

# THE RINGING WORLD

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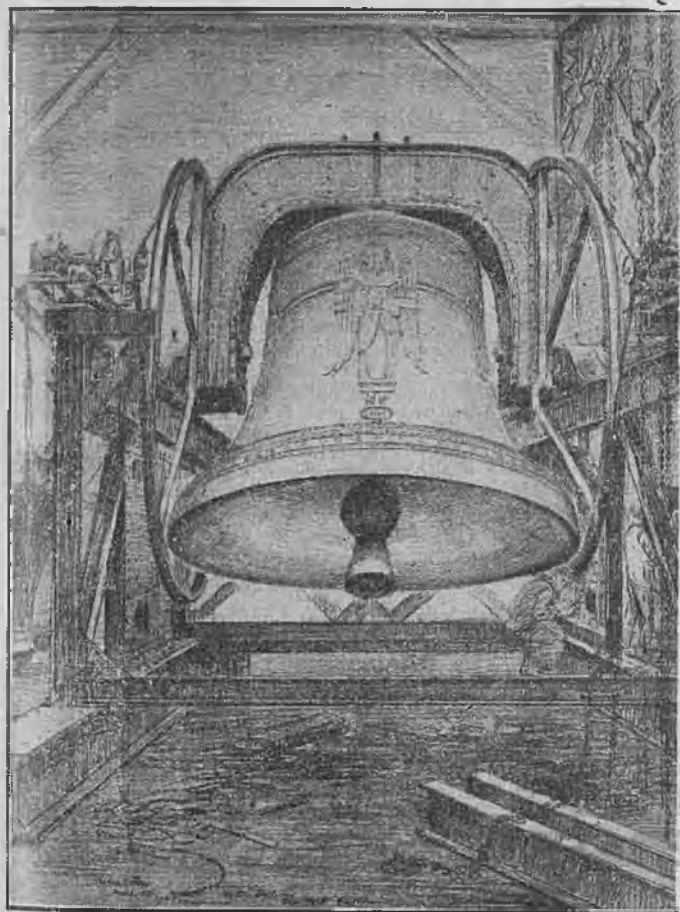
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### 'SPLICING.'

The progressive development of the art of ringing is never stayed. It may have sometimes, and even for long periods in the past, shown only small advances, while at others it has gone rapidly forward, but it is always progressing. Even in what may be called the darkest days there were men who were 'exploring the land' and laying up a store of knowledge, which, in the brighter intervals, has enabled the enterprising spirits to give a big lift to the art. Even a cursory study of the history of ringing will show this. There never was a period, however, when progress was made in so many different directions as in the last twenty years. The spread of change ringing itself; the increasingly higher standard of methods rung; the wider field of practice and the growth of knowledge in composition and method construction are a few of the instances which may be quoted.

One of the directions in which this progress has shown itself most markedly is in that of method 'splicing.' First applied to Minor methods, in which it reached its acme of application in the peals rung by the Norbury (Cheshire) band, it was eventually adapted to methods on higher numbers. In Surprise ringing there was first the peal at Whitley Bay, where Cambridge and Superlative were spliced, and afterwards came that remarkable composition of the Rev. H. Law James (first rung at Warnham), in which London and Bristol were added to the other two, and which laid the foundation for those further wonderful peals in five and six methods which have been accomplished at Willesden. A ten method composition has now come on the scene, and so the expansion goes on. No one can foresee the limit of development on these lines, for it opens up new avenues for the ingenuity of both composers and ringers. Only on Monday, 'splicing' in its practical development was taken a step further when at Chelmsford a peal was rung in which Superlative Surprise Maximus and Cambridge Surprise Maximus were coupled.

There has, of course, been a good deal done by way of joining up methods in approximately half peals. This is 'splicing' in its simplest form, but in interest cannot be compared to those forms in which methods are changed in every course or at almost every lead. Probably the time will come when spliced peals will be as common as are peals to-day in single Surprise methods. Composers might well devote their attention to obtaining peals in which some of the plain methods to be found in the Central Council's Major Method 'Collection' are spliced on the same lines as the Surprise methods are now mixed in one composition. Mr. Pitman has done it in

(Continued on page 210.)

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regard to some of the Plain Triple methods, by changing the method when the hunt bell is changed and the splicing of selected plain Major methods ought not to prove an insoluble problem. There is no question — as Mr. Trollope pointed out incidentally in his 'Notes by the Way' last week — that once an enterprising band has taken up 'spliced' peal ringing, a peal in any one method is a tame affair, and with the continued expansion of knowledge these multi-method peals will doubtless grow in numbers.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 1, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes  
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPICED SUPERLATIVE AND CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE  
MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 34½ cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Treble	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 7
MRS. EDITH K. FLETCHER ... 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 8
GEORGE R. PYE ... 3	JAMES BENNETT ... 9
CHARLES T. COLES ... 4	HAROLD W. CLARK ... 10
ALBERT W. COLES ... 5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 11
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... 6	WILLIAM PYE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This is the first peal in 'spliced' methods rung on twelve bells. It consisted of 2,880 changes of Superlative and 2,400 of Cambridge, both methods being rung in each course, the change from Superlative to Cambridge being at the 'Wrong' lead, and from Cambridge to Superlative at the course end. Mrs. Fletcher and J. S. Goldsmith were elected members of the association before starting.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE, SNOW HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor 31½ cwt.

HORACE BELCHER ... Treble	JOHN KENTISH ... 6
EDWIN F. PIKE ... 2	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 8
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9
CHARLES W. GRIMWOOD ... 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by WM. H. HEWETT  
Arranged and rung as a wedding peal for Miss E. E. Chapman and Mr. Reuben Sanders, who were married in the afternoon at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, S.W. After the peal, at the invitation of the bridegroom, the health of the newly-married couple was drunk, the band wishing them the best of health and happiness for the future. Quickest peal on the bells.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 1, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6079 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART ... Treble	HENRY J. TUCKER ... 6
JACK M. CRIPPS ... 2	ALBERT H. WARD ... 7
ALFRED KING ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 8
FREDERICK C. J. TURNER ... 4	EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN. ... 9
ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 5	ALFRED J. TURNER ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS

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**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

LYTHAM.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

BROOKS' VARIATION.

JAMES MARSH ... .. Treble	WILLIAM E. WILSON ... .. 5
*LAWRENCE GREEN ... .. 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... .. 6
JOHN BROWN ... .. 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 7
CHARLES SHARPLES ... .. 4	HARRY C. INGRAM ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

First peal of Stedman and first attempt.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... .. Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... .. 2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... .. 6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... .. 7
GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Non-Conducted.

Umpires: EDWARD J. BEER and HARRY HOVERD.

First 'silent' peal of Double Norwich by all and by the association.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 11½ cwt.

CHARLES W. STEPHENSON Treble	RENNIE HARTLEY ... .. 5
JAMES SMITH, SEN. ... .. 2	*JAMES SMITH, JUN. ... .. 6
WALTER STEPHENSON ... .. 3	FRED BENTLEY ... .. 7
WILLIAM MCCLEAVE ... .. 4	WILLIAM H. HUNTER ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by W. H. HUNTER.

\* First peal. Rung to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the bells.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 25, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN T. KENTISH ... .. Treble	EDWIN F. PIKE ... .. 5
RONALD H. BULLEN ... .. 2	*CECIL W. PIPE ... .. 6
GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 3	ERNEST BRETT ... .. 7
JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

\* First peal in the method, and proposed a member of the association previous to starting. The ringers of the treble and tenor have now rung each of these bells to a peal.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*SAM GREENHALGH ... .. Treble	EDWARD JENKINS ... .. 5
WILLIAM BIBBY ... .. 2	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... .. 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... .. 3	TITUS EARLOW ... .. 7
JOHN E. BIBBY ... .. 4	ALLEN F. BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

\* First peal in the method. Rung as a first birthday compliment to Alma, daughter of Mr. H. Greenhalgh, and granddaughter of Mr. S. Greenhalgh.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

*RAYMOND FORSHAW ... .. Treble	*HARRY A. SMITH ... .. 5
EDWIN JENNINGS ... .. 2	JAMES E. BURLES ... .. 6
ARTHUR STEDMAN ... .. 3	THOMAS METCALF ... .. 7
*WILLIAM PITCHALL ... .. 4	WILLIAM S. FORSHAW ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

First peal in the method.

HACKINGTON, CANTERBURY.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 11 cwt.

EDWARD ROCK ... .. Treble	PERCY PAGE ... .. 5
CHARLES W. BRETT ... .. 2	CHARLES FRANKLIN ... .. 6
EDWIN G. BUESDEN ... .. 3	HARRY PARKES ... .. 7
FREDERICK G. BRETT ... .. 4	HARRY CASTLE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN G. BUESDEN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Helmore.

**SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.**

RUSHMERE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

Tenor 8½ cwt.

