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BELLS AND THE CHURCH.

Our article on the strange attitude of the Vicar of Kingston-on-Thames towards the bells of his church has brought from a correspondent a reply in which he not only supports the contention of the Rev. T. B. Scrutton that 'as a Church, the Church has no interest in the bells,' but also scathingly denounces the attitude of ringers as a body towards the Church, by lack of interest in its work and witness, and adding that ringers are too selfish and narrow minded in very many cases. The writer also goes on to accuse 'The Ringing World' of consistently failing to do anything to suggest that ringing is in any way allied to a spiritual cause or the extension of the Kingdom of God among men. In our issue of January 31st we expressed our views of the attitude taken up by the Vicar of Kingston. Our correspondent is equally entitled to his own opinions on the subject, but on one or two points we feel it is necessary to say a word in reply, lest silence should be taken as an admission of his indictment.

To deal first with the accusation against this paper, let us say at once that we have never pretended to be a religious journal, but to say that we have done nothing to suggest that the art of ringing is in any way allied to a spiritual cause, is to reveal ignorance of the policy and actions of this paper. When circumstances have demanded it, we have published leading articles dealing with the responsibilities of ringers in this direction; and always our columns are open and are frequently used for the publication of extracts from addresses delivered by those far more able than a layman to direct attention to the spiritual connection of the ringers' work.

As to the selfishness of which ringers are accused by our correspondent, it may be easy to pick out individual cases, but has he ever thought of those thousands of loyal Churchman—as loyal as he is himself—who Sunday by Sunday, year in, year out, give their services to the Church in the direction in which they are the best fitted. All cannot go into the pulpit, or into the highways and byways to preach repentance to sinners, but the ringers' vocation is no less worthy an offering, and, if we are Believers, we must believe that that offering is no less acceptable to the Master than other forms of service to the Church. Space forbids us traversing all the points raised in our correspondent's letter, but let us say this much about the value of the bells to the Church as a Church. The parson, from the pulpit, preaches to the converted, or at any rate to those whose sense of the importance of higher things takes them to the Church as a matter of course. But this is only a small proportion of the people. The sound of the bells reaches a far wider

(Continued on page 118.)

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circle, and if their notes only stir a thought of the Church and all it stands for in the minds and hearts of just a few who otherwise would give it no thought at all—and to this fact there has often been testimony—surely the bells are not only worth while, but are an adjunct to the Church and its work? No one has ever claimed that the bells themselves can save souls, but they are a constant reminder to the world of the existence of the Church, which is out to point the way to salvation, and they are its best advertisement.

If, in some cases, belfries are mismanaged and the incumbent, who is the responsible person, is content to allow the bells to be manned by the wrong type of ringer, that is not the fault of the bells, or of the ringing Exercise. But ringers as a whole are rendering consistent service to the Church, and, as a body, are as good Churchmen and Christians as other Churchfolk. The bells which they ring are not nowadays a substitute for a clock, but a valuable adjunct to and a practical form of the call which the Church makes to the people to come and worship.

TEN BELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

EDWARD G. HEATON Treble	FREDERICK W. RADFORD ... 6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2	GEORGE TOMSETT 7
HENRY HUTTON 3	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 8
CHARLES HAZELDEN 4	SIDNEY J. ELTON 9
CHARLES S. BURDEN 5	REGINALD RADFORD Tenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.
Arranged and rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Raddon, of Guildford.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

MISS A. BROWN Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT 6
CECIL F. MOGFORD 2	WILLIAM H. THOMAS 7
MRS. E. WILKINS 3	HENRY PRING 8
JACK CARMAN 4	JOHN A. BURFORD 9
RICHARD CLARK 5	GEORGE TREW Tenor

Composed by SIR A. HEYWOOD. Conducted by J. A. BURFORD.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Wilkins.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
THE TREURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 30, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. UNY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

FRED HARRIS Treble	WILLIAM H. SLEEMAN ... 5
EDWARD SAUNDERS 2	JOHN WOOD 6
MISS E. JESSIE C. ANGIN ... 3	CYRIL E. LANXON 7
PHILIP J. HITCHENS 4	*STANLEY SEYMOOR Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL E. LANXON.

* First peal on eight. First peal on the bells since they were augmented into eight. Rung to mark the feast of the church and Mr. H. Mundy's completion of 21 years as churchwarden.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.—On February 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) with 10 different callings: E. T. Lloyd 1, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 2, A. Morris 3, N. Gilbert (first-quarter-peal) 4, G. Bailey 5, T. Pugh (first quarter-peal) 6.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 31, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

ALFRED J. HOUSE Treble	JAMES BENNETT 5
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 2	EDWIN A. BARNETT 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 7
ALFRED G. HILL 4	EDMUND MOUNTER Tenor

Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

DENHAM, BUCKS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF ERIN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY ... Treble	JAMES BENNETT 5
CHARLES T. COLKS 2	*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 6
*GEORGE R. PYE 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 7
†FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 4	*WILLIAM S. CHILDS Tenor
	*JOHN E. ROOTES

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.
* First peal of Erin. † First peal of Erin Triples. First peal of Erin Triples on the bells and for the association. The first 'long-course' peal of Erin yet rung. Rung for the Accession of His Majesty King Edward VIII.

ABERAVON, GLAM.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.	Tenor 16 cwt.
*BENJAMIN WILLIAMS ... Treble	GWYN I. LEWIS 5
ERNEST STITCH 2	ALBERT J. PITMAN 6
JOHN W. JONES 3	GEORGE POPNELL 7
EDWARD PHILLIPS 4	WILLIAM J. PRING Tenor

Conducted by E. STITCH.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung in honour of His Majesty King Edward VIII's Accession to the Throne.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

*JAMES W. GODDARD ... Treble	ARTHUR W. HOODLESS ... 5
MRS. J. BRAY 2	GEORGE E. FEIRN 6
GEORGE W. MOODY 3	JACK BRAY 7
WALTER M. GODDARD ... 4	JOSEPH ATKINSON Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal in the method. The conductor's 200th peal. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to the Rev. W. E. and Mrs. Varah, also as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Hoodless.

WRAXALL, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 23½ cwt.

KENNETH FORD Treble	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 5
NORAH G. WILLIAMS 2	RONALD G. BRCK 6
DAVID MACKAY 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 7
NORMAN COOMES 4	HENRY WINDSOR Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

GEORGE WHITING Treble	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 5
*MISS PHYLLIS TILLET ... 2	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
ALBERT E. WHITING 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by G. WHITING.

* First attempt for a peal of London.

SIX BELL PEALS.

RIPPINGALE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in 25 methods, viz.: (1) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Bourne and Primrose; (2) Munden, Canterbury, Newcastle and Chester; (3) Lightfoot, Stamford, Wearmouth and Rossendale; (4) Durham, York, Surfleet and Beverley; (5) Berwick and Hexham; (6) Lincoln and Goldstream; (7) London, Cuneastre and Wells.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN POLLARD Treble	JAMES OSBORN 4
JOHN W. LAKE 2	ALBERT S. ALLEN 5
FREDERICK W. FRENCH ... 3	THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. LAKE.

First Spliced Surprise peal on the bells.

IPSWICH.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Matthew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

*E. REVETT Treble	†G. BIGGS 4
†G. MOTHERSOLE 2	*R. ARBON 5
*G. C. LEACH 3	C. H. ALDOUS Tenor

Conducted by C. H. ALDOUS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor. First peal on the bells since they were made a ring of six in January, 1933.

HANDBELL PEALS.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 30, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes
At 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in B flat.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... 3-4	PETER LAPLIN 7-8
HAROLD JACKSON 9-10	

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.
Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

LONDON.
THE ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD.

On Friday, January 31, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
At 17, MANDRAKE ROAD, UPPER TOOTING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5003 CHANGES;

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 1-2	JAMES R. MACKMAN 5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD 3-4	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 7-8
HOWARD MACKMAN 9-10	

Composed by H. G. MILRS. Conducted by W. E. JUDD.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes
At the Royal Grammar School,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor, size 18 in G.

ALFRED H. PULLING 1-2	RAYMOND PHILPOTT 5-6
JOHN SPARROW 3-4	GEORGE W. STEERE 7-8

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

THE DEATH OF KING GEORGE V. MEMORIAL PEALS.

The following peals were rung for the passing of His Majesty King George V., with the bells fully muffled.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

JAS. GOODSSELL Treble	THOMAS HOAD 5
FREDERICK MORGAN 2	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 6
GEORGE KING 3	EDWARD MILLS 7
WILLIAM H. HOAD 4	ALBERT HOAD Tenor

Composed by W. MATTHEWS.

Conducted by A. E. EDWARDS.

BARNES, SURREY.

THE ST. MARY ABBOTS GUILD, KENSINGTON.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM H. WOOD Treble	CHARLES F. W. HUNT 5
E. RALPH MACKRILL 2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 6
WILLIAM E. JUDD 3	FRANK SKEVINGTON 7
HENRY G. MILES 4	CHARLES WARNER Tenor

Conducted by F. SKEVINGTON.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1936, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Church of SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation.)

Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER Treble	WILLIAM E. WATHEEN 5
*ARTHUR R. WOODARD 2	SHELFORD SPARROW 6
*FRANK BORLEY 3	†EDWIN A. CRACKNELL 7
GEORGE W. ABLITT 4	KEITH W. WHITTELL Tenor

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal of Grandsire 'inside.'

