

# THE RINGING WORLD

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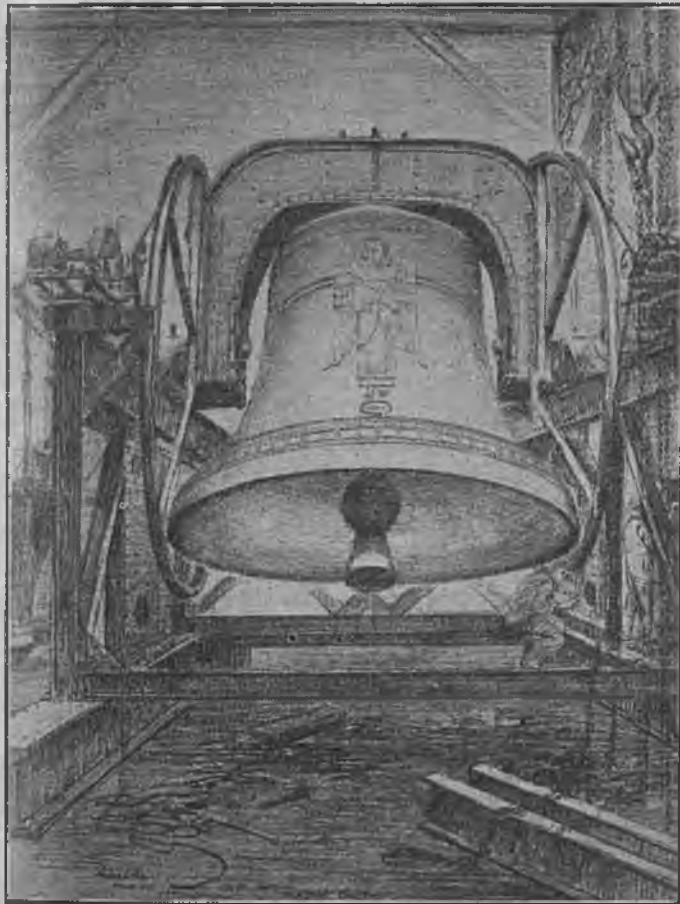
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### ON THE WARPATH!

There is just at present in some quarters a recrudescence of agitation against church bells. In Bath, for instance, there seems to have been an outburst against noises in general, and in the Health Committee one alderman said that trams and church bells were the biggest offenders. 'The bells were an abomination and would have to be tackled first.' How strange it is that when the noise and racket of modern life begins to get on people's nerves they turn first in their denunciation to church bells, which they perhaps hear rung for two services on a Sunday and for an hour in the week. They will live through the whole seven days with the grinding of tram cars under their windows; the raucous blare of Klaxon motor horns making day and night hideous, and the din of a hundred and one other street noises for ever in their ears, and yet the first thing to be attacked is nearly always the church bells, which only occasionally make their sounds heard. Perhaps they think that of all the noises which come to their ears this is the easiest to put a stop to; but we doubt if even the worthy Bath alderman will find it any easier to stop church bells than to stop the trams. Incidentally he also wants to stop the Christmas 'waits' which, he says, 'are a rare nuisance.' When a man gets to this stage, his outlook on life seems to have become a bit distorted, and the best cure would probably be a sojourn in the backwoods of Canada.

But these outbursts of open hostility to the ringing of church bells on lawful and reasonable occasions cannot be altogether neglected. At the same meeting of the Bath Health Committee the Medical Officer of Health, who reported that the increased noises during the past few years were becoming intolerable and a menace to health, suggested propaganda and legislation. Those who feel that the noises which modern civilisation have forced upon us are intolerable have open to them both of the suggested courses if they can get sufficient people to listen to them, but it is as well that the Exercise should watch any of these activities carefully, so that, so far as church bells are concerned, the propaganda may be countered, and any legislation that may be attempted may not, directly or indirectly, bring church bells within the restraining clauses. Ringers can always be trusted to exercise reason in the use of bells, but not a few towers are closed to ringing because a handful of complaining parishioners have brought pressure to bear on the incumbent. This is where the chief immediate danger lies—in the influence which may be privately exerted upon clergy who are themselves indifferent to their bells and ringers.

(Continued on page 705.)

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Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

There is no appeal from the judgment of the incumbent, and ringers should always be on the look out for early signs of any weakening on the part of the parson towards those who would like to have the bells partially or entirely stopped.

## TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 62 cwt.

ERNEST G. FENN ... .. Treble	HENRY G. MILES ... .. 7
WILLIE ROUGHTON ... .. 2	ERNEST BRETT ... .. 8
HENRY HODGETTS ... .. 3	CHARLES S. BURDEN ... .. 9
HAROLD N. PITSTOW ... .. 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE ... .. 10
ROBERT W. GREEN ... .. 5	ALFRED B. PECK ... .. 11
HERBERT LANGDON ... .. 6	THOMAS LANGDON ... .. Tenor
	WILLIAM S. LANGDON ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN NELMS. Conducted by H. LANGDON.  
Bung to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the installation of the bells.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY REDCLIFFE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER ... Treble	SAMUEL J. HECTOR ... .. 7
*WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT ... .. 8
ALBERT E. STOWELL ... 3	JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. 9
RICHARD CLARK ... .. 4	ALFRED E. REEVES ... .. 10
HENRY PRING ... .. 5	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 11
GILBERT H. HARDING ... 6	†URIAH BRAVEN ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

\* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † 100th peal.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5081 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT ... Treble	*WILLIAM KEEBLE ... .. 7
GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 2	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... 3	*PERCY MAY ... .. 9
*JAMES BENNETT ... .. 4	FREDERICK J. TILLIT ... 10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ... 5	*LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... .. 11
GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 6	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS  
\* First peal of Grandsire Cinques.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

SURFLEET.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 29, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5030 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt, 9 lb.

REV. H. LAW JAMES ... Treble	*JOHN G. AMES ... .. 6
JOHN W. WOOD ... .. 2	HORACE M. DAY ... .. 7
*ALBERT A. BUSLEY ... .. 3	*SYDNEY FLOWERS ... .. 8
GEORGE LADU ... .. 4	WALTER H. WOOD ... .. 9
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 5	ROGER W. DANIELS ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

\* First peal of Stedman.

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NEWPORT, MON.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes.

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5976 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in D.

WILLIAM PIKE ... .. Treble	ALBAN E. SLATTER ... .. 6
GEORGE POPNELL ... .. 2	CHARLES GREEDY ... .. 7
SYDNEY T. RACKHAM ... .. 3	GEORGE COOKE ... .. 8
PERCY JONES ... .. 4	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... .. 9
HARRY BROUGHTON ... .. 5	KENNETH KNOWLES ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by CHARLES GREEDY.  
\* First peal of Caters.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHARLES H. KIPPEN ... Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 5
MISS E. E. CHAPMAN ... 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. 7
MISS F. E. ORR ... .. 3	RONALD BULLEN ... .. 8
ALBERT DISERENS ... .. 4	GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 5	REUBEN SANDERS ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WM. H. HEWETT.  
\* First peal of Yorkshire Royal by all the band and by the association. Rung at the first attempt.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, October 20, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWIN SHEPHERD ... Treble	EDWARD SPRAGUE ... .. 5
WILLIAM MANLEY ... .. 2	JOHN N. SKINNER ... .. 6
FRED DIMOND ... .. 3	JOHN R. HAYMAN ... .. 7
WILLIAM A. WOOSNAM ... 4	GEORGE RENDELL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN SHEPHERD.  
Ringer of treble from Exeter, remainder local men. First peal in method by all except ringers of treble and 7th.

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S No. 1.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

†STEPHEN H. WOOD ... Treble	JOHN G. JEFFRIES ... .. 5
*THOMAS JAMES ... .. 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 6
WILLIAM A. CAVE ... .. 3	*GEORGE E. CAPEWELL ... 7
*VICTOR WILLS ... .. 4	*STANLEY POOLE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. A. CAVE.  
\* First peal of Stedman Triples. † 50th peal.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS B. KENDALL ... Treble	ROWLAND MYERS ... .. 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 2	GEORGE AMBLER ... .. 6
WILLIAM BARTON ... .. 3	WILLIAM AMBLER ... .. 7
*SAM LONGBOTTON ... .. 4	PERCY J. JOHNSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.  
\* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Thos. Maude, Joseph Broadley and Thos. Cotterell.

WORKINGTON, CUMBERLAND.

THE CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*JAMES PHILLIPS ... Treble	FRED TICKLE ... .. 5
†JOHN HUTCHINSON ... 2	†WM. H. COOK ... .. 6
‡JOHN CASSON ... .. 3	GEORGE WM. TEMBEY ... 7
‡ALF. EILBECK ... .. 4	WM. T. HOLMES ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WM. T. HOLMES.  
\* First peal. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal in the method.

CAERLEON, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CADOC,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

STANLEY A. C. WILLIAM ... Treble	CHARLES GREEDY ... .. 5
SAMUEL JONES ... .. 2	WILLIAM PHILLIPS ... .. 6
ARTHUR SPARKES ... .. 3	DONALD G. CLIFT ... .. 7
TOM FORD ... .. 4	ALBERT THOMAS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by D. G. CLIFT.  
First peal of Triples as conductor, and hails from Usk. Ringers of 4th, 5th, 6th and tenor are from Newport. The rest belong to the local band.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F. sharp.

