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STUMBLING BLOCKS TO EFFICIENCY

The secretarial reports presented to two district meetings in Kent contain some outspoken remarks which, while written with local application, represent conditions which exist in not a few places outside that county. The secretary of the Tonbridge District not only regrets a falling membership but a lack of progress in method ringing, and a tendency to allow practices to drop, with a result that Sunday service ringing is suffering. All these things point to a falling-off in interest, which seems to occur in most areas from time to time. It is a phase which is difficult to guard against, and one which only collective effort can overcome. The dropping of practices is often the outcome of loss of membership, for where a band loses strength it frequently loses interest, and, in the end, practices are abandoned.

Nothing, we think, leads quicker to decay in the quality of ringing than absence of regular practice. Efficiency in all things can only be obtained by practice, and ringing is no exception to the rule. If a band is so depleted that practice offers no prospect of progress, surely it is time that efforts were made to strengthen the company by bringing in and instructing new members. But often this lapse of practice is due first to the apathy of two or three members of a tower, and the rest, who may be moderately keen, have their interest blunted through the indifference and irregularity of the others. Too often, we are afraid, there are ringers who study their own convenience first at the sacrifice of the convenience of others. The success of any band can only be assured when everyone 'pulls his weight' and realises that he owes a duty to the rest.

The Rochester District secretary, who has found, to his regret, indifferent striking in service ringing, puts some of it down to poor leadership. This is another cause that is almost bound to lead to a deterioration in a company. The leader of a band, unless he is the right man, can be a bugbear, not only to his own company, but to an association, and a formidable stumbling block to any advancement. He can stultify ringing in his own tower, and, by his influence, deflect the activities of other members of his band into ambitionless channels. The unfortunate part about most men of this type is that they generally dig themselves into their office, and win their way into the confidence of their incumbents, so that they are almost immovable and a constant drag on the wheels of progress for years. The Rochester secretary tells his members that in the cases of which he complains the state of things is likely to continue until there is sufficient general interest in the welfare of the local bands

(Continued on page 766.)

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and the courage to substitute more competent leaders. There is work to be done in other areas than Rochester in this direction. Most associations throughout the country can point to 'black spots.' They form a very real problem not easy of solution, and yet, when the inefficiency and sometimes the stubborn obstinacy of these men lowers the standard of ringing, it is a great pity that something cannot be done. The root of the difficulty, we think, lies in the fact that so few parsons know anything about ringing and belfry management, and it is in this, as much as in anything, that we need a wider interest on the part of the clergy.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, November 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

HOWARD HOWELL Treble	ADREY M. PICKERING ... 7
ALFRED BUCKLEY 2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON ... 8
GEORGE W. HUGHES 3	WALTER R. HUGHES ... 9
GEORGE E. OLIVER 4	RICHARD C. INGRAM ... 10
EDGAR T. SMITH 5	THOMAS J. ELTON ... 11
HAROLD SMITH 6	WILLIAM A. WALKER ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung as a compliment to Councillor Dr. Drabble, the esteemed churchwarden of Bloxwich Parish Church, upon his election as Mayor of Walsall.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	LOUIS J. LOCKYER ... 6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 2	A. MARTIN STEWART ... 7
EDWARD T. GRIFFIN ... 3	† PERCY WHITFORD ... 8
REGINALD A. REED ... 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 9
* LESLIE TREMER ... 5	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman and on ten bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5309 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

* HARRY ALLRED, SEN. ... Treble	FRED GRUNDY ... 6
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 2	PETER CROOK, JUN. ... 7
CHARLES OLLIER ... 3	ROBERT ALLRED ... 8
BENJAMIN T. ALLRED ... 4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... 9
CHARLES RIDYARD ... 5	ROBERT JONES ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (155). Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

* First peal of Caters. Rung with the bells half-muffled for Armistice.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.)

On Wednesday, November 3, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 36 cwt.

FRED BLOOD Treble	FRANK BRADLEY ... 5
J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 2	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 6
RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 3	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 7
FRED PICKARD 4	WALTER NICHOLS ... Tenor

Conducted by J. A. BARRATT.

GAINSBOROUGH, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 6, 1937, in Three Hours and one Minute,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

MIDDLETON'S.	Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.
GEORGE E. FEIRN Treble	* G. LESLIE A. LUNN 5
MRS. J. BRAY 2	ERNEST BRITTAIN 6
* MRS. E. GRAY 3	* GEORGE DOBBS 7
JACK BRAY 4	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.
Rung in the octave of All Saints, and in honour of the jubilee of the Ladies' Guild.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

ROBERT MOLTON Treble	ERNEST W. PYE 5
* EDWARD D. SMITH 2	P. SGT. WIMLINGTON 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	ALFRED PRIOR 7
GEORGE DAWSON 4	PHILLIP H. AVEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by A. PRIOR.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

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

Tenor 34½ cwt.

ARTHUR FIRTH Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL 5
* JOHN W. J. COTTAM 2	ALBERT NASH 6
TOM BROTHWELL 3	REGINALD PAYNE 7
LESLIE HEYWOOD 4	T. COLIN RYDER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by A. NASH.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the one thousandth anniversary of the foundation of this church.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER 5
BERNARD H. SWINSON 2	ALFRED PRIOR 6
JOHN W. JONES 3	ERNEST W. FURBANK 7
FRANK B. LUFKIN 4	HARRY PERRY Tenor

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 10, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

PERCY DYKE Treble	GEORGE ESSEX 5
CYRIL J. HIBBERT 2	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 6
CHARLES H. PULLEN 3	HARRY W. SMITH 7
ALBERT D. CULLUM 4	WILLIAM HIBBERT Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

Rung to commemorate the tercentenary of the Ancient Society of College Youths and as a compliment to Canon G. F. Coleridge, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, on his 80th birthday.

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PULFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MORRIS' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

Ex-Corporal FRANK FOX, Tank Corps Treble	
Ex-Private HARRY LEWIS, 1/5 (E of C) Bn. Cheshire Regt. 2	
Ex-Sapper MARTIN HARRIS, R.E. 3	
Ex-Private PERCY SWINDLEY, M.G.C. 4	
Ex-Private WILLIAM GRIFFITHS, 1/5 (E of C) Bn. Cheshire Regt. 5	
Ex-P.O. SAM JONES, R.N.D. Hood 6	
Ex-Q.M.S. WILLIAM FLETCHER, R.W.F. 7	
Ex-Gunner EDWARD PRICE, R.F.A. Tenor	

Conducted by Q.M.S. WILLIAM FLETCHER, R.W.F.

Rung as a Remembrance peal with the bells half-muffled, all the ringers having served overseas.

BRITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLRY 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2	EDWIN A. BARNETT 6
HARRY HOSKINS 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 7
JOHN WHEADON 4	THOMAS MORTIMER Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of those who gave their lives in the Great War.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.)

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 36 cwt.

GEORGE E. FOSTER Treble	TOM CLARKE 5
FREDERICK A. SALTER 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
FRANK BRADLEY 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT 7
RALPH NARBOROUGH 4	WALTER NICHOLS Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Rung to celebrate Armistice Day.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WALTER FARLEY Treble	* FREDERICK V. NICHOLLS 5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 2	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 6
DANIEL T. MATKIN 3	THOMAS HEMMING 7
CHARLES H. WOODBERRY 4	ALFRED REYNOLDS Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples and rung at first attempt. Rung on the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 19 lb.

* DENNIS E. CATTALL Treble	JOHN E. ROOTES 5
† FREDERICK W. HAZELL 2	FREDERICK W. ALLWAY 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	CHARLES T. COLES 7
CHARLES DYKE 4	GEORGE A. HUGHES Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

* First peal. † First peal on a bob bell. Rung half-muffled on Armistice Day.

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. EBBE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.		Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.	
GEORGE HORWOOD 7	Treble	VICTOR J. F. BENNETT 5	
*GEORGE AYRES 2		FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 6	
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS ... 3		†CHARLES EUSTACE 7	
*BERNARD S. NICHOLS 4		*KENNETH E. WHITE Tenor	

Conducted by F. E. TAYLOR.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop Shaw, a former Archdeacon of Oxford, who died on November 7th.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 12, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.	
DEREK M. SHARP Treble	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT 2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 6
JOHN W. JONES 3	HARRY HOVERD 7
HERBERT A. HOLDEN 4	ERNEST H. OKENHAM Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. ADDSLEY.