CHARLES ABLITT ... .. Treble	JAMES DURRANT ... .. 4
*ALFRED B. KING ... .. 2	WILLIAM A. WOODS ... .. 5
THOMAS C. WARD ... .. 3	GEORGE W. ABLITT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by G. W. ABLITT.

\* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Ablitt. First peal on the bells since they were overhauled by Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich. The 'go' of the bells is excellent.

ORLINGBURY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(KETTERING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being four six-scores each of Stedman, Stedman Slow Course, Canterbury, St. Simon's, Old Doubles, Plain Bob, New Doubles, Chase, Grandsire, and six six-scores of Antelope.

FREDERICK REYNOLDS ... Treble	BASIL BUTLER ... .. 3
RICHARD ABRAMS ... .. 2	FRANK FOX ... .. 4
THOMAS BUTLER ... .. Tenor	

Conducted by THOMAS BUTLER.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to R. Abrams. First peal in ten methods by all the ringers, who are all of the local band.

LLANELLY, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 24, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ELI,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 13 cwt.

*GEORGE LEWIS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM H. SAUNDERS ... .. 4
SYDNEY T. RACKHAM ... .. 2	GEORGE POPNELL ... .. 5
G. ROBERT JONES ... .. 3	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by S. T. RACKHAM.

\* First peal, and elected a member of the association before commencing Treble and 3rd ringers hail from Abergavenny, 2nd and 4th local, 5th and tenor from Beddewty, Monmouthshire.



### EARDISLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE. THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 6040 CHANGES;

Being 16 spliced 240's and ten 120's.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*ERIC R. WEBB ... .. Treble	JAMES P. HYETT ... .. 4
GEORGE J. R. PRICE ... .. 2	JAMES RANDLE ... .. 5
BARNEY W. CADMAN ... .. 3	*CHARLES WEBB ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

\* First peal.

### SELKIRK, YORKSHIRE. BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Easter Monday, April 1, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In the following methods: Nelson's Victory, Bolton Abbey, Royston Delight, Walsh's Delight, Selkirk Delight, Barnesley Delight, Kirkby Delight.

F. PRIESTLEY ... .. Treble	H. CHANT ... .. 4
A. COLE ... .. 2	D. SMITH ... .. 5
M. PERRY ... .. 3	J. T. WHITE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. T. WHITE.

### CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE. THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 31, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

#### A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 120's of Canterbury Pleasure, 14 120's and 13 spliced 240's (Pitman's) of Grandsire.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

REGINALD MORRIS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM EVANS ... .. 4
GEORGE W. BARKER ... .. 2	GEORGE J. R. PRICE ... .. 5
WILLIAM RICHARDS ... .. 3	JAMES P. HYETT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

Rung on, and in honour of, Easter Day, also to celebrate the 21st birthday of the conductor's youngest daughter, and her engagement to the ringer of the 5th. The conductor has now called a peal of Doubles from each of the eight bells in the tower.

### DEDICATION OF TWO PEAL BOARDS.

On Saturday, at St. Paul's Church, Hounslow, Middlesex, the Vicar unveiled two peal boards commemorating peals recently rung on the bells for the London County Association, one of Grandsire Triples and the other of Bob Major. These boards have been given to the church by one of the local ringers, and are of neat design and good workmanship. The Vicar mentioned the methods by which people were called to worship in different countries, saying that drums were used in Africa, gongs in China, while in England we had bells. He traced the use of bells from the time of the introduction of the curfew to the present-day art of change ringing, and declared that all who were engaged in ringing for church services, and at times of rejoicing or sorrow, were performing a useful work. It was very gratifying that several of the Sunday service ringers took part in each of these peals.

Mr. Churchwarden J. F. Adcock also spoke in appreciation of the service ringers, who gave their time voluntarily and travelled considerable distances Sunday after Sunday to assist. He thought the captain (Mr. Tricker) must have more than a lion's share of that excellent virtue, patience.

Mr. A. E. Rogers, late churchwarden, said that it was a pleasant surprise to him that the conductor of the peal of Grandsire Triples (Mr. H. Nance) was an old schoolfellow of his.

Immediately the boards were unveiled, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. Hawthorne, Goddard, Herbert and Tricker followed by a tune, 'Jenny Jones,' by Messrs. Goddard, Tricker and Ellingham.

Some good practice was obtained on the tower bells in three methods, and a new conductor of Bob Major was discovered.

Ringing friends attended from Harlington, Staines, Putney, Battersea, and Greenwich, and all voted it the most pleasant Saturday had at Hounslow.

### REV. F. J. O. HELMORE'S THANKS.

Rev. F. J. O. Helmore desires to thank all brother ringers for their sympathy with him in his bereavement.

### SURREY ASSOCIATION.

#### NORTH-WESTERN DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of the North-Western District was held at Ashted on Easter Monday, about 40 members and friends attending during the afternoon and evening. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and the bells were kept going in various methods. At five o'clock the company adjourned to Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, where 32 sat down to a very enjoyable tea.

The business meeting followed, Mr. A. W. Clark, District Master, being in the chair. A letter was read from the secretary of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild re proposed joint meeting at Guildford on August Bank Holiday, stating that August Bank Holiday would not be convenient to the members of his district, but they would be pleased to meet the Surrey Association one Saturday later in the year.—It was then proposed, if possible, to hold the meeting on October 5th.

It was also proposed to alter the date of the joint meeting at Ewell with the Leatherhead District from May 4th to May 18th. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, Mr. G. Cook for making arrangements, and to those who waited at tea.

The tower was again visited, and ringing continued until nine o'clock. Methods rung during the day ranged from Grandsire Triples to Bristol Surprise Major.

### ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Ely Diocesan Association held their annual meeting again at Cambridge on Easter Monday. The attendance of members at the lunch and business meeting was smaller than usual, but ringers from other places were spending the day in Cambridge, and ringing took place at Great St. Mary's, St. Andrew the Great, the Church of St. Mary and the English Martyrs, and also at Old Chesterton.

The committee met in the vestry of St. Mary's in the morning, and the service in that church at noon was, in the absence through illness of the Vicar, Dr. P. N. Waggett, S.S.J.E., conducted by the secretary (Rev. R. Copeman). The address, pointing out the way in which the Exercise evokes the response of the whole of our nature—body, soul and spirit—was given by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Rector of Watlington, who has recently come into the diocese, and at short notice undertook Dr. Waggett's place.

Lunch followed at the Dorothy Cafe. Letters had been received from the Revs. A. H. F. Boughey, F. W. Fulford and J. B. Marshall, expressing their regret that they were unable to be present.

The General Secretary presented his report, in which he expressed the sense of the great loss which the association had sustained by the death of the Rev. H. B. Woolley, who had acted as district secretary for the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon for many years, and taken great interest in ringing, and was always ready to welcome ringers when a meeting was held at Long Stanton.

On the motion of Mr. T. R. Dennis, the members stood for a few moments in silence as a mark of their respect for his memory.

There were 32 peals rung during the year, including one of Bob Royal on handbells.

The Treasurer produced his balance sheet, which showed a sum of £19 15s. 5d. in hand, which had justified the printing of a report for 1927-8, instead of for 1927, as had been planned.

The officers were re-elected, viz.: General secretary, Rev. R. Copeman; treasurer, Mr. T. R. Dennis; auditor, Mr. A. E. Austin; district secretary for Archdeaconry of Wisbech, Mr. H. W. Giddings, for Archdeaconry of Ely Mr. F. Warrington, for Archdeaconry of Huntingdon Miss C. Fields, and for Marshland Mr. W. G. Cross.

On the motion of Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake was elected as representative of the association on the Central Council.

The question of forming a new district was postponed, and a slight alteration was made in the rules to permit the district branches to appoint a Ringing Master for district meetings.

The much-debated subject of the constitution of peals of Minor and Doubles was discussed, but no resolution was put to the meeting.

Reference was made to the illness of Mr. H. J. Hazell, following upon the death of his parents, and a grant was made to him. It was also resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to an old ringer, Mr. York Green, who is in failing health.

The usual vote of thanks to the incumbents for the use of the bells and to the preacher for his address brought the meeting to a close, and the members adjourned to the various towers, where touches were rung during the afternoon and evening.

**BINFIELD, BERKS.**—On Good Friday, at the Church of All Saints, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor, half-muffled, in 48 mins.: W. Penton 1, R. Blake 2, R. Davis 3, W. Bagley 6, G. Bull 5, J. Rance (conductor) 6. Longest touch by ringers of 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

**WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.**—Three different 720's of Bob Minor on Good Friday for morning service, with the bells half-muffled. On Easter Sunday, one for morning service and one for evening service by the following band: Reg Wright (first 720) 1, A. Thomas 2, W. Stubbs 3, H. G. Smith 4, J. Bayley 5, A. Crawley (conductor) 6.

## PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Wood asks this week how I reconcile my statement that rounds is the first row of a peal with the statement that a peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds? I do not attempt to reconcile them; they are absolutely contradictory.

