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A 'SPLICED' DECISION.

The Central Council settled the question of the definition of a 'spliced peal' with an unexpected amount of unanimity. It was one of those subjects which might easily have dragged on for years, like the Minor discussion, but, with the leading protagonists coming to agreement beforehand—'splicing' their ideas, so to speak—a good deal of controversial ground was cut away and a fairly plain issue left to the meeting. Any combination of methods will now be recognised as 'spliced,' as long as the splicing takes place at the lead ends, but peals of Treble Bob in which, say, Oxford and Kent places are both made within the same 'lead,' will not be recognised as 'spliced.'

As far as we can see there is only one flaw in the decision arrived at. A good deal of insistence was laid upon the joining together of the methods in complete, 'fundamental units,' which in treble dominated methods is the 'lead.' Unless this is done, a touch or peal, the Council has said, cannot be called 'spliced.' But if the methods are joined up when the treble is behind instead of in front—and someday, perhaps, some composer may come along with such a peal; indeed we believe a peal of Surprise Royal with the change of method sometimes made when the treble is behind is already in existence—we cannot see how it can be denied the title of 'spliced.' The joining together of methods in this way may be abhorrent to some purists, but in our view it is none the less 'splicing,' and 'splicing' in a more difficult form. Moreover if the treble goes from back to front and back again it produces all the work of the method equally as well as the ordinary lead does, so that there could be no ambiguity about what is rung, which is one of the things the proposers were anxious to ensure. Or again, if, as we were told, the changing of the method at the back produces a new, albeit 'irregular' method, within the treble lead, what matters it? It will only add to the number of methods in the peal! And this opens up the question which we think the sponsors of the resolution carried by the Council were anxious to avoid. If it were admitted that methods, joined when the treble is at the back, are 'spliced,' how can, say, the Ilkeston arrangement of Treble Bob be ruled out, supposing, as could easily be the case, the change from Kent to Oxford or vice versa, is called when the treble is behind?

As a matter of fact, now that practically all peals in more than one method are to be recognised as 'spliced'; whether the change of method occurs once or a hundred times in the peal, the word 'spliced' has lost all or nearly all its value in this connection; indeed, it had almost lost it before it was discussed by the Council. It was introduced at a time

(Continued on page 414.)

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when there was an idea afoot in one or two places that, in the interests of variety, more than one method might be rung in a 720 of Minor or a peal of Major irrespective of the truth of the whole, and when it was shown that peals could be got on the multi-method plan and still remain true the word 'spliced' was introduced to distinguish this class of composition. In these days, when no one in their senses would think of ringing a number of methods in a 720 or a five thousand unless they believed the peal to be true, the word 'spliced' could easily be dropped, for the names of the methods and the number of changes from one to the other would be quite sufficient to indicate the type and quality of the performance.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, June 18, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

JAMES S. EASTWOOD Treble	SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ... 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 8
FRANK E. HAYNES 3	HOWARD HOWELL 9
DANIEL T. MATKIN 4	BERT HORTON 10
FRANCIS E. DAWE 5	THOMAS J. ELTON 11
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 6	WILLIAM A. WALKER ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by FRANCIS E. DAWE.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 12 lb. in D.

*ALBERT J. ADAMS Treble	WILLIAM SIMMONDS 6
ARTHUR C. OTWAY 2	ARTHUR H. SMITH 7
ALFRED H. WINCH 3	JOHN HOYLE 8
GEORGE MARRINER 4	ALBERT HARMAN 9
FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... 5	WILLIAM G. NEWBURY ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by A. H. WINCH.

* First peal on ten. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Phyllis Coleridge (daughter of the esteemed Vicar of Leatherhead) and Mr. Dudley Hooper.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHIDDINGSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, June 10, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

CHARLES COOK Treble	GEORGE EDWARDS 5
ERNEST H. EVEREST 2	HARRY SEAL 6
ALBERT LONGLEY 3	ARTHUR WILES 7
HAROLD HUNTLEY 4	LESLIE EVEREST Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST H. EVEREST.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Albert Aylward, a member of the local band. The ringers of the 5th and 6th are past members of the local band.

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CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 13, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Walls,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE SPERRING 2	*EDWARD V. RODENBURST ... 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	*JAMES SWINDLEY 6
*FRED HARTMAN 3	SAMUEL JONES 7
*GEORGE R. JONES 4	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Composed by JAMES MORGAN.

Conducted by R. SPERRING.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the 45th anniversary of the reopening of the church.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 13, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

*WALTER HOWARD Treble	FRANK TWIGG 5
JOHN WORTH 2	WILLIAM FERNLEY 6
JAMES FERNLEY 3	JAMES A. MILNER 7
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 4	WILFRED STEVENSON Tenor

Composed by KENNETH LEWIS.

Conducted by W. STEVENSON.

* First peal at first attempt. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. F. Jones and Miss A. Hutton, who were married at the above church prior to the peal. Mr. Jones is a service ringer at Norbury. This composition, now rung for the first time, contains the 24 4-6-8's.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, June 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

T. HARRY WOOTTON Treble	GEORGE W. BLANCHARD ... 5
GEORGE LADD 2	W. MARTIN WALKER 6
A. HAROLD EASTOE 3	FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 7
JOHN B. HALLIFAX 4	RUPERT RICHARDSON Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON

The above band are all churchwardens, and it is believed to be the first time a band of churchwardens have rung a peal. They are all resident members of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild and hail from Fulney, Pinchbeck, Barton-on-Humber, Fleet, Bigby, Ulceby, Blankney and Surfleet respectively. The peal was arranged and rung as a special compliment to the oldest churchwarden in England, Mr. George Jarvis, of Spalding, Lincs, who celebrated his 100th birthday on May 29th, and was rung in the oldest tower in Lincolnshire, if not in England. The tower celebrates its 1,268th 'birthday' in August.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

RICHARD E. JONES Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
KENNETH LEWIS 2	LIONEL CLOUGH 6
JAMES FERNLEY 3	WILLIAM FERNLEY 7
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 61).

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

Arranged for the wedding of P.C. S. Hough, of Knutsford, to Miss I. J. Williamson, which took place prior to the peal at the above church. The bridegroom is a member of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

LLANTRISANT, GLAM.

THE LLANDAFT AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH LOVETT Treble	JOHN EVANS 5
JOHN DARCH 2	REGINALD WESTCOTT ... 6
*ERNEST STITCH 3	FRANK ROWSELL 7
HERBERT DAVIES 4	†ROBERT REES Tenor

Conducted by F. ROWSELL.

* 200th peal. † First peal. Arranged and rung to celebrate the silver wedding of the conductor and Mrs. Rowsell, also as a birthday compliment to J. Lovett and the father of the ringer of the 3rd.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lb.

*THOMAS SIMMONDS Treble	WILLIAM FLATT 5
GEORGE HOWLEY 2	RUSSELL RICHES 6
ERNEST WHITING 3	GEORGE POYNIZ 7
STANLEY COPLING 4	CHARLES LOOME Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD.

Conducted by E. WHITING.

* First peal in the method.

SONNING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in E flat.

ERNEST J. TAYLOR Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
GEORGE MARTIN 2	Rev. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... 6
REGINALD W. REX 3	HARRY WINGROVE 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	TONY PRICE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew, Holborn,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS Treble	WILFRED WILLIAMS 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... 6
JAMES H. RIDING 3	JOSEPH MARKS 7
JACK M. CRIPPS 4	REUBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise in four methods. First peal of Spliced Surprise Major on the bells and by the society in the City of London. Rung for the wedding anniversary of the Rector and Mrs. Bedford and a birthday compliment to Miss Hilda E. Paice. This peal consists of 2,880 London, 768 Bristol, 736 Superlative and 704 Cambridge, with 126 changes of method, and is now rung for the first time.

NEWHEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

FRANK LAWTON Treble	J. ALWYN TAYLOR 5
JOHN MEADOWCROFT 2	VERNON SYKES 6
JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. 3	OGDEN MOORES 7
*ERNEST B. SYKES 4	IVAN KAY Tenor

Conducted by VERNON SYKES.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the birth of a son to the Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Keeling, the Vicarage, Newhey, and also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Sykes, mother of the ringers of the 4th and 6th.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SOUTH WEALD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 16, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores in 10 different callings.

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK WOODS Treble	ROBERT C. HEAZEL 4
LESLIE H. THRIFT 2	ALBERT E. PRYKE 5
ARTHUR RAINBIRD 3	EDWARD C. SHARPLIN ... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT C. HEAZEL.

Rung on the occasion of the coming-of-age of Mr. Christopher Tower, of Weald Hall, South Weald.

WALPOLE ST. ANDREW, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 16, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Single Court, Double Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	CECIL EBBERSON 4
FRED WIGMORE 2	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM 5
WALLACE COUSINS 3	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Conducted by FRED WIGMORE.

WALTHAM-ON-THE-WOLDS, LEICS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, June 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*J. HARRY COOK Treble	*HUGH BELL 4
*REGINALD A. ALEY 2	HARVEY E. BURRELL 5
*HARRY ALEY 3	VERNON TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by V. TAYLOR.

* First peal in the method.

COSTESSEY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edmund,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, in ten variations of calling.

Tenor 11½ cwt. (approx.) in G.

GEORGE MAYERS Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 3
*ERNEST G. SHORTING 2	†ROBERT W. BARBER, JUN. 4
†CLIFFORD BIRD Tenor	

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Doubles. ‡ First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

*WILLIAM F. WOODWARD ... Treble	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 4
*J. EDWARD CLOUGH 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
PERCIVAL W. GRICE 3	FRANK R. MEASURES Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal of Minor.

BRANSTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 20, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent each of College Single, St. Clement's, Double Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Single Court and Oxford Bob.
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

FREDERICK W. STOKES ... Treble	G. LESLIE A. LUNN 4
MOSES BILLINGS 2	HERBERT LOWMAN 5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE 3	JOHN WALDEN Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. STOKES.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 21, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Plain Bob, two 720's of Canterbury Pleasure and 2,880 of Grandsire, being six 240's each of Pitman's and Morris'.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*PRIOR L. HUGHES Treble	G. JAMES R. PRICE 4
†JAMES P. HYETT 2	JAMES T. RANDLE 5
*ALBERT E. JONES 3	JOSEPH T. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in three methods. † 200th peal for the Hereford Guild.