BITTON, GLOS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.	
KENNETH FORD Treble	JOHN G. JEFFERIES 5
EDWIN J. RIDLER 2	HARRY J. SANGER 6
FRANK SKIDMORE 3	RONALD G. BECK 7
EDWIN H. NASH 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Composed by S. H. WOOD.

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.	
JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble	MISS MARY WHITE 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	KENNETH SIMPSON 6
SAM LONGBOTTOM 3	WILLIAM AMBLER 7
FREDERICK SEAGER 4	ERNEST H. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER.

Mr. J. Broadley's 400th peal for the Yorkshire Association. Rung to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the dedication of the church.

ADDERBURY, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. 14 lb.	
WILLIAM WATSON Treble	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 5
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER ... 2	HERBERT IMPEY 6
*GEORGE T. ROGERS 3	WALTER F. JUDGE 7
*WILLIAM C. PORTER 4	RICHARD A. POST Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal of Triples.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(TAUNTON DEANERY LANCH.)

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.	
*THOMAS W. JEANES Treble	RONALD W. HAYWARD 5
ALFRED J. WYATT 2	HENRY BUNGAY 6
*H. HERBERT WALKER 3	JACK ROY 7
JAMES HUNT 4	WILLIAM G. GIGG Tenor

Composed by Sir A. P. HAYWOOD. Conducted by W. G. GIGG.

* First peal of Major. Rung to commemorate Remembrance Day.

WELFORD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.	
*DENNIS ALLSOPP Treble	REV. EVERARD S. POWELL ... 5
*GEORGE H. HANCOCK 2	*FREDERICK W. HANCOCK ... 6
MRS. POWELL 3	†LAWRENCE GREENHOW ... 7
*ARTHUR MILLWARD 4	†GEORGE A. HOLICK Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Bob Major. † First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled for the Armistice.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.	
ALFRED J. BATTIN Treble	WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE 5
*ALBERT WORSFOLD 2	BERNARD V. COLLISON 6
ERNEST J. LADD 3	†FREDERICK W. HOODSDEN ... 7
*MRS. F. W. HOODSDEN ... 4	ALBC E. RICHARDSON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALEC E. RICHARDSON.

* First peal in the method. † 50th peal. This peal contains all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 at course ends with only two singles. Rung with half-muffled clappers in memory of those who gave their lives in the Great War.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BRAMFORD, IPSWICH.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, November 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, two 720's each of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.	
RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	ALAN R. ANDREWS 4
JAMES W. JENNINGS 2	KEITH W. WHITTELL 5
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

First peal in four methods as conductor.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 5, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
At the Church of St. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent each of Cambridge, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.	
SYDNEY FLINT Treble	WILFRED CORE 4
THOMAS PRESCOTT 2	ARTHUR MAWDSLEY 5
JAMES LONGTON 3	HENRY SERJENT Tenor

Conducted by A. MAWDSLEY.

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HUTTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 6, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 840 each of New Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

*CHARLES E. HILL 1	Treble	LESLIE H. THIRTY 3
HARRY TURNER 2		ROBERT E. HEAZEL 4
*ERNEST W. FURBANK Tenor		

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal. Rung as a compliment to Mr. William Hill, grandfather of the treble ringer, on the completion of 60 years' service as a ringer at this church.

KIRKTHORPE, NEAR WAKEFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 6, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Sandal, Cambridge Surprise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Norbury, Killamarch and Kingston.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOSEPH THACKRAY 1	Treble	THOMAS W. STRANGEWAYS 4
HAROLD CHANT 2		DANIEL SMITH 5
ARNOLD COLE 3		GEORGE W. STEEL Tenor

Conducted by D. SMITH.

First peal on the bells for the association. Rung as a compliment to the treble ringer and the conductor, whose birthdays are on November 8th.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's: (1) Double Court; (2) Cambridge Surprise; (3) Double Oxford; (4) St. Clement's; (5) Oxford Treble Bob; (6) Kent Treble Bob; (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST B. ITTAIN 1	Treble	*FRED JEFFERY 4
HAROLD JOOD 2		JACK BRAY 5
*PHILIP BARNES 3		WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal in seven methods.

OMBERSLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 20 cwt.

*JOHN A. MOORE 1	Treble	ALBERT H. CHESHIRE 4
ARTHUR J. WHEATLEY 2		GEORGE E. LARGE 5
†FREDERICK FLOCK 3		*GEORGE R. BRIGHTON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' All are members of the local band excepting the conductor. Rung half-muffled on the 19th anniversary of Armistice Day.

NEWTON-NOTTAGE, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 30 extents and four 240's by Pitman and two by Morris (16 callings). Tenor 8½ cwt.

EDWARD CARPENTER 1	Treble	TREVOR M. RODERICK 4
DAVID THOMAS 2		ALFRED E. WILLIAMS 5
CHARLES M. DAVIES 3		ALBERT BACON Tenor

Conducted by T. M. RODERICK.

Rung with half-muffled clappers in memory of those who fell in the Great War. First peal as conductor, and first by a local service band since 1910.

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LIMPSFIELD CHART, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Thursday, November 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Cambridge Surprise, one of Woodbine, two of Oxford and two of Kent Treble Bob.

*ROBERT ANDREWS 1	Treble	ALBERT E. EVEREST 4
LEONARD A. TIDY 2		JAMES W. KNIGHT 5
EDWARD E. TIDY 3		JOHN O. WELLER Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.

* First peal away from tenor behind. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of those who fell in the Great War.

ELSTOW, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 12, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Helena,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS HARPIN 1	Treble	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON 4
C. HENRY HARDING 2		WILLIAM STAPLETON 5
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 3		SYDNEY FOSKETT Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

C. H. Harding's 25th peal.

SEEND, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Cross,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 14½ cwt.

MRS. W. C. WEST 1	Treble	PERCY HARDING 4
*HAROLD SMITH 2		HARRY PROUT 5
SIDNEY HILLIER 3		WILLIAM C. WEST Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. WEST.

* First peal 'inside.' Arranged and rung as a welcome to the Rev. J. E. T. Phillips, who was inducted Vicar of Seend on November 9th.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four extents of St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*MARK LANCEFIELD 1	Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD 4
RAYMOND G. CARLTON 2		WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD 5
PERCY PAGE 3		EDWARD S. ROCK Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD S. ROCK.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the 84 men of the parish who gave their lives in the Great War.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At TRENTWOOD,

A PEAL OF CAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
*GEORGE E. FEIRN 3-4	WALTER AYRE 7-8

Composed by J. E. CAWSE. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* First peal in the method.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 12, 1937, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At 28 FIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE

EALING AND RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

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—Edwin Jennings

The peal consisted of 1,440 London, 672 each of Cambridge and Rutland, 768 each of Ealing, Superlative and Bristol, with 135 changes of method. The umpire checked every lead-end throughout the peal. (Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

CANON COLERIDGE'S 80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED.

Canon G. F. Coleridge's 80th birthday was fittingly celebrated on November 10th by a peal of Double Norwich Major at Caversham. This tower was selected because Canon Coleridge was instrumental in adding two trebles to the former ring of six in 1890, during his curacy there. Mr. George Essex and Mr. Harry Smith, who took part in the peal, were members of the Caversham band at that time.

The peal was also in celebration of the tercentenary of the College Youths. It was rung under the auspices of both the Ancient Society, of which Canon Coleridge is one of the oldest members, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which the Canon is Master.

Mr. Tom Hibbert called the peal and, interestingly, it coincided with the 76th birthday of Mrs. Hibbert. Needless to say, the band drank with good wishes to the health of both celebrants after the peal.

Councillor Dr. Drabble, churchwarden at Bloxwich Parish Church, was elected Mayor of Walsall on November 9th, and in honour of the event a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at Walsall Parish Church on the same day.

Many accomplished ringers wait a long time for a peal in one of the simple methods. Mr. Edward D. Smith, Master of the St. John's, Leytonstone, band, has been peal ringing for more years than, perhaps, he cares to remember, but it was not until last week that he rang his first peal of Bob Major, the first in the method on the bells, made eight last year as a memorial to William Pye, who in all his great career never, curiously enough, called a peal of Bob Major.

Mr. Walter Ayre must have been very satisfied with his recent week-end in Lincolnshire. A peal of Cambridge Surprise Major on Saturday, a handbell peal of Gainsborough Little Bob on Sunday, and a peal in seven Minor methods on Monday. Not bad work for the half-term holiday.

The Cambridge was rung in honour of the silver jubilee of the Ladies' Guild and was Mr. Jack Bray's 250th peal. Mr. George Dobbs, who rang his first peal in the method, had never previously struck a blow in it.

