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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1951

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MORE ABOUT STEDMAN

TO get the fullest possible enjoyment from Stedman, as indeed any method, it is essential that the striking should be accurate. The simpler the method the easier it should be to strike and, as Stedman is by modern standards a simple method, anyone who has been taught to handle his bell properly (and can therefore make it sound when he wants it to sound) and has a reasonably sensitive ear should be able to ring the method well after a few months' practice. Although it may be impossible to **teach** anyone to strike perfectly, certain advice derived from long experience can be given which may help to produce improvement if not perfection.

First of all, the key to all good ringing is accurate leading, and the higher the number of bells the more important this factor becomes, since the amount of time at one's disposal becomes increasingly less. It is fatal to hold up too long, even on the little bells, although there must be at least a suggestion of an open lead. Whether there should be what might be termed a 'unit' interval is open to question, especially in Cinques and Caters. To obtain the best results the bells should be pushed along slightly at hand and the intervals made very slightly wider at back, at any rate towards the end of the change. But the margin of difference is very small and it is only in the sixes around the course-end that it should be really noticeable. All may not approve of this practice, but most experienced Stedman ringers are agreed that the back-strokes at the course-end should be opened out.

The half-pulls at back-stroke and the back-stroke leads of the whole turns are also very important, and a keen ear should be kept on the tenor as well as on one's own bell so that correct leading can be achieved. The double-dodging 4/5, 6/7, etc., should present little difficulty once sufficient experience has given the necessary ropesight. Occasionally, although the ringer knows his position, he may not immediately see which bell he is to dodge with. In such a case the wise ringer will not wait and look round and round the tower in an effort to find his partner, but he will make the necessary adjustment to his 'pull' automatically and pull off as near as he can to his correct place. By that time he should either hear or see the other bell, or someone will tell him. In any case it is far better to cause a slight 'clip' rather than make a hiatus in the rhythm as a whole by holding up when in doubt.

Some ringers seem to find difficulty in knowing whether to go in slow or quick. While there are several popular methods of determining this if in doubt, such as remembering which way you went in before (not forgetting the effect of an odd bob) and acting accordingly, or watching your course bell and doing the opposite, or by watching the lead when you are in 5/4, none of them, the writer feels, is really satisfactory because a mistake on someone else's part can upset your calculations. It is far better, and not difficult, to learn which sixes of the course are slow and which quick from the position of the fixed bells; while at the end of the course the starts of various bells can be learnt as in Major, e.g., 3rds place—quick, 4ths place—slow, 6ths place—quick, etc. You will then be in a position to keep others right if necessary, which is far more satisfactory than having, as it were, to consult others yourself.

This last point will be touched upon again in a later article; enough must surely have already been said to show that the proper ringing of Stedman demands much more than knowing the initial rigmarole of 'double dodge up, lie, double dodge down, in slow, first whole turn,' etc.

F. E. H.

BE ONE OF THE THOUSAND!

In years to come you will be able to say, 'Yes, I played my part in a humble way in the battle of inflation that kept "The Ringing World" at 4d.'

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To the Editorial Committee, 'The Ringing World.'

Please post 'The Ringing World' to me for one quarter (6/-), half-year (11/8), one year (£1 2/6) (Cross out words not applicable.)

Name

Address

TEN BELL PEALS

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5037 SPLICED CATERS

Consisting of 2,554 Stedman and 2,483 Grandsire, with three changes of method.

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E flat.

*ANNE B. STOCKDALE .. Treble	DENIS N. LAYTON .. 6
*RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. 2	*†JOHN HILL .. 7
ALBERT J. ADAMS .. 3	FRANK E. DARBY .. 8
DAVID E. PARSONS .. 4	*FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 9
HAROLD N. PITSTOW .. 5	*JAMES BULLOCK .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

*First peal of Spliced Caters. †50th peal this year. Rung in honour of the birth of a granddaughter to Mr. James Bullock.

CARDIFF.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 27 cwt.

*MRS. A. R. PRICE .. Treble	*A. RYAN PRICE .. 6
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	DAVID J. KING .. 7
DONALD G. CLARKE .. 3	THOMAS YEOMANS .. 8
*GEORGE FRANCIS .. 4	JACK R. WORRALL .. 9
ROBERT E. COLES .. 5	WILLIAM DARE .. Tenor

Composed by B. JEALOUS (C.C.C. 51). Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

*First peal on ten bells. Specially rung as a birthday compliment to Seymour R. Barker and on the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Price.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt.

SYDNEY T. HOLT .. Treble	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 6
*R. GEORGE MORRIS .. 2	THOMAS HEMMING .. 7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. 3	REGINALD WOODYATT .. 8
MRS. J. THOMAS .. 4	CYRIL TANSELL .. 9
JOHN THOMAS .. 5	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

*First peal of Surprise Royal. First peal of Cambridge Royal as conductor. Annual peal for the Association.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 10 Hours and 23 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mark,

A PEAL OF 15480 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 7 lb. in D.

HENRY O. BAKER .. Treble	WALTER ALLMAN .. 6
FRED DUNKERLEY .. 2	EDWARD JENKINS .. 7
WILFRED STEVENSON .. 3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON .. 8
JOHN E. BIBBY .. 4	JOSEPH WHITTAKER .. 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS .. 5	JOHN WORTH .. Tenor

Composed by THOMAS B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

The longest peal of Royal yet rung and the longest length in the method on any number.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HILLSBOROUGH, CO. DOWN, NORTHERN IRELAND.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

(Northern District.)

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1951, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Malachi.

A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILMA HOBY .. Treble	JAMES EDGAR .. 5
JEAN STEWART .. 2	FRED E. DUKES .. 6
HARRY BROWN .. 3	TOM SMELTZER .. 7
PAUL L. TAYLOR .. 4	JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

First peal of Treble Bob Major as conductor. Festival of Britain Peal No. 16.

LYNDHURST, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1951, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY Treble	MAURICE J. BUTLER .. 5
*REGINALD A. REED .. 2	WILLIAM E. CHEATER .. 6
†JOYCE COX .. 3	†JOHN GILBERT .. 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN .. 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

*100th peal for the Guild. †First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Major on the bells. A compliment to the verger on the 54th anniversary of his wedding and to M. J. Butler on the birth of a daughter.

BURFORD, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

IVOR D. HARRIS .. Treble	FREDK. W. SODEN .. 5
JACK KEYTE .. 2	†REGINALD H. JARVIS .. 6
FRANK SODEN .. 3	THOMAS W. TIMMS .. 7
*MICHAEL H. SINDEN .. 4	WILLIAM J. DIXON .. Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by THOMAS W. TIMMS.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major 'inside.'

CONGRESBURY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 35 cwt.

JACK R. WORRALL .. Treble	*GRAHAM R. EYLES .. 5
*DAVID G. YEO .. 2	LEONARD DERRICK .. 6
ROGER O. FRY .. 3	ERIC J. TAYLOR .. 7
*J. WALTER SMITH .. 4	EMLYN F. HANCOCK .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by EMLYN F. HANCOCK.

*First peal of Major.

MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

At the Watch Tower.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 26 lb.

JOHN A. BROWN .. Treble	THOMAS W. CROWE .. 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 2	DENIS A. BAYLES .. 6
ERIC N. HARRISON .. 3	W. NORMAN PARK .. 7
MARGARET FIDELL .. 4	ROLAND PARK .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

First peal on the bells since they were recast and rehung to commemorate the Festival of Britain.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 14½ cwt.

Parker's Six-part.	*ENID LONNEN .. Treble	*EDWIN J. LINDLEY .. 5
	EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 2	SIDNEY A. PAICE .. 6
	*RUTH M. K. HOW .. 3	LEONARD STILWELL .. 7
	*JOHN WHITEHORN .. 4	CECIL E. C. DENYER .. Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD STILWELL.

*First peal of Grandsire Triples.

HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1951, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

MURIEL REAY .. Treble	ARTHUR D. COOK .. 5
JOHN R. MAYNE .. 2	*BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 3	†ANTHONY AGER .. 7
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

*First peal of Surprise 'inside.' †First peal of Surprise Major. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Cook.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Dec. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours,

At BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Containing 1,600 London, 1,280 Rutland, 640 Bristol, and 320 each of Cambridge, Superlative, Pudsey, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, with 144 changes of method.

H. JAMES TURNER Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 5
CLAUDIA A. HARDING .. 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 6
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 3	HENRY H. FEARN .. 7
JOHN PINFOLD 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.
First peal of Spiced Surprise in eight methods by all the band except the conductor.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 11, 1951, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

At THE ROYAL FOUNDATION CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation.	Tenor 16 cwt.
E. CHARLES TURNER .. Treble	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 5
MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 2	PETER J. GRANT .. 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 4	JOHN GRANT .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Rung on the anniversary of the accession of H.M. King George VI. and as thanksgiving for the restoration of his health. First peal on the bells since being retuned and rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. after being condemned as unsafe in July, 1919.

HANDSWORTH SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield and District Society.)

On Wed., Dec. 12, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ELIZABETH BATE Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL .. 5
JOHN E. TURLEY 2	JACK G. BROTHWELL .. 6
JOHN J. L. GILBERT .. 3	MRS. J. E. TURLEY .. 7
PHILIP COOTE 4	ARNOLD HILL .. Tenor

Composed by P. O. BIXBEY. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of the tenor ringer.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 12, 1951, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb. in G.

THOMAS R. SIMMONS .. Treble	GEORGE SAYER .. 5
ERNEST G. SHORTING .. 2	F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. 6
ARTHUR G. BASON .. 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 7
NOLAN GOLDEN .. 4	BERT GOGLE .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM BARTON. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method on bells.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Grove's Variation.	Tenor 15 cwt. 4 lb. in F.
WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. Treble	*ALFRED WORTHINGTON .. 5
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 2	ARCHIBALD REED .. 6
GERALD C. HEMMING .. 3	R. ROGER SAVORY .. 7
JOHN HALL 4	*LAWRENCE MITCHELL .. Tenor

Conducted by R. ROGER SAVORY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells since rehanging. Southern Branch quarterly peal.

HOOK NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

GEORGE F. BURTON .. Treble	WILLIAM J. CROSS .. 5
CYRIL H. KINCH 2	EDMUND E. PEARSON .. 6
ALAN R. PINK 3	REGINALD H. JARVIS .. 7
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER .. 4	EDGAR J. SMITH .. Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

First peal in the method on the recast bells.

HURST, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES W. MORTIMER .. Treble	ROBERT WAKE .. 5
MRS. B. C. CASTLE .. 2	†CHARLES A. EELE .. 6
JOHN A. HARLAND .. 3	BERNARD C. CASTLE .. 7
*MRS. C. A. EELE .. 4	ERNEST ALLUM .. Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD C. CASTLE.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' All are Sunday service ringers at Hurst Church.

