

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, APRIL 8th, 1932.

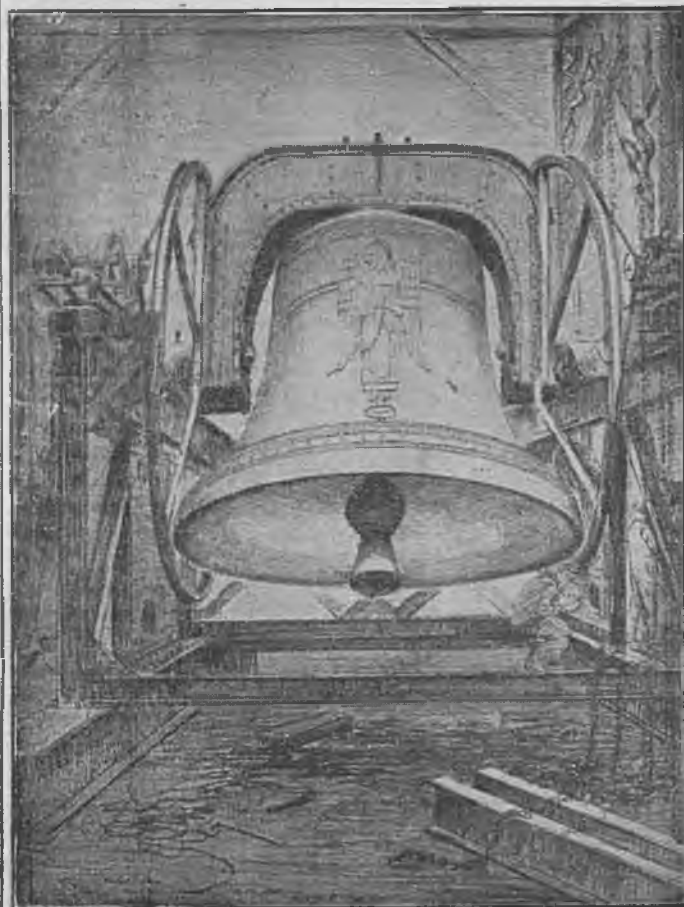
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THE 18½ TON RINGING BELL,
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CROYDON REFLECTIONS.

The success attending the 'All England Ringers' Rally' at Croydon on Saturday must have been extremely gratifying to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who organised it.

For the first time, two thousand seven hundred ringers were gathered in one spot, and thus exceeded, by several hundreds, the number who attended a similar event four years ago. There must be something extremely fascinating about bells to draw together a company of such dimensions, to bring men from Scotland and Ireland and Wales, and from nearly every county in England. It shows a wonderful keenness and enthusiasm, and those who were privileged to share in the proceedings had a thoroughly enjoyable time. The day was full of interest, and the visit to the foundry must have proved instructive to those who had not previously seen much of the practical side of the bell founder's craft. The Chicago carillon, which was the chief attraction, was certainly a revelation both in its material and artistic aspects and, seeing and hearing it, one can better realise why even such a great country as the United States has to come to England if it wants the best in bells. It is a tribute to our English bell founders that the Continent and America come here for our products, not that they have not got bell founders in their own lands, but because the English founders lead the world in their art.

The experience which the founders get in the making of these big carillons is a great asset to the interests of ringing in this country, for it enables them to give us better and better bells for our own churches. This trade in carillons has not only helped to provide labour for British workmen, but has enabled the bell founders to improve their methods and extend their knowledge, the benefit of which we, as ringers, enjoy every time a new ring of bells gets into one of our churches. Everyone who heard the great carillon at Croydon on Saturday must have been thrilled by the beauty of the bells, as well as impressed by the skill with which everything connected with them has been designed and carried out.

But if Saturday's gathering was a demonstration of the supremacy of the English bell founder, it was also a convincing display of the brotherhood that exists among ringers. Not the least satisfying part of the occasion to many of the guests was the opportunity it afforded of meeting old friends, and it once more revealed that ringers belong to an organisation which has real life. Saturday's gathering will be long remembered by those who took part in it, not alone as a day of interesting experiences, but because of the spirit of fellowship which it revealed. The Exercise is indebted to Messrs. Gillett

(Continued on page 226.)

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and Johnston for the enterprise which led to the organisation of this great and successful gathering, and will admire their public spirited action in allowing so many of its members to have the opportunity of inspecting one of the greatest bell-founding achievements of this or any other country. The production of bells in England has reached a stage of perfection never touched before either here or elsewhere. The Croydon Foundry has taken no small part in placing us in the position which we hold today, and ringers will join in the wish that that reputation, now so well established, may be maintained and enhanced as the years go on.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... 7
EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 2	WALTER F. JUDGE ... 8
WILLIAM PYE 3	JAMES BENNETT ... 9
FRANCIS J. LEWIS ... 4	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN 10
CHARLES T. COLES ... 5	RICHARD T. HIBBERT ... 11
GEORGE R. PYE 6	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1932, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt.

CHARLES T. COLES Treble	JAMES BENNETT ... 7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 8
GEORGE R. PYE 3	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... 9
FRANK W. PERRINS ... 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 10
FRANK E. PERVIN ... 5	WILLIAM PYE ... 11
HERBERT KNIGHT ... 6	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus by the Society. J. S. Goldsmith's 100th Surprise peal.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1932, in Three Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

FRANK W. PERRINS Treble	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 7
GEORGE R. PYE 2	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... 8
HERBERT KNIGHT ... 3	FRANK PERVIN ... 9
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... 4	JAMES BENNETT ... 10
CHARLES T. COLES ... 5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 11
SIDNEY T. HOLT 6	WILLIAM PYE ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

TEN BELL PEAL.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

P.C. JOHN MULLINER ... Treble	*C.I. JAMES MELDRUM ... 6
P.C. GEORGE PYE ... 2	P.C. JOSEPH WILSON ... 7
P.C. WILLIAM PYE ... 3	Supt. Fdk. RALPH WILLIAMS 8
P.C. DONALD BROWN ... 4	P.C. FREDERICK PAGE ... 9
P.S. PETER CROOK ... 5	*P.C. EDWIN BIRKETT ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by P.C. PAGE.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal of Grandsire Caters by the Guild. Rung as a birthday compliment to P.C. Wm. Robinson, of the Manchester City Police, who was unfortunately unable to stand in the peal. The band represents four ranks.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

ALBERT E. WHITING Treble	GEORGE WHITING 5
GEORGE BENNETT 2	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... 6
GEORGE PEAKE 3	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 7
JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... 4	T. WILLIAM LAST Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTOW.

Conducted by T. W. LAST.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Leslie G. Brett, of Framsdén, to Miss Ivy Chilvers, of Stonham Aspill. It was intended to ring a ten-bell peal at Stonham Aspill, where the wedding took place, but, owing to serious illness near the church, Framsdén (the bridegroom's native place) was substituted. It was the first peal in the method by the sixth ringer.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael-at-Coslany,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

F. W. CECIL CURTIS Treble	GEORGE HOWCHIN 5
WILLIAM E. BASON 2	GEORGE MAYERS 6
MISS MABEL R. ROBERTSON 3	WILLIAM G. MAYERS 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Mabel Robertson. This composition, containing extent qualities, is presumed to be rung for the first time.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalen,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

ERNEST WHITING Treble	HERBERT FULCHER 5
SALEM GOODSWEN 2	JAMES ELDRIDGE 6
CHARLES BAKER 3	RUSSELL RICHES 7
FREDERICK ROOPE 4	FREDERICK R. BORRETT ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by E. WHITING.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S TWENTY-PART (No. 2). Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.

FRANK WEST Treble	SYDNEY TAYLOR 5
C. ELLIOT WIGG 2	WILLIAM SIMMONDS 6
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 3	RICHARD A. POST 7
P.S. CECIL A. SMITH 4	* ROBERT ALLDM Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD A. POST.

* First peal in the method. The band wish to thank the local foreman, Mr. O. W. Porter, for making arrangements for the peal.

ST. DAVIDS, PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. David,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in D.

JOHN W. JONES Treble	GWYN I. LEWIS 5
JOHN T. WILLIAMS 2	ERNEST STITCH 6
CHARLES H. PERRY 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
CYRIL MATHERS 4	ALFRED W. WRIGHT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT J. PITMAN.

First peal on the bells, which are a new ring by Mears and Stainbank, the gift of an anonymous donor. These bells were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese on Thursday, July 30th last. The 'go' and tone leave nothing to be desired. Congratulations were showered on the band by the local ringers at the conclusion of the peal. Opportunity is now taken to thank the local leader, Mr. Owen Harries, most cordially, for his untiring efforts before and after the peal, and to the Dean for his permission to use the bells.

LANIVET, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' FIVE-PART

HENRY WILLIAMS Treble	Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in F.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2	THOMAS G. MAYERS 5
MISS E. JESSIE C. ANGWIN 3	WILLIAM H. SLEEMAN ... 6
JAMES E. LILLEY 4	HAROLD BENNETT 7
	ARTHUR S. ROBERTS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells hung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. in 1924. Rung for the Easter Festival. Immediately outside the tower stands an old Cornish cross, which marks the supposed centre of Cornwall.

DORKING, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

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

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in E flat.

ALFRED J. BOLL Treble	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 5
JOHN F. GALYER 2	DANIEL COOPER 6
EDWARD G. TALBOT 3	ALAN R. PINK 7
FRANK JENNINGS 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT.

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, March 29, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lb.

FREDERICK A. SALTER Treble	EDWARD FRED GOBEY 5
FREDERICK BROWN 2	WILLIAM THORNLEY 6
FREDERICK J. MILNER 3	HENRY HARRISON 7
JOHN E. HOBBS 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD C. GOBEY.

Rung after three attempts for Stedman, in commemoration of the association's jubilee, which was celebrated at Derby on Easter Monday.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

HENRY HUTTON Treble	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 5
NELSON ELLIOTT 2	GEORGE E. CLODE 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 3	WILLIAM T. BRESON 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by JAS. PARKER. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

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HAZELBREECH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1932, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES T. WARD Treble	AMOS SMART 5
*CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY ... 2	JOHN J. MAWBY 6
FREDERICK R. PALMER 3	THOMAS R. HENSHERR ... 7
WALTER PERKINS 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ... Tenor

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal in the method and first attempt; also fiftieth peal.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

JAMES BILBY Treble	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 5
JESSE FRANCIS 2	WILLIAM R. BAXTER 6
WILLIAM C. WEST 3	NORMAN V. ANDREWS ... 7
CHARLES RAISON 4	CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. BARKER. Conducted by CHAS. F. ANDREWS.
Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss L. Stafford (daughter of Mr. J. Stafford, the local captain and sleepkeeper) and Mr. J. King, which took place at this church on March 23th.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, March 31, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

SYDNEY TAYLOR Treble	RICHARD A. POST 5
MARGARET E. REYNOLDS ... 2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 6
WALTER G. BRIGHAM 3	VICTOR J. F. BENNETT ... 7
WILLIAM BLAKE 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 31, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

WILLIAM CHALK Treble	HENRY EVERS 5
STANLEY G. MOSS 2	GEORGE GREEN 6
GEORGE M. RASHBROOK ... 3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 4	WILLIAM J. SCROFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by E. P. DUFFIELD.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(TAUNTON DEANERY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 31, 1932, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DYKE'S TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES HUNT Treble	WILLIAM G. GIGG 5
*STANLEY CHAPLIN 2	JACK ROY 6
WALTER H. POOLE 3	HENRY CHURCHILL 7
ARTHUR H. REED 4	SYDNEY PRIDDLE Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. REED.

* First peal.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 1, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*CHARLES R. GOODBORN ... Treble	HARRY ARGENT 5
FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... 2	JOHN BURLS 6
*HENRY HOVERD 3	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	*EDWARD J. BEER ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FREDK. M. MITCHELL.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.
A birthday peal for F. A. Mitchell and C. R. Goodburn (April 1st), Miss L. McIntier (March 26th), and the Rev. G. W. Mennie, Rector (March 25th).

RAWMARSH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM GREEN Treble	ARTHUR PANTHER 5
MRS. T. COLIN RYDER 2	ARTHUR GILL 6
*HAROLD CHANT 3	T. COLIN RYDER 7
CHARLES POULTENEY 4	ALBERT NASH Tenor

Conducted by A. NASH.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Cambridge Major by all the band and on the bells.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24½ cwt.

HENRY C. ALFORD Treble	ALAN R. MACDONALD 5
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 2	ERNEST BRETT 6
JOHN H. B. HESSE 3	MADRICK F. R. HIBBERT ... 7
HERBERT LANGDON 4	ALBERT A. HUGHES ... Tenor

Conducted by H. LANGDON.

Rung in honour of the restoration of the church.

DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5066 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*REGINALD J. SCOTT ... Treble	GEORGE W. HELEY 5
CLIFFORD ROLLINGS 2	HARRY TVSOE 6
CHARLES W. CLARKE 3	ALBERT G. MATTHEWS ... 7
MISS EVELYN STEEL 4	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by A. E. SHARMAN.
* First peal of Treble Bob. † First in the method 'inside.' A jubilee peal for the Beds Association, and a birthday compliment to the conductor.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

*GEORGE LIMMER Treble	†REGINALD W. REX 5
MISS MARIE R. CROSS 2	EDGAR HUMFREY 6
MISS HILDA F. MILLS 3	†JACK CHESTERMAN 7
†CHARLES PULLEN 4	GEORGE GILBERT Tenor

Composed by FREDK. DENCH. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.
* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Kent. ‡ First peal of Major.

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ABERAVON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF ERIN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*JOSEPH LOVETT Treble	HARRY PAGE 5
*ERNEST STITCH 2	*GEORGE POPNELL 6
*WILLIAM J. CROSS 3	*ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
*GEORGE PALMER 4	HENRY CRABB Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.
* First peal of Erin. First peal of Erin on the bells. Rung as a compliment to the treble ringer on the 10th anniversary of his wedding day.

DEANE, BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

HERBERT DAVENPORT Treble	*WILLIAM HORAN 5
ROBERT WALLWORK 2	*CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON 6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 3	TITUS BARLOW 7
THOMAS WALLWORK 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.
* 150th peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Bartholine,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*HAROLD ASHBURY Treble	JOHN BRASSINGTON 5
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY 2	CHARLES H. PAGE 6
FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN 7
†ERIC B. ALLMAN 4	ALBERT CRAWLEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.
* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major away from the treble.
Mr. C. H. Page's 90th peal, and Messrs. A. and G. H. CRAWLEY's 70th peal together.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 18 cwt.	
SAM GREENHALGH Treble	HERBERT GREENHALGH 5
MISS ANNIE POTTER 2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 6
FREDERICK J. STEELE 3	JOHN POTTER 7
WILLIAM EDWARDS 4	WILLIAM H. SHUKER Tenor

Conducted by J. POTTER.
Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss E. J. Steele, eldest daughter of the ringer of the 3rd. Also as a birthday compliment to Miss A. Shuker.

LYE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 3½ cwt.

