

THE RINGING WORLD

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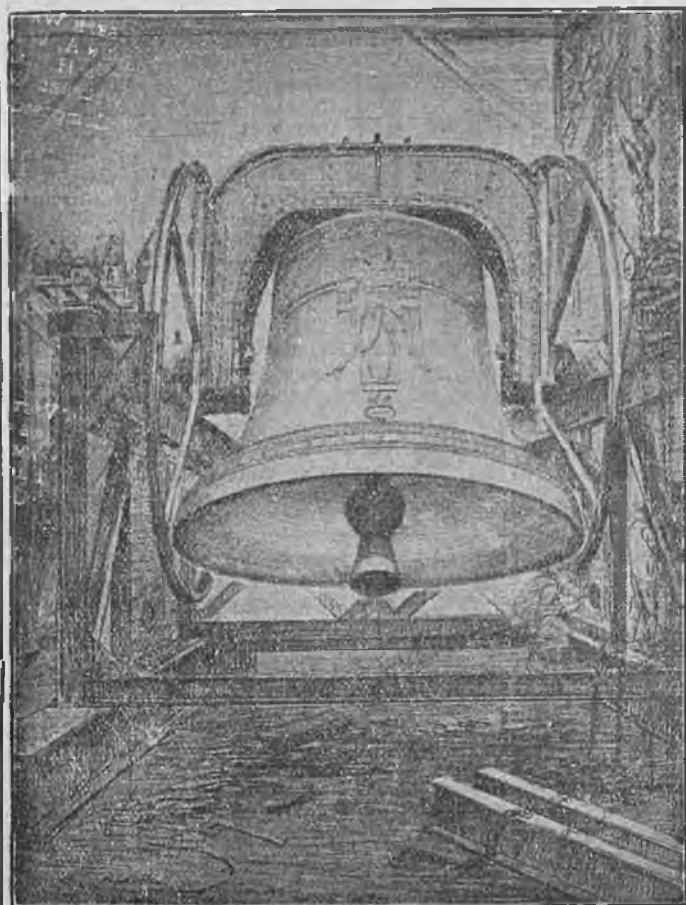
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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S WORK.

The Central Council's agenda for the meeting at Plymouth at Whitsun indicates that the visit to Devon will provide the members with business not less interesting than in many former years. It is a lengthy agenda which, judged by previous meetings, is likely to keep the Council fully employed throughout the day, and it is a very good answer to those who cling to the idea that the Council serves little or no purpose. The attention of 'the man in the belfry' turns first and not unnaturally to the 'motions' which stand in the names of members; and he sometimes judges the work of the Council by them. But these motions, useful as they often are in ventilating opinion on subjects of interest and importance to ringers generally, by no means represent the full value and usefulness of the Council. The real work of the Council is done by committees, and when it is remembered that no fewer than ten of these committees have been at work during the past year—work devoted entirely to promoting the art of ringing in some direction or other—some idea may, perhaps, be realised of the services rendered by the Council to the Exercise.

It is not merely in the formalities of the Council chamber once a year that the existence of the Council is justified, but in the quiet, often unseen work which the committees carry on. Without it the Exercise would have been deprived of many things which, in the course of years, have been added to our general knowledge and enjoyment of the art. There would probably have been no collections of methods available for public circulation; and no collections of peal compositions such as are now obtainable in many of the commonly practised methods, had it not been for the Council—at least they would have been unobtainable at the modest price at which they are now sold. Who, were it not for the Council, could be prevailed upon to devote the hundreds of hours a year necessary to the compilation of the peals analysis—interesting statistics of every association's activities in this direction, and forming year by year an historical record of the achievements which most ringers look upon with pride. Except for the Council, where is there any influential body which could, from the ringers' standpoint, follow the technical developments in towers and belfries, and guard their interests; or which could watch and endeavour to counteract those frequent outbursts against bells and ringing which occur in the public press? All these things, and more, the Council do, and it is done, not by the general meeting on one day in the year, but quietly and unostentatiously by the committees. We are quite convinced that the work which is being done is be-

(Continued on page 210.)

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coming more and more widely recognised as indispensable to the Exercise—work which could be done consistently and successfully in no other way, but without which the art of ringing and the interest of the ringer would suffer. The Council is officially recognised now by nearly every ringing organisation in the land; it deserves the fullest appreciation of every member of the Exercise.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

FRED HAYES... ..	Treble	*CHARLES PULLEN	7
SIDNEY TAYLOR	2	RICHARD POST	8
FRANCIS TAYLOR	3	EDGAR HUMPHREY	9
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	4	P.S. CECIL A. SMITH	10
WILLIAM SIMMONDS	5	CAPT. J. H. R. FREEBORN	11
JAMES W. WILKINS	6	FRANK WEST	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.

* First peal on 12 bells. The band was made up of members associated with the three twelve-bell centres of the diocese, Reading, Oxford and High Wycombe, and is the first peal on the twelve by a complete band of resident members.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	Treble	ERNEST G. HIBBENS	7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN	2	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	8
*STANLEY G. MOSS	3	GEORGE A. FLEMING	9
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	4	*EDWIN R. GOATE	10
JOHN W. WARD	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	6	CECIL W. PIPE	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. The conductor has now called peals of Stedman Cinques consisting of every odd number of changes from 5,001 to 5,019 inclusive.

TEN BELL PEALS.

DUDLEY, WORCS.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 19, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

JOHN PRICE	Treble	HARRY HUBBALL	6
HARRY PRICE	2	BENJAMIN GOLGE	7
*BERTRAM C. PRICE	3	HARRY GOODMAN	8
WILLIAM GREEN	4	HENRY GOODMAN	9
HERBERT SHEPPARD	5	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.	Tenor

Composed by W. MICKLEWRIGHT. Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. This peal was specially arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Ben Gough and W. Green, who received the hearty congratulations of their fellow-ringers after the peal. Also in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril B. Sheppard, of Mataffin, Eastern Transvaal, South Africa, the former being the only son of the ringer of the 5th.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR, LONDON BRIDGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM D. GRAINGER	Treble	HARRY HOVERD	6
ERNEST J. KING	2	BERTIE W. ALDRIDGE	7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	3	JAMES G. A. PRIOR	8
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	4	EDWARD D. SMITH	9
GEORGE H. GRAINGER	5	HERBERT E. AUDSLRY	Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD JENKINS Treble	WILLIAM HORAN 6
WILLIAM BIBBY 2	JAMES MARTIN 7
LESTER L. GRAY 3	JOHN E. BIBBY 8
THOMAS HAMMOND 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 9
GEORGE R. NEWTON 5	EDWARD CAUNCE Tenor

Composed by W. PYE. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

First peal in the method on the bells, and first peal of Royal in this tower. First peal of Cambridge Royal as conductor.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	JACK M. CRIPPS 6
FREDERICK W. ROGERS 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
GEORGE POPPNELL 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 8
NELSON ELLIOTT 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT 5	JOHN DEARLOVE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

* 400th peal.

CARDIFF, GLAM.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 6063 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

* HUGH THOMAS Treble	FRANK ROWSELL 6
GEORGE LARGE 2	HARRY PAGE 7
WILLIAM HEATH 3	JOHN PHILLIPS 8
CHRISTOPHER P. HEATH 4	FRED CHAMBERLAIN 9
FRED LASBURY 5	SEYMOUR R. PARKER Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by FRED CHAMBERLAIN

* First peal. The ringer of the fourth has now rung each bell in the tower to a peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Page.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. 12 lb.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	* CHARLES LOOME 6
JOHN HARWOOD 2	CECIL BARRETT 7
GEORGE HOWLETT 3	WALTER BARRETT 8
STANLEY COWLING 4	RUSSELL RICHES 9
* WILLIAM FLATT 5	CHARLES SAYERS Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWARD.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FRANK G. RINGE Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	EDWARD D. SMITH 6
* ERNEST W. FORBANK 3	WILLIAM PYE 7
† ERNEST J. BUTLER 4	JAMES BENNETT Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* 100th peal. † 100th Surprise peal, and 50th on the bells.

CAMBERWELL.—On March 27th, at St. Giles', a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for evensong: Miss A. Fisher 1, Miss B. M. Mills 2, Miss H. F. Mills 3, J. Lamb 4, E. J. King (conductor) 5, T. H. Taffender 6, W. Rogers 7, C. O. Moore 8.

ARKSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 19, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F sharp.

* CYRIL F. OTTER Treble	* HORACE S. MORLEY 5
GEORGE CLARK 2	* HAROLD WAGSTAFF 6
PERCY GLEDSTONE 3	J. EDWARD CAWSE 7
* ERNEST COOPER 4	EDGAR C. STACEY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1932, in Three Hours,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK J. CULLUM Treble	GEORGE H. CROSS 5
* MRS. GEO. H. CROSS 2	* HARRY HOVERD 6
JOHN H. CRESSMAN 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 7
* FREDERICK A. COLEY 4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal in the method.

SYSTON, LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

MISS KATHLEEN JACKSON Treble	EPHRAIM W. RANDS 5
ERNEST MORRIS 2	C. FERGUSON HOWITT 6
COLIN HARRISON 3	JOHN OLDHAM 7
* ALAN W. RANDS 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

* First Surprise peal away from the treble. First peal of Major on the bells since rehanging by Taylor and Co. First of Cambridge on the bells.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1932, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	* CHARLES LOOME 5
FREDERICK ROOPE 2	* CECIL BARRETT 6
CHARLES BAKER 3	EDWIN GOATE 7
ERNEST WHITING 4	CHARLES SAYERS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First in method.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 20, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

ROBERT SWIFT Treble	GEORGE ELLIS 5
TONY PRICE 2	ALFRED J. BULL 6
GEORGE OLLIVER 3	NELSON ELLIOTT 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by FREDK. DENCH.

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

The ringer of the 2nd was proposed a member of the association prior to the commencement of the peal.

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GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, March 20, 1932, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

CHARLES ABLITT Treble	FREDERICK C. CLARK 5
*FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL ... 2	CHARLES W. PARKER 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	CHARLES CLARK 7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 4	JOSEPH E. BOTWRIGHT ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD. Conducted by CHARLES CLARK.

