



'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942

No. 2050 Vol. XLVI

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1950

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper] 4d.

THE COLERIDGE MEMORIAL

RINGERS outside the Oxford Diocese Guild will be surprised at the attitude taken by the general body of its members to the suggested memorial to Canon G. F. Coleridge. Publicity had been given to the form the memorial should take, and it had met with general acceptance. The unexpected turn of events places the sub-committee in a most unhappy position. They had secured specifications for the work and had discussed the matter with the authorities of Christ Church Cathedral, who gave their approval. The terms of the amendment, that was carried by 56 votes to 48, refers the scheme back to the general committee. In the meantime an appeal is to be launched for funds on a nation-wide basis. It may be that the original proposition will be re-submitted at the next festival, but the fact cannot be disguised that there was distinct hostility towards money being spent on the bells of Christ Church.

The memorial proposed was twofold in character. The first section was noncontroversial and was the placing of a tablet to the memory of the late Canon in the cloister of Christ Church Cathedral alongside those to the Rev. F. E. Robinson and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn. A trio of such able clerical ringers would be hard to find in the annals of English ringing. Where the disagreement seemed to be most manifest was in regard to the improvements contemplated to Christ Church bells, and the fact that the Deputy-Master of the Guild was one of the principal spokesmen in the opposition to the special committee's report naturally influenced many votes. The work recommended to Christ Church bells was the recasting of the two trebles, the provision of means to make these two bells audible outside the building, attention to the wheels of four of the bells and an improvement to the rope circle. Now these are not trumpery improvements but can legitimately be regarded as essential. Those who have rung at Christ Church Cathedral know only too well that these suggested improvements would make the bells worthy of the Cathedral, which is the Mother Church of one of the largest dioceses of England. Also it must not be overlooked that, apart from being the home of one of our important ringing Guilds, Oxford is one of the national centres of the Exercise with a tradition behind it that is very precious. There is other work required to be done in connection with the

ringing facilities at the Cathedral, and this, it was stated, the Dean and Chapter were prepared to meet.

The opposition were in no sense united in their attitude as to appropriate alternatives. The suggestion that the money should be collected first and then the form the memorial should take be decided, showed a lack of psychology. A memorial appeal to succeed must be definite in character; people will not readily subscribe without knowledge beforehand as to the purpose to which their donations will be placed. The affection with which Canon Coleridge was held in all parts of the country would have resulted in practically all the major Guilds desiring to be associated with the memorial. If the form of the memorial was known and met with approbation then the gift in aggregate would be substantial; otherwise from some Guilds there would be a token contribution.

Oxford is unquestionably the appropriate centre for any ringing memorial to Canon Coleridge. It was here that he developed his ringing in his undergraduate days. In the maturity of life he became a Canon of Christ Church, and he was, apart from the national position he held in the Exercise, the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The claim of Crowthorne, the village he served with so much faithfulness, was submitted for special consideration. Here there is no tower, just a bell cote, and any suggestion of providing the village with a ring of bells is ludicrous.

The Deputy Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild suggested that a more suitable form a memorial would be altar furnishings. We would suggest that a memorial to Canon Coleridge from ringers should in part be associated with bells. Church bells were very real to him; he loved bells and ringers, and his ear was attuned to hearing the finer points of a ring. The imperfections of the two trebles at Christ Church from the listeners' point of view would have disturbed him, and he was a practical ringer of such high standard that the unsatisfactory circle and other defects would have called forth a desire from him to see them remedied. Canon Coleridge had other friends outside the circle of ringers. He was held in very high esteem among his fellow clergy, beloved of his parishioners and in the Province of Berkshire attained high Masonic honours. These friends would more than likely, if approached, desire to perpetuate his memory in the form suggested by Captain Poyntz.

The amendment, it should be clearly understood, does not rule out the possibility of adopting the recommendation of the special committee. The scheme has been referred back to the general committee for a year, and in the meantime the appeal for funds is to be launched. Twelve valuable months will have been wasted. We do not know what the attitude of the Central Council will be towards this decision. The veneration with which Canon Coleridge was held by his fellow members of the Council would undoubtedly influence them to desire to be associated with any memorial, but they would infinitely prefer that their donation be devoted either towards a memorial tablet in the cloisters or a practical gift towards the advancement of ringing.

A SOMERSET AND DORSET TOUR

WEST COKER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 1, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

WM. A. T. CARTER ... Treble	RONALD J. SHARP ... 5
MARK W. MARSHALL ... 2	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 6
C. HENRY HARDING ... 3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 7
WILLIAM WENBAN ... 4	HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by M. S. LANCEFIELD.

CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 3, 1950, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 19½ cwt.

MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... Treble	RONALD J. SHARP ... 5
C. HENRY HARDING ... 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 6
MARK W. MARSHALL ... 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ... 7
PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 4	HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by P. D. HUCKSTEEP.

CASTLE CARY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., July 4, 1950, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

*WILLIAM WENBAN ... Treble	PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 5
FREDK. G. HUCKSTEEP ... 2	*C. HENRY HARDING ... 6
*RONALD J. SHARP ... 3	*WM. A. T. CARTER ... 7
*MARK W. MARSHALL ... 4	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FREDK. G. HUCKSTEEP.

* First peal in the method.

BRIDPORT, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 6, 1950, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in E flat.

RONALD J. SHARP ... Treble	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 5
*MARK W. MARSHALL ... 2	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 6
FREDK. G. HUCKSTEEP ... 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ... 7
PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 4	HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by M. S. LANCEFIELD.

* 50th peal.

MARTOCK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

HARRY PARKES ... Treble	MARK W. MARSHALL ... 5
C. HENRY HARDING ... 2	WILLIAM A. T. CARTER ... 6
RONALD J. SHARP ... 3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 7
FREDK. G. HUCKSTEEP ... 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by T. CULLINGWORTH.

WINCANTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt. in F sharp.

WILLIAM A. T. CARTER Treble	PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 5
*WILLIAM WENBAN ... 2	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 6
*RONALD J. SHARP ... 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 7
*MARK W. MARSHALL ... 4	HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in the method.

EAST COKER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

C. HENRY HARDING ... Treble	*PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 5
THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ... 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 6
MARK W. MARSHALL ... 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 7
RONALD J. SHARP ... 4	*HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by W. BARTON. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in the method.

SHERBORNE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 46 cwt. 6 lb. in B flat.

FREDERICK G. HUCKSTEEP Treble	WM. A. T. CARTER ... 5
PETER D. HUCKSTEEP ... 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 6
MARK W. MARSHALL ... 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ... 7
MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 4	HARRY PARKES ... Tenor

Composed by GEO. LEWIS. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

TEN BELL PEAL

BANBURY, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 1, 1950, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in E.

EDWIN G. MOORE ... Treble	WILLIAM JUDGE ... 6
WALTER F. JUDGE ... 2	*EDGAR J. SMITH ... 7
MICHAEL E. H. BARROW ... 3	*EDMUND E. PEARSON ... 8
*JOHN S. WALTON ... 4	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS ... 9
WILLIAM C. PORTER ... 5	*CECIL H. PEARSON ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. The conductor's 500th tower-bell peal.



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LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wed., July 12, 1950, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 31½ cwt. in D.

*BETTY CROSSMAN	2	*JEFFREY B. WEBB	6
*JUNE BRINDLEY	2	*FRANCIS A. SEDGWICK	7
†DENNIS BERESFORD	3	*WALTER J. COPE	8
PETER BERESFORD	4	GEORGE E. OLIVER	9
JOAN BERESFORD	5	*MARK N. CULLING	Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. ‡ First peal of Caters 'inside.' First peal of Caters as conductor. First peal on the bells by a Sunday service band. First peal of Grandsire Caters on the bells since being recast. Rung as a farewell to Betty Crossman, who will shortly be leaving the district.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 4, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in F sharp.

*MISS F. D. MURKITT	Treble	FRANK H. HICKS	5
CYRIL A. BURGESS	2	WILLIAM F. BUTLER	6
*MISS J. HEARN	3	NORMAN V. HARDING	7
MISS M. R. JAYCOCK	4	GEORGE GILBERT	Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* First peal in the Kent Variation. 250th peal as conductor. Specially arranged for N. V. Harding during his holiday in the district.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 6, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 6 lb. in F.

JEAN C. BROWN	Treble	*FRED DUNKERLEY	5
*STEPHEN LL. PARRY	2	HAROLD WALKER	6
REV. R. D. ST. J. SMITH	3	WALTER W. MILLER	7
DAVID VINCENT	4	LESLIE G. BRETT	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

* 100th peal together.

WALTON-LE-DALE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in F.

WALTEN ALLMAN	Treble	RALPH G. EDWARDS	5
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	6
EDWARD JENKINS	3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	JOHN WORTH	Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

BICKER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A.

*GEORGE R. DAWSON	Treble	FREDERICK W. STOKES	5
*WILLIAM B. DAWSON	2	JOHN A. FREEMAN	6
*AUBREY D. MILLS	3	JOHN G. AMES	7
STANLEY E. BENNETT	4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Surprise Major. Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. George R. Dawson.

ROCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ERNEST BRIGHT	Treble	*PETER EVES	5
GEORGE TRENDELL	2	RONALD SUEKLING	6
ALBERT CATTWELL	3	THOMAS BIRD	7
FRANK CLAYDON	4	WALTER ARNOLD	Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTON. Conducted by RONALD SUEKLING.

* First peal in the method. 80th peal as conductor.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours,

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

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

PATRICIA SMEE	Treble	HARRY SPRINGATE	5
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB	2	TREVOR A. CROSS	6
EDWARD A. G. ALLAN	3	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT	7
GLADYS K. JARRETT	4	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS	Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM SHIPWAY. Conducted by WM. A. J. KNIGHT.

75th peal by the conductor. Arranged for the ringing of the 2nd, hon. secretary of Western District of the Durham and Newcastle Association.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

FREDERICK HOLDEN	Treble	*JACK LUCK	5
J. DENNIS HOLDEN	2	†DENNIS WHATMORE	6
TREVOR REYNOLDS	3	C. WALLATER	7
SAM BIRCH	4	RODERICK J. LEES	Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by C. WALLATER.

* First peal of Plain Bob. † First peal on eight bells. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hickman, of Coseley.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in F.

*WALTER J. LEMON	Treble	FREDERICK J. CULLUM	5
EDWIN H. LEWIS	2	*ALFRED G. WILLIAMS	6
*FREDERICK W. BUDGEN	3	*JOHN O. WELLER	7
EDWIN BARNETT	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

* First peal in the method.

EDENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

ALBERT E. SCOTT	Treble	CHARLES C. RAWDING	5
BERNARD H. DALTON	2	CLEMENT W. A. BOTTOMLEY	6
WILLIAM A. HOLMES	3	HORACE BENNETT	7
*LEONARD P. WILSON	4	C. HAROLD WHITTON	Tenor

Composed by G. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by C. H. WHITTON.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Major as conductor.

HATFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in E.

JAMES THORLEY	Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER	5
WILLIAM H. JACKSON	2	GIBSON JACKSON	6
F. BERNARD DITCHER	3	ERNEST A. THORPE	7
J. EDWARD CAWSE	4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY	Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY. Conducted by J. EDW. CAWSE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

KESWICK, CUMBERLAND.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KENTIGERN, CROSTHWAITHE,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. in F.

WALTER ALLMAN	Treble	RALPH G. EDWARDS	5
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	JOHN WORTH	6
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	EDWARD JENKINS	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.

RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

*WILFRED L. ROBINSON...Treble	WALTER ALLWOOD ... 5
*GORDON C. BRIGGS ... 2	*CYRIL WRIGHT ... 6
*SAM SCATTERGOOD ... 3	*STANLEY SLANEY ... 7
FREDERICK A. ADAMS ... 4	*JOSEPH SAXTON ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by GORDON C. BRIGGS.
*First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. C. Wright and Joseph Saxton, and as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Heafeld.

WARFIELD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part.	Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. in F.
ALBERT FLEET ... Treble	ARTHUR NEWTON ... 5
*VIOLET N. CASTLE ... 2	*WILLIAM I. PARKER ... 6
*JOAN A. RANCE ... 3	ROLAND BIGGS ... 7
PERCY NEWTON ... 4	WALTER LEE ... Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.