HANDBELL PEAL.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, June 19, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At 28, FIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE AND BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Umpire—Stephen H. Hoare.

The peal consisted of 2,688 London, 1,056 Bristol and 672 Cambridge and Superlative, with 111 changes of method. The umpire checked every lead-end throughout the peal.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS JOIN FORCES.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting was held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday week, ringers being present from Sunderland, Gateshead, Darlington, Newcastle, Tanfield, Fenham, Blackhill, Benfieldside, Houghton-le-Spring and the local tower. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to Cambridge Surprise and Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob.

After tea Mr. Titt, of Darlington, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and stated that they were all very pleased to have the clergy amongst them at their meeting. He expressed regret that the Eastern District secretary was not present owing to having another engagement.

Mr. Taylor, association secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for providing the splendid tea, and Mrs. F. Sheraton suitably replied.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. R. L. Patterson, of Sunderland, the vice-president of the Eastern District.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

BURLEY BELLS.

The June meeting was held at Burley on Saturday. The bells were available from 3 p.m., and good use was made of them until 8 o'clock, at which time ringing had to stop. The church at Burley has been encircled by houses which are built right up to the churchyard. The efforts of the local company are to be commended, for they have successfully reduced the noise emanating from the bell chamber. The bells are very pleasing to the ear, when one is approaching the church.

The business meeting was held in the tower, Mr. J. Hey (vice-president) being in the chair. Members were present from Armley, Bramley, Brighouse, Calverley, Drighlington, Guiseley, Holbeck, Headingley (St. Michael's and St. Chad's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Rothwell, Shipley, Sutton-on-Hull and the local company.

The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local ringers was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Mr. F. Dixon.—Mr. George W. Slack replied for the Vicar and ringers and drew the members' attention to some old documents which were framed and had been presented to the tower by Mr. W. Whittaker. The Vicar of Burley had had these reprinted in the Parish Magazine and had sent a number of copies to the tower for the visiting ringers.

The date of the meeting had been brought forward, and the Western Division secretary of the Yorkshire Association wished to thank the members and the secretary for holding the gathering a week earlier in order to avoid clashing with the Bingley meeting.

The date of the next meeting of the Leeds and District Society is July 25th, and the place is Drighlington.

SUSSEX RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On May 29th, Mr. T. Stringer, of Burgess Hill, Sussex, celebrated his golden wedding. Although for the last year or two Mr. Stringer has been unable to ring at the local tower owing to ill-health, his keen interest in the bells has never slackened, and it was with the greatest pleasure that some of his old ringing friends met him again on this pleasant occasion. As one of the original members of the Sussex County Association he will always be remembered for the great tradition which he instituted in the earliest days of organised ringing in the county and the huge amount of thankless spade work put in at the surrounding towers.

In the evening the bells were rung to a quarter-peal of Stedman, Mr. Stringer's favourite method: Arthur Gravett 1, Frank I. Hairs 2, George Williams 3, William J. Webb 4, Stanley E. Armstrong 5, Keith Hart 6, John Dearlove (conductor) 7, John T. Toms 8.

After the ringing a very pleasant entertainment took place, the golden wedding cake sampled, and tales of the old days told over again.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.**NINETEEN TOWERS IN ONE DAY.**

A most enjoyable and interesting day's outing was spent by a party of 'tower snatchers' in the Oxford Diocese on Whit Monday. Five of the band, comprising W. Henley, Miss K. E. Fletcher, J. Harrison and T. Price, in a car, and R. G. Cross, on a motor-bike, left Beaconsfield at 7.15 a.m. on the run to Stewkley, near Bletchley, which was reached at 8.15. Here J. E. F. Tredennick was added to the band, the Norman church visited, and a course of Cambridge rung on the rather deafening six (tenor 13 cwt.), which went fairly well considering the ancient frame.

The next tower was Great Brickhill, where a very fine peal of six (tenor 14½ cwt.) was found, and Cambridge and Double Court rung. After visiting Milton Keynes, where 360 Double Court was rung on the recently augmented ring of six (tenor 9 cwt.), the little company went on to Simpson, where Mr. C. W. Smith met the party. Touches were rung on the six bells (tenor 8 cwt.), and Mr. Smith decided to join the tour. A move was made to Woughton-on-the-Green, with 'Smithy' in the car and Tredennick on the back of Gordon's bike, which had developed clutch trouble, necessitating various forms of run and jump starts, ending with fearsome getaways, which became more startling as the day went on. At Woughton, where is a very light six (tenor 6 cwt.), several touches were rung, then to Great Linford, where hangs another fine six (tenor 15½ cwt.). At North Crawley lunches were consumed before ringing on the six bells (tenor 12 cwt.) that hang in this rather lofty tower and are rung from the ground floor. Chicheley (six, tenor 16 cwt.), Sherington (five bells, tenor 11 cwt.), and Emberton, famous for Surprise Minor (six bells, tenor 10 cwt.), were in turn visited and touches rung at each tower.

The next call was Clifton Reynes, with a nice six also about 10 cwt., and touches here were much enjoyed. The Rector of Clifton Reynes is also in charge of Newton Blossomville, where, according to 'Belfry Gossip' (May 15th, 1936), 120 changes were rung on tower bells in 3 mins. 5 secs. In case the party wished, the Rector had kindly arranged for the visitors to have a ring on the peal of three bells at this last-mentioned church. Always ready for a fresh tower, the band stopped and hurriedly 'snatched' this one, which was an 'extra' in the programme. The verger came along and was unable to credit that the band had rung six different changes, explaining that the second could only come either after the treble or before the treble, making two changes, and the tenor had to be last. He had been ringing there for 20 years. However, further information regarding the high speed 120 would be interesting.

The party then went on through Turvey, Beds, to Lavendon, and the five bells (tenor 11 cwt.) were rung to Grandsire and Stedman. The fourth was hung in such a way that it appeared to be either cracked or strangled, and was nearly a semi-tone sharp, anyway. Going on next to Weston Underwood, the band found a really lovely six (tenor about 11 cwt.), and, after Double Court and Stedman Doubles, sat down to an excellent tea which the Rev. J. F. Amies had kindly arranged. The band were pleased to see him for a few minutes' chat before leaving. Stoke Goldington (five bells, tenor 14 cwt.) was visited on the way to Hanslope. The stately tower and spire at this latter place is the tallest in Bucks, the tower rising some 110ft. and the spire a further 90ft. The bells are a fine six, tenor somewhat over the ton. Three of the visitors had had the pleasure of a peal here a year ago. The tour was finished by taking in the towers at Calverton (six, tenor 10 cwt.), Old Wolverton (six, tenor 12 cwt.) and Bradwell (six, tenor 6 cwt.). By the time the party reached home there was not much change out of Whit Monday.

The main features of the outing were the general welcome met everywhere from both clergy and ringers, and the yards and yards of rope below the sally at some towers. In one instance the odd man out held it for the touch.

All the towers had been written for, all were speedily granted and there were many invitations for the future. Altogether a most successful venture, which covered 19 towers in the day! T. P.

YORKSHIREMEN'S EXTRA DAY.

On Whit Monday the B.B.C. announcer said 'The last day of the holiday is over,' but he evidently did not know that the North has another day's holiday. The Armley ringers and friends from Bramley and Burley will all remember Whit Tuesday, 1936, when they had their annual outing and visited Helmsley, Pickering and Scarborough. Leaving Armley at 7 a.m., they travelled by Wetherby and through Tadcaster and York, and arrived at Helmsley to find the local secretary ill in bed, but ready with a welcome. It is hoped by this time he is well on the way to complete recovery. After ringing a service touch for 10 a.m. Holy Communion, the party set off to Pickering and found the local secretary and two ringers awaiting them. Ringing is done here on the ground floor of the church, and must be very useful for the ringers who carry a little weight, or those who are nearly always late. The visitors were joined by Mr. T. Kendall, of Shipley, and Mr. Malcolm Moorhouse, who was there with a choir trip on the way to Whitby. After an hour's ringing and a break for lunch, the journey to Scarborough was continued. Reaching this popular resort, the party divided up, the ringers going to the tower and enjoying some ringing, while the ladies and children went to the beach. Although the sands of time were travelling fast, the Scarborough sands were still there when the fathers found their children by the water's edge.

After giving the kiddies some professional help, it was time for a donkey ride and the usual 'snap.' A splendid tea was enjoyed, and a very fine journey home brought 'That's all' at 11 p.m.

A TRIP INTO THREE COUNTIES.

The Heston, Middlesex, ringers, together with their wives and ringing friends, had their 'hardy annual' on Whit Monday. In a comfortable motor-coach they started at 8.30 a.m. and travelled to Warnham, Sussex, which was reached two hours later. 'Grandpa's' touch of 'cock-eyed' Stedman opened the proceedings, other methods including Oxford Bob Triples, but were the singles orthodox for the member of the C.C. present? In a subsequent touch of Stedman a member of the Police Guild roamed off his beat, thought himself a speed cop and arrived in 4.5 too soon.

Warnham was left regretfully at 12 o'clock, the next place of call being Turners Hill. After a hasty lunch in the well-appointed village inn, a nice handy eight fit to ring for half a day was found in the tower. E. O. S., however, did not take his party over the hill into the wilderness of spliced or laminated as was expected. Just 'plain stuff' was rung, Bob Major going very well. During the fall in peal a listener outside heard what he thought to be claps of thunder—or was it the echo of the fall?

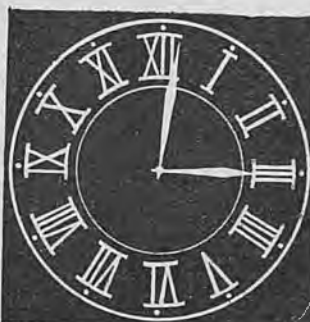
Moving further eastwards, Coleman's Hatch was reached slightly behind schedule time. Among other touches, a course of Kent Treble Bob was the treat. Going still east, a good run brought the party to Speldhurst, Kent. Shortly after arrival, the Vicar of Heston put in an appearance in his car, complete with chauffeur tenor-man. After an hour's ringing, a happy party of 38 (including the Rector of Speldhurst) sat down to tea in the Old Oak Room of the George and Dragon. Afterwards, in the forecourt, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the 'Flower Pots,' which brought forth, and merited, applause.

