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FRIDAY, JULY 11th, 1924.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (80 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921

BELLS, CARILLONS, CLOCKS.

UMPIRES FOR HANDBELL PEALS.

Among the motions discussed by the Central Council, that relating to the compulsory requirements of a qualified umpire for handbell peals found least support. As we pointed out when the agenda first appeared, this is a matter which bristles with practical difficulties, and the Council, by defeating the proposal, decided that the present provision in the rules, to the effect that an umpire should be present when practicable, meets the need. Two principal points were taken by those who spoke against the motion. These were that the imposition of the suggested condition would inflict a great handicap upon bands in isolated handbell centres, who might have no qualified umpire available, and would thus be debarred from having recognised any peals which they might ring; and the second was that any question as to the accuracy of a peal, must be left to the honesty of the conductor and the band.

In this respect, unquestionably there can be no distinction drawn between handbell and tower bell peals. Unless a band is out deliberately to cheat, there is no more likelihood of an un-umpired peal 'in hand' being claimed, when in fact it was not rung, than there would be of a tower bell peal being claimed under the same circumstances. Short of the church bells actually stopping there is probably not one peal in a hundred—one is almost tempted to say one in a thousand—of which anyone outside the tower could vouch the truth. We trust to the honour of the ringers of tower bells, and the same must be done in the case of handbells—unless severe and unwarranted restrictions are to be placed upon them. The umpiring of handbell peals appears to be a survival of days when these performances were so unusual that rival ringers were wont to disbelieve in such achievements; but in these days handbell peals are so much a part of ordinary practice that no one has any shadow of doubt about their accomplishment.

There is, however, one view which we should like to put forward, and that is that where a peal is 'umpired,' it should be by a ringer who really knows what is going on. We have heard of cases where the 'umpire' has been a tenorman who knew nothing of the method rung, and his 'ticking off' of bobs was merely to make a mark against each successive bob change, when a call was made, without knowing whether the bells were right or wrong. By no stretch of imagination can this be called umpiring, and a peal report would be just as well authenticated without the name of such an umpire as with it. In view of the reaffirmation of the Council's existing regulations, would it not be as well if handbell

(Continued on page 434.)

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ringers in future recorded with their peals the names only of umpires, and omitted references to ordinary witnesses who have no knowledge of what is being rung, and could only vouch for the length of time the bells were kept going? A proper umpire, or nothing, seems to us to be the present authorised position, for only an umpire can have any effective standing in this matter.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, July 1, 1924, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... Treble	ERNEST MORRIS 7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT... 2	FRANK PERVIN 8
FRANK W. PERRINS 3	ALBERT WALKER... .. 9
FREDERICK DICKENS 4	JAMES GEORGE 10
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 5	JOHN NEAL 11
C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M. 6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.
Ringers of treble and 8th, for whom this peal was arranged, are from Kent.

EXETER, DEVON.

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

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Four Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 72 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in B flat.

PERCY O. LAFLIN Treble	ALBERT E. NORMAN 7
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY... .. 2	JAMES GEORGE 8
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 3	A. PADDON SMITH 9
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 4	JAMES E. GROVES 10
ALBERT WALKER... .. 5	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 11
THOMAS H. REEVES 6	JOHN NEAL, } ... Tenor
	JAMES H. SHEPHERD }

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.
First peal of Cinques on the bells and in Devon. The company desire to place on record their thanks to the Dean and Chapter for permission to attempt the peal, and to the Cathedral ringers for their kindly assistance.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR, THAMES STREET.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

RICHARD F. DEAL Treble	FRANK BENNETT... .. 6
MRS. R. F. DEAL 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
ALBERT W. COLES 3	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD 8
GEORGE R. PYE... .. 4	WILLIAM PYE 9
WILLIAM J. NUDDS 5	REUBEN SANDERS ... Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
* First peal in the method.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

MARK BARKER Treble	CYRIL J. JENNINGS 6
JOHN W. GLEW 2	HENRY FLETCHER 7
PERCY H. TATE... .. 3	J. ARTHUR DOWILL 8
WILFRED H. BOXTON 4	SYDNEY DAWSON 9
WILLIAM POYSER 5	JOSEPH LORD Tenor

Composed by W. SHIPWAY. Conducted by JOSEPH LORD.
* First peal on ten bells. First peal in the method by all the band.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ in E flat.

*EDWARD TALBOT Treble	ERNEST J. TRIMMER 6
*FRANK E. DARBY 2	GEORGE F. HOAD 7
†CHARLES W. ROBERTS 3	*CHARLES H. CHAPMAN 8
ALFRED J. TRAPPIST 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN 9
†STEPHEN W. HOLDAWAY 5	THOMAS BOHANNON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. ‡ 25th peal. § First peal of Caters away from tenor. With the exception of Messrs. Trappitt and Hoad, the band were all under 21 years of age.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BECKENHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 14, 1924, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

JOHN J. LAMB Treble	GEORGE DURLING 5
MRS. A. W. CLARKE 2	AMOS W. CLARKE 6
HERBERT J. SKELT 3	*FREDERICK TERRY 7
ISAAC EMERY 4	WALTER SMITH Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by W. SMITH.

* First peal in the method.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, June 28, 1924, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb in G.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	WILLIAM CLOVER 5
WALTER MOBBS 2	*CHARLES CLARKE 6
WILLIAM DUNCAN 3	FREDERICK SMITH 7
EDWIN GOATE 4	GEORGE CROSS Tenor

Composed by J. JAGGAR.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First peal in the method.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 29, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM BEAVER, JUN. ... Treble	JAMES P. HYETT 5
WILFRED R. HARRIS 2	*ALFRED HUGHES 6
WILLIAM BEAVER, SEN. 3	ALBERT E. JONES 7
HENRY J. PEAKE 4	*JAMES L. GOODE Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Miss Apperly for over 20 years a member of the choir. First peal rung in the Clifford district by all resident members. Rung with 7, 6, 8 covering.

BROUGHTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 29, 1924, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

ST. PETER'S DAY.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS Treble	JAMES L. HAYWARD 5
ALFRED E. BACON 2	JAMES H. RIDING 6
ARTHUR PEAKE 3	EDWARD V. RODENBURST 7
WILLIAM WEATHERBY 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung to honour the festival of St. Peter.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 30, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FRED. J. COLLUM, SEN. ... Treble	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	FREDERICK J. COLLUM, JUN. 7
*ALFRED G. HILLS 4	*GEORGE HAWKINS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

* First peal of Stedman. This peal was especially arranged for Mr. F. J. Cullum, junr., who has just arrived from Buenos Aires.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 1, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E flat.

THOMAS TALBOT Treble	FRANK E. DARBY 5
STEPHEN W. HOLDAWAY ... 2	DANIEL COOPER 6
*EDWARD TALBOT 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN 7
ALFRED J. TRAPPIST 4	THOMAS BOHANNON Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

Rung on the 55th anniversary of the dedication and opening of these bells (1st July, 1869). * First peal away from the treble. Messrs. Holdaway and Cooper are from St. Peter's and St. John's, Croydon, respectively, the rest are members of the local band. Mr. Charles W. Gordon, who is the sole survivor of the band, rang on the opening day, in 1869, and is still a member of the St. Mary's Society, heard this peal.

CORSTON BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 3, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

†WILLIAM CROCKER Treble	FREDERICK C. RICH 5
THOMAS F. KING 2	RICHARD J. COUSINS ... 6
THEODORE GRANT 3	GILBERT H. HARDING ... 7
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS 4	*WILLIAM H. HOBBS Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD J. COUSINS.

† First peal of Triples. * First peal, and first attempt.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, July 4, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 26½ cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS Treble	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD 5
HENRY G. ELLIS 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 3	REUBEN SANDERS 7
ALBERT W. COLES 4	WILLIAM H. HEWETT Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

Rung to celebrate the anniversary of the original peal, which was rung at this church on Sunday, July 7th, 1751, the treble being rung by a Mr. James Davis. Quickest peal on the bells. The first five bells are the same bells, and swing in the original frame and fittings (1739).

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JAMES HOULDSWORTH ... Treble	FRANK SHAW 5
JNO. WHEWELL 2	WILLIAM TAYLOR 6
E. ROGER MARTIN 3	BEN. A. KNIGHTS 7
J. RICHARD TAYLOR 4	JOHN WATSON Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by J. HOULDSWORTH.

Specially arranged for the 4th ringer.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES PARKER (TUDDENHAM) Treble	
CHARLES MEE (SPROUGHTON) 2	
CHARLES GILLINGHAM (IPSWICH) 3	
CHARLES BAILEY (LEISTON) 4	
CHARLES FISHER (UFFORD) 5	
CHARLES SEDGLEY (IPSWICH) 6	
CHARLES SAMPSON (LEISTON) 7	
CHARLES WOODCOCK (IPSWICH) Tenor	

Composed by CHARLES SEDGLEY. Conducted by CHARLES BAILEY.

* First peal of Superlative. First peal in Surprise method for over 20 years by ringer of 2nd. First 'Charles' name peal ever rung.

RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5046 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

LEONARD NELMES Treble	ROBERT E. SUMMERS 5
JOHN AUSTIN 2	JAMES BISHOP 6
JOHN J. BEVAN 3	WILLIAM POSTON 7
ERNEST MATTHEWS 4	WILLIAM BEARD Tenor

Conducted by W. POSTON.

Rung to celebrate the 85th birthday of the Rector (the Rev. C. Parnell), and to mark his completing 30 years as Rector of the parish.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE R. HOLMES Treble	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 5
JAMES E. GOFTON 2	JOSEPH A. GOFTON 6
R. ALDER GOFTON 3	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD 7
WILLIAM L. GOFTON 4	THOMAS T. GOFTON Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by J. A. GOFTON.