* First peal 'inside.' Mr. F. C. Clark, father of conductor, is 80 years of age, and this was his first peal for 28 years. First peal as conductor. Rung half-muffled to the memory of the late Miss Crookson, who was interred at Bournemouth the previous week.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 21, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Treble	JOHN T. KENTISH 5
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. ... 2	FREDERICK DIGBY 6
EDWIN F. PIKE 3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 7
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 4	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by J. E. DAVIS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mrs. Hill, aged 91, the mother of the Rector's wife.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

EDWARD G. TALBOT ... Treble	JOHN SPARROW 5
H. STANLEY ROBINSON ... 2	*DANIEL COOPER 6
HERBERT J. SKELT 3	ALAN R. PINK 7
H. BERNARD WELLS 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by ERNEST PYE. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Mr. W. A. Winton, churchwarden for the last 20 years.

BUXTED, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	FRANK I. HAIRS 5
CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 2	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 6
WILFRED WILLIAMS 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

CHARLES F. BAILEY ... Treble	ERNEST S. BAILEY 5
ALFRED KEEBLE 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
GEORGE WILSON 3	JAMES G. RUMSKY 7
REGINALD C. KIRSEY ... 4	FREDERICK J. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Agnes M. Bailey (daughter of the conductor) on attaining her 21st birthday. Also a compliment to Mr. C. E. Fisher, of Uford, hon. treasurer of the Suffolk Guild, on the anniversary of his wedding. By ringing the above peal the conductor has rung and conducted a different Surprise method from each bell in this tower in the following order, viz.: Guildford, tenor (October 24th, 1931), Camdon, 7th (November 14th, 1931), Suffolk, 6th (December 12th, 1931), Rochester, 5th (December 28th, 1931), Cambridge, 4th (January 16th, 1932), London, 3rd (February 13th, 1932), Surrey, 2nd (March 12th, 1932), Bristol, treble (March 28th, 1932). These peals were rung consecutive in this tower in ten attempts.

GREAT BUDWORTH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt. (approx.).

*REGINALD W. WORRALL ... Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 5
ERNEST BENNETT 2	HARRY PARKER 6
ALBERT H. BOOTH 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY 7
JOHN S. ROYLE 4	†KENNETH E. BIRTLES ... Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss L. Royle, daughter of the ringer of the 4th.

BREWOOD, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt.

HERBERT KNIGHT ... Treble	FRANCIS BROTHERTON ... 5
JOHN C. ADAMS 2	JOHN WARRILOW 6
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 3	*HARRY BOSWELL 7
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 4	THOMAS PERRY Tenor

Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

* 100th peal. Rung for the Easter festival. Mr. and Mrs. John Perry extended their usual hospitality to the band both before and after the peal.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM THORNLEY ... Treble	WILLIAM DICKINSON ... 5
HERBERT ROOKE 2	LAWRENCE CHADBURN ... 6
FRANK BRADLEY 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 7
FREDERICK GOBBY 4	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by J. ALFRED BARRATT.

Rung to commemorate to jubilee of the M.C.A. Also a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 5th, 7th and treble.

SIX BELL PEALS.

GREAT MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 17, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WILLIAM NORTH ... Treble	BARNARD PATMORE ... 4
JOHN WELCH 2	HENRY WALLACE 5
JEFFREY WILLIAMS 3	SIDNEY CARTER Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY CARTER.

ALMELEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 27, 1932, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 120's of Canterbury Pleasure, eight 240's of Pitman's, and eight 240's of Morris' Grandsire.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*OWEN DAVIS ... Treble	G. JAMES R. PRICE ... 4
*DENNIS J. SHARPLES ... 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
REGINALD MORRIS 3	JAMES T. RANDLE Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in two methods. Rung on and in honour of Easter Day. Also on and as a birthday compliment to the conductor's youngest daughter.

HORNSEY.—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: G. W. Blee 1, C. H. Ross 2, F. Fensom 3, H. Blee 4, M. Fensom 5, J. G. Nash (conductor) 6.

RETTENDON, ESSEX. THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and 720 Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

F. C. MAY Treble	HARRY STEBBINGS 4
WILLIAM G. GRIDLEY ... 2	HARRY S. BARKER 5
REGINALD G. HARVEY ... 3	EDWARD J. HOWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY S. BARKER.

The ringer of treble is a service ringer at the above church. The other five ringers belong to the St. Mary's Guild at Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex. They would like to extend their heartiest thanks to Mr. F. C. May for filling the vacancy.

WITHAM, ESSEX. THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM BUTLER Treble	WILLIAM S. BUTLER 4
WILLIAM H. P. MELLIN ... 2	A. WINGFIELD DURHAM ... 5
VICTOR GLASS 3	ERNEST BRIGHT Tenor

Conducted by E. BRIGHT.

This peal was arranged for A. Wingfield Durham, who hails from Lambethurst, Kent, and who was elected a member before starting for the peal. Also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. H. P. Mellin.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.

On Easter Sunday, March 27th, twelve ringers met at Painswick for a long peal on the following day. A quarter-peal was rung to feel the length of the ropes.

On Monday a start was made at 7 a.m. to ring the record length. The band was as follows: H. Phelps 1, T. Baldwin 2, W. Ireland 3, A. Prince 4, L. Barry 5, A. Wright (conductor) 6, T. Price 7, W. Staite 8, A. Hannis 9, J. D. G. Harris 10, J. Ballinger 11, Jas. George 12.

Telegrams and letters were received wishing every success, which the ringers very much appreciated. Unfortunately, after ringing over eight hours, the attempt had to be abandoned owing to the fatigue of one member.

The number of changes rung was 12,927, and another attempt is to be made at an early date. Many renowned ringers arrived at Painswick during the evening, including Mr. W. Pye and his party, who had been to Cirencester.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the whole Exercise will regret the breakdown, but wish every success to the next attempt.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

A combined practice of the Whitechurch area of the Andover District was held at Laverstoke on Saturday, March 12th, when twenty-one members were present from Andover, Whitechurch, Winchester, Laverstoke, Overton, Highclere, Oakley and Wonston. Practising in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Cambridge Minor and rounds took place, a feature being the number of 120's of Grandsire rung by beginners.

After tea a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar (the Rev. R. R. Pitter) for arranging it, and for the use of the bells.

The next meeting of the district will be at St. Mary Bourne on Saturday, April 9th. Will members please take note of this date?

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SELLY OAK BELLS RESTORATION.

AN INTERESTING GATHERING IN BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, March 19th, the recast peal of eight bells at St. Mary's Church, Selly Oak, Birmingham, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Birmingham. It was certainly one of the great occasions in the history of this half-country, half-manufacturing suburb of the Midland metropolis.

The original bells, while not what one would call objectionable, were of poor tone. They were cast at various times, viz., one (the old 6th) in 1861, five added in 1864 making a peal of six, while in 1887 the peal was increased to eight by the addition of a new treble and tenor, the fifth being recast to bring it within the chromatic scale of the enlarged peal.

In 1922 it was found that it would be unsafe to ring the bells as they were then hung, and as the church had raised over £2,000 for rebuilding part of the spire and other work on the outer fabric the rehanging of the bells was regarded as a luxury. However, after many set-backs, the present appeal for funds for the bells and also for the provision of a building for the use of the juvenile organisations of the parish was issued, with the result that a contract was placed with Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., bell founders, of Croydon, for the old bells to be recast and rehung in a new iron frame.

The parish had been without the ringing of its bells for nearly ten years, and had really forgotten what bells sounded like. Enthusiasm had been growing ever since the appeal was launched last May, and interest quickened as the day and time of the dedication drew near.

At the service there were present many old parishioners who had either left the district or had lapsed during the last ten years, and who had had their affection for their old church revived in the knowledge that the bells were to ring out again. There were also a large number of visiting ringers present from Sloughbridge, Worcester, Burton-on-Trent, Coventry, etc., representing the Worcestershire Association, St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, the Warwickshire Guild and the Midland Counties Association.

The Vicar, the Rev. R. P. Steer conducted the dedication service, the Rev. Father Hughes (the Vicar of St. Wulstan's, a daughter parish of Selly Oak) acting as Bishop's Chaplain. Immediately after the dedication by the Lord Bishop, a short 'touch' of Stedman Triples was rung while the Bishop's procession returned to the chancel, the ringers being W. B. Cartwright (conductor) 1, J. F. Atkins 2, C. Skidmore (Branch Ringing Master of the Worcestershire Association) 3, W. Mumford 4, J. E. Eaton 5, C. H. Stanley 6, S. Grove 7, A. Chambers 8.

A WONDERFUL PEAL.

When the bells rang out for the first time for ten years one almost heard a sob of relief from that large congregation. There were certainly a few handkerchiefs in evidence among some of the older parishioners.

And what a peal! Surely the finest product of the bell founder's art! The go was excellent, but the tone was glorious.

The weight of the new tenor is 12 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb., in G, the total weight of the peal being 51½ cwt.

After the service the bells were open for the visiting ringers, who made full use of the opportunity. The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Triples to Bristol and London Surprise.

Tea was provided in the People's Hall for about 65 ringers. When tea was finished, the Vicar said how glad he was to welcome so many visiting ringers, and to thank them for attending and giving their support to the dedication service. He (the Vicar) also said he particularly wished to thank Mr. Cyril Johnston for producing such a fine peal of bells and for all he had done in connection with the matter.—Mr. Johnston suitably responded.

Afterwards there was further ringing, followed by a social evening at the Oak Inn, Selly Oak. A very pleasant time was spent, and the songs of Messrs. W. C. Dowding, A. S. Downes and Harry Withers were very much enjoyed, as also was the tapping on the piano of a touch of Stedman Triples (conducted by Mr. H. Withers) and two courses of Duffield Major by Mr. Maurice Swinfield, not forgetting the tunes on the handbells by Messrs. H. Withers, S. Grove and A. Walker, and the ringing by Messrs. Walker, Withers, Norman, Perrins, Neal, Morris and Cartwright. Mr. Arthur Fellows, the deputy carillonneur, of Bournville, was at the piano, and the proceedings were compered by the Selly Oak Ringing Master, Mr. Wm. B. Cartwright. As all good things have to come to an end, so ten o'clock came all too soon, and the singing of 'God Save the King' brought a very happy gathering to a close.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REAFFILIATION TO CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association reaffiliated to the Central Council on Easter Monday.

