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SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR — WHITHER ADVANCEMENT?

By LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

IN this modern age one is sometimes tempted to ask, Has the intrinsic value of Spliced Surprise Major ringing changed? If so, what change or changes could truly be said to represent progressive advancement?

Perhaps the best approach to the subject is to briefly review its history and development. Early in June, 1927, the late Rev. H. Law James published a Spliced Surprise Major composition on the now familiar three-lead course plan, incorporating for the first time the four standard methods, viz., London, Bristol, Superlative and Cambridge. At the time this was naturally regarded as unique, and the following editorial footnote by the late J. S. Goldsmith appeared: 'This ingenious production will be studied with interest by Surprise ringers; that a true peal containing these four methods is possible will come as a revelation to many.' After peals had been successfully rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Middlesex County Association and others, a feeling gradually began to develop that all was not well with this latest contribution to the art—an understandable feeling that something was lacking, in that the tenors only rang the first and last leads of the course of London, the middle lead of either Cambridge or Superlative, and the middle and wrong leads of the course of Bristol—a mere six out of the twenty-eight leads contained in the four methods, or less than the number contained in the plain course of one single method. As time passed on, naturally improvements were made, and subsequently more and more methods were added by other composers. There was, however, very little departure from the original plan until two eminent composers—Mr. A. J. Pitman and Mr. H. G. Cashmore—produced compositions in the same four methods wherein ALL the bells did ALL the work of each method; in other words, ALL the bells rang the full complement of the twenty-eight leads contained therein.

These productions were rightly acclaimed as a tremendous advance in the sphere of Spliced Surprise Major composition, and since that time Mr. Pitman has produced compositions with identical qualities in five and six methods, adding Pudsey to the standard four in the first instance, and Pudsey and Watford in the latter. These masterpieces are quite rightly regarded as the cream of Spliced Surprise Major compositions, not only from a structural point of

view but equally because, in order to ring them, it is absolutely necessary for ALL the 'inside' ringers taking part to possess complete mastery over each of the methods employed—a condition not hitherto demanded.

An examination of the Law James plan at once reveals that the same exacting mastery over all the methods used is by no means as necessary by the band as a whole and, as already pointed out, in particular by the ringers of 7-8; and, in the case of a conventional three-part peal, by the ringers of 2-3 as well; especially if the composition to be used is previously studied. In some quarters the view is held—and the writer identifies himself with it—that ringing a peal in the four standard methods on this plan does not exact the same measure of concentration demanded to ring an ordinary peal of London Surprise Major itself, given that the elementary principles of spliced ringing have been mastered.

The one advantage of the plan, however is that it permits of the inclusion of many more methods or, more precisely, odd leads of them, and the process may eventually reach a point when the product could be more correctly described as a composite course than a composition; in other words, a medley of odd leads joined together from numerous methods. Be that as it may, but from the point of view of performance the acid test must be, 'Could the band or bands ringing these multi-method peals claim as a WHOLE to have the same complete mastery over ALL the methods employed as they would need to have in order to ring Messrs. Cashmore's or Pitman's compositions described above?' This is extremely doubtful and, in any case, unnecessary.

Now, the purport of this short article is not so much to extol the virtues of the one plan at the expense of condemning the blemishes of the other, but rather an attempt to set the field of Spliced Surprise Major ringing in its correct perspective, so that the material facts emerging may be analysed with a view to answering the opening questions. The need for both plans must, of course, be recognised, but there can, I think, be very little doubt regarding the respective claim to merit in terms of positive advancement.

The foregoing will, I feel sure, permit of as many or more reasoned opinions as the Law James plan will permit of methods and, having had the first 'stir at the pudding,' I now propose to hand over the spoon to any interested takers, in the hope that by Christmas we may have the best 'stirred pudding' yet.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Oct. 25, 1954, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 GOSCOTE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25 cwt.

*SAMUEL MARTIN Treble	JOHN A. ACRES 7
*GEORGE S. MORRIS 2	*J. FREDERICK MILNER 8
BRIAN MARTIN 3	S. ANTHONY JESSON 9
HAROLD J. POOLE 4	*E. ALAN JACQUES 10
*PETER J. STANIFORTH 5	TERENCE A. THORNBUR 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. STANIFORTH.

* First peal in the method.

Rung as a compliment to Donald A. Theedom (Cathedral band) and Miss Pauline Brookes on their engagement.

TEN BELL PEALS

WIMBORNE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE MINSTER CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBURGA,

A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in D.

KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER .. Treble	DAVID HOARE 6
MICHAEL J. E. BEST 2	LOUIS J. LOCKYER 7
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3	DAVID R. REED 8
DANIEL T. MATKIN 4	FRANK L. HARRIS 9
HERBERT H. ABRAHAM .. 5	RONALD N. MARLOW .. Tenor

Composed by M. J. MORRIS (No. 34). Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5067 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E flat.

DONALD G. CLIFT Treble	FRANK E. DARBY 6
*KATHLEEN E. WELLER 2	† STEWART F. W. KIMBER .. 7
GILLIAN R. PARSONS 3	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT 8
JOHN HILL 4	DAVID E. PARSONS 9
JOYCE A. ENGLAND 5	JOHN E. CHILCOTT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal of Stedman.

Rung to honour the engagement of John Hill and Marjorie Hunter, both Sunday service ringers at Ewell, Surrey.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

No. 3 Version.

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

*ALAN J. BROWN Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 6
BASIL JONES 2	JOHN WORTH 7
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	PETER LAFLIN 8
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	ALAN A. POTTS 9
*JAMES FEARNLEY 5	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt.

*PERCY STONE Treble	FRANK E. PERVIN 6
ALBERT WALKER 2	L. MICHAEL CALLOW 7
DOROTHY E. BEAMISH .. 3	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH 8
FRANK W. PERRENS .. 4	DAVID A. CARPENTER 9
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 5	JOHN PINFOLD Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

* First peal of Royal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 34 cwt. 9 lb.

*FRED PRITCHARD Treble	*ALBERT W. STONE 6
*JEAN CORDWELL 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	ROBIN G. TURNER 8
*GORDON WHEWELL 4	ROGER LEIGH 9
BRIAN A. TOMLINSON .. 5	*ALAN WARD Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER.

Conducted by ALAN WARD.

* First peal of Plain Bob Royal.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Oct. 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5056 MOORSIDE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON 5
MURIEL REAY 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 3	PETER BORDER 7
JEFFREY B. WEBB 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

The first peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Oct. 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	ERNEST RAWSON 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	JOHN A. ACRES 6
RALPH ELKINGTON 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
MRS. P. A. CORBY 4	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 144). Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

HOOK NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in E.

KILBY R. HOLTOM Treble	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 5
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 2	ARTHUR PRITCHARD 6
WILLIAM J. CHESTER .. 3	RODNEY B. MEADOWS 7
BRIAN G. WARWICK 4	RALPH G. EDWARDS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Oct. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 18 lb. in E flat.

BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. Treble	FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. 5
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 2	JEFFREY B. WEBB 6
MURIEL REAY 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY

Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Oct. 18, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5152 TYSELEY SURPRISE MAJOR

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

MURIEL REAY Treble	PETER BORDER 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
JEFFREY B. WEBB 3	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 4	RODNEY B. MEADOWS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by RODNEY B. MEADOWS.

The first peal in the method.

AUDLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Oct. 21, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 18 lb. in F sharp.

FREDK. WM. GROCOTT .. Treble	IVOR R. NICHOLLS .. 5
*CHARLES S. RYLES .. 2	EWART H. EDGE .. 6
†SHELAGH R. COLLINS .. 3	CHARLES H. PAGE .. 7
G. ARNOLD MOORE .. 4	FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FREDK. WM. GROCOTT.

* First peal of Superlative 'inside.' † First peal of Surprise Major 'inside.' First peal of Superlative on the bells. Mr. F. E. Wilshaw has now 'circled the tower.'

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

FRANK LINFOOT .. Treble	W. GEORGE TURNER .. 5
JOHN PEARSON .. 2	GEOFFREY CROSSLEY .. 6
CYRIL F. SUTCLIFFE .. 3	ALBERT W. BOND .. 7
SYDNEY H. BARRON .. 4	ARNOLD ROTHERY .. Tenor

Arranged by ARTHUR CHAMPION.

This arrangement is believed to be rung for the first time.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Mon., Oct. 25, 1954, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.

KILBY R. HOLTOM .. Treble	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. 5
SYDNEY H. JONES .. 2	ERNEST MORRIS .. 6
MRS. S. H. JONES .. 3	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by JOSEPH WM. COTTON.

This composition is now rung for the first time.

A birthday compliment to Miss Joan Cotton, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cotton.

THURCASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Oct. 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5088 'SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. P. A. CORBY .. Treble	JOHN A. ACRES .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 2	SAMUEL J. HAINES .. 6
*KILBY HOLTOM .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. 7
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. Tenor

Composed by N. PITSTOW.

Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.

* First peal in the method.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Oct. 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Day's Six-part.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

*JOHN WILLIAM STOKES .. Treble	ALAN PENDLEBURY .. 5
ARTHUR TOMPKINSON .. 2	PETER CROOK, SEN. .. 6
NORMAN TOMPKINS .. 3	JOSEPH THORNLEY .. 7
FRID W. BROWNLOW .. 4	JOHN F. WOOD .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN.

* First peal.

Rung half-muffled to the memory of the Rev. H. A. Norton, a former Vicar of this church and a beloved parish priest.

SHIRLEY, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wed., Oct. 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

JEFFREY B. WEBB .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 5
A. PATRICK CANNON .. 2	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 6
CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 3	PETER BORDER .. 7
PETER J. MORTON .. 4	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5152 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

HENRY H. FEARN .. Treble	RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 5
CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 2	PETER BORDER .. 6
GEORGE E. FEARN .. 3	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. 7
TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by W. P. WHITEHEAD. Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5000 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

C. AUBREY HARRISON .. Treble	ARTHUR CROWDER .. 5
RONALD CHAFER .. 2	JACK BRAY .. 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 3	ROLAND W. MORANT .. 7
HARRY HALL .. 4	GEORGE W. MOODY .. Tenor

Composed by E. H. LEWIS.

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Oct. 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation	Tenor 14½ cwt.
HAROLD J. POOLE .. Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 5
BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. 2	JOHN M. JELLEY .. 6
DONALD A. THEEDOM .. 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 7
GEORGE S. MORRIS .. 4	SAMUEL J. HAINES .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Specially rung with the bells half-muffled to the respected memory of Walter Wyman, deputy churchwarden, and for many years secretary of St. Thomas' Parochial Church Council.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL FOUNDATION CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation No. 2	Tenor 16 cwt.
G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 2	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 6
JOHN A. ACRES .. 3	TERENCE A. THORNER .. 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 4	FRANK CRANE .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. W. C. Snow, F.R.C.O., organist at the church of St. Mary-de-Castro for 24 years.

OVER, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Oct. 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.	Tenor 15½ cwt.
JOHN G. GIPSON .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 5
*GEORGE E. CRISP .. 2	CHRISTOPHER R. P. JOHNSON .. 6
WILLIAM T. COOK .. 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 7
RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN .. 4	DENNIS E. PEPPER .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal in the method.



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OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Fri., Oct. 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

*P. R. SANDERS (Worcester) <i>Treble</i>	K. W. MACKINTOSH (Keble) .. 5
*M. H. R. GLOVER (Merton) .. 2	G. F. JENKINS (Keble) .. 6
†R. JOHN NASH (St. John's) .. 3	J. H. SMART (Pembroke) .. 7
G. HARPER (Hertford) .. 4	D. H. NIBLETT (Pembroke) <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by DONALD H. NIBLETT.
 * First peal. † First peal of Bob Major.
 First peal of Major as conductor.

BARTON-LE-CLAY, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

STANLEY H. WALLIS .. <i>Treble</i>	RONALD J. SHARP 5
*PHILIP MEHEW 2	JOHN CHURCH 6
*MICHAEL ORME 3	BRYAN F. SIMS 7
ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 4	LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. H. MASTIN. Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.
 * First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, OXTON,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in E.