HAROLD V. COOPER Treble	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 5
SAMUEL GROVE 2	ROBERT MATTHEWS 6
JOHN BASS 3	HECTOR G. BIRD 7
WILLIAM SHORT 4	THOMAS HEMMING Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.
* 400th peal. First peal of Bristol on the bells.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SIX BELL PEALS.

LIMPSFIELD CHART, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

ALBERT J. BROWN Treble	H. F. HYLTON TIDY 4
EDWARD E. TIDY 2	JAMES W. KNIGHT 5
LEONARD A. TIDY 3	JOHN O. WELLER Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.

First peal and first attempt by ringer of treble, who is 16 years of age.

BUTTERWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 26, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Single Court, Oxford Treble Bob and Canterbury Pleasure, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

HARRY JOHNSON Treble	JOHN PHILLIPS 4
FRANK P. HARWOOD 2	HAROLD HARPER 5
FRANK DEWEY 3	WILLIAM E. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. CLARKE.

This peal was arranged for Mr. H. Harper, of Rochester, who was on a visit to this district.

HALLATON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Canterbury Pleasure, 12 six-scores Plain Bob, 8 six-scores St. Dunstan's, and 10 six-scores Grandsire. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*HENRY PAYNE Treble	J. GEORGE GEARY 4
A. NORMAN GEARY 2	RONALD RUSSELL 5
HENRY FAULKNER 3	*WILLIAM HORSLEY Tenor

Conducted by J. G. GEARY.

* First peal. The ringer of the tenor was made a member of the association before starting the peal.

ORDSALL, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of All Hallows,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double and Single Court, St. Clement's Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

JOHN W. PRESTON Treble	HARRY PIEVILL 4
ROBERT W. BLOOMFIELD 2	JOHN HURST 5
G. FRED BLOOMFIELD 3	ROBERT W. STOCKDALE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT W. STOCKDALE.

A 21st birthday compliment to the 3rd ringer. First peal by all in seven methods.

SHALFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.)

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR E. HUNTER Treble	HAROLD O. R. SCHUPKE 4
ALBERT LANBKN 2	LESLIE C. W. HUNTER 5
HUGO E. SCHUPKE 3	KENNETH A. GIRDLER Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE C. W. HUNTER.

First peal by all except the conductor, and first as conductor. First peal by the St. Mary's Society, and rung at the first attempt. The ringers are all members of the church choir. Rung as a welcome to the Vicar, the Rev. David Railton, M.A., M.C., and Mrs. Railton. The last peal on these bells was rung in December, 1913.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
 (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 29, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Oxford Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

*WILLIAM DAVIS Treble	WILLIAM CARTER 4
CHARLES DARBY 2	*REGINALD CHANCE 5
RALPH PARTON 3	ERNEST CALCUTT Tenor

Conducted by E. CALCUTT.

* First peal. Quickest peal on the bells.

HARRINGWORTH, NORTHANTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 6040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, with ten callings. Tenor 11 cwt. 24 lb.

HERBERT W. ABBOTT Treble	ERNEST A. MARSH 4
GEORGE A. HOLLOCK 2	RONALD RUSSELL 5
ALBERT L. WARD 3	PERCY AMOS Tenor

Conducted by G. A. HOLLOCK.

The band wish to thank the Rev. Canon B. E. Foyster for this long-standing invitation, and for his kind hospitality in entertaining them to tea afterwards. First peal on the bells since 1913.

MAIDEN NEWTON, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*ANTHONY E. F. TROTMAN Treble	H. DENNIS W. BISHOP ... 4
*HUBERT SMITH 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE ... 5
H. JIM RALPH 3	EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by E. G. L. COWARD.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal on the bells since they were rebung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and thought to be the first ever rung on them.

FINCHLEY, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, and three of Kent Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK CHERRETT ... Treble	FREDERICK S. TUBB ... 4
WILLIAM J. NORTON 2	SYDNEY D. CHILD ... 5
BERTRAM TUBB 3	FREDERICK A. BARKER ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. BARKER.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. H. Ashley Breton and Miss L. M. Bernays, daughter of the Rector of St. Mary's, which took place at San Paulo, Brazil, on March 30th.

DENTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 2, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents, being two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

PERCY RUSHTON Treble	CHARLES OLLIER 4
ARNOLD S. FEARNHEAD ... 2	JOHN FEARNHEAD ... 5
EDWARD F. MAWBY 3	WILFRED J. MOSS Tenor

Conducted by W. J. MOSS.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to Mrs. Bardsley, a prominent worker at this church. First peal of Minor for all except the conductor. First peal in three methods for all the band.

OXFORD.—On Friday, April 1st, at New College, in 50 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,301 changes): W. F. Judge (conductor) 1, S. Hounslow 2, W. G. Brigham 3, F. Eson 4, F. E. Taylor 5, V. J. Bennett 6, W. Blake 7, W. G. Collett 8, R. A. Post (composer) 9, R. Plaisier 10.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT ST. ALBANS.

The annual meeting of the Hertford County Association was held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the president, Mr. F. J. Reeve (Tring), welcomed the members.

The Rev. Leonard Buxton (Vicar of North Myms) was elected an hon. member, and the election of Mr. G. Smith (Buntingford) was confirmed. Ringing members elected were Messrs. Cyril James Shadbolt (Harpenden) and R. Andrews (St. Stephen's, St. Albans).

In the absence, through indisposition, of the hon. treasurer (Mr. E. P. Debenham), Mr. R. J. Loc presented the financial statement.

The balance sheet showed receipts during the year of £38 8s., which included £22 12s. from ringing members, £6 5s. 6d. from hon. members, £4 from life members, and 15s. 6d. from peal entry fees and certificates. The expenditure amounted to £38 6s. 1d., the balance in hand at the end of the year being £18 3s. 8d., against £18 1s. 9d. at the commencement.

Mr. Loc stated that £6 8s. 6d. had been credited to the Benevolent Fund, the towers contributing being St. Mary's, Luton, Kimpton, St. Peter's, St. Albans, St. Albans Abbey, St. Michael's, St. Albans, Aldenham, North Myms, Harpenden and King's Walden.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The 47th annual report of the association, submitted by the hon. secretary, was both interesting and encouraging, for the year's efforts constituted not only a record in peal ringing, but other accomplishments, both individual and of outstanding merit. Sixty-nine peals had been rung on church bells and five peals on handbells, making a total of seventy-four. The six-bell bands had scored no fewer than twenty-nine peals, in fourteen varying methods, and the eight and ten-bell lists comprised nearly all the standard methods usually rung. The outstanding feature upon handbells was a spliced peal of Plain and Little Bob Maximus, the first for the association. The tower peals had been rung at forty-one different churches, with twenty-nine different conductors. Messrs. T. Cannon, C. Rush, M. N. Haines, L. A. Harper, W. Kimble, A. J. House, E. Pickett, A. Ewar, R. Ewer, G. Curl, A. Childs, E. Crosswell, F. E. Barker, A. Whitmore, R. W. R. Picton, F. W. Hall, W. Sinn, G. E. Debenham and Mrs. E. H. King, had rung their first peal, and Messrs. C. Jeffs and F. Kirk their first handbell peal. Fifty members had rung their first in a new method, and Mr. W. A. Tack had called his first peal. Mr. J. Malyan's band at St. Stephen's, St. Albans, had also rung its first peal, and Mr. J. Malyan was congratulated upon the realisation of his dreams, and his hand upon their perseverance. The peals had been rung in every division, the greatest number from the eastern side.

An East Herts company had shown enthusiasm and ability by ringing three peals of Minor at Kimpton, Walkern and St. Ippolyts in one day, with seven methods in each peal, and eleven methods altogether. They complimented not only the conductors, Messrs. Robert Howard, Sydney Carter and Barnard Patmore, but also Messrs. Tack, Welch, Stanley and Kimble, the remainder of the band. Mr. Maurice Hibbert had not only rung his 100th peal for the association, but had called J. W. Parker's short-course seven-part peals of Stedman Triples, Nos. 6 and 29, which were rung for the first time, an honour for the association. An umpire checked every call and course-end of each peal. Mr. Robert Howard and Mr. B. Patmore had both rung their hundredth peal on tower bells, and Mr. W. Ayre his hundredth on handbells. The first spliced peals of Treble Bob on six and eight bells had been rung for the association, conducted by Mr. F. Kirk. Such progress was very encouraging to every member, and should be an inspiration to go even one better by the time the jubilee was reached in 1934.

'CONSCIENCE MONEY.'

The Benevolent Fund had not at present received the support that was anticipated, due in a measure probably to indifference or to a lack of appreciation of the merits of the fund. Frankly, the present subscribers' one laudable desire was to help the other fellow in time of adversity. The whole idea rang with the true spirit of brotherhood. There was a balance at the bank of £5 8s. 6d., so the committee were far from being discouraged.

The secretary called the attention of members to the resolution passed in 1923, as to payment of one penny per head for peals. The payments had been unsatisfactory in the past, partly through forgetfulness, with a consequent loss to the exchequer. Four hundred and ninety-six ringers made themselves responsible for fees last year, so he trusted, when the report was published, the treasurer would receive some 'conscience money.'

The report touched on the Stedman Tercentenary, and reviewed the work in the districts. It also recorded with appreciation the continued interest shown to the association by the incumbents in every division of the county. Their readiness in arranging services, giving short addresses, and in many instances providing teas, had been very acceptable. The services formed a fitting conclusion to the week, and were a help and strength to all. The hearty singing of the hymns was a feature of the gatherings, and the printed service paper had been found most useful. The hon. members were thanked for their support, and the general secretary placed on record the association's appreciation of the services rendered by the district secretaries. They had arranged 32 meetings, and given profitable pleasure and practice to hundreds of ringers, both of the older and younger generations.

Without their services much of the success now attained would be impossible. It had been a pleasure to receive their whole-hearted support in his work, and also to receive a continuance of the members' confidence. Regret was expressed at the illness of the Dean of St. Albans, and the secretary concluded by emphasising the importance of the ringers' calling. 'We are,' he said, 'an important branch of a great Christian organisation; consequently, our ministry is worthy of infinite care and patience. Let us go forth to our duties with an enthusiasm that becomes infectious, confident in so doing that we shall capture the younger generation to fill the gaps in our ranks as they inevitably appear. Finally, my brothers, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things," and put them into practice in your bellies and in your daily life.

The report, with the statement of accounts, was adopted.

THE OFFICERS.

Mr. Robert Howard (Barley) was elected president for the ensuing year, and the other officers were re-elected as follow: Hon. treasurer, Mr. E. P. Debenham; hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Cartmel; hon. librarian, Mr. Gilbert Debenham; hon. auditor, Mr. W. Mercer; district secretaries for Northern, Eastern, St. Albans, Watford and Western Divisions, Messrs. D. C. Mears, W. H. Lawrence, W. Nash, C. H. Horton and J. C. Puplett respectively.

A vote of thanks was accorded Canon Belcher (St. Albans) for his address to the ringers, which he gave at evensong in St. Albans Abbey preceding the annual meeting.

In his address, Canon Belcher said it was important for ringers to realise that in their work for the Church they must 'keep the balance' and remember that there was the saving of their own souls to consider, as well as the task of ringing. None of them would believe that the ringing of a particular peal was a passport into Heaven, or think that mere proficiency in ringing would make St. Peter ready to open the gate when someone else tolled at their last day. The service was to remind them of their duty to God as well as their work for Him in the ringing chamber.

During the day, touches were rung on church bells in St. Albans, including those of the Abbey, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's and St. Michael's.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, February 28th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: S. Warne 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, H. C. Reason 3, A. Wiffen 4, G. Wiffen 5, H. Redgwell 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting was held at Worcester on Easter Monday and was well attended. The Dean, who has been president since 1909, welcomed the members in the Cathedral Chapter House as on many former occasions. In his remarks, he mentioned the death of Mr. Charles Jones, an auditor of the association since 1905. After others had spoken of the esteem and respect in which Mr. Jones was held by all who knew him, and of the great amount of good he had done for ringing in teaching beginners, the meeting stood in silence in respect to his memory.

The report of the committee stated that they had made a grant of £3 to the rehanging of the bells at Scilly Oak, and recommended an alteration to the allowance for tea at these meetings.

This, however, was not agreed to, but instead it was decided to pay the full amount out of the funds.

The officers were all re-elected, Mr. S. T. Holt being appointed an auditor.

It was decided to subscribe £3 to the memorial to the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

It was a pleasure to again listen to an address by the Dean and to the excellent music at the service in the Cathedral, following which came tea, at which about 120 sat down. The ringing on the various bells available was up to the standard of former occasions, touches in practically all methods being rung. The silence of the bells at St. Helen's is to be regretted, and one can only hope that they may be put in order before another meeting.

This district owes a sincere debt of gratitude to Mr. E. P. Thomas, an esteemed vice-president, who by his generous financial help and advice has been the means of getting several rings of bells rehung and augmented, and possibly by his influence the authorities may be persuaded to restore the bells at St. Helen's.

The jubilee of the association, which was formed at a meeting at Bromsgrove on Easter Monday, April 10th, 1882, will be celebrated at Bromsgrove to-morrow.

THE PEAL AT READING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The footnote to the peal rung at St. Lawrence's, Reading, on Easter Monday morning, makes good reading. Will you please allow me space to congratulate Mr. Hayes and the band. I am sure it will be read with pleasure by many of the older members of our Guild. Gatherings of this kind are a real incentive to progress.

Iver Heath.

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Lancashire police ringers have scored the first peal of Grandsire Caters for the National Police Guild. Four ranks—one superintendent, one chief inspector, one sergeant and seven constables—look part. The peal was rung at Manchester Cathedral, and was arranged as a birthday compliment to P.O. Wm. Robinson, of the Manchester City Police, who was unfortunately unable to stand in. The police accorded a vote of thanks to the Dean for the use of the bells, and the local ringers for having everything ready for them. The ringers of the 6th and tenor were from Liverpool, 5th from Bolton, the rest belong to Manchester City Force.

Listeners on the London Regional wave-length on Sunday evening heard the heaviest ring of eight in this country—Sharborne Abbey—rung before the broadcast service.

Easter Monday seems to have been a day of exchanges at Derby. The Bishop took the Provost's hut and left his own in the Cathedral. We have now been asked to publish the following S.O.S.: Will the gentleman who took umbrella by mistake at the annual meeting of the M.C.A. at Derby on Easter Monday, please return same at once to Mr. G. Freebrey, 81, Roe Street, Derby? Urgent.

One of the meritorious performances recorded this week is a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung at Shalford, Surrey. Five 'first peals,' the other 'first as conductor,' and all the band members of the church choir! The new Vicar (the Rev. D. Railton), to whom the peal was rung as a welcome, has reason to be proud of his ringers.

The Oxford Society will celebrate its bicentenary next year, having been founded in 1733. On March 19th, a very successful dinner was held, which was attended by the Mayor of Oxford, the City Rector (Rev. W. Mansell Merry) and Alderman C. H. Brown. Mr. W. Collett, president of the society, occupied the chair.

The calling of the 5,056 Oxford Treble Bob Major by Mr. A. J. Pitman, published in 'The Ringing World' of March 25th, was given incorrectly. The 5th course should be 2M 2W 1H, instead of 2M 1W 1H, and the last course is called 1W only.