Four representatives were elected as follows: Mr. John Austin, Mr. Walter Rose, Mr. Ernest Bishop and Mr. Edgar Guise.

It was decided that the recent letter in 'The Ringing World' should be replied to by re-electing the principal executive officers again if they would stand. Mr. J. Gould, who has just completed 50 years as a ringer at Henbury, was unanimously elected Master. Mr. S. Romans, of Gloucester, was elected a vice-president. Nearly 100 members attended the meeting.

A full report will be given in our next issue.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

If anyone wants to see how myths grow up, he cannot do better than take the case of the accepted account of the origin of the College Youths' name. It starts with a sentence in Shipway's book, and it has reached its furthest development (as yet) in Mr. Morris' History.

Shipway wrote that the College Youths rang Stedman's Principle 'at a church on College Hill, London, where the society at that time usually practised, and from meeting at which place they obtained their name.'

Mr. Morris wrote: 'It derives its name from the College founded by the famous Dick Whittington in 1424. Although Shipway's account of it is not altogether correct, we are safe in assuming this society to have been the offspring of a still earlier one, either of priests or laymen, who rang at the churches of St. Michael Paternoster Royal and St. Martin Vintry, both of which adjoined the College. The old Church of St. Michael possessed a ring of six bells on which the young gentlemen of the neighbourhood used to amuse themselves by chiming in rounds.'

These two different (and, indeed, contradictory) accounts are connected by a chain of statements made by several men, all of them men of eminence and learning.

First of all, Edward Osborn carefully examined Shipway's account, and, having done so, he writes that it cannot be true, because, for one thing, there was no such place as College Hill when the society was founded, and, for another, that the church connected with the College never had more than one bell. He then goes on to say that he had heard that there were once six small bells at St. Martin Vintry, which was close by, and the persons of Whittington's College might have amused themselves by ringing those bells and, possibly, for the sake of giving themselves a name, called themselves College Youths. It was only a guess, the best he can think of, and no one knows where the name did come from.

The Rev. C. W. Lukis, with what looks like a rather hazy recollection of Osborn, wrote in the *Wiltshire Magazine* of 1855 that the name came 'from their practising at St. Michael's on College Hill, London.'

Mr. Ellacombe examined Shipway's account and Osborn's conjecture, and said that they could not possibly be true, because Whittington's College was destroyed in 1547, ninety years before the society was founded.

Curiously enough, most of the subsequent writers base their accounts, directly or indirectly, on Ellacombe; only they read in him just the opposite of what he did say.

The official historian (whoever he was) who wrote the account of the College Youths, which appears in their rule books previous to the present edition, was concerned to make an attractive story rather than to present the exact truth (if indeed it could be known). He took such of the statements as suited his purpose and ignored the difficulties and denials. He tells us that the first members, Lord Brereton, Sir Cliff Clifton, Kt., etc., met at St. Martin's, College Hill, to practise ringing.

I need not go through the other accounts written by Mr. Tyack, Mr. Walters, Dr. Raven, Mr. R. A. Daniell and others. Osborn's guess has become an accepted fact, and Canon Papillon backs it with the tremendous authority of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica.' By this time the society's connection with Whittington has become an article of faith, and when the old city merchant prince's anniversary was celebrated at St. Michael Paternoster Royal, the College Youths took part officially in the commemoration.

But I suppose that even the enthusiasts realised that there is a rather big gap between the time of Whittington and the founding of the College Youths, a gap consisting of a good deal more than the mere passing of years, and to bridge it we have the suggestion of an 'earlier society of either priests or laymen.' True, there is no authority for supposing such a thing, and it is not only not likely, but clean contrary to likelihood. Mr. Young pleaded to be allowed to use 'a little that was only legend,' and Mr. Morris, with a generosity surprising in an historian, not only grants his plea but assures him that he is 'safe' in assuming it.

There for the moment the matter rests; but there is no reason why it should stop there. Some future writer may conclusively prove that Sir Richard Whittington was not only the titular saint of the society, but its actual founder and first Master.

It should be made quite clear that everything has developed from Shipway's first statement; nobody pretends that he has discovered any fresh facts. All that has happened is that one man makes a guess, and the next accepts it as a fact; and so the legend grew, as legends will grow.

And it must be noticed that all the men, who together have built up this myth, were men of ability and learning; they were genuinely seeking the truth, and the net result is an attractive falsehood.

As all comes from Shipway's statement, the question now arises, how far is that true, and what authority is there for it? The only possible answer is that it, too, is a guess, and that there cannot be any truth in it.

There are two questions to be answered. The first is: Is it a reasonable explanation? Does it fit in with the facts that we know

about the early members of the society and the conditions under which it was founded? And the second is, Is there sufficient authority (or any authority) behind it? If we can say yes to either, the statement may stand.

To take the second question first.

When Shipway was writing his 'Campanalogia' he wanted to round off his book with a chapter on the origin of change ringing. He knew nothing whatever about the history of ringing, except what he had taken part in personally and what he gathered from the few notes in the 'Clavis.' Other London ringers were as ignorant as himself, and all the old books of the College Youths had disappeared.

In these circumstances he turned for help to a man named John Alfred Parnell. Parnell was a Sheffield man, apparently somewhat eccentric, who spent much time walking about the country on foot, visiting cathedrals and churches and collecting scraps of information concerning archæology and bells. Shipway calls him 'that celebrated antiquary'; but I imagine his fame and reputation were rather imaginary than real. At any rate, after diligent search, I could find no reference to him in any archæological journals and publications of his time. The information he gave Shipway was scanty, and very inaccurate, though it was probably the best available at the time. Where did he get this particular bit from? Note this carefully—it is not a tradition. If it were we should be compelled to believe that there was some truth in it. But the London ringers knew nothing about it, or Shipway need not have gone to Parnell for the information. Neither is it the only explanation that was believed. Another account, older probably than this, says that the members called themselves College Youths, because they had mostly been at Westminster School. I think I see evidence that this explanation is as old as the 17th century, and it is at least as likely as the accepted one. Another and really more likely account was that they were called College Youths, because they had been educated at college. This apparently was, at one time, the explanation believed by the society itself.

Parnell's opinion was given two hundred years after the event, and I cannot but think that it was a guess. If people called themselves College Youths (so he argued) they must have been youths connected with some place of that name; and as College Hill was the only likely place, he concluded that they must have got their name there.

We now come to the other question. Is Parnell's explanation a reasonable one? and does it agree with what we know of the early College Youths? I will answer by giving some facts which we now know to be true, but which neither Parnell nor Shipway knew anything about.

1. The Society of College Youths was founded in 1637. (Parnell did not know even this.)
2. Whittington's College was dissolved in 1547, and the buildings (except the church and almshouses) pulled down.
3. College Hill was not so called until after 1668.
4. The only church on College Hill is St. Michael Paternoster Royal, and there never was more than one bell there.
5. St. Martin's Vintry stood in Thames Street at the corner of Royal Street (which was where College Hill now is). It is very doubtful if there were any bells there. The only evidence is Osborn's statement, 'This church it was said had 6 small bells.' The figure he wrote in pencil, which was his habit when he recorded some fact about which he was not sure and which he intended to confirm if possible. He gives as his authorities for his description of St. Michael's and St. Martin's Churches, Stow and Maitland, but neither says anything about the bells.
6. The old societies were small, exclusive bodies, which existed solely for purposes of sport and social intercourse. They were purely secular. The Church did not acknowledge them, neither did they, as societies, acknowledge the Church.
7. They were not connected with any particular church, but went from tower to tower as fancy or convenience dictated. Their headquarters were at a tavern or coffee house.
8. The first College Youths were not literally youths, but grown men. They were not connected with Whittington's College or anything in the locality. Apparently they consisted, for the most part, of lawyers belonging to one or other of the Inns of Court. Socially many of them belonged to country families, and had nothing to do with the City of London.

I dare say that some sort of answer can be found to each of these points taken separately, as Mr. Daniell has found an answer to No. 2, but, collectively, I think the evidence is conclusive.

I hope Mr. Daniell will not mind my saying that his argument strikes me as being rather ingenious than convincing; but even if we had to admit that the College Youths in some mysterious way got their name from College Hill, there can be no shadow of doubt that the account given in the society's handbook and by Mr. Morris is pure fiction.

LONDON.—At St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, on March 27th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for morning service: Miss A. Fisher (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 1, Miss H. F. Mills 2, W. Hardy 3, G. Grainger 4, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 5, W. D. Grainger 6, W. Rogers 7, T. W. Wyatt 8.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM C. JONES.**A SPADE WORKER IN THE WORCESTER DISTRICT.**

As already briefly recorded in 'The Ringing World,' Mr. William C. Jones, of Worcester, died on Monday, March 14th. He had been far from robust in health for some time, but his final illness was of short duration. A week previous to his death he seemed and felt much better than for some time, as on Sunday, March 6th, he climbed the Cathedral tower and rang a touch for evening service, but on the following Tuesday he was compelled to return from his work and take to his bed. He was removed to hospital on the following Sunday, and passed away on Monday from pneumonia. He leaves one son and a daughter.

Mr. Jones was 63 years of age, and was a native of Gloucestershire, being a sheet metal worker by trade. He commenced ringing at St. Michael's, Gloucester, and was a member of the band when the Society of St. Michael's Juniors was founded in 1887. He took part in many of their early peals, which included several Surprise methods, and was also in the first attempt for a peal of Cambridge Maximus at Cirencester. He removed to Worcester at the end of 1897, joined the Cathedral Guild, and remained a member until his death. He joined the Worcestershire and Districts Association at once, and had served as auditor for the last 27 years. His peals in Worcestershire include several 'firsts' for the association. His total peals numbered about 150, ranging from Minor to Maximus, the last one being at All Saints', Worcester, on Boxing Day.