*WILLIAM O. WHARTON .. <i>Treble</i>	LESTER L. GRAY 5
†TERRY OWEN 2	†ALEXANDER J. MARTIN .. 6
†DAPHNE M. WAIN 3	†ERNEST F. BENNETT .. 7
†CHARLES B. PEMBERTON .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by E. C. GOBEY. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.
 * First peal of Treble Bob Major. † First peal in the method.
 First peal in the method on the bells.

Rung to celebrate the 40th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Watson, sen. Also a 21st birthday compliment to Henry, and a 20th birthday compliment to Edna, only children of Mr. W. O. Wharton (towerkeeper).

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

*MRS. E. CHANDLER .. <i>Treble</i>	AUSTIN T. WINGATE .. 5
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	†DAVID J. KING 6
FREDERICK R. HARRIS .. 3	REGINALD T. JONES .. 7
LESLIE EVANS 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
 * First peal of Surprise. † 50th peal. The first peal in the method on the bells.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, HAMPTON,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 12½ cwt.

Heywood's Transposition.	
GERALD C. HEMMING .. <i>Treble</i>	PATRICK HARRIS 5
JOHN THOMAS 2	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 6
WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. 3	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 7
JOSEPH E. NEWMAN .. 4	GORDON A. CROPPER .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

EXETER, DEVONSHIRE.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 4 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 72 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in B flat.

FRANK L. HARRIS .. <i>Treble</i>	JOHN R. MAYNE 5
A. PATRICK CANNON .. 2	RICHARD E. PRICE 6
RONALD N. MARLOW .. 3	TONY PRICE 7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. 4	GEORGE W. PIPE .. <i>Tenor</i>
	CECIL W. PIPE

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
 This is the heaviest ring of bells yet rung to a peal of Major.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

GEORGE F. SPERRING .. <i>Treble</i>	ROBERT W. HINDE 5
†JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 2	JACK N. BROWN 6
FREDERICK R. EVANS .. 3	*H. STEWARD BAILEY .. 7
DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.
 * First peal in the method. † 250th peal.

FINCHLEY, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8½ cwt.

ALEC A. RICHARDSON .. <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK A. BARKER .. 5
ARTHUR F. WARREN 2	WILLIAM P. BLAKE 6
ARTHUR W. J. BUTLER .. 3	BERNARD J. WILLIS 7
GEORGE A. PARSONS .. 4	LEONARD E. TUBB .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by BERNARD J. WILLIS.
 The treble ringer is totally blind and this is his first peal.
 Rung as a compliment to Frederick A. Barker, to mark his 50 years as a Sunday service ringer at St. Mary's.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

*MURIEL M. PIPE .. <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE A. FLEMING .. 5
*PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 2	*FRANK RUFFLES 6
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN .. 3	LESLIE G. BRETT 7
*DIANA M. MATTHEW .. 4	*WALTER W. MILLER .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 43). Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.
 * First peal of New Cambridge Surprise.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

*J. MARY BOISSARD .. <i>Treble</i>	PATRICK J. SPENCER-PHILLIPS 5
F. STEDMAN POOLE .. 2	DAVID L. GULLICK 6
WILLIAM L. B. LEESE .. 3	LEWIS CASTLEDEN 7
W. RALPH WINTERTON .. 4	PERCY T. SPENCER-PHILLIPS <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. BARKER. Conducted by DAVID L. GULLICK.
 * First peal of Major. The first peal of Major to be rung by members of the medical profession.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 WHITWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in A.

W. ALLEN RICHARDSON .. <i>Treble</i>	DENIS A. FRITH 5
NORAH M. BIBBY 2	STANLEY E. BENNETT .. 6
GWEN I. RUSBY 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES .. 7
WALTER TOMLINSON .. 4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
 The first peal in the method by all and for the Guild.

HEYDOUR, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. in F sharp.

GEOFFREY GEARY .. <i>Treble</i>	HARRY BARNES 5
RONALD RUSSELL 2	HAROLD HUXLEY 6
GEORGE W. CREASEY .. 3	WILLIAM H. DALE 7
JAMES H. MUSSON 4	C. ARTHUR MANNING .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by C. ARTHUR MANNING.
 The ringer of the 4th bell has now 'circled the tower.'

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Single Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEOFFREY HAIRS Treble	WILLIAM T. GOODBY .. 4
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 2	ROLAND BENISTONE .. 5
JOHN UNDERWOOD 3	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

Rung as a welcome to Rev. W. O. Chantler, who had been inducted to the benefice the previous Monday evening.

DINGESTOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DINGAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents of Stedman (10 callings), 12 extents of Bob Doubles (four callings), 20 extents of Grandsire (10 six-scores with 10 callings) and five 240's (Morris's Arrangement). Tenor 12 cwt.

ROBERT E. R. SMITH .. Treble	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS .. 3
PHILIP G. MORGAN 2	JOHN J. WEBB 4

REGINALD T. JONES Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT E. R. SMITH.

Rung as a compliment to the Vicar of Dingestow, Rev. Albert St. David Buckley, who has been at Dingestow 15 years.

HOLYWELL, HUNTS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Oct. 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

FRANK ELSOME Treble	OLIVER NORMAN 4
MICHAEL J. DYER 2	E. JACK PARISH 5
*DONALD PEACOCK 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD S. PEACOCK.

* First peal 'inside.' The ringer of the 5th has now 'circled this tower.'

ITCHINGFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Oct. 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Comprising 10 extents of Grandsire, two extents of Reverse St. Bartholomew, and 10 extents each of All Saints', Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*F. L. WELLER Treble	†MISS J. M. PHILLIPS .. 3
MISS S. A. RICHARDSON .. 2	G. FRANCIS 4

W. L. WELLER Tenor

Conducted by W. L. WELLER.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles as conductor. First peal on the bells by a local band.

Rung as a farewell to Mrs. E. M. Graebe, the local schoolmistress.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*MISS C. PEDDER Treble	*MRS. M. H. SCHOFIELD .. 4
*MRS. M. EVANS 2	†HAROLD B. SCHOFIELD .. 5
†MISS A. LAYCOCK 3	ERNEST H. SIMPSON .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST H. SIMPSON.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

Rung as a welcome to H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh on their visit to Bradford.

HONITON, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 22 cwt.

RONALD PITMAN Treble	CYRIL C. DEEM 4
*L. KENNETH DAWE 2	FREDERICK WREFORD .. 5
SIDNEY SKINNER 3	JOHN QUICK Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

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



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NEWTON ST. LOE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents Tenor 11½ cwt.
*VERNON J. JONES .. Treble | †COLIN A. C. CONWAY .. 4
ELISABETH A. G. GRIME .. 2 | §CEDRIC J. A. BROWN .. 5
†AUDREY STEPHENS .. 3 | ROGER O. FRY .. Tenor

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

*First peal. †First peal of Minor. ‡First peal of Minor and first peal 'inside.' §First peal in the method.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK A. SALTER .. Treble | J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF .. 4
MRS. M. I. PAILING .. 2 | *JAMES H. PAILING .. 5
GEORGE PADGETT .. 3 | DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

*First peal of Minor.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven variations of extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.
REV. G. L. TURNEY .. Treble | CHAS. F. TOVELL .. 4
GEORGE A. COOK .. 2 | SIDNEY MARSHALL .. 5
GEORGE T. BUNNING .. 3 | CECIL V. EBBERSON .. Tenor

Conducted by CECIL V. EBBERSON.

Rung by officers of the branch as an official farewell to the chairman (the Rev. G. L. Turney).

HALSE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. approx.
*TOM HANCOCK .. Treble | WILLIAM SLOCOMBE .. 4
ARTHUR H. REED .. 2 | GILBERT H. DAVIES .. 5
FRANK BRANCHFLOWER .. 3 | WILLIAM G. GIGG .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

*First peal of Minor.

OLD BRAMPTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 12 cwt.
*JOYCE EVANS (15) .. Treble | REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM .. 4
HERBERT T. ROOKE .. 2 | ARNOLD HILL .. 5
GEORGE CHALLANS .. 3 | †DOUGLAS H. ROOKE .. Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

*First peal at first attempt. †75th peal.

ST. BRIDE'S MAJOR, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being one 240 and 40 six-scores. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.
THOMAS YEOMANS .. Treble | DAVID W. EVANS .. 4
*THOMAS E. HIDDINS .. 2 | WILLIAM T. PETTY .. 5
ROBERT E. COLES .. 3 | *HAROLD PREECE .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT E. COLES.

*First peal and first attempt.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th. and to Edward D. Coles, son of the conductor.

SHIPLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.
ERNEST J. MUNDAY .. Treble | S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 4
*RICHARD H. SMITH .. 2 | E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 5
PATRICK PAGE .. 3 | NORMAN J. SMITH .. Tenor

Conducted by E. WINIFRED KEYS.

*First peal of Plain Bob Minor on tower bells. First peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of treble.

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in 45 individual plain course methods, viz.: (1) Shipway's Place Bob and Colnbrook S.C.; (2) Tandridge S.C. and Shipway's Place Bob; (3) Colnbrook S.C., Tandridge S.C. and Shipway's Place Bob; (4) Westminster II. Bob and Knapton S.C.; (5) Chesham S.C. and Westminster II. Bob; (6) Knapton S.C., Chesham S.C. and Westminster II. Bob; (7) Blackburn Place and Lyng S.C.; (8) Broughton S.C. and Blackburn Place; (9) Lyng S.C., Broughton S.C. and Blackburn Place; (10) St. Hilary's Bob and Intwood S.C.; (11) Ockham S.C. and St. Hilary's Bob; (12) New Bob and Fornett S.C.; (13) Itchingfield S.C. and New Bob; (14) Fornett S.C., Itchingfield S.C. and New Bob; (15) Huntspill Bob and Ellingham S.C.; (16) Oakley S.C. and Huntspill Bob; (17) Ellingham S.C., Oakley S.C. and Huntspill Bob; (18) St. Vedast's Bob and Bedingham S.C.; (19) Chipstead S.C. and St. Vedast's Bob; (20) Reverse Canterbury and Raveningham S.C.; (21) Dorton S.C. and Reverse Canterbury; (22) Raveningham S.C., Dorton S.C. and Reverse Canterbury; (23) St. Nicholas' Bob and Fundenhall S.C.; (24) Longford S.C. and St. Nicholas' Bob; (25) Fundenhall S.C., Longford S.C. and St. Nicholas' Bob; (26) Winchendon Pl. and Thornborough S.C.; (27) Haddiscoe S.C. and Winchendon Pl.; (28) Thornborough S.C., Haddiscoe S.C. and Winchendon Pl.; (29) St. Remigius' Bob and Harpley S.C.; (30) Hascombe S.C. and St. Remigius' Bob; (31) Plain Bob and Candlesby S.C.; (32) Boxford S.C. and Plain Bob; (33) Candlesby S.C., Boxford S.C. and Plain Bob; (34) St. Simon's Bob and Braywood S.C.; (35) Rugby S.C. and St. Simon's Bob; (36) St. Simon's Bob, Rugby S.C. and St. Martin's Bob; (37) St. Simon's Bob, Braywood S.C., Rugby S.C. and St. Martin's Bob; (38) St. Simon's Bob, Braywood S.C. and St. Martin's Bob; (39) St. Martin's Bob, Welford S.C. and Slapton S.C.; (40) St. Osmund's Bob and Longworth S.C.; (41) Merton S.C. and St. Osmund's Bob; (42) Longworth S.C., St. Martin's Bob and St. Osmund's Bob, with 345 changes of methods and plain leads only used throughout.

Tenor 13 cwt. 14 lb.

MONICA HOWARD .. Treble | WILLIAM BUTLER .. 4
FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. 2 | MICHAEL HATCHET .. 5
ALAN D. RIVERS .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

First peal in 45 methods for all on the bells and for the Guilds. This is the greatest number of Doubles methods yet rung to a peal; each method had its own plain course and each plain course conformed to Central Council requirements. There were no bobs used throughout the peal, and no method was the bob lead of another method.