Change ringing is a science; the rules of the Central Council dealing with the scientific side of the matter are just like scientific theories.

Now, a scientific theory is like the clothes line on which the washing is hung out to dry, but if someone proceeds to hang a four-stone weight upon it the whole thing comes down.

In 1907 we published the Collection of Minor methods, and we drew a line under 123456, gave the figures of the lead, and drew another line after the whole peal of the treble. We were simply following tradition; and there was really no excuse for us; we ought to have known better, for on page 3 in his work on 'Duffield,' published nine years before by Sir Arthur Heywood, he tells us quite correctly that Duffield is pricked by the six heads.

When we published the Selection of Major methods in 1926, we corrected the mistake, and you will find the lines drawn in the right place.

Now turn to Minor forty years ago. Six-bell ringers gloried in 11 360's in different methods; then came the definition of a peal of Minor given in the last edition of 'Rules and Decisions.' That was our clothes line, and we were all proud of it. My brother produced his peal of Cambridge Minor; that was a four-stone weight, and the motion carried at Hereford last year was the erection of a new clothes line.

I then produced the London Minor, and, while I still think that the line holds, a great many people think otherwise.

What is to be done? I repeat, change ringing is a science. Now scientific theories are tested by experiment, and so the proper thing to do is to wait until we have proved by experiment that the line is actually broken, and when that is proved to be very careful before we attempt to erect another.

H. LAW JAMES.

## LONDON SURPRISE MINOR.

Sir,—Mr. James must be getting very short of copy to prove to your readers that his peal of London and his brother's peal of Cambridge are true. First we get examples of Singles and Doubles, and then, finally, Triples. Yes, sir, you may mix the 72 courses to get the extent of 5,040, just as you may mix the six courses of London to get the extent of 720, but you may not mix the three 720's to get 2,160. Mr. James would never tolerate mixing three 5,040 of Triples to get 15,120, which is just the same thing as mixing three 720's to get 2,160. They are both the extent in each method, and must remain as such.

What we six-bell ringers—or the majority of us—are out for is a clear definition of what a peal of Minor shall be, and this is the definition we want: A peal of Minor shall commence from rounds and end with rounds; it must consist of at least seven true and complete 720's, each 720 to be true in itself. If we get this definition all will be well, otherwise I am afraid all the ground will have to be gone over again.

Here are three 720's of London Minor. Nos. 1 and 2 have two 5-6's at hand. No. 3 has four 5-6's at hand: 43 changes part each 5-6 in Nos. 1 and 2, and 67 changes part each 5-6 in No. 3.

No. 1.				No. 2.			
123456	I.	4th.	O. W. H.	123456	I.	4th.	O. W. H.
3425	—	—	—	2453	—	—	—
4235	—	—	—	3542	—	2	—
4523	—	—	—	2534	—	—	—
3542	—	—	—	3425	—	—	—
2453	—	—	—	4235	—	—	—
2345	—	2	—	2345	—	—	—

No. 3.  
123456 I. 4th. O. W. H.

4352	—	—	—
2453	—	—	—
2534	—	—	—
4235	—	—	—
3425	—	—	—
2345	—	—	—

There are two variations to each 720 without disturbing the 5-6's.

They are the best that can be produced from the London method and, in my opinion, are far in advance of Mr. James'. The 720's are true in themselves, and there are only eight 5-6's at hand in 2,160 changes. There is nothing here to offend the musical ear.—Yours truly,

C. SEVERN.

## TWO TWELVE-BELL METHODS.

Now that there is a wider interest in twelve-bell methods, both in their theory and practice, the following by the Rev. E. Bankes James will, we think, appeal to twelve-bell ringers:—

## BRISTOL SURPRISE.

1234567890et  
2143658709te  
1234685790et  
2143867509te

2413685790et  
4231658709te  
2413567809te  
4231658709te

2436157809te  
4263518709te  
2436157890et  
4263517980et

24365719e8t0  
234567918e0t  
32547619e8t0  
352467918e0t

534276981et0  
35246789e10t  
325476981et0  
23457968e10t

32549786e01t  
234579680et1  
32547698e01t  
234567890et1

243658709te1  
42638507t91e  
243680579te1  
42630875t91e

24368057t19e  
42638507t1e9  
46235870t19e  
64328507t1e9

462358017t9e  
42638510t7e9  
243658017t8e  
23456810t7e8

325461807t9e  
2345168709te  
3254617890et  
234516879e0t

32415878e9t0  
231465879e0t  
3241567890et  
2314576809te

2134758690et  
1243576809te  
2134567890et  
1243658709te

142638507t9e

## VERONA.

1234567890et  
2143658709te  
1234685790et  
2143867509te

2418365790et  
4281637509te  
241836705t9e  
42816307t5e9

2486103t759e  
426801t357e9  
4628103t5e79  
648201t3e597

68402t1e3957  
8604t2e19375  
8064t2t1e9735  
0846t2e17953

804t6e271935  
08t4e6729153  
0t8e46271935  
t0e864729153

0t8e46792513  
t0e864975231  
0t8e69472513  
t0e896745231

0t8e69472531  
t0e896745213  
0t8e97642531  
t0e879465213

0t8e97456123  
t0e879541632  
t0e789456123  
et7098541632

te7905814623  
et9750186432  
e9t705816342  
9e7t50183624

97e5t1038264  
795e1t302846  
759e1t032488  
57e9t1304268

75e193t40286  
57t1e394t2068  
75e19342t608  
57t1e3924t680

5173e942t608  
15379e246t80  
517392e4t608  
1537294e6t80

157392e4t608

E. BANKES JAMES.

## ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

The monthly meeting of the above Guild was held at Hythe on Saturday, March 23rd. About 30 members from various towers attended, including Mr. George Slingsby, of Aldington, the Kent veteran, aged 91, who is as sprightly as ever. He took part in a touch of Grandsire, and gave his opinion of the new ring.

The bells were started at 2.45, and kept going till 5.15, when tea was served at the Paddock Tea Rooms. After tea the Master (Mr. W. Everett) presided at the business meeting, when votes of condolence were passed to Mr. Fright, the local captain, on the loss of his son, and also on the deaths of Alderman Finn (Lydd) and Alderman Deacon (Rye), hon. members, and Mr. C. Head (Wye).

Egerton and Pluckley were chosen for the next meeting. One new member was elected, and a return was then made to the tower for further ringing. The going of the bells was perfect, and the restoration is a credit to the firm who carried out the work.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Tuesday, March 12th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Lear 1, F. Vickers 2, J. Marks 3, F. Stonton 4, S. Smith 5, H. Lear (conductor) 6. First 720 Cambridge by ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 4th, and first 720 Cambridge on the bells.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Cave can have it either way. I do not mind. I have only tried to prove that 'Representative' is 'Delegate.' Mr. Cave states that it is the other way about, or, in plain words, the same thing. He does not say if the word 'representative' should be hanged and drawn as the word delegate was at Hereford. With reference to association reports, will Mr. Cave keep to the point? I stated that I fail to find in any of the rules given reference to the Central Council. It is a bad policy to rush replies, wasting space and creating an unfair position to your other correspondents.

However, the rest of Mr. Cave's letter glorifies a society created to cater for a very few select scientific change ringers, and Mr. Cave's fellow-ringers, who are only Sunday service church bellringers, are left to the good and able associations to do for them what they did before the Central Council was thought of. There is too much stress laid on the scientific side of church bellringing, and it is in this light that I believe the Central Council has lost its popularity among the less learned ringers.

Upon the Central Council agenda is an item which has already been passed by them once, viz., 'Advisory committee consultant.' My experience is that these advisory committees are conservative, and will only accept the advice of those they seek. (I could explain this fully if necessary.) Furthermore, does the Central Council follow up all its recommendations and see that they are not forgotten? Here, above, is one instance that they do not know they have already passed a resolution down for this year's agenda. To be quite honest, I really do wish the Council (in an improved form) to carry on, but I should like to see a more democratic policy.

I am very grateful to Rev. C. D. P. Davies for his kind and constructive reply. Unfortunately, Mr. Davies missed a point when I referred to 8B upon the agenda. He mistook me for 9B. It is 8B that I definitely referred to. Another point is this 'matured opinion' from the associates. What happened to the 'matured opinions'? When a representative said he was against these 'matured opinions' the president told him he was there to vote as a member of the Council and not in the way his association had instructed him.

Mr. Pulling's letter is also very helpful. Through these letters it is quite clear that, although different ringers possess different 'dictionaries,' there is a gross misunderstanding as to the status an association holds upon the Council. I do not agree that the Council are associations in Council, but, rather, a Council formed solely to reserve their own personal opinions, and opinions of associations are 'pious opinions.' Can the hon. secretary say that his material for the agenda comes spontaneously from the members of the Council or from the associations, and which does he think he would prefer?—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE,

Member of the Central Council.

P.S.—For Rev. Davies' information in the new 'Rules and Decisions of the Central Council' it states at the first meeting of the Council there were present '74 delegates.'