EARLY LONDON RINGING HISTORY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I entirely agree with Mr. Trollope that Howlett's book is of little value as a ringing treatise; but it is perfectly good evidence of the customs of his day—the only purpose for which I have ever quoted it. Its language is quite characteristic of its time, but its value for my purpose consists in its confirmation of the assertion that ringing in the seventeenth century was entirely a recreation.

Mr. Trollope's list of early London rings of bells is very interesting, but it does not help us to solve the problem of the destroyed towers. If St. Andrew Undershaft, for instance, had perished with its records in the Great Fire of 1666, we should not now know that it had a ring of bells before that date. Stow makes no mention of bells there. Bells as such did not interest him enough to give any regular particulars of them. For instance, he does not mention the interesting ring of five then, and still, at Smithfield. Where, as in the case of St. Michael's, we have neither building nor records surviving, we can no more prove a negative than a positive, and for aught we know there may have been a ring of bells in any tower which has left us but a name. I have known all the London City churches well for many years past, and in my belief, when Stow uses the word 'fair' in his description of a church he means what we should now call 'fine.' St. Michael's and St. Andrew Undershaft are both among his 'fair' churches, and we need not be surprised at finding St. Michael's in this company when we remember that it was raised from the status of a mere parish church to that of a collegiate one at the cost of a wealthy founder in that period of fine church building, the fifteenth century, and, as I think, old St. Michael's was in the first class of the old London City churches. I think the probability is that it had a ring of bells.

R. A. DANIELL.

DEATH OF A SPADE WORKER.

A LOSS TO WEST SUSSEX RINGERS.

By the death of Mr. Percy Doick the Western Division of the Sussex Association has lost one of its stalwarts. Although deceased had not rung many peals, he had done a tremendous amount of spade work for the association, and many ringers can testify to the help he gave them in their early days of ringing. Of a quiet and kindly disposition, the deceased was very much liked by all who had met him. Mr. Doick was 57 years of age, and for the last 20 years had acted as local agent of the Prudential Assurance Co. For many years he had been captain of the local band of ringers, with whom he had been associated since the age of 15. At the funeral, which took place on Thursday last, the church was filled with friends, including a number of ringers. The service was choral, conducted by the Rev. E. J. Frost, Rector of Pulborough. The well-known ringers' hymn, 'Hark, hark, my soul,' was sung, and the 23rd Psalm was chanted as the cortege moved down the aisle. At the graveside the choir and congregation sang the Nunc Dimittis, and the handbells were rung by four of deceased's brother-ringers.

'ALL ENGLAND' RINGERS' RALLY

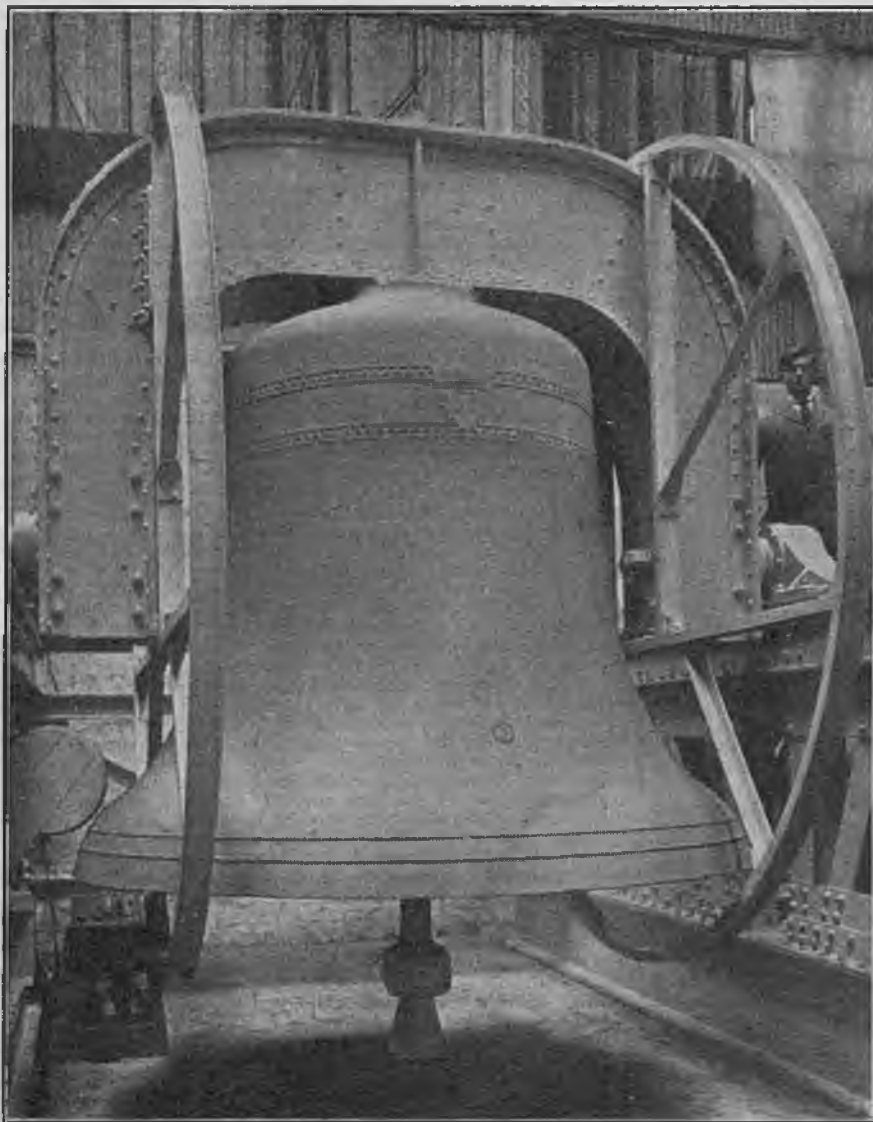
THOUSANDS FLOCK TO CROYDON

THE WONDERS OF A GREAT CARILLON.

The 'All England Ringers' Rally' at Croydon resulted in another record gathering. Four years ago, on a similar occasion, there was an assembly that numbered over two thousand; last Saturday more than three thousand people — 2,700 of them actually ringers — responded to the invitation of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston and invaded the Surrey town. It was a won-

derful gathering and an extraordinary illustration of the keen interest which members of the Exercise possess for bells and anything connected with them. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston were prepared for large numbers, but applications for tickets came in an avalanche and ultimately, much to their regret, the firm had to apply a limit to the number of non-ringing friends who could be accommodated. The cheap travelling facilities which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston were able to obtain from the railway companies added to the inducement which the prospect of an instructive and pleasurable day offered and ringers, singly and in parties, travelled to Croydon, not only from every corner of England, but from Wales, Scotland and Ireland as well. They represented over forty county associations and diocesan guilds; they came from nearly five hundred church towers. From cities and villages they came; every possible type of ringer — men whose names are household words in the Exercise, some who yet can scarce handle a bell; men who have grown old in this branch of service to the Church, lads who are only on the threshold of their ringing career. There were many lady ringers among the company, and there has never been a gathering at which the Exercise has been better represented 'in the mass.'

The great rally provided much more than 'a day out'; it was a day full of real interest and enjoyment, and to those who had not had a previous similar experience it was a revelation—a revelation of all that the true bell founders' art means; a revelation of the extraordinary spirit of fellowship which binds together those engaged in the ringers' craft. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are not only to be congratulated upon the enterprise which prompted the organisation of the event, but also upon the gigantic success which attended it. One word was on the lips of everyone as the day wore on: 'Wonderful!'



THE 17-TON BOURDON BELL.

Something of its size may be judged by comparing it with the workman standing on the frame. The bell can be swung by twin electric motors. The carillon hammer, which, although weighing several hundredweight, is delicately counterbalanced, can be seen on the left-hand side of the picture.

As a preliminary to the proceedings at Croydon, hundreds of visitors had the opportunity of ringing at churches in London and Surrey, and during the morning the belfries at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and St. James', Clerkenwell, as well as those at Streatham, Clapham Park, Banstead and Beddington, were constantly occupied by bands. In Croydon itself the bells of both the Parish Church and St. Peter's were in request at intervals throughout the day, and an enormous number of ringers got a pull in these two belfries.

The foundry itself was opened at one o'clock, and from this hour onward visitors rolled up in a steady stream. Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Johnston received their guests, and a large body of stewards was on duty to explain the principal objects of interest and to facilitate the smooth flow of the great crowd through the works. In the first shop to be inspected were the ringing peals in various degrees of construction or restoration. Complete in their new teak frame were the bells of St. Giles' Church, Norwich. Five of this ring are pre-Reformation bells, and, while they are now hung on modern principles, their canons have been preserved by the use of special cannon-retaining headstocks. Adjoining this was an iron frame for six bells, carrying a solitary recast tenor. This is destined for West Drayton, Middlesex, where the other five bells have been stored in an outhouse, awaiting the time when funds are forthcoming to place them once more in the tower. The old inscription on this tenor bell has been reproduced in facsimile.

Side by side with the West Drayton frame was a wonderfully neat job, which probably before these lines appear in print will have been dismantled and dispatched to its intended destination—Brookfield Unitarian Church, Gorton, Manchester. It consisted of a recast peal of eight bells, packed into a two-tier frame, 'four up and four down', which looked a perfect example of strength and lightness. The treble was fitted with a sound shute.

CLOCKS.

Leaving this shop, in which there were numerous other 'exhibits' of interest, the visitors climbed the stairs to the clock factory, where they could see the latest thing in clocks—if they could be recognised as clocks. Those that had dials, of course, were clocks, but there were other pieces of machinery which the uninitiated had to be told were clocks before they could realise it. An electric motor and a few wheels is all they seemed to consist of, and one little affair, which stood on a base about ten inches by six inches, was, we were assured, all that was needed to keep the exact time on four five-foot turret dials. Indeed, it is a troubleless timekeeper—you just 'plug in,' as you would with your radio set, and the power station does the rest. It is a waistcoat pocket arrangement compared with the clocks of only a few years ago, with their comparatively cumbersome wheels, their wire ropes and weights, and frequent winding. Self-winding electric chiming clocks, which wind themselves up whenever necessary, were on view, but the chief attraction was the mechanism for the great clock to be erected at the new Shell-Mex building in the Strand, London. There are to be two clock faces, each 25ft. square—2ft. 6in. larger than Big Ben—one on the south side overlooking the Thames, the other on the north, overlooking Trafalgar Square. The minute hands are 11ft. 6in. long, and the hour hands 8ft. 8in. long, and are balanced inside the building, so that no unsightly balance weights are visible. A model of these giant clock hands was on view in another part of the works. The spindle of the minute hand is 4in. diameter and 7ft. long, and that of the hour hand 5in. diameter and slightly shorter; they are supported on very heavy roller bearings, both at the dial face and inside the building. The balance weights of both hands are secured to long steel arms attached to the spindles immediately behind the wall of the building. The gearing to connect these two pairs of hands to the actual clock mechanism has been made abnormally strong and large to overcome the great wind pressure at this elevation, the bevel wheels, which are usually 4in. or 5in. diameter on ordinary tower clocks, being in this case 26in. diameter, and all other wheels and connections in proportion. The clock mechanism which operates the hands is placed a few feet below the centre of the dials, and consists of an abnormally powerful train of gears operated by an electric motor and controlled for timekeeping by the electric pendulum of a precision master clock synchronised from Greenwich. It is expected to be able to read the time on the 25ft. dials from Highgate and from the Crystal Palace.

Leaving the clock factory, visitors passed through the moulding shop and foundry, where they gained a good insight into the methods of bell making by inspecting the cores and copes, already prepared for a future casting. Next, in one of the smaller tuning shops, they were able to see something of how modern bells are given their wonderful tones. At least, the vertical lathes and the tuned bells were there; the mechanical process was obvious, but the secret of the tuner's art remained a secret still.

Everywhere as one passed through the works there were bells to be seen, in all sizes and in all stages of manufacture, including a carillon of 42 in progress for Sedin, France, and at frequent intervals there burst upon the ear the sweet music of the distant carillon or the sonorous boom of the great bells which everyone was anxious and pressing forward to see. At last the tour of the works

brought them to the great erecting shop, where this latest and, in some respects, most wonderful creation of the bell founder's art was displayed. Here, set out before their eyes, was the carillon of 72 bells for the Chapel of the University of Chicago, the largest set of bells, we are assured, ever seen complete in any one bell foundry. It is difficult to describe the impression created when one first gazes upon this really gigantic collection of bells, hung in frames of massive proportions, towering up towards the roof.

THE CARILLON DESCRIBED.

In the foundry the carillon stood in four sections; in the tower where it is to be hung it will be in three tiers. Over the pit, which has been excavated for the accommodation of the clavier, is the section in which hang the numerous small and medium bells which form, as it were, the backbone of the carillon. These bells range from 12lb. upwards, and here can be obtained an excellent idea of the mechanical operation of the instrument. Near at hand is a section containing five bells, rising to a size in which 'tons' come into the weights, and adjoining them, in a wonderful two-tier frame of the gantry type, are six monstrous bells weighing between them no less than 45 tons, the biggest being a bell of over eleven tons. But even these pale into insignificance by the side of the bourdon, which hangs majestically in a massive frame consisting of compound girders seven feet high, the bottom members of which are two feet deep by fifteen inches wide. Supporting this wonderful bell are two of its smaller brethren—but smaller only by comparison, for they are each of several tons' weight—and they swing—yes, they actually swing—in a frame 22ft. long.

The feature of this carillon is that five of the giants, forming a perfect chord, are hung in yokes, and can be swung frame high. They are pulled by electric motors, started by push button. The weights of the bells which are thus hung are approximately 17 tons, 7 tons, 5 tons, 3½ tons and 2½ tons respectively. The great moving masses of these bells have been most delicately counter-balanced to prevent undue stress on the structure of the tower, but even so, the building, which was not originally intended to take swinging bells, has had to be specially reinforced. Built of masonry, the tower has had put into it a steel lining as an additional strengthening factor, and as the bells will be over 200ft. up in the tower, this would seem to be a wise precaution. The tower itself is 297ft. high, and 23ft. square internally.

It is, however, as a carillon that the bells are primarily intended to be used. They will be operated by the carillonneur from an elaborately carved oak console, which, when in position in the tower, will be between the upper and second tiers of bells. The heaviest six bells are fitted with electro-pneumatic mechanism, for reinforcing the blow, and thus retaining the light and delicate touch of the upper range of bells. Eventually the carillon will be equipped with full automatic playing mechanism, to be used for daily bell music, apart from carillonneurs' recitals, and this, when fitted, will embody a device patented by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, by which loud and soft notes can be produced, which is a new departure in mechanically-operated bell music. In a chamber below the bells will be the mechanism of one of the largest clocks in the world striking the hours on the Bourdon, and chiming the quarters on four octaves of bells by means of a drum 5ft. in diameter, drilled with 36,000 holes, for the movable electrical contacts, which can be changed as required to vary the music chimed at the quarter hours.