*First peal of Stedman.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, POOLSTOCK,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

*GEORGE MILLS ... Treble	JOHN ASHCROFT ... 5
†MARGARET E. RIDYARD... 2	*NORMAN HEAPS ... 6
PETER COXALL ... 3	*ARTHUR MAWDSLEY ... 7
RONALD KENRICK ... 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method 'inside.'

WINDERMERE, WESTMORELAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN, BOWNESS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... Treble	JOHN WORTH ... 5
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS ... 6
RALPH G. EDWARDS ... 3	WALTER ALLMAN ... 7
EDWARD JENKINS ... 4	EDWARD JENKINS ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.
A wedding compliment to Mr. Richard Blakey and Miss Marjory Evans

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., July 10, 1950, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DORNEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

HENRY H. FEARN ... Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 5
ARTHUR D. COOK ... 2	JOHN PINFOLD ... 6
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY... 3	ANTONY W. T. CLEAVER ... 7
TERRY R. HAMPTON ... 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

First peal in the method. Method No. 100 in Corrigan's Collection.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Mon., July 10, 1950, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Six-part (C.C.C. No. 13).	Tenor 19 cwt.
E. REGINALD RETTER ... Treble	ERNEST E. RETTER ... 5
WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN ... 2	JACK SALWAY ... 6
MRS. G. E. RETTER ... 3	GEORGE E. RETTER ... 7
DERRICK CALLARD ... 4	ARTHUR J. C. HOLWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. RETTER.

First peal in the method by all, on the bells and for the Guild.
Rung for the ninth centenary of the Diocese of Exeter and Their Majesties' visit to the city.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BASSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 23, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES E. BROWN ... Treble	OWEN A. NEEDHAM ... 4
BETTY BROWN ... 2	FREDK. W. STOKES ... 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by BETTY BROWN.
First peal of Minor as conductor.

KINGSWOOD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

FRANCIS T. HOAD ... Treble	GEORGE OLLIVER ... 4
*CYRIL MUNT ... 2	†JOHN HILL ... 5
†REV. KENNETH G. HOARE ... 3	A. PATRICK CANNON ... Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

*First peal. †First peal on tower bells. ‡First peal of Bob Minor.
A 71st birthday compliment to Mr. T. Arrow, captain of Betchworth band.

CAWTHORNE, BARNSLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Royston Delight, London Scholars, College Pleasure, New London, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford.

Tenor 9 cwt.

KENNETH H. WOOD ... Treble	ROY BROGAN ... 4
ALEC RUSBY ... 2	HERMAN RUSBY ... 5
FRED COWLING ... 3	NOEL F. MOXON ... Tenor

Conducted by NOEL F. MOXON.

Rung for the 25th anniversary of a peal in similar methods in which the treble was rung by Mr. Henry Crossland on the eve of his 80th birthday.

KIRBY MUXLOE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 120's of April Day, 17 Bob Doubles and 22 Grandisire Doubles. Tenor 7 cwt.

COLIN J. HALL ... Treble	FREDERICK WATSON ... 3
GEORGE PICKERING ... 2	PETER HALLAM ... 4

JOSEPH TAYLOR ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH TAYLOR.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Jack Burchnal and Miss Henelene Mary Smith, the verger's daughter.

WHITWELL, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 8, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND RHADGUND,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

FRANK S. TAYLOR ... Treble	WILLIAM UPTON ... 4
CHARLES H. DENNESS ... 2	CHARLES A. DRAKE ... 5
LESTER BAILEY ... 3	JOHN W. MEADE ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK S. TAYLOR.

First peal of Minor as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, Rev. D. Ford.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 13, 1950, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, London and Wells. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in B flat.

*MRS. W. N. PARK ... Treble	THOMAS COOKE ... 4
R. PARK ... 2	RICHARD BUSBY ... 5
†MICHAEL P. MORETON ... 3	W. NORMAN PARK ... Tenor

Conducted by W. NORMAN PARK.

*First peal. †First peal in seven Surprise methods.

HANDBELL PEALS

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Mon., June 26, 1950, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes,
At Cleatham House Farm,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in C

GEORGE E. FEIRN ... 1-2	JACK BRAY ... 5-6
JOHN FREEMAN ... 3-4	*JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 7-8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal of Double Norwich 'in hand.' First peal of Double Norwich 'in hand' as conductor.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Tues., July 4, 1950, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes,
At THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,*

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Middletown's. Tenor size 15 in C.

*HARRY POYNER ... 1-2	ALFRED BALLARD ... 5-6
†PETER J. STANFORTH ... 3-4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 7-8

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First Surprise peal on handbells. † First Surprise peal on 'inside' pair.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
At THE COUNTY HALL, S.E.1,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

*THOMAS J. LOCK ... 1-2	†ALFRED G. WILLIAMS ... 5-6
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 3-4	*WILFRID G. WILSON ... 7-8

PHILIP A. CORBY ... 9-10

Composed by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

* First peal on ten 'in hand.' † First peal of Royal 'in hand.' A birthday compliment to Mrs. E. A. Barnett.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Mon., July 10, 1950, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
In ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH RINGING CHAMBER,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Davies' Transposition.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 1-2	ALAN CATTELL ... 5-6
CLEMENT GLENN ... 3-4	JOSEPH A. FENTON ... 7-8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Fri., July 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
At 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,*

A PEAL OF SPLICED ROYAL, 5016 CHANGES;

In four methods, comprising 1,056 Little Bob and 1,320 each of Plain Bob, Double Bob and Reverse Bob, with 264 changes of methods.

Tenor size 17 in A.

JAMES E. DANIELS ... 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4	ROY C. HURST ... 7-8

MICHAEL J. E. BEST ... 9-10

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

The first peal of Spliced Royal rung in four methods.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Wed., July 12, 1950, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
In THE RINGING CHAMBER OF ST PETER'S CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

FREDK. G. HOOPER ... 1-2	JOSEPH A. FENTON ... 5-6
CLEMENT GLENN ... 3-4	ALBERT H. WARD ... 7-8

*FRANK BRADLEY ... 9-10

Composed and Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First handbell peal on ten.

DONCASTER.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Thurs., July 13, 1950, in 2 Hours and 7 Minutes,
At 38, CASTLE HILLS ROAD, SCAWTHORPE,*

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 8 in C.

DAVID G. JACKSON ... 1-2	GIBSON JACKSON ... 5-6
WILLIAM H. JACKSON ... 3-4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... 7-8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

GILLETT

&

JOHNSTON

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MIDDLETON CHENEY BELLS

SOME OLD VILLAGE CUSTOMS.

INSPIRED by the article in 'The Ringing World' of March 24th concerning the village of Bilton, Warwickshire, Mr. R. D. Candy, of Acton, W.3, a member of the Middlesex County Association, writes concerning the bells of his native village, Middleton Cheney, in Northamptonshire, situated $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-east of Banbury. He lived in this village until he was 29 years of age and has been closely connected with it for another 20 years.

It was at Middleton Cheney when 17 years old that he first learnt to handle a bell—no easy matter when the ropes are 65ft. draught with about 45ft. without guides between the ground level and the clock room floor. They were rehung with ball bearings in 1925.

The six bells are the heaviest ring of six in the county, the tenor being nearly 23 cwt. in D. Details of their weights and dates are as follows:—

Treble	7 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.	1671
2	8 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb.	1659
3	9 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.	1680
4	11 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lb.	1683
5	18 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb.	1651
Tenor	22 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.	1640
Total	78 cwt. 0 qr. 21 lb.	

All except the 5th were cast by Henry Bagley and Son, of Chacombe— $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north of Middleton. He was the travelling bell-founder who cast the bells of Bilton.

The 5th was cast by James Keene, of Woodstock. The 4th was cracked in 1888 and recast the same year by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:

Treble.—Georgius Holman drs. de Warke-worth Debit, 1671.

Second.—Cantate Domino Canticum Novum. Henry Bagle made mee 1659. R.H.

Third.—William Paris, James Carter, Churchwardens, 1680.

Fourth.—Mathew Neale, Francis Jackman, Churchwardens. William Bagly made mee 1693.

Fifth.—Thomas Warde, William Judge, C.W. Thomas Pen, Nicholas Parris J. K. made mee 1651.

Tenor.—Aaron's Bells be continual among us jah, the Word still preacht and an Hallelu-jah sung, 1640.

In 1924 the bells were taken down and sent to the bell foundry of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., after being unringable since 1916 owing to the framework being unsafe.

After being retuned and refitted they were rehung the following year in a steel frame and rededicated on November 5th, 1925, this being the date of commencing to ring for Christmas and also the festival week of All Saints, to whom the church is dedicated.

The above custom of ringing on that particular date is only one of many, which, sad to relate, have all died out—with the exception of about two—since I left the village.

CHRISTMAS RINGING.

It was customary to ring the bells on the last three Monday mornings before Christmas for an hour from 5 to 6. And for two years I participated in this ringing.

Another custom was to ring from midnight to 1 a.m. on Christmas morning and then for the ringers to adjourn to the captain's house, where the festival was honoured with a glass of home-made wine. As far as I know this traditional ceremony is still observed, as is ringing the Old Year out with the bells half-muffled from 11.30 till 11.55, when the muffles were untied. The captain then wished the band a happy New Year and the bells were rung clear from 12 to 12.30 a.m.

Easter morning was 'rung in' from 6 till 7 for first Communion, and the old Armistice

Day, November 11th, was commemorated by ringing half-muffled for an hour. With the exception of Christmas and New Year, all these customs, in which I have taken part, have died out.

EACH BELL A SPECIAL OBJECT.

A unique feature was that each bell had an individual object for ringing. The treble was used to call the ringers; the second the dinner bell on Sundays; the third the dinner bell on weekdays; the fourth the Pancake bell, rung at 11.30 a.m. on Shrove Tuesday (which I have rung); the fifth a substitute for the tenor when only five bells were rung; and last, but no means least, the tenor for the death bell, the clock bell and fire bell.

In the case of fire a small bell was also rung with the tenor, known as the 'tinker' or minster bell. This bell weighs about $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. and is dated 1810. It hangs in the east window of the bell chamber, being swung with the rope attached to a piece of wood fixed to the crown. It is also rung for five minutes before a service, and this custom still survives.

When the tenor was rung for a death it was rung up and minuted for an hour, preceded by the tellers. It was also tolled for a funeral. Nowadays it is struck by a hammer with a rope attached on the outside.

ONLY TWO PEALS.

No change ringing is done in this tower by local ringers—only call changes. Before the war a peal of 5,040 changes was rung by the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths, and since the war another by a band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Last year another peal was attempted, but after an hour's ringing the band gave up owing to the long draught and weight.

The tower of Middleton Cheney dates back to the 12th century and before the present six it contained four bells. These were lost during the time of the Spanish Armada and it is a local belief that they were used to make cannons. When the present bells were taken down, the marks could be clearly traced of the position of these four bells.

MR. W. F. JUDGE'S 500 PEALS

Mr. Walter F. Judge, of Oxford, has an outstanding list in his 500 peals, which were rung in 107 towers and for 20 guilds and associations.

Minor (various), rung 10 (conducted 4); Grandshire Doubles 1, Triples 33 (21), Caters 19 (12) (includes 16,271 record), Cinqes 3 (3); St. Clement's Bob Triples 1; Double Court Triples 1.

Stedman Doubles 1 (1), Triples 113 (72), Caters 34 (25), Cinqes 43 (22) (includes 12,663 record); Erin Caters 1 (1); D.N.C.B. Caters 1 (1), Major 43 (36); Longney Bob Major 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major 1; Bob Major 22 (12), Royal 3 (1), Maximus 1; K.T.B. Major 9 (2); K.T.B. Royal 3 (1); O.T.B. Royal 1; Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major 4 (1); Spliced Bob Major and K.T.B. Major 2 (2); Little Bob Major 2 (1).

