week, upwards of 50 members and friends attending from all parts of the county, and from the neighbouring districts of Bushey, Oxhey and Watford. Excellent practice in several methods was obtained until 5 p.m., when a short service was held at which the Rector (the Rev. S. F. L. Bernays) gave a very helpful and sympathetic address, which was much appreciated. An excellent tea was provided in the Church Institute, and, at the subsequent business meeting, eight new members were admitted, including seven members of the local band.

The hon. secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) gave a hearty welcome to the several members and friends from 'over the border,' stating that it was one of the best features of their meetings that they were always pleased to see ringers from other Associations, whether members of their own Association or not, and he gave the visitors from Hertfordshire as cordial a welcome as he was sure they would give to their Middlesex friends at their own meetings.

It was announced that a date had been provisionally fixed for the unveiling of the memorial to the late president (Mr. Arthur T. King), and, subject to the necessary faculty being received in time for the work to be completed by June 16th, the ceremony would take place on that date.

It was decided that the next meeting of the district should be held at Barnet on the date mentioned, in connection with the unveiling. Should, however, circumstances not permit of this arrangement to be carried out, the next meeting would be held at Northaw.

Other important items of business included a congratulatory vote to the band that had rung the long peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Stoney Stanton; and also a sincere vote of condolence to the relatives of the late Mr. William Grimes, for ten years a member of this Association, and father of one of the most brilliant ringers this society ever had amongst its members.

Votes of thanks were passed to all who had contributed towards the success of the meeting, including the Rector of Stanmore and the Vicar of Harrow Weald; also Mr. Hughes and Mr. Furness, the tower-keeper, and to the organist, and those who had prepared tea.

Afterwards a further visit was paid to the tower. The bells, which now number eight, were in continuous use until nearly 8.30, and the many methods rung ranged from Grandsire to London, including four Surprise methods. The bells, whilst rather noisy in the belfry chamber, are of good tone, and constitute a very nice ring, with a tenor of 12 cwt. It is hoped that the noise in the belfry will soon be obviated.

Several members paid a visit to Harrow Weald, where Mr. J. Furness gave them a hearty welcome, and rang several touches of Plain and Treble Bob Minor and Sedman Doubles.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**CLUN DISTRICT.**

The fifth annual meeting of the Clun District was held at Knighton (Radnorshire) on Saturday, April 21st, when there was a muster of 40 members, the following towers being represented: Bromfield, Bitterley, Clun, Clunbury, Hopesay, Knighton, Leintwardine and Ludlow.

A special service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. S. P. Jones, the Guild's service being used, and a very helpful address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. T. S. Griffiths).

Tea followed, Mr. and Mrs. Tench most kindly entertaining the whole party.—The Rev. H. J. Scott, on behalf of the members, expressed their thanks to the host and hostess for so kindly entertaining them; also to the Vicar and the Rev. S. P. Jones, Mr. P. Jones (Belfry Master), and the local hon. secretary (Mr. H. Smallwood) for the excellent arrangements made for the gathering.

The business meeting immediately followed, and was presided over by the Rev. H. J. Scott, Ringing Master.—The hon. secretary (Mr. W. Mead, Clun) presented the balance sheet for 1922, and reported that the balance in hand had increased to £3 5s. 9d., and the membership to 31. Good progress was being made, the Guild being in a very healthy condition, having a balance in hand of £70, and a membership of nearly 600.—Three hon. members and 15 members and probationers were elected.

The District Ringing Master (the Rev. H. J. Scott) and the district hon. secretary (Mr. W. Mead) were re-elected, and it was decided to accept the offer of Mr. W. H. Fussell to give a round of instruction to the various towers in the district.—The next meeting will be held at Bishop's Castle.

Afterwards some good handbell ringing took place and an adjournment to the tower was then made, the bells being kept going until nightfall.

NOTICES.

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

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, May 26th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting will be held at Bingham (8 bells) on May 26th. The Rev. H. R. M. Hutt will kindly entertain all ringers attending this meeting.—F. Blood, Local Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Hawley (Blackwater) on Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Parish Room, to be followed by the business meeting.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at West Meon on Saturday, May 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. Business after.—E. J. Harding, Dis. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Limpsfield, Chart, on Saturday, May 26th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Short service, with address, 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—H. F. Ewins, Hon. Sec., 27, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery.—The quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at West Pennard on Saturday, May 26th. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. F. Creed, 6, West Park, Castle Cary.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A meeting for combined practice will be held at Warfield on Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) available 4 to 9 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—G. Higgs, Gorse Place, Chavey Down Road, Bracknell.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The next meeting will be held at Thurleigh on Saturday, May 26th. Bells (6). Bells will be available from 2.30. Tea about 5 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—H. L. Harlow, Dis. Sec., 14, Newnham Lane, Bedford.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meeting for practice will be held at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on the 29th, at 7.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The peal of eight at Gravesend have been recast by Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough, and will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Rochester on Wednesday evening, May 30th, at 6 p.m., when all ringers will be welcomed.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Brighton, on Saturday, June 2nd, to give all who desire it, the opportunity of a 'pull' on the new peal of ten. Tower open 2.30. Tea 4.30. Service 6. Tea will be provided by the kindness of the Vicar (Canon H. M. Hardern) to THOSE ONLY who let me know not later than Tuesday, May 29th.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