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 31, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ALFRED POTTER Treble	JOHN DENNER 5
MATTHEW BERRY 2	ALFRED POTTER, JUN. 6
BEN WELSBY 3	JOHN POTTER 7
JAMES DENNER 4	ROBERT DENNER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF ASHTED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES W. WILKINS Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG 6
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER 3	TONY PRICE 7
GEORGE MARTIN 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE

First peal in the method by all except ringers of 5th and 7th.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

*ROBERT H. VIGOR Treble	FRANK RAYMENT 5
HAROLD WALKER 2	FRED NEWTON 6
RONALD H. DOVE 3	HARRY C. WALTERS 7
*HORACE S. MORLEY 4	†EDWARD BRADLEY Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(GLOUCESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE CONDICK Treble	HENRY DANIELS 5
SYDNEY E. ROMANS 2	WILLIAM C. JONES 6
THOMAS BALDWIN 3	JOHN AUSTIN 7
WILLIAM H. HARRIS 4	HENRY NEWMAN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JAMES DURRANT Treble	WILLIAM KINSEY 5
KRITH WHITTELL 2	CHARLES SHEMMING 6
ERNEST BLOMFIELD 3	CLAUDE WOODWARD 7
JAMES ROSE 4	GEORGE MORE Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN.

Conducted by J. ROSE.

ALMONDBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN TURNER Treble	RONALD SQUIRES 5
FRANK POPPLEWELL 2	FRANK RHODES 6
WALTER DRANSFIELD 3	JOE C. MELLOR 7
*WILLIAM HARGREAVES 4	HENRY H. SMITH Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by JOE C. MELLOR.

* First peal of Major. Also rung as a token of respect to the late Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, who held his first curacy at the above church, 1905-1909.

SIX BELL PEAL.

BOSLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 25, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 5 cwt. 22 lb.

MISS MILLY FEATHERS ... Treble	JOE WHITAKER 4
JOHN WORTH 2	STANLEY NOBLE 5
*HORACE MARSDEN 3	WILFRED STEVENSON Tenor

Conducted by W. STEVENSON.

* First peal, at first attempt, and belongs to the local band. First peal of Minor as conductor.

The following peals were rung with the bells half-muffled:—

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 27, 1936, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*THOMAS M. COX Treble	RALPH W. JACKSON 5
THOMAS METCALFE 2	SAMUEL YEATES 6
MRS. R. WARRIOR 3	WILLIAM ELLERINGTON 7
GEORGE KIMBALL 4	THOMAS LANCASTER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by MRS. R. WARRIOR.

* First peal and first attempt, aged 15 years.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 30, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

F. HORACE E. STUBBS ... Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
JOHN GRUNDY 2	WILLIAM SMITH 6
COLIN HARRISON 3	EDWARD READER 7
JOHN SADDINGTON 4	LESLIE W. STEPHENS Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD READER.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 30, 1936, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

*JAMES A. GLASS... ..Treble	†THOMAS J. LOCK 5
LEONARD STILWELL 2	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 6
†KATHLEEN M. BRADFORD ... 3	EDWARD S. T. FARR 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	ALAN R. PINKTenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of New Cambridge. W. Welling and E. S. T. Farr have now rung 50 peals together.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

FRANK J. GREENTreble	JOHN A. GREEN 5
FREDERICK C. CASE 2	THOMAS E. ROBERTS 6
ERNEST C. LAMBERT 3	ALBERT J. GREEN 7
HARRY G. RIDGWAY 4	GEORGE FODDYTenor

Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MISS K. BURCHNALLTreble	FREDERICK G. HOOPER 5
MISS G. BURCHNALL 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	EDWARD FOSTER 7
ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 4	ERNEST A. MIDWINTER ...Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Luke, Blakenhall,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 10 cwt.

*WILLIAM H. TIMMIS... ..Treble	ALBERT D. COLLINS 5
NORMAN H. SMITH 2	ERIC E. SPEAKE 6
WILLIAM BRANT 3	HARRY BOSWELL 7
THOMAS G. MARTIN 4	JAMES SHAWTenor

Conducted by HARRY BOSWELL.

* First attempt for a peal.

GORTON, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours,

At Brookfield Church,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH REEDTreble	CHARLES OLLIER... .. 5
EDWARD F. MAWBY 2	HARRY GASKELL 6
JOHN FEARNHEAD 3	ARNOLD S. FEARNHEAD ... 7
WILLIAM BRAMMER 4	JAMES CHAMBERLAIN ...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES OLLIER.

First peal in the method by all in the band. First peal in the method on the bells. A peal attempt was made on Tuesday, January 28th.

TICKHILL, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

EDGAR C. STACEYTreble	*WILLIAM FAY 5
*WILLIAM JOHNSON 2	HAROLD WAGSTAFFE 6
*HARRY GOODALE 3	*FOORD P. NEWTON 7
HERBERT CHADOCK 4	ERNEST COOPERTenor

Composed by G. WILLIAMS.

Conducted by E. COOPER.

* First peal of Major.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES WHITINGTreble	FRANK L. FISHER 5
JAMES M. BAILEY 2	JAMES G. RUMSEY 6
LEONARD P. BAILEY 3	HARRY J. VINCE 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY 4	ALDERMAN LINGTenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

Conducted by A. LING.

GREASLEY, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. SALTER ...Treble	HORACE BYFIELD 5
EDMUND C. CHASTY 2	FRANK BRADLEY 6
THOMAS STORER 3	TOM CLARKE... .. 7
WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN. ... 4	RALPH NARBOROUGH ...Tenor

Composed by J. H. PILKINGTON.

Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

G. W. PEVRELLTreble	S. BRYANT 5
*R. T. SIMPSON 2	J. T. TITT 6
J. WEST 3	J. PENTLAND... .. 7
G. W. HUTCHINSON 4	R. B. ROBINSONTenor

Composed by J. FLEMING.

Conducted by G. W. PEVRELL.

* First peal in the method.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

H. THRIFTTreble	ALBERT PRYKE 5
*EDWARD T. STITCH 2	JOHN STITCH... .. 6
*CHARLES HARRINGTON ... 3	CHARLES PRYKE 7
BERTRAM C. HINES 4	HARRY TURNERTenor

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT.

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal of Major.

KINGSWINFORD.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM PARKERTreble	*STANLEY J. MAJOR 5
ARTHUR HINGLEY 2	HOWARD HOWELL 6
†HENRY L. LANGLEY 3	*HAROLD SMITH 7
DAVID HINGLEY 4	BARNABAS G. KEYTenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by H. SMITH.

* First peal of Major and first attempt. † First peal of Major 'inside.'

SIX BELL PEALS.

LEA, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 27, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES H. BAKERTreble	G. LESLIE A. LUNN 4
*JOSEPH A. LUNN 2	NOEL B. THORLEY 5
MISS ETHEL MARSHALL ... 3	GEORGE W. CREASEYTenor

Conducted by G. W. CREASEY.

* First peal 'inside.'

BRINDLE.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

J. POWER Treble	C. R. POWER 4
A. HATCH 2	H. BLACKLIDGE 5
F. BLACKLIDGE 3	W. FOWLER Tenor

Conducted by H. BLACKLIDGE.

GLOUCESTER.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 28, 1936, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-LODE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Grandsire and 32 of St. Dunstan's, called differently.
Tenor 12 cwt.

HUBERT SCRIVEN Treble	ERNEST J. MATTHEWS 4
HARRY BARNETT 2	ALBERT MARYIN 5
TOM WORRALL 3	CHARLES HODGES Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST J. MATTHEWS.

FREISTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 30, 1936, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROBERT BROWN Treble	* MAURICE MILLARD 4
* ALBERT APPLEBY 2	JAMES SHARPE 5
WILLIAM WILKINSON 3	WILLIAM E. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by W. E. CLARKE.

* First peal of Minor on an 'inside' bell. 50th peal as conductor.

LANGHAM, RUTLAND.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, and one of Oxford Treble Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

J. GEOFFREY GEARY Treble	RONALD RUSSELL 4
ALBERT L. WARD 2	† JOHN F. HUBBARD 5
* JOHN H. BLUFF 3	VERNON TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by V. TAYLOR.

* First peal in four Minor methods. † First peal in four methods.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob, with different callings.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOSEPH JENNINGS Treble	* GEORGE SAUNDERS 4
* RICHARD ROPER 2	ARTHUR SMITH 5
† WILLIAM RICHARDSON 3	WALTER SMITH Tenor

Conducted by WALTER SMITH.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

STANDLAKE, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six different 840's.
Tenor 11½ cwt.

GORDON COSTAR Treble	HARRY FARMER 4
CHARLES BOWSHER 2	NOBLE SPINDLOW 5
BERTRAM COSTAR 3	PERCY TRINDER Tenor

Conducted by NOBLE SPINDLOW.

KINGSTON-ON-SOAR, DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WINIFRED,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.
Tenor 10 cwt.

H. MALBY Treble	S. ADAMS 3
W. DAKIN 2	G. HILL 4
J. W. BOOTH Tenor	

Conducted by J. W. BOOTH.

First peal by all the band except the conductor.

BRADWELL, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 1, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

With 20 different callings.
Tenor 7½ cwt.