The 72 bells cover six chromatic octaves (except low D), and range from 17 tons C sharp to 12lb. C sharp. The bourdon ranks after Riverside bourdon, erected by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in New York in 1931, as the second largest tuned bell in existence and the second largest carillon bell.

The very framework in which the bells are hung is a really fine engineering job. It has been specially designed, not only to support the heavy weight of ninety tons of bells, but also for the unusual task of carrying some thirty-five tons of swinging metal, 200ft. above the ground. Everything about it denotes strength and solidity, and is a wonderful testimony to British workmanship. The frame and the fittings—apart from the bells—weigh 97 tons.

WONDERFUL BELLS.

Visitors to the foundry on Saturday not only saw this great carillon but heard it played by expert carillonneurs. Carillons cannot be heard to best advantage when one is actually among the bells; they need to be high up in a lofty tower if their effect is to be most appreciated. Nevertheless, the frequent short recitals on Saturday demonstrated the remarkable qualities of this latest Croydon product. The heavy bells were noble—majestic in tone; those in the middle compass perfect specimens of the tuner's art, while the small bells, whose tones are always most difficult to control, were a revelation in their purity and the perfection of their harmonics. Heard in a number of popular selections, they were cheerful and well balanced, and the high notes filled the air with rippling melody. And then in contrast came the great clashes and chords of the five bells, swung in their frames, much as bells are clashed in Spain and other continental countries. The lighter ones would first give tongue, to be joined soon by the 7-ton monster, and into this medley of sound, like a giant organ in full blast, would presently come the deeper, vibrating boom of the bourdon, crashing out with deafening roar a note the depth and grandeur of which must be heard to be realised.

Then these swaying giants, looking, as they swung, like ships rolling in a heavy sea, would gradually settle and become silent again, while the crowd, in admiration, discussed the wonders of the carillon. And then, once more, the voices of these great bells would be heard; this time tapped in changes; sometimes in Cinques, sometimes in Caters or Royal, sometimes in Maximus—just an excerpt for a minute or so from some well-known method, and the effect was really thrilling. The carillonneurs who performed for the edification of the visitors were Mr. H. S. Wesson, Miss Nora Johnston and Mr. S. C. Potter; while the changes were tapped by Messrs. H. Withers, T. Groombridge, jun., and A. R. Price.

The inspection of the carillon was the grand climax of the tour of the works, and the visitors spent the rest of the afternoon in a variety of ways. No fewer than half a dozen rooms in the drill hall opposite the foundry were set aside for handbell ringing, and here many touches were rung, and hundreds of visitors rested and watched the ringing with interest. A fleet of double-decker buses was also engaged to convey ringers to the neighbouring towers, and, as the afternoon developed into an extremely wet one, full advantage was taken of these vehicles, not only to reach the different churches but also the tea halls, to which everyone made their way at five o'clock.

A GREAT TEA PARTY.

So large was the number of guests that it required the ten biggest halls in Croydon to accommodate all the party, but the difficulties were surmounted with complete success, and everyone enjoyed the hospitality extended by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who kindly

entertained all the visitors to a bountiful meat tea, served by Messrs. Slaters. The main party was accommodated in the Baths Hall, and here Mr. Cyril Johnston presided, supported by the Lord Bishop of Norwich (Dr. Pollock) and Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Cyril Johnston, the Lord Bishop of Croydon and Mrs. Woods, Sir Louis and Lady Newton, Mr. Herbert G. Williams, M.P., and Mrs. Williams, the Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon, Mr. H. Gordon Selfridge, Mrs. A. A. Johnston, Princess Wiasensky, Lady Newnes, Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council), Capt. Paul Bennett, V.C., the Rev. N. Mellish, V.C., Mr. and Mrs. C. E. O'Leary, Sir Howard d'Egville, Lady King, etc. In the other halls the chairmen were the Rev. W. Parkes Gascoigne, Rev. C. A. Martin, Rev. C. W. Budden, Rev. Gerard Coleridge, Rev. G. Davison and Rev. C. B. Deane. Each table was under the supervision of a hostess, no fewer than 70 ladies discharging this task. The tea was served by a host of well-drilled waitresses, who immediately upon its conclusion rapidly cleared and removed the tables in the Baths Hall, upon which the guests from the other halls afterwards converged for a mass meeting. It was an inspiring sight to see that audience of three thousand in the one vast building, to realise that nearly all of them were ringers, and that they had been drawn together with a bond of common interest.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Mr. C. F. Johnston, addressing the gathering, said: This is the fifth anniversary of our first ringers' rally. Five years ago our first attempt took place on April 2nd, and the following year over two thousand ringers attended a similar meeting. Some of you may remember that we then had the presence of the Archbishop of Canterbury. I explained on that occasion that Croydon was a kind of nursery for Bishops. We have been fortunate in this town, because my invitation then made to headquarters for the promotion of a certain clergyman resulted in the elevation of our Vicar to episcopal rank, but we would not let him leave the town, and he is in the unique position of being three persons rolled into one—he is Vicar of Croydon, Archdeacon of Croydon and Bishop of Croydon (applause). Some people may enquire on whose authority we dared convene an 'All England' gathering. I can say, speaking ecclesiastically, we have a faculty (laughter and applause). It was granted or issued morally because I had an interview with our Bishop before fixing the date, and consulted the president of the Central Council of Church Bellringers, who gave us counsel as well. I have to apologise on behalf of the Mayor

that Croydon cannot yet meet an occasion of this kind and find a hall big enough to hold a really big gathering (laughter). Therefore, I had to put the forty-one names of the diocesan guilds and county associations into a hat, and I can assure you I played the game. I shut my eyes and drew them out one by one, a bell badge with the name of the particular association or guild on it, and that settled which hall each guild should have tea in. I must confess we cheated only once (laughter). It seemed to us that those nine ringers who preferred to live in England, at any rate for a week-end, rather than in Ireland, deserved preferential treatment (applause). We have one regret, and that is that we offered as far as possible to entertain non-ringing friends, but, unfortunately, out of a total of over three thousand applications five hundred referred to non-ringing friends, and we were absolutely compelled to restrict the number to two hundred and twenty. We have ample proof in this room, continued Mr. Johnston, that ringing is a health-giving occupation. Mr. Nevard, of Great Bentley, is 78, and Mr. James George, formerly of Rugby and now of England, is 78, and on Monday last, I understand, he rang for 8½ hours the twenty-six cwt. tenor at Painswick (applause). We have other celebrities in the room, we have two V.C.'s—one of them a V.C. parson (applause)—two lady champions—I refer to the leading lady ringer of England, who married the gentleman who is now secretary of the Central Council of Church Bellringers; and also to another bashful lady who is not a ringer but who has been for quite a long time English lady golf champion (applause). We have ninety clergy and one hundred and two churchwardens here to show what interest



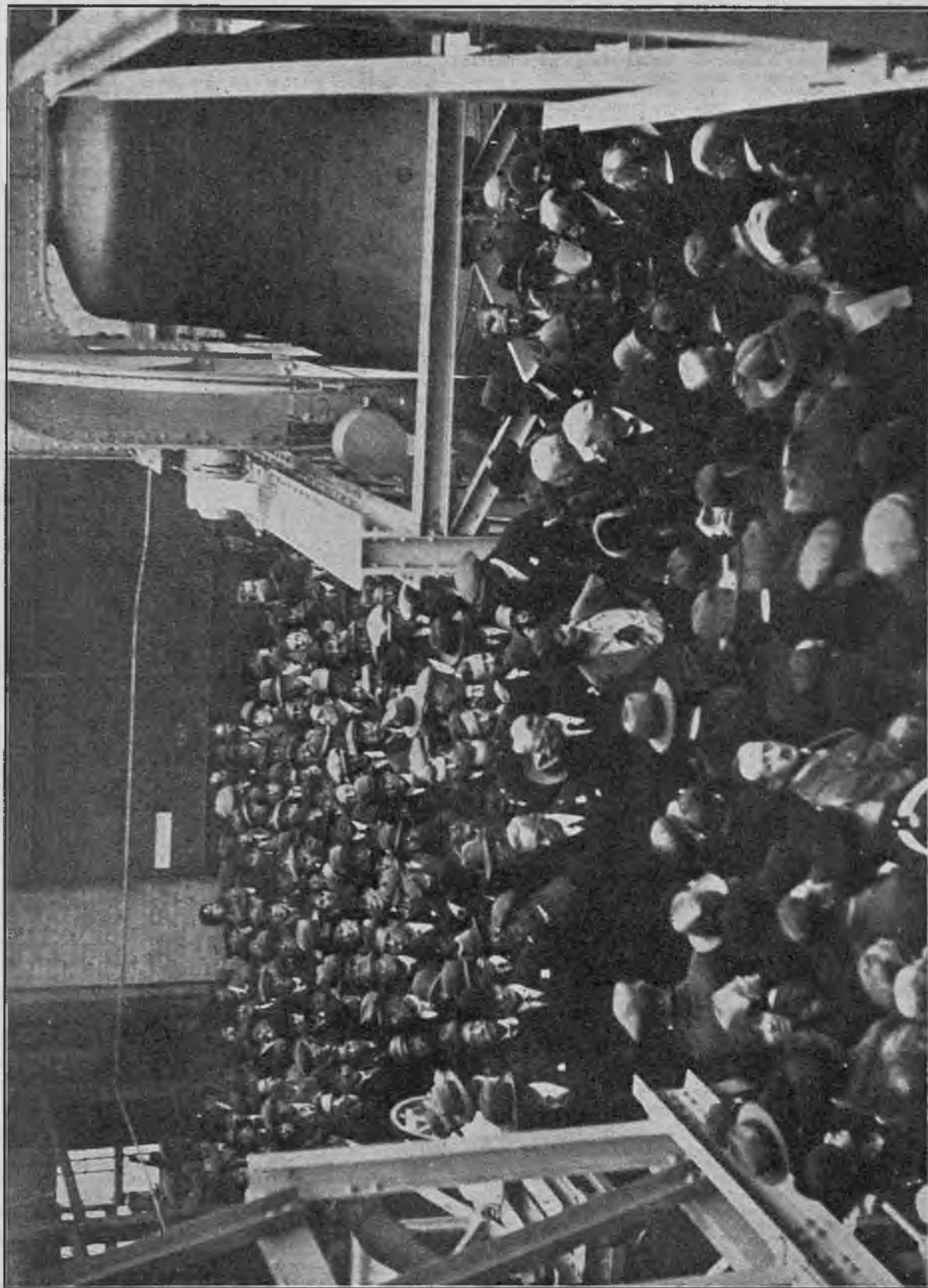
THE CHAPEL AND TOWER OF CHICAGO UNIVERSITY.

they take in our fascinating art (applause). Of those clergy at least ten or twelve are actual ringers. There are also eighty-seven ringing ladies in the room. We have further evidence that ringing is more active than over it was before. This gathering proves, I think, that we in England are interested not only in swinging bells and change ringing, which was started in the days of Fabian Stedman, the Cambridge printer, whose tercentenary was so successfully celebrated last December in Cambridge, but that we are also interested in carillon making, which requires the same art as in the making of bells for ringing, and I would like you to carry your thoughts to a spot fourteen thousand miles away, where a young Croydon man is fixing in Wellington, New Zealand, a great carillon ready to be opened on Anzac Day, and also to Jerusalem, where another young Croydonian is fixing a carillon ready for inauguration in a few weeks (applause). I know you will join with me

in welcoming our special guests. We are particularly honoured in having the presence of two Bishops and other distinguished people with us, including, as an example of the health-giving attributes of change ringing to which I have referred, Mr. Joseph Waghorn, who is going to be 90 in a few months' time (applause).

THE MAYOR'S WELCOME.

The Mayor of Croydon, on behalf of the municipality, extended to the gathering a cordial welcome to the borough. With regard to the lack of a hall sufficient to provide accommodation for so large a party, he said that Croydon had many amenities, and they had given attention to the question of providing a large hall, but the matter had been deferred owing to the pressure of the economic crisis. When that had passed they would turn their attention again to the provision of such a place. The Mayor added that in visiting the Foundry Mr. Johnston's guests were following some very distinguished visitors to the works. In 1925 their Majesties the King and Queen came down to Croydon and visited those same works, and in addition they had had there the Duke of Connaught, Princess Beatrice, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the Prime Minister of Canada, the American Ambassador and the Belgian Ambassador. 'We in Croydon,' continued the Mayor, 'are proud of the firm of Gillett and Johnston. I have been reminded that it was in 1844 that the firm first opened up in Croydon, and during the years that have intervened they undoubtedly have made the name of Croydon reputed throughout the world (applause). We are hoping, in fact, that through this firm Croydon will obtain even further fame, for I hope that at no distant

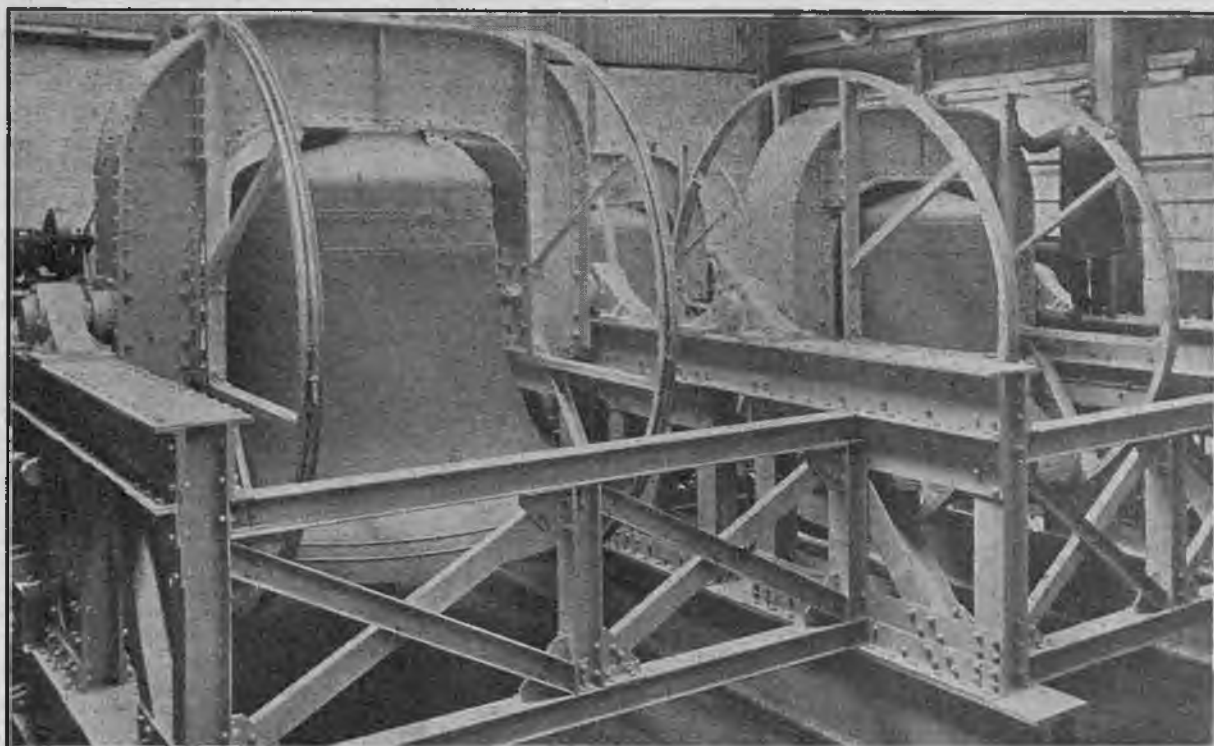


IN THE FOUNDRY. INSPECTING THE GIANT CARILLON. ON THE RIGHT IS THE BOURDON BELL.



