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FRIDAY, MAY 28th, 1926.

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Price 8d.

GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

(The Croydon Bell Foundry, Ltd.)

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The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for
MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

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STEPS TO PROGRESS.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild report contains some practical suggestions by the hon. secretary for increasing the usefulness of the Guild and the interest of its members. The proposals are not new, but it is well that they should be constantly brought to the attention of ringers, among whom, in every society, there is such a large proportion of lukewarm or apathetic individuals. This lack of keenness may not be altogether the fault of the ringers themselves. Up to a stage they make progress; then comes the time when they can get no further by their own unaided efforts, and being, as it were, against a blank wall their enthusiasm flickers out, and they drop back into that unfortunately large group who ring when they have a mind to, cannot always be relied upon when they are wanted, have no further desire to advance in the art, and no interest in their association, let alone in the Exercise generally. This state of affairs is often lamented, and we have been told that dynamite would not move this class of ringer from his lethargy. Once this condition of atrophy has set in, it is indeed hard to overcome. The remedy is to prevent its getting a grip on the ringer, and this could be done more generally than is now the case if associations would give greater encouragement to the aspirations of young ringers—not merely beginners, but those who have reached a stage where they are groping on the fringe of the art, who have learnt enough to excite their interest, and yet, in their own belfry, cannot get that assistance which is necessary to help them up the ladder.

The secretary of the Winchester Guild urges individual members to help in arranging extra meetings, combined practices and peal attempts in more isolated towers. These are three steps which, if carried out generally, would not only educate the clergy and ringers to the advantages offered by membership of the Guild, as the Winchester report points out, but would result in a rapid advance of the art in places where at present it is languishing or entirely absent. Men who follow other pastimes—and church bell ringing has a claim to a higher title than this—are ready to devote their week-end leisure to practice, and clubs organise a complete season's fixture list of Saturday engagements. Certain bands of ringers, too, where they can be kept together and have sufficient enthusiasm because they are an accomplished company, get in a regular weekly peal attempt, and thus maintain and increase their own standard. Why cannot this plan be adopted in regard to less advanced ringers? A quarterly district meeting is quite inadequate to sustain the interest of a large body of members. It may be enough

(Continued on page 322).

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for the transaction of business, but to keep and raise the enthusiasm of the greater number of members of an association frequent gatherings, at which instruction should be the main object, are needed. It is a question of organisation and of securing the interest of those best able to give the necessary help. It could be done, and we hope that not only will the Winchester Guild's secretary's appeal be responded to in the area of his own association, but taken up and given effect to in many other of the large organisations.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5010 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... <i>Treble</i>	*LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 7
WILLIAM P. GARRETT ... 2	FREDERICK J. TILLET ... 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... 3	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... 9
CHARLES MEE ... 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ... 5	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... 11
H. CHARLES GILLINGHAM ... 6	WILLIAM L. DUFFIELD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, Chesterfield.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung on occasion of the Central Council visit to Ipswich.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

KING'S NORTON.

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

On Saturday, May 8, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6066 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

FRANK B. YATES <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM BALL 5
PERCY O. LAFLIN 2	CHARLES WEBB 6
HARRY WILLIAMS 3	JOHN WITHERS 7
JOHN NEAL 4	HARRY WITHERS <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. J. JACKSON.

Conducted by PERCY O. LAFLIN.

HOGHTON, LANCES.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON & BLACKBURN BRANCHES)

On Saturday, May 15, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 8840 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK HINDLE ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN BROWN 5
*MISS MAY CLAYTON ... 2	JOHN WATSON 6
*THOMAS CALDERBANK ... 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 7
WILLIAM E. WILSON ... 4	JAMES HARRISON <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of the Rev. Canon J. Sinker, Vicar of Blackburn and Rural Dean. * First peal of Stedman. Miss Clayton is the first lady ringer in the Preston branch to ring a peal in this method.

BELPER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 19, 1926, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5840 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF LATES' ONE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD ... <i>Treble</i>	JAMES GEORGE 5
WILLIAM BATES 2	JAMES PAGEIT 6
JOHN H. SWINFELD 3	SYDNEY DAWSON 7
MISS ELIZABETH FOULK ... 4	*CHARLES DRAPER <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

* First peal of Stedman and first in the method on the bells.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

JAMES FERNLEY, SEN., ... Treble	*WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 5
*WILLIAM FERNLEY... .. 2	JOHN P. FIDLER... .. 6
TOM WILDE 3	SYDNEY HOUGH... .. 7
*HARRY LANGLEY 4	*JOHN W. HARTLEY ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN HOLT. Conducted by JOHN P. FIDLER.

First peal in the method on the bells. * First peal in the method.
First peal on eight bells as conductor. Rung as a welcome to Mr.
John Bancroft, of Vancouver, a former Norbury ringer.

BRISTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt.

ROBERT SUMMERS Treble	ALFRED T. POULTON 5
JOHN CLARK 2	JOSEPH WILLIAMS 6
ROBERT E. SUMMERS 3	FRANK VOYCE 7
WILLIAMS H. WILLIAMS ... 4	WILLIAM POSTON Tenor

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by W. POSTON.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Monday, May 24, 1926, in Three Hours & Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

ERNEST STITCH Treble	*WILLIAM J. THOMAS... .. 5
CHARLES H. PERRY 2	GEORGE POFFELL 6
WALTER NURTON... .. 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
DAVID J. LEWIS 4	JOHN WEATHERSEY ... Tenor

Conducted by A. J. PITMAN.

* First peal of Triples.

SIX BELL PEALS.

PILTON, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 15, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 18 cwt.

*ALFRED BECK Treble	REGINALD F. BECK 4
†FRANK RICKARDS 2	RONALD G. BECK... .. 5
FREDERICK TARGETT... .. 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE... .. Tenor

Conducted by R. G. BECK.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells.

MOULTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHAMPTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 15, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different compositions.

HARRY ENGLAND... .. Treble	JAMES MARR... .. 4
THOMAS H. WISE 2	JOSEPH DEAN 5
BERTIE O. SODEN 3	TOM TEBBUTT Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

First peal on the bells.

WANSTROW, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 20, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Bob and four of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ERIC WADMAN Treble	*HERBERT W. PEARCE... .. 4
FREDERICK TARGETT... .. 2	RONALD G. BECK 5
REGINALD F. BECK 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE... .. Tenor

Conducted by R. G. BECK.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Friday, May 21, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHARLES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

SIDNEY PENGELLY Treble	HORACE BENNETT 4
HAROLD E. RYDER 2	WARREN S. HORNEROOK ... 5
EDGAR G. BOMYER 3	ALFRED T. WESTCOTT... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. S. HORNEROOK.

First peal by ringers of treble, 3rd and 4th, and all are Sunday ringers at the above church.

CHILDS WICKHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, May 21, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, and three each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN C. PERKINS Treble	JAMES HEMMING... .. 4
MISS AMY JOHNSON 2	JOHN HALL 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 3	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FURNESS & LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM ROBINSON Treble	EDWIN JENNINGS 4
FURNESS WOODEND 2	THOMAS B. NEWTON 5
THOMAS J. CLEMENT 3	THOMAS F. HEWERTSON ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. T. J. Clement. First peal of Minor on the bells rung on the middle six.

GODSHILL, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720 s Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*J. ORMESBY RYMER Treble	†BERTRAM J. SNOW 4
†HARRY A. PHILLIPS 2	DR. J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON 5
HARRY BARTON 3	†A. RICHARD WARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells, which were hung in 1838.

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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 22, 1926, in Two Hours & Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES,

Tenor to cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Treble	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... 4
ERNEST MORRIS ... 2	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON ... 5
ABRAHAM WILKERSON ... 3	E. HARRY STONELEY ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* 400th peal.

SILENT BELLS AT DURBAN.

BAND AT GREYVILLE BROKEN UP.

The peal of ten bells at Greyville, Durban, South Africa, has been silent since October. A promising band had been formed there, which included one or two ringers from England, but a 'rift in the tube' has put an end to their work. The silence of the bells has led to newspaper correspondence, which opened with the following letter to the 'Natal Advertiser' from 'One Interested':—

'There has been quite a lot of criticism over the Cenotaph, or War Memorial, but no one seems to have noticed that what was considered a suitable and lasting memorial to the men who lost their lives in the Great War, from the Greyville district, viz., the bells of St. Mary, Greyville, have been silent for months past.

'On the main wall of the base of the tower are the names of those who gave their lives for their country. Sir Charles Smith was the patriotic donor of a peal of bells (10 in number), and surely Sunday, March 7th, was a day when a muffled peal should have been rung upon them, but for some reason unknown these beautiful bells were silent.

'Was it because the ringers were too interested in the unveiling of the memorial, rather than spend that same time in the belfry, doing honour to the unveiling of the "Light of Remembrance?" One wonders whether Sir Charles Smith has been notified of the omission, and, if so, what he thinks of those who are responsible for that omission. If he does not know, he should most certainly be acquainted with the fact, as if the bells are not rung they will get out of order, and many pounds will be required to put them in proper order again.

