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OUR THANKS.

This number celebrates the silver jubilee of 'The Ringing World,' and it is an occasion when we may be forgiven if we say a personal word to our readers. Twenty-five years is quite a long time for one man to remain in control of a weekly journal, however humble the publication may be, and our first thought is to express our thanks to all those ringers who have given their support to 'The Ringing World' week by week, and especially to those stalwarts who have been loyal to us from the very first number. The passing of the years makes them a diminishing band, and we appreciate, more than we can find words to express, their constant and unflagging assistance. It is a combination of factors which makes the publication of a journal possible, and first and supreme is the confidence of its readers. No one realises our shortcomings more than we do ourselves, but we are happy in the realisation that in our efforts to raise the standard of ringing and the status of ringers we have held the confidence of the vast majority of our readers. If we may paraphrase the words of a great American, 'You may please all your readers some of the time, you may please some of your readers all the time, but you cannot please all your readers all the time.' And, realising that from the first, we have never tried to please everybody all the time, but have done the best according to our lights to promote the interests of ringing and ringers as a whole. Our readers must be left to judge how far we have been successful.

The task of running 'The Ringing World' has never been an easy one. The reasons are known to many, but up to the present the paper has never failed the Exercise. Let it not be forgotten, however, that the sands are running out. The hand that at the moment guides the plough and has endeavoured to direct it all through these twenty-five years cannot go on indefinitely. When it fails, we sometimes wonder who will be prepared to undertake not only the work but the financial responsibility. If the future is to be made secure, ringers must do their share to make it so. At present the Exercise as a whole cannot be said to play the part it ought in maintaining a weekly journal. We ask ringers, therefore, for a more general support, not for our personal ends, but to secure to the Exercise a journal of its own which will continue to serve it when its present Editor is no longer able to fulfil the task.

To those who have given and to those who still give us their loyal support we return a heartfelt 'Thank you.' To those who from time to time have contributed to our columns articles of interest and instruction we also ex-

(Continued on page 168.)

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press our sincere acknowledgments. One whose pen lightened our very first issue and many succeeding numbers, and has since returned again and again in trenchant attack upon those things from which he has strongly dissented, as well as penning his more sombre thoughts, both in prose and poetry—Mr. William Willson—writes specially for this number, and so, too, does Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, whose instructional and historical articles have, almost from the first, brought knowledge and interest to readers of this journal. Indeed, Mr. Trollope has had an even more intimate association than that with 'The Ringing World,' for he shared in its production during those many weeks of 1934 when the Editor was privileged to join the Australian tour. This issue also contains an article which, in the midst of his busy life, the president of the Central Council has kindly consented to write. To these three gentlemen especially we extend our thanks. And one other sincere acknowledgment we must give on this occasion. It is to the printers and publishers of this paper—The Woodbridge Press, Ltd., and the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd.—whose never-failing co-operation in the production and distribution of the paper has made its prompt and unfailing appearance possible every week for twenty-five years.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt. in D

GEORGE W. HUGHES Treble	THOMAS HILL 7
BERT HORTON 2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 8
EDGAR T. SMITH 3	ALFRED BUCKLEY 9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 4	GILBERT HARDING 10
HOWARD HOWELL 5	THOMAS J. ELTON 11
HARRY T. HIGGINS 6	HENRY E. GREEN Tenor

8 Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

TEN BELL PEALS

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 19, 1936, in Three Hours & Twenty-Four Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

FRED HAYES Treble	*REGINALD BLABY 6
MISS M. R. CROSS 2	*ROLAND BIGGS 7
REV. C. E. WIGG 3	RALPH COLES 8
*R. G. CROSS 4	EDWARD R. COLES 9
J. W. WILKINS 5	E. CROXFORD Tenor

Composed by C. A. CATCHPOLE.

Conducted by EDWARD R. COLES

* First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal as conductor.

WEST HAM.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5030 CHANGES;

*GEORGE HAYDEN Treble	FRANK C. NEWMAN 6
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER 2	FRANK E. HAWTHORNE 7
ERNEST J. KING 3	RAYMOND G. COUSINS 8
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD 4	JACK WAUGH 9
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 5	EDWARD D. SMITH Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by THOMAS W. TAFFENDER.

Rung on the 40th anniversary of the first peal of the ringer of the treble and of the brothers Ernest and George Pye, a peal of Grandsire Caters rung in this tower.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 27, 1936, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5076 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN. ... Treble	FRANK BROWN 6
WILLIAM THORNLEY 2	FRANK BRADLEY 7
J. FREDERICK MILNER 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT 8
ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN 4	RALPH NARBOROUGH 9
FREDERICK A. SALTER 5	JOHN E. HOBBS Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by J. A. BARRATT.

Rung as a welcome to the Rector (the Rev. H. V. Turner, M.A.) on his return after a long illness.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes

At the Church of St. Mark,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 2 lb.

*CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ... Treble	†STANLEY HARRISON 6
*JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 2	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS 7
†JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW 3	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 8
*NORMAN HEAPS 4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 9
JOHN POTTER 5	E. ROGER MARTIN Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

* First peal of Kent Royal. † First peal on ten. First peal of Royal on the bells.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(St. Mary-Le-Tower Society.)

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lambert,

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

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WILLIAM TILLET Treble	†GEORGE A. FLEMING 6
*PHYLLIS E. TILLET 2	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 7
HARRY R. ROPER 3	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 8
WILLIAM P. GARRETT 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 9
*ERNEST F. POPPY 5	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Double Norwich Royal. † 200th peal. The first peal of Double Norwich Royal on the bells.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

WILLIAM T. TUCKER ... Treble	REGINALD BROWN 6
*REGINALD A. REED 2	A. F. MARTIN STEWART 7
FREDERICK S. BAILEY 3	†REG. C. H. CONNOLLY 8
*HAROLD P. REED 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS 9
†WILLIAM H. SHUTE 5	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... Tenor

Composed by R. WILLIAMS. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. Rung with bells half-muffled as a last token of sympathy and respect to W. G. Edwards, a member of this tower for 25 years, who was interred at Bishopstoke earlier in the afternoon.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5065 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

HAROLD F. MARTIN ... Treble	FRED HAWKES 6
C. HOWARD STANLEY 2	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 7
DENIS R. MORRIS 3	FRANK SADLER 8
FRANK LAWRENCE 4	CHARLES CAMM 9
SIDNEY T. HOLT 5	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by F. W. PERRENS.

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

All the band are bachelors.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... Treble	WILLIAM H. HEWETT 5
WILLIAM A. CAVE 2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL 6
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 3	WILLIAM HENLEY 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. HEWETT.

Arranged by and rung as a birthday compliment to William Hollier. Owing to indisposition he was not able to stand in. First peal of Cambridge on the bells and believed to be the first peal of Cambridge rung by a 'same name' band.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

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

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*HARRY G. RIDGWAY ... Treble	FREDERICK C. CASE 5
FRANK J. GREEN 2	JOHN A. GREEN 6
ERNEST C. LAMBERT 3	THOMAS E. ROBERTS 7
A. NUNNLEY WOOD 4	ALBERT J. GREEN Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

* First peal in the method. Composition No. 146 in C.C. Collection.

KINGS LANGLEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF LITTLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb.

FRANCIS KIRK ... Treble	WILLIAM J. PODDIFOOT 5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 2	EDWIN JENNINGS 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE 3	WILLIAM J. RANDALL 7
HORACE L. WAITE 4	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

The first peal in the method. Arranged for Mr. Edwin Jennings, who was on a visit to the district.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

JOHN P. FIDLER ... Treble	LESLIE W. STEVENS 5
J. FREDERICK MILNER 2	WILLIAM SMITH 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	*EDWARD FOSTER 7
JOHN H. GRUNDY 4	COLIN HARRISON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

* First peal of Kent.

BETCHWORTH, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.	Tenor 11 cwt.
WALTER CLAYDON ... Treble	ARTHUR G. WILLET 5
RICHARD V. FULLER 2	*WILLIAM BATCHELOR 6
THOMAS E. DENYER 3	†AMBROSE T. SHELTON 7
CHARLES W. DENYER 4	*JAMES FULLER Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD V. FULLER.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor.

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WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in F.

C. ERNEST SMITH Treble	JOHN COOK 5
JOHN H. B. HESSE 2	PETER CHARMAN 6
WALTER CHARMAN 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*WALTER MARTIN Treble	WALTER RUFFLES 5
WILLIAM J. GROOM 2	ALBERT E. WHITING 6
JOHN ARBON 3	THOMAS H. CHAPPELL 7
*JOHN FORD 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY Tenor

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by WM. J. GROOM.

* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Andrew, Holborn,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	C. HOWARD STANLEY 5
HENRY H. FEARN 2	JAMES H. RIDING 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	WILFRED WILLIAMS 7
*FREDERICK G. COLE 4	REUBEN SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb.

*HENRY G. HART Treble	CHARLES T. COLES 5
GEORGE R. PVE... .. 2	GILBERT R. GOODSHIP 6
†MISS FRED A. CLAYTON 3	JAMES BENNETT... .. 7
MISS ELSIE K. FULTON 4	†HENRY D. BUTLER Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

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

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER Treble	WILLIAM E. WATHEN 5
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL 2	SHELFORD SPARROW 6
KRITH W. WHITTELL 3	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 7
ARTHUR R. WOODARD... .. 4	JAMES DALE Tenor

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

A birthday compliment to Mr. J. Dale, steeplekeeper at this church. This was his first peal on eight bells.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

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

Tenor 13½ cwt.

RICHARD C. INGRAM Treble	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 5
GEORGE F. SWANN 2	FRANK E. HAYNES 6
*ALLAN SHORT 3	WILLIAM DAVIES 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN 4	†EDWARD V. RODENBURST Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by G. F. SWANN.

* First peal of Major. † 50th peal of Double Norwich.

FOBBING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*WILFRED P. OCKENDEN ... Treble	†HENRY CHINNERY 5
ARTHUR REEVE 2	ROLAND PARK 6
*ARTHUR H. OCKENDEN 3	†HARRY SMITH 7
*MISS C. CHINNERY 4	*ALBERT G. OCKENDEN ... Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal ever rung in Fobbing. These bells were augmented from six to eight by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. in December, 1935.

KENNINGHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 23, 1936, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in F.

CHARLES H. MOORE Treble	GEORGE MAYERS 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	ALBERT G. HARRISON... .. 6
HENRY TOOKE 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON 7
*CLIFFORD BIRD 4	ERIC G. BENNETT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method at first attempt. Specially arranged to precede a choral service at this church.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, February 24, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE WHITING Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
*JOHN H. ARBON... .. 2	T. WILLIAM LAST 6
LESLIE G. BRETT 3	†ALBERT E. WHITING... .. 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 4	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. BENNETT, JUN.