MR. C. F. JOHNSTON AND SOME OF HIS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

From left to right: Mr. C. F. Johnston, Mr. H. Gordon Selfridge, Princess Wiasensky, the Lord Bishop of Norwich (Dr. Pollock), Mrs. C. F. Johnston, Princess Wiasensky's daughter and Mrs. Pollock.



THE BOURDON AND TWO OTHER GREAT BELLS,
hung for swinging. The bearings are mounted on compound girders 7ft. high.

date we shall have the very distinguished Bow bells in Croydon for renovation' (applause). Mr. Johnston had made a remark about the health-giving attributes of bellringing. It was rather strange that almost at that identical moment Lady Newnes had made to him a somewhat similar observation. She had said, looking round, 'What a wonderfully healthy lot they look' (laughter and applause). Lady Newnes was accustomed to looking at large audiences and to making a comparison between them. Never had she seen a mass of people who, on the whole, looked healthier than those sitting in front of her that afternoon (applause). 'I extend to you,' concluded the Mayor, 'a most hearty welcome to the confines of our borough.'

MAKING CHURCH-GOING ATTRACTIVE.

The BISHOP OF CROYDON added his welcome to that most wonderful meeting of ringers. The gathering was, he said, a most inspiring sight. On behalf of those sections of the Croydon community for which he could speak, and in a special sense for the churches and churchmen, he was delighted to see present so many brother clergy. Had it been possible, the Archbishop of Canterbury would have been there, but he was away having a very much-needed holiday and rest. Mr. Johnston had reminded them that on the last occasion the Archbishop's great predecessor, Lord Davidson, was there on a very memorable occasion. That night they had with them one other Bishop who was a 'real' Bishop—the Bishop of Norwich—he (the speaker) was only a Suffragan, but, as Mr. Johnston had told them, he was many things rolled into one. They had in him at least an Archdeacon, a Rural Dean, a Vicar, a Bishop and a Surrogate for Marriage Licenses, and, added the Bishop amid laughter, 'we are very glad to see you.' Those who were present were a great collection of experts, and, speaking for the great mass of churchpeople, he would like to say that they appreciated most deeply all that their own loved land stood for and all that the Church itself meant. The kind of occasion that came into his mind was when one was away on a summer holiday, and on a beautiful still Sunday evening when they heard coming across the fields the sound of the bells of the old village church. That was in its way something unique, something which could be heard in this country alone, and he would like them to know, they who provided that sound, how deeply it was appreciated. 'You do your best,' continued the Bishop, 'to make church-going attractive. When you have got the people to church by the sound of your bells, it is up to us, the Bishops and the parsons, to do our best to give them something which they will find really and permanently satisfying (applause). It is a splendid thing, this work you do. I am proud to see you all in Croydon, and I trust every good will continue to attend your efforts, and that you will continue to provide the people of this land with melody and harmony in every sense of those words' (applause).

A WARNING.

Mr. E. H. Lewis said he thought they would wish him, first of all, as representing the ringers, to thank Mr. Johnston for his hospitality (applause). They appreciated very much his kindness in allowing them to see the Foundry and all the wonderful work that it contained. They were grateful, also, for his giving them the opportunity to meet friends from every corner of England and from Ireland and Wales—he did not know if there was anyone present from Scotland. We have seen to-day, continued Mr. Lewis, some examples of the extraordinary activity of the bell foundries which has been going on in recent years, and I would like to say one word of warning, if I may. I have not had the opportunity of speaking to so many ringers before, and I am sorry to say that some of you at your association meetings do not receive a report from your Central Council representative. You do not always know what is happening in the Central Council, but in that respect I would only ask you to read this week's editorial in 'The Ringing World.' I need not say any more. As to this word of warning, there has been an enormous increase in recent years in the number of ringing peals of bells, and we must be careful that we do not overtax the patience of the public. There are two ways in which we can help. Very often when new peals of bells are put in no consideration is given by the local authorities to the proper modification of the sound outside the tower, and I think it is up to us, as ringers, to see that in all such cases the Parochial Council take proper steps to see that the sound of their bells is modified outside the tower and inside in the belfry. This is all the more important with modern bells, because they have so much more breath than the old bells had. I have heard of an old peal of bells in the North described in the following way: 'The treble was a pan, the second was a pot, the third was a kettle and the fourth sounded like a bar. The sound of the fifth, sixth, seventh and tenor was as if they were made of wood, stone, lead and leather' (laughter). Nowadays no such bells go out from the foundries, particularly not from the Croydon Foundry, where so much attention is paid to the proper tuning of the harmonics. Therefore it is all the more important we should see that that sound is properly modified. There is one other point I want to make. You have seen to-day what foundries can do. See what you can do that you do not make the public tired of bells. The way you can do that is to strike properly (applause). I would like many of you to take a holiday in Devonshire and hear bells properly struck, even if they are only struck in rounds and call changes. It would be a revelation to you. There are two reasons for a good deal of the unnecessary bad strik-

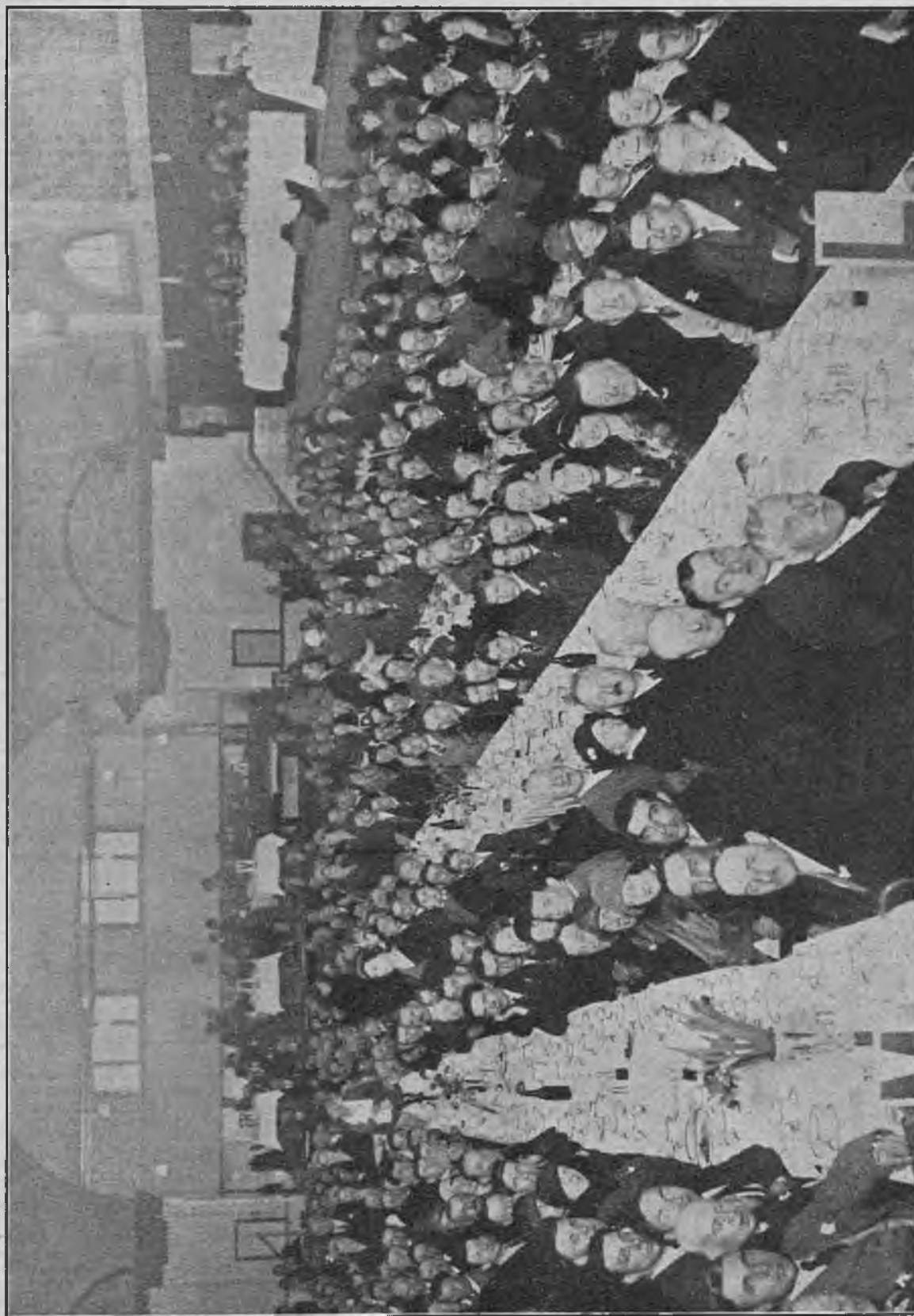
ing. May I appeal to you when trying a new method—I am not speaking to all of you, but to some of you—to pay a little more attention to practice on paper before you try to ring a new method in the tower (applause). A very large proportion of the bad striking is due to bad handling of the bells—you will not mind my speaking straight on this subject. I am glad to see that Canon Coleridge is going to bring it up at Plymouth, but this is a unique opportunity of having a word with ringers. A fortnight ago some of us on the banks of the Thames watched a procession of two boats (laughter). The one which was hindmost in the procession was a good boat and a very good crew, there was no question of that; but the one in front was a particularly good one. There are many points of resemblance between eight-oared rowing and eight-bell ringing; but there is one real difference, because if you want to annoy the crew of an eight-oared boat you say their finishing is 'like a peal of bells.' Those two boats racing up the Thames were propelled with most extraordinary unison and rhythm in their movement. That is only attained after years of most careful coaching in every little detail of handling oars, and I wish the same trouble was taken when young ringers are taught to handle a rope. I am sorry to say that since my return from exile in Scotland, I have seen something like sixty or seventy per cent. of ringers who do not properly handle the tail of their rope. I leave that with you. It is up to us to back up the founders in the wonderful work they are doing and the wonderful bells they are producing, by ringing them properly, and to ring them properly one of the first essentials is to handle the ropes properly (applause). It is in such a way that we can produce the melody and harmony which the Bishop of Croydon has mentioned. I would ask you, concluded Mr. Lewis, to express your thanks to Mr. Johnston for the wonderful hospitality extended to us to-day and for the opportunity of this wonderful meeting (cheers).

A GREAT FELLOWSHIP.

The LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH, in his wife's name and his own, added his tribute of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Johnston. He said his memory went back to a day not so long ago when he was dedicating a renewed peal of bells in one of their small Norfolk parishes, and to their great delight and to his admiration they found that Mr. and Mrs. Johnston had motored all the way from Croydon to be present at that service (applause). It was because Mr. Johnston did his work in that spirit that he had achieved world-wide fame. On the previous Monday he was present at the Norfolk Diocesan Association meeting. It was not often that in one week he had the honour and privilege of meeting bellringers twice over. As he spoke to them he could not help saying that he was delighted to observe that the art of bellringing was continuous from generation to generation and from age to age. There were elderly people, those of the second generation and also some small boys. That day he could make that remark with even greater emphasis. They had already saluted the gentleman of ninety summers, and he had observed that there was a young man, held in his mother's arms, and at that moment fast asleep, who already, before he was able to speak, was enrolled in the number of bellringers. It augured prosperity for this great art and craft, if it could enlist old and young to work together. One of the things the world was looking for to-day was this fellowship between the older and younger generations, pulling together, not only pulling the ropes, but in other ways, and they (the ringers) seemed to have solved that puzzle which had perplexed many people—the way in which old and young could work side by side, each helping one another and assisting one another in the common good. It was very delightful to see that great gathering. He could not help thinking that they would carry away with them the thought of that great fellowship to which they belonged. He rejoiced to know that theirs was a sacred fellowship, because they all met in the House of the Lord as friends, and the blessing of God rested on the work, a work of beauty and skill which they undertook in His name (applause).

EXAMPLE OF MANY ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Mr. HERBERT G. WILLIAMS, M.P., said that he had had some experience of public gatherings and their organisation, and he was not only grateful to Mr. Johnston and his staff for their hospitality, but he was filled with admiration at the splendid way in which the whole occasion had been organised (applause). Every one of them had had the opportunity of seeing round the works and hearing the great carillon; they had been brought to their respective halls, properly fed and put into that condition in which they could listen without boredom to the speeches inflicted upon them (laughter and applause). He happened to be an engineer, and bell founding and the subsequent operations were scientific engineering processes; it was engineering applied to the production of great musical instruments. The process of tuning done on a machine, which engineers termed a machine tool, was the application of something purely mechanical to something which constituted one of the great arts. What interested most of them there, probably, was what the thing would do when it was made; some of them, however, were interested in how it was made and the things used in making it. The whole factory was an interesting example of many arts and many sciences. The Mayor had made reference to the pride which Croydon had in the Foundry. If he might say so the Foundry had made Croydon's name ring throughout the world (applause). When he was a small boy he used to attend



A SECTION OF THE BIG TEA PARTY IN THE BATHS HALL.

a church in Cheshire where there was a fine peal of bells which used to be set ringing for the service. During the last minute the ringing of one bell summoned them to prayer, five minutes before the service began, a little procession came out of one door of the church and, after a pause, re-entered another door, and he had never been able to find out what those people did in the meantime (laughter). 'Apparently,' said Mr. Williams, 'you know (laughter). Now, I understand why it is in every country district the two most important public buildings are always close together' (loud laughter). When Parliament was not sitting, continued Mr. Williams, and there was nothing of interest to write about, the papers often took up the subject of why don't men go to church. Many men did go to church, but if all the churches had got Johnston's bells—he was respectfully going to pass on that suggestion to the high dignitaries of the Church there that day—they would not only be doing something for the prosperity of Croydon but they would probably fill their churches. Moreover, there would be no need for the municipality of Croydon to wait for better times before they built a larger public hall; Mr. Johnston would be able to present it to the town (laughter and applause). It was extremely fortunate that they had a man of public spirit like Mr. Johnston, who had sufficient interest outside the merely commercial aspect of his business to organise that great gathering and give them the generous hospitality which he had shown them that night (applause).

THANKS TO HELPERS.

