



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

No. 2405 Vol. LIII.

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1957

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.

6d.

CRITICISM AND THE CRITIC

A NATOLE FRANCE once wrote that the good critic was he who related the adventures of his soul among masterpieces. It is an interesting definition, and one provocative of much profitable thought, but it is clearly not a comprehensive one; for the critic must, on many occasions, harrow his soul by adventuring among many works that are not masterpieces. And this, indeed, must needs be so, for without it there could be no standards of comparison either in a work of art itself or in its presentation to the public.

This may well lead to some thoughts on the function of the critic in the field of the arts, and among the arts we may place the pursuit of change-ringing and its presentation to the listener. In the world of music, books, pictorial art and sport of various kinds, two forms of assessment are possible. The one deals with the work itself and its inherent qualities, and the other notices the manner in which the work is presented to the public. In some, as with books and pictures, the emphasis is on the work itself, and apart from some reference to binding or framing, little attention is paid to the form in which the work appears. In others, such as football or cricket, the attention of the critic is directed to the actual performance rather than to the stereotyped form of the construction of the game. In music and drama both the work itself and its presentation call for important criticism; but here it may be noted, the emphasis may be more on the work if that work be a new composition, but more on the performers if the work is a well established classic.

It may not be unprofitable to trace some parallels and to attempt to apply the above generalisations to the art of bell ringing, and we may well consider first which of the two forms of criticism is the more common in the world of ringing, the method and its composition or the quality of the performance. Throughout the history of change-ringing both have always been of importance, but there would appear to have been periods when the one or the other has occupied a larger place. In the very beginning of change-ringing there was doubtless criticism (even if only self-criticism) of the Plain Changes and their limitations, and an accompanying dissatisfaction that led to a striving for something better. By the time of Annable the standard methods may have been beyond criticism, but it

is clear from the documents of the period that serious notice was taken of the quality of the ringing. The diaries of Hearne, the verses of William Laughton, and the remarks of Annable himself, all point to a searching scrutiny of the standard of the performance and, indeed, of the conduct of the performers themselves.

In the 19th century, we are told, standards of ringing and ringing conduct fell to a low level. How far this is true of the general conditions is not easily defined, but it is clear from the unceasing struggles of certain composers that there was much criticism of compositions and a desire to produce better works of art. In the great renaissance of the '90s and of the first decade of this century, amid that tremendous outburst of theoretical enthusiasm and that overwhelming effluence of methods and compositions, criticism of the finished product of the composer was fierce and uncompromising, and the scrutiny of anything new was intense enough, in many instances, to arouse as much bitterness as ever divided even the ranks of scientists. The application of Double Norwich to nine bells shook the composure of Davies and Carter; James's new Treble Bob hunt for Surfleet Caters shocked the method experts; and even such an apparently small matter as starting a peal of Treble Bob with two Homes (although nobody seemed to give any reason for the baseness of the device!) was sufficiently contentious to force the Central Council to pronounce upon it in print.

In these days we seem, perhaps, to take the works themselves very much as they come, and without much comment. The great classics, both in method construction and composition, like Shakespeare, have ceased to abide our question; compositions appear and we accept them; in some respects, it may be argued, we tend to accept a somewhat lower standard than that of years gone by: but if that is so, the fact is balanced by the high quality and intricacy of so much of the best work of today.

Criticism of the performance and the performers remains strict, and this is as it should be. One recollection may (and should) temper and modify our zeal. The professional critic makes careful distinction between the professional performer, from whom a meticulous performance is required, and the enthusiastic amateur, often a performer of less skill and less polish, but one whose work is a genuine labour of love, and who is offering, in his humbleness and devotion, all his available talent.

E. C. S.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., April 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 25 cwt.

HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. Treble	JOHN A. ACRES .. 7
RICHARD F. PRIME .. 2	*SHIRLEY BURTON .. 8
ERNEST MORRIS .. 3	ALAN JACQUES .. 9
PHYLLIS POOLE .. 4	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 10
VERNON GREEN .. 5	*WILLIAM J. ROOT .. 11
JOHN A. SMITH .. 6	E. CHARLES TURNER .. Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by HERRICK B. BOWLEY.

* 100th peal together.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Frederick E. Willson, a former member of the Leicester Cathedral Society.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary, Redcliffe,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 50 cwt.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER .. Treble	REGINALD G. HOOPER .. 7
JOHN CHILCOTT .. 2	FRANK D. MACK .. 8
TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. 3	ALBERT M. TYLER .. 9
PATRICIA M. BOURN .. 4	EMLYN F. HANCOCK .. 10
DAVID HEIGHTON .. 5	NORMAN H. COOMBS .. 11
FRANK E. HANSFORD .. 6	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD .. Tenor

Composed by DAVID E. PARSONS.

Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

Rung on the 50th anniversary of Mr. F. G. Leaker's first peal of Stedman Cinques.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 51 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5016 BOB MAXIMUS

Tenor 31 cwt. in C sharp.

MRS. PAT LEWINGTON .. Treble	†DAVID A. CORNWALL .. 7
*WILLIAM F. BUTLER .. 2	ANTHONY E. COX .. 8
†WILFRID G. WILSON .. 3	*†RAYMOND G. BURTON .. 9
ARTHUR D. BARKER .. 4	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 10
WILLIAM T. COOK .. 5	WILLIAM HIBBERT .. 11
*FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 6	*WALTER LEE .. Tenor

Composed by WM. H. BARBER.

Non-conducted and silent.

* First peal of Maximus. † First non-conducted peal. † First peal on 12 bells. First non-conducted peal of Maximus for the Guild.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon. Feb. 18, 1957, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

At Bishop Ryder's Church,

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

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

STELLA HUGHES .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 5
*ELIZABETH M. YARDLEY .. 2	JOHN PINFOLD .. 6
EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. 3	FRANK E. HAYNES .. 7
H. DAVID HOLLAND .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Rutland.

WELLINGTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 30, 1957, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

J. EDWARD CAWSE .. Treble	RICHARD J. WARRILLOW .. 5
ANN BARR .. 2	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. 6
FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. 3	EDMUND MALIN .. 7
JOAN BERESFORD .. 4	PETER BERESFORD .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

First peal in the method for the Association and on the bells.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH Treble	L. MICHAEL CALLOW .. 5
*DOROTHY E. BEAMISH .. 2	*GEORGE GARDNER .. 6
JOHN W. T. TAYLOR .. 3	*J. L. GARNER-HAYWARD .. 7
*PERCY STONE .. 4	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by PAUL K. WILLIAMSON.

* First peal in method. First in method as conductor.

STOKE POGES, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. in F sharp.

*MARGARET THOMPSON .. Treble	†JOHN D. KAPE .. 5
FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 2	†ANTHONY E. COX .. 6
†ARTHUR D. BARKER .. 3	WALTER LEE .. 7
†MRS. ARTHUR D. BARKER .. 4	JOHN R. MAYNE .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by ARTHUR D. BARKER.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of London Surprise Major.

† First peal in the method.

STOKE-BY-NAYLAND, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 12 lb. in D.

ERNEST W. BRIGHT .. Treble	TERRY EARLE .. 5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN .. 2	HARRY J. MILLATT .. 6
ALAN R. SYDER .. 3	HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. 7
JOHN A. WARNER .. 4	CECIL W. PIPE .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by HILDA G. SNOWDEN.

First peal on the bells since their augmentation to eight.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 20, 1957, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Killamarsh variation.	Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.
*WILLIAM H. DOWSE .. Treble	ALAN MCFALL .. 5
*FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 2	WILLIAM A. SMITH .. 6
BERNARD GROVES .. 3	DEREK OGDEN .. 7
ROBERT SMITH .. 4	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by MAURICE HODGSON.

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal of Major. First peal in this variation by all the band.

Rung for Easter and as a birthday compliment to Bernard Groves.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5024 LEOMINSTER SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt. in F sharp.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE .. Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
STEPHEN J. IVIN .. 2	RONALD J. SHARP .. 6
DAPHNE R. CASTELL .. 3	DEREK P. JONES .. 7
RALPH BIRD .. 4	JOHN R. MAYNE .. Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN J. IVIN.

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*EVELYN R. M. CANSDALE Treble	*ALLEN W. CANSDALE .. 5
FRANK CLAYDON .. 2	WALTER ARNOLD .. 6
*ROSEMARY SEABROOK .. 3	HARRY J. MILLATT .. 7
*BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD .. 4	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD .. Tenor

Composed by M. HODGSON.

Conducted by HARRY J. MILLATT.

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

Rung in honour of the birthday on Easter Sunday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

**GREAT GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

W. ARTHUR CROWDER .. Treble	GEORGEY PAUL 5
MICHAEL W. CROWDER .. 2	ARTHUR PASHLEY 6
JOHN WALDEN 3	W. ROBERT PARKER 7
GEORGEY R. PARKER .. 4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Frank G. Bloomfield and Gwen I. Rusby, which preceded this peal.

**HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 26 lb. in E.

E. JACK THURLOW Treble	RICHARD F. PRIME 5
RAYMOND PECK 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
JACK PILGRIM 3	PETER S. BEDFORD 7
C. JACK GIBSON 4	JOHN W. BLYTHE Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

First peal of Oxford T.B. Major by all except the ringer of the sixth.

**HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in D.

*DAPHNE R. CASTELL .. Treble	DEREK P. JONES 5
ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 2	PHILIP MEHEW 6
ALFRED E. RUSHTON .. 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN.

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* 50th peal.

**MANSFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 SINGLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 11 lb. in F.

HAROLD DENMAN Treble	*GEORGE CHALLANS 5
GRACE BURCHNALL 2	*ERNEST PRESTON 6
KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. 3	*DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 7
ARNOLD HILL 4	*HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells and for the Guild.

Rung for Easter.

**CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

(Hinckley District.)

On Wed., April 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in E flat.

Dexter's variation.	JOHN VERNON 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. Treble	WILLIAM JOHNSON 6
ALFRED BALLARD 2	MICHAEL VERNON 7
GERALD JOHNSON 3	FRANK K. MEASURES .. Tenor
*NEVILLE PRICE 4	

Conducted by ALFRED BALLARD.

* First peal.

SIX BELL PEALS

**GREAT BARTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

On Wed., April 10, 1957, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Six callings.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 lb.

*JOE PETTITT Treble	*LESLIE N. MELTON 4
ARTHUR W. ROLFE 2	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 5
LEONARD SHARPE 3	HENRY IVINGS Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* First peal of Grandsire. First peal of Doubles as conductor and first as conductor for the Guild.

**PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Thurs., April 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings).

Tenor 10 cwt.

ROSEMARY BRAY Treble	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 4
ROSEMARY JARRETT 2	LESLIE EVANS 5
*RICHARD MOXLEY 3	THOMAS WOOD Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE EVANS.

* First peal.

**BISHAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being one 2,160 (C.C.C. No. 82) and four extents with different callings.

Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. JOHN THOMAS .. Treble	*ROBERT W. COLE 4
*JOHN THOMAS 2	*JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 5
*GERALD C. HEMMING .. 3	GEORGEY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor and first peal of Surprise Minor as conductor.

Rung on the fifth ringer's birthday and to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the above Association.

**CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In three methods, being 1,440 Plain Bob, 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob and 2,160 Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Treble	BERNARD GROVES 4
*WILLIAM H. DOWSE .. 2	ALAN MCFALL 5
ARTHUR HIBBERT 3	ROBERT SMITH Tenor

Conducted by ALAN MCFALL.

* First peal 'inside.' First peal in three methods as conductor.

Rung to welcome the Rev. R. C. Austin, who was inducted Vicar of this parish the previous evening. Also as a welcome to William Arthur, son of Arthur and Frances Hibbert.

**IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 15 methods, being two extents each of St. Osmund Bob, St. Remigius' Bob, St. Hilary Bob, Blackburn Place, Westminster II Bob, three extents each of Place Bob, New Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas', Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, and five extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HARRY KING Treble	ERNEST BISHOP 4
KENNETH G. BROWN .. 2	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 5
LEONARD S. SHARPE .. 3	HENRY IVINGS Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

First peal in 15 methods by all. Most number of Doubles methods rung to a peal for the Guild.



CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance

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JOHN SMITH & SON, Midland Clock Works, DERBY, LTD.

TRYSELL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (four callings).

Tenor 11 cwt. 17 lb.