WEST STOW, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Oct. 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 20 extents (10 callings). five Morris's 240's, six Pitman's 240's. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM F. RICKWOOD .. Treble | LEONARD SHARPE .. 4
KENNETH G. BROWN .. 2 | ARTHUR F. BALLAM .. 5
RICHARD ROSE .. 3 | *EDWARD V. BALLAM .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

*First peal. First peal in the method by all.

HANDBELL PEAL

DONCASTER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Oct. 28, 1954, in 2 Hours,

AT 105, DONCASTER LANE, WOODLANDS.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 42 methods: (1) Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Capel, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Ockley Treble Bob and Carisbrooke, Donottar, Wath and Pontefract Delight; (2) Plain, Double, Reverse, Fulbeck, Canterbury, Double Oxford, Thelwall, London, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College, Wavertree College, Windermere, Frodsham, Horsmonden, Killarney, Cumberland and Ennerdale; (3) Walsingham, Cromer, Olney, Tibenham, Lamas, Stevenston, Fulmer and Chalfont Alliance and Little Bob; (4) Kent Treble Bob; (5), (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor size 15 in C.

HOWARD SCOTT .. 1-2 | WILFRID F. MORETON .. 3-4
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5-6

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

First peal in 42 methods 'in hand' by all, and for the Association.

QUARTER PEALS

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On Oct. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Ann Parvin (first quarter Triples) 1, R. C. Beale 2, C. Ann West 3, Doris A. Banks 4, S. Kathleen M. Knight 5, G. E. Verrill 6, H. A. Nobes (cond.) 7, F. G. Barron 8. Also on Oct. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Nuttall 1, R. C. Beale 2, C. Ann West 3, G. E. Verrill 4, Doris A. Banks 5, F. G. Barron 6, S. Kathleen M. Knight (cond.) 7, H. A. Nobes 8.

BENSON, OXON.—On Oct. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Wilson (first quarter) 1, F. Godden (first quarter) 2, W. Absalom 3, J. Godman 4, R. Tuckwell 5, R. D. Wells (first quarter) 6, F. Absalom (cond.) 7, F. Fulker 8. First quarter by all-local band.

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.—At St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, on Oct. 23rd, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: O. Lamb 1, J. Riley 2, C. Gardiner 3, W. Smith 4, R. Stickley (cond.) 5, J. Ernstzen 6. First quarter in the method in Africa, and for all except 4 and 5. Rung for Rector's birthday and El Alamein anniversary.

EAST CLAYDON, BUCKS.—On Oct. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Phillips 1, O. Hodges 2, V. G. Phillips (cond.) 3, F. Gibbard 4, F. Thorpe 5. Rung for Evensong, and also to encourage local interest.

ENGLEFIELD, BERKS.—On Oct. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. E. Finch (first quarter) 1, Miss L. Slade 2, G. Hearn 3, E. Baughan 4, R. K. Russ (first as cond.) 5, C. Baughan 6.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Oct. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: James Phillips 1, Miss A. Garnett 2, B. Lunn 3, J. Stephenson 4, W. Rawlings 5, John Phillips (cond.) 6, J. Waters 7, J. Allsop 8. Also on Oct. 31st, 1,277 Stedman Caters: H. M. Page 1, H. Belcher 2, J. Stephenson 3, B. Lunn 4, W. S. Langdon 5, J. Waters 6, A. B. Peck 7, C. Watts 8, John Phillips (cond.) 9, J. Allsop 10.

GREENSTEAD GREEN, ESSEX.—On Oct. 18th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. Pratt 1, L. W. Wiffen 2, G. Trendell 3, F. Claydon 4, W. Arnold 5, Miss H. G. Snowden (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Arthur A. Saunders, whose funeral took place this day.

GREAT SHEFFORD, BERKS.—On Sept. 19th, 1,320 April Day Doubles: W. Kewell 1, M. Maisy 2, F. Lewis 3, P. Nash 4, G. Dodd (cond.) 5, R. Rivers 6. First quarter in the method on the bells.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 24th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Miss A. Tanner 1, Miss L. Becey 2, Miss K. Yeo (first in method) 3, F. Becey (first as cond.) 4, G. Becey 5, P. Message 6.

HOLLOWAY, N.—On Oct. 24th, at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Floyer 1, Miss D. A. Deverell 2, Miss C. Forster-Jones 3, G. Bryant (first in method) 4, H. Collings 5, R. Newman 6, R. H. Begrie (cond.) 7, K. C. Begrie (first quarter) 8. Rung to welcome the safe return of the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Goodwin-Hudson) from the U.S.A.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On Oct. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire, All Saints' and Plain Bob Doubles: C. E. Hill 1, M. Baker (cond.) 2, E. M. Baker 3, W. T. Hill 4, J. F. Shedell 5. Rung for morning service.

KEYMER, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Hollingdale 1, P. Robinson 2, C. W. Linington 3, S. A. Hill 4, P. F. Romney (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss E. Emery.

LANCASTER.—At St. Peter's Cathedral, on Oct. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Crook 1, J. Woods 2, H. Rainford (cond.) 3, R. Warden 4, F. Hornby 5, R. Rainford 6, S. Jeffery 7, J. Pye 8. A compliment to Canon R. O. Brimley, administrator, on his receiving the title of 'Monsignor.'

MELKSHAM, WILTS.—On Oct. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Abbott 1, S. R. Cockell 2, Mrs. W. C. West 3, H. Heaton 4, H. Prout 5, A. W. Hunt 6, W. C. West (cond.) 7, H. Cockell 8. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. Prout.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.—On Oct. 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Copp 1, G. Foster 2, W. Midwinter 3, F. Hooper 4, S. Barley 5, W. Exton (cond.) 6.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—On Nov. 1st, 1,008 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. N. Chaddock 1, T. C. Ryder 2, Miss Margaret Mills 3, Miss E. Bate 4, H. Woodall 5, F. Fisher 6, D. A. Chapman 7, H. Chaddock (cond.) 8. Rung for the patronal festival of All Saints' prior to Evensong.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—At All Saints' Church, on Oct. 31st, 1,272 Plain Bob Minor: F. Warrington (cond.) 1, W. O. Noble 2, H. W. Pratt 3, G. Nicholls 4, L. W. Fisher 5, G. H. Dunnington 6. For festival eve of All Saints.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On Oct. 24th, 1,344 Double Norwich: R. Jelley 1, J. J. Morris 2, Miss G. R. Bodycote 3, B. S. Chapman (first in method) 4, J. M. Jelley 5, A. E. Bodycote 6, E. J. Jelley 7, A. P. Cannon (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, BATH, SOMERSET.—On Oct. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. R. Young 1, Miss A. Stephens 2, J. R. Hobbs 3, R. O. Fry (cond.) 4, A. F. Leo 5, T. Milsom 6. For patronal festival.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Oct. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. E. Roberts 1, W. J. Chester 2, B. Saunders 3, Miss K. M. Cowley 4, M. Saunders 5, G. W. Holland 6, W. A. Yates (cond.) 7, G. Shellard 8. First quarter on 8 bells by the ringers of 3, 5 and 8, who come from Helmdon.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—On Oct. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Jeffs 1, D. Gooding 2, S. Skinner 3, J. H. Glanvill 4, K. Dawe 5, C. Decm 6, J. L. S. Glanvill (cond.) 7, J. Briggs 8. First of Triples for 1 and 2. A birthday compliment to J. Briggs.

WYKE REGIS, DORSET.—On Oct. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Stephens 1, J. Rose (first as cond.) 2, Miss D. Nice (first quarter) 3, F. Symonds 4, F. Crudge 5, J. Hart 6, F. Stedman 7, F. Foot 8. Rung for the consecration service of the Church of St. Edmund, a daughter church.

YATTON, SOMERSET.—On Oct. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. E. Vowles 1, L. W. Pullin 2, Miss P. Barnard 3, M. O. Davis 4, E. A. Price 6, R. Brice 6, H. A. Price (cond.) 7, J. Baker 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss E. Beechey, daughter of the Rev. G. A. Beechey (Vicar).

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

LATE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Poole, of Leicester,
will receive many congratulations on ringing
100 peals together in the first 10 months of
this year. Never before has the felicity of
married life been expressed in this manner.

A performance of out-
standing merit has taken
place at Stanwell, Middlesex,
by a peal of Spliced Doubles in 45 methods,
the greatest number of Doubles yet rung to a
peal. What is more remarkable is that the
conductor, Mr. Frank T. Blagrove, rang two of
the working bells. There were 345 changes of
method and no bobs were used throughout the
peal and no method was the bob lead of
another method. There is no other word than
'uncanny' to describe this feat.

The peal at Heydour, Lincs, on October 30th
was arranged for Mr. C. A. Manning and Mr.
Harold Huxley from Warwickshire, and Mr.
Harry Barnes from Stainton, near Rotherham.

The first peal of Superlative at Stranton
(West Hartlepool) was rung there on June 27th,
1925, during a North of England ringing tour
(see footnote on page 707).

A ringer who once rocked Stradbroke tower
has offered to ring Debenham tenor to 27,000
changes. Any offers to stand in? Suffolk
ringers wonder if Pat will ring the seventh for
him.

By conducting the peal at Itchingfield Mr.
W. L. Weller joins the ranks of the few who
have called their fathers' first peal. Congratu-
lations to Mr. F. L. Weller on ringing his first
peal in fine style at the age of 58.

We acknowledge a donation to 'Ringing
World' funds as the result of a bet. A bud-
ding author thought that the Editor would look
askance at his contribution but his friend did
not, and a bet followed. The Editor did not
and the payment of the bet has been forwarded
to us. Is this what is known in racing parlance
as a 'double'? The bet was doubly bene-
ficial. A part of the magnum opus appeared
and 'The Ringing World' was enriched.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The back eight of Exeter
Cathedral were rung for the
first time to a peal of Major
on October 30th. On the tenor was Mr. Cecil
Pipe and his son, George. Miss Hilda G. Snow-
den was also a member of the band.

Mr. Leslie Evans, tower captain at Eardis-
land, Herefordshire, has been able to 'com-
plete the circle' in the first eight peals rung
on these bells.

With reference to the article on Samuel Scat-
tergood, Mr. P. Amos points out that Win-
wick, Northants, has but three bells in its large
church. It seems obvious that Scattergood
could not have practised change ringing in the
church where his father was Rector.

Mr. Alan Ward who conducted his first peal
of Plain Bob Royal as a 21st birthday com-
pliment to himself at Worsley, on October 30th,
wishes to thank the ringers and friends of the
Manchester District for the gift of a wrist
watch to mark the occasion.

A banner heading in the 'Sunday Express'
reads: 'I can't stand these church bells,' and
is followed by a letter asking for a vigorous
campaign against the monstrous din of church
bells in the morning.' Mr. A. F. Wellington,
who has replied to the letter, hopes that others
will follow his example.

Tuesday, November 30th, should be a great
ringing day in this country when Sir Winston
Churchill celebrates his 80th birthday. Ringers
will doubtless like to show their affection and
esteem of one who through years of darkness
and despair rallied the forces of freedom
throughout the world and clothed in noble and
inspired language the inarticulate hopes of
millions of men and women.

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BISHOP'S PRIDE IN HIS RINGERS

Dr. Williams' Encouraging Message to Leicester

AN encouraging message was given not only to his own ringers but to the change ringers of the country by the Lord Bishop of Leicester (the Right Rev. R. R. Williams) when speaking at the annual festival dinner of the Leicester Diocesan Guild on October 23rd at the Co-operative Assembly Room, Leicester. The capacity attendance represented all parts of the diocese with large contingents from Melton and Markfield. Visitors came from Nottinghamshire, Northants, Dorset and Surrey.

Supporting the president (Mr. H. J. Poole) and Mrs. Poole were the Bishop and Mrs. Williams, the Provost (the Very Rev. Mervyn Armstrong) and Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. P. L. Taylor and Mr. E. C. Turner (vice-presidents) and Mrs. Turner, Mr. S. Burton (peal secretary) and Mrs. Burton and Mr. W. A. Wood (general secretary).