The funeral took place on Friday, March 18th. The service was held in the Cathedral, conducted by the Rev. B. J. Isaac, Master of the Cathedral Guild, who also officiated at the cemetery, where the interment took place. The deceased was borne to his last resting place by four of his fellow-ringers: Messrs. A. Hill, W. Ranford, C. Camm and S. T. Holt. A large number of ringers and friends were present at the Cathedral and cemetery. Among the members of the Worcestershire Association who attended were Rev. J. F. Hastings, Messrs. J. R. Newman (hon. secretary), A. E. Parsons, E. P. Thomas, E. E. Barber, G. Hinton, sen., G. Hinton, jun., C. Tansell, T. Lane, F. Hawkes (branch secretary), C. Blissatt, W. Lewis, F. Giles, R. Woodyatt, W. H. Thomas, J. Morris, W. Powell, and J. W. Edgington. After the committal, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave on the deceased's handbells by: A. Hill 1-2, W. Powell 3-4, S. T. Holt 5-6, W. H. Johnson 7-8. Among the many floral tributes were wreaths from the Worcestershire and Districts Association, the Cathedral Guild, the All Saints' Youths, and friends at Claines.

On Tuesday, half-muffled touches were rung at St. John's; on Thursday, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Stedman Triples at Claines

by the All Saints' Youths; on Friday, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Cinques at the Cathedral by the following members of the Cathedral Guild: F. W. Neate 1, G. Hinton, jun., 2, S. T. Holt 3, W. Powell 4, R. Woodyatt 5, R. G. Knowles 6, T. W. Lewis 7, D. R. Morris 8, W. Lewis 9, J. J. Jefferies 10, C. Tansell 11, E. Crump 12. On Saturday, a half-muffled peal of Stedman Caters at All Saints' was unfortunately lost through a shift course after ringing 2 hours 45 mins.

The passing of Charlie Jones will leave a gap amongst ringers, especially in and around Worcester, which will be hard to fill. A man of reserved disposition, he was esteemed by all who knew him. He did a great deal of spade work in the Worcester district, and with beginners was a most patient instructor. Many of the younger generation in the district owe much of their progress to his teaching. He truly was a man 'with the will to teach.' May he rest in peace. S. T. H.

THE STEDMAN TERCENTENARY.

A further sum of about £40 is required to meet the cost of extra work involved at St. Benedict's Church, Cambridge, in connection with the Stedman memorial. Ringers who have not yet contributed and who would like to be associated with the scheme should send their contributions to the hon. treasurer, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Broadlands, Caversham, Reading.

There are still a few oak ash trays available for those who wish to have a useful souvenir of the Stedman Tercentenary. They can be obtained, post free, price 2s. 3d., from the hon. secretary of the Central Council, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

The souvenir booklets, containing illustrated details of the commemoration scheme, a specially written article on Fabian Stedman, the history of St. Benedict's Church and its bells, and a list of the subscribers to the tercentenary fund, can be obtained (8d. post free) from 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

A NON-CONDUCTED QUARTER-PEAL.

On Thursday, February 11th, at All Saints' Church, Oxford, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 45 mins.: W. Simmonds 1, V. J. Bennett 2, R. A. Post 3, F. E. Taylor 4, W. F. Judge 5, Miss M. E. Reynolds 6, W. G. Collett 7, S. Taylor 8. This quarter-peal was rung strictly non-conducted, and was the first non-conducted touch by all except ringers of 4 and 5. Special credit is due to Miss Reynolds, who has yet to call a bob in Stedman.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Church of St. Andrew, Wells Street, London, is to be closed, the site sold, and a new church built in the populous district of Neasden. St. Andrew's has a very fine ring of eight bells, but the future of this ring is uncertain.

One hundred and seventy-one years ago next Thursday, James Barham and the ringers of Leeds, Kent, set out upon their great endeavour to ring the 'whole peal of Bob Major,' which was completed in 27 hours with only fourteen men.

Mr. G. H. (Henry) Coombes, of 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, celebrated his 89th birthday on Easter Monday. This grand old veteran is still an 'active service' ringer at Ryde All Saints', where he has been a regular ringer since 1886 (when the bells were dedicated). He is the oldest active member of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

Lots of people restart peal ringing after a lapse of years, but Mr. Frederick Clark, of Grundsburg, must have made something of a record by ringing a peal at the age of 80, his last having been 28 years ago.

The ringer of the treble in the peal of Minor at Aston on February 19th was Frank Turner, and not Frank Newman.

FINCHLEY BELLS REOPENED. FULL OCTAVE HOPED FOR.

The reopening of the bells at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, took place on Saturday, March 19th, and by invitation of the Rector (Rev. S. F. L. Bernays) a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was arranged in conjunction with it. As the previous meeting had been held only two weeks before, there was no business to transact, to the great relief of the secretary. The service was held at 4.30, when a very appropriate sermon was preached by the Rector, who immediately afterwards proceeded to the belfry to rededicate the bells. The ringers were afterwards the guests of the Rector and churchwardens (Messrs. J. W. Paul and R. H. Williams) at tea. The company of nearly 50 included Messrs. F. C. W. Stevenson and R. H. Dove (representing Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd.), Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Mr. A. W. Coles (District Master), Mr. G. R. Goodship (assistant secretary), etc. After an excellent meal, the Rector welcomed the association to Finchley, and expressed his great pleasure at the restoration of the bells, which, he said, had been very much missed during their silence. It was hoped that at no distant date they would be able to add two bells to the peal. Although they had not been able to do that on the occasion of this restoration, they had had a new frame made for an octave, and hoped soon to have the bells (ap- plause). The Rector stated that he was very pleased to see such a good company, and issued an invitation to the association to visit Finchley again.

The Hon. Secretary proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for their kindness in inviting the members of the association to reopen the bells, and for so well entertaining them. It was with much pleasure, said Mr. Coles, that he had arranged the meeting, although it was so soon after their previous one, and he was sure that members would agree with him that they had been amply repaid for attending. He said that it was gratifying to hear of the prospect of an additional two bells being placed in the tower. He was sure that the local ringers, who were amongst the most loyal members of their church and association, deserved the reward of a full octave to ring upon.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation, and after a course of Grandsire Caters had been rung on handbells by Miss L. Wheeler, G. B. Collins, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, G. W. Fletcher and W. Bowden, this part of the proceedings terminated.

The Rector having expressed a wish that the ladies at the meeting would ring a touch together, an attempt was made to do this. Only five, however, were present, so they choose one of the ringers of the bachelor's peal of February 29th to assist them. We now have a good idea whom 'Kate' referred to as the good-looking and intelligent member of that band, especially as another of them, who was present, who really might have been considered by mere man as Kate's selected, was not chosen. The question now is, 'Will the chosen one ever ring in another bachelors' peal?'

Ringings in a variety of methods took all the time available, and everybody's taste (and ability) was catered for. It may interest some of the critics of the 'experts' to know that one of them, who has rung any amount of spliced peals in several Surprise methods, was actually seen coaching a youngster in Grandsire Doubles! And we have good reason to suspect that he has done the same thing on previous occasions. One swallow never did make a summer, and the actions of one or two experts do not justify an attack on that class of ringer generally.

The bells at Finchley, which are a peal of six with a tenor of 10 cwt., have been retuned and rehung in a new metal frame, with pits ready for two additional bells. The tone and go of the bells has been greatly improved. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION'S JUBILEE.

MONDAY'S CELEBRATIONS AT DERBY.

On Easter Monday, 1882, 'a very successful meeting took place at Derby to establish a change ringers' association for the Archdeaconry of Derby and district.'

Exactly fifty years have rolled away since that historic gathering, which was the foundation of the great Midland Counties Association—a title which was adopted twelve months later—and throughout the intervening period, thanks to the services of a series of able officers, not least among them a succession of active and distinguished presidents, the association has steadily grown and spread its influence until to-day it occupies a leading position among the most important of the ringing organisations.

The societies represented at the inaugural meeting were St. Luke's, St. Werburgh's, St. Andrew's, St. Alkmund's and All Saints', Derby; St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; St. Lawrence's, Long Eaton; Beeston, Nottingham and Darley Dale.

The first president was the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent; the vice-presidents, the Rev. F. J. Lyall, Vicar of St. Luke's, and Mr. Thomas Beresford, St. Andrew's, Derby. Two stewards were appointed—Mr. G. Lee, St. Luke's Society, and Mr. W. Shardlow, St. Andrew's, Derby. Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby,



MR. E. DENISON TAYLOR,
President of the Association.

who had taken an active part in the preliminary work, was elected as the first hon. secretary, and Mr. R. Redgate was the first treasurer. The committee consisted of Messrs. Shepton, Bosworth, Howe and Maskrey, representing the Derby societies; Messrs. Wakley and Jagger, of Burton-on-Trent; Messrs. Barrow and Widdowson, Long Eaton, and Mr. Henson, Beeston.

A year later, when the decision was arrived at to adopt the more comprehensive title, the Rev. J. H. Fish was re-elected president, Mr. W. Wakley became treasurer, and Mr. Joseph Griffin (Burton-on-Trent) was appointed hon. secretary. And from that time onward the association has been fortunate in those who have served it. For many years, Sir Arthur Heywood was president, and since his death the office has been held by the late Mr. J. W. Taylor and the late Alderman R. B. Chambers, whose mantle has now fallen on the shoulders of Mr. E. Denison Taylor.

The fifty years' progress is marked by the fact that the number of hon. members and patrons has risen from 24 in 1882-83 to 173 in 1932, while the ringing members have increased from 73 to 851.

Ringers from all the wide area of the association gathered in Derby on Monday to celebrate the jubilee, and the bells of the city were ringing throughout the morning and for most of the afternoon.

The meeting was held in All Saints' Schoolroom, under the chairmanship of the president, Mr. E. Denison Taylor, who gave an interesting review of the early days of the association.