*†C. R. CHAD COUSSMAKER <i>Treble</i>	†JOHN A. ANDERSON .. 4
†STELLA HUGHES .. 2	PAUL J. RIGBY .. 5
PETER R. SANDERS .. 3	†ROBERT J. WARRILOW .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by STELLA HUGHES.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal of Bob Doubles.
 † First peal of Doubles. The first peal of Bob Doubles on the bells.
 Rung to celebrate the completion of 21 years as people's warden by
 Mr. C. P. Bolland, the 70th birthday of the Vicar, the 23rd birthdays
 of C. R. C. Coussmaker and P. R. Sanders, and the 60th anniversary
 of the rehanging of the bells.

WICKHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT <i>Treble</i>	†A. YORK-BRAMBLE .. 4
†MARION J. PARKER .. 2	*ROBIN G. LEALE .. 5
†KEITH JORDAN .. 3	*ROGER BALDWIN .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

* First in method in Minor on tower-bells. † First of Minor in the
 method. ‡ First peal of Surprise. Robin G. Leale has now rung
 Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 21, 1957, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Kent T.B. and Oxford T.B., and three extents
 of Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt.

ALLEN W. CANSDALE .. <i>Treble</i>	*DONALD L. MILLS .. 4
*MRS. LESLIE MILLS .. 2	LESLIE D. MILLS .. 5
A. EDWARD LEGGETT .. 3	EVELYN R. M. CANSDALE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by DONALD L. MILLS.

* 25th peal together. Allen and Evelyn Cansdale have now 'circled
 the tower.'

Rung for the diamond wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. G. F.
 Clarke, Mr. Clarke having completed 55 years as people's warden at the
 above church.

BURITON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in G.

*ALAN A. J. BUSWELL .. <i>Treble</i>	†E. KEITH JORDAN .. 4
†BETTY DAYSH .. 2	FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. 5
SHIRLEY M. PARSONS .. 3	JOHN H. HUNT .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

* First peal at first attempt. † First peal of Bob Minor.

A compliment to Betty Daysh on the eve of her birthday.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

*JILL CREASY <i>Treble</i>	CHARLES E. G. BANHAM .. 4
WILLIAM M. MANN .. 2	PAUL JONASON .. 5
LEONARD W. KING .. 3	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILFRED G. SAUNDERS.

* First peal (aged 14).

Rung to the glory of God and for the Easter Festival.

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three
 extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

ALBERT I. WALPOLE .. <i>Treble</i>	TREVOR T. J. BAILEY .. 4
STANLEY W. COPLING .. 2	GODFREY G. WALPOLE .. 5
JAMES W. FORDER .. 3	ERNEST LONG .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GODFREY G. WALPOLE.

Rung in honour of the diamond wedding anniversary of Mr. and
 Mrs. David Fenn. Mr. Fenn has been a loyal member of the Norton
 Subcourse company for over 35 years.



ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, STANWICK

This Northamptonshire church has recently had a new treble
 bell added as the result of nine years of effort on the part of
 the ringers and friends, and has now a ring of six. St. Law-
 rence Church has a spire 156 feet high, of an unusual design,
 being based on an octagonal tower which dates from the early
 part of the reign of Henry III.

Stanwick has in the past produced two distinguished men,
 both being sons of rectors. John Dolben, born 1623, became
 Archbishop of York and gave the present pulpit. Richard
 Cumberland, born 1732, was a diplomat and playwright, and is
 buried in the Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey.

A report of the dedication service appears on page 282.

HANDBELL PEAL

ST ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 18, 1957, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT 17, QUEEN STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 14 in D.

GERALD PENNEY .. 1-2	GEOFFREY DODDS .. 5-6
J. DESMOND PAINTER .. 3-4	JOYCE DODDS .. 7-8
*PATRICIA DOORN .. 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by GEOFFREY DODDS.

* First peal of Royal and first peal 'in hand.'

Rung in honour of the visit of H.M. the Queen and Prince Philip,
 Duke of Edinburgh, to St. Albans Abbey on the occasion of the distri-
 bution of the Royal Maundy.

GUILDFORD GUILD HAVE RECORD MEMBERSHIP

DANGER OF SWITCHED OFF LIGHTS

THE annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Guildford last Saturday, attracted a large attendance of ringers. After ringing at Holy Trinity and St. Mary's Church the Guild service was held in St. Nicolas' Church, conducted by the Rev. J. P. Denham, rector of Dunsfold, and singing led by a choir of ringers.

The Rev. T. H. Dart, of Aldershot, said in his sermon that one of the most joyous ways of advertising the Gospel was through the ancient art of bellringing. When they rang their bells they were calling people to church and proclaiming the joy of Christian life. The only people who did not like bells and found them abhorrent were those who could not accept the challenge to come to church and worship. The art of ringing was a corporate one that required considerable personal discipline, restraint and effort; the Christian life also required those same qualities and the life of a servant of God was a life of discipline, restraint and corporate worship.

A tremendous number of Christians never went out of their way to proclaim their faith in the home and business. They must be proud of the message that had been entrusted to them to proclaim—not only with the bells but in their lives.

The Master (Mr. A. Harman) presided at the business meeting, which followed tea in the Congregational Hall.

551 RINGING MEMBERS

The report of the executive committee gave the membership of the Guild as 551 ringing and 101 honorary. So far as can be ascertained, this was an all-time record. The figures showed a very welcome increase from last year, when some serious falling off was apparent, and in view of the competition in their area, it was particularly gratifying to record that the biggest increase in ringing members was in the Leatherhead district. A new band had been formed at Ockley and at Stoke D'Abernon, where a new ring of five was installed last year; there was no lack of recruits. Weybridge and Chobham, which were practically closed shops so far as the Guild was concerned, were now among the strongest supporters of the Guild.

Report for towers and districts showed that the diocesan ringers played their part in the Diocesan Mission Week last April, and in addition to a peal of Doubles at Stoke D'Abernon to mark the week, a number of quarter peals were rung, and ringing took place several times, if not every night in the week, at most of the towers.

Losses by death were Mr. Jim Dodson, Ringing Master of Chertsey District, Mr. Percy Underwood, a loyal member of the Ottershaw band, and Mr. Harry Collis, a ringer at Chobham for over 50 years. Mr. J. Dixey, of Stoke D'Abernon, an honorary member, had also died.

In their memory the meeting stood in silence.

The report recorded thanks to Mr. Harold Pitstow and his Banstead ringers for their excellent performance on the television screen, not the least impressive of which was the wonderfully accurate striking of Stedman Triples which marked their fading out.

GENERAL SECRETARYSHIP

Changes in Guild officers were foreshadowed, as the general secretary, who had served as Guild District secretary from 1929 until 1938 and had since served as Guild secretary, had given the committee notice that this would be his last year of office, and during the year the committee hoped to find a successor.

Presenting the report, Mr. Grover called attention to his retirement, and said he hoped that

whoever was proposed would be prepared to serve for a number of years.

The balance sheet, presented by Mr. L. C. W. Hunter, showed a balance in hand of £56 ls. 10d. There was a balance of £118 14s. 10d. on the Guild Benevolent Fund and £105 ls. 7d. on the New Cathedral Bells Fund.

Mr. A. C. Hazelden submitted the librarian's report, and said they had in their possession the negatives of Mr. E. H. Lewis' technical book on the swinging of bells in towers. They proposed to hand these over to the librarian of the Central Council.

Major E. J. Bragg, the peal recorder, reported that 25 peals had to be rung in 1956. These peals were rung in 16 different towers by 83 different ringers. There were nine first peals. Two outstanding peals were rung—Cobham Surprise Royal at Leatherhead, and Doubles in 24 methods at Stoke D'Abernon. Mr. E. J. Wells headed the list of conductors with nine peals to his credit.

Mr. G. S. Joyce, the badge secretary, said they made a profit of £3 6s. 6d. on the sale of badges last year. A small size badge was introduced last year and 135 were sold. Stocks were in the hands of District secretaries.

Officers elected were president, the Bishop of Guildford; vice-presidents, Rev. O. R. Ackworth, Messrs. G. Marriner and A. H. Winch, additional; Master, Mr. A. Harman; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. L. Grover; assistant hon. secretary, Miss W. Oliver; hon. auditor, Mr. L. C. W. Hunter; peal recorder, Major E. J. Bragg; liaison officer to Surrey Association, Mr. F. Oakshott.

CENTRAL COUNCIL ELECTION

There were nine nominations for the four representatives on the Central Council. Messrs. A. Harman and H. V. Young withdrew. A ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. H. N. Pitstow, W. H. Viggers, G. S. Joyce and A. C. Hazelden. Unsuccessful were Messrs. A. H. Pulling (a member of the Council since 1914), T. Mark White and T. W. White.

Mr. Roy Collins moved on behalf of the Chertsey District that junior members be allowed to vote at District meetings but not allowed to nominate any Guild or District officers. He thought that it would create more interest for them at meetings.

Mr. C. W. Denyer said if the resolution was carried he would propose at the next annual meeting that there be only one subscription for the whole Guild, 2s. 6d., and the junior subscription of 2s. be abolished.

Mr. T. W. White opposed the motion but it was carried by 28 votes to 6, the majority of those present abstaining from voting.

ELECTRICITY IN TOWERS

A motion was submitted from the executive committee calling attention to the control of the electricity supply to ringing rooms and bell chambers by a main switch in the church to the detriment of anyone among the bells or ringing. The motion asked for the matter to be submitted to the Church authorities and the Central Council.

Mr. T. Mark White said the Guildford Diocesan Year Book recommended that all the electrical installation in a church should be controlled by a main switch, and that was the recognised practice, as an installation could not be put in without a main switch. He suggested a notice on the main switch if anyone was in the belfry.

Mr. C. W. Denyer said at Farnham they had met the difficulty by raiding the vergers' store of candles. They had two candles burning in the ringing chamber during practices.

Mr. S. Russell (Ash) said recently they were just going to pull off with learners and ropes when the lights were switched off. He dared not think what would have happened if they were ringing. It would be most difficult if someone was oiling the bells and was left in the dark.

The resolution which was carried read: 'That the responsible electrical or ecclesiastical authority be requested to remedy the dangerous practice of permitting bell chamber, ringing room and staircase lights to be controlled from the main switch. That in cases where such a state of affairs exists the authorities be asked to fix cautions against switching off without due investigation.'

FAULTY CHIMING HAMMERS

Another motion was to warn the Church authorities of the danger to bells occasioned by faulty conditions of chiming hammers.

The Master, who introduced the motion, said he had known of bells being cracked by faulty chiming apparatus. It was decided to call the attention of the Church authorities to the danger.

Mr. C. W. Denyer said he had booked the Stoke Hotel, Guildford, for the annual dinner on October 19th, and he had written to the Bishop of Guildford to take the chair. Last year they had an attendance of 178 and this year they hoped for 200. Messrs. R. Mills, W. Viggers and C. W. Denyer agreed to serve on the dinner committee.

Life membership was bestowed on Mr. A. H. Hutton, of Holy Trinity, Guildford, after 58 years' membership, and congratulations extended to Mr. Sam Petter on his 80th birthday. New members elected were Mr. J. Tait and Mrs. P. Tait (Holy Trinity, Guildford), Rev. E. B. and Mrs. Wood (Leatherhead) and Miss Clare Waterson (Stoke D'Abernon). Miss Pauline Sprackling, Miss Winifred Keys and Mr. Tom Sone were elected compounding members.

A letter of sympathy and wishes for a speedy recovery is to be sent to Mr. R. Lathbury (Walton-on-Thames), who had been in hospital for 12 weeks.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. H. V. Young, to the secretary and assistant secretary for their work, and to those who had provided the excellent tea.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

Beginners Prominent at Basingstoke Meeting

The spring meeting of the Basingstoke District was held at Church Oakley on April 13th, when 50 ringers attended, and some good practice was put in for the beginners who turned up in force. The Guild service was conducted by Canon G. H. Jeudwine and the address given by the Rev. F. S. H. Maule, Rector of Deane. The lesson was read by the hon. secretary of the Branch.

Tea was kindly given by Canon and Mrs. Jeudwine and the Church Oakley ringers, and was much appreciated by all present. New members were elected from Monk Sherborne and Church Oakley.