Cambridge Surprise Major 32 (14), Royal 11 (2), Maximus 11 (3); New Cambridge Surprise Royal 2 (1); Yorkshire Surprise Major 11 (8), Royal 3, Maximus 3 (2); Superlative Surprise Major 8 (2); Bristol Surprise Major 15 (10); London Surprise Major 8 (3); Ashtead Surprise Major 3 (1); Lincolnshire Surprise Major 5 (2); Rutland Surprise Major 4 (3); Painswick Surprise Major 1; Norfolk Surprise Major 1; Wembley Surprise Major 1; Watford Surprise Major 1; Pudsey Surprise Major 1; Lindum Surprise Major 1.

Spliced Surprise Major—four methods 9 (7), five methods 2, six methods 1 (1), eight methods 5 (5), ten methods 2 (2), twelve methods 2 (2), fourteen methods 1 (1), sixteen methods 1 (1), eighteen methods 1 (1), twenty methods 1 (1). Total 500 (conducted 290).

Surrey Association

SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT LEIGH.

On Saturday, July 1st, the Southern District of Surrey Association held a quarterly meeting at Leigh; this was in the nature of an experiment, as the bells had been going badly. They proved almost as awkward as we had feared, in spite of the hard work put in beforehand by Mr. A. P. Cannon, for which we thank him.

However, they improved a little as the meeting progressed, and we were able to ring Grandshire, Bob Minor and Bob Doubles, Stedman and one plain course of Cambridge Minor. About 20 ringers attended the meeting, the majority on cycles, not wishing to be dependent on the two-hourly bus service.

After tea the Rector (the Rev. Flint) invited the members to hold their business meeting in the paddock behind the Rectory. One new member was elected, and the election of previous new members was ratified. All at the meeting were very sorry to hear that Mr. J. W. Knight was in hospital with a broken heel, and it was agreed that the secretary should write to him, expressing the condolence and best wishes of all present. It was decided that the next meeting, in September, should be held at Lingfield, or, failing this, at Bletchingley.

Evensong, at 6.30, was preceded by Grandshire Doubles. Mrs. A. P. Cannon very kindly accompanied during the service on the piano.

Further ringing in the evening finished with the longest touch of the day, 720 of Bob Minor, conducted by A. P. Cannon. It was the first 720 for three of the ringers and was a creditable effort by all.

During the afternoon members were able to see how one man—namely, Mr. T. Price, of Feltham—rings the 2nd and 3rd bells to a touch of Bob Minor, while conducting it; unfortunately, the 3rd bell is the most difficult to control and the touch came to grief.

All present agreed that, in its own way, the meeting had been a success. R. F.

DEDICATION

HAWKLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

On Sunday, July 9th, the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth dedicated at evensong the restored and augmented ring of bells, together with two other memorials.

The work of rehanging the original six bells in an iron framework with new fittings and adding two new treble bells has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., whose representative, Mr. Don Bradford, was present at the dedication. The cost of the whole of the work has been borne by Mr. and Mrs. T. Cline Davies, of Hawkley Hurst, in memory of their son, Harold F. T. Davies, R.N.V.R., who fell in the war of 1939-45.

An invitation had been extended by the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Wright) and Hawkley ringers to various towers in the area, and the following places were represented: Petersfield, Steep, Selborne, Liss, Froxfield and Blackmoor.

Mr. C. E. Bassett, secretary of the Alton and Petersfield District, was responsible for the ringing arrangements. The bells were rung during the afternoon, and tea was provided by the Vicar in the Institute.

The bells were rung at the time of the dedication by the local band in charge of Mr. Charles Pound, after which a quarter peal of Grandshire Triples was rung by the following: C. Pound (Hawkley) 1, Miss C. Roberts (Steep) 2, P. W. Wright 3, A. H. Fricker 4, N. Over 5, C. C. Wright 6, C. E. Bassett (cond.) 7, A. Betsworth (Liss) 8. The ringers of 3, 4, 5 and 6 were from Petersfield.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On June 19th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: E. J. Bragg 1, T. E. Denyer 2, W. H. Viggers 3, R. Corke 4, J. D. Rock 5, P. Blackman 6, E. Smith 7, C. W. Denyer (cond.) 8. First in method for 2, 4 and 7.

BARROW-ON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On July 11th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Plain Bob, 360 April Day and 300 Grandsire): R. Wilmore (Mountsorrel) 1, G. Lowe (Barrow-on-Soar) 2, W. C. Shute (Ferndown, Dorset) 3, J. W. Lowe (Barrow-on-Soar) 4, E. Morris (cond.) 5.

BATH, SOMERSET.—At St. Mark's Church, on July 9th, 1,272 Oxford Treble Bob: Mrs. D. Evans 1, W. G. Brown (cond.) 2, M. Helps 3, L. Coles 4, R. Perry 5, C. Knott 6.

CROWCOMBE, SOMERSET.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. E. Welsher 1, C. W. J. Lock 2, John Henson 3, L. T. Richards 4, R. E. Colman (cond.) 5, E. Colman 6. Rung for the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. John Henson.

OROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist on July 2nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: R. Davies 1, Mrs. F. E. Collins 2, E. Razzell 3, C. E. Taylor (first of Caters) 4, D. Cooper 5, F. Sanguin 6, W. Oatway 7, G. H. Humphries 8, F. E. Collins (cond.) 9, F. E. Mitchell 10.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On July 9th, 720 Bourne Surprise and 720 Norwich Surprise: W. F. Todd 1, G. Cherry 2, A. E. Symonds 3, E. W. Winters 4, W. J. Croft 5, F. W. Croft (cond.) 6.

HERNE HILL, KENT.—On July 8th, 1,280 Spliced Kent and Oxford (no bobs): P. R. Jimmett 1, F. Cheal 2, E. S. Wyles 3, G. A. Naylor 4, E. Naylor 5, W. S. Palin 6, T. Holmes 7, W. Batterall (cond.) 8. First in the method by all the band.

QUARTER PEALS

LANCASTER.—At St. Peter's Cathedral on July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: John Pye 1, J. Woods 2, R. Rainford 3, Jas. Metcalfe 4, W. S. Bleasdale 5, S. Jeffery 6, H. Rainford (cond.) 7, F. Hornby 8. First quarter for 1 and 8.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. R. Poulson 1, S. Smith 2, F. F. Mortlock 3, W. Faiers 4, F. Boreham 5, M. T. Symonds 6, H. Millatt (cond.) 7, L. C. Offord 8.

LYDNEY, GLOS.—On July 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Kear (first quarter) 1, N. Rees 2, J. C. Goulding 3, O. Thomas 4, J. W. Davis (cond.) 5, H. Christie 6. Farewell peal to Canon L. P. Jones on his retirement as Vicar of Lydney-with-Aylburton after 22½ years' ministry; also to Mrs. L. P. Jones.

MARKFIELD, LEICESTER.—On July 2nd at St. Michael's, 1,240 April Day, St. Simon's, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: J. Wardle (first quarter) 1, S. Gardner 2, V. Geary 3, J. W. Bowley 4, C. W. Hall (cond.) 5, H. Wardle (first quarter) 6. Rung for dedication of victory bell plaque.

MOBBERLEY, CHESHIRE.—On July 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. G. Evans (first quarter) 1, A. Rhodes 2, N. D. Lomas (first 'inside') 3, S. Sage 4, J. D. Lomas 5, D. Mottershead (first as cond.) 6. First quarter on the bells since rehanging. A birthday compliment to Mrs. S. Sage and to N. D. Lomas (15).

NORTON, HERTS.—On July 2nd at St. Nicholas', 1,260 Stedman Triples: M. A. Collins (first in method, aged 13) 1, E. G. Buck 2, R. V. Webb 3, W. D. Pooley 4, I. Werrett 5, H. E. Werrett 6, J. S. Dear (cond.) 7, V. Trigg (first quarter) 8.

OLNEY, BUCKS.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul on July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Stapleton 1, F. Boswell 2, A. Freeman 3, F. Mynard (first in the method) 4, M. Cook 5, V. Adams 6, B. Fisher (cond.) 7, E. Perkins 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, who has reached the age of 80 years and has completed 70 years of ringing.

PORTSMOUTH.—On July 12th at the Church of St. Mary, Portsea, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. D. Harris 1, Miss C. Burbidge 2, Miss B. M. Ball 3, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 4, A. T. Greenwood 5, F. W. Burnett 6, F. W. Rogers 7, S. J. Harding 8.

SHIRLEY, WARWS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. T. Bartlett 1, E. T. Lloyd 2, G. C. Hemming 3, V. A. Hemming (cond.) 4, T. Abbotts 5, G. J. Hemming 6, A. Morris 7, Miss M. Griffiths (first quarter on eight) 8.

ST. IPPOLYTS, HERTS.—On July 2nd, 1,272 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: W. Pratt 1, A. Harris 2, G. Cherry 3, L. Runnacles 4, M. Chalkley 5, F. W. Croft (cond.) 6.

THURLEY, Lincs.—On July 6th, 1,260 Minor (720 Spliced Cambridge and Ipswich and 540 Double Court): W. Clark 1, J. Sempster 2, H. M. Day (cond.) 3, C. Wade 4, W. Oldman 5, F. Brightman 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Cummings and William Bennett, son of one of the local ringers.

WALMER, KENT.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Mantle 1, F. A. Bye (cond.) 2, Miss J. Wells (first of Triples) 3, A. C. Rye 4, F. Stanton 5, T. Wickens 6, E. Furminger 7, H. E. Axon 8.

WANDSWORTH.—On July 2nd at Holy Trinity Church, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: H. M. Page 1, H. R. Newton 2, Joyce England 3, M. V. Chilcott 4, P. A. Chalk 5, A. Appleton 6, D. E. Parsons 7, J. Phillips (cond.) 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH



The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
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SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER.

Quarterly (5s. 6d.) and half-yearly (10s. 6d.)
subscriptions are now due. Remittances should
be sent to-day to Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, The
White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.

Congratulations to the
Lichfield Cathedral band!
When the new ten at the
Cathedral, the gift of the Freemasons of Staf-
fordshire, was dedicated, the local band was
only able to ring Grandsire Doubles. On July
12th the Sunday service band rang a peal of
Grandsire Caters, and a very good peal, too,
reports the conductor. Four of the band are
16 years of age. The peal was a farewell to
Miss Betty Crossman, who is shortly leaving
for Harlow, Essex.

The peal of Plain Bob Minor at Kingswood,
Surrey, is believed to be the first on the bells
since 1932.

The bells of Acle (Norfolk) Church will be
on the air in the Midland Service at 9.30 a.m.
on July 30th for the opening of the B.B.O.
East Anglian Week.

Mr. C. Wallater, who conducted the peal at
Coseley, Staffs, reported in this issue, to cele-
brate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W.
Hickman, also conducted the same peal in the
same tower on August 4th, 1913, to celebrate
the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Price,
parents of Mrs. Hickman.

From Hong Kong, Instructor Comdr. R. G.
Cross writes: Last evening my wife and I for
amusement rang spliced Plain, Reverse and
Double Bob Minimus. I imagine this is the
first time 'spliced' has been rung in the Far
East. The truth of the composition is left to
the imagination of those who know.

Ringers on the Kent and Sussex border will
be sorry to hear of the sudden illness of Mr.
Geoffrey D. Burroughs, of Hammerwood, who
is now in East Grinstead Hospital and will be
unable to ring for some time. Mr. Burroughs
has revived method ringing at his father's
church and has become a popular member of
the East Grinstead Guild and Sussex County
Association.

BELFRY GOSSIP

A successful tour of
Somerset and Dorset was
enjoyed by a party of Ash-
ford (Kent) ringers during the first week of
July. The highlight of the tour was the suc-
cessful peal of Yorkshire on the bells of
Sherborne Abbey, accomplished in 3 hours
52 minutes. The story of the tour will be pub-
lished next week.

A new record of Spliced Major "in hand"
has been established by Mr. George E. Feirn,
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bray and Mr. Philip Barnes
comprising a peal of 31 methods. Details will
be published next week.