'There was a time when St. Mary's bells were heard regularly on Sundays, and generally once in the week, but for some months the bells have been silent. As the bells were given as a lasting memorial to the men of Greyville who lost their lives in the Great War, then by all means let us hear them, or hear a reason why, for it is known that the tower had a guild of ringers second to none in Africa, who had worked very hard to acquire the difficult rudiments of change ringing.

'Sunday next is one of the greatest of the church festivals, one wonders if the bells will be silent as they were on Christmas Day, and other days important in the church calendar. Is it too late to arrange to have the bells rung on Easter Day?

A newspaper representative interviewed the Rev. W. Maddock, of St. Mary's, regarding this letter, and elicited the statement that the main reason why the bells are not at present ringing is the difficulty in securing the services of competent ringers. There are, of course, very few efficient campanulogists available in this country; and, furthermore, the climatic conditions as a general thing are rather against the work being taken up by amateurs. Mr. Maddock, however, is hopeful that there may be a resumption ere long.

At the same time it should be pointed out that the writer of the above letter is not necessarily representative of the general public of Durban. 'One Interested' wants the bells to ring out again, but there are plenty of others who do not. The St. Mary's Church authorities have been pointedly requested by many people living within sound of the bells to ring them no more; some folk have been quite rude about it, and others have even hinted darkly at interdicts and injunctions.

'DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RINGERS AND AUTHORITIES.'

The 'Natal Advertiser' returned to the subject with the following article:—

'Many townspeople of Durban will recollect the peal of joy there was when the last of the fine set of bells arrived to be installed in the tower of St. Mary's Church, Greyville, and how hopes were high that at last South Africa had a peal of bells worthy of the name. They were installed as a memorial to the brave dead. Since that day they have been rung occasionally, but for the past few months they have remained a silent memorial.

'The Vicar of the parish, the Rev. W. Maddock, has been blamed for this condition of affairs, and, recently, in reply to a question, he openly gave as reasons that people had complained to him of the noise; and that there was difficulty in obtaining a change of bellringers.

'In an interview one of the leading bellringers stated that, some 18 months ago, the churchwarden was in charge of the bells, but this charge was handed over when it was arranged to secure a full set of bellringers. Some 14 bellringers were obtained, including three

ladies, and this was sufficient strength to ring the ten bells and leave a few spare members for emergencies.

'Things went well for a time, until some difference arose between one of the ringers and the church authorities. The ringer in question felt obliged to resign from the tower. At the time the Vicar was certainly not totally averse to the bellringing, for he caused an advertisement to be placed in the Parish Magazine asking for a bell-ringer to take the resigned one's place. Nobody responded except the latter, who was not reappointed.

'Some time afterwards a meeting was called, at which it was decided to close the tower down in view of the continued impasse regarding personnel.

'The bellringers pointed out that there has never been any difficulty in obtaining enough ringers, and at the time when the Vicar gave his reasons for closing the tower, there was sufficient strength to keep the bells going, even without the resigned member.

'With regard to the Vicar's statement that objections had been received from residents, the bellringers point out that the bells were only pealed on Sundays at morning and evening service, and once during the week for practice. Moreover, they feel that the opposition does not justify the entire closing down of the tower. "We feel that the bells, which cost several hundred pounds, were purchased to be used, and even to-day we have the men and women who are able to use them."

'Asked what the outlook was, it was stated that at present there was a deadlock. The bellringers were ready to resume, but they were unable to do so in the face of the Vicar's attitude. This position was likely to continue indefinitely.

'Meanwhile, the bells that were intended to ring a merry peal are silent, and the ringers who gave their services gratis are necessarily silent too, and what has been described as one of the finest peals in South Africa might as well not be there.

'Mr. Maddock, who has been approached, says the matter is purely a parochial one, which he does not care to discuss in the columns of a newspaper, and, further, he states that the peal of bells was not given as a war memorial, but purely as a private gift to the church. The tower of the church was erected as a memorial of the Great War.'

'A PERSONAL GRIEVANCE.'

There followed a protest against a revival of ringing by someone with frayed nerves, who signed himself 'Peace and Quietness'—the kind of protest which makes its appearance from time to time in newspapers in this country. But the situation has not been cleared up, as the following letter from 'One Still Interested' shows:—

'I am extremely obliged that you were courteous enough to publish my letter on April 6th, re St. Mary's bells, and I ask for your further indulgence, because I am satisfied that there has been, and now is, some undercurrent at work to prevent the bells being rung, and the following may answer many questions to those who do not quite understand the position as it is to-day.

'The bells of St. Mary's Church, Greyville, were accepted by the late Vicar, the Rev. Robinson, about four years ago. Since which date, until November last, they were regularly rung for service and practice. During that period no real complaint was made that the bells were a nuisance, if it were, it was not made known to the ringers, and "Peace and Quietness" must be alone in his misery when he writes of the large amount of annoyance he was subjected to when the bells were being rung, and which happened to be for the Sunday services, and for about one hour one evening in the week. What are the bells for if not to be rung? And yet he says, for God's sake leave things as they are. What a spirit? But I question whether "Peace and Quietness" has the brain power to recognise what ringers of church bells do to become proficient in the science and art of change ringing.

'I would also call attention to the Rev. Maddock's statement that the main reason why the bells were not rung was because of the difficulty of securing efficient ringers; if he is properly reported, then I can say, without fear of contradiction, that his statement is grossly exaggerated, because up to the time the bells ceased to be rung, there were ringers attached to the tower with Home experience, and classed among the best ringers in England, who were competent, and fully qualified to give instruction to anyone willing to accept it. Why quibble? It would be more manly on the part of the Rev. Maddock if he openly stated that it was a personal grievance with certain individuals which caused the breaking up of the band of competent and experienced ringers, who rang the bells, and who gave their services for the good of the cause. Is it any wonder that Mr. Maddock pleads that the matter is purely a parochial one? If he had said personal, instead of parochial, he would have been much nearer the mark, and is a strong reason why he does not wish the matter discussed in the columns of the newspaper.

'One other matter should be mentioned, and that is, if the bells are not given as a war memorial, why should each bell have an inscription impressed upon them, relating to important personages and events of the late war? The diocesan trustees are, I believe, vested with the absolute right of being able to dispose of the bells; if the Rev. Maddock finds they are so distasteful to himself and a few others, he could apply for their removal. In the meantime the question asked in the first letter has not been answered. Why?

It is now stated that a chiming apparatus is to be installed.

GRANDSIRE AND PLAIN BOB.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—When will the author of 'Notes by the Way' cease trying to mislead your readers?

The following figures are the Grandsire method and Plain Bob respectively, from 4 to 6 bells inclusive, and each method extends to infinity. What is the use of pretending that something is what it is NOT?

	GRANDSIRE.	
1234	12345	123456
2134	21354	213546
2314	23145	231456
3241	32415	324165
3421	34251	342615
4312	43521	436251
4132	45312	463521
1423	54132	645312
1243	51423	654132
	15243	561423
	12534	516243
		152634
		125364
	PLAIN BOB.	
1234	12345	123456
2143	21435	214365
2413	24153	241635
4231	42513	426153
4321	45231	462513
3412	54321	645231
3142	53412	654321
1324	35142	563412
	31524	536142
1342	13254	351624
		315264
		135246

Yours faithfully,

OWEN KAY.

THE BELLS OF TRUMPINGTON, CAMBS.

Campanologists have published several volumes describing the church bells of a great many of the English counties, but here we have a booklet giving a brief description of the bells of a village church. Trumpington is a village about two miles south of Cambridge. Its fine church contains among its interesting features the famous brass to the memory of Sir Roger de Trumpington. It is 6ft. in length, and, owing to its position upon a raised tomb, instead of being as is usual let into a marble slab in the pavement, it is in a very good state of preservation.

This booklet gives particulars of the five bells and their founders. There is also an illustration of the 4th bell 'set up.' This, the oldest bell, is believed to have been cast at the Bury St. Edmunds foundry by Henry Smythe, who died in 1476, as like other bells from that foundry it has the usual shield, and has initials 'H. S.' in black letters.

The bells, three of which were recast in 1900, are hung in a wooden frame, which was repaired at that time, but now needs to be replaced.

The earliest reference to the bells is in the Burial Register in the following entry: '1692, Septemb. 6. Mr. Thomas Allen was buried aetat: 81. He was born at Stenning in Sussex, in his old age he so-journed in this parish to the ring of 4 bells he added a treble.'

It is hoped that the interest awakened by this little book may lead to the work being soon put in hand, and there is ample room in the tower for another bell. Perhaps a donor or donors will follow Mr. T. Allen's example and 'add a treble,' which will improve the ring, and give more scope to the keen voluntary society of ringers, founded in 1918, who have already rung four peals in a variety of methods.

* Printed and published by A. R. Elitton, 23, Eastgate, Bury St. Edmunds. 10 pp. Price 3d.

NOW ON SALE.**METHOD-SPLICING***A Key to the New System of Ringing.*

Price 1/3 (post free) from 'The Ringing World'

Office, 63, Commercial Rd., Woking.

FORTY-EIGHT PAGES OF INSTRUCTIVE MATTER.

ROCK FERRY RINGERS' SUPPER.