The Four Guilds Festival has been fixed for September 14th at Basingstoke. After tea, good use was made of both Church Oakley and Deane bells.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDERTON, NORTHANTS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Doubles (720 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 540 Southrepps): Miss P. A. Nee-sham 1, H. E. Curtis 2, J. E. King 3, A. G. Osborne (cond.) 4, K. D. Perkins 5. Also 1,260 Doubles (360 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Old Doubles and 540 Bob): Miss S. E. Tompkins 1, Miss P. A. Nee-sham 2, K. D. Perkins (cond.) 3, H. E. Curtis 4, A. G. Osborne 5. Rung for the Festival of Easter.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Doubles (660 Bob and 600 Grandsire): A. H. Craven (first away from covering bell) 1, Diana M. Gough 2, Pamela R. Gough 3, D. H. Paine 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, R. D. Brown 6.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joan Carter (cond.) 1, Duncan K. Malloch (age 14) 2, Adele J. Bagnall 3, William Harrison 4, A. D. J. Goodwin (14, first quarter) 5, Malcolm R. Gibson (14, first quarter) 6.

BARKING, SUFFOLK.—On March 31st, 1,260 Bob Minor: L. N. Melton 1, P. R. J. Lester 2, Mrs. R. E. Lester 3, A. E. J. Lester 4, G. R. Goodship 5, R. E. Lester (cond.) 6. For Mothering Sunday Evensong. Also on April 7th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Mrs. R. E. Lester 1, A. E. J. Lester 2, H. Mitson 3, W. S. Girling 4, L. A. Lester (Bergh-Apton) 5, R. E. Lester (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

BEDFORD.—On Easter Day, at St. Paul's Church, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: S. Foscett 1, C. E. Jeffries 2, Anne Amor 3, Jennifer Davies 4, P. J. Shipton 5, S. J. Ivin (cond.) 6, J. B. Long 7, R. A. Lennard 8, R. L. Piron 9, D. Thompson 10. For Easter Day, and also a 79th birthday compliment to Donald Thompson.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On April 21st, 1,259 Grandsire Triples: Brenda Foster 1, Mary Andrews 2, Beverley Thompson 3, Judith Cox 4, Susan Nicholson 5, J. L. Morris (cond.) 6, P. P. Brown 7, Jean Jones 8. For Evensong on Easter Sunday.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.—On April 6th, at Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, 1,440 Bob Minor: J. Tumber 1, Mrs. Bridges 2, E. Milsted 3, H. Luck 4, A. Hinkley 5, J. Russell (cond.) 6, W. B. Ridges (first quarter) cover. Rung for the A.G.M. of the Quex Park Society of Change Ringers.

BLETCHELEY, BUCKS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Andrews 1, H. Lear (cond.) 2, A. Daniells 3, F. Stanton 4, A. B. Cordon 5, W. Daniells 6, R. Cadamy 7, E. Smith 8. For evening service.

BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Hayes 1, R. V. Robinson 2, B. R. Millward 3, P. C. Roberts 4, A. Lewis 5, A. G. Watkin 6, D. H. B. Millward (cond.) 7, F. C. Millward (17, first quarter) 8. Rung for the Festival of Easter.

CHENIES, BUCKS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Bob and 780 Grandsire): E. G. Swift (cond.) 1, Mary G. Carnochan 2, M. Swift 3, Donald R. Bartholomew (first 'inside') 4, D. Joseph Goodman 5, B. Edwards 6. Rung to the glory of God and the joy of Easter.

COGENHOE, NORTHANTS.—On April 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. G. F. Roome 1, Miss J. M. Packwood 2, Miss J. Crow 3, Miss J. A. Downing 4, Miss D. M. Miller (first as cond.) 5, Miss N. W. Williams 6. Believed to be the first quarter peal by ladies in the district.

CRANFORD, MIDDx.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Barbara Marchant 1, Barbara Thrush 2, G. Thrush 3, P. J. Woodgyer 4, D. Fowles (cond.) 5, June Richardson 6. First quarter for 1 and 6. Rung for Evensong.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—On April 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Overy (cond.) 1, Mrs. K. Snelling 2, G. Apps 3, H. Lilley 4, J. Jeffery 5, R. Johnson 6, K. Snelling 7, T. Brett 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Rev. H. F. C. Kemp, M.C., Vicar of Cuckfield for 15 years.

CUCKNEY, NOTTS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,320 Norwich Surprise: F. Flint 1, Miss F. Robinson 2, G. Challans 3, R. Lucas 4, D. H. Rooke 5, H. T. Rooke (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

DAMERHAM, HANTS.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss I. Bush (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Mackenzie 2, Miss J. M. Gray 3, J. Bayerstock 4, P. Waterman (cond.) 5, G. Dyer 6. Rung on St. George's Day as a farewell to the ringer of the treble.

ELING, HANTS.—On April 6th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: M. J. Best 1, R. N. Marlow 2, G. Buchanan 3, J. Hartless (cond.) 4, L. F. Cobb (first of Doubles) 5, M. W. Edwards 6. First of Stedman Doubles for all except 1 and 2.

EWELL, SURREY.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Marjorie Hunter 1, H. E. Good 2, G. Pullinger 3, J. Hill (cond.) 4, A. S. Besant 5, C. W. Munday 6, R. C. Spittle 7, G. W. Hill 8. First of Stedman for 1 and 5.

EYNSHAM, OXON.—On April 15th, 1,260 Doubles (120 Union, 180 Stedman, 480 Plain Bob, 360 April Day, 120 Grandsire) (ten callings): Sylvia Hale (first quarter) 1, Joan F. Winterbourne 2, Phyllis Hale 3, C. G. Calcutt (cond.) 4, C. Bennett 5, A. Harris 6. First quarter by all in five methods, except conductor. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. T. W. Bond, ringer and chorister for many years at St. Leonard's, Eynsham.

GREAT BRINGTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—On Easter Sunday, 1,440 Bob Minor: J. H. Williams 1, R. E. Holland 2, S. Webb 3, M. J. Chown 4, S. J. Summers 5, E. G. Orland (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 1 and 2. For morning service.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.—On April 14th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: R. N. Pipe 1, C. R. Lovett 2, C. W. Pipe 3, E. Pearce 4, F. J. Crappall 5, J. Bennett 6, A. Clarke tenor covering. For Evensong.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Cynthia Puttock (first quarter) 1, Mrs. Hunnisett 2, Mr. A. Goldsmith 3, Mr. N. Matthews 4, Mr. E. Breed (cond.) 5, Mr. C. Booth 6. For evening service.

HANSLOPE, BUCKS.—On April 20th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Curtis (first of Major) 1, Miss J. Downing 2, R. V. Baker 3, K. D. Perkins 4, Miss D. Miller 5, R. A. Eldridge 6, A. C. Cozens 7, G. F. Roome (cond.) 8. First quarter of Kent for all the band. A 21st birthday compliment to Mrs. Shirley Cozens.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDx.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss B. C. Webster 1, Mrs. H. G. Hart 2, W. N. Genna 3, Mrs. C. C. Mayne 4, H. G. Hart 5, Miss M. J. Skinner 6, J. R. Mayne (cond.) 7, R. C. Gorrings 8. Rung for Easter and also as a 55th wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gorrings, parents of the tenor ringer.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Penelope Knowles (first quarter) 1, L. Stilwell 2, J. Smart 3, P. H. Langton 4, E. Fosbery 5, I. Windwood 6, D. R. Mitchell (cond.) 7, C. Denyer 8. For Matins. Also 1,264 Bob Major: Jane Langton (first in method) 1, L. Stilwell 2, P. H. Langton (first in method) 3, E. Fosbery 4, S. A. Paice 5, June M. Clements (first as conductor in method) 6, D. R. Mitchell 7, W. L. Weller 8. For Evensong.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise: J. Papworth 1, R. Pye 2, Miss W. Elliott 3, E. Smith 4, C. Burton 5, A. R. Elliott (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

LEWKNOR, OXON.—On March 30th, 1,320 Doubles (St. Martin's, St. Simon's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place, Place Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Grandsire): R. Baker 1, J. Godman 2, F. Godden 3, R. Tuckwell 4, F. Absolom (cond.) 5, W. Fulker 6.

MANGOTSFIELD, BRISTOL.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. B. Jefferies 1, C. E. Jefferies 2, T. Jefferies 3, M. Jefferies 4, J. G. Jefferies (cond.) 5, J. W. Jefferies 6. First quarter ever rung at Mangotsfield by one family. Farewell to the ringer of the third, who is entering H.M. Services.

NEWBURY, BERKS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Davey 1, H. P. Reed 2, Miss M. Williams 3, D. Perkins 4, G. Wiggins 5, F. E. Turner 6, H. Lawrenson (cond.) 7, B. Brooks 8. For Evensong and H.M. the Queen's birthday.

NORTHAMPTON.—On April 23rd, at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, 1,344 Bob Major: Miss N. Williams 1, H. Curtis (first of Major 'inside') 2, A. Osborne (first of Major) 3, Miss J. Downing 4, Miss D. Miller 5, A. C. Cozens 6, K. D. Perkins 7, G. F. Roome (cond.) 8. Rung for St. George's Day.

OLD HEADINGTON, OXFORD.—On March 31st, 1,260 Doubles (four extents each of Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob, 2½ extents Grandsire): Miss A. Mellor 1, R. J. Trebilcock 2, J. Cruickshank 3, Miss V. Naylor (first in three Doubles methods) 4, T. H. Smith (cond.) 5, R. Brown 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to R. J. Trebilcock.

OTTERSLOW, SURREY.—On April 22nd, 1,440 Doubles (480 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Grandsire and Plain Bob): Sally Buchanan 1, Neil Carter 2, Roy Collins 3, Hazel Hancock 4, David Wright (cond.) 5, Jimmy Ribbons 6. Rung for the celebration of Easter, and for the birth of a son (Peter) to the ringer of the tenor, for the Queen's birthday (Sunday) and for St. George's Day (Tuesday).

PAULERSPURY, NORTHANTS.—On April 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss E. Ballard 1, W. Smart 2, K. Sheldon 3, R. Hinton 4, P. W. Foster (cond.) 5, J. Elliott 6. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss M. Kingston, a member of this band.

PINNER, MIDDx.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Elsie Savory 1, Marion Skinner 2, W. N. Genna 3, D. Robinson 4, E. W. Thurlow 5, R. Wilkinson 6, F. W. Goodfellow (cond.) 7, H. Stratford 8. Rung immediately after the wedding at North Harrow of Shirley M. Clayton, a member of the local band, to the Rev. Alan Beck.

RYE, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Jennifer M. Southerden 1, Noreen Winter 2, Rosemary G. Hicks 3, A. J. Hicks (cond.) 4, J. Small 5, M. J. McRobbie 6, D. Hodgson 7, J. Moore 8. (Cover—6 and 7 dodging 8 behind.) Rung for Easter morning service.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On March 10th, at the Cathedral, 1,264 Bob Major: M. D. Frost 1, W. J. Arnold 2, L. T. Hansell 3, G. Blake 4, B. A. Cornell 5, J. E. Ewer 6, G. Penney (cond.) 7, R. F. Ewer 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to B. A. Cornell and G. Penney.

ST. MARY CRAY, KENT.—On Easter Sunday, 720 Minor: S. Hardy 1, G. H. Wheeler 2, R. Beard 3, S. Zobal 4, F. Zobal 5, B. Aldridge (cond.) 6. Rung for 7 a.m. Communion Service. Also 360 Minor: S. Hardy 1, F. Gorrings (cond.) 2, R. Beard 3, S. Zobal 4, F. Zobal 5, B. Aldridge 6.

QUARTER PEALS

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Hook 1, G. King 2, J. H. Edwards 3, A. Hoad 4, A. Smith 5, J. Harris 6, W. H. Hoad (cond.) 7, A. Allcorn 8. For morning service.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Easter Day, 1,440 Bob Minor: Mrs. M. E. Brown 1, Jennifer Stratford 2, Christine Stratford 3, Dorothy Stratford 4, M. E. Brown (cond.) 5, V. T. Cooper 6. For Festival Evensong, by Sunday service band.

SHARDLOW, DERBYSHIRE.—On April 12th, 1,320 Doubles (360 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, 960 Plain Bob): Miss P. J. Kinsey 1, Miss M. M. Grime 2, S. J. Knighton 3, J. E. Collins 4, A. Whiting (first quarter as conductor) 5, J. Footer 6. Rung half-muffled in memorial Henry B. Shardlow, Ringing Master and sidesman at this church for many years, who died on April 12th, 1947.