Work on the two new trebles and the re-
hanging of the present six bells at St. Mary's,
Maulden, Beds, has commenced. The contract
has been entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stain-
bank. The bell fund now stands at £570, about
another £10 being required.

The peal at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, recorded last
week, was the 200th peal for Mr. Reginald
Woodyatt, the well-known Worcestershire
ringer. We regret that through a typographi-
cal error his name appeared as 'Woodlatt'.

Mr. R. H. Dove writes that he was present
at the dedication of Ash (Surrey) bells as a
visiting ringer and not representing Messrs.
John Taylor and Co. We regret that we were
misinformed.

Mr. Ronald Lord, of Barwell, has been
'called up' for military service and is sta-
tioned at Devizes, Wilts, in the Royal Army
Pay Corps. He would be pleased to contact
local ringers.

Owing to the shortage of active ringers in
the Hinckley District of the Leicester Diocesan
Guild, Barwell ringers have been doing 'a
spot' of missionary work to help keep the bells
ringing on Sundays. Four towers have been
visited and on one Sunday four services were
rung for—at three towers, including their own
morning and evening services.

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1570

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD FESTIVAL

Epic Poem Provides a Text Memories of Canon Coleridge's 'We shall not look on his like again' Examples of Stoke Goldington and Great Horwood Memorial to late Master Committee's Report referred back for a Year

FOLLOWING on traditional lines, the Oxford Diocesan Guild held their annual festival at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday, which was attended by a large company of ringers.

Proceedings started with the service in the Cathedral, conducted by the Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg). The ringers provided their own choir and their own organist, Mr. Bernard S. Nicholls, who trained the choirboys for the service. The lesson was read by the Deputy Master (Capt. A. R. Poyntz). Mr. F. Sharpe acted as crossbearer and organised the service, which closed with the Benediction, pronounced by Bishop Buxton.

The Rev. C. P. Sherwood, of Mapledurham, gave the address and based his remarks on Jean Ingelow's poem, 'The High Tide on the Lincolnshire Coast,' quoting the first verse:—

The old mayor climbed the belfry tower,
The ringers ran by two, by three;
'Pull, if you never pulled before;

Good ringers, pull your best,' quoth he.
'Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells!
Play all your changes, all your swells.
Play uppe, "The Brides of Enderby."

'I don't know,' he said, 'how many of you know this poem, which stands in memory to the performance of the duty and privilege of a band of ringers over 400 years ago. The story is well known of how when a dangerous Spring tide threatened the sea wall, the ringers went to the tower and there in the bell chamber rang the changes to a tune that meant warning and danger.

'We are all sensible of the great privilege we share together as ringers. Once a year we assemble in joy and duty in this ancient Cathedral as a band of people held together in one fellowship in the knowledge of the service we give to the Church of God, to the village in which we live and to the parish and community where we ring.

'I can well imagine how those ringers of Boston tower on that afternoon and all through the night were deeply sensible of their duty and privilege. The story tells how through the long and dark night they rang their bells to guide men with little boats to rescue families from housetops and hillocks. I think that story is one of the most thrilling of the service that ringers can give to mankind. . . .

'I would suggest that the circle of bells in a tower suggests to us three things. First is the bond of unity. We stand together and in order to ring our bells we must be complete. If we have six bells in our tower we don't like to have five ringers, and if there are eight bells we want eight ringers. In the tower the bells are hung in an almost complete circle so there should be completeness of unity and fellowship in the ringers.

The second thing is the sense of duty. If one ringer is away then his bell might be silent. The third thing is that the circle of bells symbolises a real sense of joy that comes not only by the sound of the bells, but the sense or feeling that that sound is in no way mechanised. It has been caused by deliberate movement, by the muscle and body of men and women directed by his or her mind. It is a sense of achievement if you like, but I think you will all agree that whenever we can band together to achieve something there is a sense of joy. Just as the ringers of Lincolnshire did a great thing that night to save the lives of hundreds of people from being overrun by the sea, so can we do much the same to save the lives of people of our generation by letting

them know that the church bell sounds calling them to the worship and love of God in our town and country parishes.'

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

The Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) presided at the annual meeting, supported by the Deputy Master (Capt. A. R. Poyntz), the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker), the general secretary (Mr. W. Hibbert) and the hon. librarian (Miss M. R. Cross).

Arising from the minutes, Mr. J. T. Fowler proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Alan Pink for the excellent articles in the Diocesan Magazine under the heading of Campanology Corner. Mr. Frederick Sharpe, in seconding, said it brought ringing in words to the eyes of the right people.

Apologies were received from the Bishop of Dorchester, Canon G. Duxon, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Watts, Messrs. T. N. Lanaghan, C. J. Hibbert, G. Gilbert and E. G. Foster.

The Master's report stated that the thought that was uppermost in his mind was the great loss sustained by the Guild in the death of Canon G. F. Coleridge. For three years after his retirement from the living of Crowthorne the Canon did, in spite of increasing physical handicaps, continue in a very wonderful way to guide and inspire the counsels of the Guild.

'Now at last the time has come for us to say goodbye to that genial giant of a man—a giant both in stature and in moral and spiritual character. I can think of no words more appropriate than those of Shakespeare, spoken by Hamlet to his father: "He was a man, take him for all in all, we shall not look on his like again." Let us all strive to take courage and inspiration from his life amongst us, and try in our lesser ways to imitate his great qualities, his kindness and patience, his perfect standard of justice and integrity, his true unbiased judgment, and his pure love for his fellow-men.'

The Master recorded that he had been happy to attend meetings, principally annual meetings, of ten of the branches of the Guild. Schemes of restoration and augmentation had been going forward steadily during the past year and they congratulated the ringers of Burnham, Slough, Hook Norton, Burford, Wokingham, Great Horwood, Cowley and elsewhere on the enthusiastic part which they had played in raising funds for their respective towers.

PEALS DOWN.

The secretary's report for 1949 also referred to the passing of Canon Coleridge. Turning to Guild affairs, Mr. Hibbert wrote that the year 1949 had been quite successful, yet there was still apathy in some branches. Mr. Gilling, of the Vale of White Horse, and Mr. Haines, of the Bradfield Branch, did not get the support their untiring efforts deserved.

Peal numbers were down somewhat (perhaps owing to Burnham bells being out of action for some months), but 50 true and well-struck peals were more to the credit of the Guild and to individuals than 200 for the sake of saying, 'This is all.'

The treasurer's report stated that the general funds of the Guild amounted to £552 2s. 6d., of which £491 16s. 5d. was in the Restoration Fund. Grants were paid to Blewbury, Cuddeon, Hook Norton and St. Paul's, Wokingham. Contributions to the R. T. Hibbert Memorial Fund were sufficient to provide a brass tablet to be placed in East Ilsley Church. Mr. A. E. Lock was to be congratulated on an

excellent piece of work, and all subscribers to the fund were thanked for the generous support.

The reports were adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were elected: Master, the Rev. C. E. Wigg; Deputy Master, Capt. A. R. Poyntz; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. D. Barker; general secretary, Mr. W. Hibbert; hon. librarian, Miss M. R. Cross. To the General Committee were elected Messrs. G. Cauldwell, J. W. Wilkins, H. Sear, J. T. Fowler, R. White, W. F. Judge, G. Holifield, C. J. Hibbert and B. S. Nicholls and Miss D. Fletcher. Mr. W. Dixon, a former committee member, was now a representative of the Chipping Norton Branch, and it was left to this branch to nominate another member.

The recommendation of the General Committee that the 1951 festival be held at Oxford was carried on the proposition of Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. A. E. Lock.

Supporting a recommendation that a grant of £25 be paid to Stoke Goldington, the Rev. J. L. Woods said two years ago they found that their ring of five needed attention and the tenor recasting. The original bell frame of 1625 had been patched up several times. A new frame for six bells had been ordered, the contract having been placed with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank at a cost of £800. Although Stoke Goldington was just an ordinary village it raised the £800 to do the job. They, nevertheless, hankered after a sixth bell, which would mean other £80. The North Bucks Branch had given them £10 and the village had been 'sucked dry' in raising the £800 and they had not the cheek to ask for more.

The meeting approved of the grant.

There was also a recommendation before the meeting for a grant of £10 towards the restoration of Fulmer bells. Mr. A. D. Barker said he had heard nothing and no application had been made to him. No money would be paid until the job was done to their satisfaction.

The position of Great Horwood bells was raised. Under the rules of the Guild a grant had to be claimed within three years, and three years ago a grant of £20 was passed for the restoration of these bells.

Mr. G. Edmans said the dedication of these bells was fixed for the following day. They still needed the £20 and he made application for the grant.

This was agreed to.

The Master congratulated the ringers of Great Horwood on getting their wish. They had worked very hard to get the money together. It had been a real ringers' effort and they hoped before long to test the new bells.

The meeting agreed to a grant of £10 10s. for some suitable present to Mr. O. Francis, the hon. auditor, in recognition of his services during the past 15 years.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE.

The General Committee recommended that names of members killed in the 1939-45 war be added in the 1914-18 Book of Remembrance. The General Secretary said he was thankful to state that there were only 16 names to be added. On the proposition of Mr. Cullum, seconded by Mr. Trollope, this was approved.

SECRETARY'S SALARY.

Mr. John Fowler raised the question of the secretary's salary, which, he said, had been considered by the General Committee. He said the secretary was receiving the same salary as

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his late father, namely, £20, and that would not go far now. Travelling expenses were now very much heavier.

The Master: If you consider travelling expenses for attending 15 branches it seems to me that you are not going to get much change out of £20.

The Secretary said he had not charged travelling expenses and the £20 did not cover them.

The matter was left to the Guild Committee.

MEMORIAL TO CANON COLERIDGE.

The Master said that at the committee meeting there was a general feeling that there should be some tangible memorial to Canon Coleridge in addition to a tablet in the Cloisters. A small committee was elected in conjunction with Mr. Judge and Mr. Sharpe to inquire into the matter. That committee had met the authorities of Christ Church and the suggestion was that there should be some improvement to the arrangement of the bells at Christ Church and possibly the addition of one bell and also the improvement of the tone of the two trebles. The committee was left with a free hand to go into the matter and present something to the meeting. As the result of the meeting with the authorities of Christ Church they had received the following specification from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank:—

To take down the two treble bells of the ring of 12, recast them in perfect tune and harmony with the existing ring; refix and rehang the two bells with the present fittings, which are in good condition, and leave the bells in perfect ringing order for the sum of £130 10s.

To supply and fix sound sprouts to the two treble bells passing through the floors of the ringing chamber; also supply and fix a sound sprout from the bell chamber passing through the wall to the outside of the tower; build a wooden partition between the tenor and treble bells to the height of the tenor wheel; reduce the diameter of the 11th wheel; alter the position of the 8th, 9th and 10th wheels, also the rope bosses in the ringing chamber so that the ropes fall in a better circle, for the sum of £60 10s.

The Master added that it was thought that this would be a fitting memorial to one who was a Canon of Christ Church and loved the Diocese of Oxford.

Mr. Frederick Sharpe said there was a proposal to put in a 13th bell, but owing to technical difficulties the committee thought it better to leave it out. There were other things to be done in the Cathedral tower, and at a meeting with the Cathedral authorities the treasurer undertook to meet the cost of repairs to the bell frames, which were not too good. The two trebles were recast and put in 50 years ago. The other item was to put a memorial in the cloister similar to that to the Rev. F. E. Robinson and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn.

The Master added that whatever else was done there should be a tablet in the cloisters.

Mr. A. D. Cullum suggested that the committee was putting 'the cart before the horse.' 'Don't you think,' he said, 'the proper thing is to advertise in "The Ringing World" and invite members of other associations to contribute to a memorial? When the fund is established then we can decide what we should do. It seems to me that these proposals should be washed out. Who in 20 years' time would know that Canon Coleridge had anything to do with ringing at Christ Church? He was too big a man for something so paltry.'

Mr. A. D. Barker, speaking in support of the scheme, said the memorial was talked about at the Central Council meeting and a grant of £50 was made from the Central Council funds. His own branch had voted £10 towards the memorial. The only thing was that the memorial seemed rather small; they could, however, add to it.

