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### M.C.A.'s PROPOSED NEW RULES.

The efforts which are being made by members of the Midland Counties Association to revise the rules, and in so doing to decentralise the management of the society, are likely to meet with considerable opposition in some quarters. Those who are pressing the change are desirous of giving the districts full control over a certain portion of their funds, instead of putting the whole into one pool out of which all expenses come. This plan is followed in a good many associations, which carry on the district system, and it has been found by experience to be a practical method of administration.

The Midland Counties Association is blessed with the possession of substantial funds, and there are members who feel that, under the circumstances, they ought to receive benefit by the reduction of the amount of their subscriptions. As the annual contribution is but one shilling and sixpence, any reduction can benefit the individual only to an infinitesimal extent. Would it not be wiser, therefore, if the surplus funds were expended in extending the art of ringing by enlarging the scope of the association's activities? There are various directions in which this might be done, but the reduction of members' subscriptions strikes us as being a principle having a directly opposite tendency. As we understand it, the object of those who seek to get the rules altered is that the various districts may have greater opportunity of initiative and development along their own lines, and those who oppose the change should weigh carefully the question whether the work of the association will be best served by greater decentralisation under the new proposals, or by a reduction of their own yearly contribution, which at best would put sixpence per annum into each member's pocket.

Nowhere are the times more difficult than in the industrial Midlands, and if the view is held that under present circumstances it would be better to help individual members, even by so small a sum, would it not be a still more valuable scheme if each district out of its own funds, paid the entire contribution of those members who, through the present trade depression, are really deserving of assistance? We put these broader views before the members of the M.C.A., because we believe that the true interests of the art are best served by seeing how much we can put into it, rather than by discussing how mean a sum an association can exist upon. Whether the placing of funds under control of the respective districts will serve the purpose better than keeping them in a common pocket is for the members to decide, but the M.C.A. has a fine opportunity, with the funds

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which are at its disposal, to show what a ringing society really could do for the encouragement and advancement of the art, which its primary existence is to further.

### TEN BELL PEALS.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

WILLIAM HOLIFIELD ... .. Treble	CUTHBERT G. WHITE ... .. 6
HENRY C. WHITE ... .. 2	STEDMAN WHITE ... .. 7
GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. ... .. 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN. ... .. 8
HARRY BENNETT ... .. 4	RICHARD WHITE ... .. 9
FREDERICK MESSENGER ... .. 5	FRED WHITE ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN.

Rung as a farewell to the Rector (the Rev. F. G. R. Jourdain), who has retired from the living at Appleton owing to ill-health.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

E. GEORGE TREW ... .. Treble	RAYMOND C. SEAGER ... .. 6
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... .. 2	FREDERICK E. TYLER ... .. 7
RONALD G. BECK ... .. 3	THOMAS F. KING ... .. 8
HENRY T. HOWELL ... .. 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 9
JOHN J. JEFFERIES ... .. 5	REGINALD F. BECK ... .. Tenor

Composed by EDGAR GUISE.

Conducted by E. G. TREW.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

*THOMAS SEYMOUR ... .. Treble	SYDNEY GARDENER ... .. 6
WM. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ... .. 2	FREDERICK J. SPICER ... .. 7
*WILLIAM NASH ... .. 3	*JOHN T. KENTISH ... .. 8
EDWARD D. LIVERMORE ... .. 4	THOMAS J. HULL ... .. 9
HARRY G. LIGHTFOOT ... .. 5	WALTER AYRE ... .. Tenor

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Conducted by T. J. HULL.

First peal in the method as conductor. \* First peal in the method. 50th peal for the association by J. T. Kentish. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Thomas Conley, who has been ringing at St. Peter's Church for the last 72 years, on his 89th birthday.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, TWERTON-ON-AVON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE TEMPLE ... .. Treble	THEODORE GRANT ... .. 5
HENRY W. BROWN ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... .. 6
FREDERICK C. RICH ... .. 3	THOMAS F. KING ... .. 7
*WILLIAM H. HOBBS ... .. 4	*EDWIN S. SULLY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT.

\* First peal away from tenor. † First peal.

THORVERTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, September 8, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

C. KNOWLES ... .. Treble	RICHARD GRATER ... .. 5
H. PAGE ... .. 2	J. ELSWORTHY ... .. 6
F. J. MILFORD ... .. 3	F. CHAMBERLAIN ... .. 7
T. H. POOK ... .. 4	R. B. FORD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. CHAMBERLAIN.

## ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,  
At the Parish Church,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

H. W. Wilde's Variation of THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

JAMES MARSH ... .. Treble	THOMAS HAMMOND ... .. 5
*JOHN LONHAM ... .. 2	JAMES MARTIN ... .. 6
JOHN WILKINSON ... .. 3	EDWARD CAUNCE ... .. 7
HENRY FYLES ... .. 4	THOMAS C. LARKEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES MARSH.

\* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Edward Caunce.

## RISHTON, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 8, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. Treble	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... .. 5
*PERCY FRANCE ... .. 2	FRED HINDLE ... .. 6
MISS CLAYTON ... .. 3	BERNARD CRABTREE ... .. 7
*THOMAS WATSON ... .. 4	JOHN WATSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

\* First peal. Arranged for Mr. T. Watson, who was on a visit from Dalton-in-Furness.

## NORTHFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, September 8, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. LADRENCE,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S NO. 35.

Tenor 14 cwt.

PERCY O. LARLIN ... .. Treble	CHARLES WEBB ... .. 5
LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS ... .. 2	JOHN EATON ... .. 6
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... .. 3	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 7
HARRY WITHERS ... .. 4	JOHN WITHERS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by S. GROVE.

This was the quarterly peal for the above branch, and the first peal of Triples on the bells. It was also a wedding compliment to Mr. F. D. Yates and Miss Lillian Joyce Calvert, who were married at St. Agnes' Church, Cotteridge, on the 5th.

## TAMWORTH.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, September 9, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. EDITHA,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

LINDOFF'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD ... .. Treble	CHARLES DRAPER ... .. 5
THOMAS MEREDITH ... .. 2	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 6
JOHN H. SWINFELD ... .. 3	CHARLES CHAPMAN ... .. 7
JAMES F. CLARKE ... .. 4	JAMES PRATT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

## GUILDFORD.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 9, 1925, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of the HOLY TRINITY,

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. Treble	HARRY BURDOCK ... .. 5
GEORGE W. STEERE ... .. 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILL ... .. 6
JOHN T. SCOTT ... .. 3	WILLIAM T. BRESON, JUN. ... .. 6
JOHN A. COLE ... .. 4	ALFRED H. POLLING ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING

NEWPORT, MON.—At the Church of St. Woolos, on Tuesday, Sept. 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes), composed by R. Deal: F. Greedy 1, F. Atwell 2, W. Heath 3, J. W. Jones 4, J. Clark 5, A. Parnell 6, C. Greedy (conductor) 7, W. Phillips 8, F. Chamberlain 9, T. Griffiths 10. Arranged specially for J. Clark, who was on a visit from Ross.

## PUTNEY, SURREY.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, PUTNEY.

(FRIENDLY PEAL.)

On Thursday, September 10, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,  
At the Church of St. MARY,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

MRS. R. F. DEAL ... .. Treble	WILLIAM H. WORSLEY ... .. 5
JOSEPH HERBERT ... .. 2	RICHARD F. DEAL ... .. 6
CHARLES J. CHOCHET ... .. 3	HERBERT LANGDON ... .. 7
WILLIAM S. LANGDON ... .. 4	EDWARD CASSEL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Thomas Bolton, Master of the Putney band, and also during the octave of the Patronal Festival. Believed to be the quickest peal on the bells.

## BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	*THOMAS WATSON ... .. 5
MISS CLAYTON ... .. 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 6
FRED CHAMBERS ... .. 3	JOHN WATSON ... .. 7
FRED HINDLE ... .. 4	JAMES HARRISON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

\* First peal in the method. Arranged by Mr. T. Watson, of Dalton-in-Furness.

## POOLE, DORSET.

## THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. JAMES,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

ALAN R. MACDONALD ... .. Treble	PERCY W. WITHAM ... .. 5
FREDERICK W. TOWNSEND ... .. 2	*WILLIAM SIMMONDS ... .. 6
HAROLD G. FRAMPTON ... .. 3	WALTER INGHAM ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... .. 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

\* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells. The ringers of the treble and tenor are from London, and the ringer of the 3rd from Manchester.

## THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. JAMES,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

JAMES M. NICKERSON ... .. Treble	DANIEL REDHEAD ... .. 5
LEONARD J. WYMAN ... .. 2	GEORGE JEFFS, JUN. ... .. 6
JOHN KING ... .. 3	FRANK KIRK ... .. 7
FRANCIS KIRK ... .. 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ... .. Tenor

Composed by SAM THOMAS.

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER

This peal was arranged for the ringer of the 4th, who was home on holiday from St. Albans. It was his first peal in the method, and first attempt.

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. PETER.

## A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 lb.

BERNARD V. COLLISON ... .. Treble	WILLIAM COLLISON ... .. 5
STAFFORD H. GREEN ... .. 2	LEONARD E. LAST ... .. 6
WILLIAM LATTER ... .. 3	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... .. 7
HERBERT MARKWELL ... .. 4	FREDERICK WHITE ... .. Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PISTOW. Conducted by FREDERICK WHITE

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, and as a farewell peal to him, as he is leaving the district. It was his first attempt as conductor.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 20½ cwt.

JAMES M. BAILEY ... .. Treble	JAMES G. REMSEY ... .. 5
GEORGE BAILEY ... .. 2	*FREDERICK J. SMITH... .. 6
GEORGE WILSON ... .. 3	CHARLES SAMPSON ... .. 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY ... .. 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.  
\* First peal of London Surprise, and 100th peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

SAM GREENHALGH ... .. Treble	FREDERICK J. STEELE ... .. 5
ERNEST COTSFORTH ... .. 2	THOMAS R. HENSHER ... .. 6
TITUS BARLOW ... .. 3	ALLEN F. BAILEY ... .. 7
THOMAS B. WORSLEY... .. 4	*THOMAS SMITH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

Sam Greenhalgh's 100th peal. T. R. Hensher's 50th peal of Stedman. \* First peal. Rung as a compliment to the twin children of Mr. F. J. Steele on the attainment of their 14th birthday.