SHARESHILL, STAFFS.—On April 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. H. Burgess (first quarter) 1, H. Butler, jun., 2, Miss L. Butler 3, M. Mullard 4, J. H. Allen (cond.) 5, M. H. Butler 6. For Palm Sunday. With the exception of the second, all are under 17 years of age—probably the youngest band to ring a quarter on the bells.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On April 21st, 1,260 Bob Royal: A. D. Rivers 1, F. R. Scott 2, E. S. T. Farr 3, B. L. Taylor 4, Miss J. Adamson 5, Miss S. Wickenden 6, A. J. Glass 7, W. F. Butler 8, W. Birmingham 9, J. C. Birt (first of Royal as cond.) 10. First of Royal for 5 and 6. Rung for the Easter Festival and H.M. the Queen's 31st birthday; also as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. Armstrong (two local ringers) on the birth of a daughter on April 19th.

STEVENAGE, HERTS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Swain 1, G. Johnson 2, H. Wittering 3, D. Gullick 4, W. Houghton 5, W. Lawrence (cond.) 6, W. Brown 7, J. Aldous 8. Rung for Evensong.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKS.—On April 23rd, 1,295 Grandsire Caters: W. Cockings 1, J. Price 2, F. Kinchin 3, R. C. Chapman 4, V. B. Hunt 5, L. Hallet 6, C. R. Steed 7, J. L. Garner-Hayward 8, J. L. Findon (cond.) 9, F. C. Lyne 10. Rung on the anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare, as a birthday compliment to V. B. Hunt, who has completed 25 years as captain of the ringers of this church.

STAMFORD HILL, LONDON.—On April 14th, at St. Ann's, 1,260 Stodman Doubles: Miss L. Hawes (first in method) 1, Miss P. Rowe 2, H. Howson 3, B. Bladon (cond.) 4, E. J. Rowe 5, F. Riddenden 6.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—On April 14th, at St. Thomas's Church, 1,264 Bob Major: Jill Tombs 1, J. G. Pusey (first in method) 2, F. V. Nicholls 3, J. N. Lindon 4, R. Cooper 5, A. L. Dunn 6, F. B. Cookson (cond.) 7, P. W. Webb 8. Rung for Evensong.

SWINESHEAD, LINCS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mary J. Morriss (13, first quarter) 1, P. H. Reynolds 2, M. A. Randall 3, T. E. Wilson 4, J. P. Morriss (cond.) 5, C. Stubbley 6. For 7 o'clock Communion.

TWYFORD, BERKS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Smith 1, Miss M. Golson 2, Mrs. J. Sharpe 3, D. Belcham 4, Mrs. H. Smith 5, H. Smith 6, W. Hunt (cond.) 7, A. A. Brown 8. First quarter for 1 and 2.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—On Easter Sunday, at the Cathedral, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: F. Slatford 1, A. J. Sanger 2, S. A. Read 3, G. Francis 4, G. Massey 5, L. Hitchens 6, V. Roberts 7, G. Salmon (first of Caters as conductor) 8, H. J. Sanger 9, D. Hoare 10.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Harding 1, Monica Barrett 2, A. White 3, R. Woodruff (cond.) 4, W. Lee 5. Rung for Holy Communion.

WESTERLEIGH, near BRISTOL.—On Easter Day, for early service, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Clark (first quarter) 1, A. Laurence 2, P. Delany (first quarter) 3, John Ferris 4, H. T. Ferris (cond.) 5, W. Brown (first quarter) 6.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, CO. DURHAM.—On Easter Sunday, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: G. Wright 1, T. Templeman 2, Mrs. W. Maughan 3, M. C. Austin 4, W. Maughan 5, A. Watson 6, H. Short (cond.) 7, J. Clouston 8, K. Lawson 9, T. Clouston 10. Rung for the joy of Easter.

WETHERDEN, SUFFOLK.—On April 14th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Mrs. R. E. Lester 1, A. E. J. Lester 2, P. R. J. Lester 3, H. Mitson 4, D. Brand 5, R. E. Lester (cond.) 6. For Palm Sunday Evensong.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.—On April 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Major: Mrs. A. Crampion 1, M. Austin (first of Surprise) 2, C. Hughes 3, L. Batley 4, J. Boyack 5, C. Willmington 6, E. Smith (cond.) 7, J. Crampion 8.

WOOTTON, NORTHANTS.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss D. Miller 1, Miss J. Downing 2, B. L. Smart 3, G. F. Roome (cond.) 4, A. C. Cozens 5. Rung for the Patronal Festival.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

All communications for publication to:—
The Editor, 'The Ringing World,'
c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.
Tel. Guildford 5028 or 5311.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	7/6	—	—	—
6 months	14/6	£1/6/-	£1/15/6	£2/6/-
12 months	£1/8/-	£2/9/-	£3/10/-	£4/11/-

Remittances to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Cheques payable to 'The Ringing World.'

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Mr. W. Frank Stenson is hoping in connection with Odd Fellows A.M.C. at Margate that ringers living in the vicinity and any Odd Fellows attending will ring for the special Odd Fellows' Service at St. John's Church on Sunday, May 26th, at 3 p.m.

Mr. R. Lathbury, of 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames, has returned home after 12 weeks in hospital.

Easter Day was a happy occasion for the Jefferies family, of Mangotsfield, near Bristol, when the family rang a quarter peal. Family quarters are rare in these days.

Miss Jean Stewart, a Central Council representative of the Irish Association, was knocked down recently by a van whilst going to work and had her right leg badly cut, bruised and swollen. We hope she is now fully recovered.

Probably the most meritorious performance over Easter was the non-conducted and silent peal of Bob Maximus at High Wycombe. The peal enabled Messrs. W. F. Butler, Walter Lee and Frederick R. Scott to have rung peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus.

Mr. George Gilbert sends a correction to the peal of Minor in five methods rung at Hitcham, Bucks, on March 11th (page 228). The 5,040 was composed of an extent each of Kent T.B., Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Oxford T.B., and two extents each of Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

'Irish Bell News' in its spring issue gives a drawing of the Shrine of St. Mura's Bell. This bell, it states, was regarded with superstitious reverence, and any liquid from it was believed to have properties in alleviating human suffering. Peasant women of the district in Co. Donegal, where it was preserved, particularly used it in cases of childbirth. The Shrine is 12th century work.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Frederick Sharpe has fulfilled another visit to York, lecturing to architects and surveyors at the Architectural Institute on bells, bell towers and bell hanging. His lectures were illustrated by 32 bells, two models, 161 display photographs, 88 lantern slides and 15 examples from his collection of founders' marks.

The time for the peal of Grandsire Caters rung at Claines, Worcestershire, on April 6th, was 2 hours 54 minutes, not as printed.

Writes a correspondent: 'Who took the wrong coat on Easter Saturday? One had a "posh" lighter and "posh" cigarettes; the other "Woodbines," but I won't say which. Neither should I tell you he took the wrong coat to Northwich, or you might guess the county.'

The ringers of St. Andrew's, Old Headington, Oxford, are hoping to have their bells restored and augmented, and for the last year or so have given all their ringing fees to the bell fund, and have also paid fines to the fund for various ringing offences. The fund now stands at nearly £100.

A well-struck quarter peal was rung by six ladies of Northampton District at Cogenhoe, Northants, on April 13th. Miss Delia Miller accomplished her first quarter as conductor. This is believed to be the first quarter peal by ladies in this District.

It is interesting to note that Miss Hilda G. Snowden conducted the first peal ever to be rung at Stoke-by-Nayland in February, 1938. This was on the old six reputed to be the heaviest six in Suffolk. The honour of conducting the first peal on the octave was again Miss Snowden's. The old tenor was supposed to weigh 28 cwt.: when taken to Messrs. Taylors' Foundry it was found to only weigh 24 cwt.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

Arrangements for Whitsun

Members will be the guests of the Essex Association to tea on Whit Tuesday. Admittance will be by ticket only, and applications, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, should be made by June 1st to Mr. F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch, Essex.

RINGING TOURS

The following coach tours have been arranged and applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made as soon as possible to Miss H. G. Snowden, 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS

For peals, see 'The Ringing World' of March 1st.

AFFILIATION FEES

The affiliation fees of 12 Societies are still outstanding.
E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary.

RINGING TOURS

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH.—Leaving Headquarters 1 p.m. Ringing at Coggeshall (8), 1.30 to 2.15 p.m.; Colchester St. Peter's (8), 2.45 to 3.30 p.m.; East Bergholt, for a demonstration of ringing on the five bells in the bell-cage, 4 p.m. Tea in the heart of Constable's country, 4.30 p.m., at Flatford Tea Gardens. Stoke-by-Nayland (8), 5.45 to 6.30 p.m.; Halstead (8), 7.45 to 8.30 p.m. Total cost 12s.

MONDAY, JUNE 10TH.—Leaving Headquarters 9.30 a.m. Ringing at Hatfield Broad Oak (8), 10 to 10.45 a.m.; Great Dunmow (8), 11 to 11.45 a.m. Lunch at Swan Hotel, Thaxted, 12.15 p.m. Ringing at Thaxted (8), 1.15 to 2 p.m.; Saffron Walden (12), 2.15 to 3.15 p.m. Visit to Audley End House. Tea at the Cafe, Great Bardfield, 5 p.m. Ringing at Finchingfield (8), 6.15 to 7.15 p.m.; Bocking (8), 7.45 to 8.30 p.m. Total cost 18s.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH.—Brentwood, 7.30 to 9 p.m.; Widford, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH.—Writtle (8), 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Widford (8), 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Great Baddow (8), 2 to 4 p.m.; Galleywood (8), 2 to 4 p.m.; Sandon (6), 2 to 4 p.m.; Danbury (6), 2 to 4 p.m.; Springfield (6), 3 to 5 p.m.; Boreham (8), 3 to 5 p.m.; Broomfield (6), 5 to 7 p.m.; Little Waltham (6), 5 to 7 p.m.; Cathedral (12), 7 to 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH.—Cathedral (12), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Great Waltham (8), 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Great Baddow (8), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Writtle (8), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Danbury (6), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Sandon (6), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Kelvedon (6), 10 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 10TH.—Cathedral (12), 9 to 11 a.m. and 5 to 9 p.m.; Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6), all from 3 to 6 p.m.; Great Dunmow (8), 2 to 4 p.m.; Kelvedon (6) 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Witham (8), 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6), all from 6 to 9 p.m.

GOLDEN WEDDING

North London ringers will extend their congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. F. Barker, 12, Crescent Way, Finchley, N.12, who celebrate their golden wedding on May 8th. Mr. F. Barker has the proud record of having been a service ringer at St. Marys, Finchley, for 52 years.

THE PEAL RINGERS' CALYPSO

(With no apologies to 'The Banana Boat Song')

Now here's the beginning of our Calypso,
About dese eight men and dere peal ringing

[show:
Dey met at de church at a quarter to three
And what happened next you shortly will see.
Deyo, Deyo, calla da bob at Middle and Home.
Deyo, Deyo, calla da bob at Middle and Home.

Dey climbed up de stairs all full of hope,
But when dey got dere dey had to slicea da [rope];
Dey pulled up de bells, the prospects were [bright].
De conductor looked round, 'Everybody all right?'
Deyo, Deyo, etc.

Into changes dey went, de ringing was grand,
At de halfway single the conductor called ['Stand '];
Two bells were crossed the conductor said,
But every other ringer shook his head.
Deyo, Deyo, etc.

He got out de calling, and to his dismay,
Found de bells had been right all of de way;
'I'm sorry my friends, we no ringa da peal,
You're all very angry with me I feel.'
Deyo, Deyo, etc.

Into the local pub they all adjourned.
Liquid refreshment they felt they'd earned.
De conductor was sad, so much so
Dat he caused de drink to freely flow.
Deyo, Deyo, etc.

Closing time came round, de landlord shout:
'Your time is up—you must all get out.'
But dey'd had so much drink dey refused to go
So out all eight he had to throw.
Deyo, Deyo, got thrown out so they had to go home,
Deyo, Deyo, got thrown out so they had to go home.

Now dis is de end of our Calypso,
Of dese eight men and dere peal ringing show.
Dey no getta da peal, but it's a very good way
Of spending the time on a free Saturday.

Deyo, Deyo, calla da bob at Middle and Home,
Deyo, Deyo, calla da bob at Middle and Home.