SOME EARLY HISTORY.

The President said: I count it indeed a great honour that I should be your elected president to take the chair on this very memorable

occasion, the 50th anniversary of the founding of our association. I hold here the earliest bound volume of the reports, which were in my late brother's library. This does not contain a first report, but opens with the second annual report, marked 1883-84, and printed at the 'Bell News' office in 1884, but this second annual report nevertheless appears to state (or to restate) all the peals rung for the association up to that date. I very much regret to learn that none survive now of those eight members who rang the first peal at St. Alkmund's in this city, on Friday, June 23rd, 1882—a 5,040 of Grand-sire Triples. In the second peal, which was rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, about a month later, viz., Thursday, July 20th, 1882—a peal was, by the way, a great event fifty years ago; they did not occur in such profusion as is the case in these energetic days—we are delighted to have two of the band with us here to-day. I refer to Mr. John Jagger, who rang the 5th, and Mr. Joseph Griffin. We are indeed glad to welcome them here on this 50th anniversary. Mr. Jagger was a member of the original committee, and the genial and capable Mr. Joseph Griffin was one of the earliest hon. secretaries of the association. Mr. Griffin rang the treble in this peal and called it—a 5,040 of Double Norwich. Mr. Edward Isaac Stone rang the 2nd. In this peal also the highly respected family of the Wakleys make their first appearance, Arthur ringing the 4th, and the handsome and stalwart William the tenor. And a very gifted and enthusiastic family they were, doing splendid service for the association in its early days, William filling very capably the office of hon. treasurer for many years. The last of the family to be with us was Mr. William C. Wakley, who was also treasurer for many years, and whom we were very sorry to lose when he left the Midlands for Devonshire thirteen years ago. Another name, highly honoured in the Exercise, appears in this peal also, for the great Jasper Snowden was on the 7th. There is a rather interesting footnote to this peal, in my brother John's writing, in this his copy of the report, which says that my brother called this same peal, a composition by W. Royle, at Arklow in Ireland on August 13th, 1899. I may mention parenthetically that it was owing to the activity and enthusiasm of the Burton-on-Trent ringers that the bulk of the early peals of our association were scored.

The name of our third president, my brother John, first appears in peal No. 7 of the association, a 5,040 of Grand-sire Triples, at All Saints', Nottingham, on Saturday, November 25th, 1882, in which he rang the 4th. It was conducted, from the treble, by Joseph Wibberley. Only one of this band survives—Alfred Archer, who rang the third, and who is now a very old man, lying ill, I am sorry to say, in a hospital in Nottingham, and I think it would be a graceful act on the part of the association if a word of greeting and goodwill were sent to him on this occasion by our hon. secretary (applause). The name of our esteemed and energetic first president, the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, appears in peal No. 8, December 8th, 1882, as ringing the treble in a 5,024 of Kent Treble Bob, at his own church, a muffled peal on the day of the funeral of Archbishop Tait. And alas, before five more years had rolled by, muffled peals were rung as a tribute of respect to Mr. Fish's memory at Burton, Derby and Uffield, for he passed away, deeply regretted, in the very prime of his life.

SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD.

The name of our highly honoured second president, Sir Arthur Heywood, then Mr. A. P. Heywood, appears in the list of hon. members in the third annual report of 1884-85, and as president in the fifth annual report of 1886-87. His first peal, which was No. 50 of the association, was on the 4th bell, at Duffield, on Saturday, July 17th, 1885, a 5,088 of Kent, conducted by Henry Charles Woodward from the tenor. Mr. Woodward was the first secretary of the society fifty years ago. My brother John's name is also in this peal, ringing the 6th. Sir Arthur figures very frequently thereafter in the records of peals.

Those gentlemen whom I have been mentioning did splendid work in the founding of the association and in its development in the early days, and there are many others. And I am sure that those who survive—a small band, I regret to say—must feel a glow of great pride and gratification that the tree which they planted and tended so carefully has grown now to so great a size and has thrown out such fine and healthy branches; and I wonder if I might here request such of those who are present at this meeting to rise, and to allow us to acclaim their good work with hearty applause.

Mr. John Jagger, Mr. Samuel Maskrey, and Mr. J. Griffin were warmly applauded on rising, and the president added that the association tendered them its heartiest thanks for all the excellent work they had done in its founding and after, and wished them many more years of health and happiness to witness its still greater growth. To those other original members, who they were unfortunate not to have with them that day, they sent their hearty greetings. These were Mr. Edward Stone, Mr. Richard Hickton and Mr. F. W. Wells.

The President added that his own first peal was No. 69 of the association—5,040 of Grand-sire Triples—rung at Cole-Orton on June 20th, 1885, conducted by his brother. Sir Arthur Heywood was in this peal too, and Mr. John Jagger. It is wonderfully interesting, and not wholly devoid of a touch of sadness, to us of the older generation, to turn over the leaves of these first reports and, in seeing the names again, to recall so many old friends now alas long since departed.

LOSSES BY DEATH.

Turning to the work of the last quarter, the President said they had sustained a severe loss by the death of a very highly esteemed lady, whom they were all looking forward to being present with them on that occasion. God had willed it otherwise, and Mrs. Chambers, the widow of their late respected president, had crossed the gulf to join her husband whom she loved so much, and whose loss must have weighed heavily upon her. None of them could ever forget the magnificent achievements for the association which Alderman Chambers accomplished, nor the deep interest which Mrs. Chambers continued to take in their work after his death.

They must all deplore the great loss to the Exercise in the passing of that fine outstanding figure among ringers, the Rev. Henry Law James, Vicar of Surfleet. He (the president) had the privilege of his acquaintance and friendship for many years, and had many opportunities of admiring his wide and scholarly knowledge, his direct outlook on things, and the genuine straightforwardness of his character. The meetings of the Central Council would hardly seem the same, now that they would be lacking his original and sometimes very caustic speeches and comments. It was indeed a great loss to the art.

The President also referred to the death of Mr. J. S. Needham, of Leicester, Mr. Clifford, jun., of Beeston, and Mr. E. Hughes, of Nottingham. He also expressed regret that the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Eyam, had retired from the vice-presidency of the Peak District. He and Mr. Lewis Cockey had done splendid service in the inauguration and administration of the new branch in that area, and their thanks were due to them for their unswerving labour. He expressed the hearty wish that excellent results would attend the work of Mr. Wright's successor, the Rev. A. E. J. B. Barrow, Vicar of Bakewell.

STEDMAN'S BELLS—A WARNING.

Continuing, the President said: The outstanding event of the year, the Stedman Tercentenary celebration, I touched upon at some length at our meeting at Ilkeston last January. There is just one matter, however, I should wish to touch upon in reference to these bells. We are very fortunate in having with us here to-day the editor of 'The Ringing World,' who has done such splendid work in connection with the celebration, and I hope he will not mind me saying that page 150 of the issue of the 4th of this month of his very excellent weekly gave me somewhat of a shock. Now I, and I think quite a good many ringers, regard the Stedman bells of St. Benedict's not as an ordinary peal, but as something, shall I say, almost sacred, and to gather, as I do, from the before-mentioned page 150, that they are being used for beginners to practise upon—well, it is perhaps too much to say that I was horrified, but I have to admit that I was certainly not pleased about it. It should be borne in mind that, quite rightly, the cannons are retained on the heads of these bells, and I do not like to think of the danger that exists of a hefty beginner bumping a bell against a stay with a good hard whack, the stay mayhap being exceptionally strong, with the possible disastrous result of the bell being twisted away from its cannons. It may be only my opinion, but possibly it may be that of many others too, that these bells are not just an ordinary peal to be used as any ordinary peal, and I should much like to hear that only expert ringers are allowed to handle them, even they being advised to exercise the greatest care, and I don't mind whether there is a Sunday band or not, so long as this is done.

Referring to the arrangements for the jubilee, the President expressed special praise for the gallant work which had been achieved by Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Draper.

The Hon. Secretary reported the election of five honorary members, one life member and eleven ringing members since the last meeting. The Rev. G. Buchanan, of Leicester, was elected an hon. member, and the election of the others was confirmed.

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The annual report reviewed the activities of the year, and, referring to the 101 peals, stated that this was the lowest total since 1920. It might be accounted for by the fact that peal ringers, like all other folk, had felt the stress of the times. Business is slack, unemployment prevails, and such circumstances were bound to have their effect on that part of the association's activities. Most peal ringers had to travel afar to obtain their ambitions, and this meant expense in train and bus fare. Many peals attempted had been unfortunately lost from various causes. The record, however, was a very good one, containing, as it did, some unique features and covering a wide range of methods from the humblest Doubles to the highest, London Surprise. Five different Surprise methods had been rung. Stedman Triples took highest place in numbers (27), due to the energetic 'Wednesdays,' and their talented conductor, Maurice Swinfield, who had now conducted over 100 different compositions in this method alone. Fifteen ringers rang their first peal, but only one new conductor appeared, and only one 'first on the bells.' A good feature of progress was the fact that 50 recorded their first in a new method.

OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Financially the past year might be taken as one of average success, although the funds were slightly lower than at the end of 1930. During 1931 they had been able to assist in the restoration of the bells of St. Benedict's, Cambridge, which, although outside the association's own area, was deemed one with which they ought to

be associated; also at Ratby and Market Harborough. The reserve funds of the association were now £150 in 5 per cent. War Loan and £100 in 4½ per cent. Church of England Temperance Building Society. Turning to ordinary income and expenditure, the committee regretted to find that the increase in the amount received from subscriptions, mentioned in the last report, had not been maintained, for whereas in 1930 the total amount received was £84 16s., in 1931 it was £77 10s. only. In trying to account for this falling off they found one very important factor, and that was the great amount of subscriptions outstanding. The committee earnestly asked each individual member of the association to render all the assistance they could by paying their subscriptions promptly, either direct or through the captain or secretary of the team, and thus relieve the local secretary of a great deal of work which really ought not to be necessary, and, incidentally, enabling the committee to present a more favourable balance sheet. The report thanked the hon. members for their continued support, and the incumbents and churchwardens who had allowed them the use of the bells at the various churches, and expressed appreciation of the efforts of the hon. local secretary of the Derby District, who had been successful in obtaining 20 new hon. members during the past year.