It was somewhat difficult to round up the company from the very extensive Rectory garden, and the tourists arrived at Bletchingley, Surrey, nearly an hour late. Here they found heavier bells than at the other towers, a tenor about 19 cwt., a fairly long draught of rope and no guides. Among other touches, the best 'brass hats' that could be mustered rang a course of Double Norwich, with someone counting the faults. No prize was offered or won. One of the said 'brass hats' could not manage a subsequent touch of Oxford Bob Triples, and a study of the Beginners' column in 'The Ringing World' could be made with advantage. The (ringing) day finished with a short touch of Grandsire, conducted by the sole representative of the Ladies' Guild present. No singles were called, as the majority of the band are married, and her name is not Kate. Heston was reached safely about 11 p.m., and the best thanks are due to Mr. H. C. Chandler, who did all the work in organising this outing.

A BUSY WHIT SUNDAY.

At Apsley End, Herts, on Whit Sunday, for 7 a.m. service, 720 Westminster Surprise: W. Feasey 1, W. J. Puddifoot 2, A. V. Good 3, H. L. Waite 4, F. J. Tompkins 5, W. Ayre (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by all. For 11 a.m. service, 720 Norfolk Surprise by the same ringers; first in the method by all.

In the afternoon, after the christening of the infant son of Mr. A. V. Good, 720 Norwich Surprise: H. E. Good 1, W. J. Puddifoot 2, C. W. Woolley 3, H. L. Waite 4, W. J. Randall (conductor) 5, W. Ayre 6. For 6.30 p.m. service, 720 York Surprise: W. Feasey 1, W. J. Randall 2, W. J. Puddifoot 3, H. L. Waite 4, F. J. Tompkins 5, W. Ayre (conductor) 6. The first in the method by all. A 720 Hull Surprise was also attempted after evensong, but failed to materialise.

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FOR BEGINNERS.

CALLING BOB MAJOR FROM A WORKING BELL.

To apply the knowledge, gained in calling Bob Minor from a 'non-observation' bell, to Bob Major is not a very difficult task. In Major it is only in 'freak' touches that the tenor is not used as the observation bell, so that the actual calls are made according to the position of the tenor, which, for the most part, are four only. There can, of course, be calls in the other three positions in the course, but either of them will 'part the tenors'—that is, the seventh will cease to course after the tenor, and some other bell or bells will be inserted between them. There are musical arrangements of coursing order without the seventh behind the tenor, but generally ringers prefer to hear the 7 and 8 come up in their sequence together behind and to keep them as far as possible at their natural interval as they pass among the other bells.

The conductor who first wants to try his hand at calling from a non-observation bell is, therefore, well advised if he sticks at first to calling bobs when the tenor is in one or other of the four positions which leave the 7th undisturbed in its relation to the tenor. These positions are Middle (6-5, down), Home (8-7, down) and Wrong (7-8, up), to put them in the order in which they occur, and Before (when the tenor is called to run out, after coming to lead in front of the treble).

One of the things which the budding conductor should master, whatever bell he rings, is the ability, first of all, to remember the coursing order of the bells and see to it that they keep to it; and then to be able to anticipate the change of coursing order which will occur when he calls the next bob, so that, if any trip occurs in the making of it or immediately after, he can pick up the bells without hesitation and with certainty.

He need not wait to reach this final stage before he thinks of calling from a non-observation bell, but can attempt it as soon as he can see the coursing order of the bells as they are ringing.

To call the tenor into any of the positions named should be quite an easy thing if the conductor is himself coursing immediately in front of the tenor (when he is 6th's place bell) or behind the seventh (when he is 5th's place bell). If he is 6th's place bell he is one dodging place in front of the tenor; if he is 5th's place bell he is one dodging place behind the 7th, which, in turn, is one place behind the tenor, so that a call at Middle brings the 5th's place bell into 7-8 up, a call at Home brings it into 5-6 up, a call at Wrong causes it to make the bob (the 4th's place, of course, being substituted for the dodge 3-4 (up)).

If he is the 6th's place bell, then the bob Middle causes him to run in, but a bob Home places him at M. (or 6-5 down) and a bob Wrong at H. (or 8-7 down). It will be noticed that unless the bob moves the bell away from its previous coursing place, the sequence of M. H. W. is maintained by the 5th and 6th place bells as well as the tenors.

There remains the bob Before as it affects these two bells. The 6th's place bell makes the bob and becomes 5th's place bell—coursing after the 7th, with the previous 5th's place bell immediately behind it. The 5th's place bell is called into 6-5 (down). A further call or calls in successive leads pushes these two bells back a place each time in the sequence M. H. W.

Now what of the others, the 3rd's, 2nd's and 4th's place bells in coursing order? It will not be long before you realise, if you have not already worked it out for yourself, that if a M. is to be called, the 3rd's place bell will dodge in 5-6 with the tenor at the bob; that the 2nd's place bell will have dodged with the 7th in 5-6 at the previous lead and that the 4th's place bell will have dodged with the tenor in 3-4 at the previous lead.

This warns you as to when the bob M. is coming, and when it arrives, the 2nd's place bell will make the bob (and become the new 6th's place bell); the 4th's place bell will run Out and the 6th's place bell will run In.

If bobs occur at succeeding leads, the bells, running In and Out, repeat the operation. If bobs occur exactly a course apart, that is if a call M. succeeds a M., or a H. succeeds a H., or a W. succeeds a W., then, if you are one of the bells on the front, you call to your aid the cycle we wrote of a fortnight ago in connection with Bob Minor—In, Out, 4th's.

We have given you hints as to how to pick up your own position when calling the tenor into some of the recognised bob places. We will not elaborate it, but we suggest that you work out for yourselves the many guides which you will find that careful investigation gives you. There is often more advantage in working out these things than in trying to remember a lot of details other people may tell you. Here is the kind of thing to look for: Suppose you have bobs at W. and M. We have shown that the 5th's place bell makes the bob at W. The same bell will make the bob M., and become the 6th's place bell. The bell that runs Out at the W. (having become 5th's place bell) dodges in 7-8 with the 7th at the M., and the bell that runs In dodges in 5-6 with the tenor. We mention this particularly because the gap between W. and M. is often found the most difficult to bridge.

BELL BROADCASTS.

MUSICAL QUALITIES OF BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is quite natural that, as ringers and change ringers, we should be primarily concerned about the striking of the performances put on the air. But we should not overlook a matter of equal importance even to us, and certainly to the listeners-in, namely, the musical qualities of the rings of bells to be selected.

However good or bad the striking, it is for the occasion only, whereas the tunefulness or the reverse of the bells concerned remains to enhance or impair the efforts of generations of ringers. To stress this is to emphasise the obvious, yet it does not seem to have occurred to anybody, during the Council's discussion, to point out its bearing upon the question.

May I, with due deference to the Council, suggest that a way out of the present impasse may be found by giving due weight to this and related factors, e.g., the 'going' of the bells concerned? So long as the question is sought to be decided only by the merits of the ringers in the local bands, any judgment must be invidious in the highest degree, and as such will be keenly resented, however justified it may be. But if we broaden the basis of rejection, and more especially if we bring in such impersonal factors as I have indicated, we should short-circuit all opposition at the start.

Nobody can reasonably object to a determination upon the part of the whole Exercise to give the B.B.C. the best of which we, as ringers, and our good friends the bellfounders are capable, and to give only of our and their best. By bracketing both the bells and their ringers together in this way, as we ought, we likewise escape the odium of seeking to set up a pillory in which the inefficient may be pelted.

The ultimate solution must be some sort of advisory committee to the B.B.C., which would either select towers that might be called upon as required, or else pass an opinion upon proposed broadcasts week by week. This solution will be agreed to more readily when we allow purely personal considerations to sink back into the obscurity from which they should never have been permitted to emerge in open discussion, and when we have our committee set up it will, of course, be armed with full powers to fade out on the spot any performance not up to standard.

A. J. CORRIGAN.

North Stoneham, Hants.

B.B.C.'s APPROACH TO YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest the various criticisms expressed in connection with the above subject. Perhaps my experience of the B.B.C. will be of interest to readers.

Some time during the latter part of March or the beginning of April I had a letter from the B.B.C. in connection with the series of broadcasts entitled 'The Ringing Isle,' stating that they had already broadcast from a number of Lancashire churches and wished to include a few Yorkshire churches in their future broadcasts of the same series. Selby Abbey had been suggested to them as a suitable tower, did I think the local ringers would do justice to the Yorkshire Association? If not, would I suggest one or two alternative towers? I replied that I thought Selby would do justice to the association, and named two towers as worthy of the opportunity of broadcasting if and when the opportunity occurred. Pudsey was one of the towers named (Pudsey ringing is a byword in Yorkshire and their Sunday service ringing in the standard Surprise methods is unexcelled anywhere), and I think their effort was an example of all that is best in change ringing, apart from the slight trip half-way.

In this series of bell broadcasts the B.B.C. has, as its chief consideration, the ability of the ringers taking part, and the thanks of the Yorkshire Association is due, and has been conveyed, to the B.B.C. for their courtesy in approaching them on this subject.

In this week's issue of 'The Ringing World,' Mr. Lewis is reported as having heard four broadcasts from Yorkshire in 'The Ringing Isle' series at the time of the Central Council meeting, but I was not aware there had been any such broadcast from the county apart from Selby.

J. E. CAWSE, Hon. Gen. Sec.,
Yorkshire Association.

WIDE APPRECIATION OF PUDSEY BROADCAST.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of the Pudsey St. Lawrence company, I thank all those who have sent congratulatory messages to the Vicar, 'The Ringing World' and to me, on our recent broadcast. It is indeed a pleasure to us to know that our efforts have been so widely appreciated.

We offer an unconditional apology to the Exercise for the slip at the 4th lead end; we make no excuses, but if we are invited again to be 'on the air' we shall do our utmost to wipe out the blemish.

In view of the fact that so much is heard nowadays of the objection to bells by certain members of the public, it may interest our ringing brethren to know that several expressions of appreciation have been made by non-ringers of different denominations who heard our bells on the wireless. One churchman, who lives in a parish where there are no bells, made the comment that we did not ring long enough!

W. BARTON.

Pembroke Road, Pudsey.

EXPLANATIONS WOULD HELP.