ERITH, KENT.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE J. HARMAN ... .. Treble	ERNEST J. KING ... .. 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... .. 2	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. 6
ARTHUR NEALE ... .. 3	ERNEST BRETT ... .. 7
JEFFERY R. GAMMON ... .. 4	FREDERICK W. CHORLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
(ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD.)

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR.

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

*CHARLES H. JENNINGS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT ... .. 5
†ALFRED E. REEVES ... .. 2	HENRY PRING ... .. 6
WILLIAM H. THOMAS ... .. 3	JOHN A. BOURFORD ... .. 7
JOHN THOMAS ... .. 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.  
\* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bristol Surprise.

TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE R. JONES ... .. Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING ... .. 2	JAMES SWINDLEY... .. 6
HARRY F. HOLDING ... .. 3	RICHARD T. HOLDING... .. 7
JOHN HAYES... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

THAMES DITTON, SURREY.  
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5030 CHANGES;**  
Being 42 six-scores.

WILLIAM TILLEY... .. Treble	*HENRY HARDY ... .. 4
GEORGE HIGGS ... .. 2	GEORGE ADLEY ... .. 5
WILKIN MASSEY ... .. 3	*R. COLES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE ADLEY.

Ring as a farewell peal to the Rev. B. H. Bosanquet, who has left the parish, and as a peal of greeting to the Rev. Barton, who has taken up his duties there. \* First peal.

NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

**A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Milton, London, York, Wells, Ipswich, Durham and Cambridge. Tenor 11 cwt.

GEORGE E. LAWRENCE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM C. LAWRENCE ... .. 4
FRANK TRINER ... .. 2	WILLIAM P. DEANE ... .. 5
JOHN E. WHERLDON ... .. 3	JAMES WALLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHERLDON.

This was the conductor's fiftieth peal.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

FRED RIGBY... .. Treble	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... .. 4
FRED BLACKLIDGE ... .. 2	WILLIAM SHARPLES ... .. 5
WILLIAM LANCASTER ... .. 3	*REGINALD L. INCE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. SHARPLES.

\* First peal of Minor. Arranged for R. L. Ince, of Parndon, Cheshire.

OVER, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being three 720's Oxford Treble Bob, three of Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

ALBERT HUCKLE ... .. Treble	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES... .. 4
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 2	CHARLES W. COOK ... .. 5
FRED C. GINN ... .. 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung after meeting short for Cambridge Surprise, Mr. Ginn kindly standing in at an hour's notice.

BACKFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, September 12, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTER J. BATTLE ... .. Treble	JOHN COOKE ... .. 4
*WILLIAM DEAN ... .. 2	HERBERT LUDKIN ... .. 5
*FREDERICK AMOS ... .. 3	*SYDNEY F. BARNES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. LUDKIN.

\* First peal of Minor in seven methods. First peal of Minor in seven methods on the bells.

GET YOUR  
RINGING  
FRIENDS  
TO SUPPORT

THE RINGING  
WORLD

BY  
TAKING  
A COPY  
EVERY  
WEEK



**HANDBELL PEAL.**

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 7, 1925, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes.

AT 26, KIRKMANSHULME LANE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5840 CHANGES,

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

ALFRED BARNES ...	1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY ...	5-6
FREDERICK PAGE...	3-4	HARRY CHAPMAN...	7-8

Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

**DEVON GUILD.**

The North-East Branch of the Devon Guild had a very successful meeting at Oakford last Saturday. The members greatly appreciated the presence of two distinguished guests, namely, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, who was staying at the Rectory, Oakford, and Canon G. F. Coleridge, who cycled many miles in order to attend the meeting. Forty-two ringers were present, most towers in the branch being represented, and in addition there were visitors from Chipstable, Milverton, Tallant and Ryde.

The Rev. G. E. F. Molineux took the chair at the meeting, and also performed the arduous duties of Ringing Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. E. J. Barton (chairman) and Mr. J. Elsworth (Branch Ringing Master).

Tiverton was chosen for the annual meeting, to be held on Saturday, December 12th.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and church; to the organist; to the local ringers; and to the ladies who helped with the tea.

Later in the evening, the Rev. Maitland Kelly and other ringers paid a visit to Stoodleigh tower. The bells were much praised, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor were successfully brought round.

During the afternoon three members qualified for their certificates, and a new member was elected to the branch.

**EXETER DISTRICT.**

A quarterly meeting of the Exeter District Branch was held at Crediton on Saturday, September 5th. About 50 members, representing 12 bands, and several visitors, including the Rev. M. Kelly (ex-President) and Canon Boles, were present. There was service in the parish church of the Holy Cross, and an interesting address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. H. C. Onslow), who mentioned that a very old custom was kept up at Newark-on-Trent, called ringing for 'Gopher,' which originated through a traveller having lost his way in Sherwood Forest until, guided by the sound of Newark bells, he was able to find his way out. As a thankoffering, he left an endowment to the church to have the bells specially rung at sunset on six of the twelve Sundays before Christmas in case any other wanderer might be in a similar predicament.

Tea was held in the Church Institute, and at a business meeting afterwards three honorary members—Archdeacon Surtees, the Revs. H. C. Onslow and K. A. Lake—were elected. St. Sidwell's (Exeter) was chosen as the place for the annual meeting on December 5th.

Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung at Crediton, and the towers of Newton St. Cyres, Shobrooke, and Sandford were visited. The bands represented were St. Sidwell's, St. David's, St. Thomas and Heavitree (Exeter), Newton St. Cyres, Christow, Crediton, Thorverton, Sowton and Woodbury.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and the organist of Crediton.

**DURHAM & NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**

A very successful meeting of the Eastern District of this Association was held at Sunderland on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Members were present from Newcastle, Whitley Bay, South Shields, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, Chester-le-Street, and the three local towers. Several touches of Superlative, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Major, Stedman and Grandsire were brought round at Bishopwearmouth, Holy Trinity, and St. Ignatius Churches, and an excellent tea was provided in the Parish Hall of the latter church.

Mr. R. L. Patterson presided at a short meeting afterwards, and welcomed two distinguished visitors—the Rector of Bishopwearmouth (Prebendary A. B. Wynne-Willson), and Mr. C. T. P. Brice, of Pulham St. Mary, Norfolk, who is at present engaged in the restoration work at Durham Castle.—The Rector, in responding, said he did so with a feeling of shame, as he had learnt the art of ringing in his young days, and had not kept it up as he would have liked to do.

Mr. J. W. Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of the bells, and Major Hudson expressed the thanks of the meeting to the ladies who had presided at the tea.

The next meeting was arranged to be held at Jarrow on Dec. 5th.

**RINGERS' OUTINGS.**

LAWTON RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, August 15th, the ringers of Lawton, Cheshire, with their wives and friends, had their half-day charabanc trip. The first stop was at Gawsorth, where touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by some, while the rest of the party had a look round. The lovely old church and surroundings were much admired. After staying an hour, a move was made for New Mills, which was reached about 4 p.m. Here the party were met by Mr. Ramsey, of New Mills, and Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Norbury, who gave the Lawton ringers a hearty welcome. With the help of Mr. Fidler, the bells were raised, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples were brought round. Tea was partaken of, and the party then went on to Marple, where they were met by Mr. Fernley, of Norbury. Touches of Kent Minor Oxford and Kent spliced, Woodbine and Plain Bob were rung on this heavy peal of six, with the help of Mr. Fernley and Mr. Fidler. After viewing the fine scenery from this old church, a start was made for home, which was reached about 10.30. The Lawton ringers would like to take this opportunity of thanking the clergy of the respective churches, and the local ringers, especially Mr. Fidler, Mr. Fernley and Mr. Ramsey, for making the outing such a success.

**TEWKESBURY DEANERY EXCURSION.**

An outing by charabanc by ringers of the Tewkesbury Deanery took place on August 9th. Leaving Tewkesbury at 1.30 p.m., the first stop was made at Ledbury, where the fine peal of eight was soon going to Grandsire Triples. After several touches had been rung and the bells lowered, a move was made to Ross, which was reached at 5.15 p.m. There again the tower was visited, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung. After tea the return journey was made via Gloucester, halting at the latter tower to allow Mr. J. Austin, who had accompanied the party, to alight. The ringers wish to express their thanks to the Vicars of both towers for the use of the bells; also to the towerkeepers for having everything in readiness, and to Mr. J. Clark for arranging tea.

**BRIDGEND RINGERS' 240 MILES TRIP.**

On Tuesday, August 4th, the ringers of Bridgend journeyed by charabanc to Carmarthen and Aberystwyth. Leaving Bridgend at 6.45 a.m., Carmarthen was reached just before nine. After light refreshments, the tower was visited. Everything was in readiness, but the bells were muffled, as the funeral of the wife of one of the churchwardens was to take place that day. Unfortunately these bells require the services of the bell hanger, so a very little ringing was sufficient. The party then set out for Aberystwyth, this part of the journey was much enjoyed, many miles of it being along the coast of Cardigan Bay. Arriving at the destination somewhat behind time, tracks were made for Fellow's Cafe, where dinner was partaken of. The afternoon was spent in sightseeing, and everyone wished they could have spent more time at this lovely seaside resort, which is well worth a visit. After tea, Llanbadarn Fawr was on the programme. This tower is quite close to Aberystwyth, and contains a lovely peal of eight bells, which have recently been rehung and 'go' well. Time went all too quickly in short touches of Grandsire. The return journey was started about 7.30, and home was reached in the small hours of the morning, everyone having spent a very enjoyable day. The distance covered was about 240 miles, 'some ride.' The ringers' best thanks go to the Vicars of Carmarthen and Llanbadarn for the use of the bells.