On Monday, December 28th, the ringers of St. Peter's Church, Rock Ferry (Wirral branch, Chester Diocesan Guild), held an informal supper to celebrate the year's activities. The guests of honour were Messrs. Ludkin, Barnes and Battle, three Wirral ringers who have stood by Rock Ferry on numerous occasions (Mr. Sydney Barnes, by the way, should note that it is not 'the thing' to pin one's invitation card upon one's waistcoat). After supper, the Rev. Archibald Ball, M.A., Vicar of St. Peter's, made an appearance, and delighted the company with some Irish 'yarns,' and also declared his appreciation of the initiative shown by his ringers. The Vicar made a generous offer respecting the Guild members, if they desired a similar evening upon a larger scale. The singing of Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Withers, who are concert artistes of local renown, was one of the features of the night, as also was the tremendous feat of memory Mr. Barnes displayed during his recitation. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were thanked very warmly for the accommodation of the ringers, and a very enjoyable evening came to a close with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

The Rock Ferry ringers, who are under the leadership of Mr. John Cooke, have rung 100 720's in various Minor methods during 1925, which is believed to be a record for the Wirral branch. They were as follows: Cambridge Surprise Minor, 5; Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Spliced, 1; Oxford Treble Bob, 12; Kent Treble Bob, 19; Double Court, 1; Single Court, 8; Oxford Bob, 29; Bob Minor, 25; total, 100.

DOUBLE NORWICH & BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR SPLICED

5088, BY A. J. PITMAN.

D. Norwich	2345678	M	B	W	H
Bristol	26435				
"	32465				
"	35264				
"	45362				
"	56423				
"	24365				
"	54263				
"	53462				
"	23564				
"	36245				
D. Norwich	† 64523	2			

*Bobs at 4—5. Ring Double Norwich to first course end, then Bristol from 2643578 to Before in last course (7823456). From this point ring Double Norwich to the end as follows:—

D. Norwich	† 64523	1	4	6
	45623			
	35426			
a	53624			
	43526			
a	54326			
b	24653			
	34256			
b	24536			
	42655			
	52436			
	25634			
c	45236			
	35642			
	25346			
c	23456			

This is the first peal with these two methods spliced, and consists of 2528 changes Bristol and 2560 Double Norwich.

HANDBELLS.*To the Editor.*

Sir, — From my experience during all my ringing career, I have noticed one great thing lacking, viz., the number of peals of handbells that are either hanging up or in boxes, and never used from one year to another. Let me suggest that they are got out, and tune ringing from music practised. It does not take a lot to learn, especially with Mr. Gordon's arrangement to single score work. Look how useful ringers could be to assist at parish functions, etc. There are lots of good ringers who don't understand music at all. What do they know about a bell? Nothing. Then let's learn it, and be able to discuss it, and if there should be another Coventry case crop up, we can go for a win.—Yours, etc.,

Oldbury.

JOHN JAGGAR.

THE CRITICISMS OF CRITICUS.
PEAL QUALITY GIVES PLACE QUANTITY.—
SOME INTERESTING COMPARISONS.

The falling off in the number of peals rung last year has been the subject of comment among many ringers, and I have heard a variety of views expressed as to the reasons for it. Some hold the opinion that in past years the organising and conducting of peals was largely in the hands of a comparatively few enthusiasts, who for some reason have cooled off or have had to content themselves with less ringing. Others say that there is less keenness among ringers as a whole, while others again are inclined to accept the suggestion put forward in 'The Ringing World' editorial that there is in these days a general desire for a higher standard of methods, and consequently, perhaps, more peals are lost. All these things are largely speculation, but I fancy most of us have been inclined to think that the great disparity in the quantity of peal ringing now and before the war is due to a diminished enthusiasm.

If that be so, this much, at least, can be said, that in quality ringing to-day has reached a higher standard than twelve years ago—that is, if figures go for anything. This year, for the first time, we are without the relative point values, so I cannot say accurately what progress has been made, but there certainly has been advance all round. I have taken the trouble to look up the Analysis table for the year 1913, when the record total of peals was rung. In that twelve months no fewer than 2,359 peals were recorded, out of which there were 204 peals of Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus, which is 8.6 per cent. Last year, out of the 1,689 peals rung, 282 were Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus, which is 16.1 per cent., which is nearly double. Now this, in my opinion, shows a really striking advance. There has been little change in the variety of methods, but there is no question that, taken between these periods, there has been a very excellent rise in the standard of ringing. As between year and year it may not be so noticeable, but between 1913 and 1925 there is a wide contrast, and quantity has given way to quality. On this score, at any rate, there is no need to give way to pessimism.

There is one feature which some may consider disquieting. The six-bell men do not seem to be so active as they used to be, and the 522 peals of Minor and 118 peals of Doubles in 1913 fell to 283 and 93 respectively in 1925. Can anyone tell us whose fault this is? Is it that the associations are not giving their six-bell men the same encouragement as they used to do? On all numbers peal ringing could do with a fillip, and perhaps it could be done if more conductors were encouraged. There are still far too many towers where the conducting is in the hands of one man, and the rest of the company are entirely dependent upon his favours for any peals they want to ring. This brings us back to an old cause of complaint. There are some men who will brook no rival in a tower. They seem to forget that if anything happens to them, the rest of the band are on the rocks, so to speak, and might easily break up. However capable a man may be, it is a mistake to have only one conductor in a tower. By that I do not mean there should be divided leadership. There can be only one responsible leader, but the best leader is he who trains those under him to become leaders as well. To become a conductor a man needs practice as much as he does to

become a good ringer, and every promising hand should be given the opportunity of learning this branch of the art.

I have in mind more than one instance of a tower with a capable band, content to place their destinies in the hands of a brilliant conductor. For a time all went well, and peals came as plentifully as any enthusiast could desire. Then the inevitable happened. The conductor moved away—in one or two cases died—and the band was heard of no more, or, at any rate, for a very long time, until, indeed, another had learned sufficient to take up the mantle of the departed. Now, in every case, this could have been avoided if other members of the band had been encouraged—and instructed, for there are many hints which a capable man can give to his pupil if he chooses. I do not say that in every case it has been the selfishness of the leader. Sometimes the rest of the band have been to blame, for they have been not only content, but desirous of leaving it all to the one individual. It is, however, a mistake, and a mistake that is often costly to ringing.

From all that one can gather, the strike kind of knocked ringing temporarily sideways. It is almost as if ringers had gone on strike with the other millions who 'downed tools.' Perhaps the 'downed ropes' has been of a compulsory nature, not because of Trade Union orders and truculent pickets, but just inability to 'get together.' If we take our pleasures sadly, as Englishmen are said to do, we also like to take them easily, and it is astonishing how little is necessary to put some ringers out of their stride. I can understand that men did not feel like ringing bells in the uncertain days of the great emergency, but they seem very slow in recovery. We have heard no news from Birmingham lately—that is, news that matters—and I am beginning to wonder whether Cuckoo Road was the scene of any rioting and any of the inhabitants bludgeoned. Or is it that our old friend, the redoubtable George of England, has merely had to cancel his arrangements because the services of the L.M.S. were no longer at his disposal? Surely, however, a young man of his energies would not be kept out of a peal because there were no trains? At least he could have walked—wherever the peal might have been—at worst he could have ridden his tricycle?

So we were able, after all, last week, to learn officially what the Central Council were to talk about. It is of no use at this moment to speculate what the Council will decide on all the many things that will come before them. As I write I have no doubt they will all be enjoying themselves at Ipswich, with its memories of Jimmy Motts and other stalwarts. But what I said last week about a fight over the method names looks as if it was likely to mature. If Mr. Trollope's amendment is carried, I, as a law-abiding citizen, who will retain my freedom to give any old name I choose to a new method when I ring it, shall claim my rights to call it what I please. I've got the method, and I've found a name for it. It is not my favourite flower, but my favourite dish, and if I like to call it 'Tripe and Onions Minor' who shall say me 'Nay.'

CRITICUS.

OXTON.—On Thursday, May 13th, at the Church of St. Saviour, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): R. Edwards 1. W. Wharton 2. H. Martin 3. E. Glenville 4. S. F. Barnes 5. J. Evans 6. R. Birchall (conductor) 7. S. Moston 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of 1st and 4th, and rung for the Dedication Festival.

THE 'ERNEST' PEAL BAND.

The band of 'Ernest' who rang the peal of Bob Major, 5008 changes, at Loughborough Bell Foundry tower, on Saturday, May 1st, 1926, in 2 hours and 45 minutes.

ERNEST BAGWORTH, Leicester, Witness.	ERNEST H. CLARKE, Derby, Tenor.	ERNEST F. PAYNE, Syston, 7th.	ERNEST W. TIPLER, Lutterworth, 6th.	ERNEST STONE, Nuneaton, 5th.
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ERNEST MORRIS, Leicester, Treble.	ERNEST J. JELLEY, Wigston, 2nd.	ERNEST BARTRAM, Melton Mowbray, 3rd.	ERNEST W. BEADSMORE, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, 4th.
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The Peal was composed by ERNEST G. HIBBINS, of Cambridge, and conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Caters occurs to-day. It was rung at St. John's Church, Horsleydown, London, by the College Youths on May 28th, 1787, and was composed and conducted by John Reeves. Although the composition, long years after, turned out to be false, the performance was a landmark in ringing history.