The Rev. St. G. Edwards said Mr. Cullum's idea was that the memorial was not big enough.

Mr. Sharpe said something about the tone of the treble bells and they could not be heard outside. As he was going up the High Street he heard the 12 bells quite plainly. They all sounded quite in order except that they were clashing at the back end.

The Rev. R. Sherwood moved that the committee's recommendation be adopted, and the Rev. Noel Hope seconded.

The Deputy Master said the scheme appeared to be entirely domestic to Oxford, and as such he did not think it would appeal to the ordinary ringers of the diocese. When they talked about improving the tone they were talking about a domestic work, and the improvement of the wheels and the circle was a matter of domestic upholstery. He doubted whether many of the ringers knew in which tower the bells were; he could tell them that for years he thought they were under the spire. He moved as an amendment that the matter be referred back for a year so that the committee could take some time in preparing a fitting memorial. He would suggest that the memorial take the form of some altar furniture or a silver cross or silver candlesticks, or they might invest the money and from the income award a set of handbells to the tower which had made most progress with its beginners. Whatever memorial was decided upon it should be more than a domestic memorial in Christ Church, Oxford.

Mr. Cullum seconded the amendment.

The General Secretary warned the meeting of the danger of referring the matter back and cited the circumstances of the J. W. Parker memorial.

Mr. A. D. Barker said the authorities had decided to meet the domestic part of the memorial.

Mr. Fowler thought a better way of dealing with the matter would be for it to be considered by the committee consisting of the officers of the Guild and the 12 committee members.

A member suggested that something should be done for Crowthorne. It had not a ring of bells and the bell in the church was not a good one. He thought they should do something for the Cathedral because they were always very welcome.

The amendment that the scheme be referred back for a year and funds be collected for a memorial was carried by 56 votes to 48.

The following were re-elected members of the Central Council: Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mr. F. D. Boreham and Mr. A. E. Locke.

The General Secretary reported that 157 new members had been elected during the year. Their election was confirmed.

The meeting discussed the question of holding a half-yearly meeting of the Guild, a matter raised by the Rev. St. G. Edwards. The general opinion was against an extra meeting.

Lunch was served in Christ Church Hall, the Master presiding. At the conclusion of the meal the Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean and Chapter and the authorities at Christ Church for permitting the Guild to worship in the mother church of the diocese. He thanked the preacher and the organist, Mr. Bernard Nicholls, who had also trained the choirboys for the service. The Master expressed the Guild's appreciation of the services of the general secretary in arranging the festival.

The toast of 'The Oxford Diocesan Guild' was proposed by Mr. Crum, of London. Mr. A. D. Barker replied and proposed the toast of 'The Visitors,' which was acknowledged by Mr. T. W. White.

A very interesting exhibition, including old bells, was on view in the hall, arranged by Mr. Frederick Sharpe. A set of handbells belonging to Mr. Sharpe, which contained bells dating from 1696, were rung and their beautiful tone admired.

Ringling took place afterwards in a number of towers.

Dedication

TICEHURST, SUSSEX.

A service of thanksgiving for the restoration of the church and hallowing of the restored ring of bells was held in Ticehurst Parish Church on July 2nd.

The packed congregation, which included parishioners from surrounding villages who had generously supported the Restoration Fund, turned to face the belfry while the churchwardens, choir and clergy proceeded to the entrance of the belfry. There the Lord Bishop of Lewes (the Right Rev. Geoffrey Hodgson Warde) hallowed the bells. A touch of plain rounds was then rung.

In his sermon the Bishop congratulated the people of Ticehurst (a village of less than 3,000 inhabitants) on achieving their object (£2,000) in the short space of 18 months. The Bishop exhorted all members of the Church to be courageous in their conflict against the evils which confront Christians daily, and to make their lives as sound as the bells which would call them to worship.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnson were represented by Mr. J. Pares, and he presented the Vicar (the Rev. O. A. S. Edwards) with a beautifully inscribed memento showing the weights of the six bells and their inscriptions.

The special lessons for the service were read by Lord Courthorne.

Details and inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble.—Diameter 30½in. Weight 5 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. D sharp.

I am she that leads the van

Then follow me now if you can.

Second.—Diameter 32½in. Weight 6 cwt. 8 lb. C sharp.

Then I speak next I can you tell

So give me rope and ring me well.

Third.—Diameter 35in. Weight 7 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb. B.

Now I am third as I suppose

Mark well now time and forth close.

Fourth.—Diameter 37in. Weight 8 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb. A sharp.

As I am fourth I will explain

If you'd keep time I'll credit gain.

Fifth.—Diameter 40½in. Weight 11 cwt. 9 lb. G sharp.

Now I am fifth I do suppose

Then ring me well and tenor doze.

Tenor.—Diameter 45½in. Weight 15 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. F sharp.

This is to show to ages yet to come

That by subscription we were cast and hung & Edward Lulham is his name

That was the actor of the same.

David Durrell DD Vicar. John Baker and David Hyland Ch. Wardens John Noakes Gent Thomas May Gent Subscribers. Thomas Janaway made us all 1771.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

SOUTH OXON BRANCH AT DORCHESTER.

A quarterly meeting of the South Oxon Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at the historic Abbey of Dorchester, Oxon, on July 8th.

Over thirty members and visitors were present on this lovely summer afternoon, and several cyclists made an all-round trip of some 50 miles to be present!

Fourteen new members were elected from one tower in the branch. The Vicar of Benson was elected vice-chairman of the branch, and he gave the address at the Abbey service.

The branch secretary proposed and Mr. Wells seconded, 'that a resolution be brought before the General Committee of the Guild at its next meeting, that whenever a peal is attempted at Dorchester, a contribution should be made towards the upkeep of the ropes,' as the ropes at Dorchester were found, prior to the meeting, to be in a precarious condition, and that sooner or later the whole question of charges for peals would have to be thoroughly investigated.

A JOYOUS CORNISH SPRING

FESTIVALS AND DEDICATIONS.

APRIL and May gave opportunity for activity to members of the Truro Diocesan Guild. Perranarworthal, St. Enoder, Tuckingmill and St. Mellion, Paul and Stithians was the order respectively for four spring festivals and two dedications. Arrangements for the festivals were made by the branch secretaries, Mr. R. G. Clemens (Truro Branch), Canon F. F. Gilbert (Mid-Cornwall), the Rev. A. S. Roberts (Penzance) and Mr. H. J. Clarke (South-East). The attendances varied up to about eighty, and these included at all or some Miss E. Symons (president), Mr. W. H. Southard (Master), the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella (secretary), with other ever-presents.

The Mid-Cornwall Branch, which was created some years ago when several towers in that area were retrieved from the jaws of prize-ringing, still tries to maintain a standard of perfection in rounds and call-changes, and so at that festival the afternoon was given up to practice, the usual spiritual exercise, and a bumper West Country tea.

In the evening ringing for proficiency certificates took place. Judges (common to prize-ringing) have been dispensed with, and examiners have entered the field. On this occasion two method ringers were asked to act, and this was a compliment to Messrs. W. H. Southard and C. E. Lanxon, who did so, for in some parts of Cornwall method ringers are known as 'Intellectual Ringers.' Having secreted themselves, they duly noted the faults to the satisfaction of the assembled company. Certificates were later awarded.

PAUL'S NEW RING.

Despite the lingering of so much that is elementary to the more advanced in the ringing world, Cornwall has a contribution to make, and an example to give—many strong towers, and a local enthusiasm to see they possess a ring in good order. Paul is an example. The Vicar, the Rev. W. V. Wagner, is to be congratulated. At Cury he put in a ring of six; at Gunwalloe a chime of six; at Paul he has given Cornwall perhaps its best six. His name is inscribed on a bell in three Cornish towers.

There were three bells at Paul, dated 1727 and cast by Rudhall. The tenor weighed 12 cwt. and would have been unworthy of the new ring, so has been recast and getting on for 3 cwt. of metal added. Three new bells have been added, with new frame and fittings. The tower is one of the finest in West Cornwall, there is space enough and to spare; instead of louvres there is perforated slate, which makes the sound of the bells in the vicinity of the tower subdued and mellow.

The dedication was on May 20th by the Archdeacon of Cornwall. The church was full, and the first sound of the bells added solemn dignity to the occasion as the procession returned from west to east. In his magazine notes the Vicar has written: 'When in the course of the service the experts rang a short peal, a tear of joy came to the eyes of many on hearing the bells for the first time.' The ringers were G. W. Taysom 1. Miss E. Symons 2. W. Wood 3. A. Carveth 4. Mrs. A. S. Roberts 5. W. H. Southard 6. This band rang 360 Grand sire Doubles at the close of the service.

Visitors from some twelve towers then joined in, and the latter part of the evening was spent helping to get the new local band, some fifteen strong, used to their new charge. Through the kindness of Mr. W. Wood, assisted by the Rev. A. S. Roberts and Mr. G. W. Taysom, they had learnt to handle a bell at Gulval during Lent, and by good fortune Mr. French, of Canterbury Cathedral, was on holiday in Paul, so looked after matters on the first Sunday. Diocese and Province have set Paul upon the campanological ladder. Paul is some three miles from Penzance; the hill approaching the place is notorious, and on May

Day the bells arrived just as a week of carnival and gaiety on their behalf had begun. The May Queen was crowned on the green that evening, and the lorry with its load stuck on Paul Hill; a tractor had to be found to assist. There was bowling for a pig, and the bellhanger beat all comers; he won the pig, but dared not take it to Loughborough, so it is fattening in Paul. The Rev. W. V. Wagner is to be congratulated upon raising some £1,200 and for making his people so bell minded.

STITHIANS' BELLS.

Stithians' bells were dedicated by the Bishop of Truro on May 27th. Again it is a story of a crowded church, more ringers than one could easily count, a generous tea, and as tuneful a ring of bells as one could wish for. Again, the tower is solid and big and possessed four bells; a new fourth and fifth have been added and once again everything else is new. The tenor weighs 9 cwt. A four-faced striking clock has also been installed. The money for the whole of this work was left by a Cornish exile in New Zealand some 20 years ago, but nothing was done until two years ago, when the Rev. H. White came as a new Vicar.

Inspired by Mr. R. G. Clemens, who farms in the parish, he discovered the money was still available and so got the work done. The opening rounds were of special interest, for it was known that a local band which had never before had its own bells was to ring. Mr. R. G. Clemens, his two daughters, Kathleen and Mary (aged 12), Mr. H. C. Spencer (late of Birmingham), Mrs. Phillips and Mr. G. Snell, all now living in the parish, gave us the first impressions of the ring with some good rounds.

TWO FURTHER DEDICATIONS.

In both these cases the confidence placed in Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., who have carried out the work, has been fully justified. Two further dedications should take place in the autumn, for St. Columb Major's eight and St. Petrock Minor's five have gone to Loughborough. Of the former, several are to be recast, and a treble is to be added to the latter. Both will have new frames and fittings, and will make a total of 16 restorations or additions to the bells of Cornwall since the war ended, with a total expenditure of some £11,000. It seems that a generous place is given to bells in parochial needs; at any rate, the county considers them important.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.

An attendance of 53 was present at the Wellingborough Branch meeting at Yardley Hastings. The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. L. T. Thompson) and Mr. W. Denton was organist. The collection for the Guild's Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £1 1s. 7d. Tea at the Village Hall was arranged by Mrs. B. Burge with the help of local ringers' wives.

At the business meeting, presided over by the Rector, Mr. R. Noon (Guild general secretary) proposed six new members from Earls Barton, Messrs. P. Townley, B. Townley, G. Neale, J. Neale, P. Symonds and B. Abbott. First peal certificates were presented to Messrs. F. Holley and J. Malloes (Wollaston) and R. Minney (Yardley Hastings).

Ringling also took place in the evening on the heavy five at Castle Ashby. The year 1938 was the last occasion branch members visited this tower.

The meeting was attended by ringers from Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Higham Ferrers, Wilby, Mears Ashby, Ecton, Earls Barton, Bozeat, Easton, Mauditt, Wollaston, Olney, Northampton, Brafield, Piddington, Turvey, Burton Latimer and Yardley Hastings.