LANCASTER, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Bruerton's Twelve-part.

Tenor 31 cwt.

*DOROTHY SCHOFIELD .. Treble	†GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE .. 5
†JOHN WOODS 2	FRANK POSTLETHWAITE .. 6
JAMES W. METCALFE .. 3	*ROLAND ECCLES .. 7
JAMES E. BURLS .. 4	RICHARD DAVIES .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE.

* First peal in the method. † 25th peal. ‡ 50th peal for the Lancashire Association and first peal in the method as conductor.

NEW SHOREHAM, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ARTHUR W. GRAVETT .. Treble	LEONARD STILWELL .. 5
FRANK BENNETT 2	FREDERICK PAGE .. 6
EDGAR RAPLEY 3	*MAURICE THOMAS .. 7
BASIL WHITE 4	WILLIAM BEESON .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in the method.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF 5056 NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

HILDEGARD I. G. BIRD .. Treble	ALFRED G. HILL .. 5
DORIS E. COLGATE .. 2	RALPH BIRD .. 6
ROBERT COLLINS .. 3	FREDK. J. CULLUM .. 7
JOHN O. WELLER .. 4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

Rung for the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen, of Gravesend, Mr. Allen being an old ringer of Milton-next-Gravesend.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. Treble	*ALFRED C. BOXLEY .. 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 2	J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 6
STANLEY PRESTIDGE .. 3	†MAURICE G. TURNER .. 7
ERNEST STITCH .. 4	HOWARD HOWELL .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Treble Bob 'inside.' † 125th peal for the Society.



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PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

E. WINIFRED KEYS Treble	*PETER N. BOND 5
BLANCHE M. BALL 2	PATRICK PAGE 6
JOHN W. MEADE 3	JOHN H. HUNT 7
NORMAN J. SMITH 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT.. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by F. W. BURNETT.
* 50th peal.

SKETTY, SWANSEA, GLAM.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation).	Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.
ALFRED HANNINGTON .. Treble	HARRY BOYCE 5
EDWARD PHILLIPS 2	*EDMOND MORRIS 6
TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 3	J. ARTHUR HOARE 7
GWYN I. LEWIS 4	JOHN T. WILLIAMS.. .. Tenor

Conducted by J. ARTHUR HOARE.

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

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Elloe Deaneries Branch.)

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

MRS. A. RICHARDSON .. Treble	W. ALLAN RICHARDSON .. 5
JOHN E. ALLEN 2	AUBREY D. MILLS 6
GEORGE W. MILLS 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
HORACE BENNETT 4	STANLEY E. BENNETT .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith. Mr. Smith has been a ringer at this church for 50 years. Also in honour of the birthday of His Majesty the King and a birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

LESTER GRAY Treble	THOMAS S. HORRIDGE .. 5
THOMAS HAMMOND 2	JACK ASHCROFT 6
*HARRY BLACKBURN 3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT 7
*†CHARLES BLACKBURN .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method. † 25th peal. Rung for the 25th anniversary of the opening of the church.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

OLD RADNOR, RADNORSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Nov. 30, 1951, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings).	Tenor 16½ cwt.
DOROTHY HUGHES Treble	WILFRED NORGROVE .. 4
MRS. E. CHANDLER 2	LESLIE EVANS 5
BRYAN ELLSMORE 3	*RICHARD LINGEN Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN ELLSMORE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

METHERINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 1, 1951, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED.

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

*JAMES H. MUSSON Treble	*DENIS A. FRITH 4
MARGARET A. SWANN .. 2	LOUIS WILLIERS 5
W. ROBERT PARKER 3	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. L. JAMES. Conducted by GEOFFREY R. PARKER.

* First peal of London.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 3, 1951, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Double Oxford and St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

URBAN WILDNEY Treble	GEORGE WATERMAN .. 4
*PATRICIA CLARKE 2	MAX P. PAGE 5
WILLIAM BUTTON 3	RONALD W. STEWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by MAX P. PAGE.

* First peal in three methods.

HARPOLE, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 5, 1951, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Comprising four six-scores each of Kennington, Canterbury, Southrepps, Old Doubles, St. Simon, St. Nicholas, April Day, Antelope and Plain Bob, and six six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

*MICHAEL HOLLOWELL .. Treble	††STANLEY M. RUDDLESSEN 3
†PERCY AMOS 2	†HAROLD HAYNES 4
PHILIP JONES Tenor	

Conducted by PHILIP JONES.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles in ten methods. ‡ 25th peal. Rung to commemorate the bi-centenary of Dr. Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), hymn writer. Rung also on the eve of St. Nicholas' Day.

NOCTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 6, 1951, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

MARGARET A. SWANN .. Treble	BERTIE BEE 4
*EVELYN M. WRIGHT .. 2	LOUIS WILLIERS 5
W. ROBERT PARKER 3	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. L. JAMES. Conducted by GEOFFREY R. PARKER.

* First peal of London.

QUADRING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 6, 1951, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Double Oxford and St. Clement's and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM B. DAWSON .. Treble	HORACE BENNETT 4
*PHILIP H. REYNOLDS .. 2	CYRIL WANDER 5
JOHN P. MORRIS 3	ALBERT H. BENNETT .. Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL WANDER.

* First peal.

BURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1951, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. ANDREW AND BOTOLPH.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's of Double Oxford and St. Clement's, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt. in A.

WILLIAM J. BUTTON Treble	RONALD W. STEWARD .. 4
CECIL W. PIPE 2	MAX P. PAGE 5
GEOFFREY F. PAGE 3	DOUGLAS COLLINS Tenor

Conducted by MAX P. PAGE.

HORTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1951, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising three extents each of Single Oxford Bob and Plain Bob and one extent combined. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

*MONICA HOWARD Treble	†BRIAN TAYLOR 4
†DAVID H. PEARCE 2	GEOFFREY W. ASHDOWN 5
†WILLIAM BUTLER 3	REGINALD L. SILLS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in two Plain Minor methods. Rung for the birthday of the treble ringer.

OXENDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1951, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being one 240 Morris's arrangement and 40 six-scores (ten callings).

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 lb. in B.

*CECIL A. SWANN Treble	†HUGH A. LOACH 3
*DEREK E. GRIFFIN 2	ARTHUR MILLWARD 4

ERNEST G. ORLAND Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST G. ORLAND.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

TUXFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1951, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

GRACE BURCHNALL Treble	*ALAN WILSON 4
KATHARINE BURCHNALL 2	ERNEST PRESTON 5
WILLIAM BRETT 3	HAROLD DENMAN Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.

* First peal. Rung for the patronal festival.

ABBOTS LEIGH, SOMERSET.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

*FRANK D. MACK Treble	IVOR H. TRUEMAN 4
†ROBERT J. STOKES 2	*LANCE C. I. WATSON 5
B. ENID LLOYD ROBERTS .. 3	JACK R. WORRALL Tenor

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

* First peal of Minor in three methods. † First peal of Minor 'inside' in three methods.

ARELEY, KINGS, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 30 extents of Grandsire and 12 of Plain Bob, fourteen callings.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

DOROTHY HICKS Treble	ALFRED W. GLAZZARD 4
GERALD L. BOWEN 2	ALFRED C. BOXLEY 5
JOHN H. PAGETT 3	JOHN H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. PAGETT.

BLAXHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of St. Clement's, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob and two extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

ALDERMAN LING Treble	WILLIAM J. BUTTON 4
RONALD W. STEWARD 2	CECIL W. PIPE 5
GEORGE W. PIPE 3	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

GREAT HORKESLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 16 cwt.

DONALD C. ANDREWS .. Treble	ROY DUESBURY 4
ALFRED E. HONEYWOOD .. 2	*WALTER BAILEY 5
ALAN R. ANDREWS 3	GEORGE N. ORMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal 'inside.'

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob. Single Oxford Bob. St. Clement's, and two different extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

ROBERT B. SMITH Treble	MRS. E. BRADLEY 4
*WILLIAM GRAVES 2	THOMAS W. TUNE 5
FRED TERRY 3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

* First peal in five methods.



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QUEENBOROUGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob, Plain Bob, and one of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. in B.

WILLIAM A. WOOD	Treble	FRANCIS J. CHEAL	4
ERIC NAYLOR	2	GEORGE KENWARD	5
STANLEY V. RAYFIELD	3	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

A birthday compliment to Stanley Kenward, son of the 5th ringer.

SAXILBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Eastern Branch.)

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Single Court, Double Oxford, London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

LESLIE H. TAYLOR	Treble	EDWIN FISHER	4
*FRED BISHOP	2	ALBERT E. FLATTERS	5
ARTHUR YOUNG	3	JOHN R. YOUNG	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. YOUNG.

* First peal in seven methods.

STEEP, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1951, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

*E. WINIFRED KEYS	Treble	JOHN W. MEADE	4
*BLANCHE M. BALL	2	JOHN H. HUNT	5
*†NORMAN J. SMITH	3	†FREDERICK W. BURNETT	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

* First peal of Surprise. † 25th peal. ‡ First peal of Surprise Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1951, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven variations of extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

STEPHEN K. WHEELER	Treble	RONALD THAXTER	4
MIRIAM A. HIGDON	2	FRED RIX	5
TOM GREENACRE	3	CECIL V. EBBERSON	Tenor

Conducted by CECIL V. EBBERSON.

Rung as a thanksgiving for the restoration of His Majesty the King's health.

CASSINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising seven extents in 18 methods, with 108 changes of method, viz.: (1) College Exercise, (2) Thelwall, St. Clement's, Childwall, Double Oxford, (3) Cambridge Surprise, Primrose Surprise, (4) Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Double Bob, Plain Bob, (5) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Horsmonden, (6) Hereward, Single Oxford, (7) Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

EDNA M. SILLS	Treble	HARRY P. FLOYD	4
DOUGLAS O. WILKS	2	EDGAR J. SMITH	5
EDMUND E. PEARSON	3	ALAN R. PINK	Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

The first peal in 18 Minor methods by all the band and on the bells. This is the greatest number of Minor methods yet rung to a peal by the Guild.

SEEND, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. WEST	Treble	*PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING	4
*RUBY GIBBONS	2	*FREDERICK S. SLATFORD	5
*LAURENCE E. HITCHINS	3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

* First peal in four methods.

BIDDENHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 11, 1951, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of College Exercise, Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

ALAN S. SMITH	Treble	BRIAN S. COPE	4
LEONARD WILLIAMS	2	J. MICHAEL STEPHENS	5
EVELYN STEEL	3	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN	Tenor

Conducted by J. MICHAEL STEPHENS.