Sir,—Reading in your issue of the 12th inst. that a quarter-hour broadcast of the bells of Pudsey Parish Church was to be given on the North Regional, I tuned in to that station.

But it seemed to me a great opportunity lost. We were given a quarter of an hour to devote to bells, and what happened?

The bells started in rounds for about two minutes; then they were faded while the Vicar talked about the church, the only interesting thing he said being that Jasper Snowden rang or called his last peal on these bells. Then the bells came on again, and they had gone off into some Major method, which came out into rounds just before the end of the time.

But we were not told what the method was. It was a pretty one, but a non-ringer would have thought little of it, and would have attributed the pauses at the hand-stroke leads to faults.

If only there had been some explanation beforehand it might have helped to popularise the Exercise, and perhaps induced some young men to learn to ring.

W. H. R. TREWHELLA, Hon. Sec.,
Truro Diocesan Guild.

St. Paul's Vicarage, Truro.

THE BROADCASTS FROM LANCASHIRE.

Sir,—With reference to the criticism of the president of the Central Council regarding the two broadcasts from Lancashire, surely he does not expect us at Worsley to take his opinion too seriously? As to the comments of Mr. A. P. Smith, who considers the performance 'a disgrace to the Exercise,' I am afraid his memory must have somewhat failed him, but we consider it rather fortunate that the Exercise possesses ringers whose opinion is a little more reliable than his.

It is not very difficult to understand that the local band at Worsley do not possess the abilities of the band who rang the fine touch of Stedman Caters at Bristol, but surely neither of the two performances that we have broadcast from Worsley merits such an unwarrantable judgment as the president and Mr. A. P. Smith would have the readers of 'The Ringing World' believe.

JOSEPH H. RIDYARD.

35, The Crescent, Worsley.

POOR BROADCAST FROM CANTERBURY.

A correspondent from Bristol calls attention to the ringing at Canterbury Cathedral before the 'Aviation Service' on Saturday afternoon. For the most part, he says, it was terrible and a strong justification for the opinions expressed in 'The Ringing World.' It is a great pity, he adds, to have such a fine peal 'murdered' and put over the ether. It is a bad advertisement for change ringing.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**EASTERN DISTRICT MEMBERS ENTERTAINED AT NUNBURNHOLME.**

The quarterly meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Nunburnholme on Saturday, June 13th, and was attended by 38 ringers from Beverley Minster, Far Headingley, Hull, Hemingbrough, Market Weighton, Selby, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sutton-on-Hull, Pocklington and the local company, and an excellent attendance considering the cold wet weather.

Choral evensong was held in church, and the Rector (the Rev. C. H. Sellwood Godwin), in an interesting address, said he was taking the place of Canon Elsee, the late president of the Lancashire Association, who died suddenly on Good Friday, and who, as an old friend of the Rector, had promised before his death that he would attend the meeting and preach at the service.

Tea in the Guildhall was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rector presided.

A telegram sending 'best wishes and thanks' was sent to Mr. A. N. Wood, of Northampton, an old and most generous friend of the ringers, for his extreme kindness in sending money to defray the cost of the tea and the bus from Market Weighton to Nunburnholme. The vote of thanks to him was proposed by Mr. F. Cryer, seconded by Mr. R. H. Vigor and carried with loud applause, the only regret being that Mr. Wood was unable to be present.

Miss M. D. Hawley, of Sherburn-in-Elmet, was elected a member of the association on the motion of Mr. J. H. Howell, seconded by Mr. E. Wood.

An invitation to hold the September meeting at Hemingbrough was accepted.

The proposal to hold special practice meetings amongst four groups of towers in the York, Hull, Beverley and Pontefract areas was carried unanimously, it being hoped thereby to improve the ringing and encourage learners.

A vote of thanks to the Rector, proposed by the secretary and seconded by Mr. Vigor, was carried and responded to by the Rector, and a vote of thanks to the local company, proposed by Mr. West and seconded by Mr. Rodwell, was acknowledged by Mr. F. Wilkinson.

Market Weighton bells were rung in the evening.

The methods practised during the day were Cambridge Surprise, Kent, Oxford, Plain Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and College Exercise Minor, and Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday morning, May 31st, for 10 o'clock Holy Eucharist, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. Brown 1, W. Morey 2, C. Tyler 3, F. Parsons 4, F. Cruttenden 5, C. A. Barnes 6, G. Payne (conductor) 7, Peter Freeman (first quarter-peal) 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Earl of Shaftesbury, who is an active member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, has accepted the invitation to become an honorary member of the Central Council.

The ring of six bells of Bridestowe, Devon, is being rehung with new fittings in new framework by John Taylor and Co.

In connection with the annual meeting of the Ladies' Guild at Bath on July 11th, the Great Western Railway will issue tickets for a party of eight or over at 13s. 5d. return, and for 30 or over at 9s. return. If any members or friends are desirous of taking advantage of these reduced fares from London, will they please communicate with Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, before Saturday, July 4th?

The interesting old bells at Caunton, Nottinghamshire, are to be rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, provision being made for additions in the future.

Yes, they've done it again. Yet another Spliced Surprise Major peal in four methods on handbells by the Oxhey band, and the College Youths can add this one to their records. What would old Ben Annable, or even Henry Haley, have said to such a performance as this?

The Ancient Society also rang another in four methods on the following day. This was at St. Andrew's, Holborn, and was the first in four Spliced Surprise methods by the society in the City of London.

Mr. Albert D. Stone, who, for reasons of health, retired from the office of hon. secretary on Saturday, has served the Sussex County Association in office for half its existence. He was elected on the committee of the association in 1911, served as hon. secretary of the Central Division from 1912 to 1932, and as general secretary from 1924 to 1936. This is an excellent record of service, wholeheartedly given over a space of 25 years.

He learned to ring at St. Mary's, Portsea, and eventually reached St. Peter's, Brighton, in 1899, to which tower he has been attached ever since. His many friends will wish him improved health in the future. He has retired—but now he is not quite sure exactly what he will do without that which had become part of his daily life.

Lincolnshire churchwardens have achieved distinction by ringing a peal—probably the first in history by churchwardens. It was for a memorable occasion; it celebrated the one hundredth birthday of another Lincolnshire churchwarden—the oldest in the country.

KENT RING REHUNG.

A large congregation attended the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Boughton-under-Blean, near Faversham, Kent, for the rededication service of the rehanging peal of eight bells.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Leach), assisted by Mr. E. H. Steele, B.A. (lay reader), and an appropriate address was given by the Bishop of Dover. During the singing of the hymn following this, the clergy proceeded to the foot of the tower, where the dedicatory prayers were read by the Bishop and a few rounds were rung on the bells.

After the service the visiting ringers had an opportunity of trying out the bells, and the 'go' was much appreciated by all those present.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who have been responsible for the rehanging, were represented by Mr. A. A. Hughes, and ringers were present from Canterbury, Sturry, Ospringe, Wickhambreau, Throley and Faversham, together with the local band. The Kent County Association was represented by the Canterbury District representatives (Mr. F. G. Brett and Mr. Harrison Smith), with the district secretary (Mr. B. J. Luck).

THE CHANDLER BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The name of this old bellfounder, mentioned by your correspondent, reminded me of the two bells at Okeley, near Buckingham, the inscriptions of which I copied some years ago. They are as follows:—

1. 'Richard Chandler made me in 1674.'

2. 'Edward Hall made me in 1726.'

Moulton Vicarage, Northants.

J. MAURICE TURNER

MEMORIAL TO HETHERSETT RINGER.

THREE GENERATIONS OF TOWER MASTERS.

On Sunday afternoon, June 14th, a peal board was unveiled in St. Remigius' tower, Hethersett, Norfolk, recording a muffled peal rung to the memory of George Henry Moore, who was a member of the local company of ringers for 45 years and Master for 15 years.

Over sixty people attended the service. The ringers present included Messrs. A. L. Coleman (general secretary and treasurer of the Norwich Diocesan Guild), W. C. Duffield (chairman of the South Norfolk Branch), N. Golden (hon. secretary of the North and South Norfolk Branches and conductor of the memorial peal), and members from Bodham, Dersingham, Newmarket, Norwich, Rackheath, Saxlingham, Snettisham, Wroxham, Wymondham and the local company.

In his address, the Rector (the Rev. J. M. La F. McAnally) mentioned that three generations of Moores had held the office of Master of the local company of ringers. George Moore's heart always seemed to be in whatever work he was doing—in the garden, in the church as vergor or in the tower as ringer.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DECISION TO AFFILIATE TO CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Presentation for Former District Secretary.

The Sussex County Association decided on Saturday to become affiliated to the Central Council. They were the only association of importance that had not come in under the new rules, the committee having decided to leave action to the members at their annual meeting.

There was a representative attendance at the meeting, which was held at Brighton, and the weather was so hot that many members sat through the meeting in their shirt sleeves.

In the afternoon there had been ringing on the two excellent peals of ten at St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' Churches, and the special service was held at the latter church. It was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. L. N. Phillips, M.C., who gave a practical address on 'Service.'

Tea followed in St. Nicholas' Hall, where, afterwards, the meeting was held, presided over by the Master, Mr. H. R. Butcher.

GULF BETWEEN OLD AND YOUNG.

In the annual report the association's jubilee was referred to as the outstanding feature of the past year. The retirement of Mr. J. Thornton Rickman from the office of Master was received with great regret, and the association's appreciation of his valuable services during a number of years was recorded. 'Year by year,' continued the report, 'death removes from our midst some of our members, and we now have to mention, in particular, the passing of three with a very long record of membership, viz., Mr. E. C. Merritt, of St. Peter's, Brighton; Mr. G. B. Bleach, of St. Nicholas', Brighton; and Mr. H. Tomsett, of Lindfield. From various causes there appears to be a wide gulf between those who are passing and those who are coming on, and we strongly appeal to all to give these younger members the fullest support and encouragement. It is to them that we must look to carry on the work of the association and sustain the Sunday service ringing, and we would specially invite these younger members to make every possible effort to attend the meetings, in any division, and carry on the work of the association, bearing in mind that the association is one centralised whole, the divisions existing solely for more efficient organisation.'

The report concluded by extending the best thanks of the association to Mr. A. W. Groves, for 21 years' service as secretary of the Western Division, and expressed the hope that every support would be given to his successor, Mr. F. H. Meetens.

SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS.