A peal tablet recorded the event, and part of the inscription is worth quoting: 'In honour to a most noble performance by the Ancient Society of College Youths, who, on Monday, May 28th, 1787, did ring in an excellent manner, the first complete peal of Caters upon Stedman's Principle, 5,076 changes, in 3 hours and 27 mins. May this peal transmit their names to posterity with that of the ingenious Mr. W. Jones, on whose abilities his inimitable commentaries so happily concludes with "Here the Cynic and the Panegyrist stop, and join in eulogiums to such distinguished merits."'

Exactly a quarter of a century ago to-day the first Surprise peal was rung out of England—a peal of Superlative Surprise at Bray, Ireland. It was rung during a tour in the Emerald Isle by members of St. Martin's, Birmingham, Guild—a tour which still holds pleasant memories for those who took part, although much water has flowed down the Liffey since that time.

On the following day the first and only peal on the sea was rung on handbells while the tourists were crossing from Dublin to Holyhead, and that evening the first Surprise peal in Wales (New Camberidge) was rung at Bangor. Looking back, it seems scarcely possible that these events, of no small historic interest in ringing annals, happened twenty-five years ago.

Thirty years ago to-morrow the then record length of Grandsire Cinques, 10,075, was rung at Ashton-under-Lyne. The record since made, and which stands as the greatest number of changes on twelve bells, is the 13,000 Grandsire Cinques at Painswick in 1920.

A 5,000 of Union Bob Royal was rung at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill, by the College Youths on May 30th, 1741, and to the record was appended the following tag:—

'When merit's justly due, a little praise then serveth;
A good peal needs no frame, a bad one none deserveth.'

The only previous peal of Treble Ten had been rung about seven weeks earlier at the same church by the Eastern Scholars, and the lines above quoted are thought by some historians to show that this first peal was false, but the bad may have been intended to refer to the striking and not to the truth of the composition.

The first peal of New Cumberland Surprise was rung at Hulton-on-Trent exactly 40 years ago next Monday.

Tuesday is the anniversary of the 14,031 Stedman Caters on handbells at Guildford, rung on June 1st, 1912.

On June 3rd, 1773, the first twelve-bell peal in Birmingham was rung. This was 5,329 Grandsire Cinques. It is almost safe to say that at no church have more twelve-bell peals been rung than at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, which began its twelve-bell history 153 years ago.

Arrangements are now practically complete for the dedication of the Royal Cumberland Youths' War Memorial and Queen Alexandra peal tablet, on Saturday, June 26th, at 3.30 p.m. Bells will be available from 1 p.m. till 6 p.m., at different towers, and at 7 p.m. a reunion meeting and social will be held at the Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Strand. All ringers are heartily invited, and, to facilitate arrangements for providing light refreshments, those intending to be present are requested to let the Master know early at 130, Clonmore Street, S.W.18. Full arrangements will be announced next week, if possible.

The annual festival of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, postponed on account of the General Strike, will take place at Trowbridge on June 19th.

All ringers will be welcome at the dedication of the bells at Timberscombe, Somerset, on Saturday, June 4th. These bells have just been augmented from six to eight.

SIX SURPRISE METHODS IN ONE 720.

WHAT METHOD SPLICING WILL DO.

On Monday, May 17th, for practice, at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, Leytonstone, a spliced 720, comprising: Beverley, Cambridge, Hexham, Primrose, Surfleet and Berwick, by G. L. Joyce (conductor) 1, A. Prior 2, W. Theobald 3, J. Moule 4, W. Miller 5, E. D. Smith 6.

This 720 was arranged on the plan laid down by Mr. J. W. Parker in 'Method Splicing,' and is the first to be so rung.

The Leytonstone Company are indebted to Mr. Parker for his work in this little book, as he has opened up a field which is well worth exploration by the most blasé ringer. Methods separately rung may become monotonous to an accomplished hand, but the same methods, spliced one with another, grip the attention, and stimulate the interest in what is to be tried at the next practice. The experience of the Leytonstone Company is that its members have shown keener interest in what is going to be done since the advent of the possibilities opened up by Mr. J. W. Parker's work, which is decidedly away from the beaten track.

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

8,024, by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY, IPSWICH.

Ln				
23456	M	and	W	H
5th's				
53246	x		—	
32546	x			
25346	x			
45236	x		—	
52436	x			
42635	—			
25634	—			
35264	x		—	
52364	x			
23564	x			
63254	x		—	
53624	x			
34625	—			
46325	x			
26435	x		—	
36245	x			
62345	x			
23645	x			

Repeat last eight courses.

TWO PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR

5,008's by GEORGE H. CROSS.

23456	1	3	5	6	9	23456	1	3	5	6	9
42635	—	S	S	—	—	42635	—	S	S	—	—
23645	—	—	—	x	—	23645	—	—	—	x	—
52634	—	S	S	—	S	52634	—	S	S	—	S
36254	—	—	—	—	—	36254	—	—	—	—	—
65234	—	—	—	—	—	65234	—	—	—	—	—
53264	—	—	x	—	—	53264	—	—	x	—	—
62354	—	—	—	—	—	62354	—	—	—	—	—
32654	—	—	S	—	—	32654	—	—	S	—	—
32654	—	—	—	—	—	32654	—	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—	—	26354	—	—	—	—	—
23654	—	—	S	—	—	23654	—	—	S	—	—
62435	—	S	S	—	—	62435	—	S	S	—	—
23465	—	—	x	—	—	23465	—	—	x	—	—
42563	—	S	S	—	—	42563	—	S	S	—	—
45236	—	—	S	—	—	45236	—	—	S	—	—
52436	—	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—	—	—
52346	S	—	x	—	—	52346	S	—	x	—	—
43256	S	—	S	—	—	43256	S	—	S	—	—
32456	—	—	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—	—	—
24356	—	—	—	—	—	24356	—	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	S	—	—	23456	—	—	S	—	—

x Indicates six calls at 6, viz.: B, R, S, B, R, S. Each of these compositions contains the full combination of 4 5—6 in 5—6, without the 3rd in 6th's or 2nd in 5—6. The first of the compositions is the first ever obtained, and the second the first ever rung with these qualities in the minimum number of changes.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE. — On Ascension Day, May 13th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: T. Marshall 1, J. Hughes 2, Miss E. M. Burnell 3, R. Edwards 4, R. Kynaston 5, G. Williams 6, R. Evans (conductor) 7, E. H. Kynaston 8.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MORE DISTRICT PEALS AND COMBINED PRACTICES WANTED.

In the annual report of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, just issued, the secretary, Mr. George Pullinger, is able to state that there are many encouraging signs in the work of the Guild. Portsmouth, Guildford and Yorktown districts have increased their membership, and several of the districts have a number of young ringers coming on. The number of members who paid contributions during last year were: Honorary 66, full 541, probationers 69, life 1, compounding 16; with 79 towers in union. Restoration work has gone on steadily, but at Holy Rood Church, Southampton, the bell frames and fittings are in a very dilapidated state, almost unsafe for ringing. It is hoped, he says, that the Archdeacon may be induced to pay a visit to this tower, so that the Parochial Church Council may be enlightened as to the conditions, and that a fund may be started for the restoration.

It is to be regretted, the secretary adds, that more district peals are not rung. A quarterly district peal, at least, should be arranged for the purpose of giving young hands an opportunity to ring a peal, whereas now some never get a chance, for peal ringing usually stimulates keenness and improves striking. A conductor can be provided on application for a quarterly peal. A welcome item of expenditure appears again in the balance sheet (after many years' absence), viz.: that of instruction, but only in two towers; this is very small considering the large area. Much good might be done to advance change ringing in the higher methods if towers in fairly close proximity to each other would co-operate and arrange more regular combined practices. It is hoped that individual members will do their best to help in arranging extra meetings, combined practices and peal attempts in the more isolated towers, for the purpose of educating the clergy and ringers there to the advantages offered by membership of the Guild, as such work is bound to prove educational in the long run. The secretary expresses the hope that all will strive to increase the membership, the towers in union and the methods practised during 1926.

The general balance sheet shows receipts amounting to £44 0s. 6½d., and expenditure to £51 1s. 4d., reducing the balance in hand from £37 16s. 7d. to £30 15s. 9½d. Out of the special purposes fund, increased from £39 1s. 4d. at the end of 1924, by a life member's subscription and interest on deposit account, to £41 18s. 5d., the following donations were granted: Washbrook Memorial, £5 5s.; Raynor Tomb Fund, S. Nicolas' (Guildford), Farnborough and Woolton Hill Bell Funds, £2 2s. each; leaving a balance in hand of £28 5s. 5d.

SOME SWISS BELLS.

A chance break of a journey by a Swiss mountain railway gives us a glimpse of a small village delightfully situated by the side of the stream and flanked on either side by the mountains. The dirt and squalor are worthy of the slums of any of our great cities, but beneath the grime of years some of the wooden houses show most exquisite carvings. They are indeed the Swiss chalets of our picture books.