J. EDWARD WHITLOCK Treble	CHARLES G. ALDERMAN 4
* REGINALD G. ABRAHAM 2	† REGINALD H. HOWSON 5
† ARTHUR G. MAY 3	ARCHIE LATHALL Tenor

Conducted by J. E. WHITLOCK.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

PEAL BOARD MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. W. PYE.

The annual business meeting of the Guild was held at Liskeard on February 1st. Canon Windsor took the chair and there were present Lt.-Col. Jerram (Ringing Master), Mr. W. H. Southard (vice-president), the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella (secretary), Mr. H. Dunstan (treasurer), Mr. C. Lanxon (peal secretary) and representatives from every branch of the Guild and the Mid-Cornwall Association.

Arising from the minutes, the secretary said he had received a letter from Bishop Frere, thanking the Guild for their sympathy in his illness and good wishes for the future. The secretary also said he regretted that Dr. Symons, their president, was unable to be with them.

The Ringing Master reported that he had attended most of the minor festivals and the diocesan festival, and expressed his regret that the autumn festival of the Launceston Branch had not taken place.

The secretary reported that two towers had joined the Guild (Advent and Lanivet), and that one (St. Dominic) had dropped out. The bells of Callington had been restored and those of Redruth augmented to eight.

The treasurer reported a balance of 19s. 1d., with £64 3s. 1d. on deposit.

The peal secretary reported that nine peals had been rung for the Guild during the last twelve months.

The secretary reported that the Bishop (Dr. J. Hunkin) had consented to become patron of the Guild.

All the officers were re-elected unanimously as follows: President, Dr. J. Symons; vice-presidents, the two Archdeacons, Canon H. Mills, Canon S. Windsor, the Rev. R. Hocking, Messrs. W. H. Southard, J. T. Treffry and W. Wood; Ringing Master, Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram; secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella; treasurer, Mr. H. Dunstan; peal secretary, Mr. C. Lanxon.

It was agreed to form a Standing Committee, consisting of the Ringing Master, secretary, treasurer (if money matters affected) and the secretaries of the branches and Mid-Cornwall Association.

A proposal to redraft the rules concerning the award of medals and certificates was referred to the Standing Committee.

It was agreed to place a board in the tower of St. Stephen-in-Brannel Church to commemorate the last peal called by the late William Pye, which was in that tower. The Rector of St. Stephen, who is secretary of the Mid-Cornwall Association, gladly agreed to accept this peal board for his church.

Mr. C. Lanxon was elected to represent the Guild on the Central Council for the next three years.

It was resolved to hold the annual festival at St. Stephen-in-Brannel, and the Rector gave his consent.

After the meeting members went to Liskeard tower, and rounds, call changes, Grandsire Doubles and Triples were rung.

TO ARCHITECTS AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES

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A YORKSHIRE STALWART**DEATH OF MR. W. D. HILLARY, OF SKIPTON.**

The death has occurred at Skipton, Yorks, of Mr. William Downham Hillary, at the age of 76 years. A native of Kettlewell, he had resided at Skipton since his marriage in 1880 to Miss Elizabeth Billows. They celebrated their golden wedding in July, 1930, but Mrs. Hillary predeceased her husband.

By his death, the Skipton Parish Church ringers have lost one of their most able and conscientious members. He was the second oldest member of the band, the oldest being his brother-in-law, Mr. William Billows, who has two years' longer service. Mr. Hillary joined the band in 1878, when there was only a peal of six bells, and the ringers were Mr. William Trees, Mr. Joseph Barrett, Mr. J. Ingham, Mr. W. Pate, Mr. Joseph Thompson, Mr. Tom Harry Trees, Mr. S. Watson, Mr. W. Holdsworth, Mr. William Billows and himself.

He served under three rectors—the Rev. P. C. Kidd, the Rev. H. L. Cook and the present holder of the living, Canon R. S. Stoney; he rang in honour of great events in the reigns of three monarchs, among them the Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887, the Diamond Jubilee in 1897, the coronations of King Edward and King George and the Jubilee of King George. Illness prevented him from taking his usual stand on the occasion of the funeral of King George V.

Mr. Hillary took part in 38 peals, including 6,048 of Oxford Treble Bob in 1889. Mr. Hillary joined the Yorkshire Association in 1887 and was at the time of his death an honorary life member.

During the war, when a number of ringers joined the fighting forces, their places were filled by four ladies, among them being Mr. Hillary's daughter, Miss Ada Hillary (now Mrs. George Bottomley), who rang until 1922.

In 1879 Mr. Hillary joined the old Skipton Volunteers and served until 1901, having attained the rank of sergeant. For 19 years Mr. Hillary was a member of the Skipton Fire Brigade, and he rose to the position of superintendent.

As a young man, Mr. Hillary was a prominent athlete, and at one time was regarded as the best exponent of the long jump in the district. He also acquitted himself well in the sprint events, and was no mean performer in events over long distances, as his success testified.

He had five sons and four daughters. One son, Thomas, who was a member of the Territorials, died before the war, while two of his brothers died during the war—Horace, in England, from wounds received at Gallipoli, and Harold, in France.

RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.**INTERESTING CELEBRATION AT GUILDFORD.**

An interesting peal is recorded in our columns this week. It was rung at St. Nicolas' Church, Guildford, on February 1st, in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Raddon, of Guildford. Mrs. Raddon was the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Butler, of Woodbridge House, Potterne, Wilts, and the wedding was solemnised at Potterne Parish Church, on December 2nd, 1885, by the Ven. T. B. Buchanan, Archdeacon of Wilts. Mr. Raddon was at that time one of the ringers at Potterne.

In 1898 Mr. and Mrs. Raddon moved to Guildford, and Mr. Raddon joined the old Winchester Diocesan Guild. For some years, before the formation of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, Mr. Raddon very efficiently discharged the duties of hon. secretary of the Guildford District, and he became one of the foundation members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

The peal in honour of the golden wedding was arranged for December 7th, but the funeral of King George's sister on that day caused its postponement. It was eventually rung on February 1st at St. Nicolas' Church, where Mr. Raddon for nearly 40 years has been a member of the band, and one of the ringers was Mr. C. S. Burden, of the St. Paul's Cathedral Company, who rang at Potterne 50 years ago for Mr. and Mrs. Raddon's wedding. He was one of Mr. Raddon's ringing pupils.

Mr. Raddon was unable to take part in the peal, but he met the band and wished them 'good luck' before they started, and was at the bottom of the belfry steps to greet and congratulate them when they finished. Afterwards, 'continued health and happiness' to Mr. and Mrs. Raddon was appropriately honoured.

WIGAN BROADCAST.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was disgusted to read the scathing letter in the issue of February 14th with regard to the performance of the Wigan band on the occasion of their broadcast.

It was not good, but the band would probably have appreciated a little healthy criticism from one who had the courage to sign his name.

Hitchin.

DONALD C. MEARS.

IN REPLY TO 'DISGUSTED.'

Sir.—If I was strong enough to write a letter like 'Disgusted,' I would be strong enough to write my own name.

Greenfield, near Oldham.

JOSEPH BURGESS.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

It is interesting to note that the number of reports which have reached us of peals rung either muffled or half-muffled for His Majesty King George is 174. This is only about 15 less than those rung in celebration of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee. When King Edward VII. died, 103 memorial peals were rung.

Messrs. Taylor and Co. are carrying out two rehanging jobs in the county of Stafford, viz., the ring of eight at Stone and the ring of five at Seighford.

The Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham on February 29th once more promises to bring together a 'national' gathering of ringers. Visitors on that occasion will have the opportunity of ringing on the new peal of twelve at Aston Parish Church, where the bells will be available from 3 o'clock until 5 p.m.

The talented handbell band at Oxhey, Herts, last Friday rang a peal of Spliced London, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, with 106 changes of method! It was composed and conducted by Mr. Harold Cashmore. The other ringers were Messrs. H. Hodgetts, C. W. Woolley and F. W. Brinklow. This must surely be the finest ringing performance ever accomplished. Last November the same band rang on handbells a peal of Spliced London and Cambridge, and, great as is their latest achievement, we have no doubt their ambition soars higher yet!

After a good many years' service as hon. secretary of the Bristol Branch and subsequently of the Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Mr. Frank Skidmore has given up the office. His successor is Mr. C. Gifford, Gifford House, Frampton Cottrell, near Bristol, Glos.

An acre of grass land at Eltham, Kent, the revenue from which, for 400 years, has been used to provide bell ropes for the Parish Church, and as an ancient charity yielded about 20s. a year, is now covered by Council houses, and the Woolwich Borough Council has decided to redeem the charity.

THOUSAND PEALERS' PEAL.

A UNIQUE PERFORMANCE.

The 'thousand pealers' were successful in their effort at St. Olave's, Hart Street, London, on Saturday. They rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, but, we are told, with all their experience the importance of the occasion weighed so heavily upon them that they started 'as nervous as kittens'.

We have not yet received the official account of the peal, or accurate details of the colossal peal aggregate of these eight ringers, who, in addition to their outstanding individual achievements, now have the distinction of being the first peal band whose members have each rung over a thousand peals.

Our readers will be interested to know the names of the ringers. They were James George 1, George R. Pye 2, William H. Fussell 3, John H. Cheesman 4, Frank Bennett 5, James E. Davis 6, George Williams 7, Alfred H. Pulling 8. It was called by the doyen of conductors, George Williams, and rung in 3 hours 16 minutes for the Middlesex Association.