Two youths, Philip Barnes, aged 14, and Fred Jeffery, 16, rang their first peal in seven methods at Burton-on-Stather and both are to be heartily congratulated upon their performance.

In the peal of Grandsire Doubles rung half-muffled at Ombersley on Armistice Day, five of the local band took part, two ringing their first peal and one his first 'inside.' In a similar peal rung in September three rang their first peal and one his first 'inside.' The Ombersley band comprises nine active members and there now remain only two who have yet to score their first peal.

The Armistice Day peal at Erith was Mr. F. J. Gullum's 125th peal on the bells.

An interesting instance of ringers again taking part in a peal after a long lapse of years comes from Newton Nottage, Glamorganshire. A peal was rung half-muffled on Armistice Day, the first peal at this church by a local service band since 1910. One of the ringers, Alfred E. Williams, had not taken part in an attempt since he rang the same bell in the last 'local' peal 27 years ago, and David Thomas rang his first peal for 25 years.

With reference to the question raised in our last issue as to whether the peal at Prestbury was the first 'local' peal rung as a College Youths' peal, Mr. R. T. Hibbert points out that if this means a Sunday service band, the Caversham band in 1900-1905 rang about 35 peals under the auspices of the College Youths. If it means just a College Youths' band in the neighbourhood, it has been done, he says, many times. One was rung by Reading members a few months ago.

Mr. Hibbert does not make it clear whether any of these peals were Stedman Triples, which is the point at issue.

Mr. Joseph Broadley, the Bradford veteran, rang his 400th peal for the Yorkshire Association on November 13th at Shipley. But Mr. Broadley's services to the association cannot be measured by the number of peals (great as it is) that he has rung. He joined the association in 1879, has held various offices, and has been one of the association's 'stalwarts.'

The ringer of the 2nd in the peal of Treble Bob Minor at Butterwick on October 23rd was Henry Johnson, not Henry John, as printed. Henry Johnson is a great name to possess in ringing.

Mr. Arthur Knights' peal of Grandsire Caters, No. 155, with the 5th and 6th the full extent behind the 9th, in 5,309 changes, was rung for the first time on November 13th at Worsley, Lancs. It was an Armistice peal with the bells half-muffled.

Mr. William Hill has completed 60 years' service as a ringer at All Saints' Church, Hutton, Essex. As a compliment to him a peal of Doubles was rung on November 6th, and his grandson, Charles E. Hill, rang the treble to his first peal. Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill extended their hospitality to the ringers.

A peal of Minor in four methods was rung at Eastwood, Rotherham, on October 30th, after the band had met short for Major.

FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 31st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: C. M. Mitchell (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, G. R. Ambrose 2, H. Argent 3, F. A. Mitchell 4, J. Burles 5, R. A. Muir 6, F. M. Mitchell (conductor) 7, G. Morrad 8. Rung on the 17th anniversary of the wedding of the ringer of the 3rd. All are local Sunday service ringers.

FOR BEGINNERS.

EXTENDING CHANGES FROM FOUR TO FIVE BELLS.

A good deal has been written recently in the columns of 'The Ringing World' as to the relative advantages of teaching beginners on an odd and an even number of bells. In the last article of this series we showed how changes were produced on an even number of bells, namely, four.

Let us now see how this four-bell ringing can be simply applied to five bells. There are two ways in which the method shown for the four bells can be adapted to five. Both have the same principle of plain hunting for all the bells between the leads of treble. But while in one case, when the treble leads, 2nd's place is retained, which causes one of the bells to lie four blows (two whole pulls) behind over the dodging bells, in the other the 'place' is pushed out to 3rd's and comes a half-pull later. This, in turn, pushes the dodging from 3-4 to 4-5, and the extra bell is absorbed, if we can use the term, by continuous plain hunting, like the treble.

The following figures show the difference in the methods which occurs when the treble leads:—

A	B	C
3 4 1 2	5 3 4 1 2	5 3 4 1 2
3 1 4 2	3 5 1 4 2	3 5 1 4 2
1 3 2 4	3 1 5 2 4	3 1 5 2 4
1 3 4 2	1 3 2 5 4	1 3 2 5 4
3 1 2 4	1 3 5 2 4	1 2 3 4 5
3 2 1 4	3 1 2 5 4	2 1 3 5 4
	3 2 1 4 5	2 3 1 4 5
	2 3 4 1 5	3 2 4 1 5

A is the method we gave in the last article, which produces the extent of changes on four bells.

B is the same method applied to five bells, with its 2nd's place, the dodging in 3-4 and the extra bell lying four blows behind. The three-bell cycle of work in A becomes a four-bell cycle in B, the four blows behind occurring between the dodge in 4-3 and the dodge in 3-4.

C is the method with 3rd's instead of 2nd's. There are two hunting bells instead of one, and, in practical ringing, when the treble is met, the other 'hunt' bell is always the next to be looked for. There are only three bells in the working cycle, which can be compared with the changes on four bells thus:—

First lead	On 4 bells	On 5 bells
Second lead	2nd's place	3rd's place
Third lead	dodge 4-3	dodge 5-4
	dodge 3-4	dodge 4-5

We would like beginners to try constructing plain courses of these methods on paper. Both on four and five bells the method with 2nd's place begins 2 1 4 3. In the method with 3rd's, however, the place falls not exactly at the treble lead, but between the two hunts, that is to say, with one blow when the treble leads and the other when the hunt bell leads. This, therefore, requires 3rd's place to be made immediately upon starting, and the bells go off, not 2 1 4 3 5, but 2 1 3 5 4.

Here are the first two or three rows of the methods:—

A	B	C
* 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
2 1 4 3	2 1 4 3 5	2 1 3 5 4
2 4 1 3	2 4 1 5 3	2 3 1 4 5

Now write out the plain courses, following the rules of construction which require plain hunting except when the treble leads in A and B, and immediately after the treble's lead in C.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. THOMAS WISE.

A VALUED MEMBER OF PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

With much regret we record the passing of Mr. Thomas Wise, of Collingtree, Northants, which took place in the early hours of Wednesday, October 27th, at the age of 41 years.

A native of the nearby village of Wootton, deceased was instrumental in doing much good work in that parish several years ago and assisting at the practices in other parishes in the vicinity on every possible occasion. His enthusiasm was an inspiration to all.

Deceased had rung a number of peals, and, at the peak of his activities, was a most valued member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. Many were the young hands he shepherded through their first peals, in methods of Doubles, Minor and Triples. He was a safe conductor.

An engineer by trade, Mr. Wise was able to turn his hand to almost anything. He was keen on horticulture, and was exceptionally good at both making and writing peal boards. Three of his works of art can be seen in the belfries of Wootton, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, and the Parish Church, Hanslope, Bucks, upon which his name will ever recall his memory.

It was on July 14th, 1928, that he turned in the 22 cwt. tenor at Hanslope to a peal of Minor—one of his hardest earned peals, and only on that occasion did he show any real sign of the trouble from which he died.

Deceased was at work up to the day before his death, and the announcement of his passing in the local papers came as a shock to all his old comrades with whom he was extremely popular.

He was interred on Friday, October 29th, when the bells at Collingtree and of his native Wootton were rung to muffled touches.

REMEMBRANCE.

COMMEMORATION OF ARMISTICE.

Much ringing was done with half-muffled bells to commemorate the fallen in the Great War, on the anniversary of the Armistice. Our peal columns record a number of peals.

At Ibstock, Leicestershire, a half-peal of Bob Minor (2,520 changes) was rung, with 83 calls—this being the number of men from the village who laid down their lives in the Great War. The ringers were A. R. Tonks 1, O. Verey 2, W. Goadby 3, J. W. Atkins (longest length of Minor 'inside') 4, E. J. Tovell 5, A. E. Rowley (conductor) 6. It was the longest length of Minor by ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 5.

At King's Norton, Birmingham, on Remembrance Day, November 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters was rung with the bells half-muffled: G. E. Fearn (conductor) 1, C. Webb 2, C. H. Stanley 3, N. Goodman 4, H. Williams 5, E. F. Poppy 6, W. C. Dowding 7, H. J. Turner 8, H. H. Fearn 9, J. George 10.

On Thursday evening, November 11th, with bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Northfleet, Kent: V. Lament (first quarter-peal) 1, R. Smith 2, G. Butcher (conductor) 3, E. Peartree 4, T. Taylor 5, R. Constant 6, G. Morrad 7, C. Hammond 8.