HARMSTON, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S FIVE-PART (No. 6).

Tenor 12 cwt.

FREDERICK W. STOKES Treble	WILLIAM H. LLOYD 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 2	JOHN WALDEN 6
GEORGE FLINTHAM 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN 7
GEORGE CHESTER 4	H. LESLIE PASH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

* ARTHUR D. ALDHAM Treble	HENRY WRIGHT 5
* JOHN ISON 2	FREDERICK E. WILSON 6
GEORGE THOMPSON 3	TOM ATKINS 7
SAMUEL WHITE 4	FRED. COTTON Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWOOD. Conducted by F. COTTON.

* First peal of Bob Major. The band wish to thank the Rector for use of the bells.

FARNDON, CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5046 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY 5
JOHN W. DAVIES 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 6
ALBERT J. HUGHES 3	JAMES H. RIDING 7
GEORGE R. JONES 4	REGINALD LEE INCE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

The band wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, and Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Ince for their kind hospitality after the peal. First peal on the bells since December 26th, 1889.

CLIFFE-AT-HOO, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN BURLS Treble	THOMAS BEAUMONT 5
CHARLES WATERMAN 2	GEORGE MORRAD 6
* HARRY ARGENT 3	WILLIAM J. WALKER 7
CHARLES WINSER 4	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by F. M. MITCHELL.

* First peal of eight bells and first attempt. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. M. Mitchell, wife of the conductor. For calling see K.C.A. report for 1896, page 29.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL 5
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	CHARLES MASON 6
GEORGE LEWIS 3	WALTER ALLWOOD 7
JOHN HOLMAN 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect for Mr. Sam Thomas.

MONK'S KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITH,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

CHARLES H. WEBB Treble	E. HARRY STONELEY 5
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 2	FRANK E. PERVIN 6
FRANK W. PERRENS 3	ERNEST MORRIS 7
HAROLD J. POOLE 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by F. W. PERRENS.

First peal of New Cambridge on the bells, and by the Guild.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

* SIDNEY G. SMITH Treble	WALTER FRANKS 5
CHARLES TRIBE 2	GEORGE BILLENNESS 6
MRS. H. BAKER 3	KENNETH PATTENDEN 7
HARRY BAKER 4	FRANK PATTENDEN Tenor

Composed by the late SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART.

Conducted by GEORGE BILLENNESS.

* First peal. Mrs. Baker's 25th peal.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

CRAYFORD, KENT.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

SIX BELL PEALS.

RADSTOCK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 1, 1924, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 6040 CHANGES;

Being two six-scores of Original, and four each of Stedman, New, Stedman Slow-course, Reverse Grandsire, Canterbury, St. Simon's, St. Dunstan's, Grandsire, Old and Plain Bob, each called differently.
Tenor 9 cwt.

ALFRED MUNDAY Treble	GERALD F. GRIFFIN 3
RONALD BECK 2	THOMAS GRIFFIN 4
JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor	

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

First peal in eleven methods on the bells by all, and by the Association.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 3, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER DE MERTON,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob.

JOSEPH CHURCH Treble	MISS EVELYN STEEL 4
HERBERT L. HARLOW 2	*JOHN T. NEWINGTON 5
*HAROLD J. HAZELL 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

* First peal in seven methods, and hail from Cambridge.

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 3, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 13 cwt.

*CHARLES WM. RIDGWAY ... Treble	† HAROLD C. ROBINS 4
CYRIL C. RIDGWAY 2	*WILLIAM F. T. SWALLOW ... 5
*FRANK HUCKLE 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal inside. Bung in honour of the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Huckle. All except the conductor are members of the local company.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, July 3, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY CHANCE Treble	FREDERICK STANTON 4
WILLIAM NIBLETT 2	ROBERT G. KNOWLES 5
ERNEST E. BARBER 3	*FRANCIS HILL Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. KNOWLES.

Bung on the 21st birthday of Viscount Elmley. * First peal.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, July 3, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN SPENCER Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 4
GEORGE LEE 2	ALBERT J. L. NAUNTON 5
EDGAR BAILEY 3	FRANCIS W. NAUNTON Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS W. NAUNTON.

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor on the bells, and by all the band except the ringer of the fourth, for whom the peal was arranged. Mr. Austin belongs to Great Shelford, Cambridge.

MARSKE-BY-THE-SEA.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford and two 720's of Bob Minor, and three 720's of Kent Treble Bob.

ARTHUR BOLTON Treble	WILLIAM AINSWORTH 4
JOHN APPLETON 2	CECIL ROBINSON 5
GEORGE P. KEMBALL 3	THOMAS METCALFE Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS METCALFE.

COOKHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb. in E.

*THOMAS J. FOWLER ... Treble	ROBERT DARVILL 4
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	ARTHUR MARTIN 5
THOMAS GOODCHILD 3	*FREDK. RUSSELL Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE M. KILBY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells since 1913.

DALLINGTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*J. W. G. WEBB Treble	W. H. AUSTIN 4
J. C. DEAN 2	J. T. HENSMAN 5
W. R. PARKER 3	F. HOPPER Tenor

Conducted by F. HOPPER.

* First peal in the method.

HUISH CHAMPEFLOWER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 8 lb.

JOHN WYATT Treble	GILBERT JONES 4
*WALTER SMITH 2	ALBERT TOUT 5
FRED. POLE 3	GEORGE SMITH Tenor

Conducted by A. TOUT.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. The ringers of the 2nd, 4th and 6th, are from Chipstable; treble and 3rd Fithead; 5th, Milverton.

A FALSE PEAL.

Upon looking through the figures of the peal in the Kent County report for 1924, page 96, composed by Frederick A. Holden, and rung at Rochester Cathedral, I find it is false.

I deeply regret to have to bring this to notice, seeing that such an able band took part therein, it being the first peal on the bells, Mr. W. Haigh's 150th peal, and first peal on ten bells by two of the party. I am enclosing figures which I think will prove what I have said.

The 13th six of the 'starting' course is 'slow,' and repeats with the 10th six following the 20th course end 413562978, which is a 'quick' six. Therefore, 'hand' and 'back' strokes repeat.

LOUIS HEAD, Maidstone, Kent.

LADIES' GUILD.

Members of the Midland district of the Ladies' Guild visited St. Michael's, Lichfield, on Saturday last, but owing to the Staffordshire Association holding their annual meeting on the same date, there was only a poor muster. Most of the ladies took advantage of the opportunity to ring at the Cathedral and St. Mary's, and also spent a good time at St. Michael's. Although it was not possible to hold the usual special service, the service at the Cathedral was attended instead.

The only business was to decide the place of next meeting, Bromsgrove being chosen. The date will probably be the third Saturday in September.

STEDMAN CINQUES AT EXETER.

FIRST PEAL ON CATHEDRAL BELLS.

The first peal of Cinques on the famous bells of Exeter Cathedral has been rung, and those to whom fell the opportunity of taking part count it a privilege to have been associated with the performance. By the kindness of the Dean and Chapter, and with the ready acquiescence of the Cathedral ringers, who generously put aside any claim they may have had to the first peal on the bells, a band organised by Mr. Albert Walker, Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, met in the 'faithful city' on Saturday for 'the great adventure.' They came from a wide area, and the earliest arrivals found themselves in the county of cream and cider on Friday evening. At intervals through Saturday came additions to the party, some of them rolling up in their Rolls Royces, having crossed the wilds of Exmoor. The main contingent, however, arrived by train, and the 'general assembly' took place in the Cathedral Close.

Cathedral ringers were there to welcome their visitors, and the Rev. Maitland Kelly had travelled many miles to be present on this occasion, and greet the men who had come so far in the hope of accomplishing so much. Of all the kindnesses meted out during the week-end this was the most touching.

It was a glorious afternoon when the party gathered beneath the shadow of the grand old pile, and old friends met once more. Some of them had been there twenty years before, but had gone empty away. Among them were the organiser and conductor, the Guild secretary (no longer a lean and callow youth), and Arthur Pegler, who made the long journey from Bangor, in North Wales, to the scene of past defeats.

There was not a great deal of time lost in preliminaries, but most of the visitors took the opportunity to inspect the great peal and massive frame, which is a triumph of the skill of the bell hanger. By 4.30 the bells were away into Stedman Cinques, with two hefty men—accomplices in crime, they were afterwards described—on the tenor. Course after course went by without a hitch. The big bells rolled up into the tittums, parted, and rolled up again, while the tenor boomed out its big, deep note, marking with precision the end of every change. The turning course came and went, and nine courses afterwards the bells ran home in the handstroke position, and completed a peal of which everyone felt proud. In fact, so smoothly did it go that there is no incident in it to be recorded, except that the funny side of things would, somehow, intrude itself, upon occasion—and if you don't believe it, ask the ringer of the ninth.

The bells had hardly stopped before local ringers were in the tower congratulating the band, not merely upon their success, but upon the splendid striking which had characterised the peal from beginning to end. Afterwards, of course, there was much to talk about, and in a crowded hour and a crowded room at the Globe Hotel, the peal, the ringers, the conductor and everyone else was toasted—and some were 'grilled.'

Mr. Walker took the opportunity to thank the Exeter ringers for their kindness. Mr. Laver, Mr. Davy and Mr. Southwood expressed the pleasure of the Devon men at receiving a visit from St. Martin's Guild, and congratulated them upon their success. The fact that the occasion happened to be the birthday of one of the ladies among the visitors led to congratulations of another nature, and 'musical honours' marked the toast of her health. There were several other impromptu speeches, and so jovial was the party that the host found a difficulty in getting his guests to depart. It was a merry—and hungry—party that gathered round the supper table elsewhere a little later, and it was after midnight when the company sought their beds—at least, not all, for a 1.50 a.m. train claimed one of the party.