Suddenly from the spire of the church, a fairly new building standing prim and white on the outskirts of the village, the chime of the clock is heard. To English ears it seems strange, for it is the three top notes of the major chord struck in order and repeated—the 1, 4, 6 of the ring of eight. Shortly afterwards the service ringing begins, although it is only a week day. There are four bells, 1, 4, 6, 8 we should call them, and the tenor sounds from the distance as if it must be about a ton. It is impossible to say if the ringing is meant to be rounds or changes, for the striking is so erratic that the ringers might be pulling at random. But the effect is beautiful beyond words. To the musical notes of really good bells is added the reflection of the sound backwards and forwards from the mountain walls on either side. In about ten minutes all is quiet, and peace reigns over the village, except for the rush of the water from the turbines of the huge electric power station which supplies the railway—and the meanest cottage too.

This is a Roman Catholic Canton, and we expect to hear the sound of the Angelus bell. But in the Protestant Cantons we hear it too, and from the Protestant churches; for none but the official church in any Canton is allowed to have bells. The ringing of the Angelus bell over three hundred years after the service has been banished from the church is a quaint reminder of the deceit of those days, when it was ordered to be continued so that the common people should not realise the changes made at the Reformation. At any rate, that is the story told now.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS. — At the Church of St. Peter, on Thursday, May 6th, for King's Accession, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Hull 1, F. Kirk 2, H. G. Lightfoot 3, E. P. Debenham (conductor) 4, W. H. Buckingham 5, E. D. Livermore 6, T. J. Hull 7, F. J. Spicer 8. — On Thursday, May 13th, for Ascension Day, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 50 mins.: T. Seymour 1, E. Hull 2, H. G. Lightfoot 3, E. P. Debenham 4, F. Kirk 5, E. D. Livermore 6, W. H. L. Buckingham 7, T. J. Hull (conductor) 8.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TUESDAY'S MEETING AT IPSWICH.

The 34th annual meeting of the Central Council was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, when there was an attendance of just over fifty members.

The Suffolk Guild had made excellent arrangements for the entertainment of the visitors, some of whom arrived on Saturday, and took part in a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Mary-le-Tower, and on Sunday in a peal at Debenham.

On Monday there was an enjoyable excursion by charabanc to a number of interesting churches in the district, including Sudbury, Long Melford and Lavenham, while at Bury St. Edmunds the visitors, nearly forty in number, were able to ring at both churches, and were entertained to tea by Archdeacon Farnilloe.

The meeting on Tuesday was presided over by Canon G. F. Coleridge, and the various associations were represented as follows:—

Ancient Society of College Youths: Messrs. A. A. Hughes, T. W. Faulkner and H. R. Newton.

Both and Wells: Mr. J. Hunt.

Bedfordshire Association: Mr. A. E. Sharman.

Chester Diocesan Guild: Messrs. E. W. Elwell and J. Ashmole.

Essex Association: Messrs. C. H. Howard, W. J. Nevard, G. R. Pye and E. J. Butler.

Ely Diocesan Association: Mr. T. R. Dennis.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association: Messrs. W. A. Cave, E. Guise and E. Bishop.

Kent County Association: Messrs. T. Groombridge and E. Barnett, son.

Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association: Messrs. J. W. Jones and W. Bolton.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild: The Rev. H. Law James and Mr. R. Richardson.

London County Association: Messrs. T. H. Taffender and A. D. Barker.

Ladies' Guild: Miss E. K. Parker.

Lancashire Association: The Rev. H. J. Elsee and Mr. J. R. Taylor.

Middlesex County Association: Messrs. F. A. Milne and W. H. Hollier.

Midland Counties Association: Mr. Pryce Taylor.

Norfolk Guild: Messrs. G. P. Burton, A. L. Coleman and C. E. Borrett.

Oxford Diocesan Guild: The President, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn and Mr. F. W. Hoppood.

Peterborough Diocesan Association: Mr. F. Wilford.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild: Mr. T. Hervey Beams.

Swansea and Brecon Guild: Mr. J. Hammond.

Suffolk Guild: The Rev. H. Drake, Messrs. C. Mee and E. F. Poppy.

Surrey Association: Messrs. C. F. Johnston and C. Dean.

Winchester Diocesan Guild: Messrs. G. Williams and A. H. Pulling.

Honorary Members: The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Major J. H. B. Hesle, Messrs. J. S. Pritchett, J. A. Trollope, J. George and E. A. Young (hon. sec.).

The meeting having been opened with prayer.

ARCHDEACON AND BISHOP'S WELCOME.

Archdeacon Farnilloe, on behalf of the Suffolk Guild, welcomed the Council to the diocese. They came there, he said, representing those who were interested in ringing throughout the country, and recognised it as an essential part of Church work. Many of them came from dioceses which had behind them a long tradition of church work, and a long history of diocesan organisation, and they came to one of the youngest dioceses, and to the Suffolk Guild, which, in its present form, had a history of only two years. He felt himself, some years ago, when he was asked to take part in organising the affairs of the diocese, that it was a matter of great importance that they should have their own diocesan organisation for their ringers, and, in face of a little difficulty, ably seconded by their secretary, the Rev. H. Drake, they had succeeded at last in forming what was a real diocesan body of church bell ringers. In their name, and in his own, he offered them the most cordial welcome to their diocese (applause).

The President thanked the Archdeacon for his welcome, and a little later the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich came to welcome the Council to the town of Ipswich and the diocese. He knew, he said, that there were a few people who did not appreciate bells, just as there were a few people who did not appreciate music, because they had no ear for it, and if they lived within the shadow of a tower which had a fine and celebrated peal of bells no doubt there were times when people did not want ringing. He was certain, however, that the majority of people realised that bells were one of the joys of life, and one of the ways of expressing it. It was rather in an accidental way that they were in the position of claiming as workers for the Church and as Churchmen pretty well all the bell ringers in the country. It was partly due to the accident that towers had always been associated with churches, and had not been associated much with any other kind of buildings. Thus they got almost a monopoly of bells, and it followed that bell ringers were doing something for the Church. The Church accepted their help

with great joy, and realised that they were fellow workers. One of their interests in ringing was that it was a call to worship, and he hoped ringers would be conscious of that aspect of their work. It was an uplifting work, and he hoped that that feeling would be uppermost in their hearts when they took part in it (applause).

The President fittingly thanked the Bishop for his kindly welcome, and the Council then proceeded with the business of the day.

Arising out of the minutes of the last meeting, the Hon. Secretary said between 30 and 40 letters were addressed to the authorities in the various dioceses requesting that there should be on each Advisory Committee a representative with a knowledge of bells and bell ringing. They had had replies from 18 or 20, saying, in effect, that the suggestion was a useful one. With regard to the Cards of Instruction which the Council instructed him to have printed, the first 500 were rapidly exhausted, and, with the sanction of the President, another 750 were printed. The Lincoln Guild took up 250 in one batch, and that was why the original number was quickly used up. Copies could now be had from the Librarian.

At the request of the Hon. Secretary, the Council confirmed his action in printing the further 750 copies.

Apologies for absence were received from Revs. A. T. Beeson, Canon Baker, A. H. F. Boughey, E. W. Carpenter, C. C. Marshall, C. E. Matthews, H. S. T. Richardson, H. Tyrwhitt Drake, F. J. O. Helmore, C. C. Cox, L. S. Clark, Mrs. N. Edwards, Messrs. J. Carter, J. D. Matthews, J. Cotterill, P. J. Johnson, T. Metcalfe, D. J. Nichols, W. Willson, A. Paddon Smith, E. H. Lewis, H. W. Wilde, R. B. Chambers, H. Haigh, H. Day, etc.

FINANCES.

The balance sheet, presented by the Hon. Secretary, showed that the year started with a balance in hand of £67 14s. 3d. The receipts included a donation of £5 towards the publication of the Cards of Instruction from the Rev. H. Drake, affiliation fees £13 10s., interest on stock £4 10s. 8d., and sale of Cards of Instruction £1 13s. 1d., a total of £24 13s. 9d. The expenditure, including the loss on the sale of publications of £5 12s. 2d., was £16 13s., leaving a balance in the bank of £70 16s.

The accounts were adopted, on the motion of the Rev. H. Law James, seconded by Mr. P. Taylor.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Hon. Librarian) reported the completion of the scheme for the Washbrook Memorial, remarking that the bells at St. Ebb's, Oxford, had met with the complete approval of all concerned. They were left with a £28 balance, part of which would go to a fund, to be augmented by the parish, for the upkeep of the bells, and the remainder was to be devoted to that other parish in Oxford, St. Giles', which found favour with some as the place for the memorial. Full particulars would be given later in 'The Ringing World.'