Although £29 12s. was spent on the jubilee meeting, the accounts showed on the year's working a deficit of only £6 12s. The year began with a balance of £140 8s. 9d.; £66 14s. was contributed by the four divisions in respect of affiliated towers and members; £2 10s. in respect of non-resident members; £3 5s. hon. annual members and 18s. unaffiliated members. The receipts also included 6s. 6d. by sale of reports, £1 15s. 10d. interest, and £1 16s. transferred from reserve fund. The expenditure amounted to £83 17s. 4d., which included the divisional expenses. The balance at the end of the year was £133 16s. 9d. The reserve fund stood at £50. Two grants had been made from the Benevolent Fund, the balance in which stood at £80 12s. 11d., compared with £79 12s. in the previous year. There was also a balance of £3 1s. on the certificate account. The association thus had balances in hand amounting to £267 10s. 8d. at the end of the year.

The report and balance sheet were adopted without discussion.

The Master referred to the absence through illness of Mr. G. W. Stokes, the hon. treasurer, and the secretary was asked to convey to him the sympathy of the meeting and good wishes for a speedy recovery.

The Master also referred to the deaths of old members mentioned in the report, and as an expression of sympathy with the relatives the members stood in silence.

The peals secretary, Mr. F. I. Hairs, reported that 77 peals were rung during 1935, an increase of 33 over the preceding year and the highest total for six years. The peals were rung in 35 different towers, Southover and Crawley topping the list with nine each. There were 26 conductors, Mr. Frank Bennett having the highest number to his credit, viz., 18, and Mr. Oliver Sippetts 16. Twenty-two members rang their first peal and two called their first peal. The total number of peals rung by the association was now over 3,000, the three thousandth having been a peal of Superlative rung at Rotherfield and conducted by Mr. A. Wingfield Durham.

The Bishop of Chichester, president, was re-elected, as were also the vice-presidents: The Bishop of Lewes, the Archdeacons of Chichester, Hastings and Lewes, Canon J. C. H. How (Vicar of Brighton), the Rev. W. A. Armstrong, and Mr. F. B. Tompkins (Chichester) and Mr. J. Thornton Rickman (Brighton), former Masters.

Mr. H. R. Butcher was re-elected Master and Mr. G. W. Stokes hon. treasurer.

HON. SECRETARY'S RESIGNATION.

Mr. A. D. Stone, who has held the office of hon. general secretary for a number of years and first took up office as a divisional secretary 24 years ago, since when he has been continuously discharging secretarial duties, resigned office on the grounds of ill-health. His resignation was received with regret, and he proposed as his successor the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. S. E. Armstrong). This was seconded by Mr. K. Hart and carried unanimously.

Mr. F. I. Hairs was re-elected peals secretary, and the auditors (Messrs. W. Hart and N. Elliott) and the trustees (Messrs. F. B.

Tompkins, H. R. Butcher and F. W. Stokes) were all re-elected. A vote of thanks was accorded to the officers for their services.

CENTRAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION.

The new hon. secretary read a letter from the hon. secretary of the Central Council, in the form sent out to all societies, inviting the association to become affiliated to the Council and setting out the new rules under which the Council is now constituted. Mr. Armstrong said the matter had been before the committee, who did not feel competent to deal with it, and decided to refer it to the general meeting. He went on to refer in critical vein to the contents of the letter, and this brought up Mr. J. Parker, who said that the information asked for was to enable the Council, under the new rules, to know exactly how many members each association had and how many representatives each was entitled to elect.

Mr. F. W. Rogers (who is hon. secretary of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) explained that as the Council had been reconstituted under new rules, all were asked to apply for affiliation, and a letter exactly similar to that read by the hon. secretary was sent to every society. The information asked for was to bring the records of the Council up to date.

Mr. Parker explained that the Sussex Association had always been entitled to four members.

The Hon. Secretary: But there is no need to elect four.

Mr. Parker: No, but under the new rules you have got to pay for four (laughter).

The hon. secretary then pointed out that if they agreed to the Central Council's rules to elect members triennially at least one month before the Council meeting, they would have to alter their own rules, which said that all officers must be elected annually, and the date of their annual meeting.

Mr. F. Bennett said they always had elected their Central Council representatives for three years.

Mr. Rogers said when they had elected representatives they served for three years, no matter what the association's rules said.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith said he thought the criticisms of the hon. secretary were largely quibbles. What the association had to decide was whether they would affiliate to the Central Council, under the Council's rules, or remain outside. There was nothing they were asked to do which could not be done within the framework of their own rules. The Council stood in its relationship to the associations exactly as the Sussex Association stood to its own affiliated towers. The association expected its members to abide by the rules, and that was all the Central Council asked its affiliated members to do, and it was a fair and proper request. The Council co-ordinated the work of ringers throughout the country and tried to direct progress into the right channels. It did not interfere with the domestic affairs of the associations, but it carried weight in official quarters such as no individual association could exercise. The Sussex Association was the only association of importance that had not yet affiliated and accepted the new rules, and he urged them, for the sake of their own position, dignity and prestige, to come into line with the rest of the associations of the country.

Mr. F. I. Hairs proposed that the association should become affiliated with the Central Council, accept the conditions loyally to abide by its rules and decisions, and elect four members.

Mr. A. W. Groves seconded.

Mr. A. D. Stone raised questions on several points which were answered by Mr. Goldsmith, and the motion, on being put, was carried without dissent.

It was suggested that the members elected should be chosen one from each division. This was accepted and the following were elected: Messrs. A. W. Groves (Western), H. R. Butcher (Northern), S. E. Armstrong (Southern) and F. W. Stokes (Eastern).

NEXT YEAR'S MEETING.

Four places were proposed for the next annual meeting, viz., Chichester, Hastings, Brighton and Horsham, and, on a vote, Chichester was chosen.

Mr. A. Levett suggested that the meeting should be held on either Easter or Whitsun Bank Holiday, as it was too much to expect members to travel from one end of the county to the other on a half-day.

The Master said the suggestion would be considered, but he pointed out difficulties in the way of either an Easter or Whitsun meeting, and Mr. H. J. Tucker said that, on account of a musical festival at the Cathedral, a meeting at Chichester on Whit Monday would be practically impossible.

On the motion of the Master, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of St. Nicholas' for the service, to the organist, and to the incumbents of all the churches where the bells had been placed at the disposal of the members.

Mr. Sippetts proposed that the thanks of the association to the retiring hon. secretary be recorded in the minutes for his services to the association.—Mr. Walter Charman seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously, together with a proposal by Mr. A. C. Pankhurst that in recognition of their services Mr. A. D. Stone and Mr. A. W. Groves be elected life members of the association.

FORMER DISTRICT SECRETARY'S LONG SERVICE.

At this point the Master made a presentation to Mr. Groves. He said they had had an address that day on 'Service.' That association had been fortunate in having in its ranks those who had and who were serving it well. There was one who had loyally worked for 21

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DEFINITION OF A SPLICED PEAL.

SINKING OF INDIVIDUAL VIEWS FOR A COMMON FORMULA.

A long-standing controversial point—the definition of a spliced method—was settled at the Central Council meeting by two of the keenest students of the problem joining forces and at the eleventh hour submitting a joint resolution in place of two individual motions.

Announcing the changes in the agenda, the President said he understood Mr. Hunt desired to withdraw his amendment, which was discussed and adjourned the previous year, and the proposers and seconders of Motions 14 and 15 (Mr. S. H. Wood and Mr. J. T. Dyke, and Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. E. C. S. Turner) would like to withdraw their motions and substitute the following:—

'That compositions which contain more than one method shall be called "Spliced," provided that the methods are so joined that the fundamental units of which they are constructed (i.e., the "Leads" in the case of Treble-dominated methods, the "Sixes" in the case of Stedman, Duffield and similar methods, etc.) remain intact.

'That reports of all Spliced Peals shall include a reference to the number of methods rung and the number of changes from one method to another during the peal.'

A QUESTION OF NOMENCLATURE.

The President emphasised that it was purely a question of nomenclature. There was nothing which blessed or blamed one method against another. He would like an expression of opinion as to whether the Council would allow them to substitute this motion. The Standing Committee would like the Council to agree to the changes.

This course was agreed to.

Proposing the resolution, Mr. S. H. Wood said, as they knew, on the original agenda there was a rather long and technical resolution. There was one resolution passed as an amendment last year; there was one other amendment and a hint of one or two more coming up. Those responsible, therefore, got together and remarked, 'If we are not very careful this is going to become an awful muddle, and we shall talk about it for hours and hours, and it will get beyond the point of being discussion and become a controversy' (laughter). If they could get something simple which combined the main points and put them before Council in a simplified form, they would be saving the Council's time and he thought it would be appreciated.

As to the resolution, part was the amendment he proposed last year and a part by the mover of the original resolution. There was a letter in 'The Ringing World' in the previous week in which it was stated that although the number of changes of method might be given, that did not indicate how difficult the peal was. Personally he thought the number of changes of method gave sufficient information.

As to the fundamental units, they would all see what they were getting at. How much of a method had they to put on paper to specify that method? Some people said one must ring the whole course, and unless they rung the whole course they had not rung the method. He did not agree with that. He submitted that what specified the method was one complete lead. If they looked at any Central Council publication they would find one complete lead and that satisfied them as to method. Some people might say, 'Why not half a lead?' The answer was 'No,' and he hoped that they would agree that to satisfy the method they must give one complete lead. They had covered that in the resolution by saying the fundamental units should be the 'leads' in the case of Treble-dominated methods; and in the case of Stedman, etc., it should be the sixes.

If they passed the resolution it would clear the matter up. As the President said, it was only a matter of nomenclature, and although under the resolution certain portions of Kent and Oxford could not be joined together and called 'spliced,' he would be the last person to say, 'You should not ring these peals.' In fact, he preferred to ring Kent and Oxford that way, but he thought when they were so rung it should be called a variation of Treble Bob.

Mr. C. T. Coles seconded the motion.

'MENTAL STABILITY.'

Mr. J. Hunt congratulated the people who moved that resolution for gaining 'their mental stability of mind.' He characterised the resolution as 'most ridiculous.' He wanted to ask this question. He distinctly said at Shrewsbury that he mentioned a peal rung by the Midland Counties Association in six methods, and that was called a combined peal. He took it that under the present resolution it would not be called spliced because there was Kent and Oxford in it.