Next morning there was ringing at St. Sidwell's, and then came the separation. The train contingent made their way to the railway station, Mr. Pegler to begin a journey that would occupy him about 17 hours. Two of the motorists turned their faces northward and another eastward, leaving the Conductor, Mrs. Conductor and their son to spend a week 'aroving in glorious Devon.' The eastbound 'bus,' with its two passengers, ticked off the miles in right good fashion, over rolling downs, along winding roads, through rich country, and quaint villages, climbing hills from which the most glorious views were obtained, then down again into the valleys. A stop at Salisbury to renew acquaintance with the beautiful Cathedral, then away once more over good—and bad—main roads until the office of 'The Ringing World' was reached, after a journey of nearly 160 miles covered in—well, the exact time doesn't matter, in case this should fall into the hands of the police. The police, and, others, may, however, be interested in the fact that the peal was rung in 4 hrs. 10 mins., and from that they may, perhaps, calculate the pace of the car.

It is worthy of note that between them the band travelled considerably over 4,000 miles to ring this peal.

In these days of fine rings of bells, one has to be careful in making comparisons, but few who have heard them will quarrel with

the statement that the bells of Exeter Cathedral are one of the finest rings, if not the finest ring in the country. In age they are a mixed lot, but in the skilful hands of Messrs. Taylor and Co. they are one of the most glorious peals to which anyone could listen, crowned as they are by that great tenor, 'Grandisson,' which turns the scale at 72 cwt. 2 qr.—the largest pealable bell in the world, and whose size was necessitated by the fact that it had to cover what experts look upon as probably the finest bell in England, 'Stafford,' the eleventh in the present ring. This wonderful bell was cast by Purdew in 1676, and Purdew it was who provided some of the other bells, notably the present 6th and 9th in 1676, and the 8th in 1693. John Pennington cast the 5th in 1658 and Evans, of Chepstow, the tenth in 1729. The fourth is a bell dating from 1616, and, of the rest, Taylor recast the tenor and 7th in 1902, when the great restoration of the bells took place, recast the 3rd in 1915, and added two trebles in 1923. There is an additional 6th in the tower (cast by Thos. Pennington in 1630), which helps to make it possible to get no less than four peals of six, three of eight, two of ten, and one of twelve out of the combination. They hang in the massive Norman tower, on the south side of the Cathedral, and beneath them is a ringing chamber which is a model of what such a place should be.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild was held at Farnham on Saturday, and was attended by representatives from a large number of towers. The Central Committee were in session during the morning and after lunch in the Church House, the general meeting was held, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, R.D. (Vice-President), being in the chair.

The Bishop of Winchester, as president, and the following other officers were re-elected: Vice-president, the Rev. C. E. Matthews; Master, Mr. George Williams (North Stoneham); secretary, Mr. G. Pullinger (Southampton); treasurer, the Rev. N. C. Woods (Winchester); recorder of peals, Mr. F. W. Rogers (Portsmouth); auditor, Mr. G. Smith (Twyford).

The secretarial duties had previously been discharged by Messrs. G. Williams and G. Pullinger as joint officers, but Mr. Williams resigned, and Mr. Pullinger agreed to accept the sole appointment.

The Rev. C. E. Matthews reported having visited the towers of Ockley (Surrey), Brockenhurst and Freshwater (Isle of Wight). At Ockley he had reported on the condition of the bells, and recommended that restoration work should be carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel. At Brockenhurst a very light peal of six was put in by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the tenor being 4½ cwt. The tenor bell at West Horsley would have to be recast, being badly cracked.

The question of the division of the diocese and possible changes in regard to the constitution of the Guild, which it is anticipated must necessarily follow, was raised, but in view of the fact that the Bill is at present before the House of Lords, who have adjourned discussion on it until July 15th, it was felt that the matter could not be usefully discussed.

WILLIAM RAYNER'S MEMORIAL.

The Chairman referred to the matter of the restoration of the grave of William Rayner at Arreton, Isle of Wight, who, researches show was a member of the Carisbrooke and Newport Union Society of Youths (Union of Youths), formed in 1770, and who appears to have been the pioneer of change ringing in the Diocese of Winchester. Rayner, it is understood, was born in the Guildford district. His tomb bears the inscription:—

Skilled in the mastery of the pleasing bell
Which few can know and fewer still reveal:
Whether with lowly bells or bell sublime
To speed a moment to the truth of time.
Time so oft truly beat at length o'ercame,
Yet shall this tribute long preserve his name.

An estimate, the Chairman reported, has been obtained from a Newport monumental mason to carry out the restoration for £14, and the consent of the authorities concerned has been obtained. It was recommended by the Central Committee that morning that subscriptions should be invited from members of the Guild, and that out of their general fund a donation of two guineas should be made. He did not think they should allow the tomb of such an interesting old ringer to remain in the dilapidated condition it was now in, and he was sure they would authorise the sub-committee, of which he was a member, to carry out the proposed work.

The meeting confirmed the recommendation of the Central Committee, and authorised the work being begun when £10 has been subscribed. The Chairman remarked that it was proposed to invite subscriptions from all interested through 'The Ringing World.'

A vote of thanks was recorded to Mr. Williams, one of the joint hon. secretaries last year.

It was decided that the sympathy of the Guild should be conveyed to the Rev. W. E. Colchester (formerly hon. secretary and

treasurer), who has undergone two severe operations. It is hoped that he is now progressing satisfactorily, but it is feared that it will be a long time before he is able to ring again.

THE WORK OF THE PAST YEAR.

The secretaries' report for the past year stated: The Master was asked to inspect and give his opinion on the state of the two supposed very ancient bells and fittings at Chilworth Church, and it is gratifying to know that his recommendations were adopted. The vice-president has made inspection, on behalf of the Diocesan Faculties Advisory Committee, of the belfries at Leatherhead (10) Farnborough (6), Brockenhurst, Niton and Chilworth, and faculties have been granted for restoration work in these towers.

Hursley, augmented from six to eight by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and Haslemere (eight), all recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., have been opened during the year, in addition to minor restorations, etc., and it is hoped that St. Michael's, Southampton, restoration of the spire and bells will be completed this year, as well as St. Nicholas, Leatherhead. The latter was practically the pioneer tower in change ringing in the early days of the Guild.

Peals were arranged by the Newport band at Newport and Carisbrooke on May 15th and 16th, to commemorate the memory of William Rayner, whose death occurred on May 15th, 1823; both peals were conducted by the Master. William Rayner was a great ringing enthusiast of that day, as the valuable old historical books (now the property of the Newport band) will testify, and are well worth a perusal by any visitor to the tower, if only to look at the beautiful copperplate writing of those old records.

Good progress has been made in the Surprise Methods during the year, and the Portsmouth and Southampton neighbourhood can boast of between 20 and 30 ringers who are now ringing Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise. It is also very encouraging to see Guildford friends again ringing these methods: may other members hurry up and do likewise, as the more methods one learns the better will be the striking.

The St. Peter's, Bournemouth, band, with the assistance of the Master, scored a peal of Grandsire Triples during the year, and should now make good progress in Stedman. The Alton band also scored their first peal of Stedman.

Although a progressive movement has been shown, it is a matter for much regret that there are a considerable number of towers of five bells and upwards in the diocese where change ringing is not practised, and which are not affiliated to any ringing organisation, and it is to be hoped that many of these towers will be looked up

in the near future for the purpose of educating the ringers to the advantage of belonging to the Guild.

Many of the members attended a service in Farnham Parish Church, at which the Rector (the Rev. J. M. C. Crum) gave an address.

Tea was served in the Church House, where it was announced that the offertory taken at the service for the Rayner Restoration Fund amounted to £1 7s. 1½d.

During the day numerous touches in a variety of methods were rung on the Parish Church bells, and some of the ringers also visited outlying towers.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting was held at Bromfield on June 21st, when Canon Chesshire once again welcomed the ringers of the Ludlow and Church Stretton district most heartily, and provided bowls and croquet on the lawn for their amusement.

Some good ringing was obtained both on hand and tower bells, after which service was held in church, and was much enjoyed. Mr. Brayshaw (organist) and the full choir kindly attended. The Vicar surprised the members by his intimate knowledge of the Guild report for 1924, the subject of his address being Guild rule, No. 2, viz.: 'Its objects are (1) to recognise the true position of ringers as church officers; (2) to cultivate the art of change ringing; and (3) to promote due order in the belfry.'

Mrs. Chesshire generously provided tea in the Vicarage gardens. About 40 sat down, and included amongst them were the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson (Hopesay), the Rev. La Touche (Wistanstow), the Rev. Dutton (Knighton), also Mr. Wm. Saunders, of Coalbrookdale. The Master of the Guild (Mr. Chas. Edwards) also came over from Madley on his motor-cycle, but was held up at Leominster by a thunderstorm, and arrived about 6.30 p.m.

The Vicar remained with his guests during the whole afternoon and evening, and several times visited the belfry. He is, however, often to be found in the tower giving encouragement and help to his own ringers, who continue to display enthusiasm and good progress.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson occupied the chair at the business meeting.—The Secretary stated that Leintwardine tower had promised to join the Guild, and that four honorary and ten ringing members would in all probability be added to their number very shortly.

Heartly votes of thanks were accorded Canon and Mrs. Chesshire for their many kindnesses, to Mr. Brayshaw for his delightful services at the organ, and to the choir for their very welcome assistance with the singing.

EMPIRE PAGEANT AT WEMBLEY.

July 21st to August 30th.