MR. JOHNSTON expressed appreciation on behalf of the staff and himself for the kind words expressed by the various speakers. It had been a great pleasure, he said, to have that large gathering, but it would be ungracious if he did not make mention of just a few of the people who had been their mainstays in organising the event. He thanked the Vicars, Rectors, churchwardens and steeplekeepers of the eight bellfries where they had been ringing that day. Over five hundred ringers applied for ringing in the various towers, and he hoped that all the visitors had been able to exercise their art in Croydon, in the country, and in London as much as they desired. The owners and superintendents of the halls had been splendid in giving them every facility. Without the assistance of the general and district secretaries of associations and guilds, and the captains of the 467 bellfries, that meeting could not have taken place. He also thanked the 80 stewards, reinforced by the 50 stewards from their own works, reinforced again by 70 charming Croydon ladies who had acted as hostesses at the tea tables and tried to make them all feel at home. The carillonners must not be forgotten: Mr. Wesson, from Nashville, Tennessee, who was in Belgium studying the art of carillon playing, Mr. Potter, who came at short notice from Loughborough, and Miss Nora Johnston, who was studying at Malines, and had come over specially to play to them that day (applause). They must not forget either those marvellous ringers who had come there to tap changes for them on the keyboard of the carillon, men who could divide their brain into ten or twelve parts at one time and give them the effect of change ringing on the bells. These were Mr.

Tom Groombridge, Mr. Harry Withers and Mr. Price. They were indebted to Mr. Ratcliff, of Wembley Cup Final fame, who was coming to lead the community singing, and especially to Messrs. Slators' manager, who was a marvellous organiser, for the way in which he had carried out the arrangements for the tea in the ten separate halls. Their own staff at the Foundry, including Mr. Housman, their general manager, who had been reinforced by a temporary staff, had worked for many days and nights in order to make that day's proceedings a success, and he would like to thank them all. In conclusion, Mr. Johnston added that he could only say that he wished everyone a safe journey home, and he hoped each of them would be at the end of their own rope in their own tower in the morning (applause).

THE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.

At the conclusion of the speeches, there was a short interval while the great hall was converted into a concert room, and at 7.30 Mr. T. P. Ratcliff took the platform and conducted half an hour of community singing. Mr. Ratcliff is widely experienced in handling large gatherings, such as Wembley Cup Final and the Aldershot Tattoo crowds. The audience on Saturday fell at once into his inspiring grip, everyone was quickly in a happy humour, and, led by the energetic conductor, put all they knew into their singing. It was a great success. Then followed a concert, in which some delightful songs were sung by Miss Elsie Short, a talented soprano, Mr. Rex Harold, better known as 'Sunny,' entertained with humorous song and story—his beaming face and broad smile were in themselves a tonic—and Miss Nora Johnston exhibited another of her many-sided talents by singing songs at the piano. Each of the artistes had to respond to an encore, and afterwards there was another bout of community singing under Mr. Ratcliff's direction.

At the conclusion of the concert, the floor was cleared, and from that hour until midnight there was dancing to the strains of Leslie Dangerfield's orchestra, the M.C. being Mr. E. Brown. Hundreds of couples joined enthusiastically in this part of the proceedings, and although, as the evening wore on, many had to leave to catch trains to distant parts of the country, the dance was kept up with spirit.

From beginning to end, the day was packed with interest and pleasure for all the participants, who will long look back with happy memories to the 'All England Rally,' which was made possible by the kindness of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

Many ringers travelled through the night on Friday in order to be at Croydon, but many more spent the small hours of Sunday morning in the train in order to be in their places in the belfry on Sunday. Two from the West of England, 140 miles from London, reached home at 5.45 a.m. One attended church at 8 a.m., the other was in the tower for ringing at ten o'clock.

The Bishop of Guildford had intended to be present at the gathering, but at the last minute was called away to another part of the country to the bedside of a sick friend.

The photographs illustrating this report are by C. Friend-Smith, 239, Norbury Crescent, S.W.16.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Sunday, April 3rd, at Great St. Mary's, 1,008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major for evensong: T. Chenery 1, C. Robinson 2, P. Webb 3, M. Ginn 4, C. S. Smith 5, A. G. Rivers 6, T. R. Dennis 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8. Rung on back eight.

REIGATE, SURREY.—At the Parish Church, on Easter Sunday, March 27th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): G. Stemp 1, M. A. Northover 2, *R. V. Fuller 3, F. Jeal 4, *R. Tuffin 5, J. Foster 6, *C. Hygate 7, *W. Wells 8, G. Hoad (conductor) 9, *G. Swallow 10. * First quarter-peal of Caters.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, March 27th, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, in 1 hour, a date touch (1,932 changes, consisting of 312 London Surprise, 180 Plain Bob, 720 Oxford and 720 Kent Treble Bob): W. G. Gridley 1, H. Stebbings 2, S. W. Bignmore 3, R. G. Harvey 4, H. S. Barker (conductor) 5, E. J. Howard 6. For evening service, 815 Minor, consisting of 216 London Surprise, 360 Kent and 240 Oxford Treble Bob: A. H. Stebbings 1, W. G. Gridley 2, H. Stebbings 3, R. G. Harvey 4, H. S. Barker (conductor) 5, E. J. Howard 6.

STAFFORD.—On Sunday, March 20th, for evening service at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): H. Bailey (first quarter-peal of Caters) 1, R. J. Warrilow 2, H. F. Evans 3, J. W. Riddington 4, A. E. Garbett 5, G. Booth 6, W. G. Curtis 7, A. H. Taylor (first quarter-peal of Caters as conductor) 8, J. Warrilow 9, W. H. Jones 10.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—At All Saints' Church, on Palm Sunday, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): J. Shipley 1, Miss G. Burchnell 2, Miss C. Eling 3, Miss K. Burchnell 4, N. Moxon, jun., 5, H. Denman 6, E. Midwinter 7, L. Pierrepont (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Major by ringers of 3 and 5, and first of Major as conductor. N. Moxon only took up change ringing in January, and it was his first attempt.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the East Derbyshire and Notts Association was held at Tibshelf on Easter Monday, when a goodly number of members were present to enjoy a very successful meeting. A service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. James Ducker), who delivered an inspiring address, and extended a hearty invitation to the visitors. The Vicar, churchwarden and organist joined the members at the splendid tea served in the Church Hall adjoining.

The president occupied the chair at the business meeting which followed, when the balance sheet, auditors' report and secretary's report were unanimously adopted, and the following officials were re-elected: President, Mr. Wilson Dobb; vice-presidents, Mr. W. Allin and Mr. M. Slater; treasurer, Mr. T. Stimpson; secretary, Mr. J. W. England. The executive committee were re-elected en bloc, and Mr. T. Clark was appointed Ringing Master.

Several matters of interest were keenly discussed, and the members showed keen interest in the work of the association.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, organist and ladies concluded the meeting, and the company adjourned to the tower for further ringing until 8.30, when the bells were lowered in peal.

THE HEAVIEST SIX IN BERKSHIRE.

On Easter Day, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung on Bray bells in 50 mins., the striking of which was a pleasure to hear. This ring, with a tenor of 27 cwt., are certainly not 'boys' bells' to ring, and for a local band to accomplish a quarter-peal is no mean feat. The band who took part are all Sunday service ringers under the conductorship of Mr. Frederick J. Russell: *W. Blackall 1, H. Russell 2, *C. A. Gilder 3, B. G. Ludlow 4, F. J. Russell 5, J. Russell 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to C. A. Gilder. * First quarter-peal.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP MEEFS THE RINGERS.

For the first time in the history of the Norwich Diocesan Association the Bishop of the diocese preached at the annual festival—the 54th—on Easter Monday at Norwich. The celebrated Mancroft bells were, as usual, a great attraction for visiting ringers, and the rings at St. Michael-at-Coslany and All Saints' were also well used. The special service was held in St. Peter Mancroft Church, and was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Hugh McMullan). The Bishop of Norwich based an inspiring address on the words, 'O come, let us worship.'

A company of about sixty, representing all parts of the diocese, were at the luncheon, which was presided over by the Archdeacon of Norwich (the Ven. G. M. MacDermott), who is president of the association. He was supported by the Bishop of Norwich and Mrs. Pollock, the Rev. Hugh McMullan and Mrs. McMullan, Mr. C. E. Borrett (vice-president), Mr. Arthur L. Coleman (hon. secretary), etc.

After the toast of 'The King,' the Hon. Secretary proposed 'The Bishop and Clergy.' He said it was a great honour to the association to have with them that day the Bishop and Mrs. Pollock, and the Vicar of St. Peter Mancroft and Mrs. McMullan. That was the first time in the history of the association that the Bishop of the diocese had given the address at the annual service. That, however, was not the Bishop's fault, because in 1914 he was going to do so when the event had to be cancelled on account of the war. Mr. Coleman declared that but for the good fellowship between the clergy and the ringers, the ringers could do nothing at all. Unless they got the permission of the clergy they could not ring the bells, but, on the other hand, without the ringers the bells could not ring for Sunday services. He appealed for further co-operation on the part of the clergy. It would bring a good influence to join up the bells from the tower at the west end of the church to the altar at the east end.

HOW A SHORT ROPE LED TO TOWER RESTORATION

The Bishop said he appreciated the chance of seeing the bellringers. So often they were out of sight. As Mr. Coleman had said, they were frequently out of reach, and though he always liked to thank all his friends in the various parishes, by the nature of the case he could not thank the bellringers as he would wish to do. Mr. Coleman spoke of it as being part of church work, and he (the Bishop) was delighted to think so many there that day took up bellringing not merely as an interesting art and craft but as a part of the work of the church, and it was a particular delight to him to see the varying ages of those present. He was glad bellringing was going on into the next and the next after generation, and that in every age we should have those who did care to offer the tribute to God of the ringing of the bells of His house. Mr. Coleman had spoken of the importance of keeping up the spirit of fellowship of the clergy and the bellringers. In recent years, far more than usual, he (the Bishop) had had before him offers and applications for the repairing of bells. That might be due to the fact that all their towers were cracking together—he hoped not—or to the fact that the clergy were taking a greater interest in their bells. 'They are an expensive item in church building and in church work,' he continued. Some years ago someone thought that the bell rope of one bell was rather short, and in making it longer found it to be very rotten, and the whole thing came down. When he went to fix it at the top he found the support of the bell was also rotten, and at last it was found that the tower itself needed some hundreds of pounds to repair. When a clergyman thought if he bought a small piece of bell rope that he might have to collect £500 for a tower, no wonder he was a little bit cautious on the subject (laughter). But the clergy were delighted to know bellringing was going on. 'I believe in our village England—we do not want to see it entirely suburbanised—church bells have a music of their own that appeals to many souls. I believe,' added the Bishop, 'that bells have the power of touching our hearts and speaking to us.' But bells would be nothing without the ringers, and that day they were among those 'who make the bells speak, and, secondly, make them speak in the name of the Lord' (applause).

Mr. Coleman thanked the Vicar of St. Peter Mancroft for the great kindness they had always received from him.

'A YEAR OF QUIET PROGRESSION'

The fifty-fourth annual report chronicled a 'year of quiet progression by our branches in the association's work.' The necessity for bringing new members was emphasised. The total membership was 828, and active efforts were urged to increase the total membership to 1,000. Records of peal performances for the past year showed that 59 peals were rung in 14 different methods, 119 members taking part in these peals, which were conducted by 14 members. Four performances called for special mention. A peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 11,264 changes, was rung at Saxlingham on December 12th in 6 hours 41 mins., composed and conducted by F. Nolan Golden. The other three peals were the first by the association—5,064 Erith Little Bob Major at North Lopham, February 15th, 5,040 St. Simon's Bob Triples at North Lopham, March 15th, and 5,320 Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Great Yarmouth, September 19th, all conducted by F. Nolan Golden. Heartily congratulations were offered to all the ringers who took part in these peals.

Proposing the adoption of the report, the President expressed the view that as soon as we stabilised our commercial and industrial system we should find by the aid of machinery we could produce enough commodities for everybody to live very comfortably off. He was not

(Continued in next column.)

A GHASTLY HOLOCAUST RECALLED.

EATON SOCON'S NEW BELLS DEDICATED

In February, 1930, the charming 14th century church of Eaton Socon, Bedfordshire, situate on the Great North Road, was entirely destroyed by fire. Under the guidance of Professor Richardson it has arisen phoenix-like from its ashes, and the progress of the restoration bears ample evidence of the skill of the British workman. None but the best of craftsmen in their respective spheres have been employed, and the confidence placed in them has repaid itself.

On Saturday, March 18th, 1932, the first part of the restoration work, viz., the bells, was rededicated by the Archdeacon of Bedford. As will be recalled, in the height of the fire the old peal of six bells crashed to the ground with consequences which can be realised only too well—three of the bells were smashed to pieces, and the others were badly cracked. All the old metal was salvaged and used in the making of a splendid ring of eight, with a tenor weighing 14 cwt. This part of the work was entrusted to the famous Loughborough firm of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., who have produced another masterpiece. The new framework is of best English oak, which, when compared with many frames constructed of the same material, puts them completely in the shade. Its arrangement, the massiveness of its component parts and workmanship, are typical of the Loughborough productions.

For some time the chancel—screened from the nave—has been used as a temporary church, but for the service of the dedication of the bells the partly completed nave was used for the first time, and all the available chairs were occupied, but, as there was ample standing room, the less fortunate visitors were able to make use of the space available. A good number of ringers from far and near were present, who took turns on the bells after the service until quite a late hour. Their voluntary services were very much appreciated by the Church authorities and parishioners, who were enraptured by the music of the bells, which reverberated throughout the village. The manner in which the bells were rung ably demonstrated the thorough way in which the work had been carried out.

The appreciation of the ringers' services was expressed in a most practical manner by the provision of a splendid tea in the Parish Hall, at which the Vicar took the opportunity of voicing his pleasure at having the company present, who responded in the usual way by 'clearing' the tables.

Lying among the debris outside the church, rusty and charred, were the remains of the old clock which has been replaced by a new movement, resplendent in new blue paint and polished brass. This has been made by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Ltd., of Derby. A note of distinction has been added to the clock, which in future will be known as 'The Eaton Chime.' This is a new arrangement for chiming the quarters, operating on all the eight bells, and has been specially composed by Dr. Sidney Nicholson, M.V.O., Mus.Doc., of St. Nicholas' College, and formerly organist of Westminster Abbey. It is anticipated that the complete church will be rededicated on Saturday, June 25th, by the Lord Bishop of the diocese.

YOUNG BAND'S START.

At Woodbridge, on Sunday, April 3rd, for evensong, and in honour of Mr. H. A. Shaw on his election as churchwarden of St. Mary's Church, the following rang a touch of 490 Grandsire Triples: J. Sawyer 1, F. Trotman 2, G. N. Blake 3, A. Rudd 4, F. Woodruffe 5, J. Woodruffe 6, J. Trotman (conductor) 7, G. Warner 8. This is the longest touch of Triples by all the band, who, except the ringers of the 3rd and 7th, two years ago could not handle a bell. It is the longest touch by the St. Mary's band for about 35 years, and the longest permissible on the bells in their present condition. The ringer of the 2nd is only 13 years of age.

(Continued from previous column.)

talking politics, but telling them simply what was true. By the aid of machinery we could produce so much 'that I believe the day will come,' he said, 'when instead of having to work for eight hours a day you will only want to work six or even four (laughter and applause). What are you going to do with all your spare time?' He would suggest that many might come and take up the noble art of ringing. It would be a most excellent way of spending their leisure time. It was a very healthy thing, and those engaged in it seemed to live long.