St. Martin's Guild

SUMMER MEETING AT TANWORTH-IN-ARDEN.

The summer meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held in the lovely village of Tanworth-in-Arden on July 1st and was attended by about sixty ringers. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, was built in the Decorated style of architecture about the year 1340, although there was a chapel on the site in the early part of the 12th century.

The date of the meeting was precisely a year after the dedication of the new octave, which are a very pleasant ring. A short service was held, the address by the Vicar (the Rev. D. W. Lee) being most interesting, in which the visitors learnt much of the history of Tanworth Church.

At the business meeting the Master referred to the loss the Guild had sustained by the death of William H. Barber and George W. Steere. Messrs. T. H. Reeves and E. C. Shepherd supported the remarks of the Master concerning the late 'Bill' Barber, Mr. Reeves pointing out the difficulties of peal ringing in the early days compared with the ease with which peals are arranged and rung at present. The members stood for a moment in silence as a token of respect to their memory.

The following new members were elected: Mr. L. Yates, of Erdington, Mr. C. Rawlins and Mr. C. Brettell, of Tanworth, and the tower elections of Mr. P. A. Corby, of London, Miss Molly Flynn and Mr. J. Oliver, of King's Norton, were ratified.

It was decided to hold the next meeting (October 7th) at Erdington, subject to the Vicar's permission, the secretary to endeavour to arrange for the new eight at the Roman Catholic Church to be available, in addition to those of the Parish Church.

Amongst the visitors were Mr. Geoffrey Dodds and Miss Anna Stockdale, whilst an old member, Mr. Hector Bird, was welcomed.

The opportunity was taken of examining the peal book of 'Bill' Barber, which will be kept with the valuable peal books of the Guild.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his very interesting address and for the use of the bells. Mr. John H. Jones was thanked for the trouble he had taken to ensure the success of the meeting, and was congratulated upon the able manner in which he read the lesson at the service.

Further ringing took place until a late hour, a recording of the bells was taken, but it is feared that one side of the record may be marred by the advent of a noisy motor-cycle.

Some preferred to bask in the sunshine on the village green, whilst others visited the village hostelry, where one speaks not out of one's turn, out of respect to the landlord, Mr. Jack Hood (the ex-boxing champion)!

'BELLS OF ALL NATIONS'

After a delay of five years at the publishers from unforeseen circumstances, the new book by Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., entitled 'Bells of All Nations,' is now being set up in print and will be published within the next few months.

It will be a comprehensive volume covering every type of bell from the little tinkler on the sheep to the mighty bourdons of Russia and China. A full history of bells from earliest times is given, with schedules of great bells of the world, carillons and other types of the campanistic art. Practically every country in the world is mentioned and some 1,000 or more places named. All the varying modes of hanging and ringing are shown, and the book will be well illustrated.

A short foreword is given by the Lord Bishop of Liverpool. The author's other works on bells and ringing—now out of print—include 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' 'Legends of the Bells,' 'Chronology of British Bellfounders,' etc.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'OUR CHANGING EXERCISE'

Dear Sir, — That hackneyed cliché — 'I couldn't care less' — seems to have been on the lips of folk of a type in almost every walk of life — more's the pity! In the Exercise, even, there are those who would use it in a deprecatory sense in regard to matters of theory, or the 'reason why.' Nevertheless, while there will always be just 'button pushers' (and why not?), yet there are, thank goodness, those who want to know what is happening 'inside' when the button is pushed; 'button investigators,' who wish to see reason in all things.

Fortunately for the future of this essentially British art of ours its character may be said to be changing for the better, in that its 'button investigators' are now a growing company, likely to become the majority. Future generations of ringers, not content to ring merely a something called a 'method,' will no doubt, as many of our younger ringers are doing, hunger and thirst after the righteousness of method structure. In fact, they couldn't care more!

Recently we have witnessed the Shipway-Steadfast controversy, one issue of which has just been decided by the Central Council. It seems to have done some good. But it seems, also, to have left some of our button-investigators (if they will forgive the use of the term) not quite clear as to the outcome.

Perhaps the following observations may help:—

1. The one issue dealt with, and just decided in Central Council meeting, is that Shipway's Principle and Steadfast are the same method. Since the C.C. is the governing body of the Exercise, all loyal ringers will accept this decision, unless and until it be varied by a further Council decision. (But see 4 below.)

2. Nevertheless, the challenge issued on page 236 in 'The Ringing World' dated April 14th, 1950, calling for an attempt to disprove the similarity of the 'sets' in Stedman and in Steadfast, has never been taken up. These sets are, of course, identical in form.

3. No originality, other than that due to Fabian Stedman, has ever been claimed for Steadfast. This is simply because Steadfast is demonstrably the theoretic form of Stedman on even numbers, a fact which might well have been included in the challenge. (The similarity of name was deliberately chosen, in fact, to distinguish the Stedman principle on even numbers.)

4. It follows that since Shipway's 'Principle' is declared to be identical with Steadfast, and since Steadfast is simply Stedman's principle on even numbers, the decision, as in (1) above, serves to detract from any originality of Shipway's. In other words, if Shipway had lived now and had produced his 'Principle' to-day, there is little doubt that the C.C. would have declared it to have been Stedman on even numbers; since Steadfast has shown itself to be such.

5. A significant letter from a younger ringer of note (page 300 of 'Ringing World', dated May 12th, 1950) emphasised the due limitations of the functions of a C.C. committee. The following week, on page 513, as item 9 of C.C. Agenda, appeared a motion entirely at variance with this limitation of function, aiming at the overthrow of our democratic way of government of ringing. The absolutely vital point to note here is that this motion, as eventually permitted to come before the Council, had been so amended as to be harmless in that way. Indeed, the status quo is little altered, in that, of course, committee recommendations need confirmation by Council before becoming law. —Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Netley Abbey.

HANDBELL RINGERS AT HONG KONG

Sir,—My wife, who, like myself, was a keen handbell ringer, has joined me in Hong Kong. We feel there must be some handbell ringers among the forces based on Hong Kong, particularly the Army National Service men.

The forces in the Hong Kong area are very scattered and are difficult to contact. If, therefore, any ringer at home knows of anyone interested in handbell ringing and at present based on Hong Kong, we would like to be put in touch.

I can be contacted either by 'phone in H.M. Dockyard, Hong Kong (30361 Ext. 88, asking for Comdr. Cross or leaving message), or my wife at Harbour View Hotel, Chatham Road, Kowloon, near new N.A.A.F.I. canteen.—Yours faithfully,

R. G. CROSS, Instr. Comdr., R.N.

A BIRTHDAY TOUCH WANTED

Dear Sir,—Two ringers at our tower recently attained the age of 72. As their birthdays came close together, an 'age' touch was rung on practice night, which one of the two 'provided.'

Knowing nothing of composition or mathematics, he shamefacedly admits, he got his 72 by some little mutilation of Grandsire, inserting two rows before rounds at the end of the plain course of Triples, permitting the bells in dodging positions to do their dodge, compelling the 3rds place bell to make 2nds before making 3rds, the hunt bell meanwhile making 3rds and 2nds, and the treble leading four blows.

1325476

1324567

1235476

1234567

As he feels this may be considered very shocking, he wants someone to tell him:—

(1) How should he have got his 72 in a more orthodox way?

(2) How to get a 73 in Grandsire or some other simple method for next year?

Yours faithfully,

A GROPER.

Monmouthshire.

CENTRAL COUNCIL DECISIONS

Dear Sir,—With regard to the letter from Mr. J. Frank Smallwood calling for readers' views on the Central Council Decisions, I feel it is only fair to warn would-be correspondents that their views should be strictly in accord with those of this sub-committee, otherwise they will be ignored! That, at least, is my experience.—Yours faithfully,

C. W. WOOLLEY.

Bushey Heath.

LAY READERS' PEAL

Dear Sir,—Re my appeal for lay readers interested in a peal attempt on Saturday, October 14th, I only received two replies. I will keep the list open to the end of August.

Come along, lay reader-ringers, where are you?—Yours sincerely,

H. A. PRICE.

Eagle House, Yatton, Bristol.

AMBIGUITY OF WORDING

Dear Sir,—In Belfry Gossip on July 14th, 1950, is a note that Mr. B. G. Warwick has conducted peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. No doubt this refers to peals only on even number of bells.

The undersigned has called Plain Bob Triples and Caters requiring only Cinques to complete all numbers from six to twelve; by calling a peal at Ashbocking he has conducted peals of Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus.—Yours truly,

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

57, Mornington Avenue, Ipswich.

A QUESTION OF FEES

Dear Sir,—Mr. Jarrett's letter reminds me of an interesting experience in my last parish. The father of a bride wished the bells to be rung at his daughter's wedding. He asked how much? As I had no precedent I consulted the ringers as to what they required for the job. They said they would leave it to his generosity, and so I told the parent it rested with him to give as he thought fit. His generosity did not come up to the expectations of the ringers to their great discontent and they would trust no man's generosity again. I told them they asked for it and got it and that their best plan was to meet the Vicar and churchwardens and thrash the question out. They did so. The ringers considered that if a man lost time and wages in ringing a bell that at least should be made up.

They settled what fee they ought to receive for the time put in and the Vicar and churchwardens acquiesced.

The decision was added to the belfry rules so that we all in future should know where we stood.

I have never heard of an incumbent receiving fees for the use of the bells in addition to what is due to the ringers, nor fees for the use of the organ in addition to the usual organist's fee.

Both organ and bells belong to the parishioners, who usually 'find' them and are under the guardianship of their representatives, the churchwardens, in whom is the 'property' and who legally can claim for damage done.

Although organ and bells do not belong to the incumbent, the 'use' of them belongs to him, and by Canon 88 ringing cannot be done without his consent. So he could forbid ringing of bells for a wedding (not being an ordinary service). It is quite possible for him to say to the bride, 'If you don't pay me three guineas for myself the bells will not be rung.' Thus the flow of money would neither go to the incumbent nor ringers.

As there seems to be no belfry rules or regulations, the ringers can only rely on the generosity of the bride or in future get payment in advance.—Yours faithfully,

J. M. TURNER.

Washfield Rectory, Tiverton.

'SONGS AND BALLADS OF THE WEST'

Dear Sir,—Mention of Callington and Launceston in No. 82 of the above in this week's 'Ringing World' seems most appropriate, for at the Royal Cornwall Show held at the former place on the two previous days there was a set of twelve bell ropes which had been made at the latter place. The ropes were displayed by the makers, Messrs. Maunder and Sons, Launceston, at the entrance to their stand, and the sallies added a delightful touch of colour, but, further, a large notice explained they were for St. Martin's Church, Birmingham. I was told by one in attendance that the firm had been particularly pleased to receive this order, and I had a feeling that these ropes would soon be the means of yet another Surprise Maximus method being rung.—Yours faithfully,

A. S. ROBERTS.

Carbis Bay.

BELL-RINGER

Dear Sir,—The answer to Mr. Stenson's problem is, briefly, as follows:—

In the word bell-ringer, the noun bell is qualifying the noun ringer, and is, therefore, being used as an adjective. This is quite a common occurrence in the language — farm-labourer, wireless-set, etc., being parallel examples. In the terms Odd Fellow and Grand Master, the first-named words are adjectives used as such. Bell-ringer would seem, at any rate to this schoolmaster, to be the correct rendering.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN PEARSON.

Vicarage Cottage, Warminster.

RINGERS' OUTINGS

BATH ABBEY.

The annual outing of Bath Abbey ringers, accompanied by friends and relations, on July 1st, was regarded as 'the best ever,' the objective being Ross-on-Wye.

Travelling by coach, the first stop was at Stroud, where all enjoyed a ring. Quite the best tower of the day was Painswick, many of the company ringing here for the first time.

A sumptuous lunch was partaken of at the Central Cafe, Ross-on-Wye. A move was then made to Monmouth and finally to Chepstow for the last ring of the day. On the homeward journey the coach stopped at Nailsworth, as there was a general thirst.