Special reference was made to the Ringers' Pilgrimage to Belgium last August, when a service was held at Menin Gate. This was organised by the vice-president of the association (Mr. W. Willson), and the three handbell peals rung during the tour were under the auspices of the association. Referring to the Stedman Tercentenary celebration, the report said it spoke volumes for the Exercise of ringing that it should be able and willing to rescue almost from oblivion a church tower and bells for the sake of one who for centuries had gone to dust. It stood alone in the history of ringing as an act of romantic gratitude unparalleled.

The accounts and report were adopted.

The general officers were re-elected, viz., Mr. E. Denison Taylor, president; Mr. W. Willson, vice-president; Mr. Ernest Morris, hon. secretary; and Mr. W. E. White, hon. treasurer. The president acknowledged his election, adding that the real thanks of the association were due to the secretary and treasurer.

The Hon. Secretary, in replying, thanked the district officers and especially the Derby secretary for his assistance in connection with the jubilee meeting.

Mr. W. E. White also thanked the members for re-electing him to an office in which he was following some eminent men.

It was decided to hold the next three quarterly meetings at Darley Dale in June, Overseal in September, and Melton Mowbray in January.

Mr. W. E. White referred to the association's monthly meetings, which, he said, were originally arranged with a view to doing missionary work, but he was afraid they had developed more into an afternoon's outing for the more accomplished ringers, who wanted to ring the higher methods. He hoped the real object of the meetings would not be lost sight of, but that everything would be done to help and encourage former ringers.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

FESTIVAL SERVICE.

In the afternoon a festival service was held in the Cathedral, conducted by the Very Rev. Provost H. Ham, assisted by the Rev. L. G. Longer. The singing was led by the choir, and the hymns were, 'Lifted high within the steeple,' the ringers' hymn from Tennyson's 'In Memoriam,' beginning 'Ring out the grief that saps the mind,' and 'Hark on high the joyful music.' The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Derby from the word, 'Woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel.' Those words, he said, were cast upon Great Paul, which hung in St. Paul's Cathedral, and no more appropriate motto could have been chosen for a bell, because it showed at once the main purpose of bells and also implied the position of those who rang them, for bells were part of the furniture of the church, a building which stood as witness for the Gospel, and ringers were part of the staff of the Church. They had their share in the preaching of the Gospel, and he had no doubt that in mediæval days they would have been classed among those in the minor orders of the Church. He was sure, therefore, they all recognised the obligations upon them as to their behaviour in the conduct of their ringing, and the belfry was as sacred to them as any other part of the church. It was because he acknowledged their part in the working army of the Church, that he looked upon it as a privilege to be allowed to address them and to assure them that the Provost and he welcomed them most heartily in their jubilee year in that Cathedral, with its magnificent tower and fine peal of bells. The Bishop went on to refer to the Stedman Tercentenary celebration, in which he had been particularly interested because he was formerly for six years Vicar of St. Benedict's, Cambridge. He then turned to the history of the bells of Derby Cathedral. Happily, he said, the churchwardens' records in that parish had survived since 1465, and they were of untold value for the history of the parish. The earliest mention of bells was in 1510, when there was a payment for ringing on Corpus Christi Day. As the building of the tower of the Cathedral was only commenced in 1509, the bells at that time must have been hanging in some temporary buildings. One of the bells was particularly interesting because it brought the peal right into the middle of the

(Continued on page 220.)

BOW BELLS.

CHANCELLOR GRANTS THE FACULTY. A SURPRISE DEVELOPMENT.

The Chancellor of the Diocese of London (Mr. F. H. L. Errington, C.B., D.C.L.) has sanctioned the proposed work for the restoration of Bow bells.

As reported in our last issue, a Consistory Court was held in St. Paul's Cathedral to hear the petition for the renovation of the famous church, its steeple and bells, together with an application for sanction to carry out other minor matters. The Chancellor reserved judgment, which he delivered on Tuesday in last week. Mr. J. D. Blagden again appeared for the Rector and churchwardens, and Mr. Roger North for Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, the bell founders.

As soon as the Chancellor had taken his seat, Mr. Blagden said that since the last hearing a surprise development had taken place which had placed the petitioners in a position of some difficulty. He believed a letter had been forwarded to the Chancellor containing an offer, made through the editor of a well-known journal, by which Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the original founders of the bells, offered to do the work without cost to the petitioners. The petitioners were anxious to avoid doing any injustice, neither did they want to do anything discourteous to Mr. Gordon Selfridge, who had previously made a generous offer to defray the cost on condition that the work was done by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The Appeal Committee had not yet had the opportunity of considering the matter, and he suggested that the Chancellor's decision with regard to the bells should be allowed to stand over, so that there might be a meeting of the petitioners to consider what might best be done. It was unfortunate that the offer came at the last moment.

The Chancellor inquired if the views of the Appeal Committee were known.

Mr. Blagden said there had been no meeting of the committee, but he understood the chairman (Sir Louis Newton) was anxious to go on on the basis of the petition, but the Rector had expressed a different view, so at present their counsels were divided.

The Chancellor said his judgment was directed mainly to approving the work to be done, including the bells, but it would not necessarily include the question as to which contractor the committee should select to carry it out, and if they wished to change their mind they could do so. He had had the evidence on the petition before him, and he felt a difficulty, at the last moment, in postponing judgment. The faculty could be held up while the committee considered whether they would employ another contractor—if it was open to them to do so—and the Court could be notified of their decision. The Court did not prescribe the employment of a particular contractor. Assuming he was satisfied with the specification, it did not matter who the contractor was; that was for the authorities—the petitioners. If they wished to make a change, they might do so; the Court should know before the faculty was granted.

Mr. Blagden: The faculty need not actually be issued until there has been a meeting.

AN ALMOST EXTINCT SPECIES.

The Chancellor then delivered judgment on the petition. He said the church was probably the best-known parish church within the Empire, and to be born within the sound of Bow bells was, in former days, considered the hall mark of that now almost extinct species, the London cockney. The church, with its tower and clock, was one of the landmarks of the city. It was in accordance with tradition that the Lord Mayor should be president of the appeal fund, that Alderman Sir Louis Newton, an ex-Lord Mayor, should be chairman of the committee, that a donation of a thousand guineas should be given by the City Corporation, and that contributions should come from many of the city companies. Some £5,700 had now been raised, but the roof of the church, suffering from the inroads of the death watch beetle and dry rot, would be an expensive item, and a further sum of £7,000 or £8,000 was still urgently needed. There could hardly be a subject more worthy of appeal than this church, so familiar to city workers. The need for repair of the tower had been suspected since the steeple was struck by lightning in 1912, although its urgency was not fully realised until the summer of 1931, when Mr. Underwood, the architect of the church for 25 years, had an opportunity of more closely examining the steeple and tower. Extensive repairs were a matter of urgency, and these were carried out. In doing this, without first obtaining a faculty, the authorities acted irregularly. It seemed to be the general impression that a faculty was not needed for repairs, but that was a mistake. A faculty was needed for any sort of structural repairs, and although the work in this case was really urgent, a license to proceed could at once have been obtained from the Court in anticipation of the faculty. However, the work had been done and the steeple and tower made absolutely secure, and he felt no difficulty in now confirming the restoration work so carried out. He therefore authorised the matters referred to in the petition relating to the repairs and redecoration of the fabric, the new installation of electric light, the erection of the memorial tablet to the Rector's eldest son and the hanging of Rosa's picture of 'St. Paul.'

'THE ONLY POSSIBLE COURSE.'

Continuing, the Chancellor said the only difficulty that arose was with regard to the bells. These famous bells were twelve in number, and dated from 1669 to 1881. They had all been cast at the foundry, which dated back, he believed, to 1565, of the well-known firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, or their predecessors, who had always, with one material exception, had the bells in their care. The bells now required considerable repairs, and in some cases recasting. The committee naturally desired to keep them in the same hands, and very properly checked that firm's estimate with another estimate obtained from Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. He understood there was no appreciable difference, the total amount being nearly £900. There seemed to be little chance of raising this sum, but in August or September last the committee received from Mr. Gordon Selfridge an offer to defray the entire cost, provided the work was given to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The committee realised that some injustice to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank might be involved, and they tried to raise the money elsewhere, but without success; and on September 27th the committee accepted the offer and the conditions. That Court was only concerned with the effectiveness of the works themselves. Provided the specification was satisfactory, it was in the discretion of the responsible authority to choose the contractor; that was, on the presumption that the authority was exercising its free discretion and was not hampered in its choice by some outside influence. He therefore had to look a little further into this offer. Mr. Johnston had given evidence that the condition followed an interview with Mr. Selfridge, for whom his firm was then doing, or had done, a considerable amount of work. Not unnaturally at that distance of time Mr. Johnston could only give them a somewhat meagre outline of that interview. He (the Chancellor) thought he might briefly sum up this conversation not unfairly if he said Mr. Johnston opened his mouth and the plum dropped in. Mr. Johnston wanted the job, and Mr. Selfridge was willing to do him a good turn. Had there been any chance of raising the money elsewhere the committee might have hesitated, but they could not make an heroic gesture of refusal in face of the urgent repairs needed to the bells and the constant and progressive deterioration, and the fact that the contractors were a firm in whom they had shown confidence by asking for an estimate and specification. He thought the committee took the only possible course, and although he might deplore the pushfulness of the contractors, he could not interfere with the discretion of the petitioners, who had taken up an immense financial burden. No change from the faculty would be undertaken without the consent of Mr. Underwood and Mr. Walters, who was a member of the Diocesan Committee and an expert in such matters. The system of tuning to be adopted and any question that might arise as to recasting or the removal of the cannons must be submitted to the Court, and he must have an undertaking from the petitioners that this would be so. On that condition the petition would be granted. The Chancellor added that the bells must not be touched until the faculty was issued.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

'BIG MEN' ALWAYS READY TO HELP.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I take this early opportunity to thank Mr. E. P. Duffield for his reply to Mr. Amos' letter in your issue of March 18th re district meetings. I had not intended to reply, but as Wellingborough has been mentioned, may I say that Mr. Amos is not, and never has been, a member of that belfry. As Mr. Duffield truly says, we have some of the finest ringers to be met anywhere within a few miles of here, and in my eleven years' experience as secretary of that branch, never have I seen our 'big men,' whether at meetings or at any other time, but what they are always ready and willing to help their weaker brethren. I believe that we have as good attendance at our meetings as anywhere in the country, and at a recent one, with 70 present, no one worked harder to help others than these 'big men,' no matter the method. I will go further and give a concrete instance of what one of them in particular is doing at the present time. He is putting himself to inconvenience to go to a neighbouring village to teach a newly-formed band to ring Grandsire Doubles, although he personally, to my knowledge, can ring at least six Surprise Major methods. One could give other instances, but space forbids.