## MR CRAVEN'S 5,664 BOB MAJOR.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to 5,664 Bob Major, sent by me for publication in your columns, I am extremely sorry to point out that the figures as given are not true. The W lead in the last course of each part repeats with the W lead in the fifth course, one being bobbed and the other a plain lead. My error has arisen with the wish to produce the peal all in-course. The mistake is too foolish for excuse, therefore let me solicit your pardon.

By calling Single W instead of Bob in the last course of each part puts everything true and allows the peal to be rung as a six-part. The 468's will be in-course changes, and the 648 out of course. I append corrected figures, and with sincere apologies for such a careless mistake.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

5,664 BOB MAJOR.

Containing 12 courses each of 468, 648, 478 and 678.

2345678 W. 5 Out. In H.

35264	—	—
63254	—	—
56234	—	—
2375468	—	—
72354	—	—
37254	—	—
25374	—	—
52634	S	2

Five times repeated.

By calling single home in the third course of any one part, the peal is reduced to 5,072. 4th and 6th only in 6th's place, eight courses alternately throughout.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Leicester District was held at Ratby and Groby on Saturday, March 23rd. Groby was first visited, the bells being raised about 3.30 p.m. and kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor. About 4.45 p.m. the bells were lowered, and a move made to Ratby, where an excellent tea was partaken of in the Church Rooms by 25 members and friends.

Ratby belfry was then visited, and the six bells were kept going till a little after 8 p.m. to Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Minor, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Oxford Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure.

The business meeting was held in the Church Room, presided over by the local vice-president.

Husbands Bosworth was chosen as the place for the next mid-quarterly meeting, and Melton Mowbray for the June quarterly meeting.

The proceedings closed with a very hearty and unanimous vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the ladies who so kindly catered for such an excellent tea, and the towerkeepers of Ratby and Groby for having their bells in such good ringing condition.

## DEATH OF MR. J. H. LILLEY.

The death has occurred at Wells, Norfolk, of Mr. J. H. Lilley, A.R.C.O., brother of Mr. C. R. Lilley, of Shrewsbury.

Mr. J. H. Lilley was an old ringer, although he had never rung a peal. He was organist and choirmaster of Wells-on-Sea for nine years, and held previous appointments at Petworth, Downham Market and Spalding. He was keenly interested in Freemasonry, being a member of the 'Hundred of Elloe' Lodge, Spalding, and while at Wells joined the 'Earl of Leicester' Lodge, of which he was Worshipful Master in 1927-28. He had also been secretary of the Wells and District Cottage Hospital since 1922. Besides his love of music, Mr. Lilley spent much time in sketching and painting. After the choral funeral at St. Nicholas' Church a 360 Bob Minor was rung with 6-8 covers, the bells being half-muffled: E. Hendry 1, B. Brown 2, F. Stone 3, V. Runtig 4, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 5, C. Shillaker 6, P. Adcock 7, S. Tuck 8.

## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

UXBRIDGE.—At the Church of St. Andrew, on Sunday evening, March 24th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 47 mins.: E. G. Swift 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, P. E. Jones 3, R. Warnett 4, J. H. Lucas 5, E. Hancox 6, C. Nicholl (first in the method) 7, F. Corke (conductor) 8.

BADGEWORTH, GLOS.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Sunday evening, March 24th, for service, a quarter-peal of Doubles, being three and a half six-scores each of Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire, all called differently. The ringers were: A. Newman 1, W. Oakey (conductor) 2, C. Lawrence 3, G. Kilminster 4, A. Williams 5, C. Staite 6. This is the first quarter-peal in three methods on the bells, by a local band. This is a young band, which was started by Mr. W. Yeend, secretary of the Cheltenham Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association about three years ago.

DEPTFORD.—On Sunday, March 24th, at the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, for evening service, in 39 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): E. J. Rivett 1, A. F. Petrie 2, W. A. Martin 3, P. C. Charles Elliott 4, P. S. Richard Steers 5, P. C. Charles Davies 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8.

ARKSEY.—For evensong, on Palm Sunday, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 46 mins.: F. Garner 1, G. Clark 2, G. Jackson 3, E. Cooper (conductor) 4, H. Arrand 5, J. McCluskey 6, T. Revill 7, H. Walker 8.

SIBSEY, Lincs.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Palm Sunday, 720 Bob Major for morning service: Mrs. H. Harper 1, S. Lovell 2, H. Johnson 3, F. Dewey 4, F. Leggott 5, W. Wilkinson 6, H. Harper 7, W. E. Clarke (conductor) 8.

NEWHEY, LANCs.—On Sunday, March 24th, for evening service at St. Thomas' Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 47 mins.: John Fetton 1, H. Hamer 2, W. Staff 3, J. H. C. Massey 4, S. Dunn 5, G. Staff (conductor) 6, J. Lees 7, A. Sidebottom 8. The above are all service ringers at Milnrow Parish Church, except the 7th, who hails from Balderstone (Rochdale). The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and ringers for granting them the privilege, owing to their own bells being out for rehanging by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

HURSLEY.—On Sunday, March 24th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 47 mins., 4-6-8 covering: G. Richards 1, W. Jones 2, E. Wild 3, A. Coward 4, R. Hunt 5, P. Peacock 6, H. Wilkinson (conductor) 7, H. Jefferies 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. H. Wilkinson, who was shortly leaving the village.

AMBLESIDE.—On March 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, in 53 mins.: P. C. W. Robinson 1, J. Sewell 2, W. Nevinson 3, H. Hardy 4, W. Middleton 5, F. Hindle 6, T. B. Newton (conductor) 7, W. Fisher 8. Treble ringer hails from Manchester, 6th from Blackburn, rest from Ambleside.

### SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. EASTERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division was held at Mayfield on Saturday, March 23rd. Ringing commenced at about 2.30 p.m., continuing until 4.30, when the members attended the service, which was conducted by the Rev. N. A. King, who gave a most hearty welcome to the members of the association. The address which followed was listened to with great interest.

An excellent tea was provided at the Royal Oak Hotel, to which 25 sat down. The Rev. N. A. King presided, and also occupied the chair at the business meeting which followed.

Prior to reading the minutes, the Hon. Secretary called attention to the great loss the association had sustained through the recent death of the Bishop of Lewes. No doubt, he said, all those present remembered him best as the Vicar of Eastbourne, the Rev. Canon W. C. Stratfield. He had actually taken the chair at the last meeting held by the division at Eastbourne, which took place on January 12th. The late Bishop had been a kind friend to the ringers of Eastbourne, and to the Sussex County Association generally.

The whole company then stood in silence as a token of respect.

At the election of officers which followed, Mr. G. W. Stokes was re-elected hon. secretary, and Messrs. A. R. Miles, W. Franks, and W. Booth were re-elected to serve on the committee.

The following members were also elected: Messrs. Menser and Moon, of Mayfield, and Mr. W. R. Norris, of Heene.

Mr. W. D. Smith moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also accorded a vote of thanks to the Rev. N. A. King for his address at the services, and for presiding at the tea and meeting. He also thanked the organist for his services, and said how pleased the members were at the welcome accorded them that day. There was one point, however, which he would like to bring before the Vicar, and that was the abnormal amount of noise in the belfry caused by the bells, which made it very uncomfortable to ring, and he thought that something should be done to remedy this defect.

The Chairman, in responding, thanked the company, and with regard to Mr. Smith's remarks about the noisy belfry, said he would come up in the tower and see for himself. He also promised that the matter should have further consideration.—This terminated the meeting.

The ringers then returned to the church, where good practice was had in methods from Grandsire and Plain Bob to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major.

### THE LATE MR. J. E. SYKES.

On Tuesday, March 26th, at St. Bartholomew's Church, Marsden, Yorks, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob in 55 mins., with bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Joseph E. Sykes, who was a resident of Marsden and a good friend to the ringers of the above tower: L. T. Byram 1, J. Whitehead 2, N. Scawthorn 3, S. Whitehead 4, H. Shaw 5, C. Hoyle 6, A. Carter 7, H. Hoyle (conductor) 8.

### FUNERAL AT COPENHAGEN.

The interment of the late Mr. J. E. Sykes took place at Copenhagen, the chaplain to the British Legation officiating. The only relative present was the deceased's younger brother, Major Frederick L. Sykes, but among others who attended were two representatives of Messrs. W. C. Holmes and Co., of Huddersfield, by whom Mr. Sykes had been employed for many years; the managers of various gas works in Denmark, where he had carried out work, members of Copenhagen Masonic Lodges, foremen and employes from the Eastern and Valby gasworks in Copenhagen, and several Danish personal and business friends of deceased. There were a great many floral tributes.