Rung on the fifteenth anniversary of the King's Accession and in thanksgiving for His Majesty's return to health.

HANDBELL PEALS

HELLESDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 3, 1951, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.

AT 87, REEPHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5072 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

*H. WILLIAM BARRETT	1-2	BERT GOGLE	5-6
NOLAN GOLDEN	3-4	†ARTHUR G. BASON	7-8

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal on handbells away from the tenor. † First peal on handbells.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Tues., Dec. 4, 1951, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes.

IN HERTFORD COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 10 in A.

M. ELIZABETH ROE	1-2	MICHAEL SLANEY	5-6
*PETER BORDER	3-4	PATRICK PRESTON	7-8

Composed and Conducted by MICHAEL SLANEY.

* First peal of Major 'in hand' and first peal 'in hand' off the tenors.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 5, 1951, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes.

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY	1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN	5-6
*KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER	3-4	FRED PRICE	7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Composed by DANIEL T. MATKIN. Witnesses: ARTHUR G. JONES and FRANCIS S. WILSON.

* First peal of Major away from the tenors. Rung as a compliment to Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, on his 86th birthday.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1951, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

AT 74, HOOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 16 in B.

ALBERT J. ADAMS	1-2	RUTH M. K. HOW	5-6
EDWIN J. LINDLEY	3-4	*RALPH C. SPITTLE	7-8

Arranged and Conducted by EDWIN J. LINDLEY.

* First peal on handbells.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1951, in 3 Hours.

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5104 SPLICED MAXIMUS

In three methods, comprising 2,784 Plain Bob, 1,392 Double Bob, and 928 Little Bob, with 235 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

WILLIAM G. YOUNG	1-2	ROY C. HURST	7-8
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY	3-4	MICHAEL J. E. BEST	9-10
DANIEL T. MATKIN	5-6	KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER	11-12

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN. Witness: ARTHUR G. JONES.

First peal of Spliced Maximus by all, and for the Guild. Believed to be the first peal of Spliced Maximus in three methods 'in hand.'

SALFORD, LANCASHIRE.

THE UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1951, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 18 in G.

*DEREK OGDEN (Man.)	1-2	GORDON C. BRIGGS (Shef.)	5-6
*W. L. ROBINSON (Man.)	3-4	†ERIC NIXON (Man.)	7-8

†BRIAN HARRIS (Man.) 9-10

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by GORDON C. BRIGGS.

* First peal on ten handbells. † First peal of Bob Royal. ‡ First peal 'in hand.'

QUARTER PEALS

BILTON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Dec. 9th, 1,340 Grandsire Doubles: Miss R. M. Cooper 1, Miss E. Burnell 2, Miss P. Burnell 3, J. A. Tole (first as cond.) 4, D. G. Thrush 5, W. E. Burnell 6. Rung for thanksgiving day for the King.

BUCKINGHAM.—On Dec. 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Spokes (first of Triples) 1, W. Yates 2, W. J. Chester 3, E. Lines 4, F. C. Case 5, T. E. Roberts (cond.) 6, G. E. Green 7, C. W. Holland 8. Rung for His Majesty King George VI's birthday.

CHATHAM, KENT.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Knight 1, C. Norris 2, V. Jarrett 3, H. Stringate 4, R. W. Dawe 5, R. Norris 6, F. H. Dallaway (cond.) 7, C. Jarrett 8.

FELTHAM, MIDDLEX.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,320 Minor in 3 methods (600 Spliced Double Bob, Little Bob and Plain Bob and 720 Plain Bob): F. C. Price 1-2, F. T. Blagrove 3-4, Janet S. Bailey 5, R. E. Price (cond.) 6. First quarter of Minor in three methods for ringers of 1-2 and 3-4.

FULHAM, LONDON.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. R. F. Deal 2, J. E. Chilcott 3, H. Belcher 4, W. S. Langdon 5, M. V. Chilcott 6, R. F. Deal 7, C. Watts 8, Miss D. Lidbetter 9, J. Phillips (cond.) 10.

HADLOW, KENT.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. G. Parsons (first quarter) 1, W. R. Manser 2, R. J. Harden 3, L. J. Honess 4, J. T. Medhurst (cond.) 5, L. B. Dukes 6.

HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER, ESSEX.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Bullock 1, Miss S. Booth 2, J. Carrott 3, S. Penfold 4, T. East 5, F. V. Gant (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 2 and 5.

HOLYWELL, HUNTS.—On Dec. 14th, 1,272 Plain Bob Minor: F. Warrington (cond.) 1, A. Clements 2, H. W. Pratt 3, O. Norman 4, E. J. Parish 5, W. Papworth 6. Rung for the birthday of His Majesty the King. The bells were 'fired' at the conclusion.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 9th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: D. Salisbury 1, A. H. Worboys 2, S. Meadows 3, J. Carrott 4, A. Salisbury 5, S. Penfold 6, C. E. Wright 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8. First in method for 3 and 4.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. L. Barkey 1, Miss K. Streton 2, F. Hooper (cond.) 3, A. Muddel 4, W. Midwinter 5, C. Copp 6. A farewell compliment to Mr. A. J. Cloxton, who has been a great help to the local band.

PETERBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,248 Plain Bob Major: W. Rose (cond.) 1, H. Goakes 2, S. Wright 3, J. Mounfield 4, W. Barker 5, J. Bluff 6, L. Hadman 7, G. Bush 8.

OTTERSHAW, SURREY.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Doubles (180 Grandsire, 360 Reverse St. Bartholomew's, 480 Plain Bob, 240 April Day): D. C. Sleet 1, J. Ribbans 2, R. W. Monk 3, R. J. Andrews 4, D. Sleet (cond.) 5, P. Underwood 6. First quarter in 4 methods by all. Rung in thankfulness for the recovery of the King, and the Vicar, who also is recovering from an operation.

PEBMARSH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 1st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: H. W. Moore (first quarter) 1, Mrs. H. Moore (first quarter 'inside') 2, C. Snowden 3, G. Trendell 4, D. Woodward 5, Miss H. G. Snowden (cond.) 6.

PORTRKERRY, GLAM.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. J. Matings 1, H. Green 2, M. Williams 3, R. J. Curtis 4, H. D. Dimond 5, G. Francis (cond. and first of Minor) 6.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Advent Sunday, at St. Mary's, Portsea, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. D. Harris 1, F. W. Rogers 2, Miss J. Coates (first quarter on 8) 3, S. E. Cook 4, S. J. Harding 5, L. Duguid 6, T. R. Taylor (cond.) 7, H. T. Macey 8.

POWICK, WORCS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss E. Lewis 1, D. Trumper 2, G. Morris 3, G. Lewis (cond.) 4, H. Cole 5, F. Hyde 6.

PULVERBATCH, SALOP.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Jones (first quarter) 1, Miss B. Carter 2, F. Owen 3, R. Davies 4, W. A. Farmer (cond.) 5, R. Weaver 6.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. C. Shute 1, Miss J. Gray (first of Kent Major) 2, R. Sherman (first of Kent 'inside') 3, R. E. Tiller 4, D. R. Reed 5, R. N. Marlow 6, W. E. Cheater (cond.) 7, J. Hartless 8.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 1st, 1,335 Stedman Caters: C. Jarrett 1, B. Baker 2, G. Cantrell 3, W. Knight (cond.) 4, G. Jarrett 5, R. Skinner 6, F. H. Dallaway 7, R. W. Dawe 8, V. Jarrett 9, C. Norris 10.

ROTHWELL, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor on the front six: Miss M. Rowe (first quarter) 1, Miss G. Johnson 2, A. J. York 3, A. E. York 4, H. Baxter 5, B. Austin (cond.) 6. First quarter by a post-war local band.

SMARDEN, KENT.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Miss E. Marshall (first quarter) 1, P. Reeves 2, H. Baker 3, C. Marshall 4, W. Marshall 5, M. Marshall (cond.) 6.

SOUTHAMPTON.—At St. Mary's, on Dec. 9th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: D. C. Williams 1, Mrs. J. Kippin 2, Miss J. Cox 3, W. H. Glasspool 4, Miss A. West (first 'inside' and on ten) 5, C. H. Kippin 6, J. W. Faithfull 7, O. N. Curtis 8, M. J. Butler (cond.) 9, E. Brown 10. Rung for the christening of Joy Faith Butler, daughter of the conductor.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: W. Noble 1, Miss C. Dunnington 2, F. Warrington (cond.) 3, G. Nicholls 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, H. W. Pratt 6, L. W. Fisher 7, G. H. Dunnington 8.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,272 Plain Bob Minor: Sheila Gramson (first quarter Minor) 1, Barbara Mitchell 2, Anne Holmes 3, A. S. Richards 4, M. Fuller 5, J. Cannell (cond.) 6.

WHILTON, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Mrs. H. Haynes (first quarter) 1, M. Burt (first quarter) 2, V. A. Perry 3, E. G. Orland 4, H. Haynes (first quarter as cond.) 5, S. J. Summers 6.

WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 7th, 1,800 Minor (720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Oxford Treble Bob and 360 Double Court): A. Cuthbert 1, G. Berry 2, A. Ling 3, G. Finch 4, A. P. Cannon 5, J. Preastner (cond.) 6.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—At St. Mary's, on Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. E. Hawthorne 1, S. Howard 2, R. Charge 3, J. Tomsett 4, T. Miller 5, J. Chapman (cond.) 6, R. Saunders 7, F. W. Wicks 8. Rung for Confirmation Service.

WISBECH, CAMBS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: P. Barrett 1, C. Butters (first quarter of Caters) 2, W. Jarvis 3, H. Piggins 4, Miss M. Whitlock 5, S. Haw 6, F. Moyes 7, F. Wigmore (cond.) 8, W. Storey 9, G. Duffield 10.

WORCESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 9th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: E. Wilson 1, G. Bowen (first quarter) 2, D. Sayers 3, G. Morris 4, C. Tansell (cond.) 5, T. W. Lewis 6, A. Humphries 7, J. J. Jefferies 8, G. Ambler 9, F. Pugh, A. Tolley 10.

YETMINSTER, DORSET.—On Dec. 1st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: C. Vowles 1, Miss M. A. Baker 2, Mrs. M. M. Godley 3, R. G. Field 4, J. Drew 5, H. J. Gaylard (first quarter of Minor as cond.) 6. First quarter of Minor for 1, 2, 3 and 4. First quarter of Minor on the bells. Rung for the opening of the Christmas Fayre.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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The Official Journal of the Central
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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

SINCERE THANKS

The Editor thanks the large number of readers
who have sent messages of goodwill and appre-
ciation this Christmastide. The year has been
one of difficulty but progress. We have gained
250 new readers.