At Newport Pagnell on Thursday evening, November 11th, for Armistice Day, also in token of respect to the late Bishop of Buckingham, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. Mills 1, J. Mapley 2, R. G. Abrahams 3, H. B. Beard 4, E. G. Lathall (conductor) 5, R. Howson 6, R. A. Hall 7, D. J. Clare 8.

At Bootle, Lancs, for a special service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Minor was rung (240 each of Beverley and Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 180 Oxford Bob and 120 Plain Bob): James McKee 1, T. Horridge (first quarter-peal of Minor 'inside') 2, J. Martin (conductor) 3, G. Lunt 4, John McKee 5, E. T. Bennett 6.

A quarter-peal of Bob Minor was rung at Maidsmorton on Armistice Day, November 11th: G. Holland (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Nichols 2, H. Jones, jun. 3, H. Stopps 4, H. Jones, sen. 5, F. C. Case (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6.

On Armistice Eve at St. John's Church, Longton, Staffs, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to fallen ringers of the association and relatives of the band: W. Carter 1, W. Perkins (first quarter-peal) 2, A. D. Steel (conductor) 3, H. Carter 4, W. H. Bloor 5, N. R. Holland 6, E. Steele 7, H. Bloor 8.

At St. George's, Beckenham, Kent, for evening service on Armistice Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss M. I. Rawlings 1, W. J. Rawlings 2, G. E. Rawlings 3, R. W. Rawlings 4, G. W. Fogden 5, C. F. Onley 6, P. A. Corby (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

(Continued in next column.)

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT RIPPINGALE.

On Saturday, October 30th, a quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Rippingale, and about 40 ringers attended, the following towers being represented: Peterborough, Bourne, Market Deeping, Morton, Edenham, Witham-on-the-Hill, Surfleet, Billingham, Hough-on-the-Hill, Caythorpe, Sleaford, Dyke, Folkingham and Rippingale. The Rector (the Rev. Williams) kindly allowed the use of the bells during the afternoon and evening, and the visitors made good use of the opportunity of trying this splendid peal of six, lately restored by Messrs. Taylor and Co. A large variety of Minor methods was the order of the day, and was much enjoyed by those taking part. Choral service was conducted by the Rector, the lesson being read by Mr. S. Laxton, captain of the local band.

In the course of his address the Rector extended a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and said he was glad to see so many towers represented. The numerous ringing associations did excellent work for the church, and he paid particular tribute to his own ringers for the splendid work they did both in the belfry and the choir.

Tea, which was kindly provided by the Rippingale ringers, was served in the Parish Hall, 36 sitting down. Among those present were the Rector and Mrs. Williams, Mr. R. Richardson (Master of the Guild) and Mrs. Richardson.

At the business meeting which followed the Rector presided. It was proposed that the annual meeting be held at Grantham, an amendment was made in favour of Edenham, and, on being put to the vote, Edenham secured the majority.

An appeal was made for two restoration schemes, Hougham and Sempringham Abbey Church, but it was decided that both appeals be put on the agenda for the annual meeting.

Mr. B. H. Dalton, of Billingham, was elected a performing member of the Southern Branch.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells and the service, and also to all who had taken part in the arrangements, and for the hospitality shown to the visitors.

Some afterwards took part in handbell ringing, others returned to the tower.

(Continued from previous column.)

At Beaconsfield, Bucks, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) with the bells half-muffled, for the Remembrance Day service at the Parish Church on November 7th: Miss M. Wingrove 1, Miss K. E. Fletcher 2, Miss D. R. Fletcher 3, the Rev. R. F. R. Routh 4, R. Smith 5, W. Fletcher 6, J. Harrison 7, H. Wingrove (conductor) 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The ringers of Knaresborough, Yorkshire, have resigned on account of a disagreement with the Church Council regarding new rules.

The stumbling-block is a rule which says, 'Any misconduct in the belfry shall be reported at once to the Vicar.' The ringers protest that the rule is unnecessary, as no one in his senses misconducts himself in the belfry.

Geoffrey Harrison, of Loughborough, who has just rung two peals in a day, was stated in our last issue to be 14 years old. Actually he is only 13, which makes his performance even more remarkable.

The Spliced Surprise Major rung at the College Youths' dinner on November 6th consisted of six methods, Rutland being included in addition to the five mentioned in our report. The error was due to difficulties of hearing, for in the large hall the call of 'Rutland' sounded like 'London.'

During the eight days of the jubilee celebrations of Truro Cathedral the bells were rung each evening for the special service, and for the Choral Eucharist, special's men's service and evensong on the Sunday, the Cathedral company being assisted by visiting ringers from various parishes in the diocese.

His many friends will regret to hear that Mr. J. E. Davis, of 118, Sarsfield Road, Balham, is in hospital with a septic arm. He underwent an operation on Thursday of last week, and, although in considerable pain, is, we learn, fairly comfortable. Mr. Davis is in charge of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, tower, and the Monday evening practices there are temporarily suspended.

With regard to the non-conducted peal of Cambridge at Brierley Hill, Mr. E. Barnett writes: 'A non-conducted (or silent) peal of Cambridge Surprise was rung at Crayford on October 11th, 1929, and, if my memory is correct, Messrs. Pye, Bennett, Wigg and Co. rang one last year on a tour in the North of England.'

PEAL ATTEMPT AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL.

DEAN'S MOMENTARY FORGETFULNESS BRINGS UNTIMELY END.

The attempt for the first peal on the ten bells at Chester Cathedral, rung by a representative band of the Diocesan Guild, came to an untimely end on Saturday by the sudden failure of the electric light. The chamber was only in darkness for a few seconds before the light came again, but several of the band had set their bells and the ringing was abandoned. Investigation brought no satisfactory explanation, for the Cathedral was found to be locked and in darkness, as it was left before ascending the tower. After some consideration it was decided that the lateness of the hour made a further attempt for the peal undesirable, and after ringing a touch of Kent Royal and a course of Cambridge Major the bells were lowered.

The 'mystery' was solved on Sunday morning, when the Chester branch secretary received a telephone message from the Dean, who said that he was very concerned about the occurrence and more concerned to think that he was the cause of it. He had taken a party into the Cathedral after the normal closing hour, and had unwittingly shut off the belfry main switch with the others. Quickly realising the consequences he had switched on again, but it was, of course, too late. He wishes to express to the band his apologies and profound regret, and hopes that the next attempt will be marred by no such unfortunate accident.

He has given permission for the peal—Kent Royal, conducted by Mr. R. Sperring—to be made on Saturday, December 11th.

INVERARAY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Many who were at the College Youths' dinner and heard the Duke of Argyll's invitation to ring at Inveraray will be interested to know something of those bells.

In June last the ringers of St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, obtained permission to visit there, and touches of Triples and Caters were rung—it is believed that they were the first on the bells. The 'go' was excellent. A few weeks ago I was informed by the towerkeeper that the bells had not been rung up since then.

Although the tenor is about 42 cwt., there are no boxes for the ringers, and the ropes are rotted and quite unreliable. The Glasgow ringers, knowing the conditions, brought supplies of both with them. At least one of the stays is damaged. The church is very near to the water's edge and the bells are not properly protected from the wet.

R. O. STREET.

Glasgow.

AN INCIDENT AT IVER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please kindly allow me a little space wherein to warn anyone who is thinking of trying to get a ring at St. Peter's, Iver, Bucks, of having a lost journey. On Sunday week, having read the notice in 'The Ringing World' of the reopening of the bells, several ringers gathered there, but on entering the belfry (both before and after the service) were treated as intruders by the local call-change company, and were not asked to take part in the ringing, or even to try one of the bells.

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

Iver Heath.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

MR. W. T. COCKERILL'S RETIREMENT.

Election of New Secretary.

'Election night' drew a large attendance of members of the Ancient Society of College Youths to headquarters on Tuesday of last week. The reason was not far to seek. Mr. W. T. Cockerill was retiring from the office of hon. secretary, and members desired to show their appreciation of his long service to the society and express their good wishes to him.

Mr. Cockerill was voted to the chair while the election of officers took place, and, there being only one nomination for each office, the following were declared re-elected: Master, Mr. E. H. Lewis; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. A. Hughes; senior steward, Mr. L. A. Porter; junior steward, Mr. J. A. Waugh; trustees, Messrs. C. F. Winney and H. R. Newton.

Mr. A. B. Peck was elected to succeed Mr. Cockerill, to whom many tributes were paid for his long and devoted services to the society.