**A HEREFORDSHIRE TRIP.**

The Holmer (Hereford) ringers, accompanied by the Guild Ringing Master (Mr. C. Edwards) and Messrs. A. W. Davis, H. Hurcombe and W. H. Symonds, of the Hereford Cathedral Band, had a most enjoyable outing on July 18th in ideal weather. Leaving Hereford at 8.15 a.m. by charabanc, the route was through Ledbury to Eastnor, where the six bells were raised in peal, and Grandsire, Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor rung. After an hour's ringing the drive continued through the Deer Park to British Camp, the Master having obtained special permission from Lord Somers to go through this delightful private drive. The subsequent route was via Jubilee Drive, Wych Cutting and Great Malvern to Madresfield. In the absence of Mr. R. Knowles, the Vicar kindly met the party at the church here, and, after ringing on the well-gonged six, the Vicar offered to take the party for a hurried walk through part of the gardens of Madresfield Court, the residence of Earl Beauchamp. The maize was the centre of attraction. The idea of walking through it without getting lost was new to the party, but all answered the subsequent roll call.

Powick was the next call. Here the tenor is 23 cwt., and the 'go' of the bells very indifferent. A few 120's and a course of Minor, with the Sampson of the party on the tenor, were rung. At Worcester an excellent lunch was partaken of at the 'Pig and Whistle' Hotel, and then the tour was continued to Tenbury Wells, where a short stay was made for a pull on the light peal of six. Ludlow was the next stop for tea, and a look round, but there was no ringing, owing to the Ludlow district having a quarterly meeting at Bramfield. At Leominster Mr. J. Worey, Secretary of the Leominster district, met the party, who, after getting the hack eight up in peal, rang touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters, also a touch of Bob Major. Leaving Leominster at 9.30, Holmer was reached at 10.15, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

## THE OLD NORWICH CONTROVERSY.—SOME OF THE MEN.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Thomas Melchior and the Mancroft band had rung their peal of Stedman, but this was by no means the end of the matter. For one thing, the peal had not been faultless—no peal ever is. Once or twice there had been rough places, and we all know by experience that what, inside the tower, is but a trip, to the hostile critic outside is downright firing. Then the sixth had given trouble, as was expected. You may be certain that Melchior had put his best man on that bell, and, to make further sure, he had a ninth man in the tower who could act as umpire, and, if necessary, lend a helping hand. It was necessary; the sixth man had to be relieved, to what extent does not appear.

Now you will remember that Melchior in his advertisement of Oct. 31st, 1731, declared rather ostentatiously that the peal was rung by himself and seven others; which was rather asking for trouble if the truth should leak out, as it was pretty sure to do.

The ringer of the sixth was John Forster, or Foster, Melchior's right-hand man, host of the 'Eight Bells,' the headquarters of the Mancroft party. The house has long since disappeared or changed its name.

A few years later, Theodore Ecclestone, a Suffolk gentleman, living at Crowfield, gave a peal of eight to his neighbouring village of Coddenham. Searching about for someone to teach a band of ringers he came to Norwich, and engaged the services of John Forster, who was so successful an instructor that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on September 10th, 1741. Ecclestone rang the treble, and Forster the third, and conducted the peal. One of the reasons, no doubt, why Forster was induced to leave Norwich was that he was an innkeeper. An innkeeper's trade is much the same thing all the world over, but a craftsman weaver, or such like, who left the town for the country, would have to sacrifice his livelihood.

Soon after, Theodore Ecclestone sold his estate at Crowfield, and his ringers were dispersed. Forster went to Lincoln, where he called another peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Peter-at-Arches on June 20th, 1756. These two peals are described on their boards as Garthrine's Triples and Calharan's Triples, both being phonetic spellings of John Garthorn's name.

The man who helped Forster in the Mancroft peal was a still more notable person. This was John Webster. He had rung the tenor to the 1718 peal, and the 4th to the 10,080 of Treble Bob at St. Michael's in 1727, and afterwards became the leading man among Norwich ringers.

About 1753, John Holt, having composed his well-known peals of Grandsire Union and Plain Bob Triples, was desirous of publishing them; but being a poor man, and not able to do so at his own expense, started a subscription for the purpose. Now Holt belonged to the Union Scholars, a small affair compared with the College Youths, who comprised the big men among the London ringers. The great Mr. Annable was the autocratic leader of the College Youths, and he was not altogether pleased that an unlettered and obscure man should have succeeded where he had failed. So he cold-shouldered the proposal, and Holt had to turn from London to the provinces for support. He secured the help of the Rev. D. Mason, of Trinity College, Cambridge, who in turn wrote to John Webster asking for the subscriptions of the Norwich ringers. But the Norwich ringers were much of the same mind as Ben Annable. They had their own traditions and their own peals, which they considered were as good as anyone else's, and Webster's reply was a polite but decided refusal. Here it is:—

'Norwich, August 27th, 1753.

'Reverend Sir,—I desire you'll excuse my not Subscribing to a Work which I have some Reason to fear will not answer to Expectation. I must Confess Our Company Seem Intirely to slight it, though I must Own it is not a Generous Way of Treating Mr. Holt's performance, but I believe they are Induc'd to this by that Ingenious Ringer, Mr. Anable's, not Encouraging of it; had he Approved of it, his influence on the Colledge Youths, I presume, would have been sufficient to have sent it to the Press without any Further Subscriptions.

'Revd. Sir, Give me leave to Observe to you that 'tis almost twenty years since I sent to the Rev. Mr. Windhall a whole peal of Ten with Two Inferior Changes only, Fully Explaining by an Infalible rule how to make any proper peal on all numbers that go with a Quick Hunt,

'For self and Co., I am, Sir,

'With due respect, your most

'Humble servant,

'JOHN WEBSTER.'

The letter is a most interesting one in many ways, and gives a very favourable impression of the writer. The last paragraph is obscure, but taken in its context, seems to be a claim that Norwich had forestalled Holt's achievement by some years. I know of no other evidence that Webster was a composer. Whatever he did has utterly

perished, and you may take up the attitude that Shipway did toward all the Norwich peals. Everyone, he said, knows and rings Holt's peals, but who knows anything about the peals supposed to have been composed and rung at Norwich? If they were true and what they were claimed to be, why did not men preserve the figures? Well, of course, the reason is that the London men had the advantage that they had men who wrote and printed books, and so preserved the figures of their peals. Unfortunately, the old Norwich men printed nothing, and save for Garthorn's Grandsire Triples, the figures of all their early peals have perished.

John Webster met his death in a rather tragic way from heart failure, after ringing at St. Giles. A stone tablet in the tower is inscribed as follows:—

'Near to this place John Webster fell,  
Beloved by all who knew him well.  
A most ingenious noted ringer,  
St. Giles' sixth bell around did bring her.  
He closed the peal, struck well his bell,  
Ceasing the same, down dead he fell.  
He died November 27th, 1760.'

The Norwich Scholars rang a peal of Imperial the Third Bob Major at St. Giles in 1760, and, I believe, but am not quite sure, that this is the peal referred to. To cease a bell is the old Norwich term for dropping it, and was used till quite recently, and possibly still is.

One other name in the Mancroft peal of Stedman claims attention. This is the tenor man, William Porter. He was probably the father of the Thomas Porter, who composed Double Norwich Court Bob Royal.

Meanwhile, the Coslany men had not been idle. They had two objects in view. One was to ring their peal first if possible; the other to watch their opponents for anything that might discredit them. It was open war, and you may be sure that neither band started for a peal without quite a number of hostile critics listening to them. The art of taking down Course Ends outside had not yet been invented. Even now it takes a very good man with an exceptionally good ear to take down from the outside the calling of a peal of Stedman Triples that he knows nothing of. The test the Coslany men employed was to depute one of their number to count the changes. They probably did not realise that it is an infinitely easier thing to make a mistake in counting five thousand and forty changes than to bring the bells round a hundred or two changes short of the full number.

Thomas Crane was the unfortunate person told off for the job. He and two others shut themselves up in a room and kept on counting for nigh four solid hours. I would have far rather been John Forster, sweating at the tail end of the sixth up in the tower, than have that deadly monotonous job. As for Edward Crane you may be sure he was abroad during the whole of the ringing. He would hear the start and then, with one or two of his supporters, he would walk round and round, across the Market Place, up Pudding Lane, through the tangle of houses that surrounded the church, by the new Bethel hospital into the Chapel field, down Hay Hill, and so round again. Going steadily while the striking was regular; stopping with bated breath whenever there was a clip; hoping with all their might that each mistake might worsen and be the end; disappointed when every time the bells righted themselves, and the ringing went on. You can't blame them; it was open war, and they badly wanted the first peal for themselves. And because, as everyone knows, listening to a peal is a thirsty job, they would call at discreet intervals at the White Horse or the White Hart or the Moon and Stars, or other houses of which there was and is no lack in the neighbourhood. But not, I think, at the Eight Bells. Host Foster was away up in the tower, but there would be plenty of the Mancroft party there, and, though Crane might occasionally send some of his subordinates to spy out the land, his dignity as leader would not allow his going himself. And at last when, spite of all their wishes and hopes, the peal was finished, off they would go to the Six Bells at Coslany to hold a council of war and compare notes.

Faults would be remembered, trips would be magnified, and when Brother Tom turned up and reported that he had counted only 4,860 changes, the news, helped by some good ale, would put new heart into them. The fight was not yet lost. Let Thomas Melchior publish his peal if he dared. They would have something to say to that.