* First peal of Bristol. † First peal of Bristol on an 'inside' bell. First peal in the method as conductor. This composition (Mr. Arthur Knights', No. 421) is now rung to Bristol for the first time.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 25, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 18.

Tenor 16 cwt.

REGINALD G. WILLIAMS ... Treble	ERNEST J. GOLDSTONE 5
*MISS BLANCHE STADDEN ... 2	†FREDERICK SMITH 6
MISS GWENDOLINE STADDEN 3	NORMAN COOMBS 7
†MISS VIOLET HYMAN 4	†JOHN H. A. THOMAS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST J. GOLDSTONE.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal. Rung in remembrance and appreciation of the long and faithful services rendered to Portishead tower by the late captain, Mr. William Gillingham.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 25, 1936, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'.

Tenor 25 cwt.

*PETER CASE Treble	CHARLES BLACKBURN 5
*HARRY GRUNDY... .. 2	NORMAN HEAPS 6
JACK KAY 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. 7
WILLIAM BAGLEY 4	WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND ... Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

* First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Edward Bickerstaff, the Vicar's warden.

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GRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 28, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM... ..Treble	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY ... 5
HARRY HOVERD 2	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 6
MISS R. REDPATH 3	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 7
MISS M. REDPATH 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. Tenor

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by G. V. MURPHY.
First peal as conductor.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

E. RALPH MACKRILL... ..Treble	PERCY E. JONES 5
WILLIAM BOTTRILL 2	REGINALD W. DARVILL ... 6
*ERIC B. HARTLEY 3	JOHN H. BOTHAM 7
*FRANCES HOMPHELY... .. 4	ARTHUR HARDINGTenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by W. BOTTRILL.
* First peal in the method.

TADCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FODR-PART.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

HENRY CLAYTON... ..Treble	ERNEST LINDLEY... .. 5
JOHN HARRISON 2	ROBERT LANCASTER ... 6
WALTER HICK 3	FRED E. ADDISON 7
NORMAN BARTON 4	ALFRED BARKERTenor

Conducted by FRED E. ADDISON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Clayton. First attempt as conductor in the method. First peal of Stedman for all, and first attempt as a local band. All are Sunday service ringers. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

GREASLEY, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. SALTER... ..Treble	FRANK BRADLEY 5
FREDERICK E. GOBEY 2	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 6
THOMAS STORER 3	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 7
WILLIAM THORNLEY, SEN ... 4	TOM CLARKE... ..Tenor

Composed by J. H. PILKINGTON. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

EAST MARKHAM, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF FORWARD MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

MISS GRACE BURCHNALL... ..Treble	FREDERICK G. HOOPER ... 5
MISS KATH. BURCHNALL ... 2	EDWARD FOSTER 6
GEORGE E. PADGETT 3	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 7
GEORGE E. FOSTER 4	J. FREDERICK MILNER... ..Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

First peal in the method on the bells and first in the method as conductor. Also first peal in the method by all except the ringers of 7th and the tenor.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

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

Tenor 18 cwt.

*GEORGE TRENDALLTreble	*ALEC GENERY 5
BERNARD H. PETTIT 2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 6
CLAUDE SNOWDEN 3	ALBERT CATTERWELL ... 7
RONALD SUCKLING 4	THOMAS BIRDTenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.
* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Albert Catterwell.

SWANSEA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSTreble	ALBERT J. PITMAN 5
GWYN I. LEWIS 2	GEORGE POPNELL 6
WILLIAM J. THOMAS 3	ERNEST STITCH 7
EDWARD PHILLIPS 4	WILLIAM J. PRINGTenor

Composed and Conducted by A. J. PITMAN.

Rung on the eve of St. David's Day. A six-part peal containing 120 4.6's, 6.7's and 7.4's, all at backstroke.

WITHYHAM, SUSSEX.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 9 lb.

*HARRY HARRINGTONTreble	FRANK BENNETT 5
WINGFIELD A. DURHAM ... 2	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 6
*REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 3	FREDERICK WHITE 7
HERBERT MARKWELL 4	STAFFORD H. GREENTenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in the method. The band take this opportunity to thank the Rev. H. W. Layng for the use of the bells and to wish him a speedy recovery from his illness.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

CHARLES LOOMETreble	GEORGE GOWEN 5
ROBERT RICHES 2	WILLIAM FLATT 6
GEORGE HOWLETT 3	WALTER BARRETT 7
RUSSELL RICHES 4	ERNEST WHITING... ..Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by CHARLES LOOME.
The conductor has now 'circled the tower' at this church.

EYNSFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HAROLD S. BLACKETTTreble	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT 2	EDMUND MOONIER 6
*HUGH MACKINDER 3	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ... 7
†R. G. CROSS 4	A. PATRICK CANNONTenor

Composed by J. E. BORTON. Conducted by A. S. RICHARDS.

* First touch of Major and first peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method. The peal was arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Hugh Mackinder, of West Wickham, and Mr. Jack Dafters, of Lewisham.

TO ARCHITECTS AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES

CHURCH BELL CONSULTANTS.

ESTABLISHED 1763

JOHN WARNER & SONS
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CANADA HOUSE,

NORFOLK STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

HORBURY, WAKEFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Three Hours,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Leonard,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5182 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

KENNETH SIMPSON 1 Treble	JOHN J. L. GILBERT 5
*FRANK ARMITAGE 2	NORMAN CHADDOCK 6
CHARLES E. LAWSON 3	WILFRED HALLIWELL 7
A. ROLAND TYSOE 4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

* First peal in the method. First peal of Double Norwich on the bells. Mr. John J. L. Gilbert's 50th peal. 70th peal together by the ringers of the 3rd and tenor. All the band are bachelors, free and untrammelled. Their average age is 22 years.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 3, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry,

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

Tenor 6½ cwt.

LEONARD H. WHITE 1 Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
J. FREDERICK MILNER 2	WILLIAM SMITH 6
JOHN SADDINGTON 3	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 7
*GEORGE E. FOSTER 4	COLIN HARRISON Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.
* First peal of Double Norwich.

MARSHFIELD, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 4, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES 1 Treble	ERNEST COOMBS 5
FREDERICK HANNINGTON 2	REGINALD ADDIS 6
TOM FORD 3	JOHN PHILLIPS 7
CHARLES H. PERRY 4	SEYMOUR R. BARKER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.

Specially arranged for and rung on the first anniversary of the birth of a daughter to the ringer of the 6th. After the peal the ringers were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Addis.

WALMER, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 5, 1936, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10¾ cwt.

JAMES ARTHUR 1 Treble	ERNEST J. VERNIER 5
HERBERT J. SAUNDERS 2	HORACE WHITEHEAD 6
WILLIAM A. TERRY 3	CHARLES TURNER 7
FREDERICK A. RYE 4	E. THOMAS ELLENDER Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE.

Conducted by CHARLES TURNER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. A. J. Matthews, J.P.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, March 6, 1936, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF CHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

LESLIE G. BRETT 1 Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
ALBERT E. WHITING 2	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
GEORGE WHITING 4	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

A peal in this method (by G. Lindoff) is now rung for the first time. Rung at the first attempt.

A DATE TOUCH.

At Middleton, Lancs, on Saturday, March 7th, a date touch of 1,936 Bob Major was rung for Confirmation service at the Parish Church: John Hollows 1, W. Berry (composer and conductor) 2, H. Kent 3, J. Richardson 4, J. Smith 5, T. A. Ogden 6, J. H. Bastow 7, A. Ogden 8.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

CAPENHURST, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Beverley and Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in G.

LESTER L. GRAY 1 Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 4
*ERIC GILBERT 2	FRANK VARTY 5
DOUGLAS WATSON, JUN. 3	THOMAS ROGERS Tenor

Conducted by F. VARTY.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods as conductor.

BROUGHTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Single Court, St. Clement's and Oxford Treble Bob, and two each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

MRS. J. BRAY 1 Treble	*G. LESLIE LUNN 4
ERNEST BRITAIN 2	*NOEL B. THURLEY 5
JACK BRAY 3	GEORGE W. CREASEY Tenor

Conducted by G. W. CREASEY.

* First peal in five methods. First peal on the bells.

LITTLE CHART, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 240 of Original, 2,400 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire, rung in alternate quarters. Tenor 8 cwt. in A flat.

VINCENT FIELD 1 Treble	WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD 3
MRS. D. PACK 2	C. FREDERICK GOOD 4

ALEXANDER WADDINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by A. WADDINGTON.

Rung after meeting short for Minor.

APPLEBY MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Plain Bob and 32 of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN CHANDLER 1 Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 4
FREDERICK G. BAILEY 2	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD 5
PERCIVAL W. GRICE 3	OLIVER HINES Tenor

Conducted by WM. F. WOODWARD.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss M. E. L. Arnold to Mr. J. R. Brown, who until recently was a ringer at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Congerstone.

HARTLIP, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Double Oxford, three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*FRANK CHEAL 1 Treble	*EDWARD A. G. ALLEN 4
ELIJAH C. BOAKES 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 5
†FRANK BELSEY 3	MRS. V. A. JARRETT R. E. Tenor

Conducted by VICTOR A. JARRETT.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor away from the treble.

RINGER AND CHURCHWARDEN.

As a birthday compliment to the two churchwardens of St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Harlow Common, Mr. G. Dent and Mr. F. Clark, on Thursday, February 13th, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major was rung: B. Copping 1, P. Whitby 2, L. Cordell 3, S. Clark 4, W. Morris 5, I. Cavill 6, E. Rochester 7, W. Wheeler (conductor) 8. Mr. George Dent is the esteemed leader of the Harlow Common band.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 22, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Viz.: One extent each of Double Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Plain, Cambridge Surprise and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

*OLIVER J. KIDBY Treble	EDWIN C. SIMPSON 4
VICTOR E. WALTERS 2	CHARLES SHERMMING 5
HERBERT W. SHERMMING 3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. G. BROWN.

* First peal in seven methods.

GREAT FINBOROUGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, February 24, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

A. GRIMWOOD Treble	E. CRACKNELL 4
*F. BORLEY 2	J. STRED 5
A. R. WOODWARD 3	*F. ROPER Tenor

Conducted by F. ROPER.

* First peal in six methods.