There are other particulars which we hope to publish about this unique performance when the 'official' report comes to hand.

PEALS IN 1935.

SEVENTY-NINE MORE THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

The total number of peals rung in the year 1935, according to the records published in 'The Ringing World,' was 1,863, an increase of 84 tower-bell peals, and a decrease of five handbell peals in 1934, when the total was 1,784. The increase in peals on tower bells was due, of course, to the large number rung for King George's Silver Jubilee. Here is a summary of the peals rung last year and in the previous year:—

Previous year	Max.	Cinq.	Roy.	Caters	Maj.	Trip.	Minor	Doubles	Total
1935									
Tower bells	9	35	46	82	670	376	381	182	1,781
Handbells	1	5	8	7	41	12	5	3	82
	10	40	54	89	711	388	386	185	1,863
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1934									
Tower bells	12	23	61	68	724	324	355	130	1,697
Handbells	—	6	5	9	47	7	7	6	87
	12	29	66	77	771	331	362	136	1,784

In 1933, 1,734 tower-bell peals and 99 handbell peals were rung, and in 1932 the numbers were 2,111 and 91 respectively.

A DATE TOUCH.

At All Saints' Church, Waltham-on-Avon, on Saturday, February 1st, in 1 hour 12 minutes, a date touch of 1,936 changes, consisting of 16 Original, 720 each of London Scholars' Pleasure and College Pleasure, and 240 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob: W. Bramham 1, A. Gill 2, C. D. Potter 3, G. Lord 4, A. Panther (conductor) 5, W. Green 6. Specially arranged for Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley, who afterwards entertained the company to supper.

MUFFLED RINGING.

WHAT IS THE RIGHT PROCEDURE?

Questions as to proper practice in regard to muffled ringing have been raised by the variety of procedure in connection with the death of King George V. In most cases the local ringers acted on their own initiative, and sometimes in consultation with the incumbent, and the natural result has been that there was no uniform procedure.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Having read the correspondence on muffled ringing in the 'Ringing World' of last week, and also having noted the numerous peals published during the last few weeks in connection with the passing of His late Majesty, I think there are several points that need discussion.

Firstly, are we quite correct in ringing half-muffled for the passing of a monarch or any member of the royal family, and especially for the memorial service? Surely the ringing ought to be fully muffled!

Secondly, should the 'passing bell' be tolled, or rung up, and should this be done between sunset and sunrise? I think it would be to good advantage if some definite rule could be referred to on these occasions, drawn up by the Central Council and supported by the Church authorities. At present the method adopted is more or less left for each individual to act on his own initiative.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards suggests readers should send a brief report of their doings in this respect. Here the tenor was tolled one stroke per minute for an hour on Tuesday, January 21st, at sunrise, and in consequence 70 strokes were chimed, representing the age of the dead monarch. The bells were chimed (singly) for the services on Sunday, January 26th. On Monday, January 27th, a peal was rung half-muffled. On Tuesday, 28th, the bells were rung fully muffled for an hour prior to the memorial service at 7 p.m.

C. T. H. BRADLEY.

Folkingham, Lincs.

AT DEVIZES.

Sir,—When we, at St. James', Southbroom, Devizes, heard of the sad news, my father, captain of the tower, tolled the tenor bell half-muffled for one hour, viz., from 8 to 9 a.m. Then, in the evening of the same day (Tuesday, January 21st), we rang half-muffled, some of the time ringing 'the whole pull and stand.' On the following Sunday as well as on the day of the funeral the bells were rung fully muffled.

A. T. WEEKS.

AN ISLE OF WIGHT 'UNWRITTEN LAW.'

The unwritten law at Newport, Isle of Wight, which has been respected with regard to muffled ringing is as follows: Fully muffled for a member of the royal family, a bishop and a ranger; half-muffled for any other church dignitary or churchworker. For the death of King George the knell was tolled four times daily for a quarter of an hour at one minute intervals, at 9 a.m. and 12 noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., until the morning of His late Majesty's funeral. The bells were rung fully muffled for the memorial service on Tuesday, January 28th, and also at the Sunday services on January 25th.

For the proclamation of H.M. King Edward VIII., on Wednesday, January 22nd, they were rung open at the request of the Mayor of the borough.

HALF OR FULLY MUFFLED?

Dear Sir,—The question of the correct procedure in regard to muffled and half-muffled ringing is, I consider, a very important one, and should be not only discussed by the Central Council, but a definite decision passed—since there appears to be a varied opinion among ringers.

In expressing a nation's sorrow in the passing of a King so beloved through the message of the bells, surely 'fully muffled' would have been the most appropriate.

If otherwise—the question for the Central Council's consideration appears to be 'For whom should bells be fully muffled?'

Ryde, Isle of Wight.

B. J. SNOW.

LINCOLNSHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

At Kirton, near Boston, on February 1st, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples: L. Lyon 1, J. W. Lakin, jun. 2, D. Flatters 3, J. Kemp 4, Dr. P. V. Hardwicke 5, G. Coleman, sen. 6, A. E. Flatters (conductor) 7, W. Boothby 8. Rung with clappers half-muffled as a token of respect to W. T. Bishop, sen., for many years a ringer at the above church, who was interred during the afternoon.

RINGERS' PLACE IN THE CHURCH.

AN INDICTMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of the 31st ult. you admit to some annoyance at the remarks of the Vicar of Kingston. Less haste and more careful reading of what he said (as reported in that same issue) would have prevented your woeful misconstruction of his viewpoint. Your report makes it clear he wants to see the bells repaired; that it is the concern of all Kingston and he hopes all Kingston will help, and that his church will find £300 of the cost, though they could do with the money for more important things.

Merely 'as a church the church has no interest in the bells'; you dislike this, but it is true. The Church's job is to save souls; bells are of very little use in that job. They used to call out to the clock-less countryside that it was time for worship; in these modern days that is not needed. They have an aural appeal up to a point, and few Englishmen would like church bells to become silent. But you cannot honestly maintain that they play much part in helping to convert souls to Christ, or in bringing people to church. Probably 70 per cent. of the ringers themselves very rarely, if ever, attend the worship to which their ringing is supposed to have called others. This has much to do with the declining interest of the Church in its bells and ringers.

Quite frankly, the majority of the ringers ring as a hobby; they have no other interest in the work or witness of a church. Ringers are too selfish and narrow-minded in very many cases. They want people to erect and maintain belfries—what for? So that ringers may pursue their hobby, ring hours of peals of mathematical marvels of no interest to anyone but themselves, and if the overburdened churchfolk or parsons murmur, the ringers' journal finds it 'difficult to write with restraint.'

I want to see ringers come into the full stream Christian service and their work recognised, but ringers will have to consecrate their work and their outlook far more than they do, and be found among the worshippers whom the Church has to seek and save.

Ringers must get out of the narrowness of the belfry and look on the Kingdom of God from the cross and the altar.

I note that you state that Kingston's bells have failed to have any influence on the people; you assert that 'only a bold man would deny it!' 'The Ringing World' has never a line or a word, from cover to cover, week by week, that would even remotely suggest that ringers regard the Exercise as anything more than an art or a pastime; nothing to suggest that it is in any way allied to a spiritual cause or the extension of the Kingdom of God among men. Ringers have no interest in the church 'as a church,' but they dislike the inevitable consequence that the 'church as a church' has little interest in them.

Ringers need to broaden their outlook and your journal should help them; not attempt to stir them up to resentment of a courageous and very proper point of view.

'SINCERE WELLWISHER.'

[We refer to this letter in our leading article.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World'.]

A DERBYSHIRE RE-OPENING.

PREACHER FINDS HIS TEXT IN 'A GREAT ADVENTURE.'

Wednesday evening, February 12th, saw the culmination of a spirited effort by the authorities of Spondon Parish Church, Derbyshire, in getting their bells placed in first-class order, when the work of rehanging was rededicated at a special service conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. C. Brocklehurst. The preacher for the occasion was the Rev. A. B. Roberts, Rector of Stanton-by-Dale, who said that when he was asked to preach this special sermon he did a lot of wondering as to what his text should be until he read a copy of 'A Great Adventure.' In that book he saw that the inscription on the tenor bell of Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, Tasmania, was 'Their sound has gone out to all lands and their words unto the end of the world,' and this gave him that which he sought.

The result was a fine sermon, in the course of which he explained in a very lucid manner what the 'Great Adventure' was. We do not know whether the reverend gentleman is a ringer, but he certainly seems to be a ringers' parson.

The bells at Spondon consist of a very handy ring of six, with a tenor weighing 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb., easy to handle, and the sound in the ringing room is 'just nice.' The bells can be 'tapped' with that degree of nicety so beloved by devotees of good striking. If a hand cannot strike these bells they cannot ring any peal as they should be rung.

The Vicar and his people are to be congratulated on the manner in which they have tackled the job. In spite of the vast amount of money they have raised during the past years for other purposes, they faced the issue boldly and without undue delay, setting an example to many a more wealthy place. Immediately they knew that work had to be done to the bells there was no dilly-dallying, but a concerted effort to put things right. Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, were entrusted with the work, and one cannot speak too highly of the manner in which they have carried out the contract. The result speaks for itself. At the opening service they were represented by Mr. John P. Fidler.

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MUFFLED TOUCHES.