Following the loyal toast Mr. H. J. Poole spoke of his great pleasure as president of the Guild to welcome the new Lord Bishop of the Diocese and the Provost of Leicester, together with their ladies. It meant a lot to the ringers for the head of the Diocese to be present at their functions.

Referring to ringing in the Diocese, Mr. Poole was proud of the bells, their ringers and their achievements since the formation of the Guild. It had meant much hard work, much practice and much enthusiasm. It was very necessary for ringers to have facilities for practice to ensure the bells being rung properly for service.

ST. JOHN'S, LEICESTER

In St. John's they had one of the finest rings of ten in the country. These had been nearly lost but, very fortunately, one of the first acts of the new Lord Bishop had been to make a decision regarding these bells. This decision—to save the bells of St. John's—had made an indelible impression in the hearts of all ringers in the Diocese, who were very appreciative. Mr. Poole hoped that ringers at St. John's, as well as other towers, would continue to be active and play their part in the church services.

New churches were being built in the new housing estates and it was unlikely that towers capable of supporting a ring of bells would be provided, therefore very great care should be taken of existing bells. The question of St. John's bells had been the subject of a formal resolution of the Guild addressed to the previous Lord Bishop. He was very glad that the bells of Church of St. John would remain to give, he hoped, service for many years.

The new Lord Bishop would meet ringers in the Diocese; their aim, he should know, was to man all bells with the best talent available. The heart and soul of every ringer should be devoted to that purpose in order to serve the Church in the best way they could. It was a great pleasure to have the Provost of Leicester with them. To the Provost Mr. Poole would stress the necessity of regular ringing practice to maintain the standard of ringing. Mr. Poole concluded by expressing a welcome to Mrs. Williams and to Mrs. Armstrong.

'TOWER WIDOWS'

The Lord Bishop expressed his thanks for being invited to such a pleasant function. He would like to thank all ringers for their services, not forgetting the ringers' wives, who often could be described as 'tower widows.' He greatly appreciated the ringers' contribution, by their services, to the work and life of the Church, and, indeed, to all in the Diocese.

The Lord Bishop spoke of his pride in the change ringers of the country and said ringers would have his fullest support. The art of

change ringing was a splendid English custom and was part and parcel of church work, even a part of the worship itself. He thought of ringers in the same way as organists, the choir and the sermon; they were all part of the thanksgiving to God. If the bells did not actually bring people to church they certainly kept the church in the minds and hearts of people. He suggested it was a good thing to ring for a longer period before services, possibly to ring the evening before, to let the people know. It was reasonable to expect ringers to attend every service for which they rang, but he was sure ringers would want to do their full share of service. It was discouraging to see ringers walking out as the congregation walked in.

The Provost expressed his gratitude to the Cathedral ringers, who, he said, worked very hard. The Cathedral tower was kept in a beautiful condition. The Provost commented on the good timekeeping of the Cathedral ringing and once more expressed thanks to Mr. Poole and his ringers.

Mr. P. L. Taylor proposed the toast of 'The Visitors,' mentioning especially the Vicar of Old Dalby (a ringer) and the curates of Melton who were present, although not yet ringers. Other welcome visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Milner, Mr. and Mrs. G. Morris, Mr. Pat Cannon, Mr. Holton and Mr. E. Orland, with whose name he coupled the toast.

AN EVENT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO

Mr. Orland, in reply, said it was the second time he had had the pleasure of replying. The Leicester Diocesan dinner was one of the most pleasant functions he attended and he looked forward to it each year. He congratulated the Leicester Guild on their achievements and, on behalf of the visitors, he expressed thanks and said they would all look forward to further progress of the Guild.

The president thanked all who had contributed to the success of the dinner and social, mentioning specially the beautiful decorations of the room, which had been carried out by the Cathedral band under the supervision of Mr. C. Knight. The effect was truly delightful and had transformed the room.

Referring to his earlier remarks on church bells, Mr. Poole said some bells were not so good, others in the Diocese were not working, some were unringable. They, as enthusiastic ringers in the Guild, ought not to be silent while bells were in this state. In the near future public attention would be called to this matter. Ringers themselves could organise sales and other efforts to raise funds to enable these unused bells to be restored to their proper use.

Handbells were used to demonstrate to non-ringers change ringing and the 'rising and falling' of church bells. A touch of Stedman Cinques was rung by Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, H. J. Poole, P. J. Staniforth, A. Ballard, H. Poyner and B. G. Warwick. On the successful termination of this touch a specimen 'rise and fall' was demonstrated by H. J. Poole, Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, F. Wilson, T. Thornber and P. J. Staniforth.

An enjoyable social evening followed. Music, dancing, many games and a sing-song made the time pass all too quickly and one more 'best ever' came to an end.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK

On October 2nd Stonham Aspal and district ringers visited Norfolk on their half-day outing. Ringing from rounds up to Yorkshire was enjoyed at Swaffham, East Dereham, St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and St. Giles'. To the incumbents, local ringers, Bill Button and Nolan Golden the party tender sincere thanks for an enjoyable outing.

R. E. L.

BELFRY GOSSIP — Continued

Mr. F. T. Blagrove informs us that Westminster Bob II, is the correct name for Accrington Bob.

The peal of Bob Royal at Bedford was rung on July 10th and not as stated in our issue of 'The Ringing World' of July 30th.

We welcome to our columns a peal of Grand-sire Caters at Wimborne Minster, Dorset. It is about 26 years since a peal in this method was rung on these fine bells.

St. Michael's, Honiton, has previously defied successful peal attempts. Success came on Oct. 28th, and the band expresses its appreciation to the two back-enders (Frederick Wreford and John Quick) for retaining sufficient energy to last the peal, writes our correspondent.

One of the three Quidenham (Norfolk) ringers to score their first peal, Mr. George Herbert, is the son of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Norwich. Mr. Herbert is one of a keen band of beginners which has revived the art in this tower, after a lapse of several years.

When Pamela Goodfellow, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Goodfellow, was married recently at Iver Heath, friends rang handbells outside the church porch to welcome the newly-wed pair. There are only two bells in the church tower!

Disappointment has been expressed to us that previous notice was not given that Leicester Cathedral bells, with its famous band, were 'on the air' on October 31st. May we again ask all towers the co-operate with us and notify 'The Ringing World' of forthcoming broadcasts.

Sixteen-year Peter Ketteridge will remember October 27th, the day of H.M. the Queen's visit to Sheffield. He, with Mr. S. F. Palmer, the 80-year-old veteran, and Mr. Gordon Chad-dock, was in the band which rang at the Cathedral for the Queen's visit to the Cutlers' Hall. The bells were rung until the royal couple's arrival and a few minutes later the ringers were rewarded with a grandstand view from the roof of the Queen and the Duke as the royal pair came on to a specially erected belfry to acknowledge the salutations of the cheering crowd.

ANOTHER DOCTORS' PEAL

At the fourth attempt eight doctors have rung a peal of Bob Major at Great Baddow, Essex. After the peal of Bob Minor, the first to have been rung by doctors only, at Abbots Langley, Herts, in July, 1947, the idea of an eight-bell peal was given up on account of the shortage of ringing doctors. A letter to 'The Ringing World' from the present organiser and conductor early in 1953 brought only two replies, and those were already known. Research had, however, been going on and by that time there were about 20 names on the list.

The first attempt took place on the eve of St. Luke's Day, 1953. At the second attempt Kent proved too much for the band; while the third came to an untimely end with the breaking of a rope. Of the present band three rang in the peal at Abbots Langley. Great regret has been felt that Dr. E. L. Taylor, who stood in all the attempts at Abbots Langley (although living in Cornwall at the time), and in the first two at Great Baddow, was prevented by an accident from taking part in the last two. His place on the treble was taken by the only lady doctor known to be a ringer, who, it is understood, only started to ring last winter, and since the first attempts for the present peal.

If there are any other ringing doctors, unknown at present, who would care to take part in another peal attempt, would they please communicate with the conductor or with any of the present band, who would welcome further opportunities for the pleasant social reunions which these attempts have entailed.

F. S. P.

VITALITY OF MAIDSTONE DISTRICT

Success of Second Annual Dinner-Dance

The Maidstone District not only run a newsy monthly magazine, 'The Belfry,' but also hold an annual dinner and dance. The latter was held at Chiesman's Georgian Restaurant on October 23rd and was attended by a company of 80 members and friends.

Mr. Alec Waddington, who proposed the toast of 'The Church,' spoke of the happy relations which existed in the District between ringers and clergy, and cited as an example the Vicar of his tower (Egerton), who climbed the many steps to their belfry to light a fire for them. Boxley recently welcomed the Archbishop of Canterbury in their belfry.

The new Vicar of Maidstone (Canon F. Bennett) replied and thanked the ringers for their kind welcome to him on appointment. He admired the work of the ringers and applauded their desire to have the bells of Maidstone rehung, but explained that there were many other things to be done in the town of higher priority. He urged the company to be proud of their membership of the Church of England.

The toast of 'The Guests' was honoured on the call of Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, who mentioned in particular Canon and Mrs. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Pratt Boorman and Mr. A. B. York-Bramble.

Replying, Mr. Boorman, who is editor of 'The Kent Messenger,' said there was no greater enthusiast for bell ringing in Kent than Dr. Hatcher, and that the members of the Association were deserving of thanks for maintaining the ancient English tradition of bell ringing. Talking of bells, he said they bore the names of those who 'made me.' This denoted pride on the part of the founder, who knew it would remain down the years and was not afraid that people should know who founded the bell.

The toast of 'The Maidstone District' was proposed by Mr. A. York-Bramble, who said

that the District had come a long way since it came into being in 1889. The membership of nearly 200 had probably never been higher. The District had a vitality of which any ringing society might be proud, and which, no doubt, sprang from the exemplary energy and initiative of its officers, and not least from one who was until recently the District secretary—Dr. Hatcher, who was now promoted to the office of the Association's general secretary.

Talking about the District magazine, 'The Belfry,' he said that now that the ladies were taking such a practical part in ringing he would not be surprised if the Editor were asked to run a 'heartache advice' column! They might read: 'Advice to the Lovelorn,' and, for example: 'Is my ringing boy friend really religious, or is he trying to get rid of me? He has given me up for Lent.'

Referring to the varied activities of the District he mentioned, apart from 'The Belfry,' the planned programmes of meetings with printed fixture cards, the special methods at meetings, the two series of combined practices, the annual coach tour and the annual dinner and dance, and the recent formation of the Maidstone Grammar School Society. Some measure of credit for this flourishing state of affairs must go to the District secretary. The new one, Mr. Reg Sills, had distinguished himself by attaining this position at the comparatively early age of 23.

Mr. Sills replied, and, in a tribute to his predecessor, said that besides having a hand in everything, most of the unique features of their yearly programme were initiated by Dr. Hatcher. In fact he was the life and soul of the District and infected all with his enthusiasm. Finally, Mr. Sills thanked Mr. Mark Couchman and Mr. Bill Manser, whose committee had organised the function so efficiently.

Dancing followed, interspersed with handbell ringing, some of which was tape-recorded and played back. 'Auld Lang Syne' and 'The Queen' brought to an end at 11.45 p.m. a very enjoyable evening.

R. L. S.

THE N.S.T.G. AGAIN

Nailsea was the rendezvous for ringers from three counties (Essex, Devon and Somerset) on Saturday, October 23rd. The primary object was a peal attempt, but the organiser had also, in typical N.S.T.G. style, arranged for visits to a few new towers.

The 'advance party' joined Clutton ringers at their practice on Friday night before continuing to H.Q. On Saturday morning two cars took ringers to Badgworth (5, 13 cwt.). These bells are very rough—the fourth was pulled up with the assistance of a strapper (both ladies!). However, the four bells of the next tower, Biddisham (9 cwt.) went well.

The peal band was completed in the afternoon by the arrival of Cyril Deem, but Stedman Doubles at Weston-in-Gordano were, unfortunately not successful. Undaunted, however they attended the Axbridge Branch meeting at Kewstoke (6) and were afterwards entertained to an excellent supper by Mr. and Mrs. Horseman.