NORWICH AND ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the Association will be held at Pulham Market on Saturday, June 2nd, at which the president will preside. By kind permission of the Rectors (the Ven. A. R. Buckland and the Rev. E. W. Field) the rings of eight bells of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Mary the Virgin will be available. Luncheon will be served at 1.30 p.m. at the School Room. Tickets 2s. each, followed by the general business meeting. Members intending to be present at the luncheon must notify the same to Mr. F. R. Borrett, Pulham Market, not later than Tuesday, May 29th. Important business will be transacted concerning the affairs of the St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Branch of the Association. It is hoped that members from both branches will be well represented on that occasion.—Arthur L. Coleman, General Sec., High Croft, North Walsham.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Smethwick on Saturday, June 2nd. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Guild service in church at 5 p.m. Address by the Vicar (Canon G. Astbury), to be followed by tea and meeting. A tea will be provided for those only who notify the secretary by first post Tuesday, May 29th, latest. Subscriptions for 1923 now due.—F. Colclough, Hon. Sec., 1, Earl Street, Bilston.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Apsley on Saturday, June 2nd, 1923. All welcome. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. H. Cutler, South View, Manor Estate, Apsley End, by the previous Wednesday.—W. Ayre, District Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, June 2nd. Intending visitors please notify Vicar.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bradfield on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d. each) will be provided at 5 p.m. only to those who notify Mr. J. Gillott, Post Office, Bradfield, near Sheffield, by Wednesday, May 30th. Bus leaves Malin Bridge for Bradfield at 2.30, 3.30, etc.—T. W. Chown, Hon. Sec., 68, Canada Street, Sheffield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A district meeting will be held at Sunderland on Saturday, June 2nd. Meet at Bishopwearmouth Church at 2 o'clock, and bands will be made up for Holy Trinity and St. Ignatius (all 8-bell towers). Tea in St. Ignatius Parish Room at 5 o'clock, at cost price. Members intending to be present please notify me by the 30th inst.—George S. Taylor, Dis. Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Woburn on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells at 3 p.m. Visitors will be heartily welcome.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., Dunstable.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Wisbech Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton Ely on Saturday, June 2nd. Six bells, ready from 3 o'clock. Service in church 4.30. Tea provided for those who let me know.—H. W. Giddings, 101, Elwyn Road, March.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Hilpert on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (6) from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.40. Tea at 5, followed by a short business meeting.—F. Green, Hon. Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Stoke Golding on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea 5, in Men's Hut, 1s. each. Will those requiring tea kindly notify H. Stoneley, Stoke Golding, by May 31st? All ringers and friends welcome.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Andover on Saturday, June 9th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45, followed by business meeting. 6d. allowed for tea to all members informing me not later than Saturday, June 2nd.—Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. District Sec., Deane Rectory, Overton, Basingstoke.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Wellingborough on Saturday, June 9th. Service in the Parish Church at 3.30 p.m. The address will be given by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough. It is hoped there will be a large attendance. Tea will be provided after the service to all those who notify Mr. F. Barber, Gordon Road, Wellingborough, on or before June 6th.—David J. Nichols, Gen. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Corston, near Bath, on Saturday, June 9th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30, followed by tea. All ringers welcome. Will all those who require tea please let me know not later than June 4th.—Edith Smith, Sec., 23, Somerset Street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, June 9th, at Newport Pagnell. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.15 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Meeting after. Those expecting tea please notify me not later than June 2nd. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next 8-bell contest and annual meeting will be held at Halifax on Saturday, June 9th. Draw to take place at Ring of Bells at 2.45. Tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each to all who send word on or before Monday, June 5th, to Mr. Fred Salmons, 9, Salisbury Place, Halifax, to whom all entries for contest must be sent.—L. Hargreaves, Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Hillingdon (St. John's) on Saturday, June 9th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea arranged for those who kindly let me know by June 4th.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Croydon, on Saturday, June 16th. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at Hare and Hounds, Waddon. A good attendance desired and all ringers welcomed.—Fred W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 9, Dorset Road, Ealing, W.5.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 16th. Bells: St. Mary's (8) and St. Michael's (6) from 3 o'clock. Tea at Lloyd's Restaurant at 5, 1s. to fully-paid members, to others 1s. 6d. General meeting to follow. Please send word by Tuesday, June 12th. — H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A most successful half-yearly meeting of the North Berkshire Branch was held at Abingdon on May 5th. Service was held in St. Helen's Church, and a most appropriate address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. H. A. Kennedy. There were some seventy ringers present, including members of the local band, and visitors from Caversham, Appleton, Wallingford, Goring, Bucklebury, Hagbourne, Harwell, Stevenston, Chalgrove, Marcham, Hendred, Chilton, Blewbury, Hinton, etc., and all were entertained to a most enjoyable tea. The meeting was presided over by the Branch Chairman (the Rev. E. H. W. Leachman), and the report presented by the hon. secretary, Mr. A. E. Lock, was very favourable. Both these officers were unanimously re-elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting, which takes place at a date to be settled later (usually in October), at Appleton.

The Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) and the Guild secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) both addressed the meeting, the latter congratulating the local bands at Wallingford and Stevenston on their successful progress in change ringing.

The bells at St. Helen's and St. Nicholas were at the disposal of the ringers, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Caters and Treble Bob Royal were rung on the former. Sutton Courtenay and Drayton bells were also utilised.

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Printed for the Proprietors by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by The Bell House Publishing Co., Ltd., Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.