Among the many touches rung for the death or funeral of His Late Majesty King George were the following:—

On Tuesday evening, January 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on muffled bells at St. Giles', Newcastle-under-Lyme: E. Kettle 1, A. Moore 2, S. Thompson (first quarter-peal) 3, G. Holbrook 4, F. A. Forster 5, K. Thacker (first quarter-peal 'inside') 6, A. Thompson (first quarter-peal in the method as conductor) 7, A. Allman 8. All the ringers are regular ringers at St. Giles'.

At Dudley, Worcestershire, on Tuesday, January 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Smith 1, H. Goodman 2, J. Goodman (conductor) 3, W. Goodman 4, G. Guest 5, E. Sheppard 6, R. Goodman 7, N. G. Leech 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

At Bonenden, Kent, with the bells half-muffled, on Sunday, January 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (five callings): W. Lambert 1, R. Weller 2, A. Stevenson 3, G. Burt 4, J. Avery 5, J. Austin 6, G. Sims (conductor) 7, H. Pope 8. Rung with 4, 6, 8 behind.

RINGERS' TWO MINUTES' SILENCE.

Doncaster Parish Church ringers rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples half-muffled on Sunday, January 26th: G. Halksworth (conductor) 1, E. Baldwin 2, J. Holmes 3, E. Stacey 4, A. Stavely 5, W. E. Lloyd 6, H. Wagsstaff 7, P. Daw 8. For the funeral on January 28th, at the Priory Church, 1,008 Stedman Triples was rung, after which the ringers stood by their ropes for the two minutes' silence, following which a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung for the memorial service at the Parish Church. The following took part: G. Halksworth (conductor) 1, E. Stacey 2, J. Holmes 3, W. E. Lloyd 4, R. Thompson 5, A. Stavely 6, H. Wagsstaff 7, P. Daw 8.

At Great Baddow, Essex, on Sunday, January 26th, with fully muffled clappers, for the memorial service, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Carter (first quarter-peal of Major) 1, Dr. Spencer Phillips 2, J. W. Cornford 3, A. Bartholomew 4, P. Felton 5, C. Pennack (first quarter-peal of Major) 6, P. Green 7, G. Green (conductor) 8. Also 630 Grandsire Triples, conducted by P. Green.

At the Parish Church, Bishop's Stortford, for morning service, on Sunday, January 26th, with the bells fully muffled, 1,050 Oxford Bob Triples: E. Ansell 1, H. M. White 2, F. Springham 3, F. Bird (conductor) 4, H. Bull 5, H. A. Wacey 6, W. T. Prior 7, W. Wilkinson 8. On Tuesday afternoon, January 28th, for the memorial service, 504 in the same method was rung before and after the service.

At Kirby-le-Soken, Essex, on Sunday morning, January 26th, before service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells fully muffled: W. Southgate 1, E. Smith 2, W. Rouse 3, H. Cuthbert 4, M. Ling 5, E. Davey (conductor) 6, H. A. Wright 7, A. J. Clark 8. All are Sunday service ringers.

On Tuesday, January 28th, the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, were rung with the bells half-muffled. Touches of Stedman Cinques, Caters, Grandsire Caters and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung, in which the following members took part: F. Arnold, J. E. Bailey, W. Berry, T. Bevan, Mrs. G. H. Cross, G. H. Cross, Mrs. C. J. Matthews, C. J. Matthews, Thomas Newman, Alfred Pye, S. Shelloek, J. Sparrow, G. W. Steere, F. G. Symonds and Miss J. Thomson.

At St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, Chester, for the King's funeral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled, but the tenor open at backstroke: G. Lee 1, J. Best 2, M. Harris 3, R. Huxley 4, W. Hopwood 5, J. Hayes (conductor) 6, J. Mather 7, T. Price 8.

The bells of the Parish Church, Ickleton, Cambs, were rung deeply muffled for both morning and evening services on Sunday, January 26th. For morning service, five courses of Double Norwich were rung. On Tuesday, January 28th, after the memorial service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Smooty 1, P. Webb (conductor) 2, L. Lilley 3, R. Clements 4, L. Plitton 5, G. Lilley 6, W. Plitton 7, A. G. Lilley 8. This ringing was also a token of respect for the late Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, formerly secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association.

At the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, 504 Grandsire Triples with the bells fully muffled before the memorial service, and 504 Grandsire Triples half-muffled after the service: C. F. Cheekley 1, H. C. Beard (conductor) 2, J. Mapley 3, R. G. Abraham 4, R. H. Howson 5, E. G. Lathall 6, R. A. Hall 7, D. J. Clare 8.

At St. James' Church, Whitfield, Glossop, there are no fewer than three ringers who have rung for the death of three Sovereigns. They are T. Jackson, J. Marsden, and E. Garside, who all completed 50 years of continuous service this month. They rang to celebrate Queen Victoria's Jubilee (1887) and Diamond Jubilee (1888) and for her death, the death of King Edward VII. and King George V. They now look forward to taking part in celebrating the crowning of King Edward VIII. On January 26th, with the bells deeply muffled, 1,728 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by J. Buckley (conductor) 1, F. Johnston 2, T. Jackson 3, J. Marsden 4, D. Cuthbert 5, H. Woodhead 6, E. Garside 7, F. Marsden 8.

A quarter-peal of Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled was rung on Tuesday, January 21st, at Holy Trinity Church, Queenborough: C. Hobbs (first quarter-peal) 1, W. J. Wood 2, S. Wood 3, F. Pankhurst 4, G. Wood 5, W. A. Wood (conductor) 6.

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Little Horkesley, Essex, on Monday, January 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (ten callings) with the bells half-muffled: E. Leggett (conductor) 1, J. H. Edwards 2, B. F. Leggett 3, Corpl. V. B. Leggett, R.A.F., 4, W. G. Gusterson 5.

For morning service, at Shipley, Yorks, on January 26th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: E. H. Simpson (conductor) 1, Miss W. Foster 2, Miss M. White 3, T. B. Kendall 4, K. Simpson 4, H. Stott 6. For evening service, touches of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, with T. A. King and F. Seager taking part. On January 28th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,344 changes): G. Titterton 1, Miss M. White 2, W. Newman 3, K. Simpson 4, E. H. Simpson (conductor) 5, H. Stott 6, W. Helliwell 7, T. B. Kendall 8. Longest length of Bob Major for ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

FIRST PEAL ON MEMORIAL BELLS.

The half-muffled peal, rung for the death of His Majesty, at Penarth, Glamorganshire, took place on the anniversary of the death of the late Mr. E. Hodges, one time a churchwarden at this church, to whose memory the six bells were recently recast and augmented to eight by his daughter, Mrs. Wilkinson. It was the first peal on this beautiful ring, installed by Taylor and Co.

A half-muffled peal of Bob Major was attempted at St. David's Church, Bangor, North Wales, on Saturday, January 25th, but came to grief after ringing 2,528 changes in 1 hour and 40 minutes through a change course: A. E. Pegler, jun. 1, J. H. Midwinter 2, E. Atkinson 3, T. Turner 4, R. Fairlie, jun. 5, J. H. Fuller 6, J. Evans 7, A. E. Pegler, sen. (conductor) 8. On Tuesday, January 28th, with the bells half-muffled, the 'whole pull and stand' was rung for 70 years of the late King's age.

On Tuesday, January 28th, at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Caters with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late King George. The peal was, unfortunately, unsuccessful after nearly three hours' ringing owing to a change course. The band were: L. L. Gray 1, A. Lintatt 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, F. Varty 4, J. Brown 5, R. G. Edwards 6, J. Ridyard 7, E. C. Birkett 8, E. Counce 9, H. Roberts 10.

At Accrington, on Sunday, January 26th, 720 St. Clement's College Bob: F. Platt 1, S. Brown 2, J. Beattie 3, C. Blakey 4, A. Stanton 5, W. Aaron (conductor) 6. First 720 of St. Clement's ever rung at Accrington, and first for all the band except W. Aaron. For evening service, 720 of Minor (240 each of Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob): W. Ashworth 1, S. Brown 2, J. Beattie 3, C. Blakey 4, A. Stanton 5, W. Aaron (conductor) 6. Both 720's were rung with bells half-muffled.

At Wendover, Bucks, on Sunday, January 26th, with fully muffled bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: G. Simmons 1, A. Buggy 2, W. A. Lee 3, A. Bird 4, H. C. Jones (conductor) 5, J. Hopcraft 6.

Other touches will be published next week.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Southern District was held at St. John's Church, Redhill, on Saturday, February 1st. The Rev. J. H. Ifor Jones (curate) conducted the service in the absence of the Vicar, who was indisposed. The Vicar sent a message saying how sorry he was not to be present and extending a welcome to the Surrey Association once more to St. John's. Tea followed in the Parochial Hall, where 43 were present from the following towers: Reigate, Horley, Limpsfield Chart, Burstow, Buckland, Marham, Bletchingley and Lingfield, and visitors from Crawley, Beddington, Turner's Hill, Croydon, Dorking and the local band, with Mr. Alderman Temple Newell, J.P., and Mr. J. Gear, churchwarden.

Tea was followed by the business meeting, Mr. Temple Newell presiding. The chairman referred to the passing of His Majesty King George V., and asked the company to stand in silence for a few moments.

The treasurer's report and balance sheet were adopted.

The secretary's report showed that four district meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 30 members. Twenty new members were elected during the year, and one tower, Lingfield, was affiliated to the association. Eleven peals were rung.