The Bells used in the Pageant
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The first performance of Holt's Original, which was called by Holt himself at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Sunday, July 7th, 1751, has been fittingly celebrated by an anniversary peal rung at the same church last Friday. James Davis rang the treble in 1751; James E. Davis rang the same bell to the peal in 1924!

A 'Charles' name peal was rung last Saturday by members of the Suffolk Guild—a peal of Superlative. It was not, however, the first Surprise name peal ever rung, as the Johns scored a peal of London over twenty years ago, and afterwards rang a peal of Superlative.

Thirteen is not altogether an unlucky number, for the thirteen men who met at Exeter on Saturday scored the first peal of Cinques on the Cathedral bells.

The 'Western Morning News' on Monday referred to the 'considerable feat' which involved 'from 10,000 to 30,000 changes.' Whew! Such a peal would have required more than thirteen men, even if they were all James Georges. Those who took part were quite content that it stopped short at 5,017.

Mr. E. H. Lewis has been re-elected as President of the West of Scotland Iron and Steel Institute for another period of two years.

Mr. Fred G. Woodies, the genial steeplekeeper, of Banstead, Surrey, has met with a nasty cycle accident, having been thrown from his machine by riding into a dog. He now lies in Sutton Cottage Hospital suffering from a broken collar-bone and concussion.

The first peal of Erin Caters was rung at North Shields on July 12th, 1909.

On Thursday, July 15th, 1830, a peal of 5,000 New Treble Bob Royal was rung at Leeds.

The peal of Stedman Caters rung at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on handbells, on Tuesday, June 24th, 1924, was composed by W. Hyde Inglesant, and conducted by Harold J. Poole.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The fourth meeting of the year was held at Gamston on Saturday, June 28th. There was a good attendance of ringers from Barborough, Treeton, Shircoaks, Workop, Norton Cuckney, North Wheatley, Ordsall, West Retford, Laneham, Sutton-on-Trent, Ossington, Gainsborough, Southwell Cathedral, and the local company. Unique as a war memorial in this district is that at St. Peter's, Gamston, a pleasant village on the east bank of the River Idle. The memorial takes the form of a new treble bell, which was added to the five previously in the tower, and a tablet in memory of the seven men who lost their lives in the war. The tenor is 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in A, and the new treble is 3 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F. The bells were rung during the afternoon and evening to the methods of Plain Bob, Oxford, Kent, Duke of York, Woodbine, Sandall, Cambridge Surprise and Stedman Doubles. The meeting coincided with a garden fete and sale of work in the grounds of Gamston House, the proceeds, which were in aid of the bell fund and restoration of the parish church, being £170.

A hearty welcome was extended to the ringers by Mr. Herbert Smith, of Gamston House, and one of the most interesting and pleasing items of the day was the handbell ringing, which was enjoyed by a large assembly in the grounds, and also in the house. The performers were Messrs. F. S. W. Butler, J. F. Bartram, H. Morgan (Gainsborough), and J. S. Milner (Southwell Cathedral). Several courses of Grandsire Triples were rung.

The business meeting was held under a shady tree, until rain came down, when the party adjourned to the house. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Smith, who willingly joined the association as vice-president and life member.

The next meeting will be held at Sutton-on-Trent, on August Bank Holiday, and will be announced in 'The Ringing World.' Sports and gala and a cricket match will be held, the proceeds devoted to the church restoration and bell fund, and a good attendance is desired.

Mr. J. S. Milner (Southwell Cathedral) was elected non-resident life member.—Mr. H. Revill (Ordsall) was appointed to give the Gamston ringers thirteen lessons during the year, one-half of the cost to be defrayed by the ringers, and the other half by the association.

Tea was served in a large tent, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Herbert Smith, on the proposition of Mr. H. Haigh (hon. secretary), seconded by Mr. C. H. Baker, of Gainsborough, for his generosity to the ringers, and for all he had done to bring about the restoration of Gamston bells.—This was carried with acclamation.—Mr. Smith, in reply, thanked the ringers for coming such long distances to help to make the garden fete a success, and said the chief credit for the restoration of the bells lay with one of the members of the association, who was present with them that day, and who was the principal mover in getting the work done. There was 'nothing doing' until he stirred things up twelve months ago: now a sum of £400 had been raised, and the bells put in order.

Further handbell ringing and also touches on tower bells brought 'the end of a perfect day,' and the bells were lowered in peal.

Dancing and games were indulged in until 10 p.m.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 426.)

UMPIRES FOR HANDBELL PEALS.

The next resolution considered by the Council was one of which Mr. T. H. Taffender had given notice: 'That this Council only recognise as peals upon handbells those that have been umpired, and that the qualification of an umpire shall be that of being able to ring the method and check each call as made.'

Mr. Taffender said this was a matter brought forward by his association (the London County), and some of the present-day handbell ringers thought the existing decision of the Council was not satisfactory. In Rules and Decisions it was laid down that, where practicable, there should be an umpire for a handbell peal. For some years past they had seen handbell peals, 'witnessed' and 'attested' and 'umpired,' and in many instances there had been no umpire whatever. In his opinion there should be an umpire present on every occasion. Anyone could come and listen to a peal when it was rung on tower bells, but the conditions were different in regard to handbell peals. With regard to the qualification of an umpire, that could be easily settled, because when a name was put down as umpire, other people would know if he could ring a method or not, and whether he was a proper person for the purpose. Seventy-five per cent. of those put down as umpires were not qualified persons, and did not know the method being rung, or how to check the course-ends. He did not say that peals were 'cooked,' but he felt strongly that they should have qualified umpires. It had been asked why four persons living in a small village should be prevented from ringing a handbell peal for want of an umpire, but he considered they should not be allowed to until they had educated another person to observe the bells and check each call as made.

Mr. James George seconded. He thought it was very necessary to have a qualified umpire.

The Rev. E. W. Carpenter said if the Council passed this resolution it would be necessary to have an official list of referees, if referees were to be of any use.

A QUESTION OF HONOUR.

Mr. C. T. Coles said this was a matter in which the Council wanted to be very careful. The Rules and Decisions of the Council laid it down that where practicable there should be an umpire, and it seemed to him that that covered the ground sufficiently. Whether it was handbell ringing or tower bell ringing, they had to depend on the honour of the ringers. Even in tower bell peals listeners could not say whether the bells were right all the time, and they had to depend on the conductor and the ringers. The same applied to handbells. If it was a matter of getting qualified men, the mere fact that a man could ring a method did not necessarily qualify him to be a competent umpire. There were men who could ring peals without making a mistake who probably could not tell you where a course end was. This question rested on the honour of the ringers concerned (hear, hear). In the case put forward by the proposer of people in a village ringing a handbell peal, his view was that if they were so dishonourable that they would publish a bad peal, then it was possible that an umpire, who would be a friend of the band, would be equally dishonourable, and pass the peal. He opposed the resolution, not on the ground that he objected to an umpire for a handbell peal, but because he thought the Council's existing decision was quite strong enough.

Mr. J. Parker said he supported the view put forward by Mr. Coles. He was not a handbell ringer, therefore he had no axe to grind. He had heard a good many handbell peals, and had been asked to umpire them, but he had never yet seen a set of handbell ringers try to cook a peal. He did not think an umpire was necessary at all. If they had an umpire, let him have no figures, but put them down as they were rung. How often could a handbell band pick up an umpire that could do that? Some years ago the Council spent an afternoon thrashing out this question, and they came to the decision that they had in the Council's rules to-day. He objected to hampering handbell ringers because they could not get an umpire.

Mr. P. J. Johnson said he could not see where they were going to draw the line between handbell and tower bell peals. He remembered a recent discussion in which the band themselves disagreed as to whether 432 or 234 came up in a peal. London ringers had not the difficulties provincial ringers had in this matter of umpires, for where they had a large number of ringers available it was a much easier matter to get an umpire. His own experience was that if this had been insisted on in his part of the world, handbell ringing would have become extinct. They had four men—two of them came nearly seven miles each week for it—and they could not get anybody to umpire the peals at all; they would not come to do it. They had to rely to a certain extent upon the calibre of the men who were ringing in the peal, and they should encourage a high standard of striking and morality among men. Sometimes one found among the senior ringers a spirit that ought not to be cultivated in a tower. If an older ringer made a mistake he should immediately own to it instead of trying to drop it on to a less for-

tunate younger member (applause). If they did this they would raise the tone of the whole science. If a man was a conductor and not a bob caller he knew whether the bells were wrong before an umpire did. He (the speaker) would if he were calling a peal. They must leave it to the honour of the men.

Mr. A. H. Pulling said the question of umpires was a farce, pure and simple. He would sooner see a peal without an umpire than with one, unless he knew the umpire knew absolutely all about it. He had known men described as umpires who could no more umpire a peal than could a chair. Ticking off course ends was not umpiring a peal. To umpire a peal properly a man ought to be able to tell in the middle of a course if the bells were right or wrong. The London men did not know the difficulties of country ringers. Personally he had never yet called an exceptional composition without an umpire—but he had had an umpire and not just a tenor ringer, a man who could not only check each call, but know at any time whether the bells were right or wrong. If they carried the resolution, who was going to appoint the umpires? Were the associations to appoint these men, or were the Central Council, and who was to pay their expenses? Would Mr. Taffender come from London to umpire a peal? He (the speaker) could see a 'shift' in handbell ringing long before any umpire. Personally he did not mind if the motion were carried or not. If they could get an umpire they would have one, and, if not, they would ring without one.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards said when he and his band started handbell ringing there was no one else in the county of Dorset, except, perhaps, Mr. Beams, who was 40 miles away, who could have umpired the peal of College Single Minor, for which five of them practised.