The Master proposed that the best thanks of the society be accorded to Mr. Cockerill and that the resolution be entered on the minutes. This was seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes, and among others who spoke were Messrs. J. G. Prior, H. Hoskins, H. R. Newton, C. Hazelden, F. E. Dawe, J. A. Waugh and Rawlins.

Good wishes were also expressed by Mr. E. P. Duffield and others to Mr. Peck in undertaking the secretarial duties.

The customary routine business, including the adoption of the balance sheet for the year, was disposed of and two new members were elected.

Thanks were accorded to the Dinner Committee for their successful efforts in connection with the tercentenary celebrations, and a message of greeting was dispatched to Canon G. F. Coleridge on his 80th birthday.

Mr. Alfred B. Peck, who has succeeded Mr. Cockerill in the secretaryship, has had a long connection with the Ancient Society and been prominently identified with its activities. He was elected Master in 1910, after having served four years as steward.

A native of Bedford, Mr. Peck learned to handle a bell at St. Mary's Church in that town, but, coming to London in 1900, he was fortunate to make his way to St. Stephen's, Westminster, where at that time there was an accomplished band of Surprise ringers. He has taken part in many notable performances, and at St. Paul's Cathedral, where he has long been a member of the band, has turned the tenor in to Cambridge Maximus. As this performance indicates, Mr. Peck is an accomplished heavy-bell ringer, and among his feats was ringing Southwark Cathedral tenor, a bell of over 50 cwt., to the ill-fated record peal of Stedman Cinques, 12,675 changes, in 9 hours 47 minutes, on May 21st, 1923, the composition of which afterwards turned out to be false. Mr. Peck was also a member of the company which rang the record length by one set of men, the 21,363 Stedman Caters at Appleton on April 22nd, 1922.

THE LATE MR. A. E. WREAKS. RINGERS' MEMORIAL.

At St. James' Church, Paisley, Scotland, on Sunday, after morning service, dedication of a 'ringers' memorial library' in memory of the late Mr. Albert Edward Wreaks, took place in the belfry. Mr. Wreaks was for many years the esteemed Master of the ringers.

The memorial takes the form of a bookcase with books concerning bellringing, and should become a valuable acquisition to the ringers.

The Rev. Sydney C. Still, M.A., who performed the brief ceremony, said they had assembled to dedicate the memorial in grateful remembrance of Albert Edward Wreaks, for 26 years the beloved Master of their association, whose name held an abiding place in their affections. He spoke of Mr. Wreaks' work since coming to teach the art of ringing at Paisley, and then unveiled the bookcase and dedicated it with suitable prayers.



MR. A. B. PECK,
The new Hon. Secretary
of the Society.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL BELLS.

WORK TO BEGIN ON RING OF TWELVE.

A Four-ton Tenor.

The first part of the order for the bells of the new Cathedral at Liverpool has been placed with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry.

It consists of a ring of twelve, with a tenor of 80 cwt., and a sharp second bell to provide a light octave.

The Cathedral will thus have the heaviest ringing peal in the world.

It is uncertain when the bells will be hung, for the great central tower is not yet finished, but presumably it will be at no very distant date.

Ringers will anticipate with lively interest hearing a peal of bells of these majestic proportions.

TEACHING BEGINNERS.

A MISUNDERSTANDING.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I was astonished beyond measure to note the tone of Mr. Stephen Wood's letter in your issue of October 22nd, for if any of your readers will kindly refer to the letter written by me on the subject of the most suitable method on which to start a beginner, they will see that I have never alluded to his letter in any way, much less mentioned his name. Some unseen force must, therefore, have altered the points, and put Mr. Wood entirely on the wrong pair of rails! I have a far greater respect for his splendid ability, but having regard to all the correspondence on the subject, to say nothing of the numerous discussions and expressions of opinion up and down the country, I ventured to express an opinion, which I still strongly maintain and which was supported by a large number of good ringers, that the much despised Grandsire method is certainly the best for teaching a beginner first. I note that the opinions in favour of other methods mainly emanate from inexperience amongst the class known as the 'rising generation'! In my long experience I only knew of three towers where Bob Doubles and Major have been employed—and each one has proved a dismal failure!

I am very sorry to note that Mr. Wood appears to speak slightly of old times, as past instructors certainly turned out some good ringers, but do let me assure everyone concerned that there were some of the best achievements by those good old ringers, and I have had the honour of taking part in several where the striking was simply perfect. The peal books of the various societies can verify this. No doubt, Mr. Wood and others have succeeded in eclipsing the ringing of that period, thus putting everything already done quite in the shade, but I have unfortunately missed the reports of same in your valuable paper by some strange accident or other!

Anyhow, I am perfectly certain that the quality and accuracy of the actual ringing was better in those days than that which obtains generally at the present time—I mean before the 'craze' for new methods, more than enough to employ every name in Bradshaw's Guide with that ridiculous word 'Surprise' after it. The real surprise is how the heavily taxed ratepayers near at hand put up with the discordant 'jangles.' Nowadays a ringer's capabilities appear to be judged by and consist of the number of new methods he can jangle through without any consideration as to correct striking and careful ringing. Much has been said about encouraging young people, but really it is quite unnecessary, as they appear to be very well able to take care of and speak for themselves! I have never, from first to last, said a word against Mr. Wood's able advice, but have spoken from a collective standpoint, so as to embody the opinions of the majority. I really do hope that Mr. Wood will not misunderstand me in future. After all, when an apple cart has been upset quite unintentionally, surely it is an easy matter to set it up again all right!

F. E. DAWE.

A COUNTRYMAN'S VIEW.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I be from the country and it weren't so long since I larnt to ring neither, but I've taught a good few boy-chaps since then. I bain't much of a scholar but it do seem to I as some of they chaps as is writing about larners be getting a bit muddled. I reckon some be talking about how to teach boys to plain hunt, and t'others be on about how to larn 'em to ring a method.

Once you've larnt 'em to hunt and to strike good while they be a'doin' on it, and to see where they be a-going on four bells and then on five or six, my boys say as it's just as easy to make seconds as to make thirds, or to dodge up along in 3-4 as it be in 4-5. It don't seem to make no difference to they 'cos they knows where 'em be. If they couldn't find their way about proper in hunting, they'd make as big a mess o' Grandsire as they 'ould o' Plain Bob. Keep 'em hunting till they can see what's what, and after a bit it don't matter whether the old tenor's a-drumming behind or whether she's coming in along o' the rest. My boys be only 11 or 12 years old, but it don't take 'em long to pick up hunting on 3 or 4 and then up.

And I'll tell 'ee summat else. They boys don't think much o' the nasty letters just lately. They reckon it's a poor job if people can't see more nor their own point o' view, and remember as us all learns a different way, more like as not.

Oxfordshire.

'YOKEL.'

BAD LEADERSHIP AND BAD RINGING.

RETIRING SECRETARY'S OUTSPOKEN CRITICISM.

Pointed remarks on striking and service ringing in the Rochester District of the Kent County Association were made by the retiring hon. secretary, Mr. Stanley Shellock, in his annual report presented to the members on October 30th, when the annual meeting of the district was held at Rochester Cathedral, through the kindness of the Dean. The attendance was quite up to the standard, approximately 80 being present from the following towers: Gravesend, Northfleet, Milton-next-Gravesend, Frindsbury, Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham, Rainham, Sittingbourne, Bobbing, Tunstall, Maidstone, Dartford, Beckenham, Hawkhurst and Woodford.

The bells were available from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m., at which time evensong was sung in the Cathedral, which the majority of the ringers took the opportunity to attend.

Tea was provided by the association at the City Cafe, and Mr. F. M. Mitchell, general secretary of the association, was voted to the chair at the business meeting which followed. The balance sheet was read and adopted, and the secretary's report was also received, although, as the chairman remarked, it contained a few biting references.

MORE COMPETENT LEADERS NEEDED.

In his report the hon. secretary said: 'I make no excuse for again bringing to your notice our main duty as churchworkers, which is to use our skill for ringing the bells for Sunday services. May I reiterate those words "our skill," because I have listened and, at times, regretfully I must admit, even been compelled to be one of the company responsible for terrible striking, which is a travesty of change ringing; such exposition of our art is to be regretted. It is mainly due to bad leadership and most certainly is likely to continue until we have sufficient general interest in the well-being of our local bands and also the courage to substitute these irresponsible persons by more competent leaders.'