## ACCIDENT TO WELL-KNOWN ESSEX RINGER.

While proceeding home on his bicycle on Friday week Mr. Henry F. Cooper, of Stisted, formerly residing at Chelmsford, a well-known Essex ringer, one time master of the Chelmsford Cathedral ringers, and also of the Northern-Eastern Division of Essex Association, collided with another cyclist, and sustained a fractured right leg. He is now in Braintree Hospital, and is making favourable progress. His many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

### DEATH OF VETERAN GLOUCESTERSHIRE RINGER. ONE OF MEMORABLE PEAL BAND.

The death has taken place at Cheltenham, Gloucester, of Mr. Henry Karn, who was one of the oldest ringers in the county. He took part in a peal of Grandsire Doubles, with his father, at his native place of Charlton Kings, in the year 1866, and in all he had rung about twenty peals of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Stedman, his chief performance being the celebrated peal of 13,054 Stedman Caters, rung at Cheltenham on May 21st, 1888, in which he rang the third bell. He took part in very few peals after this, but had continued to ring at various churches in the district.

He passed away at 3, Burton Street, Cheltenham, on August 31st, at the age of 76 years. The funeral took place on Sept. 4th at Charlton Kings Cemetery, where muffled touches of Grandsire were rung by G. Simmonds 1, W. Dyer (conductor) 2, G. Dyer 3, M. Hicks 4, A. Ruck 5, R. Hemming 6, J. Ballinger 7, F. Simmonds 8.

In the evening, muffled touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were also rung at Leckhampton by W. Townsend 1, F. Pratt 2, A. Caudle 3, A. Hunt 4, J. F. Ballinger 5, W. Hunt 6, C. Richings 7, W. Harrison 8. Mr. Karn's connection with Leckhampton was by marriage, his wife being the daughter of the late Robert Ballinger, clerk and sexton, also a ringer at Leckhampton Church.

### NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION. MEETING AT BARMOUTH.

A successful meeting of the above association was held at Barmouth on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Although the attendance was disappointing, members were present from Rhyl, Bangor, Barmouth and Portmadoc, and Mr. M. J. Morris, of Birmingham, was also present. A short service was held at St. John's Church, conducted by the Rector, who, in the course of a brief address, welcomed the association to Barmouth.

The meeting was held in the Church Hall, when eleven Barmouth ringers were admitted as members of the association.

The secretary was appointed representative of the association at the next Central Council meeting, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rector for his address, and for the use of the Church Hall. The Rev. J. Humphrey Jones was also thanked for taking the chair at the meeting, and for the assistance rendered at the service.

After the meeting, the members adjourned to the belfry, where the

bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major.

Owing to the poor train service between Barmouth and some of the other places on the coast, several of the members were forced to leave at 5.30 p.m. (this being the last train); but, although the morning had been a very wet one, quite an enjoyable day was spent.

### BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held on August 29th at Combe Florey, where there is a nice peal of six bells. The visitors, who numbered over thirty, were welcomed by the Rector (the Rev. J. Black Hyland) and his wife, and a short service was held, at which the Rector officiated, and the singing was led by the organist and choir. The Rector also gave an address. Afterwards he entertained the ringers to tea, which was served in the open air in the Rectory grounds.

At the short business meeting which followed, four new members were elected, and Mr. J. Maddock proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness in providing tea and arranging such a delightful service.—The Rector, in reply, said it gave Mrs. Black Hyland and himself very great pleasure to have the ringers there, and if at any time they wished to come again he would be pleased to have them.

The ringing during the afternoon and evening included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

### RINGING AT TRURO CATHEDRAL.

Before evening service, at Truro Cathedral, on Sunday, Sept. 6th, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. E. Minors 1, H. Bennetts 2, W. Arthur 3, A. W. Brighton 4, W. H. Southeard 5, A. S. Roberts 6, W. H. Sleeman 7, H. Sleeman 8, B. Pascoe 9, S. Webb 10. When about 300 changes from home, the conductor, Mr. Brighton, who was on a visit from London, was forced to call 'stand,' owing to sudden illness overcoming one of the ringers. Mr. Brighton rang at Kenwyn Church in the morning and also at Kea Church after evening service, when touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round by members of the local band and the Cathedral band.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

## THE

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

We would emphasise the suggestion made by Mr. A. Paddon Smith in a letter in another column, that ringers who hear the broadcasting of St. Philip's bells, Birmingham, which is to be relayed from all B.B.C. stations on Sunday, Sept. 27th, from 7.45 to 8 p.m., should send a postcard to the address given, expressing appreciation of the change from the broadcast of chiming to the broadcast of typical English bell ringing. Expressions of opinion of this kind to the B.B.C. may influence the policy of the company in regard to what kind of bell ringing is broadcast in future.

The 'Wiltshire week,' just concluded, resulted in ten peals being rung.

A novel departure has been made in the way of meetings upon the initiative of Mr. A. D. Barker, the hon. secretary of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. A meeting of the Guild is to take place in London 'to revive old friendships, and doubtless the many members of the Guild in and around the Metropolis will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity.

Warnham, in Sussex, as we have before pointed out in this column, has been one of the places where the bells could be rung as often as the ringers liked—and the parishioners were as interested in their success as the band themselves.

This is recalled by meeting Harry Chandler on Saturday on the scene of some of his old achievements, when a meeting of the Sussex Association was held there, and he was a welcome visitor. In the 'eighties' of last century he called a peal off every bell in the tower in the space of a week! Starting with two peals on one Sunday, a peal was rung every succeeding night in the week, followed by two peals the next Sunday, one on Monday and one on Tuesday. The next night the conductor missed a bob—and put an end to the sequence.

Far from objecting to ringing on this scale, the villagers would have been content, we believe, if the peals had been a daily occurrence up to now. It was no unusual thing at that time for 'go' to be called between 8 and 9 p.m.!

Harry hasn't altered much since those days, except round the equator, for all his exercise on the Middlesex roads fails to keep down his 'avoidupois.'

Mr. John E. Wheeldon, who scored his half-century last Friday, has rung all his peals in the Archdeaconry of Stoke-on-Trent. They have been spread over fifteen towers, and include the record lengths of Major (at Wolstanton) and of Minor (at Norton) for the Stoke Association.

Although now in his 84th year, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, for many years president of the Devon Guild, in which he has laboured so long to raise the standard of ringing, took part in touches at two churches on Saturday, when he attended a branch meeting of the Guild.

Mr. John Conley, whose 89th birthday was celebrated at St. Alban-on Saturday by a peal at St. Peter's Church, has been a ringer at that tower for 72 years. Almost a record, we should think.

Exactly one hundred and fifty years ago to-morrow the first peal was rung on the then new ring of ten bells at Grantham. This was a 5.130 of Grandsire Caters, and it took thirteen men to perform the task—not much of a recommendation for the bell hanger. There were two men on the ninth and three on the tenor, and the peal was called by W. D. Crofts, whose band included ten men from Nottingham and three from Newark.

The first peal of Double Norwich Caters was rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol, on September 22nd, 1894.

Who was the first resident Derbyshire lady to ring in a peal in that county? The information is asked for by a Derbyshire correspondent, and, perhaps, if the lady herself is too shy to enlighten us, one of the gentlemen who took part in the peal will do so.

The College Youths annual dinner has been fixed this year for Saturday, November 7th.

## CARILLONS? NO!

There's a song in the breeze as it whispers thro' the trees,  
There's a song in the air with the insects humming there,  
There's a song in my heart as I clumb the belfry stair:  
There will soon be a louder song than these.

There's a song in the ropes when they're swishing up and down.  
While a merry, merry clamour peals out from overhead;  
The owls fly affrighted from their terror-haunted bed,  
And the song of the bells peals o'er the town.

Shall a time ever come when their song shall be unsung,  
When the art of change ringing shall be an art unknown.  
When our famous, ancient peals, which we so proudly own,  
Shall be replaced by tinkling carillon?

Oh! Ringers, let us stand, each a rope within his hand,  
Let us keep our ancient rings by art and history bless'd,  
If carillons must be, let them sail into the West:  
A sweeter song sing the bells of England.

M. M. WEBB.



## MULTI-METHOD PEALS.

## HINTS ON 'SPICING' AND RINGING MINOR METHODS.

By JOHN P. FIDLER. SIXTH ARTICLE.

The 5th or 'Abbey' group will be found very interesting. It is a group on which a good deal of practice will have to be spent. The reason it is given the name 'Abbey' is on account of the names of four methods being those of Abbeys, and they were first rung at Norbury early in 1914. The 'odd' method, however, was not rung until 1921. Those who are able to ring London Surprise Minor will experience little or no difficulty, but they will admit, on ringing a 'spiced' extent of this group, that London Surprise Minor is small fry—a big statement, but try it and see. The methods will be found in the 4th's Place Delight, and the combinations are as follows:—

Work above Treble, Or that of Bells passing 'up.'	Work below Treble, Or that of Bells passing 'down.'	Resultant Method.
London Surprise.	Overton.	Crowland.
London Surprise.	Braintree.	Abbeyville.
London Surprise.	Sandal.	Combermere.
London Surprise.	London Scholars'.	Vale Royal.
London Surprise.	Kingston.	St. Werburg.

Those unacquainted with London Surprise will find it necessary to make a very careful study of the work up, special attention being paid to that of the bells passing treble 4—5 and 5—6 up.

## ST. WERBURG.

Taking the easiest method first, St. Werburg, No. 4, page 14, let us analyse it. Commencing with the path of the 2nd, we find the slow work is as in Kingston, but after passing treble 3—4, the bell makes 4th's, goes out to 6th's place, and lies a whole pull, runs in to 3rd's, and passes 2—3 down; then works as in Kingston until treble is again met, this time in 4—5 up (the following work must be well memorised, and strict counting maintained when ringing), dodge 5.6.5.6.5, down to 3rd's place, which is made, up to 6th's, lie, dodge 5.6.5.6.5, lie and then treble comes. After making 5th's, the path is reversed; therefore passing treble in 5—6 up, lie, dodge 5.6.5.6.5, lie, down to 3rd's, make it, up and dodge 5.6.5.6.5, passing treble 4—5 down. The work is then again Kingston, until treble is met once more, this time in 2—3 up. Make 3rd's, straight out, lie, and down to 4th's and treble comes to dodge 3—4, after which, the second half of the slow is taken up and the plain course brought round. As the result of our investigation we have the following record:—

Pass treble 1—2 up.	Make 2nd's and snap again.
Pass treble 2—3 up.	3rd's, 6th's, 4th's and in.
Pass treble 3—4 up.	4th's, 6th, 3rd's and in.
Pass treble 4—5 up.	Dodge 5.6.5.6.5, 3rd's, lie 6th's, dodge 5.6.5.6.5.
Pass treble 5—6 up.	Lie, dodge, 5.6.5.6.5, 3rd's, dodge 5.6.5.6.5, pass treble 4—5 down.