I. H. and D. H. SHEFFIELD.

A LINCOLNSHIRE WEDDING

One of the foremost lady ringers, Miss Gwen-doline Ida Rusby, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Rusby, of Grimsby, was married on Easter Monday to Mr. Frank Gilbert Bloomfield, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Bloomfield, of Ardleigh, Suffolk. The ceremony, at the Church of St. James, Grimsby, was performed by the Archdeacon of Lindsay (the Ven. E. L. Marsden), president of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild. Mr. Dennis Townhill, Mus. Bac., a ringer, was the organist.

Given away by her father, the bride was attended by her two sisters. Fellow members of the St. James' ringers rang as the couple left the church.

Later a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung to the honour of this happy occasion.

The bells of Christchurch Priory, Hants, will be heard on the West Home Service on Sunday, May 12th, at 7.45 p.m., prior to the evening service. The preacher is Canon R. P. Price, a good friend of Bournemouth ringers.

THE STORY OF HANDBELLS'

Although the performance of handbell music on the concert platform has suffered a pronounced decline in popularity in this country since the turn of the century, there is ample evidence that its popularity in America is rapidly growing. This is shown in an excellent new book which has recently been published by Whittemore Associates Inc., Boston, Mass. The author is Mr. Scott B. Parry, and the book, 'The Story of Handbells,' traces the history and development of handbell ringing in America and elsewhere in lucid detail.

Ringers in England may not generally appreciate that in America there are no less than 140 organised companies of handbell ringers, each with equipments of up to 60 bells. The book rightly credits most of this activity to the remarkable enthusiasm of Dr. A. H. Nichols, and his no less remarkable daughter, Margaret, now Mrs. A. A. Shurcliff. The activities of these two would take a book in itself to describe, and it is to them we should be grateful for developing the interest in bells and ringing now growing so extensively in America. It is fitting that the dedication of the book is to Margaret Shurcliff.

There are many excellent illustrations and the book has chapters on the origins of handbell ringing, history of ringing bands in America, manufacture and care of handbells, change-ringing, how to organise a ringing band, music for handbells, dealing with arrangements of music and methods of notation. There is a directory of ringing bands in the U.S.A., and a useful packet of musical scores is included.

Although the general idea is that ringers enjoy exclusively the right of having handbells rung at their funerals, the book shows that handbells were rung at the burial of Edward the Confessor!

The author concludes his introduction with the hope 'that in some small way, the experience of ringing handbells will contribute to the enhancement of that greater art of which we all aspire to become masters—the art of living.'

Ringers interested in this book may obtain further particulars from A. A. Hughes, Esq., 32, Whitechapel Road, London, E.1. J. F. S.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

East Devon Branch Annual Meeting

About 35 ringers and friends attended the annual meeting of the East Devon Branch, which was held at Sidmouth on Easter Monday.

The service in the Church of St. Giles was conducted by the Rev. Mr. King, who also gave an address.

At the business meeting Mr. G. C. Woodley was re-elected chairman, Mr. F. Parr vice-chairman, Mr. W. Webb secretary and treasurer, Mr. C. Webb vice-secretary and Mr. P. Davis Ringing Master.

Certificates were presented by the president (Prebendary E. V. Cox) to Messrs. Warren, Hooper, Wood and Glanville, of Shute, and to Misses F. Farthing, G. Smith, C. Rowe and Mr. West, of Sidmouth.

It was arranged to hold the next annual meeting at Sidbury on Easter Monday, 1958.

In his report, the secretary said that the Branch had 104 performing members and two honorary members, of which 21 came from Ottery St. Mary band.

The bells of St. Giles' Church were rung before and after the meeting by members of the Guild and others. C. W.

WHOSE RAINCOAT?

After the Kent County Association annual meeting at Sevenoaks a grey raincoat was left in the belfry of Sevenoaks Parish Church. Will the owner please apply to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks?

THREE DEDICATIONS

SAXTHORPE, NORFOLK

Although extra seating had been provided wherever possible, it was still a case of 'standing only' for some of the large congregation at St. Andrew's Church, Saxthorpe, on the evening of Sunday, April 7th. The occasion was the naming, blessing and dedication of a new ring of six bells by the Lord Bishop of Norwich at a service conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. B. Chandler.

During the singing of the second hymn a procession, composed of the verger, churchwardens, the Vicar and the Lord Bishop, moved down the church to the ringing chamber, where the ringers stood ready by the ropes. As each bell in turn was named and blessed it was sounded, and at the conclusion of the blessing an extempore, with tenor covering, of Grandsire Doubles, was rung. The procession then moved back down the aisle.

The bells have been provided from a legacy under the will of the late Mr. James Pinchen, and in his address the Bishop said that bequests by will for the churches and their furnishings were not so frequent as they used to be generations ago. He expressed his pleasure that members of the benefactor's family were taking part in the service, and said that it would be good if Mr. Pinchen's example inspired others to do the same. After commenting on the tone of the bells, the Bishop went on to say that it was not often nowadays that a whole new set of bells was provided in a church, and that there they had the distinction of a particular ring, a much lighter ring of all the many, many bells in the county.

After the service the bells were made available for the many ringers present, amongst whom were the president, general secretary and Ringing Master of the Association. Grateful thanks are due to the Vicar, who very kindly provided refreshments.

The new bells are a very light ring of six (tenor 3 cwt. in E) and were cast and hung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. They were named as follows:—

Treble: St. John Baptist.

Second: Our Lady.

Third: St. Peter.

Fourth: St. Andrew.

Fifth: James Pinchen.

Tenor: The Vicar and Churchwardens for the time being. G. S.

STANWICK, NORTHANTS

The Church of St. Lawrence, Stanwick, Northants, now has a ring of six bells, a new treble having been recently added. On the day the bell arrived from Loughborough it was solemnly washed and anointed, and given the name of St. Denys. On Palm Sunday it was dedicated by the Rector (Rev. D. A. W. Brown). After the dedication rounds were rung.

Into the making of this bell went the two bells from the disused and partially dismantled church of Faxton, near Market Harborough, and this fact is recorded in the inscription on the new bell, which reads: 'St. Denys (patron of Faxton); 1703: Henry Penn for Faxton made me two, 1957: John Taylor for Stanwick made me one.'

Also in this tower is a bell of great antiquity, inscribed 'Simon de Nazfelde made me 1361.' This bell is hung dead and is sounded at the Consecration at Holy Communion.

It is hoped that the bells will be available to visiting ringers on Saturday, June 1st, when the annual meeting of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild is to be held at nearby Rushden.

E. E. W.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX

Over 100 ringers attended the dedication of the newly recast and rehung eight at Halstead on April 6th. The church was nearly filled to capacity for the very beautiful service, during which the Lord Bishop of Colchester performed the act of dedication. The Rev. A. W. Swallow conducted the service, and other robed clergy attending were the Rev. Mr. Bailey, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Halstead, and the Rev. G. M. Lister, Rector of St. Peter's, Sible Hedingham. The lesson was read by Mr. R. C. Heazel, Master of the Essex Association.

The opening rounds were rung by the local band, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Moore, and the opening touch, 272 of Double Norwich, was rung by Hilda M. Snowden 1, F. Claydon 2, C. Snowden 3, L. W. Wiffen 4, J. Warner 5, T. Earle 6, W. Arnold 7, Hilda G. Snowden (conductor) 8.

Amongst those attending the service and tea was the Rt. Hon. R. A. Butler, M.P., who was president of the Fund, and Mr. Paul Taylor and Mr. A. Fidler, from the Loughborough Foundry. The 'highlight' at tea was the playing over a tape recording of the old ring followed by one of the new. This left no doubt in anyone's mind as to the great improvement that the bellfounders had achieved. Seven of the old bells have been recast, leaving only one old pre-Reformation bell, which has been tuned most successfully. The new octave is very pleasing to the ear and delightful to ring. All the old inscriptions have been reproduced on the new bells, and the treble bell bears the name of Emma Barron and the trustees, from which trust a most generous donation was given towards the cost of this restoration. Ringing was kept up all the evening until 9 o'clock, and Halstead now has a ring of bells worthy of the beautiful church and tower in which it is hung. The new tenor weighs 15 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in the key of F.

Miss Hilda G. Snowden desires to thank numerous ringers who have sent kind messages of thanks for the enjoyable time at the dedication. Miss Snowden feels that the Halstead restoration is one of personal achievement in her ringing career, and the help given by so many ringing friends will never be forgotten. The hard work entailed in raising the money has been more than compensated by the splendid result achieved. Ringers who have not yet heard the new ring are welcome at any time. Practice night is Monday at 7.30; ringing Sundays, 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on April 14th, 1.260 Stedman Triples: A. Diserens (cond.) 1, J. Harmsworth (first of Stedman Triples) 2, R. W. Rex 3, Mrs. A. Diserens 4, K. Cotterell 5, W. Newton 6, R. Begrie 7, V. Cherrill 8.

ANOTHER PROTEST TO THE B.B.C.

Following upon Mrs. Ruth Miller's protest to the B.B.C. of commentaries whilst bells for service are being rung, Mr. W. Frank Stenson, of Crewe, has, on behalf of himself and many members of the Chester Diocesan Guild, made a personal complaint to the Director of Religious Broadcasting, B.B.C.

His letter of protest reads:—

'Dear Sir,—I have been requested by many members of the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers to follow up the letter of protest to you from Mrs. Ruth Miller, of Kirklington, Newark, Notts.

'Mrs. Miller wrote: "I feel that I must write and complain about your everlasting commentaries whilst bells for service are being rung; an outstanding example of this took place on television from St. Giles', Northampton"; etc.

'This universal practice is not only not very complimentary, either to the B.B.C. or the ringing fraternity, and is very exasperating to the latter.

'I have known many cases where not more than three "whole pulls," that is, "hand and back strokes," have been rung, then the bells faded out.

'Change-ringing is a very ancient and honourable "Art and Exercise," and, moreover, a distinct part of the service itself.

'It is practised by some 76 Diocesan and County Guilds and Associations in the British Isles, in some 6,000 churches, by some 45,000 ringers, and worthy of better consideration, especially by the B.B.C.'

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD

A successful and well-attended quarterly meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Handsworth Parish Church on April 6th.

Since the previous meeting the Guild had sustained the loss of two members, both of whom, in different ways, had served the Guild for many years. Frank Bertram Yates, whose interest in ringing was maintained until long after failing health compelled him to cease active ringing, was the donor of the trebles of the ring of ten at King's Norton, and also of the trebles of the 12 at the Cathedral. Arthur Morris, of Shirley, in a very quiet, unassuming way, had been Ringing Master at Shirley for the greater part of his life, and many young ringers owe their introduction to ringing to Arthur's painstaking tuition.

Anthony E. Plows, of Little Aston, was elected a full ringing member of the Guild, and the tower elections of the following life members were duly ratified: Robin G. Leale (Surbiton), Miss Vivienne M. Horton (Duffield), A. Frank Udall (Chelsea) and Kenneth W. Knowles (Wednesbury).

For the place of next meeting Erdington and Edgbaston were both proposed, but upon being put to the vote, Edgbaston obtained the majority.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Miss Diana Perrins and the Handsworth ringers, for preparing tea.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOUTH AFRICA'S WELCOME

Dear Sir,—In 'The Ringing World' for March 29th there appears a letter from Mr. Perrens, expressing his appreciation of the welcome he received from the ringers of South Africa. My husband and I have recently returned from a visit to Africa, and unfortunately just missed meeting Mr. Perrens, but I should like to endorse most heartily his comments on the cordial hospitality which awaits ringers visiting either Cape Town or Durban.

Separated as these two cities are by a distance of some 800 miles, and with no other ringable bells within literally thousands of miles, the task of maintaining the interest of a band and of making progress can be no easy one, and must at times be disheartening. Yet the task is being tackled bravely, and both bands are to be congratulated on their tenacity; and it is grand to see that Cape Town ringers have succeeded in capturing the elusive quarter peal of Winchendon Place Bob Doubles. An example of keenness was shown by one of the Durban ringers, who hitch-hiked over 50 miles to take part in the ringing there on the Sunday we should have arrived—alas, our boat was a day late, so that we did not meet this enthusiast, but we wish him good luck in his ringing.

Our personal thanks are due to all those who went out of their way to welcome us and to perform acts of kindness; in particular to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Chambers at Durban, and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Sheppard and Mr. J. Wood and his sisters at Cape Town, for their hospitality.