Mr. P. J. Johnson thought that the resolution would clearly define, much more than in the past, the status of those peals. They in Yorkshire were landed in a great difficulty by the fact of a misunderstanding. They had people who combined leads of Oxford and Treble Bob and called it another method. The whole Exercise would feel that the people responsible for the resolution had displayed great sense and dignity in agreeing to this combined resolution.

Mr. Coles said the resolution that was put up last year by Mr. Turner and himself was drawn up with the help of many distinguished people in the Exercise. It seemed to them that it was necessary to define what a spliced peal was. When they tried to define a spliced peal there was a great deal of difference in the sort of things rung. This year they had approached the matter from a different point of view, realising that the resolutions were likely to be misconstrued.

Mr. Wood's amendment at Shrewsbury seemed to meet one point—to find out how intricate the peal was, and he would like to say that the number of changes of method generally denoted the intricacies of the peal. There might be slight exceptions, but it was correct to say the more changes of method the more intricate the peal became.

As to the basis of the resolution, they must confine themselves to the definition of a method in the Council's Rules and Decisions that 'each lead shall reverse true to itself.' There was no intention in the resolution to bar anything that had been rung or could be rung. As far as he was concerned he had every sympathy with people who ring Treble Bob and cut out the portions where the tenors were in the slow.

Mr. Coles referred to the peal in six methods by the Midland Counties Association, and said if Kent and Oxford were introduced into that peal, and if the units were broken, it would not come within this definition of a spliced peal.

Mr. A. H. Pulling asked, if it was possible to ring a peal of Spliced Major in which the changes of method were made when the treble laid its whole pull behind, whether that would be considered a spliced peal.

DESIRE FOR WHOLE METHOD.

Mr. J. A. Trollope replied that it was possible to change when the treble was behind, but pointed out that if such a course was adopted one did not get the whole of the work of the method. If only half the method was rung the band could not say they had rung that method. In theory they could change where they liked, but in that case, if the method was not completed, they only got a new method.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith asked, if a peal was rung with the whole of the changes of method made when the treble was behind, how would it be affected by the resolution? Would it be a 'spliced' peal?

Mr. G. Grover pointed out that the merit was in the performance and not in the name. He moved, as an amendment, that the words 'provided' to 'intact' be deleted from the resolution.

Mr. E. M. Atkins, who seconded, thought there was a great danger in passing the resolution because they were going to make it very difficult for what ingenious people might bring forward in the future. For a long time he had in mind the splicing of methods with the treble at the back. He could not see why they should not carry on as at present, but by making it clear in the reports as to what had taken place.

Mr. Warrington: If you are going to allow this with the treble behind, you cannot condemn methods of 1,700 with a single behind.

Mr. Trollope: If you begin splicing in the middle of the lead, all you do is to create another method. If you splice them in any other way than when the treble leads, you break them up entirely ('No, no'). If you keep on splicing you get a circular action. In a 720, if you keep on splicing, all you get in the end is a 720 of Original.

Mr. Hunt: You take Treble Bob Minor. You can ring a peal without any bobs. What happens if you ring a peal without any bobs and it is spliced? The Worcester variation of Treble Bob is rung without any bobs.

Mr. Holt: Can you supply us with a 720 Worcester Treble Bob Minor?

Mr. Hunt: The method is published.

Mr. Holt: When Worcester was invented the idea was to keep the tenors out of the hunt.

The President: I do not think any good will be done by going into the finer points.

Mr. Holt: If Worcester keeps the tenors out of the Slow, how can you get a 720 of Minor?

Replying to the amendment, Mr. Coles said there was nothing new in the ringing of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob combined. Records showed that in 1840 they called it Hudson's New Light on Treble Bob, and it was first rung at Sheffield St. Peter's. Whatever members of the Council thought, these peals, as rung in those days, were variations of Treble Bob and not spliced. As to splicing with the treble behind, the point those responsible for the resolution desired to make was that the splicing should take place at the lead-end. In doing it with the treble behind they were making an unsymmetrical method.

Mr. Wood, in amplification of the point, said in a lead of Cambridge Major if they left out the second's place they called in Primrose. If they rang the first half lead of Cambridge and spliced it with Primrose the work of some of the bells would not change. If the amendment was passed the resolution was cut down to the resolution which originally stood in his name. In view of the fact that two members of the Council had each given way and sunk their own views in order to please as many people as possible, it would be a mistake to turn down half of it and go back to one of the original resolutions, although it happened to be his.

The amendment only found 13 supporters and was defeated by a big majority.

SWINDON, WILTS.—As a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. S. Faulkner Allison, the local ringers of St. Mary's Church rang a quarter-peal of Doubles, seven different 120's of Grandsire and four different 120's of Plain Bob, on Friday evening, May 29th: A. C. Hollick (first quarter-peal) 1, J. S. Roberts (conductor) 2, P. V. Spackman (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, C. Watt 4, H. E. Brown 5, W. B. Greenaway 6.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 407.)

EFFORT TO REOPEN CHESTERFIELD TOWER.

The President presented the report of the Towers and Belfries Committee (which was printed in 'The Ringing World' of June 5th). Mr. Lewis said that members of the committee had carried out inspections in response to individual requests. The number of towers which had been dealt with, in some cases by inspection, in some cases by correspondence, was 18, excluding certain minor cases. Mr. Young had had one tower, Mr. Hunt three, Major Hesse had inspected five, and he (Mr. Lewis) had had nine cases to deal with. In the case of Chesterfield he was asked by the Midland Counties Association whether the committee could do anything to get the tower reopened for ringing. It had been condemned by the architect in spite of the fact that £5,000 had recently been spent upon it in restoration. He apologised to the members of the M.C.A. for having been somewhat slow in taking the matter up, but the letter was sent to him at a time when he was making weekly journeys to Scotland, and he could not deal with ringing matters at all. But eventually he wrote to the Vicar of Chesterfield and put the matter in general terms, because they had no details of the reasons why the architect had condemned the tower, nor did they know at that time the name of the architect. It was, therefore, rather difficult for them to 'butt in.' In writing to the Vicar, he finished up his letter by saying that the committee recognised they had no standing between the Church authorities and the architect, but willingly offered their services if, thereby, the bells could once more be rung as they were in the past. He got a reply from the Vicar saying he was grateful for the letter and adding that the trouble was rather accentuated by the fact that they had changed their architect. He (the Vicar) would try and find out what opinion the architect was acting upon, as his impression was that most architects were not experts in the matter of bells. The Vicar promised to bring the letter before the Church Council. That, said Mr. Lewis, was on April 8th, but he had heard nothing since. As soon as they heard something more from the Vicar of Chesterfield they would try and get a little further. He wanted to assure the Midland Counties Association that they were trying to do their best and do it tactfully without causing trouble.

SILENCERS FOR NOISY BELLS.

Referring next to the request that the committee should give some information about the Davis Silencers, which had been in use at Bishopsgate and Bromley Common, and which, he believed, were also in use at Kingsbury, Mr. Lewis said he went specially to Bromley Common to hear the effect of these silencers in operation. The church at Bromley Common was in a residential area and the bells were very loud outside. They were a fairly powerful Simpson-tuned ring and were distinctly loud inside the tower also. It had become almost impossible for the ringers to practise because of complaints. They had tried these silencers and were now able to practise weekly without any complaint worth speaking about. The silencers were in the nature of an ordinary muffle, except that the leather was not so thick and outside it was a plate of steel. The effect at Bromley Common was almost the same as if the bells were muffled, but there was a certain amount of metallic tap against the bell. Criticism of the silencers had been raised that they would be expensive, as they did not last long. His inquiries showed that they cost about £2 for a set of 16 (for silencing eight bells), that at Bromley Common they had been in use for 12 months and were practically as good as new. Those at Bishopsgate had been used for 44 peals and were still serviceable. He thought, therefore, the criticism was not well founded. The Towers and Belfries Committee agreed to recommend the use of such silencers as well worth trial in cases where the bells were a serious source of nuisance on practice nights. They did not take the place of properly blocking up the windows, where the windows should be blocked up to render the bells quieter at all times, but in cases where funds were not available for blocking the louvers, the silencers were very well worth trying, with this warning: The committee thought it desirable, before purchasing a complete set, that trials should be made with various samples of different thicknesses of leather and steel, because they felt that each tower required to be treated on its own merits. They could not prescribe a general medicine for them all.

Mr. S. F. Palmer, referring to the case of Chesterfield, said he had ascertained that a reawakened interest was being taken in the bells by prominent Chesterfield churchpeople and townfolk, and if the Council could follow the matter up now and continue to do so, there was great hope that the bells of Chesterfield would be heard again in the near future (hear, hear).

The report and recommendation were adopted and the committee reappointed as follows: Mr. E. H. Lewis (convener), Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. E. A. Young and Mr. J. Hunt.

OLD PEAL BOARDS.

On behalf of the committee which is collecting details of peal boards and other records relating to peals rung up to the year 1825, Mr. W. H. Hollier reported that the committee's appeal for information had brought to light interesting records. Among those from the Lancashire Association was an old book, kindly lent by Mr. G. R. Newton, containing 25 records of ringing by the Liverpool College Youths and other societies. Mr. William Willson sent two old books,

dated 1776 and 1779, recording peals rung by the Leicester Scholars. One of the records was as follows:—

'At Wakefield on Monday May the 12th 1788 were rung a Peal of Tripple bob Tripples 5040 changes called Wakefield delight in 8 courses complete. The same set of Ringers without changing a man or setting a bell began another peal of Oxford Single Tripples in twelve courses consisting of 5040 changes and called Wakefields Surprise, both these peals consisting of 10080 changes were performed including the raising and setting the bells in 7 hours and 1 minute and were rung with exactness and nice distinction an instance never before done in the Kingdom. What adds to the singularity of the performance there were Two Fathers, Five Sons, Five Brothers, Four Cousins, One Uncle, One Nephew, yet only eight persons and only two names.'

The Sheffield and District Society sent records of peals rung at Sheffield Parish Church, which include the first peal of Cambridge Surprise, 6,040 changes, rung in 4 hours 18 minutes, the first in this method ever rung in the country.