Work down, as in Kingston.

At first it appears very difficult, but with careful study and practice it will be seen in a fresh light.

## BOB WORK.

6 2 3 5 1 4	The bob work in this group is vastly different from that dealt with so far, and will require recording in the notebook. The bob bell is the one which dodged with treble in 5—6, in this case the 4th, which, instead of going down to make 3rd's place, makes 4th's and repeats the work in 5—6, which is, lie, dodge 5.6.5.6.5, when treble comes.
6 3 2 1 5 4	The bell which passed treble 4—5 up, after making 3rd's, goes down and snaps treble (see 5th).
3 6 1 2 4 5	That which snapped treble, instead of lying in 2nd's, makes 3rd's, and dodges 5.6.5.6.5, passing treble 4—5 down (see 5th). Those passing treble 2—3 and 3—4, work as at a plain lead; therefore calls are made when the observation bell is in one of these positions. The tenor called Wrong, Home, Wrong, twice repeated, produces the extent.
3 6 2 1 5 4	Should a conductor chance to forget whether a call has to be made or omitted, he has another bell to guide him, but not in so pointed a manner as in those methods previously dealt with. However, after practice it can easily be picked out. One good guide is to bear in mind the positions unaffected by a bob, viz., 2—3 and 3—4. In the course of the tenor, the first call would be made after dodging with treble 3—4 up, and as she is striking her blow in 5th's: so, instead of using the terms W and H, use the two unaltered positions, which in this case would be 3—4, 2—3, 3—4, twice repeated.
6 3 1 2 4 5	The 5th is a good guiding bell for this. As will be seen, only one position may need some guide as to whether a call has to be made or omitted. First, if at a lead end, 5th is the second's place bell, and 6th in 3rd's, omit the next call. Or, on passing treble 2—3, and you strike the first blow in 3rd's, if the 5th strikes over it, omit the call, but if another bell is there a call is made. Other guides may
6 1 3 2 5 4	
1 6 3 5 2 4	
6 1 5 3 4 2	
1 6 5 4 3 2	
1 5 6 4 2 3	
5 1 6 2 4 3	
1 5 2 6 3 4	
3 6 1 2 4 5	
5 2 1 3 4 6	
2 5 3 1 6 4	
2 5 1 3 4 6	
5 2 3 1 6 4	
5 3 2 6 1 4	

ever, after practice it can easily be picked out. One good guide is to bear in mind the positions unaffected by a bob, viz., 2—3 and 3—4. In the course of the tenor, the first call would be made after dodging with treble 3—4 up, and as she is striking her blow in 5th's: so, instead of using the terms W and H, use the two unaltered positions, which in this case would be 3—4, 2—3, 3—4, twice repeated. The 5th is a good guiding bell for this. As will be seen, only one position may need some guide as to whether a call has to be made or omitted. First, if at a lead end, 5th is the second's place bell, and 6th in 3rd's, omit the next call. Or, on passing treble 2—3, and you strike the first blow in 3rd's, if the 5th strikes over it, omit the call, but if another bell is there a call is made. Other guides may

make themselves manifest after ringing the method, but that is how it has appeared to me.

After thoroughly practising this method, no difficulty should be experienced in ringing its sisters, and the next to try is Vale Royal, No. 9, page 16, which has the same work up, and that of London Scholars' Pleasure down. Combermere, No. 7, page 15, has Sandal work down; and Crowland, No. 6, page 15, is produced by Overton down. These four methods will splice lead for lead. The odd method of group is Abbeyville, No. 3, page 14, and, as stated in the combination table, has London Surprise work up and Braintree down. As with all odd methods, this splices only course for course.

We have now reached a further stage in the building up of a thirty-five method peal; and, unless the band desirous of ringing it is thoroughly conversant with the methods already dealt with, it would be wasting time in attempting the two groups to follow. Up to now, assistance has been given in mastering new methods by taking advantage of the four members of the Oxford group, but in the next group all the work is on different lines, and whilst efforts are being concentrated on it, that of the previous ones may be forgotten.

For a twenty-five method peal, the following arrangement may be found convenient: 1st and 2nd 720's for 5th group; 3rd and 4th for 4th group, with a group in each of the other three; and this having been successfully brought round, efforts can be directed to the next group.

Leaving the question of the multi-method peals alone for the time being, and for the benefit of those who are not in a position to practise for such a peal much enjoyment can be had by ringing new methods as fancy directs, or as the opportunity occurs, and many a pleasant hour may be spent going through 'the Collection of Methods' and arranging the various combinations. It is possible for six ringers, total strangers to each other, to ring a method without having seen a lead of it. Say, for example, six such do meet, each can ring Woodbine Treble Bob and London Surprise Minor; by way of a change let them ring Woodbine work down and London Surprise up. Here they get another method which it is possible for them to ring without having to see a lead. It is Lancashire Surprise Minor, No. 22, page 36. Others can be similarly obtained by careful search.

[Previous articles have appeared in our issues of Aug. 14th, 21st, 28th, Sept. 4th and 11th]

## BIRMINGHAM BELLS BY WIRELESS.

STEDMAN CATERERS TO BE BROADCAST FROM ALL STATIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I expect the majority of your readers will remember that the question of the broadcasting of church bells formed the subject of a resolution at the meeting of the Central Council, held at Chester last Whit Tuesday, but in case the gist of this has been lost by some, it may be useful to refresh the memories of those interested by reprinting the resolution. It was worded as follows:

'That, considering the future possibilities of Radio, the attention of the Press and Literature Committee of the Central Council be drawn to the performances of "bell chiming" occasionally broadcast, as such performances are liable to create a wrong impression of the true nature of bell ringing, and, further, to request the committee to bring to the notice of the British Broadcasting Company all unsuitable imitations of bell ringing which may be broadcast.'

As you are aware, sir, the bells of St. Martin's and the Cathedral (St. Philip's), Birmingham, have been broadcast on several occasions, but only, I believe, from the Birmingham station. We are now advised that 'owing to the great success of the last time of pealing from there, the company (B.B.C.) have decided to relay the ringing of the Cathedral bells to all stations, immediately prior to the religious service on Sunday, Sept. 27th next, from 7.45 to 8 o'clock p.m.'

Now, sir, if ringers are really desirous of getting the B.B.C. to broadcast real change ringing in place of what the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, at the Central Council meeting, described as the 'chiming and footling,' we have had inflicted on us in the past, it is up to them to listen in on the 27th inst., and afterwards write to the B.B.C. (a postcard will do) expressing their appreciation of the change.

If sufficient interest is shown, I think it is likely that the company may take care in the future to see that the right stuff is sent over whenever and wherever it is possible. And may I add, sir, to those who write, please don't criticise the bells! They are not the finest ring of ten in the country. And don't criticise the ringing (although I hope this will be up to standard).

Any 'extraneous matter' may only confuse the issue. The thing is to express appreciation (if it is appreciated) of the broadcasting of proper English change ringing instead of the chiming or playing of tunes, etc., of which, I believe, we are all 'sick and tired.'

Communications should be addressed to the Director of Programmes, British Broadcasting Co., Ltd., 2, Savoy Hill, Strand, London, W.C.2.

—Yours faithfully,

A. PADDON SMITH.

Hon. Sec., St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION'S JUBILEE MEMORABLE GATHERING AT BIRSTALL.

The autumn meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Birstall on Saturday last. The fine peal of eight bells in the Parish Church of St. Peter were made full use of, from two o'clock onward. This being the fiftieth anniversary year of the foundation of the association, a special thanksgiving service was held in the Parish Church. A most enjoyable musical service was rendered by the choir, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, the president of the Lancashire Association. Taking as his text, 1 Peter iv. 10, 'Good stewards of the manifold grace of God,' the preacher congratulated his hearers on the attainment of the jubilee of the founding of the Yorkshire Association, and counted it as a privilege to be asked to preach on that occasion. As they looked back over the fifty years of service, they thanked God for the great advance in centres for bells and change ringing, and rededicated themselves and bells to the service of God. Fifty years ago this country was in the midst of a great movement, having for its object the raising of the devotional spirit in the services of the Church, and this in turn led to a great revival of structural renewals and decoration. Despite this movement, the towers were generally neglected and bells left in bad order. There was a tradition at that period, of bad habits and customs associated with belfries and ringers, and about that time, the advent of Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and the foundation of the Yorkshire Association, led the way to the foundation throughout the country of county and diocesan associations, these having for their object, the raising of the status of the ringers as Churchmen, and reviving the interest of the Church generally in the bells and belfries. As the result of these activities, they now found that bells were rarely neglected, greater care was taken of bells, and an immense advance had been made in the founder's art. They also found a great advance in the use of bells and change ringing, in conjunction with the great extension in the number of methods rung. That should be a day of thanksgiving, and they should ask themselves if all that was necessary had been done. Quoting the words of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, who said, 'I feel put in trust by God with this work, so that when I am called upon to give it back, the work shall show advance as a trust, and to have been used to further the glory of God,' the preacher reminded his hearers, that Sunday ringing was their primary object, and that Sunday was the time when the ringers should give of their best by hand and brain. They should keep this standard before them, and think of the Sunday ringers and their message, which was to remind all that they were not merely dwellers here, but sons of God, and citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. The part of ringers was to lead others to think of the higher side of life, and to remind others by their example of the spirit of our Lord, and by so living to commend the Christian faith to all their fellows.