Bournemouth handbell
ringers have essayed a
new hurdle with a peal of
Solicited Maximus in three methods 'in hand.'
They believe this is a new first for the Exercise.

Will those who have rung 40 or more peals
during 1951 kindly send the following details
on soon as possible: Number on tower bells,
number conducted; on handbells ditto.

We are indebted to Mr. J. Michael Stephens,
of Kempston, Bedford, for 'The Ringing
World' Index, 1951, which we publish with this
issue.

Mr. S. Jones, the veteran ringer of Eccles-
ton, Cheshire, celebrated his 83rd birthday on
December 13th by joining in a quarter peal of
Grandsire Triples. The many ringers who have
met Mr. Jones—some as recently as last Whit-
suntide—will join with his friends locally in
offering hearty congratulations and good
wishes.

On the question of Duffield Royal, Mr. F.
Bennett, of Brighton, writes: I called a peal of
Duffield Royal at St. Clement Danes' on Janu-
ary 19th, 1911. I don't know if this was the
last one rung. The footnote reads: 'First peal
of Duffield Royal by all the band, on the bells,
by the Association and in the Metropolis.' It
was a Kent County Association peal, and there
are only four of us left.

In forwarding his subscription, Mr. F. S.
Wilson, of Lilliput, Dorset adds 10s. as a
thankoffering for his partial return to better
health after his long illness since December,
1950. Of his 107 peals, 64 were rung on hand-
bells. Through our columns he desires to
thank Mr. A. V. Davis, Mts. F. J. Marshall-
say and Mr. D. T. Matkins for the peals they
conducted in which he had the pleasure of
taking part.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Among those who took
part in the peal at Dersing-
ham, Norfolk, in thank-
fulness for the King's recovery was Mr. Fred
Rix, who works on the Royal Estate at Sand-
ringham. A copy of the performance is being
forwarded to the King by his Sandringham
agent. A peal board is to be erected at Der-
singham.

Mr. R. Roger Savory, who at the age of 21
is Ringing Master at Badsey, Worcs, would like
to hear of other Ringing Masters younger than
himself.

On December 15th eight members of the
Midland Counties Guild rang three peals of
London Surprise Major in three counties. All
the peals were conducted by that brilliant
young conductor from the Potteries—Mr.
Fredk. W. Grcott

The peal attempt of 11,360 Superlative
Surprise Major has been postponed until De-
cember 29th on account of the seven days'
notice not appearing in 'The Ringing World.'
Loughborough Foundry have kindly agreed
to the change of date.

At the annual carol service of King Alfred's
College, Winchester, on December 14th,
touches of Grandsire Double 'in hand' were
rung by three members of the St. Maurice's
band. Can any Old Wintonian confirm that
this is the first time handbells have been rung
in the chapel for service?

Members of the Pride of Islington Lodge
M.U.I.O.O., London, N., wish to convey to
Bro. H. William Barrett and his band their
hearty congratulations on ringing the first peal
by Oddfellows for the Norwich Diocesan Asso-
ciation. Also to Bro. P. M. Reginald H. and
Mrs. O. M. Drane on reaching their silver
wedding anniversary.—Bro. R. Newman,
V.G.R.S.

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THE STORY OF SPLICED RINGING

By JOHN P. FIDLER

TO-DAY, when the ringing of 'spliced' peals is much more commonplace, it may be perhaps as well that the younger end be told something of the early teething troubles. Forty years ago such peals were rarer than four-leaved clover, and as far as the 'higher-ups' were concerned, not worth consideration.

When the first 'spliced' peal in fourteen methods was rung at Edenham, Lincolnshire, on Wednesday, February 15th, 1911, and conducted by the Rev. H. Law James, there was no publicity and no comments in the 'Bell News'—in those days there was no 'Ringing World,' the first issue appearing on March 24th, 1911. Possibly this was due to the attitude of the members of the Central Council of that period towards those low forms of humanity known as six-bell ringers.

The splicing of Minor methods was due to the efforts of the late Rev. H. Law James, who did not favour the ringing of multi-method peals in less than seven true 720's. It had long been the custom of the Yorkshire six-bell ringers to ring peals in fourteen 360's and they had fought a bitter struggle to keep this privilege.

At the Central Council meeting held in Leicester on Whitsun Tuesday, June 6th, 1911, the Rev. H. Law James moved:—

'That nothing shall be recognised as a peal of Minor unless it consists of at least seven true and complete seven hundred and twenties; but that the 5,040 may be extended by the addition of one touch of less than 720 changes, with or without extra 720's.'

On the motion of Mr. J. W. Parker, an amendment was agreed to, altering the first part of the motion to read 'that the Council recommend that peals of Minor shall consist of at least seven true and complete 720's etc.'

But in the report of that Council meeting there is no word of praise for the men who rang that first 'spliced' peal, yet it was the start of a new era in ringing history.

In the issue of the 'Bell News' dated June 17th, 1911, there is an unsigned article on the Central Council meeting and in it the writer goes on to say:—

'We had one breezy and characteristic speech from the Rev. H. Law James, the burden of which was that ten- and twelve-bell ringing was much overrated. He gave his reasons clearly enough, and his speech was quite clever enough to have convinced us if we hadn't known better.'

Then we come to the resolutions:—

'First Mr. James wanted to define a six-bell peal and, incidentally, to stop ringing fourteen 360's, a point which the Yorkshiremen were so sore about a few years ago. He would let you ring as many methods as you please, but you must ring whole 720's. The Council is never dull when Mr. James is speaking, but most of the members are eight-bell ringers and, apart from the speaker, the subject did not interest them very much.'

I have no doubt the young ringers of to-day will be surprised at such a confession: now one sees what six-bell ringers had to put up with.

'RINGING WORLD' RECOGNITION

At this point I wish to digress for a moment because the unknown writer goes on to say:—

'The last item on the agenda gave rise to a very considerable amount of unexpected heat. It was moved that the Council treat the new paper ("The Ringing World") in the same way that it does "The Bell News."'

Let us turn to 'The Ringing World' dated June 9th, 1911, wherein we find the following:—

In the absence of Mr. J. Parker (Royal Cumberland Youths), Mr. Trollope moved, and Mr. Dawe seconded:—

'That the Central Council give to "The Ringing World" recognition equal to that accorded to "The Bell News" for the publication of official reports and communications, and that any peals published exclusively in "The Ringing World" shall be counted in the Central Council analysis.'

'After a lengthy discussion, in the course of which opposition was actively led by the president, the previous question was carried by about twelve votes to six, in the meeting of sixty representatives, and the matter was therefore shelved.'

I make no apology for this digression but it will enable the younger ringers to learn something about the way the history of ringing develops and to those who get the chance I recommend that they read the first report of a Central Council meeting that appeared in 'The Ringing World.'

Now let us get back to our original subject. As could only be expected, the Rev. H. Law James wades in in the following issue of 'The Bell News' and the following is an extract from his article:—

'I turn next to the six-bell question, and the author states that "most of the members were eight-bell ringers, and apart from the speaker, the subject did not interest them much." This also is true; the average eight-, ten- and twelve-bell ringers take little or no interest in six-bell ringing and think that it is quite beneath their dignity, whilst the average six-bell ringers look with awe upon eight-, ten- and twelve-bell ringing, and think that it is far beyond their reach. Now this is just the point which I cannot agree with. A peal of Minor in seven methods, and, much more, a peal of Minor consisting of seven true 720's in fourteen methods is a much more difficult performance than the eight-, ten- and twelve-men think: whilst a peal of Maximus is a much simpler matter than the six-bell man imagines, and the sooner we get rid of these pernicious notions the better, and how are we to do so? There is but one way—try it and see.'

Later in his article, the Rev. H. Law James says:—

'Finally, a word to six-bell ringers. The Central Council collection of Legitimate Methods, Part I., contains all those Minor methods which are worth ringing, then why go on ringing worthless stuff like Woodbine and Violet?

FIRST INSTRUCTIONS IN SPLICING

'The book is not complete in itself. True, but in every Minor method the bob is always 4ths place. If the method has 2nds place made when the treble leads a whole pull, call the tenor W R W and you have a 720: if the method has 6ths place when the treble leads a whole pull, call the tenor I O I, and you have a 720: but in plain methods the callings have to be doubled, and two singles called to produce the 720: if there is 2nds at the plain lead, make 2nd, 3rd, 4ths at the single: if there is 6th at the plain lead, 4th, 5th and 6th at the single. This gives you a large variety of good methods, well worth ringing, and if you are not content with seven methods in a peal, then you can construct 720's in two plain methods by ringing 360 in one method and calling a S, and then 360 in the other, taking care that the two singles are alike, i.e., 2nd, 3rd and 4th in both methods or 3rd, 4th and 5th in both methods and that the rows in the courses are odd and even in the same way in each: and you can construct 720 in Treble Bob methods by substituting another plain course for the three plain courses which come up in every 720 with nine bobs, provided that the other plain course contains

the same 120 as the plain course ones, for which it is substituted, for this gives true 720's in fourteen methods, which is surely better than fourteen 360's.'

And thus were the first instructions put forward for splicing Minor methods.

At the 1912 Central Council meeting held in London, there were more fireworks over the Rev. H. Law James proposal. Mr. George Bolland, that great Yorkshire six-bell ringer, wanted a peal of Minor to consist of at least one 720 and the remainder could consist of touches of not less than 240 in any method the performers desired to make up the 5,040. The reason why he stipulated for one 720 was because they got in it the whole of the working bells at a bob, whereas in half peals they did not, but got 'half-hunt' bells, as they were called. He thought Mr. James' resolution, if it were carried, would be a great blow to the six-bell ringers. They ought to be encouraged to ring as many methods as they could.

Poor old George! How wrong he was in thinking it would be a great blow to the six bell ringers; events have proved otherwise. Also Mr. James stated at that time that 31 methods spliced in a 5,040 was the limit. There was also a 'back room' boy working quietly but not saying much: I refer to Mr. E. H. Lewis, and in 'The Ringing World' of August 23rd, 1912, he gives some instructions on splicing Minor methods.

No doubt the Rev. H. Law James was putting something forward that was above the heads of the majority of six-bell ringers of that time but he had the courage of his convictions and pegged away. At first there were very few converts but he had the pleasure of seeing spliced ringing develop and progress.