MARHAM, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(WISBECH BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 27, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and Single Oxford, two 720's of St. Clement's and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

ALFRED E. BACON Treble	FRED MATTHEWS, SEN. 4
JOHN BUCKENHAM 2	ALBERT MASON 5
FRED MATTHEWS, JUN. 3	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT MASON.

Arranged and rung to enable J. Buckenham to 'circle' this, his native tower.

TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 27, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 12 cwt.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	CLAUDE COUSINS 4
EDWARD GREENACRE 2	FRED WIGMORE 5
WALLACE COUSINS 3	CECIL EBBERTSON Tenor

Conducted by FRED WIGMORE.

The treble ringer rang his last peal 40 years ago.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 6½ cwt.

HUGH R. THORPE Treble	RONALD TUFFIN 4
JOSEPH WALLACE, SEN. 2	WALTER CLAYDON 5
FRANCIS J. SANDERS 3	RICHARD V. FULLER Tenor

Conducted by HUGH R. THORPE.

The conductor has 'circled' the tower twice and conducted a peal from each bell. The ringer of the 3rd has also rung all the bells in this tower to a peal.

HASKETON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 29, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Banks James' Arrangement. Tenor 9 cwt.

FRANK L. FISHER Treble	*JOHN ARBON 4
GEORGE PRIKE 2	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 5
*WILLIAM A. WOODS 3	*ALDERMAN LING Tenor

Conducted by A. LING.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor

FOR BEGINNERS.

SOME ELEMENTARY TRANSPOSITION.

In the article last week we illustrated how three different 720's of Bob Minor can be got by using the same calling, but by beginning at a different place. This principle is not limited to Bob Minor; it has a much wider scope. Actually it applies to all compositions which make up what is termed a 'round block.'

A 'round block,' for the benefit of those who do not know, is any block of changes in which all the bells come back together to the point from which they started. Usually it is from rounds to rounds; it can be from and back to any other row. There are many obvious reasons for starting and finishing with rounds; but the theoretical truth of a touch or peal would not be affected if you started and finished with any of the rows in between the rounds—it would still be a 'round block.'

But here is a further interesting thing about a 'round block.' If you start with rounds it does not matter at what point you begin calling your composition, as long as you return to the starting point; that is to say if you begin in the middle, and call the first half after you have called the second half, you will produce the final rounds just as surely as if you began at the beginning.

You will not get your changes in the same order; you may not (and probably will not) get the same part-ends, if it is a composition which is divided into parts, but the whole will be complete just as our composition of Bob Minor was complete in the illustration last week.

That composition would have produced the 360 changes whether we began at the 2nd, the 15th, the 23rd or any other lead, but we showed the suitable starting places as we did, in order that 5.6 should not be brought up the wrong way behind.

From a 'musical' point of view, it is better to have 5.6 than 6.5 at backstroke, and if you are thinking of trying an experiment with any 720 of Minor on the lines we are endeavouring to explain, just bear this in mind. You want to arrange your transposition so that the positions in which 5 and 6 fall in the original composition are not affected.

As a simple example of how easily a transposition may bring the tenors up the wrong way, take the 'original' composition of Bob Minor, in which the tenor is called W.R.W. It would be equally true if you called it W.W.R., but, while the first calling keeps 5.6 the right way whenever they come behind together, the second would bring them up together the wrong way sometimes. For this reason, if you want to transpose a composition, and you want to ring it on orthodox lines, just watch your step.

The same thing applies to compositions in other methods. Transpositions are very useful for a young conductor if he has not the physical strength to ring a heavy bell to a peal. If he is not competent to call it from a 'non-observation' bell (that is, to ring one of the bells that are moved about at the course or part ends), he can still try his hand at calling from another bell if he finds a suitable transposition.

In making these transpositions it should be remembered that the thing that matters is that the number of leads between the bobs remains the same. In this way, for instance, several transpositions of Parker's famous twelve-part peal have been made. The way in which Mr. Parker originally gave it to the world was like this (by the bobbed and singled leads):—

234567

672453	2
536247	2
S 275436	1
642375	1
536742	1
S 725436	1
367542	2
423756	2
674523	1
426735	3
S 754326	1
267435	2
672435	4
546372	1
465372	4
P.L. 423765	2

Now, as long as you keep the bobs and singles at the same relative distances apart, you can begin by calling this peal at any point. You will not, of course, get the same part ends. Moreover, it probably will not look as symmetrical, and the 'music' may not come up at the same regular intervals, but it will be a true peal. There are 30 places at which you can begin your peal; figure out some of them and see what they are like.

If you want to make a fresh 'observation' bell, and use the same calling as for the 6th, you can do so if you pick out as a starting point a place in which your own bell is in its natural position (as at rounds) and then apply the calling of the 6th, beginning it at a point at which the 6th comes into the position occupied in rounds by the bell you choose. You will have a 'part-end' in 420 changes, just as Mr. Parker has, although, as we have said, you may not produce such an easily-remembered series as Mr. Parker's is.

REFLECTIONS IN LIGHT AND SHADE COMMENTS OF AN OLD WARRIOR.

'W.W.' Takes Down His Battleaxe.

Hi! boy, hand me down that battleaxe off the wall yonder. Wipe off the vaseline, and, while about it, give me that crash helmet. Why? Because there are likely to be ructions. Thanks. The edge is not so sharp as it was when this journal started on its career. The hand that wielded it is growing gnarled and weary—and might hurt friend as well as foe. When you grow older, boy, you will realise that the man who calls a spade a spade, and not an agricultural implement, often finds himself in a hornet's nest. But don't be afraid. If you think you are on the right track, wade in. Remember Wellington's cry at Waterloo: 'Up and at 'em.' You will be looked down upon, especially if you don't wear the old school tie; but never fear, sooner or later it will dawn into their addled pates that no man has all of it in his noddle. And now, boy, sit still while your uncle does a spot of work. Get me?

* * * * *

This is the silver jubilee of 'The Ringing World,' and many events have taken place since it first saw the light. Time has gone quickly, for I remember fifty years ago as easy as twenty-five. In the Exercise many things have happened, good, bad and indifferent—according to how you view them. We have seen old traditions of ringing violated, ridiculed and revoked under the flimsy plea of Expediency and Progress. We have seen a multitude of methods rung in one peal, and it has come to such a pitch that to ring a 'straight' peal in one method looks very poor stuff indeed. What I don't like is the attitude of certain 'N.C.O.'s of the Central Council. They assume the role of Dictator, and wish to pillory all peals that do not conform to their silly idea of 'Splicing.'

If I interpret it aright, that idea is that only peals that change the method a given number of times should be allowed to be called 'spliced.' Do they really think that they can twist the English language to suit their own twisted ideas? What is the meaning of the word 'Spliced'? The dictionary tells us 'To join by interweaving.' Just so. Nothing is said about un-joining it by going back to the original a dozen times or more. To ring a spliced peal on any number requires a great ability, but, in my opinion, the Minor peals are more entitled to the definition than the Major. In fact—and this is a stone-cold fact, and not an opinion—any peal in which more than one method is rung is 'spliced,' whether you join up at any lead-end, part-end or at rounds. And I challenge any argument to the contrary. (Steady, there, steady, or there may be a deep depression extending over Ealing.)

That brings me to broadcasting.

* * * * *

Several enthusiastic writers have criticised the B.B.C. for cutting out the bells before a religious service. Of course, we should like to have more ringing, but those who assert that the ringing is part of the service had better think again, for their contention is not justified. The ringing before a service is like the overture to a play, or the preface to a book. If it were otherwise, what about the thousands of one-bell churches? Should the B.B.C. broadcast a clanging single bell for ten minutes before a service? It is the service that counts, and, although I love ringing, we should be grateful for what has already been done. You need not take my word for it, but turn to the Book of Common Prayer, which states 'the minister shall cause a bell to be tolled—before he begin.' Our work is done before the service begins.

I reckon that the B.B.C. has done more to popularise ringing than all other efforts put together, by adopting Bow Bells as an interval signal. We must be careful that we do not give the public a surfeit of it, and thereby raise a real outcry against us. Personally, I could do with more bell-music on the 'wireless' for some of the turns are maddening to me. I don't mind the Fat Stock Prices; I only grumble a bit at Chamber Music; the Foundations of Music are well concreted in my system, and I can put up with a Symphony concert, but what gets my goat are the Lunchtime Warbler and the Crooner. The former—apparently bred and fed on jelly—rouses me to fury. His 'Tra-la-la' makes my nostrils quiver. At 'Hey, Noni Noni' my eyes bulge out, and those around me quickly remove glass and cutlery out of reach, while another switches off the radio. For the lunch crooner who is usually 'dancing with his shadow' I would like to get behind him with my trusty weapon, when I think he would go on a tour.

Yes, I prefer Bow Bells to these every time.

* * * * *

This last quarter of a century has seen some changes in ringing. The year after this journal started, the first ladies' peal was rung.

This was at Cubitt Town in 1912, and I was there to listen to it. Many thought it was only a passing phase, but they were wrong, and the girls have gone from strength to strength. Surprise peals have been added to their victories, and he would be a bold man who would decry the lady ringers of to-day. A letter has just been received, 'Dear Sir,—As I know you to be a family man, I feel I can ask your help. It is very annoying to me that ever since some silly ass put into print that I was after the bachelors—which is not true—I am sniggered at when I go into a belfry. It happened like this. I heard one of them sing a song called "The Ringers," and the lines ran, "Now if any young lady who wants to be married without any fuss. She should climb up the belfry some fine Sunday morning and take a look at us." Well, I did, but one look was enough. I wouldn't touch them with a long pole. The bachelor band is safe from me. Most of them are fossils and ought to be in a museum. I have seen better faces on



MR. WILLIAM WILLSON.

church spouts. (You mean gargoyles, Kate.) So I thought I would let you know the truth. Only last week on Leap Year Day I went up a tower, when they began to whisper, and soon every man began to pack up and slink away. What would you do?—Yours sincerely, Kate.'

By publishing your letter, Kate, I think I will help to allay the bogey, and it is very probable that they will leave off letting you alone.

* * * * *

I wonder sometimes what sort of mentality possesses the ringers who are always out for the 'quickest peal on the bells'? In my opinion, they must be dead to all sense of music. Do they realise that bells are cast in different tones so that they shall be heard distinctly? How can they be heard distinctly if they are raced along until all tones are jumbled together in pandemonium? Do we consider how such a noise falls on the public ear? The time will come when we will have to consider it. It is doubly offensive when rung muffled at racing speed. What would we think of an orchestral conductor who boasted of having rendered Handel's 'Largo' at jazz speed? Whenever a peal is rung with a 20 cwt. tenor in or about 2 hours 45 minutes. I assert that it errs on the wrong side. There is something grand in the rhythm of stately-rung bells, but I feel only pity when I hear a good band spoiling their work by racing bells along outside of their proper gait.