On Sunday morning the six at Portbury (24 cwt.), where there is no service band, were rung. After a wonderful chicken lunch provided by Mrs. Strong, the visitors enjoyed the bells and a magnificent view at Dundry (6, 16 cwt.). Service ringing in the evening was divided between Bristol, SS. Philip and Jacob (8, 20 cwt.), Nailsea and Clutton.

Thanks for a very enjoyable week-end are due to the Nailsea ringers, and particularly to Mrs. Horseman and Mrs. Strong, who provided all the meals and accommodation, and to Michael Horseman, the organiser. M. E. F.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Learners Prominent in Leatherhead District

Ashted was the venue for the autumn meeting of the Leatherhead District and about 50 had a ring during the afternoon and evening. This included a large number of learners of both sexes, for whom the ring of eight was highly suitable, though it was a bit of a crowd for the small belfry. The Ringing Master, Mr. H. N. Pitstow, had a busy job seeing that everyone had a ring, but rounds and Triples with an occasional course of Major kept everyone happy.

At 4.30 the Guild's form of service was taken by the Rev. G. J. Halsey (Rector), who also gave the visitors a warm welcome to Ashted. The lesson was read by Mr. J. T. Symonds, who combines the captaincy of the local band with that of choirman and churchwarden. A sumptuous tea had been prepared by lady helpers in the Church School, which had even the choirboys stumped, though numbers were up to expectations.

Mr. Pitstow presided at the short business meeting and praised the beginners for the way they handled their ropes—a credit to their teachers. In thanking the Rector for his address and use of the bells, he said he thought that ringers to-day were more appreciative of that duty to practise what they preached in calling people to church. Quite a large number of learners were elected.

DEDICATION

MARSDEN, YORKS

The beautiful Church of St. Bartholomew, Marsden, was nearly filled for the dedication on October 24th of the two new treble bells.

Weighing 4 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb., the treble was the gift of the employees of John Edward Crowther (Holdings) Ltd., in memory of the late Phillip Dyson Crowther, the managing director of these well-known woollen mills, who died in a Leeds nursing home on October 19th, 1953. The second, which weighs 5 cwt., is the gift of Marsden Parish Church bellringers and is dedicated to 'The men of this Parish who fell 1939-1945.'

The congregation was composed of ringers from many towers from as far away as Doncaster and Wakefield, relatives of the late Mr. P. D. Crowther and of those men killed in the war, the chairman and Marsden members of the Colne Valley Urban District Council, and the staff, directors and employees of the Crowther group of mills.

The ring of eight was kept going by the visitors for an hour before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. L. Facey), who also dedicated the bells following a procession to the tower from the sanctuary, and which included the four clergy, representatives of the other Marsden churches and chapels, John Edward Crowther, Ltd., the Marsden bellringers, Mr. J. P. Fidler (of John Taylor and Co.), the churchwardens and full choir. After the dedication and while the procession was returning down the main aisle, rounds on the new ring of ten were rung by: S. A. Jaine 1, D. E. Lodge 2, Miss S. Brown 3, J. Shrigley 4, J. A. Grace 5, S. Carter 6, H. R. Clegg 7, W. Hansom 8, D. B. Cater 9, J. S. Whitehead 10.

The lesson was read by the Rev. H. W. Facey, of Newfoundland, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Tuff, Vicar of Lindley.

After the collection, which amounted to £27, had been taken by eight of the Marsden ringers, prayers and the Blessing were said by Canon Bellman, Vicar of Almondbury and patron of the living of Marsden.

Following the service the bells were rung until 4.30 p.m. The opinion was that once again the Loughborough firm is to be congratulated.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the expenses of producing 'The Ringing World':

Personal.—Anon. 2s. 6d., N.S.T.G. 2s., XYZ 5s., W. A. T. 2s.

Peals.—Sherburn-in-Elmet 1s. 6d., Hunsdon 3s., Newton St. Loe 3s., Honiton 3s., Holywell 1s. 6d., Solihull 5s., Itchingfield 3s., Urchfont 4s., St. Bride's Major 3s., Higher Walton 4s., Bradford 2s. 6d., Finchley 4s., Oxford 3s., Stanwell 5s., Dingestow 3s., Halse 3s., Worsley 5s., Great Baddow 2s. 6d., Eardisland 2s., Doncaster 2s., Sowton 4s., West Stow 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Cape Town 3s., Fulham 2s., Yatton 4s., Melksham 4s., Marsden 6s., Keymer 2s., Wicken 2s. 6d., Holloway 6s., Lancaster 4s., St. Ives 1s., Fulham 2s. 6d., Benson 2s., Englefield 6s., East Claydon 2s. 6d., Hutton 2s. 6d., Walmer 2s., Woodbury 3s., Rotherham 2s. 3d., Greenstead Green 5s.

BETHNAL GREEN, E.—On Oct. 24th, at St. Matthew's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Harvey (first in method) 1, T. H. Taffender 2, B. G. Moore 3, J. A. Haics 4, F. R. L. Blewer 5, F. Ranson 6, L. W. Bullock (cond.) 7, C. A. Hughes 8: Rung to celebrate the 1,350th anniversary of the diocese.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Oct. 10th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: M. Dyer 1, F. Warrington (cond.) 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, G. L. Perkins 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock 6: For Matins.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FIRST OF MAJOR AT EXETER CATHEDRAL

Dear Sir,—I would like on behalf of the locals and myself heartily to congratulate the band on their achievement on the 'Grandisson Eight' at Exeter Cathedral on October 30th. Only those who know and understand the Exeter bells realise what a feat this was, bearing in mind that it took them three attempts to get Triples!

With my friend, Mr. W. A. Theobald, I listened to the whole of this peal and, after an hour of settling trouble, the bells were sending out really excellent Major.

Special mention must be made of Tony Price's efforts on 'Stafford' and the Pipes' ringing of 'Grandisson' with their two ropes idea, and I listened with envy and awe to Frank Harris's 'spot on' treble.

A stunt? Yes! But how many peals aren't? Such spirit keeps the Exercise alive.

To those interested here are the particulars of the bells:—

Fifth.—Pennington, 1658. 8 cwt. 2 qr. 'Pennington.'

Sixth.—Purdue, 1676. 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb. 'Purdue.'

Seventh.—J. Taylor and Co., 1902. 18 cwt. 4 lb. 'Fox.'

Eighth.—Purdue, 1693. 19 cwt. 19 lb. 'Doom.'

Ninth.—Purdue, 1676. 28 cwt. 4 lb. 'Cobthorne.'

Tenth.—Evans, 1729. 33 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. 'Oldham.'

Eleventh.—Purdue, 1676. 40 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. 'Stafford.'

Tenor.—J. Taylor and Co., 1902. 72 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. 'Grandisson.'

Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK WREFORD.

Exeter.

TEN YEARS AFTER

Dear Sir,—Just over ten years ago you published a letter of which the following are extracts:—

(i). There are obvious practical reasons why bells must not move more than one position in each change (but I'm not so sure that I am clear as to why only two blows may be struck in any position when place-making).

(ii). Plain Bob Lead Heads. (The Snowdon series on Surprise methods (page 35) states:—'An investigation was made with a view to seeing if there were any other methods producible with similar qualities (as Superlative). Though there are several, many of these being doubtless excellent methods, they have, with one exception, lead heads other than those of Plain Bob.' Isn't it artificial, therefore, to allow only Plain Bob lead heads when there are excellent methods not having them? Surely the method and its music should come first.

(iii). Why is it bad to have bells lying in 7, 8, in Major?

(iv). Why is it bad to have back-handed places?

(v). Why the seemingly artificial dividing of methods by place-making into Surprise, Delight, Exercise and Treble Bob, giving the idea that the former are the most complex when they're not necessarily. And why the keen study of the first at the expense of the latter?

(vi). Why is it bad if the bells don't turn up at the back in their 'natural coursing order'? (And why this term—shouldn't it be Plain Bob coursing order?)

This letter was written by one of the present members of the Methods Committee. As, by the recent action of the committee, he has obviously satisfied himself on these points, could he please now enlighten myself and the remainder of the Exercise?—Yours sincerely,

Windsor.

WILLIAM BUTLER.

PUBLICATION OF NEW METHODS

Dear Sir,—I should like to comment on one particular sentence in the Editorial 'Keeping the Balance.' The one I have in mind said, 'It is to our regret that we have been unable to publish all the compositions and new methods we have received.' I quite agree that it would be impossible to publish all compositions that are turned out, and all new methods that are discovered (not composed!). I do feel, however, that priority should be given to new methods which are rung to a peal. If such methods were omitted, it could lead to considerable confusion; it might become possible for the same methods to be rung in different localities, each being claimed as a new method, and each being given a different name. So far as I am aware, however, you have not omitted any such methods in the past, and I sincerely hope the sentence to which I have referred does not imply that you intend to do so in the future.

Relating to the need for economy in space, would it not be feasible for all methods to be published in place notation? This would result in a marked saving in space. To illustrate this with an example, the method St. Wolstan's Delight, published on October 15th, could have been printed in this form as 38x58, 14x58x18x14x58x16 HL7. LE 4263857. Compare this with the space it actually took—17 rows each of eight figures. To assist any readers who might not be familiar with this system, a short article could be written to explain it by any one of the many theorists who have used it for many years.—Yours sincerely,

W. E. CRITCHLEY.

Doncaster, Yorks.

'RINGING WORLD' FINANCES

Dear Sir,—You were good enough to publish a letter from myself on the above matter, and I emphasised the necessity of spreading the deficit in 'The Ringing World' accounts over the largest number of ringers possible, thereby reducing the cost per individual to about the equivalent per annum of two cigarettes.

While I appreciate Mr. E. Barnett's support for the plan, I must point out that he seems to seek to deal with the problem by imposing extra costs on a certain section only.

Mr. Pugh quite openly recommends the imposition of a 6d. fee on all peal ringers for each peal published, and he asserts that this 'would be far better than making a levy on Association funds which are obtained from people like learners and Sunday service ringers.' Well, well, Mr. Editor! So now we know where our Association funds have come from!! Mr. Pugh has told us!!!

I wonder what the accomplished and energetic ringers who figure week by week in the peal records thought of that disclosure by Mr. Pugh. And how does one distinguish a peal ringer from a Sunday service ringer? I have known hundreds of people who rang peals, but I cannot remember one among them who was not also a keen Sunday service ringer.

To classify ringers into sections of peal ringers and Sunday service ringers is impossible, and the plan I put forward of levying the vast sum of about 3d. per member annually on all affiliated Associations is the only sound and practicable method of ensuring the financial stability of 'The Ringing World.'—Yours faithfully,

JOHN WILLIS.

Folkestone.

SHANKLIN TOWER

Dear Sir,—Shanklin tower was built some years after the church, and in order to avoid reducing the seating accommodation the buttresses came inside the roof and were gradually narrowed down till they finished off as a straight wall. There is also a cellar under the tower to house the heating apparatus, and one of the four pinnacles serves as a chimney for it.

I learnt to handle a bell there at the age of 16 and well remember when sitting out during ringing feeling the tower lurch like a ship in a heavy sea. The original intention, I understand, was to have four bells, but a ring of eight with an 18 cwt. tenor was installed in two tiers. If my memory serves me right, six of the eight bells swing the same way across the tower.

I noticed when I visited the tower last year that it had been reinforced inside the church. One peal has been rung on the bells. There was growing opposition to the bells before I left Shanklin, so perhaps the peal put the final seal.

Two years ago a student at Bishop's College told me there was some talk of putting the bells in a ringable condition. I sent a donation towards the fund which the Vicar promptly returned with the information that a large sum of money had been spent on the tower, and they were not thinking of doing anything about the bells. It is a great pity, as they are a grand eight.—Yours faithfully,

W. NEWNHAM.

Cheshunt, Herts.