The weather was perfect, everything ran smoothly and mostly to time. Thanks and appreciation from all the company are offered to Mr. Prescott, tower master at Bath Abbey, for all the trouble he took. The next outing is eagerly anticipated. D. E.

BARWELL LEICESTERSHIRE.

When the programme for Barwell's fourth annual outing had been finally arranged it was received with mixed feelings by the ringers. The younger members were enthusiastic over the selection of towers, but the more seasoned ringers doubted their ability to make full use of the bells kindly placed at their disposal, especially considering that one member had been 'called up' only two days previously and two others were unable to make the journey. However, a last minute decision by Ted Sowman, of Hinckley, and Hector Knights (always worth his seat for an outing) reinforced the party, which had, unlike previous years, been restricted as far as possible to ringers.

A most comfortable new coach complete with radio (which annoyed only the handbell ringers) put everyone in good spirits right from the start at 7.30 a.m., and after the Hinckley battalion had been collected, everyone settled down to study their printed programmes, which had, as in previous years, been handed to them to cut out any possibility of misunderstanding regarding times.

The first part of the journey was through the heart of industrial South Staffordshire—Walsall, Wolverhampton and Willenhall—so it was a refreshing change to cross the Salop border into the wooded country above Bridgnorth, and enjoy a bird's eye view of this typical Shropshire town before passing through its narrow streets and over the River Severn. This was not to be compared with the following stretch of country beyond Much Wenlock, where on the summit of the famous 'Wenlock Edge' the coach was halted so that everyone could marvel at the patchwork of rolling fields far below.

Church Stretton was reached promptly at 10.30, and the vergers soon opened the belfry portals. This ring of eight reminded the ringers of Earl Shilton bells, and from the beginning the youngest members had no difficulty in putting the bells in their right places. Rounds, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Double Norwich were rung in fine style.

The rendezvous for lunch was in the charming Carving Mill Valley, the meal being truly a ringers' feast. The remaining half-hour was spent in either climbing the steep ascent above the cafe or strolling by the running stream.

A quick run into Shrewsbury ended outside St. Chad's, where Messrs. Farmer, London, Barron and one or two other ringers awaited the party. The highlight here, apart from the first-class ring, was to see Mr. Joe Needham ringing on 12 bells for the first time in his ringing career, which started about 60 years ago. Rounds on the 12 included all the recruits from the Barwell nursery. Touches of Bob Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Caters ended a further hour's ringing.

More thickly-wooded country was left behind

on arrival at Coalbrookdale, and it was a pleasant surprise to find, in addition to Mr. Bailey, of the local band, Mr. Len Hewitt, who for many years lived at Stoney Stanton, near Barwell. This was another well-kept belfry, full of interest and a grand ring of ten. Ringing included Cater methods, Double Norwich and Bob Major. Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Bailey joined the party for tea at the Valley Hotel.

The homeward journey was through Shifnal, along Watling Street, past the three spires of Lichfield to Burton-on-Trent, the last port of call. Mr. Barnabas Key and two of his contemporaries welcomed the visitors, who were torn between two major attractions of the town—the fine ring of ten at St. Paul's on one hand, and the product of this citadel on the other.

However, very good use of the bells was made for an hour from rounds to Double Norwich and Stedman Caters. Only those present can describe the argument between the tenor and Harry, and matters ended about even after a few anxious moments for both. A course of Grandsire Caters 'in hand' concluded the ringing here.

Mr. Key afterwards conducted a party round the interior of the church, which was full of interest.

Considering the aforesaid attractions of Burton, it was a surprise to everyone, particularly the driver, to find every seat full only 15 minutes after the appointed time of departure, and it was the boating enthusiasts who were late!

After a good run through Ashby-de-la-Zouch, a pause was made for a spot of handbell ringing, and as darkness gathered around a tired and happy party, Barwell was reached only 15 minutes after the scheduled time of 10.30 p.m.

The ambitious programme arranged by the Barwell secretary was within the capabilities of the band, and was voted as the best so far. Excellent weather and courtesy from all tower captains visited made the outing a memorable one both for the 15 ringers and a similar number of friends. T. C. B.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

The SS. Peter and Paul Society held their annual outing on July 15th. The ringers, accompanied by their wives and friends, travelled into Essex. A pleasant run through Epping Forest brought the party to Loughton, where several courses were rung. Thence on to Walthamstow and more ringing. At Woodford the order was 'lunch,' after which a move was made for the church, where several more courses were rung.

The next call was Leytonstone, where the first eight arrivals had the honour of 'pealing' a bridal pair as they left the church. The second and third team then took the ropes to various courses. Tea was served at Barking, followed by the final ringing for the day. Lavenham was reached just after 11 p.m. by a happy and satisfied party.

The thanks of the ringers were expressed to Mr. S. H. Symonds (captain) and Miss O. B. Lambert (secretary) for the splendid organisation of 'the best ever,' also to all those who met them at the various churches and the incumbents thereof. S. H. S.

FALSE COMPOSITION

Dear Sir.—I regret that the composition of Treble Bob Major, published in your issue of December 12th, 1947, is false. Through careless transposition a false lead is introduced into each part at the 'wrong' in the third course.

I trust that you, sir, and those who have taken part in a peal rung to this composition will accept my apologies.—Yours faithfully,

NOLAN GOLDEN.

Norwich.

ST. LAWRENCE'S, IPSWICH.

Together with friends from St. Clement's and relatives, six towers were visited by the ringers of St. Lawrence's, Ipswich, during their outing on July 1st.

Bredfield (6) was the first stop, and then on to Easton (6). At both these towers Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob were rung.

Whilst the ringing was in process at Framlingham (8) several of the non-ringers of the party climbed the belfry to watch the bells. This was followed by tea at a local restaurant. Next the bells at Badingham (5) were rung to Plain Bob, Grandsire and St. Simon's, following which came the heavy ring of six at Dennington, where some Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob was enjoyed.

Monk Soham (5) was the last call and ringing here consisted of Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob. Home was reached at about 11.30 p.m.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.

Travelling nearly 200 miles in four counties and ringing in five towers, the annual outing of Wellington, Somerset, ringers on July 8th was voted a complete success.

A party, which included wives and friends to the number of 30, left Wellington at 8 a.m. The first tower visited was SS. Peter and Paul's at Wincanton. SS. Mary and Melorus' at Amesbury was next visited, followed by a run to Salisbury, where lunch was taken, followed by an hour's ringing on the bells of St. Paul's.

Leaving Salisbury at 2.30 p.m., the journey was resumed to Bournemouth, where St. John's tower was visited. In the evening touches were rung at St. Peter's, Dorchester. A halt was made at Maiden Newton for refreshments, and Wellington reached at midnight. F.W.J.S.

5040 SPLICED MAJOR IN 17 METHODS

ARRANGED BY G. E. FEIRN.

23456	M	W	H	
52436	—	—	—	St. Cr. Cr. DO. St.
43526	—	—	—	St. Cr. Cr. DO. DO.
54326	—	—	—	St. Cr. Cr. DO. DO.
35426	—	—	—	DN. Cr. St. St.
42356	—	—	—	DO. Cr. Cr. St. DO.
63254	—	—	—	DO. Cr. Cr. St. DO.
26354	—	—	—	St. Cr. Cr. DO. DO.
32654	—	—	—	DN. Cr. St. St.
46253	—	—	—	DO. H. Cr. St. St.
25463	—	—	—	St. H. Cr. St. St.
42563	—	—	—	St. Pe. Cr. St. St.
35264	—	—	—	St. Pe. Cr. St. St.
23564	—	—	—	DN. Cr. St. DO.

Twice repeated with S for — at end gives:—

32456	W	M	H	
64325	—	—	—	W. RB. DB. G. L. PB.
36425	—	—	—	W. Ri. N. G. L. PB.
42365	—	—	—	W. RB. DB. G. L. PB.
34265	—	—	—	W. Ri. N. G. L. PB.
23465	—	—	—	CL. B. K. L.
46235	—	—	—	W. RB. DB. G. L. PB.
24635	—	—	—	W. Ri. N. G. L. PB.
63245	—	—	—	W. RB. DB. G. L. PB.
26345	—	—	—	W. Ri. N. G. L. PB.
32645	—	—	—	CL. B. K. L.

Twice repeated with S for — at end gives:—

23456		
DO.	Double Oxford;	H. Hereward;
St. Clement's;	Ri. Richmond Bob;	DB. Double Bob;
G. Gainsborough Little Bob;	L. Little Bob;	B. Bastow Little Court;
PB. Plain Bob;	Pe. Pershore;	DN. Double Norwich;
Cr. Crayford College;	N. New London Court;	RB. Reverse Bob;
W. Wellington Little Court;	CL. Crayford Little Court;	K. Kent Little Court.

Bastow Little Court	Kent Little Court
12345678	12345678
21436587	21346587
21345678	21436587
12436587	12436587
14263857	14263857

A Week-end in the Lake District

THREE OUT OF FOUR PEAL ATTEMPTS SUCCEED.

Nine ringers from various parts of Lancashire and Cheshire spent a happy and successful ringing week-end in the Lake District. Four peal attempts were made, three of which were successfully concluded. The party met at Walton-le-Dale, near Preston, on Friday evening and commenced by scoring a good peal of Bristol on a very pleasant new ring of eight recently installed by the Whitechapel Foundry. The party then left for Bowness-on-Windermere, and the journey northwards was completed in very fast time. An excellent cold supper had been laid on beforehand and this was really enjoyed, more especially by those who had gone without tea.

A quick run up in two fast cars found the visitors at Keswick on Saturday and they were met by the verger of Crosthwaite Church, who is also a ringer at this church. A good peal of London was brought round on this old ring of eight, which can be heard much more distinctly nowadays. After lunch the party said, 'Cheerio,' to Mr. Simpson, who left for Rosthwaite to continue his hazardous climbing expeditions, whilst the remainder, all crammed into one large car, drove back to Bowness at a much slower speed so as to enjoy the beautiful scenery that had been missed on the way up. The trip round Thirlmere was greatly appreciated by all.

DIFFICULTIES AT WINDERMERE.

Although only a light ring, the eight at Windermere Parish Church proved the most difficult job of the week-end, as smaller bells are rather indistinct owing to rope rattle, etc., and to those inside ringing, the peal did not sound too good, although there was only one real trip, and that was through the conductor losing himself for nearly a lead. However, another peal of Bristol was scored in spite of some difficulties, but fortunately most of the band knew the composition 'backwards.'

On Sunday morning the party left for Oswaldtwistle, calling en route at Kendal for service ringing. Here they were made very welcome, and with the assistance of two local ringers a touch of Grandsire Caters was very much enjoyed. Spliced Surprise at Oswaldtwistle unfortunately came to grief after two hours' ringing owing to a miss-call, but some good ringing had been attained before this mishap. The visitors were then joined by three of the local company, and some Stedman and Double Norwich were rung for evening service.

After a really good evening meal the happy but rather tired party broke up and made for home, but not before thanking Mr. Fred Dunkerley, who had so kindly made all the arrangements, for a grand week-end. After such a pleasant time the party will have several recollections—one rather vivid—that of an M.G. sports car left literally standing although doing well over 60 m.p.h. at the time. Grandsire Cinques 'in hand' mercifully came to an end when the publican switched the lights out at 10.30 p.m.

The party's joint thanks go to towerkeepers, and incumbents too, who made their visits so pleasant and easy and thus contributed so much to the success of the week-end's ringing, and many thanks are certainly due to those wives who stayed at home. R. G. L.

The peals rung during this week-end are recorded in our peal columns.

BEARDLESS!

Mr. Jack Worrall's beard has disappeared and its absence has inspired the following from 'E.N.'—

Nocturnal Prank? a popular suggestion! Fair Maidens Will? by some it is feared! Whate'er the Truth of this hair raising question,
Gone is the glory of Jack Worrall's beard.

St. John the Divine, Leicester



A recent picture of the tower of St. John the Divine, Leicester, showing progress in the demolition of the spire.

As has been briefly referred to in 'The Ringing World,' a gale caused such damage to the structure of the spire of the church on the night of February 11st last that part of the stonework fell from the apex, causing damage to property in South Albion Street.