It was decided to hold the following meetings during the year if possible: Nutfield in March; Buckland in June; Burstow in September; Horley in December; Reigate in January, 1937, for the annual meeting; with two joint meetings, viz., with the Sussex Association at Crawley, and East Grinstead Guild at Lingfield.

The following officers were elected: Master, Mr. A. J. Bull (Horley); treasurer, Mr. M. Northover (Reigate); hon. secretary, Mr. W. Claydon (Reigate); auditor, Mr. A. Gear (Redhill); committee, Mr. A. Willett (Redhill), Mr. Sheldon (Reigate) and Mr. H. Wallis (Lingfield). Mr. W. Claydon was nominated for election to the Central Council.

After change ringing on the handbells, a vote of thanks was passed to the curate for taking the service and Mr. West for presiding at the organ, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gear and friends for arrangements and helping at the tea, and Mr. Temple Newell for presiding at the meeting.

The bells were in use both in the afternoon and evening, and ringing extended from rounds to London Surprise Major.

SCOTTOW'S 'JUBILEE' BELL. AUGMENTED PEAL DEDICATED.

The new peal at Scottow, Norfolk, was dedicated on Tuesday, February 4th, by the Ingworth Rural Dean, the Rev. Harvard Watts, Rector of Blickling, assisted by the Vicar (the Rev. Newton Kent) and the Rev. R. Jenkyn Owen (Rector of Swanton Abbott). A shortened form of evensong preceded the usual prayers, etc., used for the benediction of bells, wherein was heard three strokes on the new treble, which is an addition to the old peal of five, and then a course of Bob Minor by the following: W. C. Duffield (Buxton) 1, B. Rout (Aylsham) 2, C. E. Barrett (Norwich) 3, E. J. Barton (Buxton) 4, W. C. Medler (Hovingham) 5, G. W. Bailey (Wroxham) 6. Good striking enabled all to enjoy the clear musical tones of a very handy peal, the tenor being about 10½ cwt.

Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, has put in a new iron frame and rehung the old five in all new fittings, the whole job having been completed in a most satisfactory manner.

The tower had also needed certain repairs, and the funds were largely provided by a generous donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, augmented by the surplus from the Parish Jubilee Fund. The work was undertaken as a memorial of King George V.'s Jubilee, the new treble bearing the inscription, 'Jubilee,' followed by portraits of the late King and Queen Mary.

About 20 ringers, some from remote parts of Norfolk, greatly enjoyed the ringing, which continued until late in the evening, and the very adequate tea so kindly provided by Miss Durrant at Scottow Hall.

DEATH OF A LONDON RINGER.

FIFTY YEARS A CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

The death occurred on February 10th of Mr. John Lee, of Edgley Road, Clapham, S.W., at the age of 71 years. He had been in failing health for a few months, had a heart attack in December and passed away peacefully on Monday of last week.

Mr. Lee was for 50 years a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and also a member of the London County, Surrey and Middlesex Associations and a member of the St. Leonard's, Streatham, band. He kept no count of the number of the peals he rang, but it is assumed to be about a hundred. The most noteworthy in which he took part were the peal, in six hours, of 10,072 changes Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Foxearth, Essex, in 1888, and the Surrey Association peal 10,400 changes of Double Norwich Major on Easter Monday, 1924, at Christ Church, Epsom.

The funeral took place at Norwood Cemetery on Friday, February 14th. In addition to the family mourners there were present Mr. T. H. Taffender (Master of the London County Association), Mr. H. Mance (Southern District Master of the London County Association), Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (secretary of the South and West District, Middlesex County Association), Mr. J. W. Euston, of Balham, also officials of the London Parks Committee (L.C.C.), by which deceased was employed.

Touches were rung on Saturday, February 15th, half-muffled during the evening at St. Leonard's Church, Streatham, by local and visiting ringers as a mark of respect.

As a ringer, deceased was a perfect striker, and will be greatly missed. He frequently attended practices and district meetings in London and suburbs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE MANCHESTER BRANCH SECRETARYSHIP.

A meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Birch-in-Rusholme on Saturday, February 15th. Ringers attended from Bowden, Bredbury, Gorton, Prestwich, Pendleton, Radcliffe, West Didsbury and Worsley, together with a few unattached members of the branch. The meeting had the pleasure, also of the presence of Mr. J. H. Sheppard, of Swindon.

The business meeting was held in the tower, with the branch president, Mr. C. Gudgeon, in the chair.

At the outset the chairman requested the members to stand in silence as a tribute to the memory of His late Majesty King George V. Associated also with the tribute was the late Mr. James H. Collier, of Flixton. The chairman spoke also of Mr. R. H. Bent, of Prestwich, who has been ill for a considerable period.

Places chosen for next quarter's meetings were: March 21st, Prestwich; April 18th, Gorton; and May 16th, Worsley.

The following were elected members of the association: Messrs. Charles Ridyard and R. Jones, of Worsley; Alan Mosley, John Huxstep, Harry Ogden, John and Alan Wrigley, of Birch; Ewart Mungatroyd, of West Didsbury; Alan Brown, of Bowden, Cheshire; and H. Charles Bond, of Cirencester.

The secretary (Mr. D. Brown) intimated his desire to resign from the position owing to his difficulty in attending the meetings and keeping in close touch with the branch, and requested the meeting to consider the desirability of electing a successor at the next quarterly meeting in May.

After the usual votes of thanks had been passed, several of the new members were given some very useful practice, which at the moment is very welcome at Birch, where a young band is endeavouring not only to raise their status as ringers, but also to raise funds for a bell restoration scheme. We wish them success in every way.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Norbury (Hazel Grove) on Saturday, January 25th. The bells were rung fully muffled from 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., when the service was held in church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Humphreys), who gave a very inspiring address, basing his remarks on the text, 'Unto you I call.' He observed how the bells reflected the different feelings of the populace. At that time they showed our sorrow at the death of our beloved King, and last May they sounded forth their note of joy on his completion of 25 years' reign. Still, under all circumstances, their call was to the people to join the church in its sorrow or joy, as it had been all down the ages.

After service tea was served in the school by the local ringers and their good ladies, and some 35 members and friends partook of an excellent repast.

After tea the business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Vicar, and at the commencement the members stood for a moment in silence as a mark of respect and affection for His late Majesty.

The Chairman expressed regret at the death of the ex-Master of the Guild, the Rev. C. A. Clements, who had passed away about a fortnight before. He said he felt sure the members would wish to send a message of condolence to Mrs. Clements, and he moved that the secretary be instructed to do so. This suggestion was unanimously adopted by the meeting, and the members stood silently for a minute as a tribute to his memory. The report and statement of accounts were approved and adopted by the meeting. The officers for the ensuing year were elected, and thanks were extended to the retiring officers for their services.

Six new members were elected.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for his fine address, to the local ringers for having everything ready, to the ladies who so ably catered for the requirements of the inner man, and to the organist for his assistance in church.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL BRANCH.

A good muster of members braved the foggy weather for the annual meeting of the Central Branch, held at Sutton-in-the-Isle on Saturday last. The Rev. Canon Woodard conducted the Guild service and gave the members a warm welcome to Sutton. The hymns were 'We love the place, O God' and 'There is a blessed home.' Mrs. Woodard was at the organ. Tea was taken in the Schoolroom, the hostesses being Mrs. G. Few and Mrs. C. Gimbert, both ringers' wives.

Before the business meeting, at which Canon Woodard presided, the company stood for a minute's silence as a token of respect to the late general secretary, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, and Mr. A. T. Faux, vergier and ringer at Sutton Church.

The following officers were elected: President, the Rev. A. E. Kirkland (Vicar of Haddenham); vice-president, the Rev. Canon Woodard (Sutton); Ringing Master, Mr. G. Few; secretary, Mr. F. Warrington.

After discussion, and on the proposition of Mr. B. Wayman, of Over, seconded by Mr. W. Seekings, of Chatteris, Mr. F. Warrington was nominated as a representative to the Central Council.

The next annual meeting is to take place at Ely and the next ringing meeting at Longstanton.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Canon Woodard for his kindness and warm welcome. During the afternoon and after the business meeting some good ringing took place, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to London Surprise. Among those present was Mr. Smith (Master, Cambridge University Guild), Mr. A. H. Peter Woodard (hon. secretary) and Mr. P. Tyrwhitt-Drake, of Cambridge University.

A 720 IN 12 PLAIN METHODS.

At Bigby, Lincs, on Thursday, February 13th, a 720 of Minor in 12 Plain methods was rung. The 720 is the composition of Mr. A. G. Driver, and the methods were Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Fulbeck Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Double Oxford, London Bob, Thelwall, Lytham Bob, St. Clement's, College, Childwall and Wavertree; E. Britain 1, G. W. Moody 2, F. Lord 3, Mrs. Bray 4, J. Bray 5, G. E. Feirn (conductor) 6. There were 53 changes of method and 18 singles. It is believed to be the first time this 12-method 720 has been rung.

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

Address to the King.

The annual meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's, Twickenham, on Saturday week, when the best attendance for some years, over 60, was recorded. Nearly all the affiliated towers were represented. Ringing took place at Hampton during the afternoon under the direction of the Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Coles, while the Master, Mr. George Kilby, was in charge at Twickenham, where ringing was to be had both in the afternoon and evening. A feature was the variety of methods rung, ranging from Grandsire Triples to Spliced Surprise Major in seven methods, the latter the best struck touch of the day.