COOKHAM BELFRY

Dear Sir,—It was with much pleasure that I read the letter under the above heading from P. Tocock. As a past member of the Cookham band, and having pleasant memories of the exceptional conditions that are met with in this tower, I would like to congratulate my old friend, John, on the latest addition towards the ideal that he has in mind. Here is to be found an example of what a ringing chamber can be and, dare one say, should be.

It may be of interest to mention the electric fan for use in hot weather and the electric heater for winter use. A very pleasant, homely touch is to be found on entering the room on Sunday. It is the vase of flowers on the table, and on occasion in other places as well. A custom at this tower is to leave the bells 'up' continuously; and only rung down for the occasional periodical inspection.

It is a great joy to the church officials to know of the good attendance of the ringers at the Sunday services. I have known of full attendance at Holy Communion at 7 a.m. after early ringing on festival days. Service ringing is always preceded by a belfry prayer.

Ringers who know John as branch ringing master of the Oxford Guild will remember his insistence on the importance of good striking, and can imagine what his attitude is on this matter in his own tower.

GEO. H. HEAD.

Hanworth, Middlesex.

PEALS AT HIGH HALDEN

Dear Sir,—The peal rung at High Halden, Kent, on October 13th, was not the first in 13 Minor methods for the Kent County Association. A peal of Minor in 13 methods was rung at Lamberhurst on November 26th, 1932, and is recorded in the 1933 Kent County Association report, page 89.

When the summary of peals rung was published in the 1950 report, the omission of this peal was pointed out to the officials, but no action has been taken to include it in any later reports.—Yours faithfully,

A. RELFE.

Lamberhurst, Kent.

LETTERS—Continued

MY GREATEST JOY IN RINGING

Dear Sir,—Although I don't think I have had 'a greatest,' all have been great joys to me. I tried to express 'one of the greatest' in the article which appeared in 'The Ringing World'—also a great joy—under the caption 'Church and State Ringing' (October 8th) and failed inadequately.

I have arranged a few peals. Early this year I set out to arrange another. I was granted the use of the bells, then the ringers from my home tower—including three in the peal attempt—visited the church on their outing; I was not with them. Imagine my surprise when on the Monday following I received a letter from one in the proposed peal to say he did not think it would be wise, or even possible, as the ropes were in such poor condition; also there were no ringing mats, nothing to sit on, and goodness only knows when the ringing chamber was last brushed out.

You remember the former radio character, 'Sid Walker,' who used to ask, 'What would you do, chums?' Now I ask you.

I immediately wrote to the Rector, enclosing the ringer's letter, which, to a great extent, was supported by the other two I pointed out, however, that whatever happened—short of withdrawing the use of the bells—the importance of the occasion of the peal—a compliment to a very gracious lady—we should go for the peal.

The Rector passed the letter on to the honorary secretary of the Parochial Church Council. His reply was that they were shocked by the letter and its implications, in view of the fact that they had recently had the bells reconditioned and rehung at a cost of £600.

Despite the shock, the secretary was very kind and helpful, and a firm friendship has resulted. He said the ropes had been changed where necessary, some new ones had been obtained in case of emergency, new ringing mats had also been obtained, and the ringing chamber 'swept and garnished.'

The Rector and secretary of the Church Council met and welcomed the ringers, also the gracious lady chairman of the Urban District Council; the local ringers also met and welcomed the peal band.

Whilst all this was going on, one of our 'Ringing Worlds' carried a splendid front page leader dealing with the preservation of bells and bell frames, etc.; it also mentioned the Central Council's handbook on 'Installation, Preservation and Repair of Bells, Bell Frames and Fittings.' I forwarded a copy of the latter, also a copy of 'The Ringing World.' I also forwarded, for their better knowledge, Ernest Morris's 'Bells of All Nations,' and his 'Legends of the Bells,' and Nichols' 'Bells Through the Ages,' and asked the Rector, the 'gracious lady,' and the secretary of the Church Council, to change round after perusal.

Now, after all the trouble, I come to the object of, I think, 'My Greatest Joy in Ringing,' the letter of appreciation which I enclose.—Yours sincerely,

W. FRANK STENSON.

Crewe.

Note.—The letter to Mr. Stenson contains the following:—

'I am more and more convinced that the deep joy which you all so obviously derive from ringing, coupled with the sanctity of the belfry, makes an abiding impression on your characters and outlook towards life—or am I putting the cause before the effect? Is it your outlook on life which impels you to express through the bells your joy and belief in the creation of all things beautiful? Whichever it is, it has made a lasting impression on me.'

QUARTER PEALS

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Oct. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Downie (first quarter) 1, Miss D. J. Perrins (first 'inside') 2, A. Short 3, R. C. Ingram 4, H. Yardley 5, W. Pettigrew 6, E. J. Franklin (cond.) 7, A. H. Rainey 8.

ANSTLEY, LEICS.—On Oct. 17th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: Miss J. K. E. Harris 1, R. Elkington 2, A. Disney 3, Miss J. M. Simpson 4, R. F. Elkington (cond.) 5, D. S. Harris 6, G. H. Arguile 7, M. D. Stanforth 8. First quarter in the method for 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7. Rung for the local band on the eve of the festival of St. Luke.

CHEPSTOW, MON.—On Oct. 24th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss P. Jones 1, M. K. King 2, Miss J. S. Evans 3, C. G. Bryant (first 'inside') 4, J. J. Sims 5, J. E. Morgan 6, R. E. Coles 7, D. J. King (cond.) 8. Arranged for R. E. Coles, Cowbridge.

CLEWER, BERKS.—On Oct. 7th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Monica Howard 1, M. Purchase (first 'inside') 2, Diana Spice 3, A. Bird (first as cond.) 4, W. Butler 5, R. Purchase 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Reavell, wife of the people's warden, interred on the same day.

COWLEY, OXON.—On Oct. 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. W. Holloway 1, L. Busby 2, Mrs. L. Busby 3, P. Smith 4, M. Harding 5, W. Holloway (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 1 and 4. A farewell to the Rev. N. Howells, who has left the parish.

FINCHLEY, MIDDLEX.—On Oct. 24th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss Nicola Savage 1, A. Richardson 2, Miss Ann Gower (first quarter) 3, A. Goodall 4, A. Warren 5, P. Blake 6, B. Willis (cond.) 7, F. Barker 8. Rung for Evensong.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.—On Oct. 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Frances Bibby 1, W. G. Bibby 2, F. Jackson 3, J. E. Bibby (cond.) 4, T. Lightfoot 5, O. Claybrook 6, C. Valentine 7, H. Matthias 8. Rung for Evensong.

INGRAVE, ESSEX.—On Oct. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss N. M. Jeffery (first quarter) 1, B. W. Parke (first quarter) 2, F. R. Goddard (cond.) 3, J. H. Sitch 4, D. J. Crouchman 5. Rung for the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Edwards.

LEWKNOR, OXON.—On Oct. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Fulker 1, P. Wilson 2, F. Godden 3, R. J. Wells 4, F. Absalom (cond.) 5, E. Morris 6. For harvest festival.

OXFORD.—At St. Ebbe's Church, on Oct. 31st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Jackson 1, M. H. R. Glover 2, R. J. Nash 3, G. F. Jenkins 4, J. H. Smart 5, D. A. Edwards 6, D. H. Niblett (cond.) 7, J. L. Eaton (first quarter) 8. First of Stedman for 2 and 5.

PELSALL, STAFFS.—On Oct. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Williams 1, H. Claridge 2, E. Claridge 3, G. Cooper 4, J. Gregory (cond.) 5, M. Smith (first quarter) 6. A message of welcome to the Vicar (the Rev. John R. Bennion, B.A.) and Mrs. Bennion.

ROCHDALE, LANCs.—On Oct. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. L. Parry 1, G. Newton 2, S. K. Taylor 3, W. Bamford 4, J. Barlow 5, F. Appleton (cond.) 6, H. D. Mills 7, H. Hamer 8. Rung in honour of the visit to Rochdale of H.M. the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

SHOREDITCH, E.—On Oct. 24th, 1,275 Grandsire Cinques: G. McKay (first quarter on 12) 1, Mrs. C. J. Matthews 2, W. Williams 3, T. H. Francis 4, J. R. Leeming 5, A. P. Cave 6, F. E. Hawthorne 7, P. J. Coward 8, W. R. Winterton 9, A. R. Ling 10, R. F. Deal (cond.) 11, E. F. Wilcox 12.

SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.—On Oct. 24th, 1,360 Plain Bob Major: A. W. J. Thompson (first of Major) 1, W. Kerrison 2, Miss M. Thompson 3, G. A. Sutherland 4, E. J. Thurlow 5, C. J. Gibson 6, R. J. Darch 7, J. W. Blythe (cond.) 8. Rung for the service of dedication and unveiling of the new east window, at which H.R.H. the Princess Royal performed the unveiling.

WALMER, KENT.—On Oct. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. R. Hawkins 1, Miss Monica Hawkins 2, Mrs. F. W. Lawrence 3, F. A. Rye 4, M. R. Hawkins 5, F. W. Lawrence 6, P. J. Rye (cond.) 7, A. C. Rye 8. Rung for Evensong, also for wedding anniversary of A. C. Rye, and welcome home from National Service of P. J. Rye. Also on Oct. 31st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss M. E. Stephens 1, Mrs. F. W. Lawrence 2, Miss Ann Vine 3, P. J. Rye 4, T. Wickens 5, F. W. Lawrence 6, M. J. Stephens 7, F. A. Rye (cond.) 8. Rung for Evensong, and also for wedding anniversary of the conductor.

JOINT MEETING AT HILLINGDON

Memorial to Mr. W. Honor Dedicated

The annual gathering of the Middlesex County Association and the Oxford Diocesan Guild took place at St. John's, Hillingdon, on October 23rd. The church authorities and ringers at Hillingdon regard this visit as one of the important occasions of the year, and the service and tea reflected this mood.

The Vicar (the Rev. F. C. Tyler) conducted the service, during which he proceeded to the west end of the church and dedicated a ring of 15 handbells restored in memory of William Honor, who was for 68 years a ringer at Hillingdon, and who died at Christmas, 1952. The bells, size 21 in D, are a first-class ring and will hang in the ringing chamber in a rack specially made for them by a Somerset friend. Immediately after the dedication some of the bells were rung in rounds by five of the local ringers and Mr. H. W. Impey (son-in-law of Mr. Honor).

In his address the Vicar paid a wonderful tribute to Mr. Honor's personality and his services to the church and village as a ringer and churchman.

Mrs. W. H. Coles and other ringers' wives had prepared a very welcome tea in the Church Hall and over 70 persons plus the choirboys enjoyed the meal. In the course of the several speeches made, special welcome was extended to Mrs. Tyler, the churchwardens, members of the Honor family, and the son and daughter-in-law of the late W. C. Parker, of Staines. And, although not mentioned in the speeches, there was another important visitor present, the daughter of Evelyn and Tony Turley.

The evening social, organised by Mr. W. F. Butler, Branch secretary of the Oxford Guild, was much enjoyed. The Middlesex men wrested possession of the cup from their Oxford friends by winning the annual handbell contest (no blood this time, much to the fans' disappointment). Mr. Pidwell, a Pinner ringer, entertained with his violin, and the new handbells revealed their qualities in the tunes played on them by the St. Mary's, Ealing, handbell ringers. Dancing and some novel games were also in the programme. There was some ringing on the tower bells, of course, both at St. John's and St. Margaret's, Uxbridge, with Mr. F. T. Blagrove and Mr. R. Biggs, Ringing Masters, in charge.

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The October meeting of the Selby and District Society was held at Acomb, Yorks, where the newly-dedicated ring of six was put to good use during the afternoon and evening. There was a representative attendance. A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. Oxy Parker, M.A.), who, in welcoming the visitors, hoped they would pay another visit in the not too distant future. A bountiful tea was provided by ladies of the parish.

At the business meeting Mr. H. Morley presided, supported by Mr. L. Woodhead (secretary) and Mr. F. Terry (Ringing Master). It was agreed the next meeting be held at Snaith and that no dinner be held this year.