FRANK REYNOLDS ... Treble	JOHN J. YATES ... .. 5
*WILLIAM GOULD ... .. 2	†THOMAS GRIMSHAW ... .. 6
JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW ... 3	†ERNEST LEATHERBARROW 7
*WILLIAM HAMPSON ... .. 4	*WILLIAM LEATHERBARROW Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOS. LEATHERBARROW  
\* First peal of Surprise Major. † First peal of Surprise inside. First peal in the method as conductor, and first peal of Surprise Major by the branch. All the above are regular service ringers at the Parish Church. Rung to commemorate the visit of the Right Hon. the Earl of Stamford on October 14th, in connection with the 400th anniversary of the parish and the silver jubilee of the present church.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH ... Treble	HENRY HOBBLE ... .. 5
ALFRED ROWLEY ... .. 2	ALBERT PRESTIDGE, SEN. ... 6
RICHARD ROUND ... .. 3	WILLIAM GREEN ... .. 7
SAMUEL J. HUGHES ... .. 4	*JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by THOMAS B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ALFRED ROWLEY  
\* First peal in the method. Rung on the eve of the harvest festival; also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Hackett, daughter of the 7th ringer; and Mr. Albert Prestidge, jun., a member of the local band. It is 40 years since Mr. W. Green rang his first and last peal in this method previous to this. Great credit is due to Mr. R. Round for the able manner in which he rang his bell throughout the peal. He has been a Sunday service ringer at the above church for 58 years.

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BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 14½ cwt.

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

Composed by W. WILLSON. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.  
This peal contains all the 756's, 746's, Titum's, Queen's, Wittington's, and the 6th its extent at home.

STANDISH, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROBERT TAYLOR ... .. Treble	JOSEPH GRAY ... .. 5
RICHARD DARBYSHIRE ... .. 2	ERNEST G. WILLIAM ... .. 6
THOMAS GROUNDS ... .. 3	JOHN BOOTH ... .. 7
JAMES WM. GROUNDS ... .. 4	ERNEST BIRCHALL ... .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by E. BIRCHALL.  
First peal in the method as conductor. First peal in the method for all except the ringers of 4th, 7th and tenor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the sixth ringer. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

ASHBY FOLVILLE, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6120 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS ... .. Treble	BENJAMIN J. BUDD ... .. 5
WILLIAM WILLSON, JUN. ... .. 2	E. HARRY STONELEY ... .. 6
HERBERT W. NEEDHAM ... .. 3	PERCY HARRISON ... .. 7
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... .. 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.  
Rung on the occasion of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Poole (nee Phyllis Hare) on the morning of this day.

MELKSHAM, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLY'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. in E flat.

MRS. W. C. WEST ... .. Treble	ARTHUR W. ANGELL ... .. 5
JESSE FRANCIS ... .. 2	HARRY MOCKRIDGE ... .. 6
GEORGE H. ARCHARD ... .. 3	WILLIAM C. WEST ... .. 7
ROBERT H. LEGG ... .. 4	WILFRED G. WATERS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. WEST.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, October 30, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

A. B. CARPENTER'S SIX-PART, No. 13. Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM HALFORD ... .. Treble	ROLAND LEWIS ... .. 5
ALBERT HARTLAND ... .. 2	FRED HAWKES ... .. 6
JOHN ROWLATT ... .. 3	CHARLES CAMM ... .. 7
FRANK LAWRENCE ... .. 4	ARTHUR GRIFFIN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and by the association. All the ringers belong to the local band.

KNIGHTON, RADS.—On October 31st, at St. Edward's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins.: W. T. Gough 1, A. E. Jones 2, R. H. Jones 3, E. W. Watkins 4, W. J. Benjamins 5, T. F. Preece 6, F. Evans (conductor) 7, J. J. Preece 8.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 30, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED BALLARD, JUN. ... Treble	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 5
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... 6
REV. R. P. FARROW, M.A. ... 3	PERCY HARRISON ... .. 7
BENJAMIN J. BUDD ... .. 4	E. HARRY STONELEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by E. HARRY STONELEY.  
Quickest peal of Major on the bells. Arranged for Mr. B. J. Budd, of Grimsby. The ringers thank the Rector for permission and for taking part in the peal.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 31, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE MINSTER CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**  
JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 28 cwt.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ... Treble	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... 5
MRS. R. J. WILKINS ... .. 2	CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... 6
*RONALD G. BECK ... .. 3	SAMUEL J. HECTOR ... .. 7
JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

\* First peal of Cambridge away from the treble. Rung to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the new hospital by the Marquis of Bath, and also to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. A. Lockyer, a member of the local band.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, November 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

LESLIE G. BRETT ... .. Treble	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 5
JAMES BETTS ... .. 2	THOMAS WM. LAST ... .. 6
WILLIAM J. GROOM ... .. 3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... 7
GEORGE BENNETT ... .. 4	JAMES BENNETT ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.  
Specially arranged for the ringer of the tenor, who was on holiday in the district. Leslie Brett has now twice completed 'the circle' in this tower.

MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 1, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

*MISS C. MOSS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM H. JOINER ... 5
WILLIAM S. LANGDON ... 2	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 6
DAVID WRIGHT ... .. 3	WILLIAM S. SMITH ... .. 7
†HERBERT TOURLE ... .. 4	†JOHN LOTT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. D. Drewitt, J.P., C.C., Master of the Surrey Association, and for 60 years a ringer at this church.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BOWDON & STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 1, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDWARD JONES ... .. Treble	*WILLIAM FERNLEY ... 5
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN. ... 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6
TOM WILDE ... .. 3	JAMES FERNLEY, SEN. ... 7
HARRY LANGLEY ... .. 4	JOHN W. HARTLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JAMES FERNLEY, SEN.  
\* 50th peal. Rung to commemorate to third anniversary of the consecration of the new chancel and dedication of the bells.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

FREDERICK WHITBY ... .. Treble	STANLEY CLARK ... .. 5
WILLIAM MORRIS ... .. 2	ISAAC CAVILL ... .. 6
LEWIS A. CORDELL ... .. 3	HARRY SMALB ... .. 7
GEORGE DENT ... .. 4	WILLIAM WHEELER ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by G. DENT.

Rung to celebrate the 23rd anniversary of the opening of these bells.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 3/4 cwt.

JAMES FLOYD, SEN. ... .. Treble	REGINALD S. COOK ... .. 5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD ... .. 2	J. WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... .. 6
HERBERT GATES ... .. 3	HENRY GOLDING ... .. 7
JACK STOPP ... .. 4	WALTER AYRE ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

Rung in honour of All Saints' Day, and also to commemorate the 'coming of age' of All Saints', Piccotts End, an offshoot of the mother church.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

*A. NORMAN GEARY ... .. Treble	†LEONARD E. TOWERS ... .. 5
ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 2	†RONALD RUSSELL ... .. 6
*J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... .. 3	ALFRED BALLARD, JUN. ... .. 7
ERNEST F. PAYNE ... .. 4	THOMAS W. BARWELL ... .. Tenor

Transposed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

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

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, BLOOMSBURY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER ... .. 5
GEORGE M. KILBY ... .. 2	ADAM DEAS ... .. 6
GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 3	HARRY KILBY ... .. 7
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... .. 4	WILLIAM PYE ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

A. Deas hails from Newcastle.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 30 cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ... .. Treble	JOHN MALYAN ... .. 5
THOMAS BLOW ... .. 2	WILLIAM LITTLE ... .. 6
JOSEPH G. BLOW ... .. 3	HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 7
*ALBAN KENDALL ... .. 4	*JOHN DRYDEN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH.

\* First peal and first attempt.

BRAUGHING, HERTS.—On Wednesday, October 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: H. W. Drage 1, W. Smith 2, A. Clarke 3, W. H. Clemence 4, H. Wright 5, H. Webb 6, W. K. North (conductor) 7, W. Bardwell 8. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, Rev. Pitt Bennet, M.A. First quarter in the method by a local band.

SIX BELL PEALS.

CORNWOOD, DEVON.  
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty six-scores, ten different callings, and eleven Pitman's 240's. Tenor 13 cwt.

*ALFRED BARKER ... .. Treble	WILLIAM G. LAVERS ... .. 4
THOMAS G. MYERS ... .. 2	WILLIAM A. WONNACOTT ... .. 5
FRANK PACKER ... .. 3	ALFRED WONNACOTT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. A. WONNACOTT.

\* First peal.

BROMHAM, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 23 cwt.

CHARLES W. CLARKE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM STOCK ... .. 4
HENRY W. GAYTON ... .. 2	HENRY STAPLETON ... .. 5
HERBERT L. HARLOW ... .. 3	PEARL INSKIP ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

The first Surprise peal on the bells.

BELTON, RUTLAND.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twelve 120's of Plain Bob (for ordinary and four Spliced 240's), thirty of Grandsire (ten ordinary and ten Spliced 240's), all differently called. Tenor 10 cwt. 24 lb.