Continuing, the Hon. Librarian said the sales of publications realised £4 19s. 1d., and the expenses were £10 11s. 3d., including £9 2s. for advertising. It cannot be said, added the Librarian, that the resolution to put up the price of publications has entirely justified itself, though it may well be that we have reached a point when there is no longer a popular demand for these works, but the few who do want them are quite ready to pay the extra cost. And here a lesson seems to be indicated, namely, for the future to greatly diminish the number of copies of publications issued by the Council. It surely is not advisable that the Council should risk having on its hands such an accumulation as it possesses in the 'Glossary' and the 'Peal Collections.' In the past twelve months the few remaining copies of the 'Collection of Minor Methods' were quickly sold; the demand, which was always considerable, being increased by the issue of the book on 'Method Splicing,' by Mr. J. P. Fidler. Of the rest it may be remarked that there is now apparently more demand for publications that have to do with the care of bells than with peal ringing. The 'on sale or return' agency only produced a matter of a few shillings, actually 5s. 4d., chiefly in one locality. According to instructions, I purchased for the Council the remainder of Canon Elsee's stock of 'On the Preservation of Bells.' I have also secured a considerable number of copies of 'Bell News' for the years 1912-1915 inclusive, but these have been gifts. The following numbers were still need to make these years complete:—1912, Nos. 1,561, 1,594, 1,595, 1,596, 1,598; 1913, Nos. 1,605, 1,606, 1,625, 1,631; 1914, Nos. 1,658, 1,675 to 1,680, 1,687, 1,688, 1,689, 1,696, 1,697, 1,700; 1915, Nos. 1,717, 1,729, 1,735, 1,737, 1,739, 1,741, 1,755; the receipt of any of which will be gratefully acknowledged.

The four retiring hon. members, Mrs. Edwards, Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Mr. J. George and Mr. H. W. Wilde, were re-elected, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

The following new members were introduced to the President, Messrs. J. Hammond (Swansea and Brecon), F. J. Davey (Devon Guild) and E. F. Poppy (Suffolk Guild).

COVENTRY BELLS.

The Hon. Secretary then reported on the steps taken to preserve Coventry bells. The action was taken after consultation with the president and the Standing Committee, and he asked the Council to confirm what was done. Unfortunately, they were not successful in convincing the Chancellor that the bells should be saved. He referred to the long efforts which Mr. Johnston had made to induce

the authorities to keep the bells as a ringing peal, and to the labours of Mr. J. S. Pritchett, who appeared as the advocate for the Central Council.

Mr. J. S. Pritchett spoke in appreciation of the splendid work done by Mr. Young, and pointed out that the labour was not wasted, for, by the action taken, they secured that in the recasting of the bells ten of them were preserved as a *peal of ten*, instead of making them merely part of a carillon. That change of front was brought about by the efforts of their secretary (applause).

Confirmation of the action taken was agreed to and payment of certain incidental expenses voted, cordial thanks being given to Mr. Young and Mr. Pritchett for the part they had taken.

Miss Parker reported for the Peal Collection Committee that the work of adding the new compositions was proceeding, but it was involving the examination of the original peals to see that variations did not creep in. When the work was completed by the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson it would be sent to her to type, and it was hoped to have it in the hands of the Council by the next meeting.—The report was adopted.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Literature and Press Committee had in hand the revision of the Council's rules and decisions, and he hoped these would be before them at the next meeting.—The report was accepted.

The reports of the various committees were adopted, except that relating to nomenclature. A debate on the latter resulted in the carrying of the amendment, which, while urging the extreme importance of choosing suitable names for new methods, declined to interfere with such rights as bands and individual ringers at present enjoy.

Simpson-tuning was discussed on the Hon. Secretary's motion, and an amendment carried that the Council was not at present qualified to pass an opinion.

It was resolved to ask Diocesan Advisory Committees to co-opt some members having knowledge of the archaeology, tuning and proper hanging of bells to form a special sub-committee to advise them when necessary.

It was also resolved to continue to press the Railway Clearing Board for cheaper travelling facilities for ringers.

The Council did not accept the proposal to consider the institution of a bell ringers' Sunday by means of an annual service throughout the country or otherwise.

Votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

(To be continued.)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the branch was held on April 24th, at Beaconsfield. At the Guild service, the Rector (the Rev. A. S. Commeline, M.A.), gave the address on the text, 'Thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.'—Fifty-two sat down to tea, the chairman (the Rev. W. S. Riddelsdell) presiding, supported by the Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkins), general secretary (Mr. B. T. Hibbert), general treasurer (Mr. A. J. Wright), the Rev. W. S. Commeline and Mr. C. A. Bennett, J.P. The branch accounts were accepted, and showed continued prosperity, financially.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to create the office of branch Ringing Master. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Rev. W. S. Riddelsdell, M.A.; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. D. Barker; branch Ringing Master, Mr. C. C. Mayne; branch representatives, Mrs. A. D. Barker, Messrs. F. Boreham, T. J. Fowler, G. R. Gutteridge, J. L. Kirk, C. C. Mayne and J. C. Truss.

The bells were afterwards kept going until a late hour in various methods.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at Shelley on Saturday, May 22nd. A good number of members assembled at this picturesque village, which combine town and country attractions without ostentation. The church is noble in its design, standing on a site open all round to views, where quiet devotions may be done, and possessing bells in a well-proportioned tower that are rich in tone and in such good order. They are a credit to the ringers who thus care for them and use them decently. The day was also very important in that a new altar table and vestry screen were to be dedicated, for which a service was held at 3 p.m. Space will not permit particulars to be given, but let it be said that the ringers did take their part well in these services, and do take an interest in their church as well as the ringing room. Tea was partaken of and a short business meeting held. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow of Mr. George Hill, of Penistone, all standing in silent grief. The usual business followed, ten new members were elected, and a vote of thanks passed to all concerned. The next meeting is the annual cup contest at Hoylandswaine on Saturday, June 12th.

DEATH OF A PENISTONE RINGER.

The death of Mr. George Hill, Barnsley Road, Penistone, took place with startling suddenness on Friday, May 14th, at the age of 40 years. He was regarded by his many ringing friends as a strong man, with many years of active life in front of him, but, alas! it is the unexpected that happens. That insidious disease, pneumonia, which spares not the strongest, has taken away one who will be sadly missed in ringing circles. His ringing career commenced about the age of 19 at Hoylandswaine, the place of his boyhood. For about ten years he had associated himself with Penistone, and since the ring of six has been increased to eight, about 16 months ago, he had endeavoured to teach a young band, and had succeeded in mastering 720's of Plain Bob Minor, and hopes ran high of greater peals to follow. The interment took place on Monday, May 17th, at Hoylandswaine, a large company, probably two hundred or more, consisting of railwaymen, his fellow workmen, walked in front of the hearse and family coaches. Many mourners and brother ringers followed on foot, a distance of two miles. The marks of respect shown en route were simple and sincere, workmen stood with bared heads and heavy teams of horses stood still as the cortege passed. As the village church came in sight the bells could be heard, adding their mournful sound. The service of burial was shared by the Vicars of Hoylandswaine and Penistone inside the church and the churchyard. Both these reverend gentlemen can and do testify to the good done and the sublime character of such a layman, who was straight to bluntness and fearless in his endeavours for the right.

Of our friend's ringing, it may also be said it was one period of continued sociable enjoyment. His peals were 41, of which he conducted 18. They were spread over many counties. The last two appeared in 'The Ringing World' issue of May 14th at Consett and Whitley Bay. He was a member of the principal ringing associations. Being a railway servant, his travelling ticket enabled him to visit distant towers from Dundee to Brighton. His holidays were thereby spent in a ringer's style. The sympathy of ringers is hereby extended to his widow and family, who have to mourn the loss of one who was full of love to all around him.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At Old Leake, on Wednesday afternoon, May 12th, 720 Bob Minor was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. L. R. Shearwin, of Wrangle Manor, who had been a most generous contributor to Leake Church. The funeral had taken place at Wrangle earlier in the afternoon: Miss Elsie Lakin 1, P. Lakin 2, J. W. Lakin, sen., 3, J. W. Lakin, jun. (conductor) 4, T. W. Houghton 5, W. Small 6.

MUFFLED RINGING.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.

On Thursday, May 20th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: H. W. Martin 1, W. A. Skinner (first quarter-peal of Triples and first 'inside') 2, W. P. Whitehead 3, A. Disney 4, R. Barrow (conductor) 5, K. R. Elliott 6, H. Reeve 7, J. A. Bishop 8.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Charles J. Hubbard, whose remains were interred at the Belgrave Cemetery earlier in the day. Mr. Hubbard, who was in his 83rd year, had been a chorister at St. Peter's Church for over 50 years. He was also a ringer for a great number of years, and was at one time captain of the Belgrave ringers.

PONTYPRIDD VETERAN'S DEATH.

We regret to record the death, which took place on Wednesday, May 12th, of Mr. A. Burgess, the veteran Pontypridd ringer, who passed away, after a long illness, at the age of 72 years. The funeral took place on May 18th, when local ringers acted as bearers, and three bob leads of Grandsire Triples were rung at the graveside. Afterwards the ringers returned to the belfry of St. Catherine's Church and rang a quarter-peal with the bells half-muffled in 50 minutes, those taking part being the local Sunday service ringers: Hallett 1, Iver Mitchell 2, F. J. Thyer 3, Idris Mitchell 4, A. E. Gray 5, J. Darch (conductor) 6, S. Ridgway 7, W. Hyett (first quarter-peal) 8. The same ringers rang at the graveside. The ringers also sent a wreath.