### DEATH OF AN ESSEX PIONEER.

Another old pioneer of ringing in Essex passed away on March 22nd in the person of Mr. Edward Claydon, who died after several weeks of trying illness, at the age of 73 years. He had taken a great interest in change ringing at St. Mary's, Stebbing, and had been leader of that company for over fifty years. He also took an active part in other church affairs, and his death will be keenly felt by many. Thus there passes another veteran, highly respected by all who knew him.

He had been a member of the Essex Association since 1881.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, March 27th, and was attended by many of his ringing friends, including Mr. Howard, Master of the Essex Association, and ringers from London, Dunmow and Felstead. Two 720's were rung, with the bells half-muffled, 720 of Kent: J. T. Barker 1, F. Harrington 2, A. Smith 3, H. P. Emery 4, A. Perry 5, W. Smith (conductor) 6; and 720 of Bob Minor: H. C. Young, sen., 1, G. Emery 2, G. Schleuter 3, F. Harrington 4, W. Smith 5, J. Jennings (conductor) 6.

### IN MEMORY OF MARSHAL FOCH.

At Great Bardfield Church, on Tuesday, March 26th, in memory of Marshal Foch, with bells fully muffled, except tenor half-muffled, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major in 50 mins.: W. Richardson 1, G. Hills 2, A. Piper 3, F. Suckling 4, W. Piper 5, G. Piper 6, E. Townsend 7, J. Jennings (conductor) 8.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Among those who have rung a hundred peals in their own tower are Mr. John Flint, who has scored 135 at the Parish Church, Bolsover, Derbyshire, and Mr. H. Warnett, who has completed the century at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham.

Many have been the expressions of regret at the fate of Mr. J. E. Sykes. Mr. J. J. Lamb writes pointing out that he took part in Mr. Sykes' first peal, which was at Woolwich, on November 13th, 1802. He is the third member of that band to meet a tragic end, the other two being Messrs. E. Pye and I. G. Shade.

On April 5th, 1808, a peal of 10,097 Grandsire Caters was rung at Shrewsbury in 6 hrs. 50 mins.

April 7th and 8th is the anniversary of the famous 40,320 Bob Major at Leeds, Kent (in 1761), which was completed in 27 hours by fourteen men, who relieved each other at intervals. The ringers were James Barham, Thomas Barham, Abraham Barham, William Tilley, William Davis, William Attwood, Thomas Lacy, John Crisp, Richard Masters, James Hampton, Edward Cook, Stephen Bayley and John Barah.

George Gross, sen., conducted the first peal ever rung 'in that intricate method,' Court Bob Royal, at Shoreditch, on April 7th, 1801.

A 12,160 Bristol Surprise Major was rung at Knebworth on April 8th, 1912, and 13,440 Bob Major at Loughborough Bell Foundry on the same day ten years later.

One of the several long peals at Appleton was rung on April 11th, 1888, when the Oxford Guild scored a 13,265 Grandsire Caters.

At the present moment extensive repairs are taking place to the carillon at Leek. The local watchmaker, who has charge of the clock, had been showing a friend the wonders of the clock, carillon and bells, and had descended as low as the belfry. The friend gazed round in bewildered wonderment until his eyes rested on the rope mats on the belfry floor, when he exclaimed, 'Well, I never knew they knelt down to ring the bells before.'

## WELL-KNOWN RINGERS MARRIED.

A wedding of much interest to a large circle of ringers was solemnised on Saturday at St. Stephen's Church, Clapham Park, when Mr. Reuben Sanders was married to Miss Elsie Chapman. Mr. Sanders has for many years been one of the leading exponents of the art of ringing in London, and his bride has proved herself one of the ablest among the lady ringers in the country.

A number of ringers attended the ceremony, and the bells were rung in honour of the event.

Among the wedding presents have been a dinner service from Mr. Saunders' friends in the Middlesex County Association, and a tea service from the ringers at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

## MINSTER ABBEY CHURCH, SHEPPEY.

### ANCIENT RING OF FIVE RESTORED.

On Saturday last, March 23rd, the re-dedication of the bells of this ancient abbey church took place by the Very Rev. the Dean of Canterbury. After the usual form of service, the Dean proceeded to the base of the tower for the actual ceremony, and a few rounds were rung.

The Dean gave an inspiring address on the history of the bells and their uses, and the customs of ringing and ringers.

Several ringers from various towers in the Rochester district rang six-scores of Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob, with the assistance of Mr. A. A. Hughes, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

The bells, five in number, are dated alike, 1663, the weight of the tenor being between 11 and 12 cwt. The treble, 2nd and 3rd have in small letters, 'William Hatch made me 1663' and the 4th and tenor, 'William Hatch made me,' in capital letters. The treble, owing to a crack, was recast in 1883. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have had the bells at their foundry, and, the 3rd bell being cracked, has been recast. The four other bells have been retuned, the bell frame strengthened, and new self-aligning ball bearings fitted. New headstocks, wheels, ash stays, sliders, and new pulleys, gudes, ropes, etc., have also been fitted. The 'go' and tone of the bells have been greatly improved, and reflect great credit on the firm. Only one regret remains, and that is that a treble was not added to make them into a peal of six.

The cost of the work has been entirely defrayed by a member of the congregation, Mr. S. T. Hipwell, an ex-sergt.-major, R.E.

The visiting ringers wish to thank Mr. A. A. Hughes for his kind hospitality.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Cookham practice of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch was attended by ringers from a wide area, and a noticeable point was that youth predominated. A considerable amount of 'spade work' was done, although 'Cambridge' was not forgotten.

The next practice is a joint one with the Middlesex County Association at Hillingdon, to be quickly followed by the annual meeting and jubilee celebrations.

During the summer months it is hoped to accept some invitations to visit outlying towers, which can only be reached comfortably in fine weather.



## HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### PRESIDENT'S GIFT.

The Hertfordshire County Association gathered at St. Albans on Monday for their annual meeting, and during the day made full use of the bells at the Abbey and other churches in the city. In the afternoon, a service was held in the Abbey, an address being given by the Rev. R. Gibbs, Vicar of Aldenham, and afterwards the ringers assembled at the Ver House for tea, followed by the annual meeting.

Mr. G. W. Cartmel, president of the association, who is also hon. secretary, presided, supported by the Dean of St. Albans (the Very Rev. E. L. Henderson) and the Vicar of Aldenham.

The President, in his welcome to the members, who numbered about a hundred and twenty, sprang a surprise on the company. 'I want to present to the association this evening, a silver badge,' he said. 'Last year you kept a secret from me wonderfully well; this year I had a secret, and I kept it in my own home. The badge is given to mark my year as president and as a token of my appreciation of the esteem you bestowed upon me last year. I ask you to accept this silver badge for the use of another president.'

A storm of applause broke out as Mr. Cartmel passed the badge around. The silver badge, which takes the shape of a bell, has the inscription: 'To the Hertfordshire County Association of Change Ringers, presented by Mr. G. W. Cartmel, Easter, 1929.'

The President read a message from the Bishop of St. Albans congratulating the association and regretting his inability to be present. Excellent progress in change ringing had taken place during the year, the President added. The association's numbers had been well maintained, and they were in a sound financial position.

Mr. Cartmel commenced the 44th annual report with an expression of gratitude for the handsome manner in which the members recognised his 25 years' service as their secretary, and also in conferring upon him the additional honour of president. The year's work as regards peal ringing had been very successful, giving cause for much satisfaction. A perusal of the list of peals reveals a variety of methods. The peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at North Mimms, and a peal of Surfleet Surprise Minor at Wendens Ambro, were the first in the methods for the association. Five peals of Cambridge Surprise have also been rung, the peal of St. Michael's, St. Albans being the first rung in the city. It was also unique in that the band represented the four towers of St. Albans. Thirty-four peals were rung in 23 towers, with 19 different conductors, Mr. R. Howard topping the list with seven peals. Nine rang their first peal, and approximately 63 have rung their first peal in a new method, which is real progress.

The committee met at St. Albans on February 9th, and it was interesting to record that every district secretary was present, besides representatives from other important centres. The secretary submitted proofs of a service paper for district meetings, which was agreed to, subject to the approval of the Bishop of the diocese. A draft certificate of membership was subjected to much criticism, and approved, after various suggestions had been incorporated. The question of what constitutes a peal of Minor or Doubles was discussed, and in view of the correspondence which had been carried on for some time in 'The Ringing World,' and also to give the representatives of the association on the Central Council the opportunity of knowing the opinion of members, it was decided to make the question an agenda item. The committee agreed to the proposition brought forward by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith at the last Central Council meeting, where it was carried without dissent.