J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... .. Treble	ALBERT E. KITCHIN ... .. 4
JOSEPH NORTON ... .. 2	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 5
RONALD RUSSELL ... .. 3	CLARENCE F. JONES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal of Doubles on the bells. The Vicar kindly provided refreshments after the peal.

RATTLESDON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently.

A. LANDYMORE ... .. Treble	J. STIFF ... .. 4
E. STURGEON ... .. 2	W. DURRANT ... .. 5
H. KING ... .. 3	H. W. FOULGER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. W. FOULGER.

TALGARTH, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GWENDOLINE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES P. HYETT ... .. Treble	GEORGE POPNELL ... .. 4
WILLIAM PIKE ... .. 2	SYDNEY T. RACKHAM ... .. 5
PERCY JONES ... .. 3	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

First peal of Treble Bob on the bells.

SHARESHILL, STAFFS.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being thirty six-scores and six Pitman's 240's. Tenor 9 cwt.

HARRY BOSWELL ... .. Treble	HERBERT T. PIPER ... .. 4
JAMES SHAW ... .. 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON ... .. 5
JACK WM. TAYLOR ... .. 3	HOWARD BUTLER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. BROTHERTON.

Rung on eve of festival of SS. Simon and Jude.

BASSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 27, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Single Court, Double Court, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.  
Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN WALDEN ... .. Treble	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... .. 4
HARRY CARTER ... .. 2	*CHARLES CLAYDON ... .. 5
MOSES BILLINGS ... .. 3	FREDERICK W. STOKES ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. STOKES.

\* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

HARROLD, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.

WILLIAM STOCK ... .. Treble	WILLIAM SHARP ... .. 4
JOSEPH SHARP ... .. 2	CHARLES W. CLARKE ... .. 5
HENRY W. GAYTON ... .. 3	HENRY STAPLETON ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

Rung to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first peal on the bells.

BURSTOW, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 1,680 each of Grand sire, Plain Bob and Canterbury.  
Tenor 11½ cwt.

*GEORGE DOLBY ... .. Treble	HARRY K. HOOPER ... .. 4
†KENNETH SNELLING ... .. 2	ALFRED J. BULL ... .. 5
BERNARD WELLS ... .. 3	*HENRY H. PARSONS ... Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED J. BULL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Master, Mr. J. D. Drewett. Rung after meeting short for Minor, Mr. H. Parsons kindly standing in at the last moment.

\* First peal. † First peal on six bells. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 30, 1928, in Two Hours and Five Minutes.

At 396, MEANWOOD ROAD.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

PERCY J. JOHNSON ... .. 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON ... .. 5-6
*JOHN AMBLER ... .. 3-4	†LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 7-8

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

\* First peal on an inside pair. † First peal on handbells.

[Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.]

THE LATE MR. JAMES SEARLE

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I would also like to congratulate Messrs. C. Tyler and G. Williams for their interesting remarks on the late Mr. James Searle. I find that the peals I rang with him were Superlative 5, Double Norwich 1, which were, as Mr. Williams says, the first peals of Superlative by the Royal Cumberland Youths and Winchester Diocesan Guild in which the late Henry Dains and Isaac George Shade rang their first peals of Superlative. The Double Norwich was also Mr. Shade's first peal in that method. You, Sir, will realise my feelings on being asked, as a boy, when Surprise ringing was in its childhood (1893), to stand in such peals that were going to make history.

I have also happy recollections of Mr. Searle's kind hospitality in journeying to those peals.—Yours faithfully,

Saffron Walden.

F. DENCH.

THE LATE MR. JAMES D. DREWETT.

CLOSE OF AN ACTIVE LIFE.

Amid many manifestations of sympathy and regret the mortal remains of Mr. James Douglas Drewett, Master of the Surrey Association, were laid to rest on Thursday week. As mentioned in our last issue, Mr. Drewett was found dead in his house on the previous Saturday morning, and Mitcham has sustained a great loss, for he had served his native town long and ably in many capacities. People of all classes filled the Parish Church on the occasion of the funeral, and hundreds more gathered in the churchyard to pay their last tribute of respect. Representatives of many public and semi-public bodies were present. Freemasons attended in large numbers, and every seat was filled. The cortege was met at the church door by the clergy and choir, who, as the procession moved up the aisle, sang the opening sentences of the burial service. In addition to Psalm xc., the hymn 'Abide with me' and the anthem 'I heard a voice from heaven' were also sung, and the Vicar, in a brief address, eloquently expressed the sense of loss felt in Mitcham by the death of one who had not spared himself in public service, and in whom everyone had a friend. Chopin's Funeral March was played before the coffin was carried from the church, and then, in the churchyard, the last rites were performed and the body of James Douglas Drewett committed to Mother Earth, the impressive service being followed by a course of Stedman Triples rung on handbells over the open grave by Messrs. H. Langdon, W. T. Cockerill (hon. secretary of the College Youths), C. H. Kippin (hon. secretary of the Surrey Association), and T. Groombridge, sen. Among other ringers present were Messrs. C. Dean (who with Mr. Drewett represented the Surrey Association on the Central Council), W. Joiner, J. Lott, H. Tourle, E. Broadbridge, A. Miller, G. Pidwell and C. H. Reading (Mitcham), D. Wright and Mrs. A. Clark (Croydon), Messrs. W. S. Smith, C. S. Burden, W. Langdon (College Youths), A. Dean (Leatherhead), and J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild). Before and after the service, the Parish Church bells were rung half muffled, and half-muffled ringing also took place at Beddington.