The President said he would like to read an extract from a letter from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, who was very expert in handbell ringing. Mr. Boughey said he hoped the motion before the Council to make umpires a necessity for handbell peals might not be carried. He was quite in favour of having an umpire where a capable one could be got, but very often it was impossible to get one, in which case he thought it was right to trust to the honour of the conductor and the ringers (hear, hear). That was practically done in tower bell peals, which were scored as a matter of course, even when there had been no listener within hearing who knew anything about change ringing. When the Cambridge University Guild began, they had to employ and pay professional ringers from the town company to umpire for them, and many times even this was impossible. They were then forced to ring without an umpire, or not to ring at all. He thought, if the motion were carried it would tend to prevent handbell ringing, a step which he should deprecate and deplore.

When the motion was put only two voted for it, and it was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

THE VENUE OF COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Mr. T. H. Beams moved 'to alter Rule of the Council, No. 6, by omitting "but that the meeting following the Triennial Election be always in London." He said the view he held was that it would be better if the option was given to the Council for the first meeting of every new Council to be held elsewhere than in London. There was something to be said for and against it. Thirty-three years ago, when the Council was formed, London was the most 'get-atable' place in the whole country, but they could not say the same to-day. With additional cross-country services on main lines it was no more 'get-atable' than Birmingham, or Leeds or Manchester, or any of the other big centres. Years ago, London was undoubtedly the chief ringing centre in the country, and although it was still a great ringing centre, it was not now by any means the only great ringing centre. There were other centres up and down the country which could claim to be equal, not in numbers, but in proficiency with London ringing. Then if they took the pro rata population, London was getting more than its share of meetings. On this basis, roughly, London ought to have a meeting about once in five years, rather than once in three. Finally, London was so vast that there was not that close feeling among the delegates before and after the meeting that there was in the provinces. The provincial meetings, to many people, were far more homely. If they would refer to the rule as he proposed it should be amended, they would notice that it did not prevent the triennial meeting being held in London, if the Council so desired. If, every third year, they decided that the next meeting should be in London they could do so, but the alteration of rule would give them the opportunity of going elsewhere if they wished it.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards seconded.

Canon Baker pointed out that one objection to the alteration was that the Council was only elected every three years and it was hardly in order for a Council, which was going to 'die' to decide where the new Council should meet. He hoped the present rule would stand: it had served very well and met the need.

There was no further discussion, and the motion on being put was lost by a large majority.

(To be continued.)

THE NORFOLK RINGING WEEK.

A SUCCESSFUL TOUR.

By W. H. F.

Would you like to 'pull 'em' for a week in the county of 'broad' acres? Was the kind inquiry of a well-known Kent ringer last May, to which the writer's answer was a ready 'Aye'—even across the waters broad. In due course the list of towers was received. Here they are: Lowestoft, Pulham Market, Wymondham, Yarmouth, Pulham St. Mary, Loddon, Salle, Alburgh, Dereham, Saxlingham, Bungay, Marsham, Norwich, North Elmham and Aylsham.

I made the journey from Bucks to Liverpool Street, E.C., on a fortunate Friday in June—the 13th—and there had the pleasure of meeting Messrs. Cheeseman, Shade, Daynes, Bennett and Audsley, from Kent, and Mr. Steere, of Guildford. Together we travelled to Norwich by the 5.18 p.m.—three hours' express—per G.E. Rly. Mr. Harry Parkes, with his motor-cycle, went down by road, thus completing our octave of 'whole timers' who were taking on a fairly heavy task; far more so than I bargained for on promising to go.

Headquarters at The Orford Arms Hotel made a good centre for casual ringers to visit us, and, for those who were forced to sleep out, to come in and discuss the daily trips—trips of another nature than those of the ringer, and, I may add, some of the more urgent points were only settled after closing time. Mr. G. H. Cross met us on arrival, and we were here joined by Mr. J. George (late of Rugby), and at once made our way to supper, regretting the absence of Mr. W. Nevard, of Bentley, whose duty as churchwarden prevented his coming.

The housing problem is quite as urgent in Norfolk as in other districts throughout the country, and the risk of sleeping in the 'open air' was met by taking train daily to our respective destinations and returning to Norwich. Departure each morning was about 8 a.m., excepting on Sunday. Our tower for that day at Salle, being remote, we engaged a motor-car and push cycles for the afternoon. On the last day, after booking at Thorpe Station, we were informed of a breakdown on the line, and, returning the tickets, we succeeded in catching a road car to Aylsham and Marsham.

Early rising was a great success, no one missed their breakfast or the train during the week, and this speaks well for our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Hart, another pair of the right sort, whose kind attention and reasonable charges were fully acknowledged.

Under the title of 'Kent Ringers' we were made welcome at each tower, a representative local ringer being usually waiting to greet us with the keys, and, in most cases, the bells had been 'raised' ready for us to start.

Apprehension as to the fillet hole, part of the bell ropes was ill-founded, we 'lugged' away to our hearts' content at some 136 ropes, and all our 'pulling' couldn't part 'em. The fact deserves mentioning for the credit of the respective steeplekeepers. Another feature of this tour was the absence of interruptions. We had neither to wait for a funeral nor a wedding, were undisturbed by any organist's wild practice in imitation of the 'loud cymbals' in B flat.

Seven reverend gentlemen during our round were able personally to receive the 'Kent Party,' to offer them welcome to Norfolk, and we greatly appreciated this courtesy, in addition to the privilege of ringing the bells willingly granted in every case, and at some trouble to fit in the visit to suit rail facilities. The Vicar of Loddon came to the rescue of Fakenham—the original fixture—where sad illness rendered a change necessary. Of the attempts, the peal columns show ten scored, an average of two out of three. The performers—who may be termed a 'scratch team'—and of whom there were two or three who ought to be pensioned off by the Central Council—are well satisfied with their 'bag,' and no doubt have returned home truly thankful for that health and strength—and the blisters—which have enabled them to fill it. Mr. Parkes, with his cycle, was a useful man, and with Mr. Cheeseman on the pillion seat, usually got to the tower first, preparing for the rest of the band. No one could answer the conundrum concerning these two: 'Why was the conductor like a can of new milk?' The answer is: 'After a good spin both would be Cheese, man!' And how the Dickens they found their way among the by-roads is a wonder, when they had left their dear little Steere behind.

The motor map showed us that it was quite possible to see California, Kimberley, or Philadelphia in East Anglia, but as they possessed no pieces of bell metal we did not include them in our list. Good roads over long stretches of level country make this district an excellent one for a cycle tour.

It must not be presumed because we rang 20,000 of Double Norwich that the Kent ringers visited the Diocese to show Norwich men how to ring Double Norwich, the selection of this method (for various local reasons) may be taken as a compliment to this ancient city of change ringing, which was described by a former Bishop of Norwich as being in the 16th century, mostly composed of beer-houses and churches.

On Monday afternoon we had an hour or two to spare, and some

viewed the Cathedral with its five bells, tenor 19 cwt., unringable; others the museum, where there is a beautiful 14th century bell and some fine old engravings giving prospects of the city and its many towers and spires. Steere and I wandered over many roads to find St. John de Sepulchre. We had seen three towers when we met John Cheeseman looking sadly tired, and covered with dust and whitening. He had just come out of the tower we were then making for, which happened to be St. John-the-Baptist—one or two broken ropes, dust and rubbish everywhere, not the ghost of a peal to be seen—after some three miles of searching. But this was the trial before victory, the victory of Cross who called Cambridge Surprise; let us hope with the spirit of Charles Middleton hovering round, taking off his own course ends of the peal.

Failure No. 1 occurred on Tuesday at Pulham Market, half-way through Pitstow's Stadman Triples in the morning. There was some speed in the ringing, and the room was H-O-T. Many of us thought the week's results would mean a 'possible,' and were, therefore, disappointed at a simple ending to their peal visions. This gave us leisure to chat with several of the old band 70 years of age and over who rang a peal here recently—Mr. C. Bayley and Mr. Robt. Whiting, a sturdy character of 75, full of 'go,' who joined us at the next tower, and rang a course of Superlative Surprise, after the peal No. 6.

Robert Whiting is a Redenhall man, and has rung with John Ringer, a Norwich Scholar. He remembers the good old days in the district when Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, flourished as bell founders, and in the ringing room. His grandfather rang a peal at Redenhall in 1828, and he expects to make a record by scoring one a century later on the same bells.

One doesn't visit Pulham without seeing the King's Head, kept by Mr. and Mrs. C. Brice (Mr. Brice is now working at Chester). There we had an old English hot dinner previously, and tea after the peal, well served by Mrs. Brice. We were away early to meet the Norwich boys at our hotel, where a chat and smoke followed till 'bedtime,' usually denoted by 'invisible hands' when away from home.

Wednesday was our fatal day, even the bells seemed to resent men ringing all the week and violating early closing day. After ringing half of Pitstow's peal of Stadman, we quietly returned to Homersfield Station (1½ miles), where time had to be occupied until the train was due for Bungay. The landlord of the Dove did his best to provide for eight hungry visitors, who, on hearing that Myra had just taken a cake out of the oven, clamoured for it like a bevy of schoolboys—and got it; although the cook said it was hot, and would give us pain under the pinafore.

At Bungay a similar spell of Norwich Major ended the peals for the day. The Vicar had kindly wished us success, but did not observe the gaze of wonder we bestowed on the heavy ropes—amateur made—with 6 feet sallies of long yellow and black worsted. When raising the bells it was found the third would not respond one way to a heavy stroke, and in putting our strong man—Audsley—on it the attempt was made subject to his generous efforts. Perhaps the sight of the ringers' jug in the corner of the belfry disturbed our near places, as the hot sun streamed through the large west window upon the men on the tenors. They are a fine old ring of bells—tenor over a ton weight—and the belfry has one or two old peal boards showing Samuel Thurston had been there, with the two Hurrys from Norwich.