### FOUNDERS' GREAT TASK.

Tea was served in the neighbouring church schools, and the quality, in the opinion of some 120 visitors, fully upheld the Birstall tradition. This was followed by the business meeting. The president (the Rev. C. C. Marshall) was in the chair, and was supported by the principal officers of the association.

Mr. G. Hemming was elected an out-county life member of the association.

The Chairman then moved the following resolution: 'That this meeting places on record its appreciation of the work that the Yorkshire Association has done for change ringing, and for the church, during the first fifty years of its life, and wishes to the association continued prosperity in the years to come.'—In moving the resolution, the Chairman gave a most interesting account of the various gatherings of ringers in the county that were held prior, and that led up to the formation of the association at Birstall in 1875. The early founders had a great task before them, owing to the great area covered by the county, but they were men of great determination, and laid the foundation of what ultimately became the largest change ringing association in the kingdom. The Exercise in general was indebted to that greatest of all writers and authorities on change ringing, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, and also to the lesser known Robert Tuke, of Bradford, whose love of research into old ringing literature in his lifetime, and subsequent publication thereof, added greatly to the general knowledge of what had been up to that time a very obscure history. In Charles Henry Hattersley, Charles Jackson, Wm. Whitaker, Sam Thomas, George Bolland, James and Tom Lockwood (father and son), the Yorkshire Association had produced master ringers, whose names would always be held in remembrance wherever change ringing was known, while especial affection would always be associated by the Yorkshire Association with William Snowdon, the brother of the first president, who during his twenty-five years' presidency from 1885 onward, bestowed a loving care on the publication of his brother's works on change ringing, and the administration of the Yorkshire Association in particular. His life was characterised by scrupulous attention to detail, and the association reports published during his period of office were models of precision for his successors

to copy. The association were fortunate in having had only three presidents in its fifty years' existence, and the speaker trusted that prosperity would continue in the years to come.

The resolution having been carried with acclamation, Mr. W. Reynor recited a poem on 'Jasper Whitfield Snowdon,' which was much appreciated.

Mr. George Bolland, who has been a vice-president since 1883, was accorded a hearty welcome to the meeting after his long illness, and his interesting speech on the worthies of long ago was of great interest to the gathering.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Birstall was moved by Mr. C. D. Potter, and seconded by Mr. G. B. Bolland.

Rev. Canon Robinson extended a hearty welcome for the future, and said what pleasure it had given them at Birstall to renew the old acquaintance that day.

A vote of thanks to the preacher, organist and choir was responded to by the Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, who thanked the association for the opportunity to be with them on that auspicious occasion.

A further vote of thanks to the local company was responded to by Mr. E. Crowther.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. G. B. Bolland, seconded by Mr. J. R. Lawson, that the arrangements for the annual meeting be left to the general committee. More ringing, more handball ringing, more friendly gathering in another place, brought to an end all too soon a most pleasant and memorable day. P. J. J.

## 'THAT NEEDED REGISTER.'

To the Editor.

Sir.—Mr. Powell has done well to raise, in his letter in your issue of the 5th inst., the issue as regards compositions; he has put the case exactly, and convincingly. However, I would go even further than he does in his plea for reform. Sooner or later it will have to be recognised that, just as in the field of method-building all the variety required—and probably, too, all that is worth having—has already been obtained, so also as regards composition there is for all practical purposes, but little, if any, scope for any fresh productions.

Our existing scheme of things, by which we describe a peal, ascribing it to an individual author, should, I submit, give way to a system of numbering. Thus, instead of speaking of any given peal, as 'composed by John Smith,' the composition would be designated simply as peal No. XXX, in the C.C. Register.

There are already so many 'peals' by the well-known composers, that it is really not very helpful to speak, for instance, of a 5,000 by Dains, or Pitstow; one wants to know which 5,000, and enumeration, as suggested, would identify absolutely. But one might, perhaps, speak of 'Dains,' No. XXXX, in the same way as stars are catalogued in astronomy. We have already standardised by name, although not yet by number, peals of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, e.g., Thurslows', Holl's, Taylor's, etc.

Under the suggested new order, associations would not accept peals for their reports, unless verified with an identification number; and, by the way, many an association secretary would be freed from that bugbear of getting the compositions from the conductors. Bands would soon cease to be content to allow a conductor, however, talented, to call anything he fancied, or could string together; they would require to know by number, what peal they were to give their time and labour to ring. The time-honoured legend appearing so frequently in peal reports—'Composed and conducted by John Smith' would be obsolete.

Ultimately, we must have that needed register, but by all means let us have it soon, and let it be arranged on the new lines of classification by number.—Yours very truly,

G. P. BURTON.

'Beechwood,' Old Catton, Norwich.

## LINSLADE RINGER'S DEATH.

The death took place, in the University College Hospital, London, on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, of Mr. Joseph Sear, of Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Bucks, at the age of 65, after a rather short illness. The deceased was a ringer for many years, although he was not very far advanced in the art of change ringing. He was, however, always very keen and interested, and could be relied upon to do his best. He will be greatly missed in the belfry of St. Barnabas, Linslade, where he was regular in his attendance both for morning and evening services on Sundays, and on practice nights, when his duties as an engine driver on the L.M.S. at Leighton Buzzard allowed him to be there. He rang two peals only, in one the treble to a peal of Grandsire Triples, and in the other the tenor to a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Paul's, Bedford, conducted by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. He was a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (North Bucks branch). A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, with the bells half-muffled, by the Linslade ringers on Saturday evening, Sept. 5th, the day on which he was laid to rest: T. Dixon 1, G. White 2, W. Jeffs 3, F. Buttram 4, J. Arnold 5, F. Dedman 6, F. Vickers (conductor) 7, E. Mortimer 8.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. THE PROPOSED ALTERATION OF RULES.

Members of the Midland Counties Association have had before them for some time past a proposal to alter the rules, which alteration would bring about a considerable change in the management of the organisation, inasmuch as part of the conduct of the affairs which is now vested in the general committee would be decentralised, and handed over to the district committees, who would be given control of a certain proportion of the funds.

What, exactly, is the alteration proposed is not, however, quite clear to all the members, and in order that they may have a fuller grasp of the proposed change, we give some details of the suggested new rules.

The financial change which is suggested is covered in new Rules 6 and 11. The old rules provide for the collection of subscriptions of members by the District Secretaries who pay them over to the Hon. Treasurer. The proposed Rule 6 provides for one-third only of ringing members' subscriptions being paid over to the Hon. Treasurer of the Association, and Rule 11, which covers the election of district officers, provides for the new office of District Hon. Treasurer, gives each district full power over its own funds, subject to them being devoted to the purposes of the Association.

The text of these important rules is as follows:—

Rule 6.—That the General Management of the Association be vested in a President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, together with a Vice-President, Local Hon. Secretary, Local Hon. Treasurer and two members of Committee from each of the seven districts, seven of whom shall form a quorum competent to transact the business of the Association, provided all the members of this body have been duly summoned. They shall have full power and control over the General Funds of the Association, and in the case of an interim vacancy they shall have power to appoint an eligible member to the office. They shall receive all entrance fees, and all Honorary Subscriptions in full, and one-third of all Ringing Members' Subscriptions from each district.

Rule 11.—That each district shall be under the local management of a Vice-President, Local Hon. Secretary, Local Hon. Treasurer, and two members of Committee. They shall be elected annually at the January District Meeting, members of the district only being entitled to vote. The Local Hon. Secretary elect shall communicate the result to the General Hon. Secretary before the 7th day of February, or the election shall be considered void, and the General Management Committee shall proceed to appoint the necessary officers. Three of the above shall form a quorum competent to transact the business of the district, provided all members have been duly summoned. They shall have full power over the funds of their own district, subject to Rules 1 and 6. They shall carry on the work of the Association generally, and shall arrange for quarterly meetings of their own district to be held during the months of January, June and September in each year, and may arrange other ringing or social meetings at their discretion.

Rule 1 referred to provides that the Association shall comprise the Counties of Derby, Leicester, Nottingham and Stafford, and shall have for its objects the cultivation of the Art of Change Ringing and Belfry Reform, also that the funds of the Association shall be applied solely in furtherance of these objects.

A new rule (7) provides that the General Management Committee shall keep a record of all peals of 5,040 changes and upwards, on five, six and seven bells, and all peals of 5,000 changes and upwards, on eight or more bells, when rung by members of the association.

The management of the Bell Restoration Fund is dealt with in new Rule 9, and minor alterations are made in other rules, consequent upon the redrafting of the whole. Quarterly general meetings of the association are not provided for, but there is included a proposed new rule that the General Committee may on their own authority, and must, at the request of 15 members of the association, call a special general meeting of the association.

### LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT AGAINST CHANGE.

An enjoyable afternoon and evening was spent at Hugglescote on September 5th, despite the fact that poor weather stopped many members from attending. The occasion was a meeting of the Loughborough District of the M.C.A. Stedman and Grandire Triples were chiefly rung, and some excellent practice was obtained.

At the business meeting, a resolution was proposed by Mr. G. Griffin, of Ibstock, and seconded by Mr. W. Fern, of Whitwick, opposing the proposed alteration of the Midland Counties Association's rules. It was felt that no alteration should be made, and the existing committee should be carried on; but that, if possible, the general committee might discuss ways and means of reducing the yearly ringing subscription.

HEADINGTON.—On Tuesday, August 18th, at the Parish Church, 720 Keverley Surprise Minor: Frank Beckett 1, H. Tollev 2, W. Harris 3, F. Taylor 4, F. A. H. Wilkins 5, W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 6. First 720 in this method on the bells.

## CHEAP RAILWAY TICKETS FOR RINGERS

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It will interest your readers to know that so far the following associations have made local application re railway facilities: Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan.