Lastly, a message to any who may be travelling round South Africa and stopping at these ports, for however short a time. They can be sure of a warm welcome, and there is no need to be shy about inviting themselves to ring with the local bands. A visiting ringer is made a friend at once, and nothing is too much trouble, even to the changing of practice night to suit the expected date of arrival, and perhaps another change at short notice if the boat is early or late. I feel that any such visitor would be missing a treat himself, and also denying his fellow ringers in Africa the real pleasure of entertaining him, if he did not contact them with a view to visiting the ringing chamber while in port.—Yours truly,

M. M. GODLEY.

Yetminster, Dorset.

HONEYMOON THANKS

Dear Sir,—Sincere thanks are due to Mr. E. A. Stafford, of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Mary, Glasgow, for arranging a handbell practice, which was surely an excellent way of soothing one's wedding eve nerves. Touches of Grandsire Triples and courses of Kent T.B. Major and Stedman Triples were attempted but proved too difficult for the visitor; a well-struck touch of Bob Major, however, was brought round.

At Edinburgh, too, on the following Sunday (there were two of us by this time!) we were warmly welcomed. Bob Major and Grandsire Triples at St. Cuthbert's for morning service, and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor for Evening at St. Mary's added touches of delight to a wonderful weekend in that fine city.

We would like, through the medium of 'The Ringing World' to thank all concerned, and trust that we did not leave any conspicuous pieces of confetti on the floors.—Yours sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. K. L. BROWN.

Blofield, Norfolk.

LIVERPOOL TENOR

Dear Sir,—Readers who are interested in the correspondence relating to the 'turning in' of an 82 cwt. tenor, of Liverpool Cathedral, may care to know that this bell has been rung to Major on a number of occasions. On one occasion the exigence of the day required the back six being rung; no difficulty was experienced. May a word of appreciation here be offered to the two ladies who have taken part in the skilful though not laborious Major exertions on these bells?

Interest was aroused on our last 'open day' by one who was capable of handling first the ninth (without any instruction such as 'Keep your back straight and your knees supple,' and 'Put the least possible effort into the longest possible distance') and later the tenor, in masterly fashion. The number of ringers who can handle these bells without instruction, up to date—apart from the expert bands who showed how on the opening day—could be numbered on both hands.

Perhaps those correspondents who 'tore into' the College procedure and its aims will ponder these things. Knowing nothing of the College other than from 'R.W.' articles, I thought the 'gen' excellent, though the description too wordy; the closing down, a tragedy.—Yours very faithfully,

E. L. HUMPHRISS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

WALPURGIS NIGHT

Last Tuesday was Walpurgis Night! According to James R. Lawson, carillon-neur to the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, Chicago, on the eve of May Day it was once customary for all the bells in Christendom to be rung all night for the purpose of scouring out witches in the air—witches being particularly bad on Walpurgis Night.

An appropriate chime concert was given at the Mitchell Tower that evening.

A 4-BELL TOWER IN HEREFORDSHIRE

Dear Sir,—Looking through the list of 4-bell towers published in 'The Ringing World' some time ago, I did not see the village of Clehonger, Herefordshire, included in the list.

There is a ring of four bells in this tower, which I was given to understand is ringable, through meeting during the war the Vicar of Clehonger (Rev. W. Gait) who was serving on No. 57 hospital ship in the Middle East, where I was a member of the ship's medical staff serving with the R.A.M.C. Mr. Gait served in both wars—as a soldier in 1914 and as a chaplain in the 1939-45 war. We had many pleasant chats about old churches and bells. He told me the ring of four at Clehonger was able to be rung in peal and that there was a band who rang there on Sundays. Perhaps some member of the Exercise in the Diocese of Hereford could confirm this.—Yours sincerely,

T. TAYLOR.

Gravesend, Kent.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—H. G. S. 5s., H. Gorton 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Ellersley 4s., Aston 5s.

Quarter Peals.—Quex Park 2s., Paulerspury 2s. 6d., Shardlow 2s. 6d., Stourbridge 2s., Mangotsfield 3s., Hailsham 2s., Damerham 5s., Buckley 2s. 6d., Stratford-on-Avon 5s., Chenies 3s., Bletchley 2s.

WHAT IS A VARIATION?

Dear Sir,—The following peal of Mr. J. W. Parker has led to several questions in my mind which your readers may be able to answer.

5,152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
23456 1 4 6

34256	—	—	—
54236	—	3	(SBB)
63254	—	S	3
53264	S	3	—
36254	—	3	—
65234	—	—	—
35264	S	3	—
56234	—	—	—
43256	—	S	3
23546	—	2	—

Repeat.

It seems to me that there is an idea used by the composer in producing this peal, namely, that he has put the 2nd into 4th place, so that calls at one and singles at four do not affect it, hence it never gets into 5-6. Using this idea I recently put together another peal. It may have been produced before, but that does not concern this discussion.

5,040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
23456 1 4 6

34256	—	—	—
42536	—	S	—
64235	—	S	—
43265	—	3	—
63245	S	3	—
34265	—	3	—
46235	—	—	—
23645	S	2	—

Repeat twice.

There is some variation in the use of singles at six to make up the 15 courses necessary for one part of a 3-part 5,040, but nevertheless, it is based on the idea suggested by J. W. Parker's peal. Now, is this a variation? It certainly would not have occurred to me without first seeing the 5,152.

This does lead to a much wider field of thought. Often published is a peal of Cambridge Major known as Johnson's Variation. Surely this is Middleton's well-known peal started with two homes before the first middle. Can I therefore write out the peal with one home before the first middle and call it Hill's Variation? This is obviously ridiculous, for it would follow that every peal would have as many variations as there are calls in it. So why Johnson's Variation?

Some months ago, both Mr. Denis Layton and Mr. Harry Poyner were reprimanded by your readers for claiming peals as their own, which were far less obvious variations of previously produced peals than the Middleton/Johnson case.

Why, then, have one set of rules for them and yet continue to publish peals as Johnson's Variation?

Perhaps some of your readers would comment on this question, and give some definition of variation.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN HILL.

Ewell, Surrey.

NOT TRUE TO YORKSHIRE

Dear Sir.—Owing to a mistake in the arrangement of the peals of Superlative published in the first edition of the 'Ringers' Magazine,' the footnote 'All true to Yorkshire' is incorrect.

Would all those possessing a copy of the magazine please note that the first peal of Superlative given is *not* true to Yorkshire.

I am extremely sorry that this error has occurred.—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM BUTLER.

Windsor.

RINGING IN ENGLAND 80 YEARS AGO

Extracts from 'Church Bells,' 1875-76

(Continued from page 268)

'CAMPANOLOGY'

The Editor had shown a dislike for the word Campanology. This brought a letter from J. E. Hern, of Hurworth-on-Tees. He put in a plea for the word, saying that campana was Latin for bell, towers containing bells were campaniles, that from the introduction of half-pull changes such ringers were called campanists of campanologists, and that we had a number of 'Campanologias'—Clavis, Shipway's, Hubbard's and Sottanstell's. The Editor added:—

['We object to the word Campanology because it is a mongrel word, composed of Greek and Latin. All other ologies are composed of two Greek words. We might as well say Bellology or call florists Florologists. If bell work is to be an ology it should be Kodonology, composed of two Greek words. Far better to drop it altogether and speak plain English, without modern affectation. It is possible that Mr. Ellacombe and other writers were led away by a vulgar error, not thinking about it; but now they see it is a mongrel word, and naturally prefer plain English.—Ed.']

A correspondent, J. F. T., puts in another plea for Campanology, and pointing out that 'Mineralogy' was used by Sir Thomas Browne, a classical writer, and that there was more to be said for Campanology than Mineralogy. The Editor added:—

['Going through all the OLOGIES from archæology to zoology, we believe campanology and mineralogy are the only two mongrels in use; so that they are in a minority; and we might as well say bellology. But we shall do no such thing, preferring the use of plain English, leaving others do as they please.—Ed.']

DEADENING OF SOUND IN THE BELFRY

A correspondent, 'Brontauwr,' asked how one could deal with this problem where there was not room for an intermediate chamber. The Editor replied that he wondered how anyone could be found to touch a rope in such a position and suggested ringing from the pavement, 'in ecclesiæ conspectu.'

But 'W. Wigram' replied: 'It is not always possible to bring the ropes down to the ground . . . The noise of the bells may be subdued by covering the floor of the belfry itself with a few inches deep of sawdust, or of well-kneaded clay. Of course, all cracks between the floorboards must be effectually closed, or dust will run down, and light boards should be laid upon the sawdust and fastened down so as to keep all tidy.'

The Editor added that other correspondents had offered the same advice—the only alternative to ringing from the pavement.

BELL-RINGING NUISANCE, AT BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE

By the Editor:—

['On Monday and Tuesday, 5th and 6th ult. (i.e., June, '76), the inhabitants of Blackburn were annoyed by a ringing contest on the parish church bells; music and faults being dinned into their ears from early morn till night by a succession of change-ringing. . . . As usual, we suppose the publicans had the best prize. No mention being made in the local papers of the sanction of the Vicar and the churchwardens, we trust they had no voice in this desecration of the goods of the church intrusted to them for other purposes. We advise the respectable inhabitants who feel aggrieved by such proceedings to support the parochial authorities by memorialising them not to allow a recurrence of such a gathering in future. They

We are indebted to Supt. Claude Rush, of Eye, for the following extracts from 'Church Bells.' Although this weekly periodical only devoted a part of a page to bells and ringers, much of the material is of interest even today. Contributors included Jasper W. Snowdon and C. A. W. Troyte.

will have the thanks of hundreds of ringers and some of the best in the kingdom. Such prize-rings lower the respectability of the ringer and the noble science of change-ringing in the estimation of the public, and therefore we raise our voice against it.—Ed.]

By the Editor:—

['We have been favoured with a strong protest against our article on the bell-ringing contest at Blackburn . . . We cannot alter our principles, holding all such contests in detestation, as useless and wasteful of money; considering, too, as we do, that the bells of our churches, being dedicated to the honour of Almighty God, were not set up for such unholy uses, which have nothing to do with the services of the Church. If there be many who delight in such prize-ringing, let rings of bells be specially provided; and the towers of new Town Halls might be utilised for civil purposes, and then the bells in our churches will be spared from what we consider a desecration.—Ed.']

GONG OR HANDBELL CONNEXIONS WITH DUMB TOWER-BELLS

'Sir,—The necessity for constant practices on church bells is well known to persons engaged in teaching change-ringing; and so also is the excessive nuisance of such practices to persons living in the immediate neighbourhood of church towers, and especially those who, under any circumstances, are not fond of bells. For several years, therefore, I have, with the assistance of several practical friends, been trying to work out some plan by which tower-bells may, with their clappers lashed, be made to produce a sound in the ringing chamber which should not be heard outside the tower.

'I am happy to be able to say that this has now been successfully accomplished by Mr. Seage, of 17, Coddington Street, St. Sidwell's, Exeter; and I beg most strongly to recommend the adoption of his plan—a very simple one—to all persons interested in the matter. A description of the arrangement will be out of place here; but I may state that a pin is attached to the stay, so arranged as to strike an eccentric fitted to the framework of the bell-cage. This eccentric is in connection with a crank, and the crank, by a wire, with a gong or handbell in the ringing chamber; and thus, with clappers lashed, any amount of rough practice may be carried on in the tower, and no annoyance occasioned in the neighbourhood, the ringers the while having the advantage of the exercise and a great part of the music of ringing with open clappers.

'Mr. Seage will supply the gear complete for his arrangement for 15/- a bell. An ordinary set of handbells can be used or gongs permanently fixed in the tower. Eight such gongs can be obtained for about £1 and fittings would not be likely to exceed 5/- a bell. This, however, depends entirely on the tower in which the appliance is fixed.—Charles A. W. Troyte, Huntsham Court, Bampton, Devon. July 13th, 1876.'

STRIKE OF BELLRINGERS AT DUNMOW (ESSEX)

'The bellringers at the parish church, Great Dunmow, refused to discharge their usual duties on Sunday last, because the Vicar had

prohibited them from ringing a joyous peal on the previous Monday, in honour of the presentation of the "Dunmow Fitch" to Mr. and Mrs. Boosey, of Ventnor. The Vicar, however, has succeeded in obtaining substitutes, so that the bells will not remain mute.—Standard.'