Shortened evensong was conducted by the president of the association, the Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane, who is Vicar of Twickenham. The National Anthem prefaced the service.

The President, in a brief address, referred to the life and death of His late Majesty King George V. He hoped that the wonderful example of a Christian life, as lived by him, would be a strength and comfort to all.

The vice-president read the lesson, specially selected as a tribute to the King and also to the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake. The hymns were well sung, as usual.

Tea, held in the Church Hall, taxed the resources of the caterers to the utmost (they did forget their postcards, after all). Eventually all were supplied, although some were seated rather unconventionally! Immediately after tea, a touch was rung on Mr. George Kilby's fine handbells.

The President, referring to the events of the past fortnight, moved the following address to King Edward:—

'The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild respectfully tender to Your Majesty an expression of their deep sorrow at the grievous loss which the nation has sustained in the death of Your Majesty's illustrious father, and an expression of their respectful sympathy with Your Majesty in these the dark days of your grief.

'They tender to Your Majesty a spontaneous and dutiful expression of their loyalty, and they pray that your reign may be blessed by peace for your people and comfort for Your Majesty's own self.'

The members stood to receive the motion and signified their assent in silence.

Mr. J. A. Trollope spoke in feeling terms of the tragic death of the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake.—After a tribute to his work for and his value to the Exorcise, it was agreed that a message of sympathy be sent to the widow and family.

The hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Goodfellow), in his report, commenced by referring to the passing of the greatest ringer of all time on March 8th, Mr. William Pye. He had been Master of the association since 1910 and he had raised the standard of ringing enormously since then. His great ringing feats at Exeter, Loughborough and Ashton-under-Lyne, to mention but a few, will long be remembered. He was the first man to call a thousand peals. He rang 1,969 peals in all, of which he called 1,427. He was a man of great modesty and greatly loved by those who really knew him. Details of the proposed memorial to his memory were given and an earnest appeal for further donations made.

THE ORGANISATION OF LOCAL GUILDS.

Continuing, the hon. secretary gave details of meetings held during the year, the average attendance of 31 being an increase on the previous year. Sunday service ringing had been maintained, although several bands were finding it difficult to keep up to full strength. While the problem of new ringers is one of some perplexity, it is not without solution. A closer co-operation with the incumbent is desirable on this point, and while there are choirboys and youth organisations in the parish, one source, at least, of possible recruits should remain. Teaching should not be the somewhat haphazard performance it sometimes is, but should be carefully planned, with maintenance of interest an important feature. Handbells can be used in this respect with advantage, ringing both tunes and changes. The active interest of church officials should be stimulated on all possible occasions. All bands should be formed into a Guild to rank as a parochial organisation, holding a meeting at least once a year, and, if possible, an annual outing.

Heston ringers headed the quarter-peal list with ten in five different methods. Only twelve peals were rung during the year, a big decrease. The best performance was the peal of Spliced Surprise Major in six methods. This was conducted by E. C. S. Turner from an 'inside' bell, and was his own composition. Congratulations were extended to both the Heston and Sunbury bands on ringing peals with an entirely local band. Thirteen members were elected during the year, but there was a dismal story of over 20 outstanding subscriptions. (Pay up and play the game!)

The report concluded with thanks and congratulations to Mr. C. T. Coles, who had recently completed 25 years as hon. secretary of the North and East District.

(Continued in next column.)

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

COMPETITION FOR OFFICES.

The annual general meeting was held on Saturday at St. Clement Danes, Strand. Ringing took place at St. Giles', Cripplegate; St. Margaret's, Westminster; St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, and St. Clement Danes, where many methods were indulged in. Service in St. Clement Danes Church was attended by a large number of members and friends. Led by the organist and choristers, the service was conducted, in the absence of the honorary chaplain (the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford), by the Rev. W. Kingston, who gave a short address, in which he pointed out the importance of bells in calling the people to worship.

Tea was partaken of in Perdy's Restaurant, where a company of 97 sat down. Afterwards some returned for further ringing at St. Clement's till 7 p.m., others made their way to the meeting hall and a few left rang handbells, a course of Kent Treble Bob Major being among the items: E. J. King 1-2, T. W. Taffender 3-4, A. D. Barker 5-6, J. G. A. Prior 7-8.

Business in the Parish Hall was presided over by the Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. C. O. Moore) and assistant secretaries, stewards, etc. The presentation of the balance sheet by one of the auditors (Mr. A. D. Barker) revealed that the association had a balance in hand on the year's working, thus increasing the society's assets.

The annual report showed that during the year 1935, 13 peals had been rung, being two more than in 1934. They were conducted by nine different ringers as follows: The Master 4, Mr. T. W. Taffender 2, and the following one each: Messrs. J. Bennett, J. W. Chapman, W. Hewitt, E. J. King, F. Skevington, E. D. Smith and W. Williams. The outstanding peals were the peal of Stedman Triples at St. Olave's, Hart Street, City, by a band of Freemasons on October 28th, the first peal of Major and Surprise on the bells at Woodford on November 16th, and the peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on December 7th, rung muffled for an esteemed member, Mr. R. Bevan. The association had elected 37 members during the year, and, with regret, had lost by death, in addition to Mr. R. Bevan, Mr. R. A. Daniell, who was a past secretary and did so much in formulating the London County Association in 1903 from the old St. James' Society, founded 1824. He was also the compiler and donor of the association's service books. The report also noted the practices adopted by the Northern District for mid-week, and, with regret, the inability of Mr. J. Herbert to carry on the secretaryship of the Southern District. It was hoped to produce an annual report this year for sale at a small cost giving very useful information.

A HANDBELL COMPETITION.

Interest next centred on the election of officers who had been nominated at the previous quarterly meeting. There were two nominations for the Mastership, Mr. T. H. Taffender and Mr. A. D. Barker. The result of the election revealed an overwhelming majority in favour of Mr. T. H. Taffender, who was declared elected amid applause. For the office of general secretary there were also two nominations, Mr. C. O. Moore and Mr. T. W. Taffender. Mr. C. O. Moore withdrew and Mr. T. W. Taffender was, therefore, duly elected. The following were elected to the other offices: Messrs. A. J. Harding and F. E. Hawthorne, assistant secretaries; Mr. E. A. Young, treasurer; Messrs. T. Wyatt and P. Carter, stewards; Mr. A. H. Keighley and Mr. F. E. Dawe, trustees; Central Council representatives, the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), Mr. F. E. Dawe and Mr. J. Waugh. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the clergy for the use of their bells during the afternoon, to the honorary chaplain for the attendance of the organist and choristers, and leaving him to dispose as he wished of the collection made at the service.

The meeting then expressed its opinion in connection with the proposed removal of All Hallows, Lombard Street, and the secretary was requested to write the appropriate authorities that the church should be preserved and allowed to remain if at all possible.

The concluding item of the evening was the handbell contest. There were four entrants, but one band had to withdraw, as one of its members was unavoidably absent. This left the representatives of St. Mary's, Woodford, to compete first, followed by St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and St. Stephen's, Rochester Row. Each band rang a course of Grandsire Triples. The decision of the three umpires resulted in the cup being retained by the band of St. Stephen's, Rochester Row. The meeting then came to a close with another course of Treble Bob Major on handbells.

(Continued from previous column.)

It was agreed to hold the fifth annual supper next year, and the next district annual meeting at Isleworth.

F. D. Bishop and V. A. Rawlings, of Chiswick, and the Rev. J. W. Ainger, of Twickenham, were elected members.

W. H. Coles was elected Master and E. C. S. Turner his deputy. The hon. secretary (F. W. Goodfellow), assistant hon. secretary (W. G. Wilson) and hon. treasurer (T. Collins) were all re-elected. Thanks were accorded to all who contributed to the success of the meeting and to the retiring officers.

FOR BEGINNERS.**A STEP IN CHANGE RINGING.**

Let us hark back this week, for the sake of the 'very beginners' who are just making a start with change ringing. In the first issues of 'The Ringing World' this year we tried to show the correct way to ring a bell and went on to explain how to hunt the treble in Doubles. We want to go a step further this week in this direction and give young ringers a little direction in ringing some other bell than the treble to Doubles.

It is as well, perhaps, to explain that there is a variety of ways in which Doubles (that is ringing five bells and changing two pairs at a time) can be produced. One of the oldest methods is Grandsire, and this is frequently the method in which beginners are started. On five bells and upwards no method will produce all the possible changes; Grandsire Doubles produces only 30 out of the possible 120, which is the number that can be got with five bells.

The reason is this: In this method there are two bells which follow only a plain hunting course, that is moving one place at a time from front to back and back to front without any deviation, and as a consequence they return to their relative starting positions every ten changes. There are, therefore, three bells left to do the 'work' of the method, and as they complete the cycle by the time the hunt bells have been up and down three times, the bells come round at the end of 30 changes.

The working bells, as they are called, all follow the same cycle, but each begins it at a different place. In the plain course, the never leaves it, whatever happens. The working bells in the plain treble and 2nd are the bells doing the plain hunting, and the treble course are, therefore, 3, 4 and 5. And they hunt, for the most part, like the other two, moving one place up or down as the case may be. But if they did nothing more than this, the bells would be back in rounds at the end of ten changes.