* * * * *

It is strange how apparently innocent resolutions can have far-reaching consequences. Take, for instance, the one passed by the Central Council, calling upon affiliated societies to abide 'by the rules and decisions of the Council.' It was introduced at Salisbury by some prehistoric cave-man from Bristol, who no doubt meant well, but it means that members of associations lose their freedom to make their own rules. Those rules are worthless, since every time the Council changes its mind your rules must change also. The rank and file of the Council are willing to be led by the nose and to revoke one year the previous year's work. They did it on the six-bell question in order to admit the Cambridge Minor, which, being false on the last row of each 720, was absolved on the ground that 'the last row of a peal doesn't belong to that peal, but is the first row of the next' (which you or some other fellows may or

may not ring this week, next week, some time, or never). Thereby hangs a tale: Four men stood on the corner of the street waiting for 'opening time.' It was after a C.C. meeting and their throats were dry. Said C. T. C., 'Let's go and have a quick one, but wait a moment, I am cashing a cheque at this bank.' After a long wait, Tom came out looking like a beetroot. 'What's up?' we asked. 'What's up?' 'Why, the blighter—I mean the cashier—has given me one short. The cheque is for £720 and he has only paid me £719. He says that the last one is the first of the next one I may cash. I've been had.'

J. A. T. stood trying to look unconcerned, and sidged with his tie.

'What about it?' I asked.

'I didn't speak,' he replied.

I turned to the 'padre,' 'What do you say, Mr. E. B.?'

He smiled and said, 'It's a fine day.'

Well, we were moving off to get that quick one, when—I awoke!

No man is indispensable in this world, but the death of William Pyc is the greatest shock the Exercise has received during the last two decades. In our younger days, we read with a thrill of Annable, Holt and Reeves, of Gross, Hurry, Shipway and Hubbard, the names of men who in their day and generation were heroes in the world of bells. All of these, however, fade before the brilliance of William Pyc. In the early nineties, it was apparent that a new luminary had come up on the horizon. After his first 10,000 of Treble Bob came the then record of 15,072 Double Norwich, and it was clear that while there were fresh fields to conquer, this ringing Napoleon would not rest. Only those who have rung with him can know his temperament. As I write there comes before me the mental picture of the Loughborough long peal. W. J. Nudds was not a strong man, and sandwiched between Lindoff and myself Nudds rang the eighth with his back to the belfry clock. When we had rung eleven hours he said, 'I can't go on,' and his face as white as chalk told of his predicament. I said a few words of encouragement, but the conductor just looked on and nodded, all the while sending the tenor along like a piece of human machinery. At twelve hours came another spasm. Nudds was about all in. Then a cry from the tenor box, 'Stick it, do you hear? Stick it!' The ringer of the 8th did stick it. He put his last few ounces of strength into it and the peal was won: 18,027.

William Pyc goes down in history as a giant among ringers. In the annals of ringing his name will for ever stand in bold relief. He has trodden the stage for the last time, and passed to scenes unknown, but his name will live. As was said of Cæsar, 'This was a man.'

(Continued in next column.)

MUFFLED RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Questions have been asked through your valuable paper as to how bells should be rung for any great personage at their death. In my opinion, no difference should be made. The custom is to ring bells open, just as they are, for all occasions such as Sunday services, King's birthday and at any time of rejoicing, national and other. Why, then, make any difference when ringing for anyone called to their last rest, King or commoner? Ring the bells half-muffled, well struck—there is nothing more impressive, provided the tenor is behind. Half-muffled ringing of Major and Royal sounds, to my ear, a great disrespect to the departed. I have had just over 40 years' experience. Taunton.

J. HUNT.

UNIFORMITY DESIRABLE.

Dear Sir,—Since my letter in 'The Ringing World' of February 7th, letters that have appeared on this subject seem to indicate that the writers were under the same impression as myself, but Mr. Trollope now tells us that no way is more correct than another. That answer, in my opinion, does not land those of us who are asking which of the two should be deemed correct anywhere. It seems to me only to let us down a little deeper into the mire.

If one way is as correct as the other, I, for one, to whose lot it generally falls to do the muffling, would certainly only half-muffle the bells, as it is much easier to do that than fully muffle them. If I may be allowed to use Mr. Davies' phrase, 'what is needed on such occasions is uniformity throughout the country.' The only way to get this in the future seems to me to get the Central Council to take the matter up.

If they should think this necessary, may I, for one, ask them to give it very careful consideration, for, if half-muffling is decided upon, that's the end of fully muffling, because if it is not done for royalty, for whom else are we to do it?

G. RADLEY.

Wormley.

(Continued from previous column.)

When we close our eyes in eternal rest,

Will the watchers around the bed

Say, 'This was a man who stood the test,

Who played his part, who gave his best,'

When they look on the face of the dead?

Let history render its verdict true,

That 'all through a hard won fight,

This valiant figure nobler grew,

His good right hand found work to do,

And he did it with all his might.'

W. W.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Our peal columns reveal to-day the names of eight bachelors, described as 'free and untrammelled' of the average age of 22 years. They celebrated their freedom with a peal at Horbury on Leap Year Day.

John Taylor and Co. are rehangng the heavy ring of six bells at Newland Church, Glos., and the peal is being removed to Loughborough for tuning and refitting. The bells are to be hung in a new frame. Newland Church, situated in the Forest of Dean, is a beautiful structure with a grand tower, and is known as 'The Cathedral of the Forest.' The tower has been badly cracked by the action of the bells in the old timber frame and is undergoing extensive renovation.

Last Friday, Mr. Albert Walker gave a lecture on bells and bellringing to the Birmingham Engineers and Surveyors Association. There was a large and appreciative audience, who followed the lecture with keen interest. The talk was illustrated with about 50 lantern slides and change ringing on handbells.

We understand that Mr. Filson Young, whose striking articles on bells and bellringing appeared in 'The Radio Times' a while ago, has been commissioned by the B.B.C. to build a 'feature' programme about bells.

The Hinckley District of the Midland Counties Association is appealing for help on behalf of Mr. C. H. Briggs, of Stoney Stanton, who has been ill for a considerable time. If any friends of his, who are residing out of the district, would care to send any amount, however small, it will be gratefully received. Donations should be sent to Mr. A. E. Rowley, hon. secretary, Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

The University of London Union has now granted permission for the use of the title 'The London University Society of Change Ringers.' Any past or present members of London University are invited to communicate with Mr. C. Dodd, Royal College of Science, London, S.W.7, with a view to joining the society.

Is it correct that two of the leading exponents of the art of ringing in the Guildford Guild failed to pull up their bells 'right way' before starting for a peal at Witley (Surrey) on Saturday?

Our inquirer says: Perhaps an explanation might be given at an early date in the Beginners' column of 'The Ringing World.' At any rate, the lesser fry in the Guild feel that they can indulge in a chortle in secret.

Without waiting for an explanation in the Beginners' column, our readers may be informed that No. 1 pulled the treble up the wrong way, to the great amusement of No. 2. But No. 2 then proceeded to pull the 4th up with the clapper the wrong side. 'He that laughs last laughs longest,' is an adage that once more proved true.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM DAVIES.

A WELL-KNOWN LIVERPOOL RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. William Davies, of Liverpool. He passed away at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Claude I. Davies, on February 27th, after suffering more or less for the past two years. The late Mr. Davies was born in South Wales in the year 1861. He went to Liverpool when a young man, and pursued the career of telegraphist until his retirement a few years ago.

His first peal was rung at Liverpool in 1884, and his last, a peal of Stedman Triples at Rotherhithe, about nine years ago. Deceased had rung in upwards of a hundred peals, chiefly in the standard methods, many being with the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Sheffield and Ashton-under-Lyne Societies.

Mr. Davies was a ringer at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, for a period of 40 years. He held the office of steeplekeeper for many years, and it was mainly due to his efforts the peal of twelve was restored in 1911. Many of the bells for years before that had been unringable. He was an excellent ringer and striker on all numbers of bells, and he was always a welcome visitor to London, particularly in the days of the late Mr. James Pettit.

The late Mr. William Davies' peals were as follow: Grandsire Triples 13, Grandsire Caters 5, Grandsire Cinques 1, Stedman Triples 20, Stedman Caters 9, Stedman Cinques 4, Bob Major 16, Bob Royal 1, Bob Triples 1, Oxford Bob Triples 1, Minor in seven methods 2, Kent Treble Bob Major 20, Royal 6, Maximus 4, Caters 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major 4, Double Norwich Major 7, Superlative Surprise Major 2, total 117. One of Grandsire Triples and two of Bob Major were rung on handbells.

The peals were rung for the Lancashire Association, Chester Diocesan Guild, Yorkshire Association, Llandaff Association, Gloucester and Bristol Association, St. James' Society and the Ancient Society of College Youths. Mr. Davies took part in two of the three peals rung in the Isle of Man, a peal each of Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major at Peel on July 4th, 1883, both being College Youths' peals.

The funeral took place at Childwall on Saturday, February 29th. The service was read by the Rev. R. B. Parker, who also delivered a very appropriate address, in the course of which he touched on the late Mr. Davies' calling as a ringer and his loyalty as a churchman. Among the mourners at the graveside were Mr. and Mrs. Claude Davies (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs. Gladys Davies, Messrs. William Harold and Harry Davies (sons), Capt. Pope and several ringers, including Messrs. E. C. Burkitt, A. Lintott, G. Sergeant, E. Gittens, J. Bowstead, G. Lyddieth, J. Martin, G. R. Newton, etc. There were many floral tributes, among them one from St. Nicholas' tower.

CENTRAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

TWO INFLUENCES WHICH BENEFIT RINGERS OF TO-DAY.

'The Ringing World' and the Central Council.

The president of the Central Council (Mr. E. H. Lewis) has written the following special article for the Silver Jubilee number of 'The Ringing World.' In it he points out the importance to the Exercise of the Council and this journal.

Ringers of to-day are far more in touch with one another than they were a generation ago. Two influences



THE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

have been mainly responsible. One of them is 'The Ringing World,' to whose Editor we owe a great deal. Week by week for twenty-five years he has kept up the

high standard of the paper and let us know what other ringers in all parts of the country were doing. Not only that, in his excellent Editorials he has given us good advice and fair comments on passing events.

So accustomed are we to the weekly issue that perhaps we do not quite value as we should the continuous effort that must be required to maintain the standard of the paper. Congratulations to him on the completion of twenty-five years' service to the Exercise. May 'The Ringing World' long continue.