### BISHOP'S STORTFORD'S ALOOFNESS.

Death, continued the report, had removed many of their zealous honorary and ringing members, among whom were Canon Nairne, the Rev. J. P. Haythornthwaite, Rev. A. G. Langdon, Rev. H. R. Foster, Mr. E. N. Wix and Mr. E. S. Cox. Among the rank and file they remembered Mr. W. Bennett, of Aldenham, who for 37 years was verges, Mr. Arthur Hull, of St. Albans, who was for 53 years attached to St. Peter's belfry, and Mr. George Paice, of the Edmonton band. After referring to the joint meeting with the Middlesex Association, held at North Mimms in the summer, and the meeting of the Essex, Herts and Middlesex Associations at Waltham Abbey, the report recorded that the bells at Great Gaddesden had been augmented to a peal of six, and Bishop's Stortford had been rehung. The latter tower once held an important position in the association, and listed a band in the first annual report; but they had left the association severely alone for many years. The greatest acquisition to the county would be the addition of two trebles at Hatfield, making a peal of ten, in memory of the three sons of the Bishop of Exeter who fell in the war. This should spur the Hatfield members to great achievements, and give a lift to the prestige and records of the association. Another event of great interest has been the centenary celebrations of John Briant, the famous Hertfordshire bellfounder and clock maker, which was celebrated at Hertford on Wednesday, February 27th, the anniversary of his death. Briant came to Hertford when 30 years of age, and set up his bell foundry in Parliament Row. The departure from the county of the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, a most loyal supporter of the association for many years and of ringing generally, was much regretted. Mr. T. J. Hull, who acted for several years as librarian, had sent in his resignation.

Unforeseen circumstances prevented their representatives attending the Central Council meeting last year, consequently their resolution as to the necessity of appointing a committee to enquire as to the best method of meeting urgent necessitous cases of sickness amongst ringers, and of affording help to their dependants, fell through. The resolution was, however, upon the agenda this year, and the secretary of the Central Council had promised to second it. 'The Central Council,' added the report, 'is a most useful body, having done much good work in the past, and I am sure that it is to the advantage of the whole ringing community if persistently backed up by them. It has been criticised, which is a sign of usefulness. Genuine criticism never does harm, because if it is given and received in the spirit of Christian fellowship it imparts very often new life. I commend one suggestion recently put forward by Mr. Alex. Young, the secretary to the Council, that on the occasion of the thanksgiving service for the King's remarkable recovery from sickness, ringers should mark the event with a joyous peal.'

Thanks were again tendered to the district secretaries for their splendid labours of another year. Their work was of the utmost importance for the success and progress of the association, and the attendances at the meetings showed that that opinion was shared by the members also. These meetings were becoming more popular in other associations, as well as theirs. In conclusion, they remembered with gratitude the services rendered by the various steeple-keepers who are responsible for the 'go' of the bells, the clergy for arranging services at district meetings, and for use of the bells at the annual and district meetings and for peals; and those who have generously provided teas; the sympathetic co-operation and support given by the honorary and ringing members, and all others who had contributed in many ways in forwarding the cause of the association. Let them in return show that they valued and appreciated the many kindly acts of their supporters by regular attendance at their respective churches for service ringing and practice, and doing all they could to further the best interests of the association during the coming year.

### 'STRONG ARMS AND STRONG HEADS.'

Moving the adoption of the report, the Dean said it was always a great pleasure to him when ringers visited the mother church. There were two things which he respected enormously when he got among ringers, and those things were strong arms and strong heads. 'I do think,' he said, 'that ringers, apart from the splendid work that they do—and it is very real work for God and His Church—in ringing on occasions of sorrow and national rejoicing, are helping to supply something that has been lacking in the church by their centres of fellowship. It does bring together real bands of brotherhood. By these bands linked together into an association you are bringing together men of every type from the villages and country. It is that which is wanted enormously in the life of the church today. It is the belfry which is pulling together people who form invaluable centres of fellowship. We are very much apt to sit in church listening to sermons—and we are not always doing that—and not having anything to say to the person alongside whom we have sat for years and years. That is not Christianity. Christianity means more of fellowship and brotherhood. It is to the people who sit alongside us—our neighbours—that we owe our duty.'

The Dean formally moved the adoption of the report, and congratulated the association on its 'very capable officers' in Mr. Cartmel and Mr. Debenham.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. P. Debenham, reported a balance in hand of £25 9s. 9d., and a reserve fund balance of £24 8s. 4d.

Mr. W. H. Golding, of Hemel Hempstead, on his election as president for the ensuing year, was presented with the silver badge of office. Other officers elected were: Treasurer, Mr. E. P. Debenham; hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Cartmel; representatives on the Central Council, Mr. W. Ayre and Mr. F. W. Elliot; hon. librarian, Mr. Gilbert Debenham; hon. auditor, Mr. W. Mercer; district secretaries, Messrs. D. C. Mears (Northern), W. H. Lawrence (Eastern), W. Nash (St. Albans), C. H. Horton (Watford), and W. Ayre (Western).

The following were elected hon. ringing members: Rev. B. E. F. Mitchell, St. Albans; Rev. G. I. Fiennes, St. Albans; Mr. Gilbert Debenham, St. Albans; Mr. Charles J. Jackson, Pinner; Mr. Harold Burton, Luton; Mr. W. Price, Benington; Mr. A. Wing, Benington; Mr. E. P. Hawkins, Great Munden; and Mr. E. Barnes, Great Munden.

Thanks to the Dean of St. Albans (the Very Rev. E. L. Henderson) and the Vicars of St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and St. Michael's Churches for the use of the bells, were accorded on the proposition of Mr. Debenham. Mr. Cartmel was also heartily thanked for his gift to the association.

### DEATH OF MRS. K. JAGGER.

On March 18th, there passed peacefully away at Sholmal Street, Burton-on-Trent, Mrs. K. Jagger. The deceased lady, who was in her 93rd year, was the mother of that well-known ringer, Mr. John Jagger, of Oldbury. As a last token of respect, the bells of St. Paul's Church were rung half-muffled at both services on Palm Sunday.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

## THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The peals rung by the Midland Counties Association during 1928 numbered 155 (including three on handbells).

Peal ringing in 1928, says the annual report presented to the members at the annual meeting on Monday, was not a record, but was the second highest since the association's formation, 1927 being first with 183. It could therefore be looked upon as a successful year, and the peal ringers have kept up the old traditions. Several noteworthy performances are recorded, among which may be mentioned the numerous peals of Stedman Triples, due chiefly to the energetic 'mid-weekers' under the leadership of Maurice Swinfield, who has set up a new record of conducting 55 peals of this method all differently, thus adding many new compositions to the M.C.A. records, and following worthily in the footsteps of the Burton men of the past. A peal by five brothers—the Payne family, of Syston—is also recorded. New methods accomplished include York Surprise Royal, at the first attempt, by the Leicester Brauch, and still new Royal methods from them is looked forward to in the near future. Mixed bands under the general hon. secretary's conductors scored the first peal of Major in six methods; also a peal of Spliced Cambridge and Superlative. Several peals in the higher methods have been rung by the Bolsover and District bands; and also peals by Nottingham St. Peter's and St. Mary's. Other districts have also contributed their quota, nor must mention be omitted of the five and six bell towers. These are valuable adjuncts to the association's welfare, and the beginnings of peals of bells of higher numbers. Only three handbell peals were recorded, and it was suggested that more of this side of the art and science would be welcome, and those who participated in it would find plenty of scope for renewed interest. First peals by individuals numbered 28: first in new methods, 115. This latter shows remarkably how interest is still maintained.

During the year members had been lost through death, and some from lack of interest and consequent lapse of subscriptions. A host of new members had, however, been made, both honorary and ringing, and a number of out-county life members. Taking all things into consideration, 1928 may be classed as a very successful year. The membership is: Patrons and hon. members, 233; ringing members, 969; total, 1,202.

Last year the general hon. secretary made an urgent appeal to all members to be sportsmanlike and pay up subscriptions promptly, and once again would ask the same. The work of the association demands a vast amount of detail work by the various local secretaries, and an appeal is made to all to co-operate to make things go successfully—first, by not waiting to be asked to pay up, or leaving it till on the verge of running out; secondly, by giving local secretaries every encouragement by assisting when fixing up meetings for the benefit of fellow-members, and not grumbling if he fails to please all and sundry.

It was regretted that there was an adverse income this year, as compared with 1927. Honorary and ringing subscriptions had decreased by £11 14s. One district, Hinckley, however, was to be congratulated on an increase in ringing members, which was very encouraging. The general fund showed an income from all sources of £114 1s. 6d., and an expenditure of £116 15s. 11d.—a loss on the year's working of £2 14s. 5d. The sum of £18 was transferred from the general fund to the Bell Repair Fund. Grants from the latter totalled £14 9s., leaving a balance of £7 5s. 8d. Four towers have been supported in connection with bell restoration. National Savings Certificates are now worth £100, and there is also £150 invested in War Loan Stock. With the bank balance of £73 14s. 3d., the association is therefore worth £324.

## MUFFLED BELLS.

On Monday, March 18th, at Christ Church, Ealing, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins., with the clappers half-muffled in memory of Mr. William Stagg, a member of the local band, who passed away on Thursday, March 14th, aged 68 years: L. H. Wilson 1, J. A. D. Webb 2, E. C. S. Turner 3, H. Reeves 4, W. G. Wilson (conductor) 5, J. A. Trollope 6, J. H. Burton 7, E. Coombes 8. Rung with 7, 4, 8 covering.