The Kent County Association records included peals rung at Christ Church Cathedral (Canterbury), at the Wye and Ashford towers, and a book kindly lent by Mr. Harry Hoskins, in which were records of 17 peals rung at Greenwich by the Kentish Youths and one by the Eastern Scholars. The first was rung on December 1st, 1732.

Other records came from the Woolwich tower, Waltham Abbey, Romsey Abbey, St. Mary's, Warwick, St. Mary's, Ealing, St. Mary's, Twickenham, St. Margaret's, Westminster, All Saints', Fulham, the Watford Youths, Lavenham, Suffolk, Carisbrooke and Newport (Isle of Wight), Newark, Oldham, Croston, Preston, Thaxted, Eye and Shrewsbury. Records by the Society of Bristol Youths had also been received, and the Leeds and District Society sent the record of 'two whole peals of Holt's Triples, rung at Otley, in 6 hours 22 minutes, the first in 3 hours 10 minutes, and the second in 3 hours 12 minutes, on Tuesday, 20th February, 1787, being the first set of ringers that ever completed the above in time and course in England.'

The committee tendered their sincere thanks to all those who had so kindly assisted them, and thanked in anticipation those who have promised to assist.

The report was adopted and the committee re-elected as follows: Mr. W. H. Hollier (convener), the Rev. C. E. Wigg and Mr. W. Ayre.

The adoption of the report of the Biographies Committee (printed in 'The Ringing World' on June 5th) was proposed by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, who emphasised the request contained in the report that those who had received forms and had not returned them would do so without delay, and also send with them photographs wherever possible.

Mr. W. A. Cave seconded and the report was adopted.

The committee was re-elected as follows: Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (convener), Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and Mr. W. A. Cave.

BALLOT FOR STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Council then came to the election of the Standing Committee, and for this purpose ballot papers were issued, and nominations invited by the president.

Mr. E. J. Butler proposed and Mr. C. Mee seconded that the six eligible retiring members should be re-elected, and this was agreed to. They were Alderman Pritchett, Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, W. A. Cave, C. F. Johnston, A. Paddon Smith and E. Denison Taylor.

Twelve names were proposed for the remaining six places, and when the result of the ballot was later announced, the following were declared elected: Archdeacon Parry, Mr. Rupert Richardson, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. J. T. Dyke, S. H. Wood and A. Walker. The unsuccessful were Messrs. P. J. Johnson, S. F. Palmer, F. M. Mitchell, E. Guise, H. Knight and G. Chester.

The President expressed the thanks of the Council to the committees who had served them for the last three years for the work they had done, which, he said, was pretty considerable. A great deal of the work of the Council was done by committees in between the meetings. The Council did not hear much about it, but it represented many hours of labour in most cases.

MUFFLED BELLS—INVESTIGATION TO BE MADE.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith proposed the following motion: 'That, with a view to providing future guidance, the officers of this Council be requested to consider the question of the correct method of muffling and ringing church bells on occasions of national and local mourning, and, after consulting at discretion those who may be able to give information, draw up a recommendation on the subject, which, if possible, shall be submitted to the Church authorities for approval and laid before the Council at the next meeting.' He said he brought this motion forward because of the uncertainty that seemed to prevail, on the death of King George, as to the proper way in which bells should be muffled for the death of a sovereign and how and when they should be rung. As Editor of 'The Ringing World,' he received inquiries by post, telegraph and telephone asking for authentic information on the subject, but he was unable to give it. Correspondence in 'The Ringing World' afterwards showed that there was a desire for guidance, and he thought the officials of the Council were the best people to collect the information. If, then, they could issue it with authority of the Church behind it, those in doubt in future would have something definite to act upon. He emphasised there was no desire to do anything to interfere with ancient local customs, which in many cases were interesting survivals and would

probably be a help to the Council officials in drawing up their recommendations.

The hon. secretary seconded the motion.

HISTORICAL REVIEW.

Mr. J. A. Trollope said with one exception, what was correct in the services of the Church for the King was correct for anybody else. The King was entitled to be married or buried in exactly the same way as a commoner. The only exception was his coronation service. Clearly, therefore, what was correct for an ordinary person was correct for the King; the only difference was in the elaboration; the essentials were exactly the same. The muffling of bells was invented by ringers for ringers. The earliest reference to muffling did not go back further than the eighteenth century, and that was to full muffling. The first reference to half-muffling was in 1785, and the first muffled peal was rung about 1816. In ecclesiastical matters it took him did not know how many centuries to make a 'custom.' The correct way to muffle bells was to do it in the way in which it sounded best to people outside.

Continuing, Mr. Trollope said if the question of the whole of the observance of the 'passing bell' could be investigated it would be of interest. There was a great deal of misunderstanding as to the use of bells at deaths and funerals, and most of the old customs were rapidly dying out. People talked of 'the passing bell,' but 'the passing bell' had not been rung in England for a matter of over two hundred years. 'The passing bell' was rung, of course, before the person died. The ordinary 'death bell,' which was now practically extinct, was rung immediately the person died; a bell rung at a funeral was a different thing altogether. How far that went back he was not quite certain. When the King died, the very first thing that was done was to send a message to the Lord Mayor of London requesting him to order the big bell of St. Paul's to be tolled. They would observe, said Mr. Trollope, that it was sent not to the ecclesiastical authorities, but to the Lord Mayor, and he was requested to order it. That was not done for religious purposes at all, and it was not done out of respect for the dead King. It was simply done so that the citizens of London should have the earliest opportunity of knowing that the King was dead, because, in the case of disputed succession, it was to their interests to know immediately. In the same way the 'death bell' that used to be tolled was an announcement. If they went through some 17th and 18th century diaries they would find that people in Oxford used to go about listening to the bells that were tolled, just as the ordinary man of to-day turned to the first page of 'The Times' in the morning to see who was dead.

Mr. W. H. Hollier spoke of the impressiveness of the bells of Westminster Abbey rung half-muffled on the occasion of the late King's funeral.

The Rev. F. Li. Edwards said he was glad to hear it stated that there was no intention of suggesting interference with local customs. There were local customs in considerable variety, and it was most to be desired that where these local customs held sway there should be no attempt to introduce rigid uniformity. He thought, however, the resolution would be of great use in enabling guidance to be provided in towers where there was no regular practice, and where advice was required. In investigating this question he thought the officials might collect valuable information as to the most impressive way of using bells.

The Rev. H. Drake expressed the view that the report of the officials should not be submitted to the Church authorities until it had been considered by the Council. If the Church authorities approved of it first, the Council could hardly discuss it afterwards. They could agree to it or not agree to it, but they could not very well, out of respect to the Church authorities, throw it out afterwards. He thought the proper thing would be first of all to discuss it at the next meeting, and then, if the Council agreed with it, to submit it to the Church authorities afterwards.

An amendment on these lines was proposed by Mr. E. P. Duffield, seconded by the Rev. H. Drake and carried, and the motion as amended was then adopted.

The President thanked Mr. Trollope for his historical survey, and said he had looked up the question of muffled ringing in the Oxford Dictionary to see if he could get any light upon it. The only reference he could find was in connection with the death of Beau Nash at Bath, of which Goldsmith—Oliver not Jack (laughter)—wrote of the death of Nash in 1762 that he was 'buried like a King' and that the bells 'rang a muffled peal of Bob Majors.'

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

ENJOYABLE MEETING AT STOURTON.

North Dorset Branch gatherings at Stourton are always a big attraction, and on June 13th, in spite of continuous rain, about 60 turned up for the branch quarterly meeting. Twenty-seven parishes, in five counties, were represented. Some enthusiasts from Bristol and Poole must have cycled about 80 miles ere they reached home again. The Guild office was conducted in St. Peter's Church by the Rector (the Rev. E. C. Wigg), who gave an inspiring address, exhorting the members, in the words of St. Paul to Timothy, to 'stir up the gift that is in thee.'

The ladies of the Church Council prepared and served a sumptuous tea in the Memorial Hall, tastefully decorated for the occasion. The Rev. F. Li. Edwards presided at the ensuing short business meeting. Apologies were received from the Rev. R. H. Gundry (Master), the Rev. I. G. Cameron and Mr. W. C. West, and Mr. E. J. Rowe (captain of the local ringers) sent greetings from Shaftesbury Hospital, where he is recovering from a fractured leg. The members were very pleased to hear that he is making good progress and hoping shortly to be home again.

One new member was elected, Mr. F. Feltham, of Bourton.

Thanks to the Rector for his cordial welcome to Stourton and for the service, and to the ladies for the good things provided for the tea tables (proposed from the chair and seconded by Dr. W. G. Addison, Rector of Zeals), were carried with acclamation, especially by a visitor from Stoke Wake, who enjoyed a free tea!

The Rector, in reply, said it was always a great pleasure to receive a visit from the Guild, and he kindly undertook to conduct a party round the beautiful Stourhead gardens.—Mrs. King also replied on behalf of the ladies.

The bells of Mere, Zeals and Silton were also available, and good practice was obtained in various methods.

AN EXCLUDED PEAL.

In reference to a paragraph which appeared in our last issue, Mr. Percy Amos, of Northampton, writes in the course of a lengthy letter: 'I notice in your issue for June 19th that the hon. secretary of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild calls the attention of the Peal Analysis Committee to the fact that the peal of Doubles, rung at Whiston, Northants, on April 11th, 1936, for the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, is not included in their records, one of the ringers not being a member. As I happen to be the ringer concerned, I shall be obliged if you will permit me space to say that the peal is quite in order in being thus published. I was proposed and seconded a member previous to starting by member friends whose wishes have the right to be respected.'

'In the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, as in all other associations, a rule exists that such membership shall be legitimate, subject to ratification at some subsequent meeting of the Guild; and no rule exists to say that a ringer who has been a member and ceased for any one reason shall not be re-elected. The committee, taking it upon themselves to ignore the wishes of these members, not only show meanness, but prove that they were afraid of a show of hands in refusing the right of ratification to be put.'

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Continued from page 421.

years in advancing the interests of the association, and they had decided to make some recognition of those services. He asked Mr. Groves, who was secretary of the Western Division for 21 years, to accept their gift, which he hoped he would be able to look upon and hear, and keep his time by for many years (applause).

He handed to Mr. Groves a handsome mantel chiming clock, striking the Westminster quarters, and inscribed:—

Sussex County Association of Change Ringers.