The other means of communication between different districts is the Central Council. The meetings of the Council give the Exercise its only chance of discussing, as a body, subjects of common interest. Sometimes, it is true, the matters under consideration interest only a section, perhaps a small section, of the ringers of the country. Such a section, however, is not restricted by locality, but by interest in some particular branch of the art we practise. Mathematical intricacies of method construction do not appeal to every ringer, but they are of intense interest to others, and undoubtedly, from such discussions, new methods and more musical compositions ultimately arise.

From the spread of knowledge which we owe to 'The Ringing World' and to the work of the Council there is a danger that the theoretical side of ringing is made too easy, and that some young ringers try to run before they can walk. The result is that the old standards of striking are not maintained. That the danger is real is shown by some recent broadcasts. It is to be hoped that it is only a passing phase, and it is up to 'The Ringing World' and the Council to hold up an ideal of good striking as the necessary foundation of all ringing. Without it the whole edifice of method ringing which has been built up is useless.

There are a few ringers who grumble at 'The Ringing World.' There are some who think the Central Council is of little use. Let them remember that if they want a bigger and better journal they must support it with a bigger circulation. If they want a better Council they must elect better members, if they can.

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

AUTHOR OF THE 'TWELVE-PART.'

MR. J. J. PARKER'S 83rd BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED.

A representative gathering of ringers from Berks, Bucks, Middlesex and Surrey assembled at Farnham Royal on Saturday to ring 'many happy returns' to Mr. J. J. Parker on the 83rd anniversary of his birthday. About a score were privileged to come early and take tea with their old friend, who looked remarkably well, although he has to obey certain doctor's restrictions.

Mr. W. H. Russell voiced the sentiments of the party in a short speech, mentioning, among other things, that Mr. Parker had seen six vicars at Farnham Royal, and giving still another instance of our old friend's versatility, Mr. Parker was a first-class shoemaker.

The Branch Ringing Master (Mr. T. J. Fowler) also said a few words on the world-wide fame of 'the twelve-part.'

Mr. J. J. Parker replied, saying what great pleasure it gave him to meet his friends again and hear their efforts in the tower. Amongst the methods tried may be mentioned Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich, Kent, Superlative, Cambridge and London, but not quite all were successful. A 'fall in peal' (not too easy on Farnham eight) brought the celebrations to a close.

PASSING OF 'A GREAT ADMIRER' OF BELLS.

Two years ago the bells at Walmer Church, Kent, were restored after being in rather a bad going condition. The work was carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the expense was borne by an anonymous admirer of the church bells. Since then it has been revealed that the 'great admirer' was Mr. A. J. Matthews, J.P., who has just passed away. The interment took place on Thursday, March 5th, when the bells were rung half-muffled in the evening, a peal being successful as a tribute from Kentish bellringers.

RINGER FOR OVER SIXTY YEARS.

DEATH OF MR. G. CRAMP, OF TENTERDEN.

The death occurred on March 5th of Mr. George Cramp, of Tenterden, at the age of 87 years. The deceased had been a ringer for over 60 years, and was one of the pioneers of change ringing at Tenterden. He was a regular attendant up to the end of November last.

He rang his first peal in 1888, the first peal by a resident band. He had rung several peals since, but kept no record of them.

The funeral took place at Tenterden Cemetery on Monday, March 9th. Ringers were present from Frittenden, Hawkhurst and Tunbridge Wells as well as Tenterden. Touches of Stedman Triples were rung with the bells half-muffled during the evening at the Parish Church by local and visiting ringers as a mark of respect. Mr. Cramp will be greatly missed.

A BIRMINGHAM VETERAN.

MARRIED 62 YEARS.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Coley, of Sheepcote Street, Ladywood, Birmingham, celebrated the 62nd anniversary of their wedding on March 2nd, having been married at Stourbridge in 1874. Mr. Coley is 83 and his wife is 82.

Mr. Coley was a chainmaker by trade, and began work at the age of 12, being paid 4d. for a 14-hour day. He retired at the age of 72.

He was for many years a ringer at Bishop Rydor's Church, and he still delights each Sunday morning to listen to the service ringing at St. Martin's and have a word with the ringers afterwards. He is a link with many of Birmingham's former ringing celebrities, for he knew all the 'old school' of Johnson's days.

A RETROSPECT.

HOW 'THE RINGING WORLD' HAS SERVED THE EXERCISE.

By the Editor.

In March, 1911, the first issue of 'The Ringing World' appeared. It was the fourth journal published entirely for the benefit of church bellringers and devoted exclusively to the interests of the art of change ringing. Before the advent of 'Bell News' in 1881, 'Church Bells' had devoted a section of its pages to matters affecting bellringing, but these were only a small portion of the publication, and when 'Bell News' arrived on the scene it quickly supplanted the earlier paper in its usefulness to the ringers of that period. Many years later came in turn 'Campanology' and 'Bell Ringer,' both short lived.

'The Ringing World' made its appearance at a time when the rapid expansion of the Exercise made a new journal desirable, it might almost be said absolutely essential, if the requirements of ringers were to be met. It was a time when a kind of atrophy seemed to have struck the old weekly, whose services to the Exercise in its earlier days deserve to be acknowledged. But the passing of the years weighed heavily on that publication, and, as it gradually drooped and faded, it was inevitable that, if bellringing was not to receive a serious blow, other efforts were required to save the situation.

Thus it came about that a somewhat daring young man ventured to take the plunge and offer the Exercise an alternative ringing paper. There were plenty to remind him of the old adage that fools rush in where angels fear to tread, but while in some respects there have been disappointments, he can to-day say he has no serious regrets. The action taken at that time probably saved the Exercise from being stranded, at any rate for a period, without a journal of its own, for it was not very long afterwards that 'Bell News' languished into death. It may be that the younger and more enterprising paper hastened the end, but there is little doubt that it must have come sooner or later from financial anæmia.

But the path of the new journal was far from smooth. It was scarcely out of its swaddling clothes, so to speak, when came the war and the disintegration of many cherished schemes. 'The Ringing World' was fortunate to survive that cataclysm, which carried away in its devastating grip many hundreds of small publications. Once more the Exercise was saved from a break in the continuity of its newspaper records, for had this paper disappeared under the strain, no new enterprise of that kind—even if anyone could have been found ready to launch it—would have been permitted owing to the paper shortage. And so, through the years, 'The Ringing World' has proceeded to its silver jubilee, giving ringers week by week a faithful record of the events of greatest interest in the Exercise, keeping its readers in touch with the steady development of the art, expressing its own views on subjects of importance, with, we hope, fair and impartial criticism, and with a desire to give its readers food for thought.

These twenty-five years have carried us into an entirely new generation of ringers. Men who, when 'The Ringing World' started, were the pillars of the Exercise, are many of them to-day but a memory. It is impossible to recall here all those giants of the past who, in this quarter of a century, have been taken from us, but

there is satisfaction in the memory that they were, we believe we can say without exception, friends of 'The Ringing World.' These were the men whose labours materially helped to build up the fortunes of the Exercise. They recognised that the most serious thing that could befall the art of ringing would be the absence of a publication devoted to its interests.

A journal to unite the forces of the Exercise, to encourage and stimulate progress, as well as to perform the common task of circulating information, is absolutely essential to the well-being of the art. This has all along been appreciated by those who give any thought to the subject, and the efforts of 'The Ringing World' in this direction not only were recognised by those who, when the paper came into existence, were becoming gravely concerned as to the future, but by all who have since come into positions of responsibility and leadership in the Exercise.

But 'The Ringing World,' having so long served the Exercise, has, as the president of the Central Council points out in his message, largely come to be 'taken for granted.' Its regular appearance every Friday morning has become so much a matter of course that there are few who stop to think what would happen if 'The Ringing World' failed them. Half the interest in ringing is in knowing what other people are doing, and what progress the art is making in other parts of the country. There would be little known of that without a ringing paper. In conjunction with the work done by the Central Council, it is the ringing Press which has made possible the rapid advance of the art, by the spread of knowledge and the encouragement which it has given to progress. Indeed, it is not too much to say that most of the usefulness of the Council itself is made possible by the publication of a ringers' paper.

'The Ringing World' has not always seen eye to eye with the Council or its committees, and its criticisms in the past have, we believe, led to improvements and to a more active service, but this journal, which is really the mouthpiece of the Exercise, firmly believes in the importance, indeed the necessity, for a Central Council, and has always given its wholehearted support to those decisions which appear to be in the best interests of the art of ringing.

Ringers of the new generation have had their path made so easy for them by the work of those who have gone, or who, remaining, are now in the 'sere and yellow leaf,' that they are likely to overlook all the time and labour which these men have in the past devoted to the task of, if we may use the simile, clearing the jungle. In this work they have been facilitated by the journals which for more than fifty years have been published for the advancement of the art. 'The Ringing World' has taken its full share in this work, and if the labours of individuals, without its aid, had not been in vain, the dissemination of the results of that labour would, at any rate, have been much more limited.

Of the value of 'The Ringing World' in publishing the reports of current events, we need not speak here, except, perhaps, to say this: Different people have different ideas of news values, and when space is strictly limited and there is room for 'so much and no more,' there is bound to be sometimes a little heart-burning in those who are disappointed. It is hardly necessary, perhaps, to repeat what we have often said, that no one re-

(Continued on page 178.)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS' PROGRESS. HOW METHOD RINGING HAS DEVELOPED.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

One of the most notable things about change ringing is that, though it has been practised for centuries, and though it never had any fixed rules, nor, until the time of the Central Council, any authority which could make rules, yet it has been at all times and in all places essentially the same thing.

The 'sixes' were invented somewhere about 1610, and it was sixty or seventy years before there was a sufficient number of bells in a tower and before there was enough improvement in the hanging of these bells for them to be rung in the modern fashion. But as soon as method ringing became really possible, which was, roughly speaking, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, all the essentials of the art were fixed, and they have not altered since.



MR. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

If Benjamin Annable and his band could revisit the scenes of their many exploits they would come back to a London which they would not recognise. Not only would they find miles of streets where in their time were remote country villages surrounded by fields and lanes, but the City itself would be so altered that they would not know it. The streets, the houses, the people—all are changed, but directly they had climbed the winding stairs to St. Bride's belfry, or St. Michael's or St. Martin's, they would once more be on familiar ground, and should a modern band be there they could mix with them and take part in the ringing, just as they used to do two hundred years ago. Stedman Cinques, no doubt, would be strange to them, but they knew Stedman Doubles, and it would be no trouble to them to apply it to the greater number of ropes. As for Grandsire Cinques, Bob Maximus, and Treble Twelve, they could ring them as well as any modern band and better than most.