CANTERBURY BELLS AND RINGERS

'Sir,—Seeing in your issue of July 29th a copy of the tablets in the belfry of Canterbury Cathedral, I am most happy to say that the peals recorded are well worthy of the men who performed them; but it may excite some surprise among your readers on seeing that no peal has been rung since 1827. Now the fact of the case is that the men who now have charge of the belfry are nothing but miserable bell-pullers, who scramble through set-changes only. It is a great pity that such a miserable state of things should exist in such a fine and noble cathedral, possessing so fine a ring of ten bells. May I suggest that some London ringing society would do well to make an excursion to Canterbury, as I am sure that the inhabitants would be highly gratified by hearing some good and scientific change-ringing, the Dean's permission being first obtained.—ONE INTERESTED IN CHURCH BELLS.'

THE USE AND ABUSE OF CHURCH BELLS

'Sir,—May I ask you to draw the attention of ringers to this subject. No doubt there is a line to be drawn, but the thing is—where? Church bells are, in my humble opinion, Church property, for the sole use of the Church's days of rejoicing or otherwise. When we see them perverted to all sorts of abuses, I think Churchmen should speak out. We have a fine ring of ten in our old church tower. I know you do not hold with Sunday ringing, but well do I remember the exquisite pleasure I used to feel on the Sunday morning, when our noble bells were rung for half-an-hour before the usual chiming for Divine Service (for which purpose a former vicar's wife had bequeathed some money—a real lover of church bells was she: all honour to her beloved memory!). Now we have a vicar who has done away with all this. The bells are silenced, except on practice nights or wedding days, when ringing for money is all that is thought worthy of musical instruments dedicated by our fathers to the glory of God.

'But on the 23rd was Kingston Regatta—against which I have not a word to say—far from it. But now is the time for the flag to be hoisted on the church tower, and the bells to send out their most joyous notes as though they were "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God!" How different in a neighbouring parish (Richmond) where the Church's year and festivals are observed in a proper manner! The bells are there used to call to a hearty service of prayer and praise, and the red-cross flag is hoisted and the people know that a real work is going on to the praise and glory of God.

'I was delighted that the Vicar of Great Dunmow used his authority in refusing to allow his church bells for a stupid ceremony lately in his parish. All honour to such clergymen, I say. Would that there were more of them! . . . H. E. J., Kingston-on-Thames.'

A HINT TO STEEPLE-KEEPERS

'Sir,—Perhaps it would not be out of the way to suggest the following to those with whom the responsibility rests for keeping the bell-frame, cage, stocks, wheels, etc., in good working order. It is essential that, after a long, dry time, when the woodwork shrinks, and consequently the screws, bolts, etc., get loose, that they should be looked to by an experienced person, as the going of new or recently-hung bells depends upon their being kept screwed up tight. If neglected, and the stock should

Ringling 80 Years Ago—Cont.

get a little loose, the bells go bad, and are not ringable for good striking and change-ringing. Hence the reason of bells that go well for a time after the bell-hanger has finished them, but do not keep long in good ringing order. It is of great importance that they should be screwed regularly or evenly, as by screwing one side tight before you commence the other, you cannot get them level, but draw them athwart. —A. D. S. K. (A Devonshire Steeple-keeper). 'Young Cumberland,' in a long contribution entitled 'The New Bells for St. Paul's, and Bell-hanging,' says: '... Curiously to say, that where a light ring of eight are crammed into a small tower they generally "go" well. . . .'

(To be continued)

EBBW VALE WEDDING

The wedding took place at Christ Church, Ebbw Vale, on Easter Monday of Mr. Denzil Bruton, younger son of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Bruton, and Miss Audrey Stephens, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Stephens. Both are faithful members and ringers at the church. The Rural Dean (Rev. Oliver Davies, B.A.) officiated, and the organist was Mr. W. J. R. Davies, A.R.C.O.

The bride, who was given away by her father, the Master of the ringers, was attired in a dress of ivory brocade, with a shoulder veil held in place by a coronet of lilies-of-the-valley. She carried a bouquet of pale pink carnations, lilies-of-the-valley and maidenhair fern.

She was attended by her sister Barbara and cousin Jennifer, who are both ringers. They wore turquoise brocade dresses with head-dresses and mittens of the same colour, and carried posies of freesias and maidenhair fern.

The best man was Mr. Lawrence Ennis, and the ushers were Mr. Tom Williams (uncle) and Mr. John Woodward (church friend and ringer). The reception was held in the Church Hall, and as the couple left the church the bells were rung by the local band.

Almost 80 guests sat down to breakfast. The company included 14 of the tower ringers. The honeymoon is being spent in the Lake District.

The numerous and lovely gifts included a barometer from the Christ Church ringers and a book rack from the ringers of St. Matthew's, Widcombe, Bath, where the bride had rung while in college.

The peal attempt made on Easter Tuesday was unfortunately not successful.

BELL DISAPPEARS FROM IPSWICH TOWER

Ipswich is concerned regarding the date the third bell disappeared from St. Mary Stoke Church, Ipswich. According to the 'Evening Star,' the controversy began at the annual parochial church meeting recently, when the Vicar (Rev. C. H. B. Ridler) said that the third bell—the largest, weighing half a ton—had been lost since 1887.

But a local historian, writing to this newspaper, disputed it. He pointed out that in 'County Churches of Suffolk' (Vol. 2), by Mr. Hugh Bryant, published in 1912, it is mentioned that the church had three bells.

'On many occasions I have personally visited churches all over Suffolk and checked up on the number of bells as given by the author referred to, and in every single case he has been correct,' commented the historian.

THERE IN 1915?

Backing for his suggestion that the third bell disappeared later than 1887 came from a former vicar of St. Mary Stoke, Canon A. L. Woodard, who now holds the benefice of St. Andrew-the-Great, Cambridge.

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' OUTING

For their second outing of the year, the grammar schools ringers chose the Diss district. The party assembled with bicycles at Diss on April 24th, and members were present from Newmarket, Pakenham, Barking (Suffolk), Mulbarton, Walberswick, Bungay and Beccles.

The first tower was Rickingham (6, 10 cwt.), where various Minor and Doubles methods were rung before moving on to Hinderclay (6, 10 cwt.). These are a pleasant Taylor six and were thoroughly enjoyed. Hepworth bells (5, 7 cwt.) were a contrast, both tone and 'go' being bad, and it was some time before anyone dared raise the fourth because of its 'feel.' After a short ring, the bells were lowered.

A picnic lunch preceded ringing at Hopton (6, 13 cwt.). The sally on the tenor rope here was found to be of fantastically large dimensions, and ringing was unfortunately curtailed owing to a broken rope.

Blo Norton bells (8 cwt.) were found to be a very fast going six and a pleasure to ring, and Garboldisham's (6, 12 cwt.) are ponderous-sounding bells, and after many futile attempts a touch of College Single Reverse was brought round, to the sheer delight of our Newmarket colleague.

At Thelnetham (5, 9 cwt.) we learned that the bells had not been rung for some years and were supposedly unringable, but they proved to be a fair-going and pleasant-sounding five, although the fourth is cracked. The rector watched the ringing, which was a completely new experience for him.

After a short delay in obtaining the key, ringing commenced at Redgrave (6, 10 cwt.), where it was agreed that here were the best bells of the day. After a hasty tea we proceeded to Palgrave (8, 7 cwt.), where we were joined by Mr. Harry Moss, who added to the quality of the ringing. After the party dispersed, a few rang at Bungay (8, 16 cwt.) en route for Beccles.

The day's ringing consisted of: St. Osmund, St. Martin's, St. Simon's, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent, Spliced Kent and Oxford, College Single Reverse, St. Clement's and Little Bob Minor, Bob Triples and Bob Major.

The thanks of the party are accorded to the organisers, Mr. Leslie Melton, for a most memorable and enjoyable day; also to the clergy for the use of the bells. Total mileage for the Becclesians was approximately 80.

T. N. J. B.

OBITUARY**MR. I. D. EVANS**

The death occurred on April 15th of Mr. Isaac Dugmore Evans at the age of 83 years. 'Ike,' as he was affectionately known by his many friends in Willenhall and district, Staffordshire, was a member of St. Giles' band of ringers for over 40 years.

A member of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, he had rung 16 peals of Stedman Triples. His first peal was the first peal of Stedman Triples on St. Giles' bells by the local band. Ike was of a genial disposition and would often give way for someone else or would stand in when required. He would also support any scheme for the improvement of the bells or belfry. Amongst his many activities was that of sidesman and member of the Parochial Church Council.

The funeral service took place at St. Giles' Church, Willenhall, on April 18th, conducted by the Vicar (Rev. A. G. Bond). An apology for absence was received from the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. The chief mourners were Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Evans, son and daughter-in-law. St. Giles' ringers were represented by J. T. Davies and C. Wallater. Floral tributes included one from old ringing friends of St. Giles'.

MR. KENNETH PATTENDEN

Many ringers in Kent and Sussex will regret to hear of the passing of Mr. Ken Pattenden, of Northiam, Sussex, who died on April 13th at the East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, after a long and painful illness. He was 63 years of age and joined the Kent County Association in 1912 at Kildown. He will be remembered by his peals in 1929 to 1933, rung with the late Charles Player, who died in April, 1933. Ken was an excellent ringer and enjoyed a heavy ring. He was awarded the Military Medal during the 1914-18 war.

The funeral was choral at Northiam on April 16th, and the Vicar reminded us of Ken's life as a good Christian and friend. The hymns 'O God, our help in ages past' and 'Abide with me' were sung by the large congregation present. As the coffin left the church for cremation, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dobbie, A. Relfe and T. E. Sone. Also present were Mr. W. Button and Mr. and Mrs. F. Dallaway. T. E. S.

MR. H. BENJAMIN BULL

The All Saints', Huntingdon, band is poorer by the sudden death of Mr. H. B. Bull. 'Ben,' as he was affectionately known by ringers, had been in failing health for the last three to four years, but it was only about eight weeks ago that he was forced to finish work. He had rung until last autumn, when it was suggested owing to the difficulty he had in walking that it would be better to stay in over the winter and come again in the spring. Death was caused by a fall at home on Saturday, April 20th, and it was a shock to ringers in the tower to learn the news when they assembled to ring for Easter morning.

Ben had rung in eight peals. He learnt to ring at Hartford before the last war, but after the war he came and lived in Huntingdon, and joined the All Saints' band, where he was a most regular service ringer.

To the widow, young son and mother, sincere sympathy is extended. The funeral service took place at All Saints' on April 25th. It is hoped to attempt a peal to his memory. H. S. P.

'I went to the church in 1915, and I thought the third bell was there then,' he said. 'I remember climbing up to the belfry up a long iron ladder and seeing that one of the bells was completely cracked. They told me there were three bells and that was what I always understood. I should say the third bell must have been moved after I left in 1924.'

The Rev. T. B. Allworthy took over from Canon Woodard in 1924 and stayed ten years. He is now in retirement at Cambridge.

'I never took much notice of the bells when I was at St. Mary Stoke, but I know that only two were ever rung,' he said.

Mr. Ridler commented: 'I put the date of the disposal of the bell at 1887 because at about that time a wall of the church was pulled down.'

It is probable that the bells were hung in the church before they were moved to the tower. There are traces of bell-frame in the masonry. In the tower now is the tongue of the missing bell.

The service records of the church are incomplete. It may be that other records, including those dealing with the disposal of the bell, are missing.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.

Latest Date: Monday first post.