ELLESMERE, SALOP.—On Tuesday, April 27th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brooks') (1,260 changes), in 52 mins.: R. Biggs 1, G. H. Edwards 2, A. Allen 3, W. S. Higginson 4, T. Butler, sen., 5, T. R. Butler 6, E. V. Rodenhurst (first touch of Stedman as conductor) 7, W. Higginson, sen., 8.

WINCANTON.—On Saturday, April 24th, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): F. Pound 1, C. C. Hollway 2, F. J. Parsons 3, R. F. Beck 4, R. G. Beck (conductor) 5, W. T. Matthews 6. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 6.

RISHTON, LANCS.—For evening service, on Sunday, April 25th, and in memory of those who fell at Gallipoli, 720 Bob Minor: A. Yates 1, R. Hall 2, F. Rudge 3, J. Hirst 4, B. Crabtree 5, L. J. Williams (conductor) 6.

'AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING !'

THE MAN WHO FORGETS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Ad Me Heri Vesper Venit Stedman. And he whispered in my ear, 'Would you? Don't say no, do!' And I didn't say 'No,' I did! And eight ropes hanged from holes in the belfry ceiling, an' the bells hung up above 'em. Seven grunting men arose from their seats, and stretched themselves, and walked about, and they met, and met!—but they were not sufficiently developed to know that they had met—'Two short of being one too many.' Then, the awful reality of life forced itself upon 'em, and their dreams were like ice-cream, collapsible, but not perishable, and they simply melted away. They sighed gruffly, 'No Slow,' 'No Quick,' 'No Dodging!' and, sir, with a 'Bob,' straightway they passed—The Treble—into a 'Place,' where they exchanged notes for 'stuff' that was anything except Grocery or Butchery! Here endeth the first lesson.

'Labuntur Anni.' Approximately three centuries slip by.

Ad Me Heri Vesper Venit 'Ted-man,' and he whispered in my ear, 'Would you? Don't say no, do!' And I didn't say 'No,' I did! And eight ropes hanged from holes in the belfry ceiling, and the bells hung up above 'em. Seven grunting men arose from their seats, and stretched themselves, and walked about, and they met, and met! But they were highly cultured—perhaps, I should mention, the first consonant in 'highly,' is as silent as a mausoleum!—and they did not appreciate the fact, that they had met, 'Two short of being one too many.' Then, the awful reality of life forced itself upon 'em, and their dreams were like ice-cream, collapsible, but not perishable, and they simply melted away. They sighed gruffly, 'No Slow,' 'No Quick,' 'No Dodging!' And, sir, with a 'Bob,' straightway they passed—the Treble!—into a 'Place,' where they exchanged notes for 'stuff' that was anything except Grocery or Butchery!

Here endeth the second lesson.

But, sir, whether it be Grocery or Butchery, I shall insist in future, and nothing will induce me to deviate one iota from what I am now going to write, and that is, I am of the opinion 'that All Conductors' should be 'Filleted!' Then they would get about their business more freely. Of course, you, sir, will observe, that I have laid especial emphasis again on the 'All.' And that infers All! Even that uniformed Conductor who presses himself upon us in the bus or tram-car. He wants—or, to speak more correctly, requires—filleting long, long, before he reaches the 'Penny Stage,' tinkling his little bell of the Tintinabulum order in our ears, thrusting his knees into our ribs, knocking our bowlers over our eyes, treading with his plus eights on our pedal extremities, squeezing here, there and everywhere. Yes, sir, he requires filleting, so that he may perform all the contortions that are required of 'an' uniformed Conductor, in his daily round.

But, sir, it is the 'Un-Uniformed Conductor' 'wot's legg'd us down!' and made all seven of us feel 'sore'! It is not only our one-will-wish-an'-desire to see him filleted, but to see him 'Grilled'! an' that's all, except sayin' in conclusion, 'As it was in the beginning.'—Yours sincerely,

IRENEUS.

BELLRINGERS' RULES

The following quaint old bellringers' rules, neatly written and framed, are hung in the tower of Gouthurst Church, Somerset:—

Let awful Silence first proclaimed be
and praises given to the Trinity
then Love and Honour pay unto our King
thus with a blessing raise the cheerful ring
Hark! how the chirping treble sounds it clear
and covering Tom comes rowling in the rear
now up on end at stay com let us see
what laws are best to keep sobriety
Soe with consent lets make this firm decree
Who swears or curses or in angry mood
quarrels or strikes although he draw no blood
who wears his hatt or spurs or turns a hell
or by unskilful handling mars a peal
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime
twill make him cautious against another time
but if the Sexton's fault at hindrance he
we call from him a double penalty
Who doth our parson disrespect
or warden's orders any time neglect
let him be held in foul disgrace
and ever after banished this place
Now round lets go, with pleasure to the ear
and peirce with pleasing sounds the yeelding air
and when the bells are ceast then let us sing
God save the Church God bless the King.

These rules are, with a number of slight differences, a copy of those of St. Andrew's Church, Plymouth, which date from the year 1700.

MR. ERNEST MORRIS'S 400 PEALS.

With the peal of Cambridge Minor at Higham-on-the-Hill, on May 22nd, Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, reached his 400th peal, as follows:—

	Rung.	Conducted.
Doubles=1 to 6 methods	33	32 (a)
Minor=1 to 7 methods	39	38 (b-c)
Minor=Cambridge Surprise	3	1
Triples, Grandsire	49	31
Triples, Stedman	26	2
Major, Plain Bob	26	18 (e-f)
Major, Little Bob	2	2 (g)
Major, Kent Treble Bob	15	7 (h)
Major, Oxford Treble Bob	1	
Major, Spliced Treble Bob	4	2 (i)
Major, Double Norwich	26	7
Major, Forward	1	1
Major, Canterbury Pleasure	1	1
Major, Duffield	1	
Major, Superlative Surprise	20	4
Major, Real Superlative Surprise	1	1
Major, Cambridge Surprise	22 (j)	3
Major, New Cambridge Surprise	2	
Major, Bristol Surprise	18	
Major, London Surprise	15	1
Major, Yorkshire Surprise	1	
Caters, Grandsire	11	8
Caters, Stedman	30	5
Caters, Spliced G. & S.	1	1
Royal, Plain Bob	2	2
Royal, Kent Treble Bob	4	1
Royal, Cambridge Surprise	15	1
Royal, New Cambridge Surprise	1	
Royal, Princess Mary Surprise	1	
Royal, Leicester Surprise	2	
Royal, Pudsey Surprise	1	
Cinques, Grandsire	2	1
Cinques, Stedman	19	
Maximus, Kent Treble Bob	1	1
Maximus, Cambridge Surprise	4	

Total ... 400 171

(a) 6,600, M.C.A. record; (b-c) 7200 & 10,080 M.C.A. record; (d) 7,488, Northants record; (e) 13,440, M.C.A. record; (f) 6,720 record; (h) 10,912, M.C.A. record; (i) 9,120 record; (j) 7008 & 12,896 record, Rung in 21 counties, 121 towers, for 21 associations.

RUGBY SURPRISE MAJOR.

E. W. TIPLER

12345678 4th place Bob.

21354687

12534867

21358476

23154867

32518476

23158746

32517864

35271846

53728164

57321846

75238164

57328614

75236841

72538614

27356841

72536481

27354618

23756481

32574618

23754168

32571486

35274168

53721486

57312468

75134286

57314826

75138462

71534826

17358462

71538642

17583624

17856342

This method has a clear proof scale.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

BARNES.—On Whit-Sunday, for afternoon service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Stratton 1, H. Barrett 2, F. Skevington 3, A. Culmore 4, H. Cook 5, R. Mackrill 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, J. Willmott 8.—For evening service, 1,260 Spliced Oxford Bob and Grandsire Triples: H. Cook 1, H. Barrett 2, H. Belcher 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. Hunt 5, H. Folkard 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. Stratton 8.

PRYERNING, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Whit-Sunday, for 7 a.m. Choral Eucharist, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor and 120 Oxford Treble Bob.—For morning service, 720 York Surprise Minor and 504 Oxford Treble Bob.—For evensong, 720 London Surprise Minor and 360 Woodbine Treble Bob: L. Camp, F. Wright, G. Camp, C. Harrington, H. Wright, E. Sitch, A. Bradley (conductor).

LAMBERTHURST, KENT.—On Whit-Sunday, for morning service, 720 London Surprise: A. Henley 1, A. Relfe (conductor) 2, G. Fuller 3, A. Marshall 4, A. Smith 5, H. Hammond 6.—For evening service, 720 Primrose Surprise: A. Henley 1, W. Marshall 2, A. Marshall 3, A. Smith 4, A. Relfe 5, H. Hammond (conductor) 6.—After evening service, 720 Norfolk Surprise: A. Henley 1, W. Marshall 2, A. Smith 3, A. Marshall 4, A. Relfe 5, H. Hammond (conductor) 6.