But though change ringing is thus fixed in its essentials, it is absolutely necessary that it must grow and develop, or else it will die. Growth is necessarily slow, but there must be growth. Things change in the ringing Exercise very slowly, but they *do* change. Sometimes when we look back over the years that we ourselves have known, we wonder what improvement there has been; whether all the trouble and time and patience that many men have expended has not been wasted; and whether things are any better than they were.

How much better are we than we were twenty-five years ago in the year that saw the birth of 'The Ringing World'? Are we are better off at all? If we go by the number of peals that are rung I should imagine, though I have not checked the figures, that the number is about the same now as in 1911. Peal ringing is not everything, but it is a very good indicator of progress, though a rough one; for the men who ring peals are usually the best service ringers. But though there has not been any remarkable increase in the number of peals or of peal ringers, when we look more closely at what peals were rung we have very considerable grounds for congratulation.

The best bands of to-day are probably no better than the best bands of five-and-twenty years ago, but there has been a very great levelling up. Far more men ring Surprise peals than in 1911, and among the more advanced there is a greater readiness to practise new methods; in fact, it is in method ringing that the greatest development has been made. That is due to the war; for the war, which radically altered practically every man's ideas and thoughts, had this effect on ringing, that men were more ready to welcome new ideas and less inclined to stand in the old paths just because they are the old paths.

We must expect that now and always the greater part of the changes rung on bells will be in the standard methods, Grandsire and Plain Bob, Stedman and Treble Bob; and all these were rung two hundred and fifty years ago; but, fortunately, the number of men is increasing who are not content to stay there.

Some indication of progress is given by the number of peals in Surprise Major methods. When the present century opened peals had been rung in only five methods, which now rank as Surprise—Cambridge, Superlative, London, Gloucester and Norfolk—and in six which were then called Surprise, but are now relegated to other classes—Albion, Liversedge, New Cumberland, Oxford, Westminster, and St. Stephen's. Before 1911 four more Surprise Major methods were rung—Bristol, Yorkshire, Peterborough, and the Rochester variation of Superlative. Two others—Brighton and Guildford—were rung before the war, and since that time peals in no fewer than seventy-four new methods have been accomplished.

That is where the greatest development has taken place, and the next greatest has been in 'spliced' ringing. It began in six-bell ringing, and the six-bell ringers are the ones who have most profited by the development; but spliced ringing on eight bells is now getting a fairly common thing. When Mr. Alfred Pulling called Law James' peal in the four standard Surprise methods most people imagined that it was a performance which was not likely to be excelled for many a long year; but I suppose there must be now nearly a hundred ringers who have rung a peal of Spliced Surprise. For the present the

(Continued on next page.)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS' PROGRESS.

(Continued from previous page.)

series by the Middlesex Association, which included all numbers of methods from three to twelve, and which was conducted by William Pye, stands by itself; but it is probably only a question of time before another band will be found to beat that record. In method ringing, therefore, we have legitimate cause for congratulation.

Perhaps the best sign of all that the Exercise is alive and progressing is the fact that we are getting an increasing number of the right sort of young men, who are ready to go forward and explore new ground in ringing. We must not expect to find many bands like that at Helmingham, who have rung peals in thirty Surprise methods, but twenty-five years ago such a thing would have been looked on as impossible. Quite as impossible, too, would the wonderful record of twelve-bell peals by the Ipswich band have seemed; and there are other companies who have done almost as notable performances.

On the whole we may be satisfied with the progress change ringing has made during this last quarter of a century. Twenty-five years is not a long time in the history of the Exercise, though it is a long time in the life of an individual ringer. Perhaps I may be allowed to offer to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' congratulations and thanks for his share in development and in keeping the art alive and flourishing. There have been very difficult and critical times during these five-and-twenty years, when the problem of keeping a ringing paper going has been acute. Ringers do not often realise how essential it is to have a regular journal, and they do not support it as they should. They would quickly find out its value if they were to lose it.

A RETROSPECT.

(Continued from page 176.)

grets more than we do that some of the lesser important items have to be sacrificed to the exigencies of space, but readers can rest assured that, whatever the reasons, everything is carefully weighed, and the discrimination used is always on the side of the greatest interest to the greatest number.

And that leads us to the one solution of the difficulty concerning limited space. It is all wrapped up in circulation. If ringers would give the paper adequate support, the provision of a journal increased in size, either frequently or permanently, would be a financial possibility, and so also would be a reduction in price. Is it too much to ask ringers themselves—as a silver jubilee contribution to 'The Ringing World'—to make an effort to this desirable end in their own interests?

This article, however, is more concerned with the past than with the future. Let us conclude, therefore, by saying that twenty-five years as Editor of 'The Ringing World,' while not being without its anxieties, has been a period which has provided us with a great deal of pleasure. Its greatest recompense has been the host of friends which we have made from end to end of the country and overseas. Such friendships are beyond price.

LONDON.—At St. Mary's Church, Battersea, on Sunday, March 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *G. Ashford 1, *A. Williams 2, W. Dean 3, W. Coe 4, *E. Dodds 5, W. Essery 6, A. Newman (conductor) 7, G. Barber 8. * First attempt for quarter.

APPLETON CELEBRATES MARCH THE 4th

BERKSHIRE VILLAGE FESTIVITIES.

Well over one hundred years ago, in a quiet little Berkshire village, a wicked squire purloined certain lands (authenticated by records) belonging to the poorer inhabitants. 'Landgrabbing' it was called in those days, and the quiet little Berkshire village was not the only one in England which suffered from the depredations of the squires of bygone days. The Berkshire villagers, however, raised their voices loud in protestation, but their protestations did not result in the return of their lost land. The squire, however, could not be convinced that he had no right to the lands he had seized; but to assuage the anger of the inhabitants, and possibly to bring consolation to his own soul for his own misdeeds, he entertained the villagers to a gigantic feast on the village green and placed in the tower of the Parish Church a peal of six bells.

Everybody may not know the origin of the peal of bells at Appleton, the little Berkshire village referred to. Should anyone feel that the story now told does not ring true, let them ask George Holifield, an Appleton veteran ringer, and if he cannot bring conviction to the doubting, then no printed record will ever convince.

Further conviction, however, should not be necessary, for on Saturday Appleton celebrated the 118th anniversary of that gigantic feast on the village green (which took place on March 4th, 1818) and the placing of the bells in the tower. Another remarkable fact in connection with this particular anniversary is that George Holifield has attended more than half of the number, for he has never missed in joining in the celebrations for 64 years. Surely a remarkable record, and one hopes that many more such occasions may be added to his already long list.

It was a busy day in Appleton on Saturday. From an early hour that famous peal of bells, augmented first

to eight and now to ten, and which have contributed largely to the campanological records of this country, were ringing merrily, and it was in the early hours of the afternoon when the bells ran into rounds and a successful peal of Stedman Caters had been accomplished by a mixed band of villagers and visitors from London. Then came the turn of visitors from many other parts of the country, and representatives from Oxford, High Wycombe, Swindon, Newbury, East Hagbourne, Bucklebury, Reading, Wokingham and many other places indulged in methods from Minor to Caters. Among those who foregathered to help the valiant villagers were the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Mr. R. T. Hibbert, the secretary, accompanied by 'Bill,' the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Mr. George Williams (Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), Messrs. Clark, J. S. Hawkins, J. Thomas, Wilfred Williams (London), Mrs. A. E. Lock, the Misses Stella Davis, Marie R. Cross, etc.

At The Thatched Tavern (in these days divested of its 'thatch'), the ringers assembled to celebrate the feast. The occasion was a festive one, and although the viands may not have assumed the gigantic proportions of those of 118 years ago, yet they were heartily enjoyed by the fifty folk who partook of them.

The National Anthem was enthusiastically sung following the loyal toast, given by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, and the rest of the day was given over to merrymaking. And what a time was spent; what a feast of talent among those congregated! The famous brothers White were well to the fore as entertainers. There were six of them, Cuthbert, John, Henry, Richard, Fred and Stedman, whose ages range from 73 years to 50. They delighted the assembled gathering by their tune ringing, and also their exhibition of the 'lapping' of a course of Grandsire Caters. What a history lay behind the bells they used. They were part of a peal of 50 cast by the father of the six brothers over 70 years ago, and, what is more, the grandsire of the six brothers rang in the first 720 Bob Minor ever recorded on the bells. Should anyone like to see the record, ask George Holifield for a glimpse of that wonderful book, which is one of his most cherished possessions.

What a pity there are not more places in England which could celebrate the history of their bells in the same way as Appleton does.

V. S.



MR. GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN.

DEATH OF MR. E. C. MERRITT.**BRIGHTON RINGER WHO HELPED TO MAKE HISTORY.**

We much regret having to record the death of Mr. Edward C. Merritt, of Brighton, which took place suddenly on March 4th. On the previous Saturday he had attended the meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association at Heene, and was then apparently in the best of health and looking forward to joining his friends at the next divisional meeting in a fortnight's time.

Always a consistent churchman, with a considerable knowledge of church affairs, he completed some years ago his ambition of visiting every cathedral in England and Wales, the last being St. David's, which he described as being 'fifteen miles from nowhere.'

Mr. Merritt's first ringing of importance took place when he joined the St. Peter's, Brighton, tower in 1888. There he helped to make history with the 'old band,' the pioneers of Surprise ringing in Sussex.

Coming from Bournemouth, Mr. Merritt remained a member of St. Peter's until the end, and the tablets in the tower record his taking part in most of the first peals in the higher methods. Despite his unquestioned superiority as a Surprise ringer, Mr. Merritt was not blind to his duty as a member of the association, serving on the committee at various times, and was never happier than when giving a helping hand to a beginner.

Of late years he had done very little peal ringing, one of the last, if not the very last, which he rang being in 1933, when, after a long absence from peals, to gratify the earnest desire of an old friend, he took part in the peal of Stedman Caters at Southover, Lewes, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith's first peal, in which he had also taken part.

The first part of the funeral service took place at his favourite Church of St. Bartholomew, Brighton, from whence he was borne to the Brighton Cemetery for cremation. Besides Messrs. J. T. Rickman (a former Master of the association) and S. E. Armstrong (assistant hon. general secretary), there were present at the service representatives from the three Brighton towers, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas' and the Good Shepherd, and from Southover, Lewes.

In Mr. Merritt the Exercise has lost a great ringer and a good friend.