The aforementioned jug has three handles, is made of glazed stoneware, stands 2ft. high, and engraved with potter's writing:—

1827.

A gift to the Society of Change Ringers of St. Mary's, Bungay, by Thos. Hurry, Norwich.

The Hurrys carried on a bell hanging business in Princes Street, Norwich, for some years, and had a remarkable run of work in and around the city, Thomas eventually becoming a well-to-do man. They rung Bungay bells in 1826, took part in a 5,600 of Oxford Treble Bob Major (3 hrs. 24 mins.) on November 11th, 1826, which was conducted by Samuel Thurston from the tenor. It may be inferred that Hurry was so satisfied with his bell hanging and ringing at Bungay that he purposely had the ringers' jug made and presented to Bungay for their New Year's dinner, January, 1827. I trust Norfolk men will observe the date, and keep up the centenary—with the jug on the dinner-table—in a right royal fashion.

Returning earlier than we anticipated to Norwich, opportunity was given us to have a ring with the Norwich men at St. Giles Coslany, and here touches of Stadman, Cambridge and London, were rung. This tower is in line with the nave and chancel, with a large arch to the nave and a very fine west window that takes up two sides of the ringing room. The other two sides have each three large peal boards which take up all the wall space, and have a number of interesting past performances recorded on them, including the so-called first peal of Stadman in the city. The Mancroft company had already rung a peal in the method which was condemned on the evidence of an interested party, because the 'tenor' blows had been counted

and found short of the 5,040. The Maneroft men came down to Coslany tower and threw at the west window to break their rivals down, but friends and neighbours stepped in, and after a sort of free fight the rude visitors were dispersed.

(To be continued.)

THE LATE MR. SAM THOMAS.

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL AT SHEFFIELD.

The totally unexpected death of Mr. Sam Thomas, after a week or so of illness, which suddenly struck him down when apparently in vigorous health, came as a great shock to all who knew him, and to some, the first intimation of anything amiss was the notification of the funeral arrangements. These facts to some extent prevented a larger attendance on Saturday, June 28th, though the gathering was large enough to show the great regard in which the late Mr. Thomas was held. Between 60 and 70 ringers attended the funeral, in addition to many other friends.

In the long history of change ringing in the district, few more simple, and at the same time, more impressive funerals can have been known than that which accompanied the passing of Sam Thomas at the Cemetery of Intake. As the last change of a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters—rung on the handbells over the open grave—died away: as the last line of Toplady's immortal hymn, 'Rise to all eternity,' sung with faltering voices, drifted into a scarcely audible Amen; and with the concluding words of the beautiful address by the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls still in mind, hardly one among those present could admit to a steady voice or a clear eye.

The cortege, with the chief mourners, bearers, and a number of ringing friends, met at the deceased's residence, at 36, Thomas Street, about 1.30 p.m., and arriving at Intake shortly after 2 p.m. was met by a large gathering of ringing associates from Bolsover, Bradford, Derby, Dore, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Ecclesfield, Eckington, Norton, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, Sheffield (Cathedral, St. Maries (R.C.), Ranmoor, All Saints, Pitsmoor, and Handsworth), and other places.

The burial service was conducted by the Vicar of Ranmoor (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls, M.A.), who, in the Cemetery Chapel, gave a most touching address.

The Vicar recalled how, a little over a year since, at Ranmoor, when the Bishop of Sheffield (who would have been present then but for a previous engagement) had just concluded a presentation on behalf of the Sheffield District Society to 'him who is in all our thoughts'—he—usually so ready of speech—in replying—found his heart too full for words. 'And that,' added the Vicar, 'is how I find myself now.'

A telling reference to Mr. Thomas's great abilities—a man endowed with a wonderful memory, a mathematical mind which, given the opportunity, might have carried him far in this life, great will power and tenacity, and a power of drawing men to him, he was with it all a religious man. As a boy he had sung in the choir of his native church at Wath, and often had the Vicar, in the pulpit at Ranmoor, heard from the ringers' seat close by, his strong voice joining in the singing. After a feeling reference to his last illness, the preacher urged his hearers to rise above all the sadness and sorrow of the present; not for a moment to wish him back from the glories that are his, but to remember him as he was—strong and capable, and to think of him when ringing forth their changes; as he is, in Paradise, their silent listener.

The coffin was borne from the chapel to the graveside by six of his ringing friends—Messrs. J. E. Lewis Cockey (Dore), Charles Haynes (Ranmoor), Robert Harrison (St. Maries), William Biggin (Norton), and Leonard Charlesworth and John Thorpe (Cathedral).

After the committal and Benediction, the Vicar asked those present to join in Mr. Thomas's favourite hymn, 'Jesus, Lover of my soul'; and this was followed by a well-struck plain course of Grandsire Caters by Messrs. John Thorpe 1–2, George Lewis 3–4, Robert Harrison 5–6, Arthur Knights 7–8, and William Bugar 9–10.

There were a number of beautiful wreaths, including one from the officers and members of the Sheffield District Society; St. John's, Ranmoor; St. Andrew's, Derby; and the Landsdown Sick Society.

Amongst those present were: Yorkshire Association: Messrs. Frank Willey (vice-president), J. Cotterill and Hardcastle (Bradford), and Colin Harrison (Sheffield). Sheffield District Society: Messrs. George Lewis (president) and Fred Watkinson (late president), Messrs. Arthur Knights, John Holman, John Flint and George Hawksworth (vice-presidents), Mr. Thos. Wm. Chown (secretary), Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey (treasurer), and Mr. Charles Haynes (trustee). All the Sheffield towers were fully represented, among those from the Cathedral being Messrs. S. Palmer, A. Craven, J. Thorpe and W. Bugar. From Ranmoor: W. S. Plant and J. Osguthorpe. From Rotherham: Colin Ryder. Norton: W. Biggin and T. Lee. Eckington: P. Jervis, etc.

Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. A. T. Beeston (New Mills), Messrs. H. Haigh (Worksop), A. C. Wright (Darley Dale), A. Ward (Derby), F. Hill (Butterley), J. Paget (Derby), C. D. Potter (Barnsley), J. Rew, and many others.

During the evening the bells of most of the churches in the district were rung half-muffled, and at Ranmoor, a representative band, consisting of Messrs. John Holman (Cathedral) treble, George Hawksworth (Doncaster) 2, George Lewis (conductor, Ecclesfield) 3, Robert Harrison (St. Maries) 4, J. A. Lewis Cockey (Dore) 5, Chas. Haynes (Ranmoor) 6, William Biggin (Norton) 7, and Walter Allwood (Chesterfield) tenor, attempted a peal of Bob Major, which, after two attempts and a total of over three hours' ringing, came to grief owing to the 7th rope slipping the wheel.

And so we leave him—for the present; hardly yet able to realise that he is gone—all that is mortal of him, on the lonely, bleak and wind-swept slopes of Intake, far away from the bells he loved so much. The man himself—still rugged, masterful, humorous, kindly, godfearing—'the silent listener'—

'Not spilt like water on the ground,
Not wrapt in dreamless sleep profound,
Not left to lie like fallen tree,
Not dead—but living unto Thee.'

J. E. L. C.

FALSE PEALS IN KENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I regret that, owing to pressure of business, it has been utterly impossible for me ere this, to reply to the three letters directed at me in your issue of the 27th ultimo.

The correspondence on the Wye question has nothing whatever to do with any other method than Grandsire Triples, therefore the remarks from the 'Member of the Ashford District' alluding to other methods, are entirely out of order. However, I do not propose to place his somewhat sarcastic, and, I am afraid, spiteful sentences aside without answer. I am perfectly aware of what has been done, and what is being done, in the Ashford district; but I would point out to him that I have been and am participating in a method (not a plain one or Treble Bob or Stedman), and things are progressing very favourably. This shows I do not devote my sole attention to Grandsire Triples, but, together with others, am advancing to higher methods, while at the same time not overlooking those who must of necessity ring a peal of Grandsire Triples for their first peal.

As Mr. Parkes has not, to my knowledge, conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples, does it not show that he is out to conduct higher methods and ignore those ringers needing a peal of Grandsire as their first peal? I am, therefore, still of the opinion that he had no pity (as expressed in his letter to the 'Ringing World') with the first pealers at Wye, but probably rejoiced so that he could strike the peal off his own peal list. It seems that the 'Member of the Ashford District' and Mr. Powell have the same ideas as Mr. Parkes on the subject of ringing, but I prefer to stick to the Kent Association recommendation, viz.: 'To cultivate and encourage the good old English art of change ringing,' which means not only cultivate in higher methods, but also attend to the requirements of those who need a leg up in the lowly methods. Under the circumstances I have done my duty in accordance with the primary object of my association, and the man who hides his name, or anyone else, cannot truthfully deny this statement.

I have carefully perused Mr. Powell's letter. The last paragraph of Mr. Powell's letter, whomever it concerns, has nothing to do with the subject of this correspondence. I can truthfully say that I have never objected to him conducting, and as regards setting a bell, I am not given to that course, unless it is a case of necessity.

I have read Mr. Cullum's letter with interest, and note his reference to his son. Mr. Cullum, junr., however, replied to my first letter when he could have accepted my apology. Mr. Cullum, senr., refers to Mr. E. Barnett, senr. The ideas of Mr. Barnett appear to be identical with mine. Mr. Barnett believes in high and low methods, advancing and assisting beginners as well, which is precisely the campaign I pursue. I quite agree with Mr. Cullum respecting the accomplishments of Mr. Barnett in the matter of first pealmen, and as regards myself and Grandsire Triples, I have always done and am at the present day, doing my utmost for ringers in this direction.—Yours truly,

GEORGE BILLENNESS.