Bath and Wells Diocesan.

Kent County.

Ely Diocesan.

Middlesex County.

Some associations, I learn, are rather content with the conditions, and in some instances these are rather good, but there should be no hesitation.

We are fighting for all, and therefore it needs every association to join in. They have nothing to lose this time, and they will be doing great work for the Exercise.—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE.

### CENTRAL COUNCIL SECRETARY'S SUGGESTIONS.

Dear Sir,—It is to be hoped that the secretaries of the associated Guilds will not feel that there is any overlapping in the efforts being made to secure the cheaper railway facilities for ringers. It is an important matter, and requires a good start to ensure the desired result.

The Central Council some twenty years ago endeavoured to secure privileges for ringers, but without success. Also two years ago, at the suggestion of Alderman Pritchett, I wrote to the Secretary of the Railway Clearing House, but again without success, in connection with travelling to the Council's annual meeting. The present question is one of to-day, and covers a wider field, and I need hardly state that I am sure the Council will again do all that is in its power, and I trust with a better result this time.

The present movement was started as a local one, before its greater possibilities were realised, and it had made some headway before the case was sent to me as secretary of the Central Council. I noted that the secretaries had been asked to send me the necessary particulars, and this some few of them have done, and I await the remainder.

There are four railway groups, and I suggest that the 'Gloucester and Bristol' continue to approach the Great Western; that the 'Midland Counties' get into touch with the 'L.M.S.'; the Winchester Guild, with the Southern, and the Yorkshire Association with the 'L.N.E.R.' I am prepared to give the outlines of a common letter, and will seek instruction from the Council to send a general letter to the Railway Clearing House.

In the meantime, will secretaries please continue to send me, if possible, the statistical particulars or any other useful information for my letter?—Yours faithfully,

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

### SECTIONAL ACTION A WEAK POLICY.

Sir,—I have read with interest the suggestions made with reference to obtaining travelling facilities for ringers, but will you permit me to suggest that this matter is one which would best be dealt with by the Central Council empowered to negotiate on behalf of all the associations in the country.

Sectional action, as you point out in your leading article, is a weak policy, inasmuch as any local railway official may turn the proposal down before it reaches the right quarter, especially so as campanology may be something strange to him.

I, therefore, propose that a sharp and well defined policy should be pursued by empowering the Central Council, through its secretary, to approach the Clearing House, and speak on behalf of 'so many hundreds' of associations having 'so many thousands' of members spread over the country.

Modern experience teaches us that central action is always more effective, and commands more attention than sectional action.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. JACKSON.

Balham.

### SOUTH ANSTON SOCIETY OUTING.

Twenty members of the North Notts Association held their annual outing on Saturday, July 11th, visiting Norton Cuckney, Perlethorpe, East Markham and Laxton. Picking up the writer at Worksope, Norton Cuckney was reached at 10.15, and the ring of six was soon going to 360 of Cambridge and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. The Rev. H. R. Peel congratulated the party on the good striking. Perlethorpe was next visited, where a light and well-kept ring of six bells was found. Mirfield Surprise and Duke of York were rung. Leaving at 1.30, East Markham was reached, where lunch was served. The Church of St. John the Baptist was visited, where the ring of six bells has been recently augmented to eight. 360 of Norwich Surprise and a 288 of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. The ringers then went on to Laxton to complete the series of places visited.



**SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**YORKTOWN, SURREY.**—For morning service, on Sept. 13th, and to celebrate the recovery from serious illness of Mrs. Smith, wife of the captain of the band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins., with 4-6-8 covering, all the band, except the conductor, being Sunday Service ringers: J. Smith 1, F. J. Ewens 2, F. Marchant 3, R. Hunt, senr., 4, B. Hawkins (conductor) 5, E. Harding 6, H. Hunt 7, Ed. Hunt (first quarter) 8.

**MILVERTON, SOMERSET.**—For Divine service, on Sunday, Aug. 30th, two 504's of Stedman Triples: P. Merson 1, H. Norman 2, J. Hunt 3, C. Tarr 4, W. Cross 5, A. Andrews 6, R. Scott (conductor) 7, J. Carter 8. A. J. Wyatt 1, P. Merson 2, R. Scott 3, H. Norman 4, W. Cross 5, A. Andrews 6, J. Hunt (conductor) 7, J. Sweetland 8.

**ROTHERHAM.**—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, August 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes), in 53 mins., by the following: G. Oakes 1, S. Briggs 2, C. Poulney 3, G. Tukey 4, A. Stamp 5, E. C. Kettell 6, J. Brothwell 7, J. W. Cottam 8, C. Ryder (conductor) 9, P. Mangham 10.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, August 30th, at the Church of St. Clement Dances, Strand, for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 53 mins.: Miss D. M. Bryant 1, Miss E. E. Harcastle 2, Miss E. E. Chapman 3, Miss F. E. Orr (conductor) 4, C. W. Roberts 5, E. F. Pike 6, C. F. Winney 7, R. Beaven (first quarter-peal) 8.

**ISLEWORTH.**—On Sunday afternoon, August 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: W. F. Ellingham 1, C. J. Tricker 2, F. E. Hawthorne 3, J. Milner 4, A. Beckensale 5, A. Harding 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, W. Lidbetter 8.

**LEISTON, SUFFOLK.**—On Sunday, August 23rd, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: G. G. Lindoff, junr., 1, A. D. Wilson 2, H. C. Balls 3, W. W. Bailey 4, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 5, J. M. Bailey 6, L. P. Bailey 7, F. J. Smith 8.—For evening service, 576 London Surprise Major: C. Sampson 1, G. Wilson 2, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 3, F. J. Smith 4, G. Bailey 5, E. S. Bailey 6, J. G. Rumsey 7, J. M. Bailey 8.

**NEWMARKET.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, August 23rd, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor, and for evensong, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 31 mins.: L. Moon 1, R. Heath 2, L. Warner 3, W. H. Paget 4, J. H. Carter (Goring, Oxon), 5, R. C. Sharpe (conductor) 6.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, August 16th, for evening service, at St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss F. E. Orr 1, Miss E. E. Chapman 2, Miss E. E. Harcastle 3, E. J. King (conductor) 4, H. Leigh 5, W. Berry 6, T. H. Taffender 7, S. C. Moye 8.—On Sunday, August 23rd, for evening service, at St. Leonard's, Streatham, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Watkins 1, E. E. Harcastle 2, E. E. Chapman 3, J. W. Chapman 4, H. Leigh 5, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 6, C. W. Roberts 7, J. R. Gammon 8.

**ISLEWORTH.**—For morning service, on Sunday, August 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Lucas 1, Robert Sperring (conductor) 2, A. Brookland 3, F. Goddard 4, W. H. Hollier 5, A. Beckensale 6, A. Harding 7, E. V. Beadle 8. Arranged for Mr. R. Sperring, of Chester.

**APPLETON, BERKS.**—On Sunday, August 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters: W. Holifield 1, H. C. White 2, G. Holifield, senr., 3, H. Bennett 4, F. Messenger 5, A. H. White 6, F. S. White 7, G. Holifield, junr. (conductor), 8, R. White 9, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn 10. Rung on the occasion of a visit to Appleton of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, who undertook the duties at the church during the day. A touch of 503 Grandsire Caters was rung for morning service, and a similar touch for children's afternoon service.

**NOTICES.**

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Dorchester Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26th, at Wyke Regis. Bells (8) available at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5. Business meeting to follow.—J. Benger, Hon. Sec., 21, North Square, Dorchester.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Rectory. A good company is requested. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2 Tempsford Rd., Sandy.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Newmarket and Mildenhall District.—A meeting for practice will be held at Mildenhall on Saturday, September 26th. Bells (8) at the Parish Church will be available from 2 p.m.—P. Fordham and L. Moon, Dist. Secs.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****JOINT MEETING WITH HERTS SUGGESTED.**

A successful meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Willesden on Saturday last, 36 members being present. The bells at this church, although small in size and light in weight, require a considerable amount of skill in the art of striking, and it was very gratifying that the ringing during the afternoon and evening reached a good standard of efficiency. Some excellent touches of Grandsire, Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Superlative and Cambridge Surprise were rung between 3.30 and 5, when the usual short service was held.—The Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Smith) gave the association a hearty welcome, adding that he had had some connection with ringers, having learned to pull a bell at Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, under the tuition of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, and being president of the St. John at Hackney Society some years ago, meeting there a well-known ringer of the same name as himself.

After a very excellent tea, served in the Church Hall, had been removed, the business meeting was held. Five new members were elected, and a resolution supporting the action of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, re special railway facilities, was passed, the secretary being given certain instructions.

The secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) also gave a report on the Middlesex and Essex Association's joint meeting at Waltham Abbey, stating that the success of that meeting had caused him to think that a joint meeting with their Hertfordshire friends might be held next year in the neighbourhood of Stanmore and Bushey Heath.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Hornsey, if possible on October 17th.—A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for the very hearty welcome he had given to the members at the service; also to the organist; to Mr. and Mrs. Ebberson and Mrs. H. Kilby for making such excellent arrangements for tea; and to Mr. R. Kilby and the local ringers.—The Rev. A. E. Smith acknowledged the thanks of the members, saying how much he had enjoyed the meeting, and hoping to meet the association again.

A couple of excellent touches of Stedman Triples were rung on handbells by Messrs. W. and G. R. Pye, G. M. Kilby, W. Hewell, and C. V. Ebberson, and another visit to the belfry was made, included in the ringing being courses of Bristol and London Surprise.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****WESTERN DIVISION'S RECORD GATHERING.**

A record number of members and friends, numbering in all 54, attended a quarterly meeting of the Western Division at St. Margaret's, Warnham, on Saturday, the following towers being represented: Horsham, Heene, Shipley, West Grinstead, Pulborough, Rudgwick, Slinfold, Shoreham, Henfield, Mersham, Crawley, Horley, West Tarring, and the local band. Amongst the visitors were Mr. H. Chandler, of Hillingdon; Mr. G. Steere, Guildford; and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Woking; also a lady member. Ringing commenced shortly after three o'clock, and the methods rung included the following: Grandsire, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob Major.