REV. A. T. BEESTON'S ENTHUSIASM

Amongst the very few converts was the Rev. A. T. Beeston, secretary of the Chester Diocesan Guild, and it was from him that Spliced Minor got the greatest push, and as one who was in close contact with Mr. Beeston, I can say this without fear or favour. I do not propose to record the peals that resulted from his efforts but to note how they came to be accomplished. New Mills Parish Church had eight bells but the ringers were not a really progressive lot as a band while close at hand was Norbury with its six poor bells and a progressive band and the members of this band became the guinea pigs. Gradually A. T. B., as he was affectionately known, introduced the splicing of methods, but it was a slow, uphill struggle: the old, out-of-favour methods had to be discarded gradually, and the old fourteen 360 atmosphere killed. The setbacks were many but eventually, on July 12th, 1913, a peal in eighteen methods was rung at Norbury, conducted by the Rev. A. T. Beeston. This peal contained four hitherto unpublished legitimate methods, the work of Mr. E. H. Lewis. At first the target was 28 methods in seven complete 720's but ere they could reach this, the 1914 war broke out and that put paid to their efforts for a few years.

The year 1914 saw me as a novice having to spend more time watching the more experienced ringers struggling with their 'new-fangled' ideas, but the time was not wasted: it let one see that there was a lot more in ringing than one imagined, and to me and the other Norbury learners the efforts of the older ringers only whetted our appetites. Then came the end of the war, and when I was demobbed, in 1919, I returned home to find that Mr. James Fernley had lost no time in getting his band in reasonably good form. To those who knew Jim Fernley it is unnecessary for me to state what a stickler he was for good striking, and as a tutor few were his equal. The novices

(Continued on next page)

Story of Spliced Ringing—Cont.

of 1914 had to be groomed and brought forward and within twelve months were capable of ringing a peal in seven methods. Meanwhile Mr. Beeston had been attending practices whenever his duties permitted and attending these practices entailed a walk of over seven miles. At that time three or four of us were out of work, which seemed to be a privilege of demobbed servicemen of that period. Whilst waiting for the Refresher Courses to commence at Manchester University, A. T. B. roped me in for some work wading through all the Minor methods to find out which would splice because he still had before him that target, which by now had increased to 35 methods to the 5,040.

By 1921 the practices at Norbury were practices. A. T. B. was down every Thursday night and on many occasions came down on other nights. At this juncture five of the band resided in Grove Street, Hazel Grove, and one was never surprised when a knock came on the door and the information given that Mr. Beeston was down and there would be a practice that night. It was fortunate that we had not to run all over the place to collect the band, and away we would go to tackle some new method. Our repertoire was increasing, and February 3rd, 1921, saw a peal in eighteen methods rung at Norbury; November 24th the same year, 23 methods. Such progress was stimulating and other ringers in the neighbourhood came in to swell the numbers, wishing to learn the new methods. Whilst this slowed down progress somewhat, it was strengthening the number of those who could ring spliced methods. By 1922 spliced practices at Denton and Disley were under way, so several of us had three practices a week in addition to Sun-day service ringing.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

During the summer of 1922 Mr. Beeston started Saturday afternoon practices at different six-bell towers. At these our wives and sweethearts could attend; this killed two birds with one stone: it helped us to master the numerous methods we were ringing, and it stopped the grumbles from the lady folk, and, believe me, those grumbles were growing ominous and could have broken up the company. There was always a small social gathering afterwards and everyone was happy. Needless to say, such practices were beneficial. Mr. Beeston, being a bachelor, used to advise us youngsters, if ringing interfered with courting, to give up courting, so perhaps, as we did not take his advice, the Saturday practices were the outcome.

On Monday, January 2nd, 1922, a peal of Minor was arranged for Walter W. Wolstencroft, of Ashton, and George Hill, of Penistone, two converts to the new system. Incidentally, this was the last peal ever rung by Mr. Beeston, as he had to cease on his doctor's orders—soon after that he got married but that did not reduce his interest and, due to his plan of practices, those going in for spliced peals were not handicapped. Walter Wolstencroft made good progress for on January 21st, 1922, he rang his first peal in seventeen methods. Then again, although James Fernley was the main conductor, he did not keep the conducting to himself; Jack Hartley, his second in command, was quite capable. Jim's eldest son, William, too, could call, and the first peal I conducted was in fourteen methods.

PENALTY OF FAILURE

We started 1923 in grand style, a peal in 30 methods at Norbury on January 1st, and we closed the year with the famous 35-method peal on December 4th, but don't let the reader think we got it at the first attempt. I am glad to say that the Rev. A. T. Beeston heard the peal and was the first to congratulate us. During the previous months whenever we made an attempt for a peal, he was always informed and was

(Continued in next column)

OXFORD RINGERS' OUTING

Encouraged by the success of their outing to Arundel and district in August, ringers attached to various towers in Oxford decided to try another outing. This time the Towcester district of Northamptonshire was selected, the date being Saturday, November 17th.

Again we were blessed with fair weather and again we were late leaving our assembling point due to the same offender. (I wonder of the notorious poor time-keeping of Oxford Bus Company is to blame!) However, we arrived at our first tower (Brackley) at the appointed time. After touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob was rung; an attempt at Double Oxford just failed to 'make it.' On to Helmdon where we found the bells 'up' and our friend Bill Chester in charge. Bill has a keen ear for music and I don't think we disappointed him with our striking.

En route to Towcester we picked up another friend, Cyril Hinton, who, unfortunately, had sustained a hand injury and could not join in the ringing. After a splendid tea in a cafe near the church, the majority of the party spent one and a half hours in the tower of Towcester, four of the party, after enjoying '120,' going on by car to Paulerspury, and with two of the local band stayed long enough to ring 720 Plain Bob before rejoining us at Wicken, our last tower.

How proud the tower foreman is of the eight here, and rightly so, for they are delightful in tone and easy-ringing. After nearly two hours, during which touches of various Doubles, Plain Bob, London and Cambridge Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung, our veteran, Mr. Wilkins, 'let us down,' and except for a little inattention on the part of No. 2, when Queens was called, a delightful fall was enjoyed by all.

Returning to the local inn for refreshment, we were welcomed by a very brave invalid, who, with all the party, enjoyed some solo and community singing. Tempus fugit, so home to Oxford and, as one member remarked on leaving the coach, 'Book me for next year, D.V.'

Towers represented were Eynsham, Cassington, Taunton, Wolvercote, Iffley, St. Aldate's, St. Ebbe's. True democratic and Guild spirit contributed to another successful outing. N. C.

(Continued from previous column)

there from start to finish. Our punishment for a failure was we had to learn another method and it had to be tackled on and rung in the next attempt—well, was it punishment? Anyway, it was good practice. When all is said and done it is not a bad idea; set off for a seven-method peal, then if you break down tack on another method so that when you next meet it will be for an eight-method peal, and so on; all good practice.

As a result of the 35-method peal, 'Method Splicing' was produced, which gave assistance to many aspirants. Then came the last war to set ringing back slightly, but at the first opportunity lost time was made up and we have seen what Roland Beniston and his friends have done with the help of Kenneth Lewis—reached heights we never thought of. A pity those early advocates did not live to see these results. Mr. Lewis has been fortunate as he has been able to see the fruits of their labours. There are some who have lived to see it who scoffed at the idea—ringers are a funny crowd!

Such, in brief is the story of the growth of 'spliced' peals. No doubt I have missed some items but in an article covering the past forty years it is an easy thing to do. From my point of view it was great fun while it lasted. I was only too sorry that I was not able to continue with the 'spliced' Minor ringing in its advanced state but I had not the time to devote to it and it was left to others to carry on with the good work and a very satisfactory job they made of it.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World,'
December 29th, 1911

OUR ILLUSTRATION

Henry Burstow, a celebrated bell-ringer and song-singer

... Mr. Burstow joined the ringers in 1841. The (Horsham) ringers of that time were unable to ring changes at all, and every Saturday evening (he) walked to this village—eight miles. They used to ring from seven o'clock to ten, then adjourn to the Six Bells for a jollification, Mr. Burstow being in great demand on account of the large number of songs he knew, and after midnight he had to walk home. ... At his wedding, in 1855, he took part in a shoemakers' peal, which he conducted. In 1889, at Warnham, he took part in a peal of 13,440, and on his 65th birthday rang the seventh at Horsham to 6,720 Bob Major. His last peal was rung on June 9th, 1907, at Billingshurst, when he was 80 years of age.

In song singing Mr. Burstow has won fame for many miles around his native town. He gives a list of 420 songs which he knew, and one can scarcely appreciate the delight which in his long life the old man must have given to rural audiences. Many of the songs have been preserved by the Folk Song Society in their publications.

ODD CHANGES

A local gentleman has presented each of the fifteen ringers and probationers of St. Wulfram's Church, Grantham, with a goose, to mark his appreciation of the progress made in change-ringing during the past year. We have no doubt there are many other towers where similar treatment would not be discountenanced by the ringers should it come their way.

THE BELLS OF EMMANUEL

A CAROL

Exodus XXVIII.

In vestments rare the Seer of old
Evokes the 'Light of Light.'
His voice intoned with bells of gold
Seven Laws doth he recite.
As mystic fruit in measured line
Draw music from each bell,
Inspired, he sees a Child divine.
His name—'Emmanuel.'

Refrain

Ringers awake!—a myst'ry now reveal,
Soon dawn will break—enchanted by your peal.

Ring out the tidings, sound o'er hill and dell,
'It's Christmas Morn and Christ is born,
Christ is Emmanuel!'

Zechariah XIV.

The scene is changed. A caravan,
In torchlight, keeps the feast.
A HOLY NIGHT for every man,
Rest for each wond'ring beast.
Both mart and team from toil now freed
Enjoy rich gifts outpoured.
The Bells upon the horses read:—
'HO-LI-NESS to the Lord.'

Refrain: Ringers awake, etc.

Advent

Three Royal Sages, men of might,
Far in the Orient,
Observe a Star—exceeding bright,
And solve its great portent.
With Gold and Myrrh and Incense sweet,
They seek where 'Light' and 'Bell'
By destiny will surely meet,
To find Emmanuel.

Refrain: Ringers awake, etc.

Christmas and Epiphany

The Star above a byre did stand,
Around the Angels sang.
A Shepherd lad, sheep-bells in hand,
A sweet 'Angelus' rang.
Lo—in a crib an Infant lays,
Born Prince of Israel.
Now worship them in songs of praise:—
NOEL—EMMANUEL.

Refrain: Ringers awake, etc.

Tavistock. G. CAMPBELL GRILLS.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RAILWAY CENTENARY PEAL

Dear Sir,—In response to Mr. E. W. Biffin, of Exeter, a peal (Kent Treble Bob Major) was rung by eight railwaymen on July 4th, 1925, at St. John's. Shildon, Co. Durham, by: W. Newton treble, A. Coates 2, W. D. Lister 3, G. W. Park 4, T. Clark 5, J. W. Newton 6, W. Broadley 7, R. B. Robinson tenor. The ringers of the treble and 6 were from Stockton, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 from Darlington, and the tenor from Shildon. All were in the service of the L. and N.E.R. on the route of the old Stockton and Darlington Railway.