Presented to

Mr. Alfred W. Groves

in appreciation of his services as Honorary Secretary of the Western Division for 21 years.

1915-1936.

Mr. Groves, who received the gift amid applause, thanked the members for their kindness and appreciation. He was pleased to be able to say that in the whole time he held office he had been able to attend every meeting (applause). He thanked the members for their support and hoped they would extend it to his successor equally as well.

Mr. Manley suggested that the association should adopt a form of service for use at meetings. He pointed out the advantages of this practice in other associations and guilds, and said he was sure the clergy would appreciate it. He caused some amusement by referring to a recent occasion when the ringers, on going into service, were given hymn books, and the clergyman immediately gave out a psalm. He added that it was more difficult to remember the words of a psalm than for a conductor to remember the calling of a peal.

Mr. Charman seconded, and, after some discussion, the proposal was agreed to.

The Master was thanked for presiding and also for the fact that he had been present at a number of divisional meetings during the year.

It was announced that a collection for the Benevolent Fund, taken at the tea tables, amounted to 16s. 6d.

In the evening there was further ringing at St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' Churches, and also at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

NOTICES.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival at Brecon on Saturday, June 27th. 3 p.m. service at Cathedral; 4 p.m. tea at Ely Tower (by kind invitation of the Lord Bishop); 4.30 p.m. business meeting. Times of ringing will be sent to each tower.—L. T. Havard, Hon. Sec., 2, Harp Terrace, Brecon.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. —The next quarterly meeting will be held at Buckland on Saturday, June 27th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea by kind invitation of the Rector at 5.30 p.m., in the Parish Room. All ringers heartily welcome.—W. Claydon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Chartfield Rd., Reigate, Surrey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —The summer meeting will be held at All Saints', Bingley, on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (8) available 1 p.m. Tea (1/6) in the Church House at 5.30. Business meeting immediately after tea. A good attendance is earnestly desired.—F. Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. —The next practice has been arranged at Burnham (8 bells) on Saturday, June 27th, at 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Cheddar on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (8) open 2.30. Divine Service 4.30. Tea and business 5 p.m.—L. G. Tanner, 4, Hopkins Street, Weston-Super-Mare.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea at White Hart Hotel, 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 4, Temperance Cottages, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Singleton (6 bells), near Poulton, on Saturday, June 27th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Bring food, tea provided. Bus leaves Talbot Mews 2.20 p.m. Ringing visitors welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Andover on Saturday, June 27th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service in Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All requiring tea please notify Mr. O. Smart, 31, Marlborough Street, Andover.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. —A meeting will be held at Kirkby Moorside (by kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens) on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (6) available during the afternoon and evening. Evensong at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. A hearty invitation to all.—Edward Hudson, Dis. Sec., 4, Keldale Terrace, Sharow, Ripon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—A by-meeting will be held at Ashbury (6 bells) on Saturday, June 27th, at 7 p.m.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting at Eckington, near Sheffield, Saturday, June 27th (Norton not available). Bells (8) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by general meeting.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.—(Established 1623).—The 313th anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 27th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Meat tea at 4.45 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify me?—Leonard E. Pitstow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road, Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. The next meeting will be held at Blackrod on Saturday, June 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Elstow (6 bells) to-morrow, Saturday, June 27th. Bells ready from 3 p.m. Tea at Red Lion at 5. Come and ring at 'John Bunyan's' tower. All ringers very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Beds.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on June 30th, Southwark Cathedral on July 2nd and 30th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 7th, St. Magnus' on the 9th and 23rd, St. Andrew's on the 16th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 21st, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Knowle, Warwickshire, on Saturday, July 4th. Bells available at 3.30. Short service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15, to be followed by business meeting. Kindly notify regarding tea by July 1st, to T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bradfield (6 bells) on Saturday, July 4th. Short service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5. Please notify Rev. J. Thompson, The Rectory, Bradfield, for tea. No charge for tea to members of society. Bus service at Malin Bridge Tram terminus.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Badby (6) on Saturday, July 4th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 4th, at Horbling. Bells (6) available at 2 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea (1/6) and business meeting at P.R.H.A. If possible Billingborough bells will be available in evening. Notification from those requiring tea by Wednesday previous, please to C. T. H. Bradley, The Lodge, Folkingham, Lincs.

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—*Do not* come to Benenden if you don't like really good meetings. The summer meeting of the Tonbridge district, combining with the Romney Marsh and District Guild, will be held here on Saturday, July 4th. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Members who have booked coach seats please meet at Tonbridge S.R. Station, main entrance, 2.30 p.m. Please notify me for tea not later than Tuesday, June 30th.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Minehead on Saturday, July 4th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea at the Church Institute, Bancks Street, 5 p.m. Dunster (8) and Carhampton (6) bells available after the meeting, or at other times by previous arrangement.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at The Oaks in Charnwood, near Shepshed, on Saturday, July 4th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. All those requiring tea please notify me by Thursday, July 2nd.—H. Kirby, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hathern Road, Shepshed.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southampton on Saturday, July 4th. Bells available: St. Mary's (10), 1.15 to 2.15 and after tea; St. Michael's (8), 1.15 to 2.15 and 7.15 to 8 p.m.; Holy Rood (8), 6 to 7.15 p.m. Meeting in Chantry Hall 2.30 p.m. Service in St. Mary's 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly inform Mr. J. W. Faithfull, 31, High Road, Swaythling, by Thursday, 2nd? All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at North Collingham on Saturday, July 4th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea at 5. Will those who require tea please notify Mrs. East, North Collingham, Notts, not later than Wednesday, July 1st.—A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Rocester (8 bells) on Saturday, July 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Peal Board unveiled at 4.45. Service at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please advise Mr. J. W. Bullock, 3, West View, Rocester, Uttoxeter, Staffs, not later than July 1st.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec., 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Please note. Meeting arranged for Croft on July 4th is postponed. Other arrangements later.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight (8 bells) on Saturday, July 4th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea and meeting afterwards. Will intending visitors please let me know not later than Wednesday, July 1st?—Harry S. Brocklebank, 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Trowbridge on Saturday, July 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Other towers will be open for ringing at 7 p.m. if necessary.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—West Norfolk Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Elmham on Saturday, July 4th.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Moreton Corbet, Saturday, July 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. All requiring tea *must* notify me by Tuesday, June 30th.—R. R. Pole, Hon. Sec., 88, North Street, Castle Fields, Shrewsbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Owing to sickness the meeting at Newton St. Peter's is postponed to a later date, and the meeting at Christ Church, Aughton, has been brought forward to July 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—William O. Farrimond, Branch Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual Summer Festival will be held at Bromham on Saturday, July 4th. The bells (8) will be available from 2.45. Tea arrangements will *only* be made for those who notify Mr. F. C. Tysoe, Bromham, Beds, beforehand. This is important, so please send a p.c.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

LADIES' GUILD (Southern District) and **GUILD-FORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (Farnham District).—A joint meeting will be held at ASH on Saturday, July 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, by invitation of the District President of the Ladies' Guild, in the Church Room, 5 p.m. All welcome. Please notify for tea by first post Wednesday, July 1st.—H. F. Mills, Hon. Sec., Ladies' Guild, or C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Gt. Barford on Saturday, July 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers and their friends welcome. Please come, a good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

The **BELLS** of Plympton St. Maurice Church, Devon, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Plymouth on Monday, July 6th, at 7.30 p.m. Ring of eight recast and rehung in new frame by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough.

CAMBRIDGE.—Surprise practice is to be held at the Roman Catholic Church on Thursdays at 7 to 8.30 p.m., July 9th, July 23rd, August 6th and August 20th. All ringers welcome.—R. Lathbury.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer festival at Chertsey, Saturday, July 11th. All welcome. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, tea 5.15 (1s. each). Numbers for tea must reach me not later than Tuesday, July 7th.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting, originally notified for June 27th, will now be held at Coombe on Saturday, July 11th. Service 3 p.m. Tea at 4.30 at the Royal Oak. Towers open: Coombe (6), Bladon (6), Woodstock (8). Tea will be provided *only* for those who let me know by first post Thursday, July 9th.—W. Evetts, Hon. Secretary, Hill Court, Tackley, Oxon.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bath on Saturday, July 11th. Fuller particulars later.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—**SHIELD CONTEST** will be held at Felkirk on Saturday, July 11th. Draw 2.45 p.m. Entries close June 27th. For tea please notify Mr. D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, nr. Barnsley, by Wednesday, July 8th.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The Summer meeting will be held at St. Lawrence, Thanet, on Saturday, July 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Cards for tea please to Mr. L. A. Porritt, 18, Picton Road, Ramsgate, not later than Thursday, July 9th. Half-fares (up to 2/-) will be paid to members attending. A good, representative attendance is requested for important business meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at High Easter on Saturday, July 11th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. Will all those requiring tea please let me know by the first post on Wednesday, July 8th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Church, Bacup, on Saturday, July 11th. Tower open at 3.30 p.m. Meeting in tower at 6.30 p.m. Nominations are invited for branch secretary.—J. Norton, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Leeds (10 bells) on Saturday, July 11th. Bells available 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea at the George Inn at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. District towers see that you are well represented, and visitors come and be welcome. All ringers should enjoy a pull on these historic bells. Please send a p.c. for tea to A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton, Kent.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Preliminary notice. A meeting will be held at Fletching on Saturday, July 11th. Dedication of Fairwarp bells, Saturday, July 18th. Keep a note of these dates. Full particulars later.—O. Sippetts, 10, Albany Road, Crawley, Sussex.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—A meeting will be held at Twineham on Saturday, July 11th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation, 5. Those who intend to be present please advise me by the previous Wednesday. Half rail fare, max. 1/6, allowed to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Dis. Sec., 1b, Chester Terrace, Brighton, 6.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival, 1936, will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 18th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher Rev. C. Elliot-Wigg (Deputy Master). Business meeting in Chapter House, immediately after service. Owing to Dining Hall not being available on this date, lunch will be served at The Cartax Assembly Rooms, by Messrs. G.

Weekes & Co., at 1.30 p.m. Tickets (2/- each) to members (3/- to non-members). Applications for dinner tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach Gen. Sec. not later than Wednesday, July 15th. Further details will be given on printed notices to each tower.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

THE MEETING, July 18th, 1936, Rickmansworth (10 bells).

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