Mr. James Douglas Drewett was 74 years of age. For some years his health had given cause for his friends' anxiety, although he continued his very many activities to the end; in fact, he had business papers in his hand when he was found dead.

The grandson and son of bygone ringers at Mitcham Parish Church, Mr. Drewett commenced at an early age to ring the bells there, and it was only on rare occasions he would be absent from Sunday ringing. He was one of the earliest members of the Surrey Association, and had been its Ringing Master since the death in 1915 of Dr. Arthur B. Carpenter. He was one of the representatives of the association on the Central Council.

As Master of the Surrey Association, he had a wide conception of his duties, which he took very seriously. The report reaching him of the illness of a member of the association quickly took Mr. Drewett to the bedside to make a personal enquiry and offer sympathy. He was a painstaking ringer, and had rung numerous peals in many methods.

Mr. Drewett had retired from his business as a builder for many years, and had since devoted himself entirely to public affairs. He held His Majesty's Commission of the Peace for the County of Surrey, and was a regular attendant on the Croydon County Bench. He was for a time chairman of the Urban District Council for Mitcham, which was formed in 1915, prior to which he served as a member of the Croydon Rural District Council, while he was twice elected a member of the Surrey County Council for his native place. This latter position brought him the chairmanship of Netherne Hospital Committee, and a seat on the Assessment Committee for North Surrey. Mr. Drewett was also a member of the Surrey Joint Poor Law Committee, the Wandie Valley Joint Insurance and Hospital Boards, president since 1921 of the Singlegate Working Men's Club, and one of the managers of Mitcham School. He had served as an overseer and as churchwarden of Mitcham Parish Council. In all the undertook he was most conscientious, and consequently he was an extremely busy man.

Mr. Drewett had been a widower for a number of years, and leaves behind him three sons and one daughter.

As we have intimated above, Mr. Drewett's efforts were most strenuous on behalf of the general community, but we feel certain that in no sphere of activity will his absence be more felt than among the ringers with whom he associated, and especially those in the local tower which he loved so much.

At St. Bartholomew's, Burstow, as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. D. Drewett, J.P., several touches of Bob Doubles and Grand sire Doubles were rung with bells half muffled on Friday, November 2nd, by A. Bull (instructor), J. Birdfield, W. Slawter, H. Kew, H. Parsons, V. Cousins, P. Warren, J. Bradley and L. Penfold.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Thursday, September 27th, for harvest festival, at St. Mary's Church, 1,224 changes of Cambridge Surprise Minor: Wm. Bavin 1, A. W. T. Ginn 2, Francis G. Gleaves 3, F. C. Ginn 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. Longest length in any method by treble ringer.

**MEETINGS AT KENT SIX-BELL TOWERS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—As the members of this district will have the opportunity of discussing this matter at the annual district meeting which will be held at Edenbridge early next year, I do not think any good purpose can be obtained by continuing the discussion in 'The Ringing World,' and I therefore decline to answer the letters which appeared in last week's issue.

I should like to thank you for your excellent leading article, which, I think, admirably sums up the situation. Thanking you for the space you have kindly granted for the subject, yours faithfully,

W. LATTER,

Hon. District Secretary.

11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**BENEFICIAL TO EIGHT-BELL RINGERS.**

Dear Sir,—I see by your leader and by the way you have used the term as a heading, that my 'busy ringers' was rather misleading, but many of us country ringers are not fortunate to get every Saturday afternoon free; some of us have to work. I myself only get one in two free. But what time we do get, we like to make the most of, so that arrangements are often made for weeks ahead. That is why fixed dates are asked for, and as we are only asking for what is an accomplished and successful thing in some districts, we feel that it might be tried in our own. After all, would it not be better, even for the secretary, to have a fixed date to work on?