I, too, like Mr. Duffield, cannot say what Mr. Amos has in mind, but I do know that his letter does not apply to the 'big men' of the Wellingborough Branch, of whom I am justly proud.—Yours faithfully,

F. BARBER,

Wellingborough Branch Secretary.

BADGEWORTH, GLOS.—On Monday, February 1st, at the Parish Church, after an attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Doubles consisting of two six-scores each of St. Dunstan's, Grandsire, Old Doubles, Chase, Plain Bob and half of Canterbury Pleasure: A. Newman 1, T. Davis 2, W. Oakley 3, C. Lawrence 4, G. Kilminster (conductor) 5, C. Staite 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and his daughter.

EASTER RINGING.

USK, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—At the Parish Church of St. Mary, for morning service, on Easter Sunday, March 27th, in 43 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): G. Went 1, E. W. Luff 2, G. Knight 3, E. H. Stradling (conductor) 4, G. Hawkins 5, A. L. Lucas 6, A. Hawkins 7, L. Jones 8. First quarter-peal as conductor. All are members of the local band of Sunday service ringers.

CHESTER.—At St. Mary's-Without-the-Walls, for evening service, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in 50 mins.: Geo. Lee 1, John Tomlinson 2, Edwin Breeze 3, Harry Lewis 4, John Hayes 5, Gilbert Gerrard 6, Sam Jones 7, Percy Swindley (conductor) 8. Mr. G. Gerrard celebrated his 61st birthday and also completed 45 years as a ringer in Chester district the same day.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.—On Easter Sunday, March 27th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by the local ringers: G. Gregory 1, F. Healey 2, W. Weatherby 3, H. Walker 4, I. Clarke 5, W. I. Chesters 6, A. Hickman (conductor) 7, G. Hall 8. First quarter-peal and first attempt by the ringer of the 2nd.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Easter Sunday, March 27th, for morning service at St. Michael's, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: H. Bull 1, R. Hayden 2, F. Springham 3, H. M. White 4, F. Bird (conductor) 5, W. W. Tucker 6, W. T. Prior 7, W. Wilkinson 8. Also rung in honour of the christening of the baby daughter of the ringer of the 2nd.

BANSTEAD.—At the Church of All Saints, for evensong, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: A. T. Wooloff 1, Col. T. F. Parkinson 2, H. N. Pitstow (conductor) 3, N. Holden 4, J. Hobson 5, F. G. Woodiss 6, A. E. Chesman 7, E. Wooloff 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1 and 4.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Easter Sunday, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins.: F. C. Oattemoul 1, W. P. Ellingham 2, H. W. Cooper 3, W. H. Stevens 4, H. C. Chandler 5, P. Page 6, W. A. Lewis (conductor) 7, W. W. Webb 8. Arranged for Mr. P. Page, of Ashford, Kent, and as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

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great movement which led ultimately to the foundation of the United States of America. The date of the bell was 1620, and 1620 was the date when the Pilgrim Fathers sailed from Plymouth in the 'Mayflower' to make a new home in America under what was called the Virginia Company. That company was badly in want of money and floated a lottery, like their friends were doing to-day across the Irish Channel. Some of the parishioners of that parish subscribed three guineas to be ventured in the lottery for the benefit of the Church, and made the rather amusing bargain that if a prize was won the three guineas was to be paid back. They won £12, and were magnanimous enough to refuse to be repaid the three guineas. Of the £12 which they won, £2 was given to the repairing of the church leads and £10 towards the bell. Let us hope, added the Bishop, that the bell has since then been so busily sounding out the Gospel message that the doubtfulness of its origin has been forgiven. That church had records showing the intimate part taken by the bells in the life of the nation and brought home to them once more the close association which existed between Church and State, an association which he hoped would never be broken. The ringing for the accession, the coronation and the death of Kings and Queens, the birth of royal princes and princesses were all entered in the churchwardens' books, judges of assize were greeted with a peal, and sometimes the visit of a bishop was a cause for ringing. Indeed, in these books they could trace the great events of English history, of battles and the celebration of peace. Every event of importance seemed to have been included. The bells were rung on one occasion on the arrival of the vanguard of the rebels in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 in order that the invaders might not find resentment in their silence, and they were rung on April 19th, 1733, on the arrival of the news that the duty on tobacco had been taken off. That was an instance of what was not the proper spirit in which to ring bells; it was not the way to use the ornaments of the church. Their main purpose was to remind people of the preaching of the Gospel, and he would remind them that their part in the activities of the Church was to call people together for worship, and their duty, when they did that, was to join in the service. He knew their association did not approve of ringers going away from the church after they had rung the bells for service, and it was because he knew they stood for all that was best in ringing and for ringers that he prayed that God would bless their association and give it success and power, and, if it be His will, add jubilee to jubilee.

The collection after the sermon amounted to £2 12s. 6d., and was devoted to the association bell restoration fund.

In the evening, Mr. Denison Taylor presided over a large gathering at the jubilee dinner at King's Cafe. An enjoyable evening was spent, the toasts including the following: 'The King,' 'The Bishop and Clergy,' 'The M.P.'s (town and county), Mayor and Corporation,' 'The Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers,' 'The Hon. Members,' 'The Visitors,' 'The Ringing World,' and 'Absent Members.'

It was, altogether, a great day in the history of the association.

THE LATE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.
PROPOSED MEMORIAL.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association invite subscriptions to enable them to place in Tewkesbury Abbey a memorial of the great services rendered to the Exercise by the late Rev. Charles D. P. Davies. It is proposed to add two bells to the present peal of ten and to furnish one of the side chapels as a 'Ringers' Chapel.' A sum of £250 is required.

Donations, however small, will be gratefully received either by:—

Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Temple Gate, Bristol.

Rev. E. S. Saleby, The Vicarage, Leonard Stanley, near Stonehouse, Glos., Master.

P. C. Williams, 34, Victoria Park, Fishponds, Bristol, Hon. Treasurer.

E. Guise, 48, Jamaica Street, Stokes Croft, Bristol, Hon. Secretary.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, EDINBURGH
RINGERS' SERVICE TO THE CHURCH.

Hearty acknowledgments of the services to the community by the St. Cuthbert's Parish Church Society, Edinburgh, were made by several speakers at the annual dinner of the society, held in the Caledonian Hotel. Mr. T. Drummond Wilson, M.C., presided over a large company of ladies and gentlemen, by far the greater number of whom were the guests of the society. In the course of the evening five members of the society gave a short touch of Grandsire Caters on the handbells—Mr. W. C. S. Heathcote conducting—a performance which was greatly appreciated.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of 'The Memory of the Donor of the Bells,' said that Mrs. Anderson was a woman of wonderful personality. She was a lady who radiated love and kindness wherever she went, and the beauty of her deeds was that they were mostly done anonymously. The bells were dedicated on February 15th, 1902, and it was not until many years after that that the name of the donor of the bells was made public. That showed what kind of woman Mrs. Anderson was. Mrs. Anderson took a tremendous interest in the society, and one of her last acts of kindness was to provide for each member of the society on the Coronation Day of King George, a very beautiful gift in acknowledgment of their great services and their loyalty. He had observed that at least one of the change ringers was wearing the gift that evening. Mrs. Anderson left a sum of money for the upkeep of the bells and for providing a dinner to be given annually to the change ringers, to be known as 'the donor's dinner.' They revered the memory of Mrs. Anderson, and they intended to keep that memory green and fragrant.

The toast was pledged in silence.

GOOD COMPANIONS

The Rev. W. White Anderson, M.C., in proposing the toast of 'The St. Cuthbert's Society of Change Ringers,' spoke of the enthusiasm of the bellringers, an enthusiasm which, he said, was conveyed through the bells to those who heard them. Edinburgh would always be a Christian city so long as there were bells in the tower of St. Cuthbert's and change ringers to ring them. Might they long be spared from a mechanical manipulation of those bells. They were all proud of St. Cuthbert's and the change ringers' society—those men and women who devoted so much of their time during the week to practice, and on Sundays to the ringing of the bells. They appreciated the bellringers' labours. They were doing a work the value of which no one could estimate in words.

Mr. D. G. Holland, vice-president of the society, in replying, invited those present to take an opportunity of visiting the tower of St. Cuthbert's to see the bellringers at work and, if they cared, to share in that work. The ringers were a band of 'good companions' under an ideal leader—Mr. W. C. S. Heathcote.

The Rev. John Campbell proposed 'The Church of Scotland.'

The Very Rev. Dr. Norman Maclean, in replying, also paid a tribute to the change ringers, relating a personal experience last Christmas Eve when, he said, he realised as he had never done previously, what the chimes did. Outside the church there was nothing else to evidence that there was a great Christian anniversary about to dawn. The chimes of St. Cuthbert's kept alive the sense of worship in the heart of the city. Proceeding, Dr. Maclean spoke of the spirit of unity that was spreading all over Scotland. It was changing the atmosphere and bringing in a new day.

Mr. W. G. Sym, M.D., in proposing the toast of 'The Ladies,' paid a high tribute to the Hon. Mrs. Maclean, who, he said, had endeared herself to every member of St. Cuthbert's.