'To the incumbents, their assistants and lay officers of our churches I also again appeal to interest themselves in the ringers and ringing and to make up their minds that during the coming year the actual ringing chambers, whilst the ringers are performing both on Sundays and on practice nights, will more often be visited. I do not suggest, however, that such visits should be made out of idle curiosity, but with a view to improvement in the ringing, and would suggest inquiry on such visits, whether the physical effort to obtain regular spacing between the blows of each bell is greater than that which is necessary when the rhythm is disjointed. This show of real interest will, I am certain, be worth much more than we can imagine, and will, if persevered in, raise the standard of change ringing in our district to a desirably higher level.'

The report went on to say that the honorary members of the branch had declined by one, to 19, and the practising members by 11, to 157. It was hoped that an effort would be made to make up the leeway during the succeeding twelve months. The secession of Milton Regis had reduced the total of towers in union to 19. Meetings at Milton-next-Gravesend, Queenborough and Tunstall had all been highly successful and well attended, and thanks were recorded to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell: the ringers and their friends at Queenborough; and the Rector of Tunstall for entertaining the members to tea.

A HIT BELOW THE BELT.

The hon. secretary added that owing to a family bereavement he was debarred from attending the meeting at Milton-next-Gravesend, his only absence during the whole term he had occupied office. He regretted that his absence should have been chosen suitable for a complaint regarding lack of reports in 'The Ringing World' of their meetings. He resented this 'hit below the belt,' particularly as he had been most careful on the special occasions, and he was sure the Editor of 'The Ringing World' had given the Rochester District a very square deal in these matters.

The Hon. Secretary said he had summarised the attendances at district meetings over the last 20 years. It showed that 3,852 persons had attended 62 meetings, an average of 47 for each meeting. During the last nine years the average attendance had been 54, so that they had more than maintained their interest in a very vital branch of the association's work.

Twenty-two peals had been rung in the last year in seven towers in the district, with six conductors.

The secretary went on to ask for some organised effort to improve service ringing, for which, he thought, there was room. Many peals of bells were silent either for morning or evening service, and specially arranged quarter-peals was one way of tackling this problem. He asked the members to think this over very seriously and determine to make amends. He heartily congratulated Mr. Frank Cheal, of Rainham, who had, during the past year, put in 106 attendances for Sunday ringing—undoubtedly a very creditable performance.

SATISFACTORY FINANCE.

The financial position of the district was very satisfactory, and it was hoped that a sum of approximately £18 10s. would be available to turn over to the general account. The total contribution of the district to the Benevolent Fund for the year was £3 16s. 7d.

The hon. secretary expressed sympathy with the Newington ringers at the enforced silence, generally, of their bells, due to want of structural repairs, and he commended their loyalty in retaining their membership through such a period of trial.

The death of Lawrence Hales, of Hoo St. Werberg, and Edward Friend, of Gillingham, was sympathetically referred to, and, in conclusion, the hon. secretary expressed his thanks to the members for the trust they had reposed in him during his term of office, and, in regretting he could no longer carry on the duties, appealed for all the help the members could give to his successor.

The election of the district officers resulted in both the retiring district representatives, Messrs. Spice and Allen, being re-elected, and Mr. G. H. Spice was elected as district secretary, the retiring secretary, through domestic circumstances, being unable to continue.

The Chairman proposed that a very hearty vote of thanks should be accorded Mr. Shellock for his services as district secretary during the last nine years, and this was unanimously carried. The retiring secretary thanked the company for their kind expressions and informed them of his great regret in having to give up the post.

During the evening the bells were rung by mixed companies, and certainly Stedman did not go very kindly. The closing touch of Bob Royal, which was a great improvement, indicated how much better results could be obtained with a little more enterprise.

RETIRING SECRETARY'S THANKS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I would like to take this opportunity of expressing to you my very sincere thanks for your indulgence to me in the execution of my duties during the past nine years.

STANLEY J. T. SHELLOCK.

Retiring District Sec. (Rochester Dis., K.C.A.).

AFFAIRS IN THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

HON. SECRETARY CALLS FOR A GREATER EFFORT.

The annual meeting of the Tonbridge District was held at Tonbridge and was attended by 60 members, representing 14 towers out of the 19 in union in the district. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening in the standard methods, and, on the whole, the striking was very good. The usual service was held, conducted by the Rev. Canon F. Child. Tea at the Carlton Cafe was followed by the business meeting, which was presided over by Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council and vice-president of the association.

The hon. secretary (Mr. A. Richardson), in presenting his report for the year, said that for many years it had been a habit to commence the report with the words, 'I have again great pleasure in presenting my report,' but the time had unfortunately come when it was anything but a pleasure. He said he did not want to be thought a pessimist, but in putting the facts before the members in an optimistic mood he trusted they would be stirred to action, and would uphold the standard that the district had enjoyed for so many years. The number of practising members had dropped to the low level of 165. This figure was the lowest since 1920. The number of subscribing honorary members had reached the low figure of eight, unparalleled since 1918. There had been lack of progress in method ringing, and the striking at some meetings had left much to be desired. In too many towers practices had been allowed to lapse, and Sunday service ringing had suffered correspondingly. He pointed out Rule No. 1 of the association: 'That this association . . . have for its object the establishment, maintenance and encouragement of service ringing in all the churches in the county.' So that it was up to everyone to take interest, not only in one's own tower, but in all the towers.

The report caused considerable stir. Mr. T. Saunders, of East Peckham, said he 'did not think much of the report,' as it did not praise the district up. Mr. Richardson said that they had praised him for his previous reports, when he had painted a good picture, and he thought it was up to them to do the same when he told the truth, as it was for the ultimate good of the district.

A RINGING MASTER ELECTED.

Mr. Lewis put the report, together with the balance sheet, to the meeting, and their adoption was carried.

Mr. A. Richardson was re-elected hon. secretary for the ensuing year. Messrs. E. Everest and T. Saunders were elected district representatives.

The Chairman pointed out the paragraph in Rule 7, which states that a ringing master may be elected.

Mr. F. W. Housden said he thought it was very necessary for the district to have a ringing master, and put forward the name of Mr. E. J. Ladd.

Mr. Edwards said that the representatives of the district had for years acted in the capacity of ringing masters, and he could not see any advantage in making any alteration.—The Hon. Secretary remarked that though this should have been so, it had nearly always been left to him to make up the ringing at meetings. He thought that a ringing master should have knowledge of other methods besides Grandsire and be able to conduct other methods.

Mr. Edwards retorted that surely it did not need a 'London gadget' to organise the ringing, as it was not necessary for a ringing master to stand in all the touches.

Mr. Housden's proposition was seconded by Mr. H. J. Ford, and Mr. E. J. Ladd was elected the Master for 1938.

Mr. C. Dailly, of Brasted, was elected a practising member, having previously rung the treble to a touch of Grandsire Triples, this being his first experience on eight bells.

(Continued on next page.)

ANOTHER SPLICED SURPRISE RECORD. SIX METHODS RUNG ON HANDBELLS.

Hertfordshire Men's Great Achievement.

The Hertfordshire handbell band have created yet another record by ringing a peal of six Spliced Surprise Major methods, Rutland having now been included with London, Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and Ealing.

One can only continue to marvel at the skill of this talented quartette, to whose all-conquering achievements there seems no end. Their performance at the Collage Youths' tercentenary gathering, when they rang these six methods in the presence of a huge audience, was a revelation of their brilliance, and everyone commented upon the speed at which the ringing was done. The whole peal last Friday was accomplished at the same great pace, only a small fraction less than 38 changes a minute.

The average mind has difficulty in grasping what this implies. Each man putting two bells in their places for two and a quarter hours, slipping with perfect smoothness 135 times from one method to another, and striking the bells at an average rate of over five per second! The more the ordinary ringer thinks of it the more staggering it appears.

Here is the composition, by the conductor, Mr. Harold Cashmore, who, let us add, is something of a wizard with figures as well as with handbells. His share in the performance is colossal, for not only had he to ring his own pair of bells, but to call 102 bobs and the 135 changes of method. One of the most brilliant ringing achievements of all time.

5,088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR.

By H. G. Cashmore.