The spire of the church had been a liability ever since its erection, which was completed in 1854, and every 25 years or so it had had to receive attention. The time has come now when the only solution to the problem is its removal, it having been condemned as unsafe by the city surveyor. An appeal has been launched by the priest-in-charge (the Rev. Gordon Strutt), the Vicarage, Ashwell Street, Leicester, for £1,100 to meet the cost of removal of the spire and the roofing in of the tower to afford continued protection to the bells.

In a letter to the Editor, Mr. S. Harrison writes: I know many ringers throughout the country who are familiar with our beautiful ring of ten (truly one of Taylor's masterpieces) will sympathise with us at the outset of a gigantic task of raising the necessary funds to cover the cost of the work and who would no doubt be pleased to associate themselves with the appeal. Throughout the country the bells are known for their splendid tone and go.

Both the Lord Bishop of Leicester and the Provost of Leicester (Very Rev. H. A. Jones) have written strongly commending the appeal.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD DORCHESTER BRANCH.

A by-meeting was held at Sydling on Thursday, July 6th. The bells were rung from 3 p.m. until the Guild service at 4 p.m., which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Hall, and the lesson was read by the Rev. A. F. Godley.

Twenty sat down to tea, which was served in the Village Hall. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. R. H. Duke (assistant hon. secretary) and seconded by Mr. H. Steed. Ringers went on to ring at Frampton during the evening.

Towers represented were Dorchester (St. Peter's), Fordington, Frampton, Sydling, Wool and Yetminster. After tea members were joined by others from Piddlehinton, Preston and Upwey.

OBITUARY

MR. B. COLES.

A long connection with the Oxford Diocesan Guild has been severed by the passing of Mr. B. Coles, of Middleton Stoney, on July 7th, at the age of 75 years.

He joined the Guild in 1907 and as recently as Sunday, June 18th, he chimed the treble and second at All Saints', Middleton Stoney, when the band was short. Mr. and Mrs. B. Coles celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last year. He was also a keen member of the choir for many years.

For a number of years Mr. Coles represented the Bicester Deanery Branch on the Guild General Committee. His dearest wish was recently fulfilled through his own efforts in having a band of ringers capable of ringing at his own church.

The funeral service on July 11th was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. E. Sawyer), who is himself a ringer. Five local ringers, J. Elmer, Miss Pat Golder, Miss Elizabeth Golder, J. Terriman and A. Golder, with the branch secretary (Mr. C. Kinch), rang call changes after the service. In the evening 720 Plain Bob Minor (half-muffled) was rung by Miss Joanne Chase 1, E. Stockley 2, E. J. Smith 3, H. Hatfield 4, C. H. Kinch 5, F. Sharpe (cond.) 6.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION EAST NORFOLK BRANCH.

Some 35 members attended the meeting of the East Norfolk Branch at Somerleyton on June 24th. The service was conducted by the president (the Rev. A. St. J. Heard), and tea was served at the Duke's Head Hotel.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher (branch chairman) presided at a short business meeting, when it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Norton Subcourse on Saturday, September 9th.

The president proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Somerleyton, who, unfortunately, was unable to be present, for the use of the bells and church for service. The chairman thanked Mr. E. W. Brown, of the local company, for arranging tea, etc. Ringing was resumed after tea till about 9 p.m. Methods to suit all were rung.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN. SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT BRANCEPETH.

A meeting of the Southern District was held at Brancepeth, Durham, on July 8th, in beautiful summer weather. The fine octave (tenor 15 cwt.) was at the disposal of the members for the afternoon and evening, and good use was made of the bells, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent, Double Norwich and Cambridge being rung.

Although the attendance was not large, 10 towers were represented, namely, Darlington (Holy Trinity and St. Cuthbert's), West Hartlepool, Chester-le-Street, Whitley Bay, Richmond, Sunderland, Durham Cathedral, the local band, and Michael P. Moreton from Hereford. Wives and families swelled the number at tea, which was in the Village Hall and was on an 'own refreshments, cups of tea provided,' basis, with co-operation of local ladies.

The church is a beautiful building in idyllic surroundings. The church and churchyard are set within Brancepeth Castle grounds, the Castle itself being the headquarters of the county regiment, the Durham Light Infantry, and makes an ideal spot for a summer meeting. W. N. P.

The two ladies who participated in the quarter peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's, Portsea, on July 12th, were the only ladies present in the church in a congregation of nearly 2,000 men. The service was the C.E.M.S. festival. Most of the outside crowd, writes our correspondent, looked as if they would have sacrificed anything to be one of the ringers!

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

SITUATION VACANT

ENGINEERING - BLACKSMITH wanted, preferably used to small power hammer. — Apply Taylor and Co., Bell Foundry, Loughborough. 7354

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

No better pen picture of early ringing societies has been published than J. Armiger Trollope's 'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' illustrated, 5s. 6d. post free.—'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd. Guildford.

MISCELLANEOUS

GET YOUR 'RINGING WORLD' regularly each Friday morning by becoming a postal subscriber. Send 10s. 6d. for the second half of 1950 to Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals are submitted.

BACK NUMBERS.—A limited number of back numbers for most issues of 1946 and 1947 are available, post free 4d. per copy.—Apply Editor, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at Westerham, Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 3. Tea 5 and meeting afterwards.—K. Matthews. 7303

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Meeting at Stebbing (6), Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Names for tea to R. F. Boylett, Stebbing Vicarage, Chelmsford. 7300

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting. Brefforton (8), on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. and business meeting.—W. Newman, Branch Sec. 7353

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Halton-Holgate, July 29th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at Bell Inn 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, July 24th, to W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 7323

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Saturday, July 22nd, Lane End, 3 p.m.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 7322

SUFFOLK GUILD.—General meeting, Stowmarket, July 22nd, 2.30. Tea 5. Names to O. C. Barnard, 33, Recreation Road, Stowmarket. 7309

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—Meeting at Benhall, July 22nd, 2.30 p.m. Tea at The Bell, Saxmundham, 5 p.m. Saxmundham bells after tea.—P. S. Bedford, Crossways, Aldeburgh. 7327

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Claverley, Saturday, July 22nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. by ticket, obtainable from Mr. Fred Bennett, Wombourne.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec. 7310

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Sherburn-in-Elmet, July 22nd. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Bring own food. Cups of tea available.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 7359

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the meeting at Ticehurst arranged for July 22nd will now take place on July 29th.—P. H. Rollison, Hon. Div. Sec. 7358

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting, Hayes, Saturday, July 29th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea (2s.) by Monday, July 24th, to A. G. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere. 7320

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—General quarterly meeting at Earl Shilton, July 29th. Bells 2. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names must be sent to Mr. G. Newton, 26, Avenue South, Earl Shilton, near Leicester, by Wednesday, 26th.—W. A. Wood, General Sec. 7321

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Meeting at Barnet on Saturday, July 29th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Church House for those who notify me by previous Tuesday. Business to follow. Bells of Monken Hadley also available in evening.—T. J. Lock, Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts. 7315

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—Meeting on Saturday, July 29th, at Glossop Old Church at 3 p.m. Whitfield Church 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. All welcome. 7335

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Buckland St. Mary, Saturday, July 29th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify early for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Drayton. 7338

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—Meeting, Great Budworth, July 29th. Bells 2.30. Tea only for those sending names before July 24th to Cecil Holden, Belmont Smithy, Great Budworth. 7339

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at Mottram, July 29th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea advise Mr. Greenwood, Market Street, Mottram, by July 25th. All welcome.—C. K. Lewis. 7349

DEVON GUILD.—N.W. Branch.—Meeting at Bideford on Saturday, July 29th, 3.30 p.m. Tea 2s. Visitors are welcomed.—J. W. Sangwin, W. Venton, N. Tamerton, Holsworthy. 7334

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, July 29th, Selston (6). Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service and dedication of peal board 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, July 26th, to A. L. Rawson, 14, Lindley Street, Selston, Notts. No names no tea. 7337

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Pirbright (6) on Saturday, July 29th, at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4. Tea at 4.45. Names for tea by Wednesday, July 26th, to Mr. F. Cherryman, Causeway Bridge Farm, Pirbright.—G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec. 7170

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting, Westerleigh and Wapley, July 29th. Bells, Westerleigh (6) 3 to 4.30 p.m., Wapley (5) 6 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. and meeting at Westerleigh. Names for tea by July 24th, please.—N. Denson. 7336

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Campshall (8) July 29th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea only.—W. E. Critchley. 7340

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at St. Peter's, Smithills, on Saturday, July 29th, instead of 22nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Business immediately after. Free tea. Names to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec. 7352

FLY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Yaxley, Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—S. Gilbert, Dis. Sec. 7346

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea by 24th latest to R. A. Goffen, 8, Hermiston, Monk-seaton. 7351

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Drighlington on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea for drinking provided, members take own food. Business meeting to follow tea. A good attendance is desired.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12. 7350

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Deeping St. James, July 29th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, Bridge Hotel, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Please notify me for tea by Monday previous.—B. H. Dalton, Hon. Sec. 7344

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Garboldisham, Saturday, July 29th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea in Village Hall 4.30 for those who notify Eric Bennett, 3, Airey Houses, Blo' Norton, Diss, by Tuesday, 25th. Blo' Norton bells evening.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec. 7345

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Walgrave, July 29th. Names for tea to Mr. Eric Nobles, Hon. Sec., 48, Millway, Duston, Northants. 7348

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly meeting, Rotherwick (6), Saturday, July 29th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea to J. Chesterman, Leacroft, Sherborne St. John, by July 25th.—J. Chesterman, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7342

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Middleham (8), Saturday, July 29th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by June 27th to Mr. H. Parrish, Kirklea, Middleham, Leyburn.—Edward Hudson, Dis. Sec. 7357

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—By-meeting, Smarden, Aug. 5th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea by Aug. 3rd to Mr. T. Cullingworth, 95a, High Street, Ashford, Kent. 7343

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Sundridge on Aug. 5th at 3. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names for tea by Aug. 3rd to R. A. Whitehead, 19, Deakin Leas, Tonbridge. 7356

SURREY ASSOCIATION and GUILDFORD GUILD.—Annual joint meeting, Leatherhead, Monday, Aug. 7th. Bells from 3. Service 4.15. Tea (2s.) at the Institute for those notifying before Aug. 3rd G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead. 7347

QUARTER PEALS

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On July 2nd, 1,320 Doubles (720 Plain Bob and 600 Grand-sire): M. Fuller (first quarter) I. L. W. G. Skinner 2, Barbara Mitchell 3, J. Cannell 4, A. S. Richards (cond.) 5, Anne Holmes 6.

WEMBDON, SOMERSET.—On July 8th, 1,260 Reverse Canterbury Doubles: O. Pole 1, R. Short 2, E. Norman 3, G. Clarke 4, F. Sweet (cond.) 5, H. Chilcott 6. In honour of the wedding of Mr. Kenneth Palmer and Miss Evelyn Brewer.

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—	—	32654
—	—	63425
S	—	42365
—	—	45263
—	—	24563
—	—	35246
—	—	23546
S	—	52346
—	—	34256
A	—	23465

Repeat 3 times. S. for last BH, half-way and end.

All courses called as follows: Wellington Little Bob, Reverse Bob, Double Bob, Gainsborough Little Bob, Little Bob, Plain Bob. 6ths place Bob in Wellington.

First rung on handbells at Bournemouth on September 1st, 1949, conducted by D. T. Matkin.

WARGRAVE, BERKS.—On July 5th at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Hunt 1, L. Bune 2, Mrs. H. Smith 3, A. Street 4, S. G. Day 5, H. Smith 6, B. C. Castle (first of Stedman as cond.) 7, E. G. Burrows 8. First of Stedman by 3, 4, 5 and 8.

WESTMINSTER.—On July 9th at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: S. Smith 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, Miss P. Kitchen 3, C. W. Ottley 4, W. D. Grainger 5, C. M. Meyer 6, H. G. Andrews 7, J. Bullock 8.

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