A half-muffled peal was rung on Saturday at Southover, where Mr. Merritt had rung many peals.

DEATH OF FORMER LITTLE MUNDEN RINGER.

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr. G. H. Carter, of Little Munden, Herts, at the age of 55 years. He was found dead sitting on his bicycle by the roadside bank on February 23rd, death having been due to hemorrhage of the brain.

The deceased had given up ringing for about six years, but had previously been a ringer at Little Munden for a long period, and was one of the band when change ringing was first started at that place. He had taken part in 36 peals in Little Munden tower, besides many others in other towers. He was a very safe ringer and good striker.

The Carter family have been connected with Little Munden belfry for many years, deceased's father and three brothers all having been ringers there, while one brother, Mr. Sidney Carter, is still a member.

Deceased had been a soldier in the Regular Army and had served in India.

The funeral took place on Saturday, February 29th, at Little Munden Churchyard. The coffin was covered by the Union Jack and a contingent of the British Legion attended and laid wreaths on the grave. After the funeral 360 Oxford Treble Bob was rung with the bells half-muffled by W. Williams 1, A. Woolston 2, S. Head 3, A. Phillips 4, W. H. Lawrence 5, A. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

DEATH OF A NORTH STONEHAM RINGER.

We regret to record the passing of Mr. W. G. Edwards at Bishopstoke on February 25th after a long and painful illness at the age of 47 years.

Mr. Edwards was born at Calverton, Bucks, and was taught to ring on the bells at the Parish Church. There and at the neighbouring tower of Stoney Stratford he did all his early ringing.

In 1910 his work took him to Eastleigh, where he joined the North Stoneham band, and remained attached to that tower until his death, although he had resided for some years at Bishopstoke. He formed one of the Surprise band that was built up at North Stoneham by Mr. G. Williams.

Mr. Edwards did not keep a record of his peals, but they number about 80, ranging from Doubles to London Surprise Major. With one or two exceptions they were rung for the Oxford and Winchester Guilds.

The funeral took place at Bishopstoke on February 29th. Mr. G. Williams (Master) represented the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, and members were present from Bishopstoke, North Stoneham, Southampton and Portsmouth.

Following the lowering of the coffin, a plain course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells over the grave by N. Curtis 1-2, J. Faithful 3-4, G. Williams 5-6, F. Bayley 7-8, D. C. Williams 9-10. The church bells were also rung half-muffled immediately after the service.

During the evening a peal of Grandsire Caters, with the clappers half-muffled, was rung at North Stoneham as a last token of respect.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

(Continued from page 158.)

WORK GOES BRAVELY ON.

Mr. T. H. Reeves, who responded to the toast of 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild,' proposed by Mr. A. Paddon Smith, first thanked the artistes who had made the musical programme so enjoyable. The work of the Guild goes bravely on, continued Mr. Reeves, and the Guild continues to prosper. He emphasised what Mr. Smith had said with regard to the Tuesday night practices in the Bull Ring. He knew it was not always convenient for ringers to assemble there, but he hoped that all who could would make a point of attending to give their assistance and encouragement to the Ringing Master. Since Mr. Haynes had been Ringing Master they had introduced an innovation by holding bi-quarterly meetings. These meetings had been very enjoyable and enthusiastically attended. Their main object was to encourage the art of change ringing, and they did that both for the younger ringers and with practice in the higher methods. He gave a pressing invitation, especially to young ringers, to attend these meetings. They had some very happy gatherings, and he believed they were doing a lot of good. With regard to the Guild generally, they were a particularly happy band, everything ran smoothly, and, as far as he personally was concerned, he had nothing to complain of in regard to the support the members always gave him. He was very happy to be their secretary, and as long as he could usefully hold the position he would be happy to serve them (applause).

Mr. F. E. Haynes proposed 'The Visitors,' remarking that the Guild was very happy to see so many old and new friends among them. It would be almost invidious to mention individual names when they had visitors from so many distant places. He would, however, like to mention one who was not a visitor, but an old member of St. Martin's Guild, Mr. Tom Miller. He would like to assure him on behalf of the company that they were all very pleased to see him again, sufficiently recovered from his recent serious illness to be able to be with them. Mr. Haynes coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. P. Duffield, Master of the College Youths. Mr. Duffield occupied an exalted position, and had been mistaken by the chairman for the Lord Mayor of London (laughter). That mistake, of course, was a reasonable one when they saw the handsome badge of office with which his manly breast was adorned (laughter).

Mr. E. P. Duffield said he was very proud to be the first Master of the society to wear that badge of office, which, as they knew, was presented to commemorate the forthcoming tercentenary of the society. He hoped it would be worn at Birmingham on many future occasions (hear, hear). There was an added pleasure, he proceeded, in coming to Birmingham this year in that, instead of having one modern peal of twelve bells upon which to ring, they had two such excellent peals, the best possible examples of modern bellfounding (applause). Continuing, Mr. Duffield said he thought he was speaking what was in the mind of everyone when he said how much they missed the face of one who more, perhaps, than any other they were sorry to miss. Twelve months ago he could not help wondering how many more times they might see that gathering graced by the presence and wonderful personality of their Master. They of the College Youths were proud of the fact that, with two exceptions, Alderman Pritchett was the senior surviving member of the society. He hoped he might still be spared to them, although it might be in a more restricted measure of activity. His great personality had undoubtedly been of immeasurable benefit to St. Martin's Guild over a great number of years (hear, hear), and one of the things which they looked upon as a real privilege was to meet and listen to Alderman Pritchett (applause). Mr. Duffield went on to mention the William Pyc memorial. Judged by his performances William Pyc was, he said, without equal in the realms of ringing at any time, and he ventured to say that it would be a long time before they saw his equal. Of all the memorials that had been erected to the great figures of the Exercise, none, he thought, would commend itself more readily to them than the memorial to William Pyc. The committee felt it would be nice to have the memorial completed before the assembly of the Central Council in London at Whitsun, and it would, therefore, be appreciated that the committee were anxious to get the subscriptions in as soon as possible. Mr. Duffield concluded by thanking St. Martin's Guild for the hospitality extended to the visitors.

Mr. G. E. Fearn proposed 'The Ringing World,' and enumerated the many benefits which ringing and ringers obtained from the publication of the paper. He referred to the fact that the silver jubilee of the paper would shortly occur, and said the best way in which that long service to the Exercise could be celebrated would be by every ringer becoming a regular subscriber and by encouraging new supporters. He was sure that the increased circulation which would thus be provided would be reflected by the provision of an even more useful paper for the Exercise.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith responded.

The remaining toast was that to 'The Chairman,' proposed by Mr. F. W. Stevens and acknowledged by Canon Guy Rogers.

A lengthy musical programme was greatly enjoyed. Glees were sung by the Lyric Male Quartette, songs by Mrs. G. T. Matkin, Mr. W. O. Dowding, Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. A. Dealey, while members of St. Martin's Guild rang a short touch of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. The evening was one of the most successful in the long series, and in no small measure due to the organising energy and ability of the hon. secretary, Mr. Reeves.

WILLIAM PYE MEMORIAL.**TENDER FOR BELLS ACCEPTED.**

As is generally known, the proposed memorial to the late William Pye is to take the form of two bells added to the existing six at St. John the Baptist's Church, Leytonstone, and a suitable tablet to be placed in the church porch, close to the belfry door. The committee recently considered estimates for the bells, submitted by the three leading bellfounders, and accepted that of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

Steps are being taken to obtain the necessary faculty, and it is confidently hoped that the opening of the memorial bells will take place on Saturday, May 30th, which day will give many ringers visiting London for the Central Council meeting an opportunity to be present.

In the meantime, to enable the memorial to be opened free from debt, approximately £45 is required. The committee urgently request all associations holding annual meetings during the next few weeks to contribute generously to this worthy object, and individual ringers, especially those who had the privilege of ringing with the late William Pye, and who have not yet subscribed, are asked to do so.

The sixth list of donations is appended. These amounts are gratefully acknowledged by the undersigned, to either of whom further donations should be sent.

W. H. HOLLIER, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick, W.4.

C. T. COLES, 21, Vincent Road, Highams Park, E.4.

E. J. BUTLER, 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

Hon. Treasurer.

Hon. Secretaries.

SIXTH LIST OF DONATIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	145	15	6
The Norwich Diocesan Association	2	0	0
Mr. A. L. Coleman	5	0	0
St. Peter's, Colchester, Ringers	10	0	0
St. John the Baptist, Leytonstone, Ringers	1	0	0
Mr. A. W. Coles (second donation)	2	6	0
West Ham Parish Church Ringers	12	6	0
Mr. and Mrs. R. Sanders	10	0	0
Mr. Wesley Watson	5	0	0
Mr. C. T. Clark	5	0	0
Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham	10	0	0
Mr. T. B. Worsley	10	0	0
Mr. W. C. Duffield	2	6	0
Mr. C. S. Burden	3	0	0
Mr. J. H. Brown	2	6	0
Midland Counties Association	2	2	0
St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Ringers	10	0	0
'Harry'	5	0	0
Mr. E. W. Furbank	5	0	0
Mr. Isaac Cavill	2	6	0
St. Mary's, Stanstead, Ringers	10	0	0
Mr. John Mardell	2	6	0
Mr. C. V. Ebberson	10	0	0
Mr. E. Jennings	2	6	0
Mr. G. Lindoff	10	0	0
The Hon. Treasurer to the Fund	10	6	0
Mr. F. Bennett	2	6	0
Mr. S. T. Holt	5	0	0
Mr. A. R. Macdonald	10	0	0
Mr. T. Groombridge, sen.	5	0	0
Miss E. E. Hardcastle	2	6	0
Mr. F. E. Dawe	10	0	0
Mr. W. Henley	5	0	0
Peterborough Diocesan Guild	3	3	0
St. Laurence, Reading, Ringers	1	1	0
Lancashire Association	2	2	0
Chelmsford Cathedral Ringers	17	6	0

£167 7 0

NORTH HERTS' SUCCESSFUL MEETING.**A SCHEME FOR COMBINED PRACTICES.**

On Saturday, February 29th, a very successful meeting of the Northern District of the Herts County Association was held at Royston. The attendance was higher than usual for this tower. The bells were raised at 3 p.m. and kept going until 5 p.m., when the Vicar (the Rev. F. F. Graig) conducted a short service, and in his address offered a very warm welcome to the ringers. The company adjourned to the Church Room, where they were the guests of the Vicar to an excellent tea.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar was elected to the chair.