		M	W	H
23456				
42356	B	—	—	—
65324	ECE	—	—	—
36524	RCL	—	—	—
53624	RSBBE	—	3	—
56234	RSEB	—	2	—
25634	ECL	—	—	—
63254	LCL	—	—	—
54632	EBOR	2	—	—
35642	LOR	—	—	—
43652	LOR	—	—	—
28354	LCL	—	—	—
32654	LCE	—	—	—
45623	ECL	—	—	—
24653	RSL	—	—	—
52643	LBBCL	3	—	—
23645	LSLB	—	2	—

Twice repeated. B represents a lead of Bristol, E Ealing, C Cambridge, R Rutland, L London, S Superlative. The leads shown S must be rung as such. C can be rung S or G. In the peal as rung at Oxhey there were 1,440 changes of London, 672 each of Cambridge and Rutland, and 768 each of the other three methods.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.—At St. Chad's Church on October 13th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples: J. Youde 1, T. Simon, jun. 2, A. E. Richards 3, R. L. Ince 4, T. Guest 5, J. Thomas 6, J. Morgan (conductor) 7, T. Simon, sen. 8. First quarter-peal in the method for all except the conductor.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, October 3rd, for evening service at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Rev. G. Harvey 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 2, H. L. Cooke 3, H. S. Parsons 4, H. C. Bond 5, A. Painter 6, F. J. Lewis, jun. 7, W. H. Hayward 8. First quarter-peal and first attempt away from the tenor by the Rev. G. Harvey (priest-in-charge at Watermoor).

CAMBERWELL.—At St. Giles' Church on Sunday evening, October 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Mills 1, Miss H. Mills 2, J. Gransbury 3, W. Grainger 4, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 5, F. Hopgood (first quarter-peal in the method) 6, E. F. King 7, H. Peters 8.

LYDIARD MILLCENT, WILTS.—On Wednesday, September 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 44 mins.: W. C. Chandler 1, A. Lawrence 2, R. Shalles 3, F. D. Wheeler (first quarter 'inside') 4, W. B. Kynaston (conductor) 5, N. C. Wheeler 6.

(Continued from previous page.)

The following towers were chosen to be visited in the forthcoming year: Goudhurst in February, Hever in May, Brasted and Sundridge in July, and Toubridge in October. Mr. E. H. Lewis kindly invited the members to tea when they visited Brasted.

The members were informed that their old friend, the Rev. F. L. Schreiber, Vicar of Shipbourne, had not been enjoying very good health, and the secretary was asked to send to him the sympathy and good wishes of the members.

After the usual votes of thanks, Mr. Lewis, who had kindly brought along a portable gramophone, demonstrated the meaning of good striking by putting on the record of Spliced Surprise (Bristol, London, Cambridge, Superlative, Ealing), rung by Messrs. H. Hodgetts, C. Woolley, H. G. Cashmore and F. Brinklow.

LADY AS ESSEX DISTRICT SECRETARY.

CHANGE IN NORTHERN DIVISION OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place at Bocking on November 6th, 52 ringers attending from the following 21 parishes: Greenstead Green, Earls Colne, Braintree, Witham, Sawbridgeworth, Sible Hedingham, Great Baddow, St. Osyth, Saffron Walden, Dunmow, Springfield, Great Bardfield, Wickham St. Paul's, Halstead, Kelvedon, Maldon, Bocking, Felsted, Wanstead, Peering and Colne Engaine. At the service the Dean of Bocking paid a high tribute to the services of the ringers and said he was very happy to be with them once again.

A collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to 11s.

Tea was prepared at Courtaulds' Dining Room (by kind permission of Messrs. Courtaulds, Ltd.) by ladies, under the supervision of Mrs. Rogers. The Dean presided.

This was followed by the business meeting, the District Master (Mr. A. A. Saunders) presiding. The district secretary (Mr. F. Ridgwell) presented a report, in the course of which he said: 'During the past year meetings have been held at Sible Hedingham, Peering, Great Bardfield, Witham and Bocking, with an average attendance of 43. Two honorary and four ringing members have been elected. Since the last district annual meeting 30 peals have been rung in this division compared with 24 last year. They were all rung on tower bells, conducted by R. Suckling 8, L. W. Wiffen and R. Bird 7 each, H. W. Smith and A. Catterwell 2 each, W. Arnold, W. Ayre, J. Jennings and G. R. Townes 1 each. It is very gratifying to see the number of young ringers taking part in these peals, some their first peal and some the first in the method, whilst others conducted their first peal in various methods, and, with one exception, they were all conducted by members of this division.'

He thanked all those who had attended the meetings during the year and especially the correspondents of each company who had been such a great help by collecting subscriptions from all their members and sending them to him.

The report was received with enthusiasm.

SECRETARY RETIRES—BUT IS ELECTED RINGING MASTER.

The next business was the election of officers for the year. Mr. Ridgwell said he was not quite such a free man at present as when he took over the secretaryship eight years ago, and he asked for someone to be appointed in his place. There were some excellent ringers and conductors who he would like to see taking an interest in the inner working of the association, and he would like to propose that Miss H. Snowden be elected.—This was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen said a great debt of gratitude was due to Mr. Ridgwell for all the work which he had done in such a conscientious manner; they had been very fortunate to have a man like him (applause).

The Secretary, in returning thanks, said the kind words which had been spoken fully compensated him for his eight years' work.

The District Master also tendered his resignation. He said he had held the office for ten years and considered it should be passed on.

Mr. Wiffen suggested that the late secretary be asked to take over the mastership; he thought it would be much better than having two new officers.—Mr. Ridgwell said he would agree if the members thought his services would be helpful to the new secretary. This was apparently the object of the proposition and he was unanimously elected.—Mr. Saunders was thanked for his past services.

A discussion took place as to the advisability of forming a benevolent fund for the association, but by a large majority the suggestion was turned down. It was agreed to hold the first meeting in the New Year at Earls Colne.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Dean for the use of the bells, his address, and presiding at the tea, also to the ladies for preparing it, and to Messrs. Courtaulds for the use of the dining hall.

The Dean, in reply, said he thought they had made one mistake in arranging for the next meeting at Earls Colne; he thought they should all be held at Bocking (laughter).

A hearty welcome was accorded the visitors and congratulations were extended to the local company for the excellent way in which they kept their belfry.

A telegram of congratulation was sent from the meeting to the Ancient Society of College Youths, then holding their tercentenary meeting in London.

The methods rung during the day commenced with a few rounds for beginners and afterwards Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major.

MAULDEN RINGERS' GOOD START.

At St. Mary's Church, Maulden, Beds, on Friday, November 5th, a quarter-peal of Doubles, being 120 of April Day, 480 of Plain Bob and 660 of Grandsire: Samuel Daniels 1, Andrew Sinfeld 2, Ralph Stokes 3, Ronald Sharp 4, C. E. Jeffries (conductor) 5, Sidney Sharp 6. The first quarter-peal by ringers of 1, 3 and 6. The band were recently taught change ringing by the conductor, and are local Sunday service ringers.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, November 14th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): C. Fenn (conductor) 1, W. Beard 2, H. Worboys 3, E. G. Cottis 4, E. Poppy (Eye, Suffolk) 5, L. E. Last 6, G. W. Faulkner 7, R. Fenn 8.

DEVON GUILD.**MID-DEVON BRANCH SECRETARY WANTS TO RETIRE.**

A quarterly meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild was held at Dartington on Saturday, October 30th, and was moderately attended, ringers being present from Exeter, Brampford Speke, Newton Abbot, Collaton, Paignton and Buckfastleigh.

The five peal of six bells were well utilised during the afternoon, some good touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob Minor being rung, two members ringing their first touch in the latter method.

A service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. S. Martin), who also gave a very able address. A collection taken for the Guild Bells Restoration Fund amounted to 5s.

The party adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, Totnes, for tea, and this was followed by the usual business meeting, presided over by the Rev. W. R. D. Mills (chairman).

It was reported that the meeting had been changed from Kingskerswell to Dartington, owing to the bells at the former place being under restoration. It was resolved that the annual meeting of the branch be held at Kingskerswell on Saturday, February 12th, 1938, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

The following election of members prior to starting for peals were unanimously confirmed: Miss Florrie Wyman, Crawley; Mr. H. W. Simmons, Croydon; Mr. W. Claydon, Reigate; Mr. W. R. Melville, Kingsworthy; Mr. C. E. Smith, Godalming; Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Woking; Mr. A. Paddon Smith, Birmingham; Mr. G. F. Swann, Birmingham; Mr. R. Richardson, Surfleet, all non-resident life members; also Mr. H. J. Hole, of Paignton, unattached performing member.

On the suggestion of the secretary, it was resolved to furnish each member of the branch with a copy of the secretary's and treasurer's reports for the annual meeting. Mr. A. L. Bennett also intimated that at the annual meeting he did not propose to seek re-election as secretary, treasurer and Ringing Master, but he was requested by the chairman and the general secretary to reconsider his decision.