Mr. E. Hudson proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and ladies for the arrangements which had made the visit so enjoyable. Mr. H. Walker said a local company had not yet been formed but sufficient old ringers were coming out of retirement and a number of learners were coming along, to ensure that by Christmas there would be enough local ringers to man the ropes for each Sunday service. Meanwhile the York Minster ringers would continue to give assistance.

H. W.

RINGING IN DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND

By the Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

AS in the case of their next-door neighbours of the north-west, Cumberland and Westmorland, it is convenient to take the two north-eastern counties, Durham and Northumberland, together, but not for the same reason. In the former case it was because peal ringing was not very extensive, but in this case it is because of the close association of the two counties as far as ringing is concerned, not for lack of peals, for the Newcastle district has a very good reputation both for numbers and variety of peals. The number of rings of bells concerned is not very large compared with some counties, but they have been put to very good use throughout the period under consideration.

There were not many peals rung in the 1880's (about 20 in all), but things were getting quickly under way and in the 1890's there was as much if not more peal ringing than there has been ever since. Thus at St. John's, Newcastle (8), no less than 68 were rung in that decade, and a similar proportion to its total number at St. John's, Darlington (8). The great majority of towers record their first peals about that time also.

It is St. John's, Newcastle, which holds the record for number of peals in the two counties—185. One hundred and twenty of them were rung before the first war. It is still the most popular peal ringing tower in Northumberland, for 27 have been rung there since 1946, but the present average is not as great as at the beginning of the century.

This is followed by Newcastle Cathedral, with 97 peals—37 being rung between 1892 and 1914, 45 between 1918 and 1939, and 14 since the war (only one in each of the years 1952 and 1953 and none so far this year, which seems to point to a decline in peal ringing this last year or two—there are indications of this in other places, too). The Cathedral is the only 12-bell tower in the area, but although its total is approaching the century mark as far as the period under review is concerned, I fear there cannot be any celebration, for several early peals are known at this tower and the 100 has already been passed.

Third on the list comes North Shields (Tyne-mouth), Christ Church, with 88. The heyday here was definitely before 1914, for 60 of them were rung between 1881 and 1912; 25 were rung between the wars and there have been one each in the years 1951, 1953 and 1954 since the last war. This church is one of the five in the two counties which have ten bells.

WHITLEY BAY'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Whitley Bay (8) follows very closely with 87. Most ringers will know of this famous tower connected for so long with the achievements of the Gofton family. It was a great pleasure to have the opportunity of a ring here at the Central Council meeting recently (as, of course, at all the towers we were privileged to visit). At the beginning of the century there were only six bells here, but 12 peals were scored on them up to 1910. The first on the eight was in 1913, and the war doesn't seem to have affected this tower much (least of any tower in the country, I think), for 21 peals were rung between 1913 and 1919. Thirty-nine were rung in the 1920's and ten more up to 1936, when there was a silence for ten years. Five have been rung since the war, in the years 1946 to 1949, but none since. The methods rung here (as at St. John's, Newcastle, and elsewhere) have been amongst the highest achievements of our art.

Bishop Wearmouth (Sunderland), St. Ignatius' (8), comes next with 79 peals. The period between the wars seems to have been most popular here, for 62 of them were rung then. There have been six since 1945. A six-bell

tower follows closely—Holy Trinity, Darlington. Its total of 78 makes it among the leading six-bell towers in the country (for, as was said in the first article, only one of these has passed the 100 mark so far). Nine were rung between 1903 and 1910, then there was a gap until 1926, which started a sequence of 32 up to the war, and there have been 37 since 1945—the highest number of any tower in the two counties. There were only two last year, however, and none so far this—another piece of evidence of the decline mentioned above.

Having given the chief peal ringing towers in the area, we now turn to the towers in descending order of numbers of bells, as usual. The only 12-bell tower has been mentioned already. Besides Christ Church, Tyne-mouth, there are four other churches with ten bells. They are Gosforth, West Hartlepool, Stockton-on-Tees and Roker (Sunderland). As an eight-bell tower, Gosforth scored 29 peals between 1901 and 1914 with two more just after the war. The first on the ten was in 1921, and there were 18 rung between then and 1932. An odd peal was rung in each of the years 1936, 1948 and 1952. So peal ringing has declined here, too.

West Hartlepool shows three phases of activity. Its total of 33 is made up of 23 between 1904 and 1913, six from 1924 to 1932, and four from 1946 to 1951. Thus it was much more popular 50 years ago than now. Stockton has also had its ups and down. Four peals of Minor were rung between 1883 and 1887, then 16 on the ten bells between 1902 and 1909, and four odd peals in 1924, 1931, 1953 and 1954 since—a total of 24 in all. Roker's, of course, are new, and only two peals have been rung there, in 1949 and 1953. So much for the ten-bell towers.

CHESTER-LE-STREET

Several other eight-bell towers deserve mention apart from those above. First must be Chester-le-Street, which has the largest post-war total of peals on eight (and upwards) bells—31 out of a total of 62. This tower is now enjoying its best period in its history. Darlington, St. John's (already mentioned), has 60, 37 before 1914, 14 from 1921 to 1932, and nine since the war. Twenty-nine out of Gateshead's total of 56 were also before the first war and there have been six since the last war. This completes all the towers with more than 50 peals. Newcastle, All Saints', which was destroyed by fire in 1946, had a total of 47 despite the fact that the last peal rung there was in 1912. Also in the 40's is Bishop Auckland with 43.

As for six-bell towers, apart from Holy Trinity, Darlington, Whickham deserves first mention, for 43 peals have been rung here. Twenty-three were rung between 1944 and 1953, but it has not appeared this year in the peal lists. The other towers which have reached double figures are Stella (23), Benfieldside (14), St. Peter's, Jarrow (11, last peal 25 years ago) and Newburn (10).

One eight-bell tower has never had a peal rung at it yet—Newcastle, St. Matthew's. Three sixes are likewise unconquered—Hebburn, Newcastle, St. Andrew's, and Corbridge. Neither are the only two five-bell towers in the counties—Sedgfield and Willington. But six out of 64 is a very small proportion and is another indication of the popularity of the Exercise in the north-east. May it long continue to flourish there.

BATHFORD, SOMERSET.—On Oct. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. W. Colgate 1, J. Smart 2, J. Colgate 3, M. Smart (cond.) 4, A. B. Cannings 5, E. Knight 6. First quarter for 1, 3 and 5. For harvest festival.

DEDICATION OF GREENWICH BELLS

The restoration of the historic church of St. Alphege, Greenwich, where Thomas Tallis was once organist, and which was badly damaged during the war, was completed by October 31st by the dedication of the bells during Matins by the Archdeacon of Kingston. The bells, an octave from the Whitechapel Foundry in 1731 and augmented to ten in 1734, have been recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank except for the tenor, a fine bell of 23 cwt., which was in good condition, and the ring rehung in ball bearings with iron headstocks. Whereas the old bells were mostly of poor quality, the tone of the new ring is excellent.

Among those present at the service were the Mayor of Greenwich and Mr. A. A. Hughes, of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. In the course of his sermon, the Archdeacon likened the church up to that day to a patient recovering from a serious illness, but still unable to speak, and referred to the fact that the opening rounds after the dedication had been rung largely by a band trained by Mr. J. Daffers, steeplekeeper of his former church of St. Mary, Lewisham. After the service a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters was rung in 53 minutes by a band mainly representing different towers in the district, Mr. A. R. Ling, of Lewisham, very kindly standing out for a visitor. The ringers were E. B. Crowder (Eltham) 1, P. J. Spice (Bromley Common) 2, F. W. Richardson (St. John's, Deptford) 3, E. A. Barnett (Crayford) 4, A. S. Richards (West Wickham) 5, G. H. Daynes (St. Nicholas', Deptford) 6, H. W. Clark (Greenwich) 7, H. E. Audsley (conductor) (Dartford) 8, J. Freeman (Lincoln Cathedral) 9, F. J. Cul'um (St. John's, Erith) 10.

A stone tablet in the belfry records a peal of Grandsire Triples rung right back in 1732, and the walls are covered with boards recording peals by other societies, such as the Eastern Scholars in 1828, down to more modern times. In many of the later ones a famous ringer and member of the local band, Isaac G. Shade, ringer of 1,450 peals, took part, and in the opening rounds was the grand-daughter of another well-known London and Greenwich ringer, the late Harry Hoskins. The local band of their day was something to be reckoned with.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World,' Nov. 13th, 1914
EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Monday, November 2, 1914, in 3 hours and 37 minutes
At the Bell Tower
A PEAL OF BOB CATERS, 5,040 CHANGES
Tenor 31 cwt.

Frank Jinks	Treble
James Hemming	2
Frederick J. Johnson	3
*Joseph D. Johnson	4
Herbert Jordan	5
Frank Cook	6
Frederick Jordan	7
Henry J. Phipps	8
Harry Middleton	9
William Workman	Tenor

Composed by J. Carter. Conducted by H. Middleton

* First peal on ten bells. First peal in the method by all except the conductor.
[Some 35 years were to elapse before another peal of Bob Caters was rung.]

BEXLEY, KENT.—On Oct. 24th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss J. R. Cox 1, Miss D. M. Ward 2, J. L. Morris 3, Miss M. R. Andrews 4, P. P. Brown 5, D. Beresford (cond.) 6. First quarter of Cambridge for 1, 2, 4 and 5. Rung for Matins.

OBITUARY

MR. ARTHUR A. SAUNDERS

The death occurred on October 14th at Black Notley Hospital of Mr. Arthur A. Saunders, of Greenstead Green, at the age of 77 years. He was well known in the Essex Association, having held the office of Northern District Master for several years before the war. Unfortunately ill-health had prevented him from taking an active part in ringing for several years.

Mr. Saunders' peals number round about 200; no record has been kept, but they include several of London Surprise. He had a reputation as a very good tenor man, one of his greatest achievements being the ringing of Great Waltham's tenor to a peal when the bell was not going too well.

Arthur cycled many miles for ringing and was always willing to help the young recruit. His cheerful outlook, in spite of his handicap, was a lesson to all; his interest in the art never waned, and week by week he read every page of 'The Ringing World,' keeping up to date with all that was going on. Whenever the opportunity presented itself at meetings near his home, he was brought along to sit in a chair and enjoy a pleasant hour or so amongst old friends.

So passes on another respected member of the ringing fraternity. May the ideals he so proudly taught and upheld be carried on by those who follow in his footsteps.

The funeral took place on October 18th at Greenstead Green. Several ringers were present, including Mr. R. C. Heazel (Master, Essex Association), Miss Hilda G. Snowden (Northern District Master), Mr. F. Claydon, Mr. W. Arnold and Mr. H. Sibley. In the evening a quarter peal was rung with the bells half-muffled. H. G. S.

MR. FRANK SLINGSBY

The death occurred on October 22nd of Mr. Frank Slingsby, captain of St. Martin's, Cheriton, Folkestone.

Aged 82, he had been a member of the band since 1902, when he came to Cheriton from his birthplace, Aldington. He was the son of Charles Slingsby, famous as the centenarian ringer ('Ringing World,' January 27th, 1939, page 54).

Frank continued ringing until 1951, when he became almost blind. He was able to resume after a successful operation for the removal of cataracts. A serious illness in 1953 again kept him from ringing and although he recovered sufficiently to walk to service his weakened heart would not allow him to ring.

A complete record of his peals is not available, but he is known to have rung at least 15 during the years 1925-1937, plus many quarter peals and 720's of Grandsire, Plain and Treble Bob.

A band drawn from Cheriton, Folkestone, and Hythe towers rang the half-muffled bells in rounds for the funeral on October 27th. The service, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. E. Robinson), included the ringers' hymn, 'Unchanging God,' and was attended by many parishioners and ringing friends.

Again in the evening fellow worshippers and ringers attended a special service of remembrance after which 1,344 Grandsire Triples were rung half muffled by: B. Heppenstall (Wath-on-Dearne) 1, C. Swan (Hythe) 2, Rosemary Longhurst (Newington) 3, Maisie Vantom (Lydd) 4, W. C. Chandler (Cheriton) 5, G. Pearson (Ashford) 6, J. R. Cooper (Ashford), conductor, 7, J. F. Soles (Cheriton) 8.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung to his memory by a representative band of the Ashford District at Cheriton on October 30th.