At Croft, Leicestershire, on Sunday, March 17th, 720 changes of Grandsire Doubles in 20 mins.: W. Lomas 1, F. E. Wilson 2, T. Atkins (conductor) 3, E. Watson 4, F. Baileys 5, A. Warwick 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of Mrs. Wilson, mother of the ringer of 2nd.

At Bodwellty, Mon, on Sunday, March 17th, at the Parish Church, in 48 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), 7-6-8 covering: Idris Rowlands 1, George Popnell (conductor) 2, Glyn Williams 3, Stewart Williams 4, Thomas Werret 5, Ronald Griffiths 6, Timothy Popnell 7, Frank Morgan 8. Rung half-muffled to the memory of 'Woodbine Willie.'

At the Parish Church, East Grinstead, Sussex, on Wednesday evening, February 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Trebles (1,260 changes), with the bells half-muffled, for the Bishop of Chichester: S. Cherson 1, H. D. White 2, G. Tizzard 3, J. Ladd 4, G. Lambert 5, T. Tullett 6, J. Wren (conductor) 7, G. Diplock 8.

## SPLICING, AN ANCIENT PRACTICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of March 15th appears an article with the above title over the name of John Perry, in which he gives the composition of Crown Bob. I was greatly interested in this, as it gave the methods which were spliced together and rung under this name.

It may interest him and others to know that Crown Bob was rung at Leek when the tower contained only six bells. Unfortunately nothing but the name survives, together with the information that it would produce 360 changes only. The ringers could not have known of the Single, as they never rang more than the eighteen-score.

I was always of the opinion the methods used were contained in the record of a performance given on a tablet in the bellry as follows:—

On Wednesday, November 12th, 1845, the five following peals were rung without intermission in 2 hrs. 25 mins.: Violet, College Treble, Oxford Treble, College Pleasure and Grandsire Bob, each peal containing 720 changes: S. Sheldon 1, J. Winterbottom 2, C. Ball 3, U. Davenport 4, I. Fogg 5, J. Barlow 6.

The old six bells were placed in the tower in 1721, but we have no knowledge when Crown Bob was first practised or how the ringers became possessed of it. As I had never heard the title mentioned elsewhere I was inclined to think it was of local origin until this article appeared.

The record on the tombstone of Uriah Davenport in the Parish Churchyard reads as follows: 'Uriah Davenport, of this town, died February 13th, 1860, in the 91st year of his age.' He was a ringer upwards of 70 years at the Parish Church, Leek.

Surely this must be approaching, if not, a record. During the latter part of his life Davenport's mind became enfeebled, and he was given to roaming; but this caused no anxiety to his family, as he was always to be found at the end of his rambles in what they termed the Bell-us (Bell House).—Yours, etc., E. A. RIDGWAY.

Leek.

## THE TEN-METHOD COMPOSITION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. C. T. Coles, I wish to point out that he is quite correct in assuming that where the Bristol leads can be rung they must be rung as home leads, between two bobs home.

For instance, Bristol must not be rung for one lead ended plain, followed by Cambridge 'Middle' lead and London 'Wrong' lead, as in that case the handstrokes of the treble leads will repeat.

I am sending a copy of the lead of 'Gloucestershire,' which I obtained from a well-known conductor recently, as I cannot say where the figures are published.

In conclusion, I sincerely congratulate the ringers who have taken part in ringing Mr. James' spliced Major peals, and wish them every success.—Yours truly,

A. J. PITMAN.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

12345678  
21435687  
12346578  
21436587  
24135678  
42316587  
24136857  
42318675  
24381657  
42836175  
42381657  
24836175  
42386715  
24837651  
42836715  
24387651  
23478581  
32745816  
23748561  
32475816  
23745186  
32471568  
32745186  
23471568  
32417586  
23145768  
32415678  
23146587  
21345678  
12435687  
21348578  
12436587  
14263857  
Bob  
12436587  
14235678

**ST. HUGH DOUBLE SURPRISE MAXIMUS.**

BY ARTHUR CRAVEN.

The method given below is the result of my endeavour to make 'Cambridge' into a really perfect method. I shall leave it to the Exercise to judge whether or not I have succeeded.

The alterations from Cambridge Maximus are really very slight, although the effect is great.

The difference is wrought when the treble is in 3-4 and 5-6; 7-8 and 9-10. The 1-2 adjoining places are cut out when treble is in 3-4, and an odd place made in 10th's when the treble is in 5-6. The dodging block with treble in 3-4 is identical with Cambridge Major, where the legitimate places are 5th's and 8th's. The dodging block when treble is in 5-6 is exactly identical with the 5-6 block in Cambridge Royal, with one pair of bells dodging in 11-12. These operations produce the correct quarter section change necessary to produce a double method, i.e.,:—

864201te5397

682401te3579

I dedicate this method of St. Hugh of Lincoln, in remembrance of my connections with the place and the happy days I spent there. Also in memory of those who worked amongst us, but who have passed along.

1234567890et  
2143658709te  
124638507t9e  
21648305t7e9

261438507t9e  
62418305t7e9  
26143850te79  
62418305et97

2648103e5t79  
628401e3t597  
682410et3579  
864201te5397

682401te3579  
864201te5397  
684t201e5937  
86t402e19573

68t04e291537  
860te4925173  
806t4e291537  
- 08t6e4925173

806t4e295713  
08t6e4927531  
018e69472513  
t0e896745231

0t8e69472531  
t0e896745213  
te0987654231  
et9078562413

te0987652143  
et9078561234  
e9t087652143  
9e0t78561234

e907t5816243  
9e705t182634  
e9750t812364  
9e57t0183246

e975t1082364  
9e57t1803246  
95e7t1830264  
597e1t382046

9571e3t28064  
59173e2t0846  
9571e3t20486  
59173e2t4068

5197e3920486  
15793e294068  
517392e49608  
1537294e6980

157392e49608  
4th's place Bob.

**EASTER RINGING.**

**KIMPTON, HERTS.**—On Easter Day, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: A. Gillings (conductor) 1, G. Cain (first on an inside bell) 2, D. Luck 3, J. Wells 4, H. Fellows 5, T. Cann 6.

**KNIGHTON, RADG.**—On Easter Day, at St. Edward's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins.: E. W. Watkins 1, R. H. Jones 2, J. P. Evans 3, G. C. Abley 4, F. Evans (conductor) 4, R. Wellings 6. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 minutes: W. T. Gough 1, A. E. Jones 2, R. H. Jones 3, E. W. Watkins 4, T. F. Preece 5, J. F. Evans 6, F. Evans (conductor) 7, G. C. Abley 8.

**HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.**—On Easter Day, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 45 mins.: J. C. Taylor 1, Miss Doris Turner (first quarter-peal) 2, W. H. Taylor 3, A. Basford 4, J. Garth 5, F. Curdwell 6, H. Wilson 7, F. Watkinson (conductor) 8.

**EASTBOURNE.**—On Easter Day, at Christ Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins.: W. D. Smith 1, J. T. Dyke (conductor) 2, A. Gower 3, E. Gower 4, A. C. Pankhurst 5, G. W. Stokes 6, A. A. Hughes 7, B. Hobbs 8.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At St. Peter's Church, on Easter Day, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Triples in 40 mins.: W. H. Austin 1, W. J. Dove 2, A. Slade 3, W. R. Parker 4, F. Hopper 5, W. Sturgess 6, E. Sibley (conductor) 7, J. Wilkins 8. First quarter in the method 'inside' by 3rd ringer. First quarter in the method as conductor.

**SALEHURST, SUSSEX.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, T. Booth 2, F. Morgan 3, G. King 4, E. Mills 5, W. Hoad (conductor) 6, T. Hoad 7, A. Hoad (first quarter and first attempt) 8. After evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, G. King 2, W. Hoad (conductor) 3, F. Morgan 4, T. Hoad 5, T. Booth 6, E. Mills 7, A. Hoad 8.

**DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH RICHARDSON.**

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Joseph Richardson, which took place at 244, Oxford Road, Reading, on March 14th, at the age of 60 years, after a very short illness. The deceased took up ringing at his native home of Beenham, Berks, when quite a youth. Later, his trade took him to many parts of England, where he managed to score a good number of peals in various methods.

He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Oxford Diocesan Guild, Lancashire Association, and other societies.

**METHOD-SPLICING****'HINTS ON "SPLICING" AND RINGING MINOR METHODS,'**

By JOHN P. FIDLER,

with an INTRODUCTION,

**'THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SPLICING,'**

dealing exhaustively with the whole subject,

by JOSEPH W. PARKER,

**And a number of Minor Extents in Six, Eight and Ten Methods.**

Price 1/3 (post free), from

**'THE RINGING WORLD,'**

— Woking, Surrey. —

**WEST CLANDON, SURREY.**—For evening service, on Sunday, March 24th, 720 Bob Minor: G. Jarrad 1, A. Walker 2, G. Grover 3, J. Goacher 4, F. Day 5, F. Bennett (conductor) 6.