[This correspondence must now cease.—Ed. 'R.W.']

The reports of several outings and the dedication of new trebles at Chubbleigh, Devon, are unavoidably held over.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—On Monday, March 31st, for Confirmation service, 720 Bob Minor, tenor covering: J. Floyd, junr., 1, H. Floyd 3, W. Shepherd 4, J. Floyd, senr., 5, W. Ayre (conductor) 6, H. Golding 7, H. Watson 8.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM.—On Monday, March 31st, at St. Thomas' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 38 mins.: F. Lawton 1, J. Ogden 2, J. Hallas 3, C. Platt 4, V. Howorth 5, T. Chapman 6, B. Thorp (conductor) 7, W. Prince 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by all except 2nd and 7th ringers.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

EDGBASTON.—On Sunday, July 6th, at the Old Church, in 26 mins.: 720 Plain Bob Minor: A. Morgan 1, L. Griffiths 2, E. Rose 3, G. Pigott (conductor) 4, R. Russell 5, J. Eaton 6.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, July 6th, for evening service, at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. Lee 1, P. Gridley 2, A. Ive 3, J. Lee (London) 4, S. Evans (conductor) 5, A. Maxim 6, G. More 7, T. Slater 8.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday evening, July 6th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, by the local band, in 47 mins.: R. Payne 1, F. R. Coombes 2, F. Webb 3, E. Bennett 4, C. Bennett 5, J. Franklin 6, J. Judge (conductor) 7, A. Morris 8.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.—On Sunday, July 6th, for evenson, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Sheppard 1, W. Wicks 2, O. W. Porter, junr., 3, C. Sheppard 4, O. W. Porter 5, J. Hiscock 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, R. Allum 8.

MERTHYR, S. WALES.—On Sunday, July 6th, for morning service, at St. Tydfils, Merthyr, 840 Grandsire Triples: H. Davies 1, W. Fisher 2, F. W. Sharpe 3, A. Hunt 4, Mr. Lush 5, J. Coles 6, A. E. Slater (conductor) 7, F. Stirk 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., by the same band. Arranged for Mr. Lush, Wells Cathedral, who is on a visit to Merthyr.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—At the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, on Sunday, July 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Watkin 1, E. Leigh 2, J. Heasman 3, C. F. Mitchell 4, H. H. Mance 5, W. Essery 6, H. Mance (conductor) 7, F. Skinner 8.—For evenson, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Watkin 1, J. Heasman 2, A. Belton 3, C. F. Mitchell 4, H. H. Mance 5, W. Essery 6, J. Steddy 7, H. Mance (conductor) 8. Rung on the occasion of the annual outing of the ringers of St. Luke's, Chelsea.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, July 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: C. Wells (first quarter-peal) 1, S. Meadows 2, H. Kemp 3, H. Prior 4, G. Upshall 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8. For evening service, 462 Grandsire Triples by the same band.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—On Sunday, June 29th, at St. Peter's Church, for the dedication festival, evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: W. Cork 1, F. Middleton 2, A. Cross 3, R. Wood 4, R. Franklin 5, E. Gosling (conductor) 6, W. Welling 7, F. T. Hoad 8.

SWINDON.—On Sunday, June 29th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, 651 Stedman Caters: H. W. Bishop 1, A. Lawrence 2, R. W. Hyer 3, A. W. Bond 4, L. A. Wilson 5, H. W. L. Wells 6, C. J. Gardener 7, S. Palmer 8, E. Bishop (conductor) 9, A. W. Harrington 10.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—At St. Peter's Church, on the Patronal Festival, June 29th, for evening service, in 43 mins., a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1,344 changes): B. Collison 1, W. Collison 2, Miss D. E. Orlebar 3, R. E. Lambert 4, H. Markwell 5, Robt. T. Lambert 6, F. White 7, S. H. Green (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringers of 3rd and 4th. The brothers Lambert are from Horsmonden, the remainder are members of the local band.

GREENS NORTON, NORTHANTS.—At the Church of St. Bartholomew, for morning service, on Sunday, June 28th, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins.: W. Wise 1, G. F. Lucas 2, A. Mansfield 3, A. Booth 4, Geo. Mansfield (first 720 as conductor, and first attempt) 5, J. Wilfred Sharp 6.—For evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Wilkinson (Broughton) 1, A. Mansfield 2, Geo. Mansfield 3, W. Wise (first 720 away from treble) 4, A. Booth 5, J. Wilfred Sharp (conductor) 6. Also 120 Oxford Bob Minor, with G. Mansfield as conductor.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, June 22nd, for evening service, 665 Grandsire Caters: J. Hosgood (Exeter) 1, F. W. Bond 2, J. King 3, F. J. Lewis 4, H. Gassor 5, W. H. Hayward 6, S. R. Hicks 7, H. Lewis 8, H. C. Bond (conductor) 9, W. G. Cook 10.—On Sunday, June 29th, for evening service, three courses of Grandsire Cinques: F. W. Bond 1, J. W. Ash (Lincoln) 2, W. G. Cook 3, J. King 4, F. J. Lewis 5, J. C. Eden 6, H. Gassor (first touch on twelve) 7, W. C. Cuss 8, S. R. Hicks 9, H. Lewis 10, H. C. Bond 11, F. Edwards 12.—On Sunday, July 6th, after evening service, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. Rawlins, for many years churchwarden at the Parish Church, and also a honorary member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,269 changes), in 58 mins. (composed by C. Charge): A. Parsons 1, F. W. Bond 2, J. W. Ash (Lincoln) 3, J. King 4, H. Gassor (first quarter-peal of Caters) 5, W. H. Hayward 6, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 7, H. Lewis 8, H. C. Bond 9, W. G. Cook 10.

SHREWSBURY.—On Sunday, June 22nd, at St. Chad's Church, 660 Grandsire Cinques: J. Bain 1, J. Griffiths 2, C. Lee 3, J. E. Lilley 4, G. Jones 5, R. Pole 6, F. Lycett 7, J. Evans 8, D. J. Boncher 9, D. James 10, C. R. Lillev (conductor) 11, H. Jones 12. Longest length of Cinques by 1st, 3rd, 7th, 8th and 10th.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Sunday, June 28th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: H. Walker 1, Miss Irene Hastie 2, B. Wilson 3, T. Blackburn 4, F. Hunt 5, T. Kendall 6, H. Wood 7, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 8. Arranged for Miss Hastie, of Leatherhead, it being her first quarter-peal in the method.

ALDERTON, GLOS.—On Sunday, May 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: G. Agg 1, W. Yeend (conductor) 2, G. Bonner 3, L. Troughton 4, P. Banks 5, H. Harvey 6. First quarter-peal by all except ringer of 2nd and 3rd.

NORTHAW, HERTS.—On Sunday, May 11th, at St. Thomas' Church, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins.: also rung to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Mr. J. Bryant's birthday: J. Parker 1, C. Parker 2, J. Bryant 3, R. Stiles 4, J. Roberts 5, B. McKie (conductor) 6.

'FIFTY-EIGHT NOT OUT.'

(Contributed.)

Yes, it's a tidy record for one to make; there may be others to beat it, but you don't meet them every day. No, I don't mean cricket. I mean 'years,' as a bell ringer in one tower. This is Mr. James Moss's record at Exeter Cathedral, where he joined on June 27th, 1866, ringing rounds and changes that required bandstands for the ringers' guidance. To mark the completion of his 58 years' service his colleagues of the above tower on Saturday, June 28th, presented him with a gold bell pendant, with an address recording the fact, as a slight appreciation of his ability as a good ringer for such a long period. His record has been over 70 peals of 5,040 changes, and considering he is down West, where peal ringing is a luxury, and even at that must not be indulged in too often, speaks well for him and his keenness in half-pull ringing, because it takes something to convert a round prize ringer into a good scientific change ringer, but Mr. J. Moss is one of the best.

PUBLICATION.

'AMONG THE BELLS.'—THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From Mrs. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

NOTICES.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Foy on Saturday, July 26th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea provided free only to those who notify me not later than Wednesday, 23rd inst.—John Clark, Chase Road, Ross.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Reading on Saturday, July 26th (D.V.). Service at St. Lawrence's Church at 11.30. Preacher: Rev. F. L. Edwards, Hon. Sec. of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. Dinner at Central Cafe, Friar Street, at 12.30. Business meeting immediately after. Dinner tickets: members, 2/6; non-members, 3/- each. Applications for dinner tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to General Secretary by Wednesday, July 23rd. The tower of St. Lawrence will be open half an hour before. Service of one hour after meeting; St. Mary's until 6 p.m., St. John's, Caversham, Tilehurst, Shiplake, Sonning, All Saints and St. Paul's, Wokingham, and Mapledurham in afternoon and evening.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 56, York Road, Reading.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—The second Quarterly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale, Salop, on Saturday, July 19th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Short service 4.30. Tea at 5. 6d. each to members, 1/3 others, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. Hayward, Hon. Sec., 3, North Gate, Bridgnorth.

NOTICES.