MR. HARVEY WATSON

With deep regret we announce the death of Mr. Harvey Watson, of Shouldham, Norfolk, at the age of 72. A member of the Ely Diocesan Association for several years, Mr. Watson was not a peal ringer but was very interested in various methods. He will be missed at the Branch meetings.

At the Branch meeting at Terrington St. John the members stood in silence as a last token of respect to his memory.

At the funeral service Mr. F. C. Price (nephew) was the organist, and Messrs. A. V. Bowen and E. Barker represented the Ely Association. Afterwards a short touch of Bob Minor was rung half-muffled.

In the evening a quarter peal of 1,260 Plain Bob was rung half muffled by the following members of the Ely Association: A. H. Bridges 1, W. W. Cousins 2, C. Cousins 3, A. V. Bowen 4, E. Barker (conductor) 5, Claude Cousins 6. E. B.

MR. HENRY J. MEADS

Ringers of Turner's Hill and neighbourhood have suffered a great loss by the death on Oct. 22nd of Mr. H. J. Meads.

Despite his increasing years—at 89 he was the oldest ringing member of the Northern Division of the Sussex County Association—Mr. Meads was most regular in his service ringing and in attendance for practice.

He made no claim to ringing fame—indeed, for a period of almost 50 years he 'dropped out' of ringing circles, but peal boards at Balcombe and in nearby churches point to his prowess in Minor methods during the latter part of the last century. Of these peals he was particularly proud of two rung in one day for Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887.

When Mr. Meads returned to North Sussex, in retirement, he resumed his bell-ringing activities, and in 1952 rang in his first quarter peal for well over 50 years. It was at this late stage that he commenced 'eight bell' work, and in February of this year was overjoyed to take part in his first quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, thus celebrating his 89th birthday. His ambition, following this, was to score a peal in the method—a wish which, unfortunately, was never fulfilled because of his ill-health.

So passes one whose example in regular service and practice ringing will long be remembered by all who knew him well.

Members from his own and neighbouring towers met on October 30th, and paid their token of respect by ringing, half muffled, a peal of Grandsire Triples. I. B.

Foots Cray

Confirmation as to Foots Cray being the lightest ring of five comes from Mr. C. A. Wratten now serving in Vienna with the Allied Commission for Austria. He comments: 'The bells are by no means a good ring. They have quite a long draught and are rung from the centre of the narrow aisle—the situation when ringing for a wedding may easily be imagined.'

'In addition, the front three bells suffer from "double striking" due, no doubt, to over-heavy clappers. I have always maintained that this is the only ring of five on which it might be possible to ring an eight-bell peal!'

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

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ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Young ringer in Scientific Civil Service will require single accommodation in the Stevenage-Hitchin area from the New Year. Offers of comfortable digs in either town or country district welcomed.—A. R. Agg, Greengarth Hall, Holmbrook, Cumberland. 5329

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Robert H. Begrie is now: Engineer's Flat, Shamrock Villa, Pinewood Hospital, Wokingham, Berks. 5294
The London address of Mr. W. A. Theobald is now c/o 1, Avenue Road, Tottenham, N.15.

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED, set of 8, 10 or 12 handbells, must be in good condition.—Write, stating price and particulars, to V. G. Phillips, 12, Vicarage Lane, Steeple Claydon, Bletchley, Bucks. 5305

A ring of 15 bells wanted for tune ringing.—Apply, Box 5319, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow Street, Woodford. 5319

PUBLICATION

CAN YOU CONDUCT or are you just a bob caller? Study 'On Conducting' by Wilfrid G. Wilson, 1s. post free. From Miss P. J. Ayris, 10, Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester. Oxon.

MISCELLANEOUS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — The rededication of Exford bells, after recasting and rehanging, will take place on Nov. 20th at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Names for tea, by Nov. 15th, without fail, please, to Rev. H. F. Warren, Rectory, Exford, Minehead. 5279

ALL future communications concerning ringing at St. Mary Magdalene's, Holloway, to be addressed to: Miss Doreen A. Deverell, 61, Ashburton Grove, Holloway, N.7. 5295

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Witney and Woodstock Branch desires help for Sunday evening service ringing from any unattached ringer. Details, please contact Miss Lottie Pimm, High Street, Eynsham, Oxford. Phone: Eynsham 222. 5322

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY

The permanent home tower of the Society is now St. Olave's, Hart Street (8). Weekly practices during term, Mondays 6.30-8 p.m., commencing Nov. 15th. Sunday service ringing 5-6 p.m., commencing Nov. 21st. — G. McKay, Hon. Sec. 5334

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

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Morton (6) Saturday, Nov. 13th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Cooper.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — Gateshead, Saturday, Nov. 13th, 3 p.m. 5321

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Hever (6), Nov. 13th. Tea at Henry VIII. Annual dinner, Dec. 11th, Tunbridge Wells. Tickets 10s. Numbers limited; early application with remittance essential.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst. 5244

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Willingham, Saturday, Nov. 13th. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 5305

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting, Nov. 13th, at Sellindge (6). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—W. P. G. 5237

LADIES' GUILD.—Yorkshire District.—Quarterly meeting, Queensbury, Saturday, Nov. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. All welcome. Please bring own tea.—E. Dorice Kelly, Dis. Sec. 5255

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley, on Saturday, Nov. 13th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30, and tea 5.15 p.m. All ladies welcome; gentlemen cordially invited.—Miss J. Haffenden, Hon. Sec. 5267

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting at St. George's, Millom, on Saturday, Nov. 13th. Bells (6) available 2 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 5331

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Lincoln District.—Meeting at Branston (6) on Saturday, Nov. 13th.—C. Brown, 3, Alham Terrace, Lincoln. 5289

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting Saturday, Saturday, Nov. 13th, St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, 3.30-4.30. Own arrangements for tea. Ringing, service and business meeting at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, 6-8.30 p.m.—Bullock, Dis. Sec. 5271

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Westminster on Saturday, Nov. 13th. Ringing only.—St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, 3.30 to 4.30 p.m., and St. Margaret's, 6.45 to 8.30 p.m.—T. J. Lock. 5281

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 13th, at Shiplake (8). Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m.—N. E. Colley. 5272

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Meeting, Litton Cheney, Nov. 13th. Usual arrangements.—Hayne, Abbotsbury, Weymouth. 5269

STOKE POGES, BUCKS.—Surprise practice, Saturday, Nov. 13th. Bells available 6 p.m. All welcome.—F. R. S. 5273

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Stockbridge, Nov. 13th. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5 at the Vine Inn. 5288

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Combined practice at Blethingley (8) on Wednesday, Nov. 17th, from 7.30-9 p.m. 5318

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Saturday, Nov. 20th, St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 4 p.m. Ship, Talbot Court, 6 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 5280

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting at Portishead, Nov. 20th, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 5323

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Meeting, Upton (Birkenhead), Nov. 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea free only for those notifying by 17th.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 5310

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD (North Branch) and **LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD** (Hinckley Branch).—Joint meeting at Coton, Nuneaton, on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton, by Nov. 17th.—J. L. G. H. 5326

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Buckden (5), Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. Service 6 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 5324

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Sible Hedingham, Nov. 20th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Important:—Names for tea to J. H. Brett, 36, Brook Meadow, Sible Hedingham, Halstead, essential. No names, no tea.—H. A. Pratt, Dis. Sec. 5283

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Nomination meeting at Hersham, Saturday, Nov. 20th. 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Church House approx. 5 p.m. Tea notifications by Wednesday, 17th, to J. F. Dodson, 19, Green Lane Avenue, Hersham, Surrey. 5313

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Sedlescombe (6), Saturday, Nov. 20th. Names for tea by Nov. 17th to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 5312

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, North Mymms, Saturday, Nov. 20th, 3 p.m. Bells 8. Service and tea.—S. Huckle, District Sec. 5332

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting, Harrietsham on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names, please, to R. L. Sills, The Square, Wrotham. 5290

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting at Kettering (10) on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to Mr. P. Chapman, 8, Ash Road, Kettering, not later than Wednesday, Nov. 17th. All ringers and friends welcome. 5317

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitefield on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30. Cups of tea at 4.45. Meeting in tower at 5.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 5333

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 3 p.m., Nov. 20th. Cups of tea. 216 bus, Stephenson Square; 218, 219, Portland Street. All welcome.—R. Benson. 5327

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Oadby, Nov. 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—L. W. Allen, Dis. Sec. 5320

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Gosberton, Saturday, Nov. 20th. Usual times. Names for tea, before Nov. 16th, to J. E. Allen, 31, Quadring Road, Donington. 5284

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—The next meeting will be at Saxilby on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Tea for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—Geo. L. C. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 5309

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Meeting, Llanfrehfra, Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting.—J. S. Evans, Branch Sec. 5291

MARSDEN, HUDDERSFIELD.—Ringers' Day, Nov. 20th. Peal of ten 1.30 to 8 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and official welcome 5 p.m. Whist 6.45 p.m. Dance 7.15 p.m. Names for tea (2s. 6d.) to D. B. Cater, 7, Lane Ings, before Nov. 15th, please. (No names, sorry, no tea.) 5306

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—South Ealing, St. Mary's (8), Nov. 20th. Bells from 3 and after tea. Service 4.45.

Tea in Church Hall 5.15, followed by business meeting. The Vicar of Ealing looks forward to meeting you.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec. 5325

MIDLAND COUNTIES' GUILD.—Meeting at Winhill, Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells (6) 3. Tea 5.—J. W. Cotton. 5328

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Meeting, North Creake, Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by business meeting. Numbers for tea to T. Owen, West Street, North Creake, Fakenham, by Nov. 16th.—C. Tovell, Branch Sec. 5330

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Thame, on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. until 8 p.m. All welcome.—H. Badger, Branch Sec. 5314

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Meeting at Preston on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Names for tea, by Tuesday, Nov. 16th, to E. E. Gibson, Estean, Thistleton Road, Market Overton, Rutland. 5270

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD and **WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**—Joint practice meeting between Salisbury and Christchurch Districts, Saturday, Nov. 20th. Fordingbridge bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea, Riverside Cafe, Fordingbridge, 5 p.m. Downton bells (8) 6.30 p.m. Notify A. V. Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth, for tea by Nov. 17th.—Miss Y. Eloie and A. V. Davis, Hon. Secs. 5304

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting at Snaith on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (moderate charge) to all who notify Rev. B. A. Ramsker, The Vicarage, Snaith, on or before Nov. 18th.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 5316

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at Winthorpe (6) on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Bring own food; cups of tea available.—S. L. Barley. 5264

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Keymer, Nov. 20th. Bells (6) 2.30. Names for tea, please, by Nov. 18th to C. W. Linington, 11, Queen's Drive, Hassocks. 5287

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Dinner at Saracen's Head Hotel, Eastgate Street, Gloucester, 7 p.m., Nov. 27th. Tickets 10s. per head. Limited to 50 seats. Apply early, enclosing remittance.—Larner, 37, Green Lane, Hucclecote, Gloucester. 5315

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Kintbury (6), Nov. 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to G. White, 3, Queen's Way, Kintbury, Newbury, by Nov. 24th. 5307

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting, Kislingbury, Saturday, Nov. 27th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea by Nov. 23rd to G. F. Roome, 31, Clare Street, Northampton. 5311

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Quarterly meeting, Barnes, Nov. 27th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5, in Church Hall, Kitson Road, Barnes. Names to Mr. Hollingworth, 146, Kew Road, Richmond, by Nov. 24th. Meeting following. Business includes nominations for district officers, 1955. Richmond bells (8) available 6.30-7.30.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 5302

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Preliminary notice: The Annual Dinner will be held in the Westgate Lodge Hotel, Winchester, on Saturday, Nov. 27th, commencing at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (10s. 6d. each) can be bought from Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. Tel 5525. 5293

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