Mrs. Maclean replied.—Mr. J. Harold Macdonald, LL.B., proposed 'Our Guests,' and the Rev. W. H. Rogan replied.—Mr. W. H. Stewart proposed 'The Chairman.'

All the arrangements were in the hands of the hon. secretary, Mr. William C. G. Jenkins.

NOTICES.

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

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ALL ENGLAND RINGERS' MEETING.
CROYDON, APRIL 2nd.

There will be over 2,500 visitors.

RINGING during the morning at Croydon Parish Church and St. Peter's, South Croydon, will start at 11.30 a.m. instead of noon.

THE FOUNDRY will be open to visitors at 1.30 p.m. instead of 2 p.m.

COMMUNITY SINGING will be conducted by Capt. T. T. Ratcliffe (Wembley Cup Final and Aldershot Tattoo) at the Evening Concert, which will commence at 7.30 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual committee meeting will be held in the Chapter House, Christchurch, Oxford, at 3.15 p.m., on Saturday, April 2nd. — Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 2nd, at the Priory Church, Worksop. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Arrangements for tea and service will be made. — L. Noel Cawthorne, Dis. Sec., 394, Handsworth Road, Sheffield.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at King's Norton Parish Church on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (10) available from 3.30 p.m., tea at 5 o'clock, business meeting to follow.—Please notify regarding tea to T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION will hold a quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest at Halifax Parish Church on April 2nd. Draw 2.45 p.m. in the Ring o' Bells. — L. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Please note that the next meeting will be held at Worksop on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) in conjunction with the Ladies' Guild (Northern District). For tea please notify Miss Cawthorne at meeting.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—Quarterly meeting to be held at Stapleton, Bristol, on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers and friends cordially invited. Come and make this meeting a big success.—Frank Skidmore, Branch Sec., 80, Carlyle Rd., Greenbank, Bristol.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—First meeting, Barrow-on-Humber, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) 2 p.m. Service 4.15, with an address. Tea 5 p.m., in Vicar's room, 1s. 6d. Business meeting after tea. All welcome.—H. I. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Houghton-le-Spring on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells available 3 p.m., and tea at 5 p.m. in the Kepier School. If Croydon is too far, do the next best thing and come to this meeting. We hope for a bumper meeting.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 6, Water Street, West Hartlepool.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A meeting will be held at Salehurst on Saturday, April 2nd. Tower open 3 o'clock. All welcome. — C. A. Levett, Hon. Sec., 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome. Subscriptions due. — F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society). — Meetings at St. Clement Danes, Strand, W.C.: Sunday morning, April 3rd, 10 a.m.; Monday, 4th, practice, 6.30 p.m.; quarterly meeting, 8.15 p.m., and also practice, Monday, April 18th, 7.30 p.m.—Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Gen. Sec., 7, Station Road, Camberwell.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on April 5th, St. Magnus' on the 7th and 21st, Southwark Cathedral on the 14th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 19th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 28th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LADIES' GUILD. — Western District. — The next meeting will be held at the Church of the Holy Nativity, Knowle, Bristol, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those desiring tea kindly advise me by April 6th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Harrietsham on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30, followed by tea (free) and business meeting. A good muster is requested. Please notify me early.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A meeting will be held at Kingswood on Saturday, April 9th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 6th.—A. J. Ball, Hon. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool and Wigan Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Newton-le-Willows on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) and meeting to follow. For tea notify Mr. S. Percival, 71, Birley Street, Newton-le-Willows, before Wednesday, April 6th.—Claude I. Davies, J. Grounds, Branch Secs.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 9th, at St. Gwendoline's Church, Talgarth. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Honiton Clist (8 bells) on Saturday, April 9th. Service 4 o'clock, tea and business meeting to follow. Kindly send numbers for tea by April 4th to M. Powell, Hon. Sec., Clist St. George, Exeter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Wivenhoe on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available from 3 to 8 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., and tea provided at 5 p.m. All are welcome. Will all members please notify me of their attendance?—James R. Sparling, Station Road, Wivenhoe.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Aberdare on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Selby on Saturday, April 9th. The peal of 10 (tenor 25½ cwt.) at the Abbie will be available for ringing from 1.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. in the choir, followed by tea, which will be served in Mrs. Smith's Café, Finkle Street, at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. Those requiring same are requested to inform Mr. W. A. Hall, 12, Newport Avenue, Brayton Road, Selby, by Thursday, April 7th. Business meeting for the election of officers, etc., will be held in the Sacristy.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 59, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Croston Parish Church on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. P. Ascroft, 19, Highfield Road, Croston, not later than Wednesday, April 6th.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting at Pattingham on Saturday, April 9th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.45, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. T. Scott Rogerson). Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Bus leaves Wolverhampton: Queen Square at 2 and Railway Street at 2.30. Please send word by Tuesday, April 5th.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Mark on Saturday, April 9th. Bells open 2.30. Divine service 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting.—L. G. Tanner, Local Sec., 38, Southville Road, Weston-super-Mare.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Briavels on April 9th. Bells (8) will be open at 3.30 p.m. Tea in School Room. All ringers who require tea must let me know by April 5th.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

STANWICK.—A peal board to commemorate the first peal on these bells will be dedicated on Saturday, April 9th. Bells at 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m., followed by tea. All ringers heartily welcome. Those requiring tea MUST notify Mr. W. F. Nutt, The Avenue, Stanwick, Wellingborough, by April 7th.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Hoylandswaine on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready at 2.30. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. E. Brookes, Hall Lane, Hoylandswaine, near Penistone, not later than Tuesday, April 5th.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Jubilee festival at Bromgrove on Saturday, April 9th. Service in the Parish Church at 5.15 p.m., with address by the Rev. J. F. Hastings, Rector of Martley. Dinner at the Golden Cross Hotel at 6 p.m., followed by social evening. Tickets, 1s. 6d. to members, 2s. 6d. to others, must be applied for before Wednesday, April 6th, either of a member of the committee or the secretary. The bells will be available during the afternoon.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL GUILD.—Chippenham Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's (8 bells), Chippenham, on Saturday, April 9th, at 3 p.m. St. Paul's will be open. Visitors notify early.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., The Woodlands, Chippenham, Wilts.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Westbury on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea at 5. Regarding the revision of branch rules a discussion will take place at this meeting on the framing of Rule 1. All ringers welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Semington Road, Melksham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Kirkham on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business 5.30. Ringing visitors welcomed. Please note change of address of Fylde Branch secretary.—C. Sharples, 35, Berwick Road, Squires Gate, Blackpool.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at Welford on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (5) at 2.45. Service in church at 4, tea and meeting to follow.—R. Adams, East Haddon, Northants.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Twickenham on Saturday, April 9th. Service at 5 p.m. Preacher, the Rt. Rev. the Lord

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Bishop of Willesden. Tea, at usual terms, at 5.45. Please advise Mr. W. H. Hollier by April 6th. Business meeting at 6.30, the President, Rev. W. P. Cole-Sheane, in the chair. Ringing arrangements: Twickenham, 2.30 to 5; Hampton, 2.45 to 4.30; Isleworth, 2.30 to 4.30. Twickenham after the business meeting. Cheap day tickets, Waterloo to Twickenham. For Isleworth alight at St. Margaret's.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4, Hon. Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Stockport and Bowdon Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Mottram-in-Longdendale on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, April 5th.—T. Wilde, Hon. Sec., 36, Dowson Road, Hyde.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch. — The adjourned annual meeting of the above will be held at Spalding on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service 3.45 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by April 5th? — George Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting at Bottisham on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (5) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Please come, if possible, and make this meeting a great success. — K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northampton Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Weston Favell on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, April 5th, who require tea.—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Midsomer-Norton and Frome Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Nunney on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 6th.—G. M. Hasell, 11, Council Houses, Timbury, Bath.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The fourth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, April 16th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel (Market Parade), 6 p.m. prompt, Councillor Eggleton presiding, supported by other gentlemen. Tickets 3s. Ladies invited. Ringing facilities in next week's issue. Will ringing friends requiring tickets purchase them from W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 15, Painswick Road, not later than April 14th? All ringers and friends welcome.

DEVON GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Washfield on April 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Monday, April 11th.—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 16th. Opening of Guild Library in S. Nicolas' belfry at 3 p.m. Service in the Cathedral at 4.30, followed by tea (1s. each) and business meeting in Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Bells of Cathedral (8) and S. Nicolas' (10) 3.15 to 4.15. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, April 12th, to J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES. — The annual dinner will be held at the Victoria Hotel, London Road, Leicester, on Saturday, April 16th, at 6.15 p.m. Bells of St. John's (10), St. Martin's (10), St. Margaret's (12) will be open for ringing 4 to 6 p.m. Tickets, 5s. each, must be applied for before April 12th, latest.—Ernest Bagworth, Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Teynham on Saturday, April 16th. Tea can be arranged for those who notify me before Thursday, April 14th.—Percy W. Smith, Fair View, Littlebourne.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Newton St. Cyres on April 16th. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, 1s. each. Bands and visitors please notify me by April 11th.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, St. Thomas', Exeter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 16th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please let me know by morning of the 13th to enable me to make the necessary arrangements. — F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Annual meeting will be held at Sudbury on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells at St. Gregory's (8), St. Peter's (8), All Saints' (8) available all day. 3.15, committee meeting in St. Peter's Vestry. 4, service at St. Peter's (with sermon by Rev. T. C. Alexander, Rector of Great Waldingfield). 4.30, tea (1s.) in Church House. 5, meeting. — H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual spring meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, April 30th next, at Tackley. Service at the church at 3.30 p.m. Several towers will be at our disposal.—W. Evetts, jun., Sec., Hill Court, Tackley, Oxford.

BUSHEY. — Saturday, April 30th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea 6. Business meeting after. Ringing till 8.30.—C. H. Horton, 28, Warwick Lane, E.C. Tel. City 4270.

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DEATH.

DOICK.—On Easter Sunday, at 8, Lower Street, Pulborough, Sussex, Percy Harvey Doick, after a long and painful illness.

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