## 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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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

**CENTRAL COUNCIL.**—The honorary secretary will be glad to receive the names of any ringers who fell in the Great War, and whose names do not appear in the Council's 'Roll of Honour,' other than those already notified. The Writer is waiting to add such names before the Chelmsford meeting.—E. Alexr. Young, 55, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.6.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.** (Established 1637.)—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on April 23rd; St. Magnus' on the 11th and 25th; \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 16th; Southwark Cathedral on the 18th; \*St. Giles', Cripplegate, or the Coffee Pot, on the 30th. All at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The April meeting of the Bedford District will be held at Houghton Conquest on April 6th. Bells (6) available 2.45 p.m. Tea at 5.—J. T. Newington, Dis. Sec., 32, Grafton Road, Bedford.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, April 6th. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Nominations for C.C. representatives for the session commencing 1930 should reach me between now and July.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Leigh, nr. Betchworth, on Saturday, April 6th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at the Plough Inn at 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Dis. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 6th, at St. Elli's Church, Llanelly, Gylwern, Abergavenny. Ringing at 2 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 4 p.m. at Church Room. Tea will be kindly provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Davies.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION** will hold an eight bell contest and quarterly meeting at Kirkburton (near) Huddersfield, on Saturday, April 6th. Draw to take place 2.45 p.m.—J. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lincoln District.—Next meeting at Nettleham (6), Saturday, April 6th. Tower open 2 p.m. Bus leaves Unity Square 3 p.m. and 4.10 p.m. Bus leaves Nettleham 7.15 p.m., 8.10 p.m. and 9.35 p.m. Notifications to tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Coleshill on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea and business meeting at 5. Members requiring tea please notify Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Bishop Auckland on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—J. T. Titt, 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—Our next meeting will be held on April 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. at Hoddlesden and Darwen. Meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 6th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. W. Hudson Shaw (Rector). Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., at a charge of 1s. The business meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Ringing arrangements are as follows: St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, from 2 p.m. and after the meeting; St. Giles', Cripplegate, from 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Magnus', Thames Street, from 7 to 8.30 p.m.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4., Hon. Secs.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, April 6th, in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street (near Abbey Gateway), at 3.15 p.m.—Richard T. Hibbert.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Devizes Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Westbury on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The annual nomination meeting will be held at Armley (Christ Church) on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. All towers are requested to send a representative.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Crophorne on Saturday, April 6th. Service at 5 p.m., with an address by the Rev. E. H. Longland. Bells (6) available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Cary Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at West Lydford on Saturday, April 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the schoolroom 5 p.m., meeting to follow.—E. Creed, 6, West Park, Castle Cary.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Welford on Saturday, April 6th. Usual arrangements.—K. J. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Meetings for April: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, 7th, at 10 a.m.; Monday, 8th (quarterly meeting), at 6.30 p.m., and the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, 16th, at 8 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec., 14, Great Bland Street, London, S.E.1.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch.—There will be a dedication service at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Reading, on Tuesday, April 9th, at 5.30 p.m. The eight bells, which have been rehung, will be dedicated by the Right Rev. Bishop Shaw. Ringing will

take place after the service until 8 p.m. All ringers invited.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting will be held at Frittenden on Saturday, April 13th, by kind permission of Rev. H. M. Leathley. Tower open 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. A good meeting is hoped for. All ringers welcome. A card by 11th would oblige.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 13th. Ringing from 2.30, at Cathedral (8) and S. Nicolas (10). Service in the Cathedral 4.30. Tea and business meeting at Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Numbers for tea must reach me by Tuesday next.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Walsall on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (new ring of 12) available from 3. Service in church at 4.45. Tea will be provided in the Brotherhood Institute at 5.30. All ringers will be welcome. It is important that names should be sent in by Tuesday, April 9th.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**THE BELLS OF DERSINGHAM CHURCH** will be rededicated by the Archdeacon of Lynn on Saturday, April 13th, at 3 p.m. All ringers are invited. Tea provided.—R. L. B. Oliver, Vicarage, Dersingham, King's Lynn.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—The first quarterly meeting of the above district will be held at Heanor on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 6.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting afterwards. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. S. Stirland, Fair View, Heanor, by April 10th.—F. W. Bailey, 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham, Local Secretary.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, April 13th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, April 9th.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. James', West Derby, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Special methods: Double Court and London Surprise. Those desiring tea please notify Mr. H. Hancock, 60, Sandstone Road, Stonycroft, before Tuesday, April 9th.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chew Magna on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Southampton District.—A quarterly meeting of the Southampton District of the above guild will be held at Lockerley on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available: Lockerley 6, East Tytherley 8. Tea at 5 p.m. in the Memorial Hall. Those requiring tea please notify me by April 9th.—W. T. Tucker, Dis. Sec., 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held on Saturday, April 13th, at Felkirk. Bells ready early. Short service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. Kindly apply for tea before April 10th, to C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec., Prospect House, Royston, Barnsley.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Northern District.—Quarterly meeting at Duffield, Derbyshire, on Saturday, April 13th. Notices for tea must be sent to Miss E. Foulk, 1, King Street, Duffield, by Thursday, April 11th. Will all members please make an effort to attend? Important business for discussion. New rule for Guild, etc. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Hilda F. Jacques, Northfield Avenue, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Croston on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carington Road, Chorley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The Dunmow Branch are holding their annual ringing festival on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service in the church 4.30. Tea in St. Mary's Room at 5, followed by a short musical programme. All ringers heartily invited to attend.—H. W. Smith, 11, The Causeway, Dunmow.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—The spring meeting of the above branch will be held at Midgham on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify Mrs. Horace Warner Baker, Woolhampton, Reading, Berks, not later than Thursday, April 11th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting and combined practice will be held at Lyndhurst on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—G. Preston, 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—South-West District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Cornwood on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting at the Village Inn 5 p.m.—E. W. Marsh, 13, Edith Avenue, Lipson, Plymouth.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bleadon on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30, with tea and business to follow.—L. G. Tanner, 51, Locking Road, Weston-super-Mare.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chilcompton on Saturday, April 13th. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by April 9th.—R. T. Clark, Hon. Sec., Timsbury, nr. Bath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ormskirk Parish Church on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting to follow. A good attendance requested.—James W. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on April 13th. The bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5, address by the Vicar. Tea afterwards at the Brown Bear. All ringing friends are heartily invited.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Bowden and Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Wilmslow on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please notify Mr. H. Barker, Manchester Road, Wilmslow, by April 9th.—T. Wilde, Hon. Sec.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting will be held at Tuxford on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (6), new in 1926, will be ready at 2 p.m. Good attendance desired, and visitors from kindred associations will be heartily welcomed. Good bus and tram service ex Newark and Retford. All those requiring tea should notify Mr. J. H. Smith, 18, Station Street, Tuxford, Newark, not later than April 10th. Please note this is important.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting will be held at Pontypridd on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (8) available. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Woolwich, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells from 3 to 8.30. Service. Tea and meeting 5 o'clock. Names or numbers for tea will be appreciated by the hon. sec., J. Herbert, 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is requested. Reports, etc., to hand. Subscriptions due.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield, near Bury.

**GUILD OF DEVON RINGERS.**—N.E. Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea (1s. each) 5.15. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by Tuesday, April 16th?—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Leatherhead District.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Parish Room. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, by Thursday, the 18th instant. Heartily welcome to all.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Todmorden Parish Church on Saturday, April 20th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. New rules and diagrams (6d. each) and emblems (3d. each) now available. Will tower secretaries please let me know the number of members requiring emblems?—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenfirst Hey, Todmorden.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Gravesend on Saturday, April 20th (not 27th, as arranged). Bells available at 3. Association service in church at 5, conducted by the Rector of Gravesend (Rev. Elliott Mitchell). Tea, by kind invitation, will be provided only for those who notify me on or before Wednesday, April 17th.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**A JOINT MEETING** of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild (South and West District) and the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, April 20th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged at 1s. each. Will those requiring tea kindly notify? All ringers welcome.—Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4, A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks, Hon. Secs.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, April 20th. All Saints' bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the All Saints' Church House at 1s. 6d. per head, and those requiring same please notify Mr. W. Pearson, 53, Northgate, Pontefract, by Wednesday, April 17th. For detailed particulars see circular.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on Saturday, April 20th. Bells ready 4 o'clock. Meeting at 7 p.m. Chair to be taken by the Vicar. Will members make a special effort to attend?—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—In conjunction with the Liverpool Diocesan Guild the half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Helens on Saturday, May 11th. The Bishop of Liverpool has provisionally promised to attend.—W. H. Shuker, A. Tomlinson and C. I. Davies, Hon. Secs.

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