Hearty votes of thanks accorded the Rector of Dartington for the use of his bells and for conducting the service, and to Mrs. Martin for presiding at the organ, terminated the business. Some of the members returned to the tower for further ringing, which included a well-struck 360 of Plain Bob Minor conducted by the president.

A YOUNG BAND.

At the Parish Church, Desborough, Northants, on Sunday, November 7th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor: Raymond H. Idle (aged 12) 1, Lewis W. Kilbourn 2, Denis Yeomans (aged 13), 3, John E. Plane (aged 15) 4, Leonard J. Brown (aged 15) 5, Arthur H. Idle (conductor) 6. This was the first 720 for ringers of 1 and 3, and first 720 'inside' for ringers of 5 and 6.

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NOTICES.

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

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, November 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business following. Nominations for district officers for 1938 at this meeting.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 4, Temperance Cottages, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Putney on Saturday, November 20th. Bells (8) available 3 to 5 p.m. Tea will be arranged nearby, with meeting to follow. Fulham bells (10) from 7 to 8 p.m. Let's have a good attendance.—A. P. Cannon, 118, Sarsfield Road, Balham, S.W.12.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Newbury on Saturday, November 20th. Bells (10) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers will be made welcome.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Gorton Unitarian Church on Saturday, November 20th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 1s. each. Meeting in the Schoolroom to follow. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will take place at St. Anne's Parish Church on Saturday, November 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Bring food, tea in Institute at 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The last meeting of 1937 will be held at Kegworth on November 20th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.—H. O. Over, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hugglescote.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, November 20th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Philip's Church, Nelson, on Saturday, November 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A monthly meeting will be held at Polesworth on Saturday, November 20th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Tea (1s.) at the Coffee House at 5 p.m.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., Highfield House, Exhall, Coventry.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.—All ringers invited to the rededication of the peal of eight bells at St. Peter's, recently recast by John Taylor and Co. Service 3.30 p.m., Saturday, November 20th. Ceremony and address by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester. Tea 5.15 p.m. Ringing 6.15 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.—Arthur V. Davis, captain of St. Peter's bells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at All Hallows', Tottenham, on Saturday, November 20th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at the Bruce Castle Bakery, near the church, at 5.30, at 1s. each. Special method, Edmonton Bob Major. All ringers welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—A meeting will be held at Twerton-on-Avon on Saturday, November 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—Theo. Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, November 20th. Tower open 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 at Express Dairy on London Bridge station approach. Business meeting in vestry after tea. Travelling facilities: Borough station on Mordon-Edgware Tube; bus services, Nos. 5, 10, 21, 35, 40, 69, 133 and 133A pass the church.—N. Summerhayes, 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—At Totternhoe (6 bells), on Saturday, November 20th, at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Leighton Buzzard.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—The next meeting of the branch will be held at Exton on Saturday next, November 20th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m.—S. H. Towell, Hon. Sec., 17, King's Road, Oakham.

CHEADLE, CHESHIRE.—Near Stockport.—The bells will be rededicated by the Archdeacon of Macclesfield on Sunday, November 21st, at 10.45 a.m. A ring of eight tuned and rehung in new framework by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The diocesan collections will be presented at the Cathedral on Monday, November 22nd. Bells ready at 6.30 p.m. Service at 7.30 p.m.—W. H. Shuker, 106, Bank Street, Clayton, Manchester.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 25th; *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 23rd; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 30th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, November 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. Will all those intending to be present and requiring tea please advise me by Wednesday, November 24th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Div. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The last meeting for 1937 of the North Norfolk Branch will be held at Hethersett on November 27th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., at 1s. 3d. each. Let us have a good attendance, and please don't forget that postcard by Thursday, November 25th.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ramsbottom, on Saturday, November 27th. Bells available from 6 p.m. A meeting to be held in the tower during the evening. All welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Wickhambreaux on Saturday, November 27th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea by kind invitation of the Rector. Please send your names for tea to reach me not later than Wednesday, November 24th. Plenty of ringing.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Ightham, on Saturday, November 27th. Peal of six bells available from 2.30. Service at 5. Tea is by kind invitation. Please send a postcard if you are coming.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Meeting, Mitcham Parish Church, Saturday, November 27th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea, in Parish Room, by kind invitation of the Mitcham band, 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Memorial to the late Master of the Association, James Douglas Drewett, Esq., J.P., will be unveiled at 4.30 p.m. Please send numbers for tea to Mr. C. Potheary, 73, Fernlea Road, Mitcham, not later than Thursday, November 25th. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Stalybridge, on Saturday, November 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please advise Mr. J. Simister, 14, Hawke St., Stalybridge.—K. Lewis, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, November 27th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A ringing meeting is arranged at Swavesey, Cambs, on Saturday, November 27th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service, if arranged. There will be no excuse for not attending this meeting except illness; weddings can wait. Trains (L.N.E.R.) and buses (Eastern Counties) pass the door. A 'Taylor' six rehung in ball bearings by 'Johnston' recently. Book the date. (No, Don.) Come early.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Birstall on Saturday, November 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the tower at 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds, 12.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Next meeting at Paulerspury on Saturday, November 27th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30. Please notify for tea.—Rev. E. V. Fenn, Lois Weedon Vicarage, Towcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Werburgh's, on Saturday, November 27th. Bells open 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Branch Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at Eastham (6 bells) on Saturday, November 27th. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Campsall on Saturday, November 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea is being provided for those who notify Mr. H. Bradley, Station Gatehouse, Norton, near Doncaster, by Tuesday, November 23rd. This is being tried as an experiment by the Church workers to help clear a debt they have, so a good attendance is requested to help them in this effort.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Langley, Bucks (6 bells), on Saturday, November 27th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea, please, not later than November 22nd. Phone Slough 1260, or write.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, November 27th, at St. Ebbe's Church. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4, followed by tea and business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify W. Collett, 45, Latimer Road, Headington, Oxford.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting, as a farewell to the Vicar, who is leaving, will be held at Broxbourne on November 27th. Service at five. Tea and business at the welcome after. All ringing friends will be heartily welcomed.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Battle on Saturday, November 27th. Tower open 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—C. A. Levett, Hon. Sec., 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at North Crawley (6 bells), on Saturday, November 27th. Ring up 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. The Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks, to whom the number for tea should be sent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A meeting for practice will be held on Saturday, November 27th, at Lowick. Bells (6) from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.—W. J. Whitmore, 80c, High Street, Raunds, Northants.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Next meeting, Pontesbury, November 27th. Six bells and good bus service. Bells from 3 p.m. For tea, please advise me by 24th inst.—W. A. Farmer, 6, Mayfield Terrace, Mountfields, Shrewsbury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Gateshead, on Wednesday, December 1st. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Please send numbers for tea at earliest.—M. Bertie, 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch will be held at Leckhampton on Saturday, December 4th. Bells (8) open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30.

Tea by kind invitation of the Rector, Archdeacon R. W. Sears, at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present please notify me by the 1st?—Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Exeter Branch.—Annual meeting at Heavitree on December 4th. Service 4.30 in Parish Church. Tea at 5 in Constitutional Club. All City towers open. Will bands and visitors kindly advise me by November 29th?—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday, December 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 to all who notify Mr. S. Churton, 11, Lonsdale Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than December 1st.—Andrew Thompson.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Hastings (Christ Church, Blacklands), on Saturday, December 4th. Tower open 3 o'clock. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15 (1s. per head). Will members intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The last meeting for 1937 will be held at Dorking on Saturday, December 4th. Service at 5 o'clock, with tea and business meeting in the Church Room afterwards. Will those requiring tea please notify Miss E. J. M. Cottrell, 28, Hart Road, Dorking, by December 2nd?—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec., Howard Road, Great Bookham, Surrey.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Betchworth on Saturday, December 4th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea at the Dolphin Inn, 1s. 3d. per head. Please let me have numbers for tea not later than Thursday, December 2nd. All ringers welcome. Nominations for district officers for 1938 at this meeting.—W. Claydon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Chartfield Road, Reigate.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aberavon on Saturday, December 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please send number for tea by Tuesday, November 30th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Folkestone on Saturday, December 4th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—The annual meeting will be held at Whitchurch on Saturday, December 11th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in the Parish Church at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. in Church Hall. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify the Hon. Secretary, F. S. H. Marle, Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

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