The peal was rung for the centenary of the S. and D.R., which was the world's first public passenger railway. The celebrations were attended by Their Majesties the King and Queen (then Duke and Duchess of York), and included a procession of locomotives and rolling stock from Stockton to Darlington. The procession was headed by the original Locomotion No. 1 (which is still preserved on the platform at Darlington station), and included various types of engines and rolling stock down to the latest modern giant. Afterwards all the vehicles were lined up for inspection by the public, and many locomotives, dining cars, sleeping cars and other rolling stock made by private firms for foreign and colonial railways were on view.

Various activities were organised in the towns most intimately connected with the S. and D.R. and culminated with thanksgiving services in various churches. Shildon was selected for the peal because it was very close to the church that the first train was put on the rails for its inaugural run, having perforce to be transported there by road. Tradition has it that when the fire in the boiler was laid, no means of ignition was to hand. Eventually a boy amongst the bystanders produced a magnifying glass, and with its aid the sun was induced to perform this most necessary function.

Four of the peal band still survive, but my father is the only one taking an active part in ringing. A board recording the peal hangs in the belfry at Shildon. It was presented by the works manager of Shildon L. and N.E.R. works.—Yours faithfully,

W. NORMAN PARK.

A RAILWAYMEN'S PEAL

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. E. W. Biffin's query, a Great Western Railwaymen's peal of Grandsire Caters was rung at the pro-Cathedral Church of St. Woolos, Newport, Mon., on May 27th, 1922. The following took part: A. Parnell, F. J. Bailey, sen., F. Viles, C. Greedy, H. West, Wm. Phillips, A. J. Pitman, J. W. Jones, F. Chamberlain (conductor), L. Wright.

With the exception of L. Wright, they all survive. 'J. W.' is 86 and still rings regularly for Sunday service.—Yours faithfully,

F. J. BAILEY, JUN.

Whitchurch, near Cardiff.

Dear Sir,—Replying to Mr. E. W. Biffin's query re railwaymen's peal, I called a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Philip's, Bristol, on October 6th, 1923, also a peal of Double Norwich at St. Andrew's, Chippenham, on April 24th, 1926. In each peal the entire band were employees of the G.W.R. Company. Both peals were rung for the Gloucester and Bristol D.A., and were published in 'The Ringing World' at the time.

Soon after these peals were rung, the late C. T. Coles, who was also a railwayman, wrote to me suggesting we should try and form a Railwaymen's Guild. I said we could certainly try, although at the time I only knew about twenty down this part. The next time I saw him he said he did not think there was much hope of forming it.—Yours faithfully,

A. E. REEVES.

Bristol.

CREWE PEALS

Dear Sir,—I was most interested in Mr. Biffin's letter re 'Railwaymen's Peal.' He will be interested to know that several have been rung—two in Crewe during 1919, both Grandsire Caters, the first one on May 14th, 1919, and the second on November 1st, 1919.

What about another one! Ringers could be drawn from all parts of British Railways.—Yours faithfully,

RICHARD D. LANGFORD.

Crewe.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. E. W. Biffin's letter, a peal of Grandsire Caters was rung at Newport, Mon., by all railwaymen on May 27th, 1922, and recorded in 'The Ringing World' on June 2nd, 1922, conducted by Fred Chamberlain. Your humble rang the 8th.—Yours faithfully,

J. W. JONES.

Newport, Mon.

A PEAL OF ROYAL AT CREWE

Mr. Albert J. Hughes, of Bangor, forwards us a copy of a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal rung by L.M.S. railwaymen on March 8th, 1930, at Christ Church, Crewe. The ringers were E. Jenkins (conductor), H. F. Holding, R. D. Langford, J. H. Riding, A. J. Hughes, H. Overton, C. F. Page, R. T. Holding, J. W. Edge and A. E. Peglar.

NON-CONDUCTED OR SILENT PEALS

Dear Sir,—May I refer briefly to Mr. Dennis R. Carlisle's letter in a recent 'Ringing World' headed 'Silent Peals'? I am open to correction, but I do not believe there is any ruling by the Central Council on a non-conducted peal. I have the 1901 edition 'Glossary,' which states on page 46 that: 'Silent peal—a peal rung without a 'conductor,' i.e., one in which no 'calls' are given, the ringers effecting the operations required and represented by the 'calls' without any vocal warning.

I have always had the impression that a non-conducted peal should be rung without any word spoken or any sign that would assist any of the band, also that a witness must be present to verify the rules were carried out.

In 1930 we rang Holt's Original strictly to these rules, and we claimed the peal as non-conducted.—Yours faithfully,

T. E. SONE.

Paddock Wood, Kent.

SILENT PEALS

Sir,—Where is the distorting of facts Mr. Carlisle speaks of? In August, 1950, a band claimed to have rung three non-conducted and one silent peal. By Mr. Carlisle's own showing that was a misstatement: he admits the ringers picked up mistakes and that makes it at once conducted. It is obvious that some of the band could not have been satisfied and talked.

In October, 1951, twelve months after the peal, Mr. Cross (who is to be congratulated) brought it to the notice of the Exercise. Even then, if only one of the band had the courage to have written the next week and withdrew the claim and put it as 'No Bobs called,' no more would have been heard of the matter.

The majority of the Exercise, like myself, do not mind in the least whether peals are conducted, silent, or No Bobs, but we do want correct claims

A. H. PULLING.

Guildford.

A LOST PEAL

Dear Sir,—I have no desire to enter into the discussion re the Leicester peals but to mention points in Mr. Carlisle's letter.

Surely, a non-conducted peal must of necessity be silent also, since the correction of trips is obviously as much conducting as the calling of bobs.

If not, then ring such a peal opens up many evil ways, such as correcting a ringer who may have missed a bob, which is almost the same as calling it.

In my humble opinion a non-conducted peal should be rung in the presence of a competent umpire, who should not only start the peal off but check every course-end and have the authority to stop the peal for any reason which he feels necessary, such as bad striking or attempts to impart positions of bobs and the use of any spoken word or obvious sign.

When one rings a non-conducted peal one rings with a band of conductors. Therefore ringers reaching the stage necessary for this should obey the strictest of rules and be prepared to ring a peal or peals well above the average. I myself regard the correction of trips as conducting, and therefore consider all non-conducted peals must be also 'silent.'

In making such an attempt at Holloway earlier this year we adhered to this rule, and lost the peal through a trip that several spotted and could have been corrected within a few blows. We like to feel we were conscientious over it, and as a result lost the peal. We did, however, feel that we had achieved something and, as we had only a few courses to go, felt that had we been able to crown our efforts with success we should have rung something worth while with no elements of doubt whatever. I do feel that all non-conducted efforts should be like this, and if the spoken word is necessary then this should be as good a reason for losing a peal as a shift course, although there are some who do not even regard the latter as a good reason for loss.

I should be most interested to know if there is any official ruling on non-conducted peals.—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM A. THEOBALD.

Holloway, N.7.

PERSONAL INTEGRITY

Dear Sir,—The wise words of Mr. Carlisle will appeal to all fair-minded ringers, coming, as they do, from one who neither took part in nor agitated against the notable performances of silent and non-conducted peals.

It is sad to know that the doubts cast upon the integrity of these highly-skilled and Sunday service ringers by your three correspondents have caused distress, and the restraint shown by those who rang is to be commended.

Were the same consideration given for the facts and a greater respect shown for these performances by Messrs. Cross, Pulling and Dexter, irrespective of which band of ringers take part, we should be nearer the realms of a ringers' world and not merely a ringing world.

Having rung with all ringers concerned, I am quite happy to accept their claims, as I am ready to accept the claims of the many conductors who are reported to have conducted peals correctly week by week in our journal.—Yours faithfully,

T. C. BELTON.

NOTE.—Questions are not cast upon the personal integrity of the ringers but on the definition of a silent peal.—Ed.

The peal at Hawkhurst in celebration of Miss H. Gorrings's 21st birthday was rung under the auspices of the Hawkhurst and District Guild and not the Kent County Association as published on page 803.

LETTERS—Continued

CARE OF ROPES

Dear Sir,—In a recent issue of 'The Ringing World' there was an article about some clergy making a charge to visiting, peal ringers of so much a rope for the use of the bells.

In these days, no doubt, the providing of a new set of ropes becomes a major item in church expenses, and I am afraid most ringers do not give a thought about the ropes and only hope they are good enough not to let them down in a peal.

In my humble opinion the wear of ropes in a peal is very small compared with teaching youngsters, as the strain is much greater than an expert would put on them, and I am sure if there is a belfry repair fund attached to the tower no ringers would abstain from putting in their mites.

Now for a few hints on the care of bells and ropes. I have been in charge of tower bells for 55 years and have had only two sets of ropes. My present set has been in use for 30 years and is in first-class order for peals at any time. There are very few towers where the ropes fall straight, and therefore there is friction at the holes through floors or guides, also in the garter holes of wheels and the dropping on the belfry floor. This is my remedy, i.e., wrap adhesive tape round the rope about a foot at the wheel and fix pulley on the floor, however small the rope is drawn. If it falls straight, grease well with Russian tallow the holes and guides; in fact, watch the ropes, and where there is friction use the tallow.

Re floor, a cork lino mat, polished with floor polish, prevents the rope butting out between the sally and end. The grease on the guides prevents the same above the sally.

In the case of iron frames where the ropes are closer together there is another point to remember: where the bell turns at backstroke the rope is thrown out of the wheel on to the iron frame, the edge of which is sharper than a wood frame. My remedy for this is a wood slat, 4in. wide and 3in. thick, fixed to the frame for the pulley wheel under the bells to 9in. above the frame. The rope then slides down the board without any friction. Therefore with a little self-sacrifice and attention on the part of anyone in charge of bells it would go a long way to prevent any grouching by the authorities re wear of their ropes.

I may say about 60 peals have been rung on the bells here, and 50 youngsters trained.—Yours faithfully,

LOUIS A. WILSON.

Wootton Bassett.

RAISING THE TENOR

Dear Sir,—A letter from A. A. R., Crediton, Devon, published in 'The Ringing World' of December 14th, did not give much praise to the modern bell foundry. He remarks, 'Who on earth is interested in how many pulls a tenor of 25 cwt. is raised in?'

When I read Mr. Alsop's account of the raising of the tenor that appeared in your issue of November 30th, I thought what a contrast to the old days when, as I have been given to understand, it would have taken two or three men to raise a bell of 25 cwt. with the same amount of pulls.

If A. A. R. looks around some of the towers in the West Country and notices the foot straps on the boxes that are now never used, he will no doubt appreciate what the modern engineer has done for the bellringer.—Yours truly,

R. E. HUDSON.

Cheddar, Somerset.