The president (the Archdeacon of Norwich), the general secretary and treasurer (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman), and the hon. auditor (Mr. G. P. Burton) were re-elected.

The Rev. Canon R. A. Aitken, M.A., Vicar of Great Yarmouth, and the Rev. H. J. Euraught, M.A., Rector of Lowestoft, were elected vice-presidents, and the other vice-presidents were re-elected.

Miss H. W. Bill, Messrs. G. Bailey, Arthur G. Bason, R. W. Cooke, J. F. Duffield, W. C. Duffield and J. Taylor were elected on the Standing Committee, and ten new members and two old members were elected members of the association.

The general secretary was instructed to get an estimate for a new certificate with the corrected title, etc., and to meet the West Norfolk Branch on the matter of the boundaries of that branch.

A sub-committee was appointed to report upon the Attleborough and Wymondham resolutions, and the meeting then closed, and the members adjourned to the belfries for further ringing until the evening.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. THE JUBILEE DINNER.

The jubilee celebration of the Midland Counties Association at Derby on Easter Monday concluded with a dinner at the King's Cafe, at which close upon 140 members and friends were present. Mr. E. Denison Taylor (president) occupied the chair, and was supported by the Very Rev. Canon H. Ham (Provost of Derby), the Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell (Mackworth), Rev. Canon J. H. Cooper (Darley Abbey), Rev. Dr. D. M. Irwin (Duffield), Rev. L. G. Pronger (Derby Cathedral), Sir Henry Fowler, K.B.E. (Spondon), Mr. F. Ruffell (Duffield) and Mr. J. W. Downing (Derby). Among those present were three of the original members (Messrs. J. Griffin, J. Jagger and S. Maskrey), who were given places of honour, Messrs. W. Willson (Leicester), vice-president; W. E. White (Colgrave), hon. treasurer; E. Morris (Leicester), hon. secretary; Rev. R. F. Wilkinson (Ordsall), Mr. J. H. Swinfield (Burton), Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), Mr. Beamish and Mrs. Beamish, hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild (Nuneaton), and the following district secretaries: Messrs. A. Sharp (Burton-on-Trent), J. P. Tarlton (Chesterfield), G. Freebrey (Derby), A. E. Rowley (Hinckley), E. H. Bagworth (Leicester), D. S. Collins (Loughborough), and E. C. Gohrey (Nottingham), etc.

After dinner, the loyal toast was proposed by the President and cordially honoured.

In proposing the toast of 'The Bishop and Clergy,' Mr. W. Willson expressed to the Bishop and clergy the members' appreciation of the many privileges they had had at their hands. They regretted the Bishop was not there, but he was well represented by the Provost. There were none more welcome at their associations meetings than the Bishop and clergy. 'It may appear to you,' continued Mr. Willson, 'that we ringers live in a world of our own. We do. And when we do anything worth recording we make a song about it. We do. But we are in very good company. Look where you will, the music of the bells has penetrated to every civilised country on earth, it has permeated the literature of all nations, and inspired the poets of all ages. There is another side,' continued Mr. Willson, 'a spiritual side. It is just possible the sound of our bells has made some way-farer pause and think, and when a man thinks, the battle is half won. The misdeeds of the past cannot be recalled, but they may not be repeated.'

'PARSONS ARE HUMAN.'

The Provost, who replied, caused much amusement by relating how, after that afternoon's service, the Bishop of Derby had gone off with his (the Provost's) hat, leaving his own behind. He (the speaker) was left in a difficult position. If he wore it he felt he would certainly be accused of having deliberately stolen the Bishop's hat (laughter). But he boldly put it on, feeling most unworthy and unepiscopal (laughter); he borrowed an umbrella, and pressed it down on his head, although it was not raining, and, by by-ways and side-streets, furtively found his way home. He hoped he would get his own hat back on the morrow (laughter). Continuing, the Provost said it had been his good fortune to be able to do something in the cause of bells and bellringing. When he had the honour of taking his post at the Cathedral Church the bells of the church were in a very sorry condition. For years they had been getting worse for wear, and the tower itself was not particularly safe. There was need for a great deal to be done. It was necessary for the whole tower to be reconstituted. The bells had to be retuned and rehung and placed in a lower position in the tower. That was a big undertaking in face of the enormous sum that was needed for the division of the diocese. However, they put their hands into their pockets and got it done, and the success of the work was largely due to the help of their president, Mr. Taylor, who did, as he always does, a good job (applause). Continuing, the Provost said the Bishops and clergy owed a very great debt of gratitude to the bellringers, who served them so splendidly Sunday by Sunday all the year round. We parsons, the speaker continued, cannot help every now and then—it is our job—telling the bellringers they must turn up in church as well as in the belfry. Yet even parsons are human (hear, hear). Supposing I look off my 'dog collar' and went and rung for an hour. I don't say I would not go to church every time, but I say I might not go always. I want you to feel we do understand, but what we are afraid of is lest there should be a complete severance between the belfry and the nave of the church. We look to you to see there is no such severance, but to maintain the real church spirit. We appreciate all that ringers do, not only because they serve the church as they do so splendidly, but because bellringing itself is, to my mind, a most noble art. Change ringing which we get in England is the highest form of bellringing, and I hope it may long maintain its position (applause).

DUFFIELD BELLS TO BE RECAST.

Mr. F. Ruffell, in proposing a toast to 'The M.P.'s (town and county) and the Mayor and Corporation of Derby,' made an appeal for funds for the recasting of Duffield bells, with which, in the past, the late Sir Arthur Heywood was so intimately associated. The Duffield ringers had worked their hardest, he said, and had raised somewhere about £120, and a bazaar was to be held this year in the hope that they would get the bulk of the remaining money required. He appealed to the Midland Counties Association to make as generous a grant towards the fund as they could. The speaker then went on to

refer to the support which that association received from the M.P.'s of Derby and the county and from members of Derby Council, and pointed out it was well that representative men of this kind should be interested, for they never knew when their help and assistance might be valuable, should an attack upon bellringing be made from outside.

In the absence of Alderman Sir J. Ferguson Bell, the toast was responded to by the Rev. L. G. Pronger, who paid a tribute to the services rendered to ringing at the Cathedral by Mr. J. Pagel.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson submitted the toast of 'The Midland Counties Association,' first remarking on the honour it was to be present on that historic occasion. They had met, he said, to do honour to the early founders, and some of them could realise what these pioneers were up against in 1882, when they met in St. Luke's belfry to plan out the association for the first time. In the years just before that the columns of 'Church Bells' frequently contained letters from clergy, asking what they could do with those 'impossible' people called ringers (laughter); how could they get them reformed? Throughout the years that had passed since its foundation their association had kept before it the two objects of belfry reform, as regards the condition of belfries and the behaviour of ringers, and scientific change ringing—two great objects which had transformed the character of change ringing and the character of bellringers. As an illustration of the misuse of bells in the early days to which he had referred, Mr. Wilkinson mentioned that in one place a ringer was a publican and lost his license. Throughout the whole of that night the ringers rang a muffled peal (laughter). That, he said, was the spirit all over England.

WHAT THE M.C.A. STANDS FOR.

The subject of his toast was, he continued, on the back of their souvenir menu—fifty years of progress and the names of the general officers who were to-day carrying on the work. In all work for the Church, if it was to prosper for many years, they must exhibit three things. There must be enthusiasm, the spirit of progress and a high standard among those who claimed to be doing the work. He thought it could honestly be said of the Midland Counties Association that it had tried to carry forward that spirit of enthusiasm, always progressed, and had always a high standard of ringing. To some of them the Midland Counties Association represented all that was best in the history of change ringing, and all that was best in the work of bellringers in England to-day. Fifty years was a long and noble record to have behind them, but they must not forget the names of those who began the work. There were three of them present that night—Mr. Joseph Griffin, Mr. John Jagger and Mr. S. Maskrey (applause). He knew the company was delighted to see them; they were honoured men. What wonderful changes they had seen, and what marvellous stories they could tell them. All honour to the pioneers of those early days; their work was harder than ours is now. They had carried on for fifty years—and paid their subscriptions. That alone was a splendid example (applause). A great deal, continued the speaker, depended upon the officers who were carrying on the work to-day; the spirit in which they fulfilled their office meant so much to their association. He eulogised the work which Mr. E. Denison Taylor was doing as president, and referred to the great interest he had displayed in the association. He spoke of the great services which Mr. William Willson had rendered in various ways, and they had honoured him now by making him their vice-president. If sometimes he had been called to do battle, it was only because he was always anxious to uphold the honour and traditions of ringing in the Midland Counties Association, and because he was jealous for what was best and highest in the art. Among the many achievements of their hon. secretary, Mr. Morris had written a most wonderful book, and they were really proud that he had been the one to set forth this splendid history of change ringing. He had many other personal achievements to his credit, and he had served the association with great industry and success. He was not afraid of doing things, and if they all had his enterprise, his courage and his enthusiasm they would be a still more wonderful association (applause). Lastly, there was their hon. treasurer, who was their secretary for many years. He had served them ably and well. In casting their minds back to honour the men of the past, let them also honour the men who were carrying on to-day, the officers and the unknown ordinary ringers, who were doing so much for the association, and who had been faithful to it in past days (applause).

Mr. W. E. White (the hon. treasurer), in a few fitting words, acknowledged the toast.

Mr. Ernest Morris (the hon. secretary), gave 'The Honorary Members,' who, he said, were their very good friends, and without whom they would not make the association a financial success. The happy position which the association was in rested entirely with the hon. members, and he expressed appreciation of the support which they gave.

Sir Henry Fowler responded in a happy speech, in the course of which he humorously referred to the fact that, as he put it, for two years they had at St. Andrew's, Derby, unsuccessfully tried to teach him to ring. He was, however, still persisting, and, when he gave up all other work, he thought he should go into a belfry and live there until he had mastered the art (laughter). He enjoyed bells if they were well rung and properly struck, and he particularly enjoyed listening

(Continued on page 244.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**FULL REPRESENTATION ON THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**

The annual meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Dursley, Glos., on Easter Monday. The bells of Cunn (six), Stinchcombe (six), and Dursley (eight) were made good use of before 2.15 p.m., when a service was conducted by Rev. E. G. Benson in Dursley Parish Church. The text, 'Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called' was taken by Rev. E. G. Benson, who reminded the members that bells were prominent at Eastertide, and that it was fitting that the annual meeting should be held at Eastertide. He urged ringers to do their utmost for Sunday service ringing; the bells were not for their own amusement. All ringers should be communicants, was his concluding remark in an inspiring address.

The business meeting, attended by over 100 members, was held in Dursley Town Hall, and in the absence (through illness) of the Master (Rev. E. S. Saleby) Mr. S. Romans, of Gloucester, was unanimously voted to the chair.

On business arising out of the minutes, the Hon. Secretary stated that a steel cabinet had been purchased to protect the peal books, and was installed at Church House, Park Street, Bristol, where at any time the Church House secretary, Rev. C. Alford, would welcome anyone interested and show the peal books.

Apologies for absence were read from Rev. E. S. Saleby, Rev. M. E. Thorold, Mr. J. Gould, Mr. A. Wright and Mr. Mervett.

Mr. E. Guise (the hon. secretary) reported that 47 peals had been rung during 1931. Finances had been less progressive, but this was readily accounted for in members' arrears. In other directions steady progress had been made. Restorations were above the average number, and the association's advisers had done useful and appreciated work during 1931. Tewkesbury Abbey Guild had 22 members, thanks to Rev. E. G. Benson for much encouragement. The secretary also gave details of the proposed memorial to the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

Mr. J. Austin proposed the adoption of the report.—Mr. Davis (Lydney) seconded, and it was carried.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the receipts were down on the year, and that items of extraordinary expenditure, such as books of instruction free to all towers, Morris' books (2), and steel cabinet for peal books caused a rise in the other expenditure.

Mr. J. W. Davies said that the congratulations of the association were due to Mr. Williams. It had been a bad year in every sphere of life, but he considered the balance sheet very satisfactory. He proposed its adoption.—Mr. Thomas seconded, and the motion was carried.

CENTRAL COUNCIL REAFFILIATION.

The report of the special committee on reaffiliation to the Central Council was unanimously adopted, on the motion of Rev. E. G. Benson, seconded by Mr. J. Austin.

The Hon. Secretary, speaking for the various committees recommending this course, thanked the members, and mentioned that as the Management Committee had been entrusted with the affiliation in future, and that as they would not meet again before the Council meeting, he asked the meeting to elect, perhaps, two representatives this year. It was only a suggestion—four could be elected now.

Mr. Yeend spoke in favour of four, and Rev. E. G. Benson said four were necessary to the association now. The report was adhered to, and the nominations were as follows: Mr. J. Austin, Gloucester Archdeaconry; Mr. E. Bishop, Swindon Archdeaconry; Mr. W. Rose, Cheltenham Archdeaconry; and Mr. E. Guise, Bristol Archdeaconry. All these were elected without any additional nominations.

It was decided that a form be printed for annual returns from all towers of ringers, bells practices, augmentations, etc.

Donations to the belfry repair fund will be acknowledged by receipted forms in future.

The Hon. Secretary reported for the committee set up to outline the scheme for a memorial to the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies. The committee had recommended that the memorial should be at Tewkesbury; that the wishes of Mrs. Davies should be agreed to; that the memorial should be in the dual form of bells and Ringers' Chapel; that the sum of £250 be appealed for, so that the bells could be provided and leave a large sum towards the chapel. Memorial forms had been printed and were being circulated all over England and Ireland, and even abroad, as it was decided that the memorial should be a national one.—The report was adopted.

CONFIDENCE IN THE OFFICIALS.

Before proceeding with the election of officers, a reference was made to a recent letter in 'The Ringing World,' asking for the removal of the executive members in Bristol. A member said the best reply to that letter was to elect them again, and he hoped that the officials concerned would carry on. The association would not have been so flourishing had it not been for those members of the executive.

All the vice-presidents were re-elected, and Mr. S. Romans, of Gloucester, added.

Mr. J. W. Davies was proposed as Master, but immediately withdrew. Mr. J. Austin then proposed Mr. J. Gould, of Henbury, Bristol, as Master, and said he was sure that no other member with a greater claim could be found.—Ex-Serjt. Williams (Newent) seconded, and there being no other nomination Mr. Gould was elected unanimously.

On the election of the hon. treasurer and hon. secretary, a member said he considered it the most important part of the agenda. They had all heard the report of the special committee with reference to the memorial to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and other important items which had passed, and with all sincerity he would ask the meeting to inspire the officers of the association with whole-hearted support and the backing of every member. He asked that the election of Mr. P. C. Williams, the hon. treasurer, and Mr. E. Guise, hon. secretary, be coupled together, and that they be re-elected with every confidence.

The Chairman asked the meeting if they agreed to this course, and it was agreed to with prolonged applause.

Mr. F. Skidmore then proposed the re-election of these two officers, and Mr. Fussell seconded.—The motion was carried nem. con.