Tea was served at the Sussex Oak Hotel, a hostelry well known to many ringers who have visited this village.—Mr. Doick, in the absence of the Vicar, presided at the business meeting which followed. Steyning was chosen for the next meeting, to take place in the third week of November.

The following new members were elected: Mr. W. Chantler, Horsham; Messrs. F. Challen and E. Thomas, Shoreham; George Forest and Alfred Norris, West Tarring; Roy Pink, Pulborough; and Bernard Wells, non-resident member, Mersham.

After votes of thanks to the Vicar of Warnham for granting the use of the bells, Mr. G. Woodman for the local arrangements, and Mr. T. Doick for presiding, the party returned to the tower, where the bells were kept going till eight o'clock.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**

A quarterly meeting of the new Daventry Branch of the above Guild was held at Flore on Saturday, August 29th, when members were present from Daventry, Northampton, East Haddon, Gillsborough, Welton, Heyford, Harpole and Braunston. Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung during the afternoon. A short service was held, and the Rev. A. J. Beedle (Vicar of Flore) gave a splendid address, which was much appreciated by the ringers present. Tea was partaken of at the White Hart Hotel, and a short business meeting was presided over by the Rev. A. J. Beedle.

After the usual branch business had been transacted, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for addressing the ringers, and also for the use of the bells. The name of Mr. H. Starmier (the organist) was also coupled in the vote of thanks.

After the meeting the tower was again visited, and ringing was kept up until about 8 p.m.



## 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 1/8.

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**SNOWDON COMMEMORATION DINNER.**—The annual commemoration dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowden and past officers of the Yorkshire Association, will be held at the Victory Hotel, Briggate, Leeds, on Saturday, Sept. 19th, when the chair will be taken by the President at 5.45 p.m. prompt. By the kind permission of the respective clergy, the following rings of bells will be at the disposal of visitors from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Parish Church (12), Headingley (8), Far Headingley (8), Christ Church, Upper Armley (8).—Percy J. Johnson, 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 20th (6 p.m.) and 22nd; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 24th; all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Berkshire Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Wallingford, on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen's Street, Abingdon, Berks.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bedford District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Elstow on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells from 2.30.—L. Turner, Dist. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston, Beds.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The September meeting of the above Guild will be held at Whitnash on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells from 3 p.m.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—N. G. Williams, Weston House, Weston, Bath.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Dist. Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at St. John the Divine, Coppull, on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—Jas. W. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Sacred Trinity, Salford, on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Tea by invitation at 5 p.m. Meeting after tea in School-room.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Thurlaston on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Hunsdon (Herts), on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due.—C. Baeson, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting will be held at Markham (Cuxford Station), on Saturday, September 19th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. to 8.30. A good attendance is desired. Visitors welcome. Members and others to make their own arrangements for tea.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Chigwell Row on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. 1s. 3d. each.—E. Butler, Dist. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Rawtenstall on Saturday, Sept. 26th.—Further particulars by circular.—W. H. Shaker, A. Tomlinson, Hon. Secs.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Weybridge on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, Sept. 23rd. All ringers welcome.—Miss N. E. Shorter, Hon. Sec., Ferndene, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The second general quarterly meeting will be held at Melton Mowbray, on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells (10) available from 2.30. Committee meeting in Cole's Hall (opposite church) 4 p.m. Meat tea (1/6 each) at Fox Hotel 5 p.m., followed by general meeting. All those intending to take tea must advise Mr. W. H. Bartram, 33, Rosebery Avenue, Melton Mowbray, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 23rd. It is hoped all members will endeavour to be present, as important business is to be discussed. A social evening (in tea room) can be arranged.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Waldron, on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, at 5 p.m., meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—The quarterly meeting at Thirsk on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Tea will be provided at the Three Tuns Hotel for all those who notify Mr. J. Stott, St. James' Green, Thirsk, not later than Thursday, Sept. 24th. Service in the Church at 4 o'clock. Annual subscriptions now due.—A. L. Henderson, Hon. Sec., Mayfield, Pickering.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chippenham on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by the 22nd.—S. Hopper, Hon. Sec., 2, Florence Street, Swindon.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—Meeting, Saturday, Sept. 26th, at All Hallows, Barking, by the Tower. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Business meeting 4 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Ringing 6 to 9 p.m.—W. Bottrill, 29, Queen's Mansions, North Road, N.7.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Biddenden on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Inkberrow on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Service at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present please let me know by the Tuesday previous. The bells (6) will be available.—J. Hemming, 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Central District. — The next meeting will be held at Mitcham, SS. Peter and Paul, on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. S. King, 74, The Causeway, Mitcham, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 23rd.—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northern Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Stow on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. per head, for those who notify Mr. C. A. Smyth, Sturton-by-Stow, Lincoln, by the Monday previous. Bells (6) available. All ringers welcome.—F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec., 6, Spital Terrace, Gainsborough.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next monthly meeting of the Bristol branch of the above association will be held at Bitton on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells open from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. All members requiring tea please notify me by Sept. 21st.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

**DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Conisborough on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells (8) ready early. Tea only provided for those who notify me before the 23rd. — Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A meeting has been arranged in London on Saturday, Sept. 26th, to revive old friendships with non-resident life members of the Guild. Bells available: St. Dunstan-in-East (8), Monument Station, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, Strand (10), 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. In view of catering facilities in London, no tea has been arranged, but a room at The Edinburgh, Milford Lane, Strand, has been reserved for hand-bell ringing, etc., from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. — A. D. Barker, Branch Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Chedzoy on Saturday, Sept. 26th. All ringers welcome.—C. Evans, Local Sec., 14, Redgate Street, Bridgwater, Som.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—Members are invited to attend a special service at St. James, Milnrow, on Sunday, Sept. 27th, at 3 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Canon Elisee. A peal board in respect of a peal rung commemorating 50 years' service by two Milnrow ringers will be unveiled at this service. Tea will be provided at a charge of 2s. per head for those who notify Mr. J. H. C. Massey, 40, Buckley Hill Lane, Milnrow, not later than Tuesday, Sept. 22nd. The annual branch party will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, Oct. 17th. Tickets obtainable from

local secretaries (gentlemen 2s., ladies 1s. 6d.). Further particulars later. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Kingswinford on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service in Church, with an address by the Rev. A. H. Messiter (Vicar) at 4.45. Tea, 1s., at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, Sept. 29th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Drayton on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. Will intending visitors please inform me?—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting and 6-bell contest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3rd, at Sandal, near Wakefield. The draw to take place at 2.45 p.m. All those desiring tea, charge 1s. 6d. each, must notify me not later than Monday, Sept. 28th.—L. Hargreaves, Hon. Sec., 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The postponed annual meeting of this Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Service in Church at 5 o'clock, when the bells will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Worcester. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, Sept. 29th. Business meeting afterwards. All ringers heartily welcomed.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division. — A bye-meeting will be held at Rayleigh on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea to follow in Parish Room. Will all members intending to be present please let me know on or before Wednesday, Sept. 30th? — P. Timson, Dist. Sec., 80, Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Southern District.—Preliminary Notice.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ashted on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Further particulars later.—H. F. Mills, Hon. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly business meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 12th, at 8.15, when a good attendance is requested. Ringing at St. Clement Danes on Sunday, Oct. 4th, at 10 a.m.; Mondays, the 12th, at 6.30, and the 26th at 7.30.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The 288th anniversary dinner will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C.4, at 6.30 p.m., on Saturday, Nov. 7th.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.  
TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Tonbridge District was held at St. Michael's Church, East Peckham, on Saturday, August 15th, and was attended by about 25 members, from Brighton, Mereworth, Maidstone, Penshurst, Horsmonden, Lamberhurst, Seal Chart, Tunbridge Wells, Hadlow, and the local tower. Ringing commenced about 3 o'clock, and the usual service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. G. Ryley), who gave an excellent address. The lesson was read by the district secretary (Mr. W. Latter). After service, the members adjourned to the Vicarage, where a bountiful tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, was partaken of on the lawn.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, and at its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and for his hospitality.—The Vicar suitably replied.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. T. Saunders, local secretary, for making the arrangements, and the members returned to the tower for more ringing. The weather was all that could be desired, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

## MUFFLED BELLS.

At Shenfield, on Friday, September 11th, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung as a last token of respect to Leslie Arnold Brock, a former ringer at Shenfield Church, who was interred the same day: W. H. Poole 1, H. Turner (conductor) 2, C. J. Brackley 3, F. G. Ringe 4, W. Leggett 5, E. W. Palmer 6.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.—On Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, 720 York Surprise: G. Dean 1, Miss K. Willers 2, W. A. Tack 3, A. E. Austin 4, R. Howard 5, W. H. J. Hooton (conductor) 6. First attempt for 720 of York by all the band. Also touches of London and Wells Surprise.

CHRISTLETON, CHESHIRE.—On Saturday, Sept. 5th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich: W. Thomas 1, R. Sperring 2, J. Hayes 3, J. Swindley 4, J. H. Riding (conductor) 5, S. Jones 6, G. R. Jones 7, E. V. Rodenhurst 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob.

ELLESMERE, SALOP.—On August 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, composed by James Paget (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: R. Biggs 1, G. H. Edwards 2, A. Allen 3, T. Butler, senr., 4, R. T. Evans 5, W. S. Higginson 6, T. R. Butler (conductor) 7, W. Higginson, senr., 8.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCs.—At St. John's Church, on August 8th, for evening service, 886 Grandsire Triples, in 35 minutes: T. Beaver (longest touch of Grandsire) 1, Adam Blogg 2, F. B. Coxhead 3, Alfred Blogg 4, A. Hartley 5, W. Lancaster (conductor) 6, H. Lucas 7.

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