The secretary put forward a scheme which he hoped would meet with members' approval to arrange combined practices at various towers in the district. The object, he said, was to encourage and assist towers where young or 'stagnant' bands exist. He proposed selecting some six towers, and (subject to the consent of the various clergy and ringers) arrange the practice on their respective practice nights. It was a thing which, if well supported, would benefit all concerned. The idea was met with unanimous approval, and arrangements will be published in 'The Ringing World.'

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**EXTENSION OF SHIELD CONTEST.**

The annual meeting was held at Sandal on February 15th, when the towers represented were Ackworth, Adwick-le-Street, Barnsley, Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Rothwell, Sheffield, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Wath and the local company. The bells were kept going during the afternoon, and at the service a short address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Walls). Tea was served in the Parochial Hall, a good company being present. The Rev. Canon Hone, Rector of Barnsley, presided at the business meeting, at which a vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of Mr. George Pickles, of Horbury, who was a ringer for 45 years, and was buried there on that day. The motion was carried by the company standing in silence. The auditor's report showed an increase of 15s. 6d. on the year's working, and the balance sheet proved satisfactory to all.

All the officers were re-elected.

Messrs. R. H. Dove and T. W. Strangeways were elected members of the association, and South Kirby was chosen for next place of meeting.

A discussion arose re the extension of the radius for the Shield Contest, and it was finally agreed that it be open to all who are members of the association one calendar month before the contest.

After the usual vote of thanks, further ringing took place both on handbells and in the tower in various methods.

THE LADIES' GUILD.**CENTRAL DISTRICT AT EDMONTON.**

A very enjoyable meeting of the Central District of the Ladies' Guild was held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, February 22nd, and was very well attended. Methods were rung to suit the needs of all.

A very short service was held, at which the Vicar officiated, following which the company sat down to an enjoyable tea.

The meeting was even shorter than the service. Mrs. Deal presided, and it was proposed by Mrs. Fletcher that the next meeting should be held at Lambeth. The date was left in abeyance to suit the Vicar.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs. Fletcher for making all the necessary arrangements for such a successful meeting.

The members adjourned to the tower to join the menfolk in further ringing.

DEATHS.

DAVIES.—On February 27th, at 68, Dunbabin Road, Liverpool 16, William Davies, fell asleep in his 75th year.

WALDRON.—On March 3rd, at Peterborough, Edith Ellen, the beloved wife of W. H. Waldron, passed peacefully away, aged 53 years. At rest.

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NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on March 31st, St. Magnus' on the 19th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 17th, at 7.30 p.m., St. Andrew's on the 26th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14th, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., Police Section House, Ixworth Place, Chelsea, S.W.3.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dodderhill, Droitwich, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 4.15, followed by tea in the Parish Hall 5 o'clock (by kind invitation of the Vicar) and meeting.—G. E. Large, Branch Sec., Grange Cottage, Hawford, Worcester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in the School at 5 p.m. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., immediately after tea.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., 235, Greenhill Road, Bramley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A combined meeting of the Maidstone and Tonbridge districts will be held at Linton on March 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Association service at 5, followed by tea, at the kind invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. A. M. Haire). All ringers welcome. Good bus service from Maidstone and Marden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at St Mary's, Finchley, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, usual terms, at 5.30. Please send me a card. All welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Swainswick, near Bath, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please note the date.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Town on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 73, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the division, for election of officers, etc., will be held at Barcombe on Saturday, March 14th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Half rail fare, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members attending this meeting.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 1b, Chester Terrace, Brighton 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea 5.30 p.m. — W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—The suggestion that the secretary of the Guildford District deprecates the attendance of visitors either for peal attempts or at district meetings is utterly absurd and all visitors will be heartily welcomed at the district meeting at Cranleigh on March 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Denver, near Downham Market on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch for Newport Pagnell Rural Deanery.—A meeting at Sherington (5) on March 14th; 2.30 begin; 4 service; tea afterwards. Please send number for tea to the Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Come to St. Nicholas', Chiswick, to-morrow (14th inst.). Bells (8) from 3.30. Service at 5. Tea in schoolroom behind church, 5.30.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next half-yearly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Kendal, on March 14th. Bells (10) will be ready at 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.20 and meeting 4.45.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Poolstock, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the School. Meeting to follow. All ringers heartily welcome.—William O. Farrimond, Hon. Branch Sec., 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Meppershall on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. We are looking forward to a good meeting, as this part of the county is very rarely visited, and is in much need of help. All ringers welcome, please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

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NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Next meeting at North Muskham on Saturday, March 14th. Come and try this fine six. Those who want tea *must* notify Canon Williams, Muskham Rectory, Newark.—R. Towler, Acting Sec.

OXHEY, HERTS, ASSOCIATION.—Meeting on Saturday, March 14th. Tower open from 3.30. Meat tea at the Wheatsheaf at 5.30, and usual business meeting. Tower open till 8 p.m. Trains and coach service to Bushey station.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Kegworth on Saturday, Mar. 14th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. J. Sutton, Market Place, Kegworth, on or before Friday, March 13th.—H. Kirby, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hathern Road, Shepshed.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The meeting to be held at St. John's, Blackpool, has been postponed to Saturday, March 21st. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Helens Parish Church on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. Service 5.15. Meeting in the schools. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, Rev. Canon Child. All ringers heartily invited. Come and join us.—H. Grundy, Hon. Sec., Alness, Green Leach Avenue, St. Helens.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. per head. Please notify Mr. J. L. Gilbert, 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Handsworth, Sheffield, by Wednesday previous. The business meeting for election of officers, etc., will be held after tea. Subscriptions for 1935-6 are now due and the annual report available.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

TAMERTON FOLIOT, DEVON.—The ring of 6, rehung in a new frame by Gillett and Johnston, will be rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 21st. Visiting ringers please notify the Vicar, Rev. F. B. Soady, before March 15th, and also state if tickets are required for the tea in the Parish Hut, after the service.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Slaugham (8) on Saturday, March 14th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Chalfont St. Peter (6 bells), on Saturday, March 21st, at 3.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than March 17th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Cathedral, London Bridge, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 o'clock. Preacher, Rev. J. C. Kinnear (St. John's, Croydon). Tea and meeting to follow at the Chapter House. Notifications for tea should reach me by Wednesday, March 18th.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., 10, Courtney Road, Croydon.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Overseal on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Short service 4.30., followed by tea and meeting in school-room. Please make this a record meeting. All welcome. Don't forget the p.c. re tea to be sent by Thursday, March 19th, to J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Coronation Street, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Romney Marsh and District Guild.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at Headcorn on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Important business meeting after. Please notify me of your intention to be present by March 18th.—Frank Conley, Dis. Sec., 11, Park Road, Ashford, Kent.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Mary's) on Saturday, March 21st. Tower open 2.30. Service 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's bells from 6.45. Those intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 12, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Guild will held a combined practice at Christchurch on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (12) from 2.30 p.m. All ringing friends welcome. Those requiring tea kindly inform me by Thursday, March 19th.—G. Preston, Hon. Sec., 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Lawton (8 bells) on Saturday, March 21st. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know by the 18th inst?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Woolton Hill on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available from 2.30. Service in Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m. in Parish Room. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify Mr. J. Berry, Grange Cottage, Woolton Hill.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—A meeting will be held at Clown on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea (1s. each) please notify Mr. F. Smith, Wood End, Clown, Chesterfield, by Thursday, March 19th? Subscriptions for 1935-6 are due.—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec.

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ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hemmingford Grey on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Prestwich, on Saturday, March 21st. Tower open for ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Subscriptions due.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A joint meeting with the Staffs Association at Tamworth on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Tea 5 p.m., in the College Lane Schools at 1s. per head. All requiring tea must inform Mr. Chaplin, 28, Thomas Street, Tamworth, by March 18th.—M. Melville, Exhall, Coventry.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, March 21st. The recent rehung ring of 10 will be available from 3 p.m.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 21st. The bells (8) will be ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS AND THE LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—Meeting at Stapleford, Saturday, March 21st, at 3 p.m. Those requiring tea please advise Mr. G. Fisher, 35, Warren Avenue, Stapleford, Notts, by March 19th. Buses every 15 minutes from Nottingham bus station.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Kirkby Mallory, Saturday, March 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation of the Rector) for those who notify me. Other arrangements as usual.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Seventh annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 21st, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, at 6 p.m., Councillor W. R. Eggleton presiding. The following towers will be open: St. Mary de Lode (6), 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Mary de Crypt (8), 3.45 to 4.45 p.m.; St. Michael's (8), 4.45 to 5.45 p.m. Ladies invited. Tickets, 3s., obtainable, with remittance, not later than the 18th inst., from W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, Railway Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

PENDLEBURY, MANCHESTER.—The re-dedication of the bells will take place on Saturday, March 28th, at 4.30 p.m., by the Lord Bishop of Manchester. The ring of eight has been tuned and rehung by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting at Sturry on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (6) 2.30. Ringing for all. Rounds to London. Service 4.30. Tea, free, by invitation of Sturry ringers and friends. Please send card to the Mr. French, Lamorbey, School Hill, Sturry. Please help to make this meeting a success.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25d, New Dover Road, Canterbury.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The adjourned Redbourne meeting will be held on Saturday, March 28th. Usual arrangements. Let us have a big meeting, but send a card to say you are coming. Important business.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Gravesend on Saturday, March 28th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30 p.m. Numbers for tea to reach me by March 25th.—G. A. Card, Hon. Sec., 7, Gilstead Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual committee meeting will be held in the Chapter House, Christchurch, Oxford, on Saturday, March 28th, at 3.15 p.m. Any notices of motion or applications for restoration grants should be in the general secretary's hands before March 7th.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Nutfield (6 bells) on Saturday, March 28th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. in Club Room, High Street. All ringers welcome. Will all those intending to be present please notify me by Tuesday, March 24th?—W. Claydon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Chartfield Road, Reigate.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Newnham-on-Severn, Easter Monday, April 13th. Notice must be given of additions, alterations or deletions to rules by March 16th. Notice already given to amend rules concerning peal ringing members. Notice also given of proposal that the general rules be revised. Management committee will meet at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester, on Saturday, March 14th, at 3.15 p.m. Gloucester Branch dinner, 3s., follows at 6 p.m.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol, 2.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The fifty-sixth annual general meeting will be held at Westerham on Easter Monday. Service, luncheon, business meeting. The revised rules, copies of which have been forwarded to all towers in union, will be presented for confirmation (or otherwise). Election of four representatives to serve on the Central Council. Nominations before 31st March. Full particulars later.—Fred. M. Mitchell, General Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

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