BIRTH

ARMSTRONG.—On April 20th, 1957, at 145, Shaggy Calf Lane, Slough, Bucks, to Iris and Edward, God's precious gift of a daughter, Gillian Elizabeth. 150

MARRIAGE

BLOOMFIELD.—RUSBY.—On April 22nd, 1957, at St. James' Church, Grimsby, Frank G. Bloomfield, of Hadleigh, Suffolk, to Gwen I. Rusby, of Grimsby. Future address: 529, Laceby Road, Grimsby. 143

DEATH

MORRIS, Josiah.—Passed peacefully away on Saturday, April 27th, 1957, in his 90th year. Beloved father of Ernest, Mabel and George Stedman. Former verger and tower keeper of St. Margaret's, Leicester. 172

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Harris is now Silver Howe, Everton Road, Hordle, Hants. (Tel.: New Milton 2103.) 142

WANTED

WANTED.—'Ringing Worlds,' 1950, 1951, 1952, complete volumes, unbound; in good condition. Details to F. T. Blagrove, Redlea, Orchard Avenue, Windsor, Berkshire. 160

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTIONS.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 9981

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CENTRAL COUNCIL'S HANDBOOK.—A valuable guide to every secretary and tower captain. Contents include: Aims, History and Procedure of the Council; Rules and Decisions of the Council; Active Committees of the Council and their work; Law affecting Church Bells; past and present officers and members since 1956; past and present affiliated societies. Price 2s. 6d. from Mrs. J. G. Steeples, Hall View, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

MISCELLANEOUS

ALDERSHOT.—There will be no practice at Aldershot tower on Friday, May 10th, 1957. 151

ANTIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.—A Masonic Ringers' Reunion is being held in Leicestershire on June 1st, 1957. Will all Brethren who have not yet received a circular about such a meeting please write for further details to Peter J. Stanforth, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester. 173

CHURCHILL, OXON.—The dedication service of these bells, two new, two recast and the other four returned, making a ring of eight, will be at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9th. Ringing after service. All ringers welcome.—J. Keyte. 159

PACKWOOD CHURCH, WARWICKSHIRE.—The tower bells are at present being tuned prior to hanging in a new frame by Taylor of Loughborough. It will be announced in this column when they are again available for ringing. 179

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. 179

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Yeovil, Saturday, May 4th. Train, Waterloo, 9 a.m. Ringing at Yeovil, 12 noon to 1.30 p.m. Lunch at 1.30. Meeting in School Rooms 2.30. Ringing at Queen Camel 3.30 to 4.30 and at Sherborne Abbey 4.30 to 5.30. Return train from Yeovil 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 46

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD and LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION (Rochdale Branch).—Joint meeting at Heptonstall, Yorks, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) 3 p.m.—F. Pritchard. 132

DURHAM COLLEGES' SOCIETY.—Ringing day, Saturday, May 4th, 2.30 p.m. Afternoon: St. Aidan's, Blackhill (8), and R.C., Blackhill (8) (if available). Evening: Consett (8). All visitors welcome. Names for tea to J. R. Worsdall, Hatfield College, Durham. 93

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting at March on Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—D. E. R. Knights, Dis. Sec. 88

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural and City Branches.—Combined meeting at Winterbourne, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Notify T. T. Walters, 17, Newlands Avenue, Coalpit Heath, Bristol. 138

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 4th, Bushey (8). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec. 131

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Dover, Saturday, May 4th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 3.45 p.m. Tea 2s. per head. Note: Service half-an-hour earlier.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 49

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting, All Saints', Maidstone, Saturday, May 4th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. All ladies welcome—gentlemen invited. Good attendance, please, to elect secretary.—Olive Barnett, Acting Hon. Sec. 98

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting at Old Basford, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 111

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford City Branch.—Meeting at Garsington, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. 58

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Ecclesfield, 3 p.m., on Saturday, May 4th.—J. Seager, Sec. 119

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—Quarterly meeting, Halesworth, Saturday, May 4th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 97

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Monday, May 6th, 7.30 p.m., practice, St. Mary, Lambeth. Saturday, May 11th, general meeting, Christ Church, Southgate (10), 3 to 4.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5, in Walker Hall. Further ringing 7 to 8.30 p.m. Names for tea, please.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth, Tel. HOU 3921. 96

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Practice meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields (one minute from Tottenham Court Road tube station) on Monday, May 6th at 7 p.m.—T. J. Lock. 136

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A combined practice will be held at Ewell on Tuesday, May 7th, at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 60

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Corston (8) on Saturday, May 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Newton St. Loc (6) available after tea. Names for tea essential to Mrs. H. Parfrey, 18, Meadlands, Corston, near Bath. 161

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Nether Stowey on May 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, please.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 166

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Old Warden on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) 3 o'clock. Tea at the Hare and Hounds, 5 o'clock. Let's have another good meeting.—L. H. Bywater, Dis. Sec. 153

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Limpsfield (6), Saturday, May 11th. Tea 4 p.m. at Old Lodge, Limpsfield Chart (6) in evening. Names to F. Reed, 1, Brookside Cottages, Limpsfield.—C. A. Bassett. 169

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Hilgay, Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 155

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern Division.—Meeting at Galleywood (8), Saturday, May 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea, please, to A. H. Everatt, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 59

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Western Branch.—Crusader meeting, Chigwell Row, Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. W. Vale, 8, Grove Cottages, Chigwell Row, Essex. 121

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at North Nibley (6), Saturday, May 11th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Notify by May 8th.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 176

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Wroughton (6), Saturday, May 11th. Names for tea to Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon. Tel. 3936. 152

GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS.—Annual meeting and dinner, Stevenage, Saturday, May 11th. Members attending please notify D. L. Gullick, Mount View, Stevenage. 139

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Cobham with Stoke D'Abern on Saturday, May 11th. Bells from 3 p.m. Stoke 3 to 4 p.m. and after meeting. Service at Cobham 4.30. Tea in Church Room 5 p.m. Numbers for tea should be sent by May 7th, please, to Miss Ann Moore, Chipplings, Icklingham Road, Cobham. 129

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 11th, at King's Chapel (6). Hoarwithy bus leaves Ross 1.5 p.m. Bells 2 p.m. Service 3.45. Tea 4.15 p.m. Names by previous Tuesday to Miss M. Tilbury, 34, Claytons, Bridstow, Ross. 170

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Apsley on Saturday, May 11th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, May 8th, to Mrs. J. Good, 44, Belmont Road, Hemel Hempstead. No names, no tea.—J. Good, Dis. Sec. 105

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Dedication of the recast bells (6) at St. Stephen's, St. Albans, by the Rt. Rev. C. T. T. Wood at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 11th. Ringing after service. Concert to aid funds 7 p.m., St. Julian's School (Dunstable Girls' Choir).—H. V. Frost, Hon. Gen. Sec. 171

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Ribchester on Saturday, May 11th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 140

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton and Manchester Branches.—Joint meeting at Walkden, Saturday, May 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea (free) 5 p.m. Names to Arthur Burton, 19, Old Clough Lane, Walkden, Lancs. No names no tea—definite.—J. Thornley, R. Benson, Secs. 156

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Goosnargh, Saturday, May 11th. Refreshments provided. Names by 8th to Mr. W. Billington, Hospital Cottage, Goosnargh. Buses 142 and 145 from Preston.—L. Walmsey. 177

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at Liverpool Parish Church on May 11th. Ringing 2 p.m. Tea only for those notifying (before Wednesday, 8th) Miss Howlett, 10, Green Lane, Seaford, Liverpool, 21. 162

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at St. Chad's Church, Poulton-le-Fylde, on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided 5 p.m. Business after tea.—J. F. Turner. 178

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting, Rothley, Saturday, May 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Village Hall 5 p.m. Names for tea by the previous Wednesday to Mr. R. A. Brewin, 5, Cosington Lane, Rothley. 157

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Wigtoft, Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea, Parish Hall, 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, May 6th, to W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 165

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Marsham (8) on Saturday, May 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, 8th, to the Rev. H. G. Lillingston, The Rectory, Marsham. 125

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Piddington, Saturday, May 11th. Bells (5) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m.—C. H. Kinch, Causeway, Bicester. 116

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Checkendon on Saturday, May 11th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify by May 8th Mr. G. Hearn, The Garage, Stoke Row, Oxon.—R. G. Burton. 163

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Willoughby, Saturday, May 11th. Names for tea to me not later than Tuesday previous.—F. W. Hancock, Willoughby, Rugby. 174

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Hodnet, Saturday, May 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, May 7th, without fail, to Mr. T. Whiston, Stone Cottage, Abbots Road, Hodnet, Salop. 122

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD (North Notts District) and Derbyshire Association (Chesterfield District).—Joint meeting at Cuckney (6), Saturday, May 11th. Cups of tea only.—H. Denman and A. B. Cooper. 164

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—Annual meeting at Aldeburgh on Saturday, May 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6 p.m. Names must be sent for tea by Wednesday, May 8th, to Mr. J. Pilgrim, 52, Saxmundham Road, Aldeburgh.—A. R. Bridges, Hon. Sec. 113

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Meeting at Whepstead (5), Saturday, May 11th. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (Bus services: Eastern Counties from Bus Station, Longs Coaches from Angel Hill).—Kenneth G. Brown, Dis. Sec. 141

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Cowfold, Saturday, May 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea, please, by previous Wednesday, to I. Butcher, 14, Withypitts, Turners Hill. 148

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Heene, Saturday, May 11th, 2.30-4.45. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15. West Tarring 6.30-8. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday to G. Francis, Hook Cottage, Itchingfield, Horsham.—W. Leslie Weller. 149

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Huddersfield on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available: Parish Church (10), 2 to 4.30 p.m. and after meeting till 9 p.m.; Almondbury (8), 2 to 4 p.m. Bus No. 30-33 from near Parish Church. Service in Parish Church 4.30 p.m., followed by tea in Parochial Hall, Springwood Street, 5 p.m. Names by May 7th to Mrs. W. Littlewood, 26, Kingston Avenue, Dalton, Huddersfield. General meeting immediately afterwards. Subscriptions are due and reports will be available. Very important business includes a motion affecting the annual subscription rate and ancillary matters which will come up for discussion and settlement. A large and representative gathering is specially requested.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford, 9. 65

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Meeting at Wormingford, Saturday, May 18th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, May 15th, please, to Mr. Leggett, The Dell, Wormingford, Colchester. 175

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—The next meeting will be at Lea on Saturday, May 18th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by previous Tuesday.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 168

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting, combined with Ladies' Guild, Fleet, Saturday, May 18th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 3.45. Tea. Bull Inn, 4.30 p.m. Names by May 14th to Mr. J. B. Hallifax, Church End, Fleet, near Spalding. 145

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION and **LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual general meeting, Harrow Weald, Saturday, May 18th. Towers available: Edgware (6), 2 to 3 p.m.; Stanmore (8), 3 to 4; Harrow Weald (8), 3 to 4.30. Pinner (8) and Harrow Weald after meeting. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Nominations for officers and C.C. representatives to assistant secretary. Names for tea to Mr. H. G. Hart, 1, Conway Close, Stanmore, Middx. Phone: GRImdsyke 1338.—W. N. Genna, Asst. Sec., 17, Tintern Way, West Harrow. Phone: BYRon 5197. 56

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, May 18th, Winterton. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, May 15th, certain, please, to Mr. R. E. Woodhouse, Clink Road, Winterton, Great Yarmouth.—P. Newstead, Branch Sec. 146

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting, Cumnor, on Saturday, May 18th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by 14th, please.—A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks. 125

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Guild festival will be held at Salisbury on Saturday, May 18th. Annual meeting, Assembly Rooms, 2.15 p.m. Guild service in St. Thomas' Church, 4. Meat tea, Assembly Rooms, 5 p.m. (price 4s. per head), by ticket only from Mr. F. Slatford, Church Lane, North Bradley, Trowbridge, before Wednesday, May 15th. Towers available: Salisbury—St. Martin's (8), 12 noon to 2, and 6.45 p.m.; St. Paul's (8), 1 to 2, and 6 p.m.; St. Thomas' (8), 1 to 2, and 6 p.m.; Downton (8), 11 a.m. to 1, and 6.30 p.m.; Britford (6), 11 a.m. to 1, and 6 p.m.; Dinton (6), 11 a.m. to 1, and 6 p.m.; Enford (6), 11 a.m. to 1, and 6.30 p.m.; South Newton (6), 11 a.m. to 1, and 6 p.m.; Wilton (6), 11 a.m. to 1, and 7 to 8.30 p.m. Other bells by arrangement.—W. C. West, 584, Semington Road, Melksham. 137

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting, Elston, Saturday, May 18th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. only for those who notify me by Wednesday previous.—W. L. Exton, 60, Albert Street, Newark. 144

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION and **LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—60th anniversary celebrations, June 8th. Service 4.30 p.m., St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. Preacher, Bishop of Kensington. Dinner to follow. Tickets, 15s. 6d. each, available from me until May 18th. Tower secretaries should return names, cash and any unsold tickets, of tickets distributed to them to either the District secretaries or me during the next week. Ringing arrangements later.—F. W. Goodfellow, Seaford, 46, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks. 167

STRETTON GRANDISON, HEREFORDS.—On Mar. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 240 Anril Day, 240 Bob, 240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 300 Grandsire): J. Lane 1, H. Hill 2, G. Hill 3, H. Goodchap 4, J. Ward (cond.) 5, E. Jones 6. Rung with best wishes to the Rev. Max Benjamin, who is leaving the parish for Somerset.

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