LIVERPOOL'S BELLS

Sir,—On page 799 the rhyme should read:—

Prescot, Huyton and merry Childow,
Three parish churches all in a row,
Prescot for poverty, Huyton for pride,
Childwall for ringing and singing beside.

Of interest with the Belfry Gossip note on Liverpool Parish Church bells: St. Nicholas' was built on a site adjoining the old Chapel of St. Mary del Quay about the middle of the 14th century, and until 1699 was a chapel to Walton. Nothing of this building, which from drawings appears to have possessed a west tower and spirelet, remains; a new stone spire replaced the spirelet in 1746, and six bells were hung. It is recorded in 1552 the tower had one great bell, and was first furnished with bells, a ring of four, from Drogheda in 1628.

In 1581 Liverpool contributed towards putting up three bells at Walton Church, and in 1736 three shillings for laying timber in the streets for the transport of bells to Walton.

Report that St. Nicholas' tower was in danger of falling down was given in 1788, and was ignored until some twenty odd years later. Then, during Sunday morning ringing, the ringers ran for it; one who returned for his coat and gold watch fell with the tower. The present tower was built in 1814, and on June 4th of that year Dobson's ring of twelve was opened. Mr. Albert Walker reminded us of the silver cup the Brummagem men won on that occasion and lost by entrusting it to a silver plater by name of Cooper. As a once well-known voice would have said, 'Well, chum, what would you have done?', or a well-known Dicky Sam, 'Fancy that.'

Liverpool's first peal is recorded rung at St. Peter's Church on November 9th, 1800, 5,040 Grandsire Triples, in three hours and seven minutes. St. Peter's ring of ten, now in St. Helens, was opened on Sunday, April 11th, 1830. The old eight were distributed locally. The rhyme, 'Ye rascally ringers, ye terrible foes,' etc., was sent to the Walton ringers nearly one hundred years ago, but was more than offset by one of Liverpool's by no means unknown sons, W. G. Herdman, writing in 1872:—

Sweet is the chime at Christmas time when
Walton bells are ringing,
And village children simply rhyme in ancient
carols singing,

The spirit flies o'er starry skies Heaven's
raptures nearer bringing.

Peal on, sweet Walton bells, peal on, the
listening soul is dreaming

Of unknown scenes when earth is gone and
unknown glory beaming;

A starry light in the spirit's flight, and the
bliss of heaven is gleaming.—Yours truly,

ERNEST L. HUMPHRISS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

THE FESTIVAL BELL

Dear Sir,—I should like to say how very grateful the ringers of St. Mary's, Kelvedon, Colchester, are to you for printing my letter regarding the recasting of our tenor, and the response to the appeal for £300 for the cost was very good. Now we are ringing once more, but in place of our old tenor we have the bell cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank for the Festival of Britain, and it is a masterpiece of casting. It is not only beautiful to look at, but also to ring and hear, and blends in with the others perfectly.

No doubt several ringers saw this bell at the Festival Exhibition and heard it, as the hours were struck on it. She is 19 lb. heavier than our old bell, weighing 21 cwt. 13 lb., and we count ourselves honoured at having the Festival bell and very lucky that she was the right note, size and weight.—Yours sincerely,

J. ELLIOTT.

Kelvedon, Essex.

OBITUARY

MR. H. BIRD

We deeply regret to report the death of Mr. Henry Bird, of Broughton Astley, Leicester, on Sunday, December 9th, aged 65 years. He had been in failing health for some years and was not able to attend to his duties for the last twelve months as head ringer and sexton at St. Mary's Church.

Harry Bird, as we all knew him, was a faithful and devoted churchworker, a regular attendant at church services and for service ringing. He was secretary of the Parochial Church Council and sexton for some years. Harry was Hinckley District chairman 1943-46, during that difficult period when the Leicester Diocesan Guild was formed. It was to his great joy in 1945 that the restoration of the bells at Broughton Astley was decided upon. He was asked to be the appeal secretary. This task he carried out in his usual quiet, efficient way with success, and the ring is a tribute to his efforts.

Mr. Bird leaves a widow and one son. The funeral was on December 12th, the service being conducted by the Rector (Rev. C. A. Turner). All sections of the village life were represented at the service. The Hinckley District ringers paid their respects during the evening, when a peal of Bob Minor, half-muffled, was rung. May he rest in peace W. R. D.

MR. CHARLES F. BAILEY

AN APPRECIATION.

The death of Charles Bailey, of Leiston, marks the passing of one whose name between the two wars became almost legendary. Many knew of him but few, beyond his immediate circle, knew him personally, for he travelled but little beyond the confines of his native Suffolk. There was no need, for he and his talented brothers could get all the ringing they wanted at home. He attended the great Croydon meeting in 1932, unknown to most, and I had the pleasure of introducing him to many who desired to make his acquaintance.

The brothers made ringing history in 1911, when they rang a peal of Bob Major. This was followed by Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge and Stedman Triples on tower bells, and by Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major to Maximus and Stedman Triples to Cinques on handbells, all under the conductorship of Charles F. Surely amazing performances for a band of brothers! Not in our time shall we see their like, and the chances are there will never be another band like theirs. His total of peals is about 400, of which he conducted all but a very few. Some excerpts from peal footnotes will illumine the exploits of this famous band:—

Leiston, December 11th, 1926: 50th consecutive Surprise peal on bells.

Leiston, December 12th, 1931: 10th different Surprise method in year.

Leiston, March 28th, 1932: In five months C. F. B. had conducted eight different Surprise peals from eight different bells.

Leiston, March 11th, 1933: 18th different Surprise method.

Leiston, January 6th, 1934: 100th peal on bells for Suffolk Guild, all conducted by C. F. B.

These will show what manner of man he was. He will be sadly missed by the many friends who appreciated his great abilities as a ringer and conductor. R.I.P. C. J. S.

TURRAMURRA, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Doubles in eight methods: B. Rainford 1, L. Butcher 2, J. Clark (cond.) 3, K. Stacey 4, W. Smith 5, J. Hordern 6. Rung as a tribute to Mr. R. H. McDonald, a former captain of St. Mary's, Sydney, who was 'called home' earlier in the day, in his 96th year.

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Worcester, St. Helen—139, 236, 401, 404, 409.
 Worcestershire and Districts Association—236, 689-90, 793.

Worcestershire—Dedications, 593, 601; obituaries, 45, 61; outings in, 266, 444, 510, 622; tours in, 466, 475, 636, 685.

Yorkshire Association—13, 253, 313, 385, 393, 410, 459, 602, 651-2, 715.

Yorkshire—Dedications, 12, 364, 763; obituaries, 77, 140, 183, 254, 268, 605, 716, 766; outings in, 366, 428, 461; tours in, 618, 620.

Yorkshire Royal at Inveraray—362.

100 peals—173, 189, 220, 270, 686, 765.

150 peals—144.

200 peals—558.

300 peals—718, 815.

500 peals—13, 170, 749.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

Southern District

The Southern District held a successful meeting at Lillington on December 1st, when about 25 members attended. The eight bells were kept going until the service, which was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Carter, Vicar. A very nice tea was served and much enjoyed. The bells were again busy after tea.

Towers represented: Allesley, Bishops Itchington, Harbury, Ladbroke, Lillington, Long Itchington, Leamington Spa, Southam, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick and Wroxhall. The following were proposed new members: Messrs. Oakley and Wyatt (Leamington Spa) and Gordon Smith (Harbury).

The next meeting will be at Snitterfield on January 5th.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Exeter Branch

The annual meeting of the Exeter Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers was held at St. David's, Exeter, on December 15th.

The service was conducted by the Rev. W. H. Major, Vicar, who gave the Branch a very warm welcome. Mention was made in the address of the important work the ringers performed in the service of the church and the real improvement it made to the size of the congregation when the bells were rung for the services; and to those who seldom went to church, the music of the bells reached them with the information that the church and her prayers were there for them also. Mr. Sayer again ably obliged at the organ.

About 55 members and friends then adjourned to the Institute for the tea and business meeting which followed. The chair was taken by Mr. T. G. Bartlett, supported by Preb. E. V. Cox, Guild president, the Very Rev. A. R. Wallace, Chancellor D. McLaren, and Mr. F. C. Smale, vice-presidents, the general secretary and the general treasurer. The visitors, who came from all parts of the county and beyond, were heartily welcomed. Apologies were accepted from the Vicar of St. David's and Mr. F. H. Gardner, life member, for their absence.

Reference to the sad loss to the Guild by the death of Mr. T. Laver, of Exeter, a past holder of many offices in the Guild and for 36 years the hon. secretary of the Cathedral band, and Mr. T. W. Oldridge, who had been a keen and regular ringer at Newton St. Cyres for the past 30 years, was made. A short service was observed as a token of respect to their memory.

Arising from the minutes, the question arose as to why the Branch was at St. David's and not at St. Mark's as proposed. The hon. secretary read the reply received from the Vicar of St. Mark's on application for permission, which stated St. Mark's already had a function arranged for December 15th, but invited the Branch to come on a future occasion. The secretary was instructed to write to St. Mark's Vicar with the thanks and understanding of the Branch.

Mr. J. G. M. Scott, shortly to be ordained into the ministry of the church, and being appointed to St. Thomas', Exeter, assistant clergy, was formally transferred to the Exeter Branch from the S.W. Sincere thanks were

extended to the retiring chairman for his valuable services.

Mr. J. G. M. Scott was proposed as the new chairman, seconded by the Dean, who recommended him, as his old schoolmaster. As the ideal nomination for the appointment. Mr. Scott was duly elected. The remainder of the officers were elected to continue: Mr. F. Wrexford, hon. secretary and treasurer; Mr. F. Wills, assistant hon. secretary; Mr. E. W. Biffin, Ringing Master; Messrs. E. W. Biffin, H. J. Corry and H. Butt, representatives on the general committee.

The annual report for 1951 was read and adopted, the main points being progress at Heavitree, Thorverton and Tedburn, and the Ringers' Rally held at Exeter in connection with the Festival celebrations.

Arising out of the report, mention was made of the withdrawal of Okehampton band. It was decided that Mr. F. C. Smale negotiate with those concerned to try to keep them in the Guild.

Miss R. Buchthal, who was elected as unattached member, has come to reside in the district, and was accorded a warm welcome. It is hoped that she will take an active part in ringing in Exeter. Mr. R. Wilmington, recently incapacitated by the loss of a leg, was recommended to be put on the roll of life members.

Mr. E. J. Ryall's proposal that a ladies' branch be formed in the county did not receive support, so was rejected.