BRAINTREE.—For celebration of Holy Communion at 6 a.m. on Whit-Sunday, 1,264 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: F. Webb 1, C. H. Howard 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Melbourne 4, W. A. Cave 5, G. Lindridge 6, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8.—For Matins, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. E. Wiffen (first in the method) 1, G. Wiffen 2, H. E. Hammond 3, C. H. Howard 4, L. W. Wiffen 5, F. Ely 6, W. A. Cave (conductor) 7, B. Wiffen 8.—For evensong, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. E. Hammond 1, W. A. Cave 2, F. Ely 3, G. Lindridge 4, C. H. Howard (conductor) 5, W. H. Hammond 6, G. Wiffen 7, L. W. Wiffen 8.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, for evensong, on Whit-Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: T. O. Bone 1, H. Hills 2, F. Parrott 3, J. H. Parrott 4, J. Martin 5, F. Smith 6, S. Penfold (conductor) 7, H. Taylor, jun., 8. First quarter as conductor and for the ringer of the tenor. Also a welcome to the Rev. R. W. H. Moline, Warden of the Australian Bush Brotherhood, and formerly assistant priest at this church.

CHICHESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Whit-Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: G. Marshall 1, W. Falconer 2, A. R. Rowe 3, F. B. Tomkins 4, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 5, W. E. Titchhurst 6, J. Blake 7, A. Tugwell 8.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE.—At the Parish Church, on Whit-Sunday, for evening service, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins.: J. Cooper, sen., 1, J. Cooper, jun., 2, V. Darvill 3, W. Mortimore 4, R. Darvill (conductor) 5, G. Martin 6.

WOODCHURCH, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, May 23rd, 720 Plain Bob Minor: B. Hotchkiss 1, J. Johnson (conductor) 2, J. Smith 3, G. Phillips 4, T. Hotchkiss 5, H. Martin 6.

CHELSEA.—At the Church of St. Luke, on Sunday, May 16th, for evensong, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: W. Rogers 1, T. H. Taffender 2, W. H. Wood 3, R. Mackrill 4, A. J. Newman 5, C. F. Mitchell 6, E. A. Reeve 7, W. Essery 8, H. H. Mance 9, H. Mance (conductor) 10.

RICKMANSWORTH.—On Sunday, May 16th, at the Parish Church, for evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, with tenor covering: W. Crocley, T. Stephenson, H. W. Kirtan, J. H. R. Freeborn, W. F. Elliott, J. B. Marks (conductor), E. Hookham. First 720 in the method by a local band.

FRINDSBURY.—On May 16th, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 43 mins.: P. C. Springham 1, S. Jarrett 2, R. Paine 3, E. A. G. Allen 4, W. Evans 5, T. Beaumont 6, W. S. Beaumont (conductor) 7, C. Winsor 8.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, May 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes) in 50 mins.: A. Harris 1, T. Greenhall 2, E. Brettle 3, W. Brown 4, W. Coley 5, J. Cox 6, V. White 7, A. Hackett (conductor) 8.—Also three courses of London Surprise by the same band. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. White on the eve of his 82nd birthday.

ROMEORD.—At St. Edward's, on Sunday, May 2nd, for evensong, in 40 mins., 1,280 Double Norwich: F. Rainbird 1, E. J. Butler 2, E. Furbank 3, W. Watson 4, F. W. Coster (first quarter in the method) 5, G. R. Pye (conductor) 6, H. Dawkins 7, H. T. Wilson 8.

NOTICES.

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

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

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, May 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m., meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Elstree, Saturday, May 29th. Bells open 4 p.m. Tea, 1/2 each at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting after. Buses from Watford every hour. Cheap tickets from St. Pancras, London.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—Holy Trinity Church.—The annual ringing day will be held on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (8) available all day. Tea will be arranged, and it is hoped that there will be a good muster.—G. C. Bixley, Hall Street, Long Melford, Suffolk.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the districts will be held at Castle Donnington on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (6) will be available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting 4.30. An hearty invitation to all ringers.—J. Saddington, Hon. District Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The united monthly practice will be continued at Chelmsford for 10 and 12 bell ringing on and after May 29th. Will all ringers interested please note?—P. Timson, District Secretary, S.E. Division.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at East Bridgford on Saturday, May 29th. Tower open afternoon and evening. Those requiring tea, please advise Mrs. S. Carnell, Kneeton Road, East Bridgford, Notts., by May 28th.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—A meeting will be held at Newmarket on Saturday, May 29th. Bells, St. Mary's (6), All Saints' (8), available from 2 p.m. for afternoon and evening. All ringers made welcome.—L. Moon, Assistant District Sec., 5, Falmouth Street, Newmarket.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at West Meon on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at the Red Lion 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Olveston on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5. All ringers welcome.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 10, Lilymead Avenue, Knowle, Bristol.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Aldington on Saturday, May 29th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Tea, provided by the Rector, 5 p.m.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, on Saturday next, May 29th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Support of St. George's church ringers, bell renovation scheme. — Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on June 1st and 29th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 3rd; St. Magnus' on the 10th and 24th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 15th; Southwark Cathedral on the 22nd. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of this Guild will be held at Wombourn on Saturday, June 5th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service in Church 4.30 o'clock. Tea will be provided for those who let me know not later than June 1st. A small charge may be made.—Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, June 5th. Ringing from 3.15. Will arrange tea as usual. Ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The re-cast bells of St. John's, Newcastle, will be dedicated on Trinity Sunday at 3 p.m., and will be open to the members of the Association on Saturday, June 5th, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Probably the cathedral bells will also be open.) Tea at a moderate charge will be provided for those who notify me of their intention of being present by June 2nd. The Whit-Monday meeting arranged for at West Hartlepool is postponed owing to the General Strike.—E. Ferry, 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Leesfield, Oldham, on Saturday, June 5th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Bury Parish Church on Saturday, June 5th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance is required.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint social meeting of the Stockport and Manchester Branches will be held at Nurbury on Saturday, June 5th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, at a small charge, 5.15 p.m. Those requiring tea please inform Mr. W. Fernley, 1, Grove Street, Hazel Grove, by Thursday, June 3rd.—J. P. Fidler and J. Hall, joint Hon. Secs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, June 5th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than June 1st.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The adjourned meeting will be held at Yeovil (10 bells) on Saturday, June 5th. Service at 4.30; tea and meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Local Sec., Martock.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Great Wymondley on Saturday, June 5th. Bells (6) available at 3. Tea at 5.30. All ringers are welcome.—E. W. Day, District Sec., 117, Nightingale Road, Hitchin.

BEDFORD ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Toddington on Saturday, June 5th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. As this is the first occasion these bells have been available for a number of years, it is hoped there will be a good attendance.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street, N. Dunstable.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—Next meeting on June 5th at Dore. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.15, short service at 5 p.m., followed at tea at 1s. per head, providing a minimum of 25 apply for same to Mr. J. E. Lewis-Cockey, 'Leanwood,' Dore, not later than Thursday, June 3rd. The annual business, which should have been taken at St. Marie's on May 8th, and was postponed owing to the General Strike, will be held at this meeting. All members are asked to attend. Bus service from Ecclesall tram terminus every 20 minutes, and frequent train service to Dore and Totley Station (L.M.S.).—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec. (pro tem.), 62, Roach Road, Sheffield.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Norton-in-Hales on Saturday, June 5th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m., tea 5 p.m. Notices of attendance must be sent, not later than June 1st, to Mr. D. P. Roberts, The Rectory, Norton-in-Hales.—A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec., 10, High Street, Knutton, Staffs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Okeford Fitzpaine on Saturday, June 5th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 (members 6d. each). A short business meeting to follow. Towers available: Okeford Fitzpaine (6), Childe Okeford (6), Sturminster Newton (6), Shillingstone (5) and Hazelbury Dregan (5). Will those who wish for tea kindly let me know by June 1st?—Rev. R. E. P. Gorrings, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for June: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 6th, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 7th and the 21st, at 7.30; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 15th, at 8.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, June 12th, at West Hartlepool. The three towers will be open from 2.30. Tea at the Raglan Hotel at 5 o'clock, 2/- per head to those who notify the Secretary by Wednesday, June 9th.—E. Ferry, 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HOYLANDSWAINE CUP CONTEST to be held on Saturday, June 12th. Members are earnestly invited to join at once.—Apply to Mr. L. Wilkinson, Jackson Terrace, Hoylandswaine, near Penistone.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is the Cup Contest at Hoylandswaine on June 12th (Saturday) as provided by our Hoylandswaine members. Particulars as given previously, or will be given to towers on application to Mr. L. Wilkinson, Jackson Terrace, Hoylandswaine. Tea will be provided, but it must be noted that tea can be better provided in a village by members sending early applications as above. The date of entrance will be kept open as long as possible.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. —A quarterly meeting will be held at Edenham on Saturday, June 12th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by June 8th.—S. Proctor, 72, Bridge End Road, Grantham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horsell on Saturday, June 12th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Guilds' service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. A good attendance is desired.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Trowbridge on Saturday, June 19th. Arrangements previously announced hold good.—T. Hervey Beams, Assistant Hon. Sec., Bradpole, Bridport.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—Preliminary Notice —The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held on Sat. July 10th, at St. Clement Danes', Strand, London. Further particulars later. Members are reminded that subscriptions are now due, and should be sent to the Dis. Secs. or the Hon. Secretary, Edith K. Parker, 17, Wellington Road, Enfield.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Owing to the industrial unsettlement, the May meeting at Conisborough and the outing to York in June are postponed.—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec.

PUBLICATIONS.

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