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

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

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

THE LADIES GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bristol on Saturday, July 12th. Ringing at St. Philip's from 2 to 3; St. Mary Redcliffe, from 3 to 4. Service at St. Thomas' Church, 4.30. Tea (by kind invitation of the Bristol United Guilds) at 5 o'clock. Ringing at St. Stephen's after meeting. Will all wishing for tea please send their names to Mrs. Wilkins, 84, Woodland Road, Clifton, Bristol? The Bristol United Guilds are anxious to entertain visiting members, and would like to know the names of any who will be in Bristol before 11 o'clock so that arrangements can be made. Names should be sent to Mrs. Wilkins.—E. K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Enfield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting will be held at Birling on Saturday, July 12th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting after service.—C. H. Sone, Toke Cottage, Linton, Maidstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Bury Parish Church on Saturday, July 12th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Irthlingborough on Saturday, July 12th. Bells available at 2. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Certificates will be presented to members who have recently rung their first peal.—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Priston on Saturday, July 12th. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Ringers who intend to be present should inform me.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Branch Sec., Midsomer Norton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Wymondley on Saturday, July 12th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the Checquers after service, followed by meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. R. Bacon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Lancaster Avenue, Hitchin.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—A meeting will be held at Lymm on Saturday, July 12th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Meeting to follow.—Francis Bibby, Hon. Sec., London Road, Frockham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Kibworth on Saturday, July 12th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—R. F. Elkington, Local Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 12th. Ringing at Netheravon and Fittleton 3 p.m. till 4 p.m.; at Enford 4 p.m. till 4.45 p.m., and at Upavon 6 p.m. till 8 p.m. Tea and meeting at Upavon 5 p.m. All are 6-bell towers.—F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Freshwater on Saturday, July 12th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation of the Rector, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—W. Upton, Dis. Sec., 10, Elm Grove, Newport.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on July 31st; St. Magnus on the 24th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 15th; Southwark Cathedral on the 22nd, and *St. Mary le Bow, Cheapside, on the 29th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Leiston on Saturday, July 19th. The bells of St. Margaret's Church (8) will be open from 2 p.m. The Rector (the Rev. F. W. Morgan Jones) invites all to tea in Junior Council Schools at 5.45 p.m., after which a short business meeting will be held. A good attendance is desired. All ringers are welcome.—Geo. Wilson, 41, Valley Road, Leiston.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Denham on Saturday, July 19th. Will try and arrange tea for those that notify me by the 16th. Train from Ealing Broadway at 2.33 and welcome to all.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Seaford on Saturday, July 19th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4. Tea (by kind invitation) 5. Those intending to be present please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, July 16th.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A business meeting will be held on July 19th at the Church of St. Margaret, Lee, Lewisham. Tower open for ringing from 4 till 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the small Kingswood Hall. Every ringer invited.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, July 19th. The bells of the Parish Church (8) will be open for ringing at 2.30 p.m., those of Chilvers Coton (8) after tea. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Service in Nuneaton Church at 4.30 p.m., with an address by the retiring president (the Ven. Archdeacon of Warwick). The Vicar of Nuneaton (Rev. J. L. White) cordially invites the members to tea, after which the business meeting will be held, which includes the election of officers for the ensuing year. Mr. T. W. Chapman, 19, Glebe Road, will be glad to receive names for tea not later than Wednesday, July 16th.—A. Wilkerson, Hon. General Sec., 68, Norman Avenue, Nuneaton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —The next meeting of the above will be held at Stone in Oxney (6 bells) on Saturday, July 19th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea will be arranged for at 5 p.m. — C. Tribe, Hon. Dis. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. —A quarterly meeting will be held at West Deeping on Saturday, July 19th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in the church at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me by July 16th? — S. Proctor, 72, Bridge End Road, Grantham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. —The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Leyland (St. James') on Saturday, July 19th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 9d. per head, will be arranged for all who notify Mr. J. T. Miller, Oak House, Midge Hall, not later than Tuesday, July 15th. Tea 5.15. Meeting at 6.—W. Taylor, Branch Sec., Tower House, Penwortham.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Machen on Saturday, July 19th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Bells (8) available. — John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, July 19th. Service at 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea must notify me by Wednesday, July 16th. — J. Nickerson, Branch Sec., Halford Street, Thrapston.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, July 19th. Tea at Mrs. Bartoot's, Castle Street, at 5 o'clock, 1s. 3d. per head. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting after tea.—H. G. Fretwell, Sec., 14, High Street, Swanwick, Alfreton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Dallington on July 19th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Business important (to settle about outing to Loughborough). Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, July 15th.—T. Tebbutt, Branch Secretary, 53, Louise Road, Northampton.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Apsley End on Saturday, July 19th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Short service. Please notify me early for tea arrangements.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Roxton and Great Barford on Saturday, July 19th. Bells (5) ready at 2.30, Great Barford 6 o'clock. Tea at 5 at Roxton. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Bristol Branch of the above association will be held at Dyrham on Saturday, July 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. Please notify me by July 14th.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. —A meeting will be held at Orlingbury on Saturday, July 19th. Bells ready 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 16th. — Cecil E. Hepburn, Hon. Sec., The Pines, Isham, near Kettering.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, July 19th, at Cople at 2.30 p.m., and Willington after tea. Tea at Cople 5 p.m.—L. Turner, Dis. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston, Beds.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival.—Owing to the colleges entertaining a large number of American visitors, the festival which would have been held at Oxford on Saturday, July 26th, will be held at Reading on that date. Further particulars as soon as definite arrangements are made.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Hendon on Saturday, July 26th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea and meeting to follow. It is important that all who require tea should advise me by the 23rd inst. at latest. A charge of 1s. will be made. Members and friends welcome. Bells recently rehung.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 26th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, kindly provided by the Rector and churchwardens, to follow in the Village Hall. Will all who intend being present notify me by Wednesday, July 23rd, the latest? Half fares up to 2s. paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Albany Street, Chislehurst.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Swanscombe on Saturday, July 26th. Bells available 3. Service at 5. Tea will be provided on the Rectory lawn by the Rector (the Rev. Campbell Ward) and Mrs. Ward. All ringers who intend being present must notify me by Wednesday morning, July 23rd.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. trict Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield. Bells ready early.—C. D. Potter, Sec., 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

TACKLEY, OXON.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The bells of this Church having been rehung, and a new Treble added, will be dedicated by the Right Rev. Bishop Shaw, D.D., Archdeacon of the Diocese on Sunday, Aug. 3rd, at 3 p.m. All interested local ringers are invited to hear the best ring of six in the county.

THE ANNUAL COMMEMORATION DINNER to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and past officers of the Yorkshire Association will be held at York on Saturday, Sept. 20th. Further details later.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 90, Blackman Lane, Leeds.

HANLEY, STOKE-ON-TRENT.—On Saturday, March 22nd, in 46 mins., at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes). S. Sargeant (Hanley) 1, C. H. Page (Stoke) 2, A. Peak (Newcastle) 3, T. Hurd (Burslem) 4, A. Crawley (Crewe) 5, Geo. Jones (Hanley) 6, S. Cardell, conductor (Hanley), 7, W. Heath (Stoke) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the 4th, 6th, and tenor ringers, and first on the bells.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. NORTHERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Northern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Scarborough on Saturday, June 21st. By kind permission of the Rev. J. W. Capron, Vicar of Scarborough, the bells of St. Mary's Church, a beautiful peal of eight, were available for ringing throughout the afternoon and evening. From the point of view of numbers, the meeting was not a great success, the chief towers represented being Selby, Beverley, Holbeck, Saltburn and Pickering. It is principally owing to the large and scattered area covered by this division of the association that these meetings are so irregularly attended, and it is hoped in the near future to form some plans to enable the work of the association to be more effective in this district.

A short service was held, and the Rev. G. Davies, in the absence of the Vicar, addressed the ringers. A business meeting followed tea, and whilst regretting the absence of the vice-president (the Rev. E. Drage, Vicar of Pickering), the ringers greatly appreciated the readiness with which the Rev. G. Davies took the chair.

According to the rules of the association, the vice-president retired from office this year, and the ringers present had great pleasure in unanimously re-electing the Rev. E. Drage to be vice-president for the ensuing three years.

The following committee were also elected: Mr. Addison, of Thoruaby; Mr. Stott, of Thirsk; and Mr. Sinclair, of Thornaby. Mr. Addison was also re-elected to represent the Northern Division on the general committee.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Pickering on Saturday, October 4th. The date has been put a fortnight earlier, as it was thought this might make it possible for more ringers to attend. Further particulars of the meeting will be announced later, but the secretary would ask ringers to make a special note of this date, and to make a special effort to attend.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Scarborough for the use of the bells, to the Rev. G. Davies for his kindness in conducting the service and presiding at the meeting, and to the local ringers for the effective arrangements made for the visiting ringers.

ROCHESTER SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I heartily congratulate the Leiston band on ringing the new Rochester Surprise. I have been trying to get a band to ring this method for quite a long time, and would have called it Bradford Surprise. It was given to me on August 18th, 1923, by A. Craven. —Yours,
JNO. PLINT.

WEDDING BELLS.

At St. Mary's Church, Rawmarsh, Yorks, on Tuesday, June 10th, 1,360 Bob Major, in 50 mins.: G. Oaks 1, A. Stamp (first quarter) 2, S. Walker 3, E. Liversidge 4, E. Pammenter 5, A. G. Stocks 6, A. Firth (conductor) 7, G. F. Tuke 8. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of one of the local ringers, Mr. F. Pickering, to Miss C. Machon.

At the Parish Church, Luton, on Saturday, May 3rd, as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Steele, a quarter-peal (1,280 changes) of Bristol Surprise Major, in 50 mins.: H. Walker 1, A. J. Smith 2, C. Rollings 3, T. Kendall 4, H. Wood 5, F. Hunt 6, A. King 7, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all who are members of the local band, and the longest touch in the method in the county of Bedfordshire.

Afterwards the ringers were entertained to dinner and a concert by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Powdrill, parents of the bride.

We are pleased to be able to state that Mr. C. D. Heginbotham, of Devizes, who has been very seriously ill with peritonitis, is now slightly better.

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