The Branch hopes to hold its next meeting at Newton St. Cyres on February 9th, subject to the usual permission being granted. Reference was made by the president to the usual annual general meeting to be held at Coombe Martin on Easter Monday, and he requested Branch members to keep this occasion in mind. A proposal that the secretary arrange a coach trip on that day was carried.

The new chairman referred to the financial problem being at present experienced by 'The Ringing World,' and urged all present to consider being subscribers.

The meeting was closed with the usual votes of thanks to those who contributed to the success of the meeting. St. David's and the Cathedral bells were utilised to the full until 8.30 p.m. Ringers then went their separate ways home after a little gossip over the inevitable well-earned refreshment. F. W.

ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

On December 8th a quarterly meeting of the Guild was held at the Church of St. Mary, Burry Port, and although the weather was very bad it did not prevent ringers coming from Tenby, Carmarthen, Llandilo, Llanelly and Sketty.

The bells were placed at the disposal of the ringers at 2.30 p.m. and after some ringing on the five bells for an hour, the ringers attended the service at 3.30 p.m. at which the Vicar, the Rev. T. J. Thomas, officiated. The lesson was read by Mr. Scaife, and Mr. Richards was at the organ.

After the service the ringers were entertained to a very nice and welcomed tea at the Church Hall, and they were made quite at home on this very cold and wet day.

The usual business meeting was held after the tea at which the Vicar kindly presided. The usual touch on the handbells by three members of the Guild started off the meeting.

Very hearty votes of thanks were extended to the ladies who provided the tea, and for making the members very comfortable, and to the Vicar, the Rev. T. J. Thomas, Mr. Scaife and Mr. Richards, all of whom are members of the Guild.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

North-Western District

Favoured with a fine day, the meeting held at Wimbledon on December 1st was well attended. A service was held at St. Mary's Church, and all admired the redecorated and effective lighting of the building. Over 42 ringers, representing 14 district towers, attended, besides a number of visitors.

All the 1951 officers were nominated for 1952. Further ringing took place at St. Mary's, Putney. The sum of 20s. 3d. was subscribed to the General Bell Fund. R. L.

THE ELY ASSOCIATION
Huntingdon Branch

A meeting of the above Branch was held at Great Staughton on December 14th. Although only 16 sat for tea, some 24 members attended. Surprise methods on St. Andrew's six were well up to standard, including London, Beverley, York, Wearmouth, Norwich and Cambridge. It was pleasing to note several younger ones in attendance. As is usual, 'The Ringing World' was discussed, and it is hoped more will be subscribers in the new year. The Guild's service was conducted by the Vicar, Mr. F. Warrington read the lesson. F. W.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

From the beginning of September, 1951, the charge for Notices of Meetings will be one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

ENGAGEMENT

MANTON—KING.—The engagement is announced between Richard Ernest, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Manton, 147, High Street, Ibstock, Leicester, and Iris Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. King, Blankney, Lincolnshire. 7

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

New Year greetings to all the R.A.F. boys who come to ring at our Parish Church from Yatesbury bellringers.—F. PRESTON (captain). 1

Greetings to all the friends of Malcolm S. CLOKE and S. Geoffrey WATERS. Successful ringing in the New Year. 9999

New Year greetings to my friends throughout the country, especially remembering those friendships made in Wiltshire, Lincolnshire and Suffolk during the years 1948-49.—Alan ROGERS, Thrybergh, Yorkshire. 6

Mr. Frederick WHITE sends greetings to all ringing friends, wishing them a happy and prosperous New Year.—Culverden, 68, Stratford Road, Luton, Beds. 9998

PUBLICATIONS

NO LOVER OF BELLS should be without 'Bells of All Nations,' an encyclopædia of every type the world over. Profusely illustrated. Autographed copies, price 21s., plus 10d postage, direct from the author, Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., The Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's, Leicester. 9806

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'COLLEGE YOUTHS.' by J. Armiger Trollope. A few copies of this famous history are available, price 5s. 6d. (post free).—Ringing World's Office, c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MISCELLANEOUS

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—Commencing January 3rd, the weekly practice at St. Mary's will be held on Thursday from 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcomed. 9989

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals are submitted.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

MEETINGS

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Derby, Saturday, December 29th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting, St. Peter's Parochial Hall, 5. 9994

LADIES' GUILD.—Wiltshire Branch.—Meeting at Melksham, Saturday, December 29th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Miss R. Gibbons, 7, Canon Square, Melksham. 9939

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A.G.M., January 5th. Elstow bells 2.15—3.45; St. Peter's, Bedford, 2.30 onwards with service 4.30. Tea in St. Peter's Hall at 5, price 1s. 6d. for names before the day (otherwise 2s. 6d.), to Michael Stephens, 24, Durler Avenue, Kempston. 9995

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Chesterfield, Saturday, Jan. 5th, 3. Committee meeting 4. Names for tea to S. Scattergood, 797, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield. 12

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South West Division.—Annual meeting, Leytonstone (8), Saturday, January 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. To be followed by tea and business meeting. Elections, etc. Most important for this meeting that names for tea are sent to Mr. G. Dawson, 143, Norman Road, Leytonstone, E.11. 9917

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kingston District.—Annual meeting at Weobley, Jan. 5th. Bells (6) 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business after. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 1st, to J. Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster. 21

HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Huddersfield Parish (10), January 5th. Bells 2.30 to 4.30 and 6.30 to 8.30. Service 4.30. Plain tea for all at reasonable charge in Parish Hall at 5. 9954

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—Dedication of the new tenor bell on Saturday, January 5th, at 3 p.m. All ringers and friends cordially invited. 9990

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Penshurst (8) on January 5th, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to R. Whitehead, 19, Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, by January 3rd. 8

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Oswaldtwistle, Jan. 5th. Tower open 2.30. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower, 6.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 14

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting at Hornby (8) on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 2.30. Names for tea.—R. F. Eccles, Branch Sec., 28, Cromwell Road, Lancaster. 19

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (10) available 2.30 to 8.—W. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec. 18

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Annual meeting at St. Margaret's on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Names for tea by Jan. 2nd to J. R. Smith, 13, Leopold Street, South Wigston, Leicester. 23

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Mary's, Putney, Saturday, January 5th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea, Gordon Restaurant, 5 (names, please). Business including nominations, All Saints', Fulham, 5.45. Ringing 7 p.m. Monday, January 7th, 7.15. practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth Saturday, February 2nd, annual meeting, including handbell competition, Southwark Cathedral, etc. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. 9991

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Meeting, Brentford (rehung), Saturday, Jan. 5th, 3-5.30, near canal bridge. Ealing St. Mary (8), 6-9. Near South Ealing Station. Cafe near St. Mary's.—G. Dodds, Dis. Sec. 11

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Loughton, Saturday, Jan. 5th, at 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 5

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice at Binfield on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 6-9 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 9

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Annual meeting at Thrapston on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Service 4. Names for tea by Tuesday, please.—G. W. Jeffs, 4, Highfield Road, Thrapston, Kettering. 24

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual Meeting at St. John's (8), Devizes, Saturday, Jan. 5th. St. Mary's and Southbroom available. Bells 3. Names for tea, Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 3

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Handsworth on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) 3. Names for tea to Mr. W. H. Taylor, 66, St. Joseph's Road, Sheffield, 9.—J. E. Turley, Hon. Sec. 10

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting at St. Mary's, Nottingham, Jan. 5th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Meeting 6. Own tea arrangements.—S. Patricia M. Lewin. 4

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting, January 5th. Cathedral bells 3.30 p.m. Tea at the Council House, by invitation of the Deputy Lord Mayor of Birmingham, at 5 p.m., followed by meeting in the Council Chamber. Names for tea must be received by December 31st.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28, Phone SPR 1025. 9974

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Ipswich District.—Meeting at Copdock, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 2.45. Service 4. Tea at Ivy Cafe at 5. Names for tea essential by Jan. 3rd.—M. Page, Dis. Sec., 85, Hervey Street, Ipswich. 15

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Practice meeting Slaugham (8), Saturday, Jan. 5th, 3-8. No tea.—G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 2

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Northern District.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Brecon, January 5th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea January 2nd.—W. Smith, Stanbury, Penbont Road, Talgarth, Brecon. 9952

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Annual District meeting at Winchester on Saturday, January 5th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1-2 and 6-7; St. Maurice's (6) 7-8.30; Twyford (8) 7-8.30; Hursley (8) 7-9. Business meeting in Committee Room of Awory Tea Rooms (above W. H. Smith and Son's) at 2.30, followed by tea at 4. Service in Cathedral at 5.15. Names for tea, by previous Monday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. 9973

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Annual meeting, Sidmouth, January 12th. Bells 3. Service 4.15. Tea (2s.) Marlborough Cafe. Names, by January 7th, to Mr. P. Davis, 8, Peasland Road, Sidmouth. 9925

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—The annual meeting will be held at Harlow Town (8) on Saturday, Jan. 12th, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to G. Blake, 96, Burford Street, Hoddesdon, Herts. 16

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting, Great Baddow (8), Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Number for tea to A. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 22

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Repton (8), Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meetings follow. Names to S. H. Jones, 24, Brook End, Repton, near Derby. All welcome. 13

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Annual lunch, February 2nd, at the Forum Restaurant, Oxford. Ringing arrangements later. Old members who may be coming are asked to write to Kathleen Higgins, 26, St. Margaret's Road, Oxford. 9937

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Preliminary Notice.—Nazeing. The rededication of the bells, including a new bell, will take place on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Further details will appear in later issues.—G. Blake, 96, Burford Street, Hoddesdon. 17

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

The Editorial Committee gratefully acknowledge the following contributions received towards meeting the added cost of production of 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—H. C. Spencer, 4s. 6d.; E. S. W., Wolverhampton, 5s.; F. H. Bennett, 1s. 5d.; Anon., Berks, 3s.; F. Warrington, 2s.; J. Elliott, 6s.; Anon., Essex, 2s. 6d.; E. E. S. Johnson, 10s.; Southwark Cathedral, 2s.; St. Mary's, Walthamstow, 6s.; West Wickham bellringers, £1 1s.; Swansea and Brecon Guild, £1 1s.; St. Mary's ringers, Eastbourne, 10s. 6d.
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THE BELLRINGERS

TO JEREMY AND MICHAEL.

Each Sunday morning off I run
To sing in the church choir.
But oh! to ring a bell as well.
My secret hopes aspire.

I'd love to pull a rope and hear
My bell clang through the tower.
But Daddy says I'm still too small.
My arms have not the power.

However, when I've grown a bit,
I'll climb the belfry high.
Though I may sing, the men who ring
Seem near Heaven than I!

Ulcombe Rectory, Kent. L. M. B.

Note.—Jeremy and Michael, the sons of a ringer, are looking forward to the day when they can join the belfry.—ED.

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