All the remaining officials were re-elected, and Mr. Dewdney, of Lydney, was added to the Management Committee.

The next annual meeting is to be held in Gloucester on Easter Monday, 1933.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring Master for his services to the association, and it was decided that the hon. secretary should convey the gratitude of the association to Rev. E. S. Saleby.

Thanks were accorded to Mr. Romans for taking the chair and to Rev. E. G. Benson for giving the address and conducting the service.

Mr. Fussell and the lady organist were also thanked.

A vote of condolence was extended to the relatives of Mr. F. Edwards, so recently deceased, and also on the loss of Rev. H. Law James.

This concluded the meeting, and tea was partaken of at the Gols-wold Cafe. There was then more ringing, and late in the evening Bristol and Cheltenham ringers again met at Painswick with disappointed faces. Nevertheless, an enjoyable time was spent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION.**

Two hundred and fifty members of the Kent County Association visited Tenterden on Easter Monday for their annual meeting. It is 26 years since the meeting was last held in the borough, and among those who attended on that occasion was Mr. P. Hodgkin, one of the founders of the association, who has been ringing for over half a century. St. Mildred's Church tower was open for ringing, other towers available being those at Rolvenden, Benenden, Biddenden, Appledore and Cranbrook.

The association service was held in St. Mildred's Church at noon, and Canon T. G. Gardiner, of Canterbury, in the unavoidable absence of the Bishop of Dover, gave the address. Bells, he said, became wonderfully human in the hands of the ringers, who could make the bells speak of sorrow, joy and worship. The clergy were grateful for the service they rendered to the Church. May bellringers never die out in the parishes, and the ringers never give up practices.

The offertory for the Benevolent Fund realised £3 12s. 8d.

The Drill Hall was filled to its capacity at the dinner which followed. The Mayor of Tenterden (Colr. Lt.-Col. W. A. V. Findlater) presided, supported by Canon Gardiner, the Revs. M. L. Mann (Vicar of Tenterden), Hugh B. Langton (Rolvenden), C. Bailey (Benenden), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council) and Mrs. Lewis, and Mr. F. M. Mitchell (hon. secretary and treasurer).

Mr. F. White (Cranbrook) proposed the toast of 'The Archbishop and Clergy,' and in responding Canon Gardiner said he had heard a good many peals all over the country, and every year those bells were rung on in spite of many difficulties. He hoped that they would keep alive the traditions of bellringing throughout the country, because he honestly believed that the bellringers were unequalled in any part of the world.

The Vicar of Tenterden, also replying to the toast, said they all valued the work of the association. He was glad to see a number of young people becoming ringers, and hoped more would do so.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, in proposing the toast of 'The Chairman,' first thanked the members for electing him as a vice-president of the Kent County Association.

Responding, the Mayor said their art was a very ancient one, and it should be encouraged.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

Mr. E. H. Lewis presided at the business meeting, and asked the company to stand in silence as a mark of respect to the late Lord Harris, who had been a foundation member. His Lordship was present at the inaugural meeting of the association 52 years ago, was one of the first vice-presidents and a life member.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, in his annual report, stated that the membership was steadily increasing, and larger numbers were attending the district meetings. During 1931 they had 110 towers in the union, just over half of the towns in the county possessing bells. They comprised two 12-bell towers, five 10 bells, fifty-one 8 bells, forty-one 6 bells, and one 5 bells. The total membership was 1,371, as against 1,329. Life members totalled 27, honorary members 84, non-resident life members 295, and practising members 965. The increases showed seven hon. members, nine practising, and 26 non-resident life members. In addition to the late Lord Harris, seven members had also been called to 'higher service,' and to the relatives they extended their sympathy. The number of peals rung during 1931 was 146, an advance on last year. These peals were: Twelve

bells 3, ten bells 12, eight bells 118, six bells 10, five bells 1, and handbells 2. These peals were rung in 65 towers, with 52 conductors; 28 rang their first peal, five first on a bob bell, 116 first in the method, and three had conducted their first peal. The hon. auditor, Mr. C. H. Drake, of Faversham, who had acted in that capacity for the last ten years, had resigned. The committee decided, by virtue of his residence in the county, and the valuable assistance rendered as president of the Central Council of Bellringers, to place the name of Mr. E. H. Lewis on the list of vice-presidents. They also decided that the names of the serving foundation members, Messrs. H. G. Fairbrass, P. Hodgkins, J. W. Leonard, E. S. Ruck, and C. Slingsby, be added to the list of life members as a token of appreciation of their 50 years' membership. It was also desired to be made known that all members of 20 years' standing, on attaining the age of 70, shall become free practising members. Bell restoration had taken place at Littlebourne, Sandhurst and Speldhurst, all by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

GROWING BENEVOLENT FUND.

The finances showed the association to be in a very flourishing condition. The balance on the general fund showed £16 14s. 5d. A grant to the Stedman Tercentenary Fund of £5 5s. from this fund was made. From the Belfry Repairs Fund £10 10s. had been paid, leaving an increased balance in this fund of £120 5s. 5d. Grants to the extent of £15 had been made to deserving cases from the Benevolent Fund, yet the balance had increased by £14 5s. 4d. to £172 7s. 10d. This fund had been considerably augmented during the past year by offertories at district meetings, and it was hoped it would be generally adopted to enable the Benevolent Committee to benefit the aged and disabled members of the association. The invested funds amounted to £547 3s. 8d., making a total balance of £886 11s. 4d.

On the proposition of Mr. Leason (Maidstone), seconded by Mr. J. Steddy (Edenbridge), the report and balance sheet were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted.

An important alteration of rule was made on the proposition of Mr. Barnett, jun., as follows: 'Previous to starting for a peal, provided that a majority of the band are already members, they may elect the remainder as members of the association. This is to apply if the candidates are not resident in the county, but not more than two may be so elected if resident within the county.'

With the exception of the hon. auditor, the whole of the officers were unanimously re-elected. The office of hon. auditor, rendered vacant by the regretted resignation of Mr. C. H. Drake (Faversham), was filled by the election of Mr. G. H. Cross (Barnhurst).

Mr. F. White (Cranbrook), in proposing their thanks to the hon. secretary and treasurer, said that the high standard that had been set by their late hon. secretary, Canon F. J. O. Helmore, was being maintained by Mr. Mitchell, as the report and balance sheet showed.

The vote was carried in true Kentish style, musical honours being accorded.—Mr. Mitchell, in reply, said he had the valued assistance of six district secretaries throughout the county. He thanked them for their help, and was pleased to know that his services for the association were so heartily appreciated.

A vote of thanks was also accorded the retiring auditor for his past services.

Mr. E. H. Lewis said he was pleased to inform them that the committee had that morning provisionally granted £5 5s. from the funds to the Rev. C. P. D. Davies' memorial, and solicited personal donations to this fund.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

Other than the jubilee meeting, at Canterbury, this was the best attended annual meeting in the annals of the association. The choice of Tonterden was generally accepted as an ideal town for the gathering.

(Continued from page 242.)

to bells as they were rung down in Cornwall. In spite of the advances made in the Midlands in change ringing, he did not think the striking, as a whole, was as good as down there. He added that the position which the M.C.A. had attained with regard to its hon. members was largely due to the work done by the late Mr. Chambers.

Mr. E. C. Gobey, in the absence of Mr. J. H. Swinfield, who had had to leave early, proposed 'The Visitors,' to which Mr. John Jagger responded. Mr. Jagger, who was an original member, said fifty years was a great span in a man's life, and he was thankful to be spared to be there that day. They had all been made very welcome. He noticed among the visitors several young people, some of whom, he hoped, would be spared to be present at the centenary of the association.

Mr. Colin Harrison, in a felicitous speech, proposed 'The Ringing World,' and said how much they welcomed the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith. He urged ringers everywhere to support the paper and increase its circulation, and congratulated it upon having just reached its 'majority.'—Mr. J. S. Goldsmith acknowledged the toast. 'Absent Brethren' was the concluding toast, honoured on the call of the Rev. Dr. Irwin.

The musical programme was sustained by Mr. Lowe Drury, Mr. Harry Gilbert and Mr. Fred Price (comedian), while a course of 'Grandsire Caters' was rung on handbells by Messrs. J. Paget, C. Harrison, E. Morris, A. Ward and R. W. Braines.

The earlier part of the day's proceedings was reported in our last issue.

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 communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 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. — 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.—A. J. Bull, 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. Bells of St. Oswald's, Winwick (6), will also be available from 3 to 5 p.m.—Claude I. Davies, J. Grounds, Branch Secs.

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.

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 Clyst (8 bells) on Saturday, April 9th. Service 4 o'clock, tea and business meeting to follow.—M. Powell, Hon. Sec., Clyst St. George, Exeter.

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 Abbey 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. 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.—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 Rogers). Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Bus leaves Wolverhampton: Queen Square at 2 and Railway Street at 2.30.—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.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Hoylandswaine on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready at 2.30.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—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.

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. The bells will be available during the afternoon.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

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 Bishop of Willesden. Tea, at usual terms, at 5.45. 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.

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.—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.—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.—G. M. Hasell, 11, Council Houses, Timsbury, Bath.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—A quarterly meeting is to be held at St. Giles' on Saturday, April 9th. Ringing from 3. Tea at 5 in Parish Hall. Service at 6. Address by Rector (Rev. E. Janson Smith).—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting at Sproughton (6) and Bramford (6) will be held next Saturday, April 9th. Tea in the Church Hall, 9d. each. A whist drive will be held later.—C. Mee, Sproughton, Ipswich.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rushton (6 bells) on Saturday, April 9th. Usual arrangements.—H. Baxter, Windmill Avenue, Kettering.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild. — A meeting will be held at Sunderland on Wednesday, April 13th. Bishopwearmouth, St. Michael's, in afternoon, St. Ignatius' in the evening. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers invited.—George Siddle, Sec.

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, Silvertown, 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.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Potton on Saturday, April 16th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at the Rectory at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, April 16th. Bells of the Parish Church (8) available from 3 o'clock. Committee meeting in the Vestry at 4 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock in the Parish Hall. Business meeting to follow. Visitors will be welcomed. — Mrs. D. E. Beamish, 'Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Stratton St. Margaret on Saturday, April 16th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by the business meeting. A large attendance is hoped for, as there is important business to be done. A card from those who require tea will assist arrangements.—S. Hopper, Branch Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Swindon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Peterborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Yaxley on Saturday, April 16th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 13th. All ringers welcome. — W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Little Munden on April 16th. Bells open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5. Address by the Rector (Rev. Canon Green). Tea in the school close by at 5.30. All ringers and ringing friends will be welcome. Buses now run conveniently from Ware. Priory buses for Dane End (outward): 2, 2.55, 3.45, 4.50 and 6 o'clock. We shall be pleased to see any old friends, also new ones. A card would be appreciated and a help towards catering.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Badby (6) on Saturday, April 16th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by Wednesday, April 13th? — W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, April 16th, at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park. Bells available 3.30. Tea (near by) 5.30. Business in tower 6.30. Ringing after. — J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Gloucester Branch. — The fourth annual dinner will be held on Saturday, April 16th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel at 6 p.m. Chairman: Councillor Eggleton, supported by other gentlemen. Following towers open for ringers during the afternoon: St. Mary de Crypt, 3 to 4; St. Mary de Lode (6), 4 to 5; St. Michael's (10) 4.45 to 5.45; Barnwood (8) available at 2 p.m. if required. Cathedral bells not available. Ladies invited. Tickets, 3s., obtainable from W. H. Harris, 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester. Closing date for tickets April 14th.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Deane on Saturday, April 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. — J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Sec., Yateley, Hants.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Puddletown on Saturday, April 16th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Market Drayton on Saturday, April 16th (8 bells). Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know on or before the 13th inst.?—R. D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Mickleton, near Campden, on Saturday, April 16th. Service, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. F. G. Lacey), at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided for those who send me their names by the Tuesday previous. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, near Evesham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Southampton District will be held at North Stoneham on Saturday, April 16th. Bells (10) from 2.30. Service at 4.15. Tea in the Parish Hall at 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea must please notify me by April 13th.—W. T. Tucker, Dis. Sec., 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Birkenhead, on Saturday, April 16th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards.—H. S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 3, Ridley Street, Birkenhead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above branch, arranged for April 16th, will not now take place, a postponement having been arranged in favour of the reopening of a peal of bells at Brookfield, Gorton, on the 23rd inst. For further particulars watch 'The Ringing World'.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, April 16th. Tower open 3 p.m. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, April 13th? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Claybrook on Saturday, April 16th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. A good meeting is hoped for.—A. E. Rowley, Local Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chew Magna on Saturday, April 16th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow. Also Winford bells (6) available from 6.30 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, April 16th. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Business at 7.30 p.m.—H. Hamer, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Nall Street, Milnrow.

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 the Parish Hall. 5, meeting.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Goldhanger on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service in church at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5.15. Will those desiring tea kindly advise by April 20th, J. D. Buckingham, Rectory Cottage, Goldhanger? Come and make this meeting a big success.—A. E. Coomber, Hon. Sec., 8, Council Houses, Galleywood, Chelmsford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Brookfield Church, Gorton.—A special invitation meeting in connection with the dedication and reopening of the bells at Brookfield Church, Gorton, will be held on Saturday, April 23rd. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers and friends. Dedication service at 3 p.m., with ringing by local band. Tea, free to all ringers and 1s. per head for others, will be served in Schoolroom at 4.30 p.m. Ringing between

service and tea and after tea until 9.30 p.m. All intending to take tea please notify C. Ollier, 29, Thornley Lane, Reddish, not later than Wednesday, April 20th.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Ditchling on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, in Church Room, 1s. 3d. Secretaries must notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday previous to meeting how many may be expected from their towers.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Stret, Brighton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Lower Heyford, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Steeple Aston tower will also be available 3 to 4 o'clock and after tea.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Deddington, Oxon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, April 23rd. The following towers will be open for ringing at 2.30 p.m.: E. Retford (10), W. Retford (6) and Ordsall (6). Good bus service to and from Ordsall. Service in E. Retford Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., the business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. D. A. Piercy, 60, Wharton Street, Retford. A good attendance is requested. Special business.—R. W. Stockdale and H. Revill, Hon. Secs.

STANDLAKE, OXON.—Ring of 6, rehung in new frame by White's, Appleton, will be re-dedicated by Bishop Shaw, on Saturday, April 23rd. Service 3 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Institute (1s.) at 5 p.m. Please notify by April 20th.—B. D. Costar, Standlake, Witney, Oxon.

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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Half-yearly meeting at Wigan on Saturday, April 30th. Bells of Wigan Parish, Poolstock, Hindley and Standish available from 3 p.m. Service at Parish Church at 5. Tea at Vose's Café at 6, at 1s. 9d. each. Tables reserved for those who send names in to J. W. Grounds, 8, School Lane, Standish, Wigan, before April 17th.—W. H. Shuker and A. Tomlinson, Hon. Secs.

BIRTH.

JENNINGS.—On the 31st ult., at 15, Castle Oval, Kendal, Westmorland, to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Jennings, the gift of a daughter.

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