Fortunately, there are not many Deans of Gloucester, but, rather, the incumbents are pleased to welcome meetings at their towers and extend a welcome to 'come again.' I know that one was given at the annual meeting, but it was not taken. Was it because it came from a six-bell tower? After all, why should those eight-bell ringers fight shy of a six-bell tower? A little practice on six would be beneficial. Perhaps then they would get something more than Grandsire Doubles for their service ringing.

Finally, one word about the successful practices or meetings. Don't forget the beginners. Give them a fair chance, not put several in a touch together to struggle through as best they can. It is not very encouraging. I am a fairly young ringer myself, so I know, and that is why I have done little or nothing, even though I am apparently grumbling.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR H. SMITH.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

EASTERN DISTRICT.

A very enjoyable gathering of the Eastern District was held at Sawbridgeworth on October 27th, not the least of the pleasure derived being from the meeting of some old friends. A service was held, at which the Rev. E. V. Beverley gave the address. The hymns were heartily sung, the organist kindly giving his services. Tea was prepared in the Church Room, and the business meeting followed. The Vicar presided and joined the association as an honorary member. He heartily welcomed the association to his church. Miss G. Russell, of the Sawbridgeworth band, was elected a member, and will, it is hoped, be the means of giving a lead to one or two other ladies who are in the early stages of ringing to join the association and help to bring the Sawbridgeworth band back to its one-time strength.—Mr. W. Prior, of Stansted, was elected a life member.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his helpful address, his kind welcome, and for his presence at the tea and meetings, also for adding his name to the honorary members' list.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

A very successful meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at St. Mary's, Grassendale, on Oct. 13th. A splendid tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, was partaken of, and was followed by a short business meeting. The Vicar presided, and in a few well-chosen words welcomed the branch to Grassendale after an absence of two years.

The Branch Secretary submitted a list of monthly meetings for 1929, which was adopted.

Mr. G. R. Newton informed the meeting of an interesting event—the unveiling and dedicating of a peal board recording three peals, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, Cambridge Surprise Royal, and Cambridge Surprise Maximus, and the restoration of an old peal board recording two peals of Grandsire Caters and one of Grandsire Cinques, the first of which was rung in 1815, and was almost unreadable—to take place on Saturday, November 3rd. A further announcement of this will be found in another column.

It was resolved that Stedman Triples and Spliced Treble Bob Major be the methods for special attention at the next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for granting facilities for the meeting and for providing tea, to the towerkeeper (Mr. Allen) for having everything in readiness, and to the ladies for assisting at tea, brought a happy meeting to a close.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

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THE

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

The golden wedding of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Randall Davidson on Monday will, we hope, be marked by the ringing of every peal of bells in the country. It should be at once a celebration and a farewell, for on that day the Archbishop retires from the high office which he has so long and so nobly filled.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards, hon. secretary of the Salisbury Guild, who is the preacher to-morrow at the College Youths' annual service, is also preaching on Sunday evening at St. Clement Danes', where at 3.15 p.m. Rossini's 'Stabat Mater' is to be performed, and at 8.30 Brahms' 'Requiem.'

In addition to Messrs. A. Walker and W. Pye, Mr. J. E. Groves, of Birmingham, has also rung over 200 peals on twelve bells.

We are pleased to state that Admiral T. P. Walker, D.S.O. (hon. treasurer of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), who has been seriously ill with bronchial pneumonia, is now making slow but satisfactory progress.

Mr. Harold Walker, who was for some time hon. secretary of the Doncaster and District Society, but who, for the last four months, has been at Boston, has been promoted to the charge of the carriage and wagon department of the L.N.E.R. at Lincoln.

It was observed by many of those present at the annual meeting of the Worshipful Company of Musicians, held at Stationers' Hall, Ludgate Hill, on a recent evening, that while Sir Hugh Allen, Director of the Royal Academy of Music, was proposing the toast of the evening, the soft music of the bells from St. Paul's Cathedral seemed to form a most fitting background. It was a 'touch' of Cambridge Maximus, and when the Master of the company was responding, the middle six could be heard being lowered in peal. Mr. E. A. Young, the hon. secretary of the Central Council, is a Liveryman of the company.

The recent peal of Treble Bob Royal at Leek was not the first in the method for the North Staffs and District Association, as a peal was rung at Stafford on August 16th, 1924, conducted by J. E. Sykes.

A peal of 10,080 New Treble Bob Royal, which was the name by which the Kent Variation was first known, was rung at Huddersfield on November 13th, 1820.

The College Youths rang at Maidstone on November 15th, 1784, a peal of '5,040 Old Oxford Treble Bob Royal.'