Some variation in the work has consequently to be made, and it is done in this way: The bell which the treble takes off at lead, instead of hunting right up to the back, only goes as far as 3rd's place. Here he has a whole pull (it happens to come at backstroke and hand-stroke, just as the whole pull behind does when you make it) and hunts down again to lead.

PLACE MAKING AND DODGING.

That really should be quite easy to do, for, having led and struck over the treble and one other bell, you strike over the treble and the other bell again in the same order, and lead once more.

This making of 3rd's place checks the hunting of the other two behind, and they each have to take one step back, which is called a dodge, before going on again. One bell dodges after lying its whole-pull behind, and this is called 5-4 down, and the other dodges before it lies its whole-pull, which is called 4-5 up.

We shall probably be taken to task for using the term '5-4 down.' For one thing, most people call it '4-5 down,' and for another the word 'down' is superfluous if you say '5-4,' which should indicate that the dodge is made on the way down. We have, however, made use of both expressions so that you may have no doubt about them.

Now, in between the dodges and the 3rd's place, all the bells plain hunt, and there are various ways in which you may know when the dodges occur.

You should count your way as well as hunt it, by knowing at each pull exactly what place you are in, whether it is 2nd's, or 3rd's, or 4th's, or 5th's. Then you will know when you come to your dodging places.

The Grandsire method actually begins with the 3rd's place and the accompanying dodge, so let us imagine you are ringing the 3rd. While you are ringing rounds you are making one of the blows which constitutes the 3rd's place. When you start into changes, therefore, you must have one more blow in 3rd's before hunting down to lead. This will be over the treble. Next you strike over the other bell that is in the hunt, and then lead. Now you hunt up and lie a whole pull behind. When you have started to hunt down and have struck in 4th's place, you will find that the bell you struck over is not coming up over you. He is the one that is making 3rd's, and you must go back a step over the bell you had previously struck over. When that has been done you will be able to continue your forward march to lead. By the time you get behind again another bell will be making 3rd's, and on account of the ground you lost in the previous dodge you will find that this time you must dodge before you lie your whole pull. When you do this whole pull, the second blow will be over the treble, which, as we say, 'turns you from behind,' and consequently will take you off at lead.

This, as has already been pointed out, means that you have this time got to make 3rd's place. This, then, is the cycle of the work: Make 3rd's place, lead, hunt up, lie a whole pull behind, dodge 5-4 down, hunt down, lead, hunt up, dodge 4-5 up, lie a whole pull behind, hunt down, lead, make 3rd's place.

If you count your places and notice where you pass the treble, you have a guide as to what to do, by the following table:—

Pass treble in 3-4 going up, dodge 5-4 down.

Pass treble in 2-3 going up, dodge 4-5 up.

Pass treble in 1-2 going up, make 3rd's and lead again.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not met 20 times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Michael's on the 25th, at 7.30 p.m., St. Andrew's on the 27th, at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Leicester, on Saturday, Feb. 22nd, at 6.30 p.m. Bells available: St. Margaret's (12) 5 to 6 p.m. and St. John's (10) from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.—Ernest H. Bagworth, 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Wivenhoe on Feb. 22nd to mark the occasion of the opening of the bells after repairs. Bells will be available at 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea will be provided for ringers and friends at 5 p.m. All those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible.—J. R. Starling, Station Road, Wivenhoe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Eynesbury on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Service at 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Church. Tea at 6 p.m. at St. Mary's Church House, 1s. per head, followed by meeting. Ringing at St. Giles', St. Mary's and St. Laurence's during afternoon. A collection will be taken during the service to form the nucleus of a Bell Restoration Fund for the Branch.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Stapleford on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at the Magpie Café. Will members of the District Committee please attend, to arrange quarterly meetings for this year?—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting at Romsey Abbey on Feb. 22nd. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. — G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available: St. Nicholas' (6), 3 to 4.45; All Saints' (8), 3 to 4.45; Cathedral (10), 6.45 to 8.30. Service, All Saints', 4.45 p.m. Tea, Booth Hall, 5.30 p.m.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Lodge, Fownhope, Hereford.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at All Saints', Gosforth, on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5.—Geo. S. Taylor, Hon. Sec., 149, St. Leonard's Street, Sunderland.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Annual meeting Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 3 p.m., at St. Mary's, Nottingham. Important business. 1936 subscriptions due. Special attention to learners 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.—I. B. Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Next meeting at Bardney (6), Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.—G. M. Mayer, 50, Goldsmith Walk, Lincoln.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. Gentlemen welcomed.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, near Bexley Heath, Kent.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 22nd, at St. Mary's Church, Brecon. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Tea kindly supplied by the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available from 12.30 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Wraybury on Saturday, Feb. 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth, on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, at 5.15 p.m., at Parson's Café.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 22nd. Bells (10) available at 3 o'clock.—George Freebrey, Hon. Sec., 81, Roe Street, Derby.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—St. Mary-le-Bow next Sunday. Special mid-week meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 26th, 7.30 p.m., at All Hallows', Lombard Street. Speciality: Grandsire and Stedman. All welcome.—J. G. Prior, Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A practice meeting will be held at Shoreditch on Thursday, Feb. 27th, from 6.30 till 8.30. All ringers welcome. This is especially to help the younger members.—G. A. Card, Hon. Sec.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Tea provided for those who let me know by Wednesday, 26th inst.—Ernest Cooper, 33, Church Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Beverley Minster on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (10) available from 2 o'clock. Short service in Minster at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Parish Room, 1s. 6d. per head. Please advise Mr. R. Owen, 8, Long Lane, Beverley, E. Yorks, by Thursday, Feb. 27th. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. A farewell meeting to the Vicar (Rev. Canon Rigg, D.D.).—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 48th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 29th, at 6 o'clock prompt when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's Church (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Aston bells will also be available from 3 to 5 o'clock. Application for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

LADIES' GUILD.—Meeting Feb. 29th at Ossett. Bus half-hourly from Leeds. Bells 2 till 9.15 p.m. Tea provided, ladies, by kind invitation of Mayor of Ossett. All must send names to Miss Bowling, 19, Shaw Lane, Leeds, by Tuesday, Feb. 25th.—E. Dorice Turner, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Heene on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea, 5 o'clock, at the Church Rooms, Heene Road. All who intend to be present kindly advise me early.—A. W. Groves, 230, Dominion Road, Worthing.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The postponed meeting of this division will be held at Little Waltham on Feb. 29th. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, Feb. 26th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The next meeting will be held at Aylestone, bells (6), on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., in Church Rooms. Notify me by Wednesday previous. A good meeting is hoped for.—Ernest H. Bagworth, Dis. Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Coalpit Heath on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Kindly let me know for tea not later than Wednesday, the 26th inst.—Claude Gifford, Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol, Glos.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Grimsby District.—The following towers in the district have been arranged for combined practices: Waltham, Feb. 29th, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford T.B. Minor; Thornton Curtis, Mar. 21st, London Surprise and St. Clement's Minor; Barton-on-Humber, April 4th, Cambridge Major and Double Norwich. All 6 p.m. start. Please look up the methods. Then come and ring them.—J. Bray, Ringing Master, Barton-on-Stather; H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., Grimsby.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Annual meeting to be held at St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at St. Nicholas' House. Please send names or numbers for tea.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. Let's have a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting will be held at Burbage on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.45, followed by tea and meeting. It will greatly assist if those intending to be present will notify me by Wednesday previous. Please attend in good numbers. Ringing to suit all.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Battle on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Business meeting in tower at 6 o'clock. 1936 subscriptions now due.—C. A. Levett, Hon. Sec., 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The district annual meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting at Rogers' Café, The Borough. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Royston, Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Tea will be provided by the Vicar (Rev. F. F. Greig) for those who notify him by the previous Thursday. Roll up and keep up the average for 1936. Don't forget—a postcard to the Rev. F. F. Greig, The Vicarage, Royston, Herts.—Don Mears, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Bolton Branches.—Joint meeting. A meeting will be held at Hindley St. Peter's on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Peter Crook and William O. Farrimond, Hon. Secs.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at Gorseinon on Saturday, Mar. 7th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m., service at 4.30 p.m., with tea and business meeting to follow. Please advise Mr. D. J. Williams, 48, St. Paul's Terrace, Garden Village, Gorseinon. Numbers for tea by Mar. 4th. All ringers welcome.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at West Ham on Saturday, Mar. 7th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly

advise me by Wednesday, Mar. 4th, and oblige.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The 118th anniversary of these bells will be celebrated on Saturday, Mar. 7th. Bells available all day. Dinner at the Thatch Tavern at 4.30 p.m. Will those intending to be present please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark on Saturday, Mar. 21st. Details later.—Chas. H. Kippen, Hon. Sec.

BIRTH.

CANN.—On Feb. 14th, at Brookwood, Surrey, to Captain and Mrs. Cann, a son.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MRS. W. E. TAYLOR, of Maidenhead, acknowledges with grateful thanks the many messages of sympathy in her recent sad bereavement. She also thanks those who sent such beautiful floral tributes.

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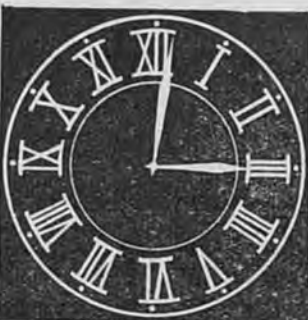
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