## A CALL FOR HELP.

### APPEAL FOR WIDOW AND FAMILY OF A RINGER.

Ringers are ever ready with their practical sympathy when an appeal is made to them in a worthy cause. We, therefore, commend to the Exercise an appeal which is made for the widow and three young children of Mr. Edmund G. Bates, of Dartford, Kent, who, as recorded in our columns recently, was killed in a motor accident while driving a lorry on the Towcester-London road.

Mr. Bates had been a ringer since 1906, and since 1918 had been a member of the Holy Trinity band, Dartford. Illness and domestic troubles had sadly depleted the family finances, and when the tragic accident robbed the wife and three little children—one aged four and twins aged five months—of the breadwinner, they were left practically penniless. In course of time the widow will receive some assistance from compensation and other sources, but the inevitable legal delays leave her dependent upon the assistance of friends.

The present need for help is pressing. We are confident that the Exercise will respond with corresponding promptness and generosity. Contributions should be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., 127, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent, and will be acknowledged in 'The Ringing World.'

## WHERE THE TOWER FELL DOWN.

### SUFFOLK GUILD MEETING AT ACTON.

A meeting of the Lavenham District was held at Acton on Saturday, when members were present from Polstead, Lavenham, Little Waldingfield, Long Melford, and the local band. The musical peal of five at All Saints' Church were rung during the afternoon to touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman and St. Simon's Doubles. Tea was partaken of at the School Cottage, followed by a short business meeting, the Vicar (Rev. Harpur) being in the chair, supported by Mr. Edwards (churchwarden), and Mr. S. H. Symonds (district secretary).—Mr. Edwards was elected an honorary member, Mr. W. Andrews a performing member, and Mr. L. Pryke's previous election was confirmed.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for presiding and for the use of the bells, to Mr. Edwards for attending, and to the ladies for the splendid tea.—The Vicar, in responding, mentioned the fact that the old tower fell down as a result of the Colchester earthquake in 1885, and the present tower was built as a thank offering by a former resident of Acton, for the survival of his son in the Tokio earthquake a few years ago.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Little Waldingfield on Saturday, November 24th.—The meeting concluded with a course of Bob Major on the secretary's 'pocket' set of handbells.



## THE BELLS OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

## THE RECAST RING.

The new bells of St. Martin's Parish Church, Birmingham, are to be dedicated on Saturday afternoon, December 8th. The recast ring are now all in being at the Whitechapel Foundry, where on Friday last the two tenors were cast in the presence of a number of interested visitors, chief among whom were the Rector of Birmingham (Canon Guy Rogers) and Mrs. Rogers, and Mr. Albert Walker (Blinging Master of St. Martin's). The old foundry, with more than 350 years of history and experience behind it, has witnessed the casting of thousands upon thousands of bells, so that the scenes on Friday did not disturb the tranquil smoothness with which the business in hand was dealt with. There was the furnace, with two little channels running from it to what appeared to be merely basin-like hollows made in the earth. The moulds of the great bells were not visible—they were buried in the sand and out of sight—but those to whom the operation was a novelty gazed almost entranced at the stream of molten metal which was released at the psychological moment from the furnace to disappear into an aperture and apparently lose itself in mother earth, but in reality to form what everyone hopes will prove one of the grandest tenors of its weight in the world. And then, when the mould had been filled, skilful hands diverted the flow of metal to the other channel, and the 'eleventh' for St. Martin's was cast. The whole process was carried out, under the direction of Mr. A. A. Hughes, the head of the firm, with so little fuss that one hardly realised that one had been witness of an event of more than passing interest.

Press photographers were busy during the proceedings, and after the large bells had been made, Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Walker each cast a small bell from metal from the same furnace, as a memento of the occasion.

The visitors saw the other ten bells of the peal in the foundry. Some of them were tapped round, and octaves struck, and greatly pleased the critics.

St. Martin's, Birmingham, first had a peal of ten bells in the year 1758, and it is indeed remarkable that the peal of twelve, which is to replace the survivors of that original ten, have been cast on the self-same spot—in the very pit—where their predecessors of a hundred and seventy years ago were brought into being.

The new tenor will be heavier than the old one. The 1758 bell was reputed to be 36 cwt., but it turned out to be somewhat less than this. The new bell will, it is expected, be nearly 37 cwt., and in the key of C. The bells will be hung in the old frame, which is to be strengthened, but in modern fittings, including ball bearings, with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's own device of clapper adjustment, which enables the most exact clapping to be obtained, and, when obtained, permanently secured.

On the new tenor bell will be the inscription—

To the greater glory of God.

These twelve bells were recast and rehung at a cost of £1,025 by Mears and Stainbank, London, A.D. 1928, the cost being provided by the Bell Rope Croft Fund of the Parish Church, Birmingham. Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector; J. J. Kendall, F. W. Blake, Churchwardens; E. G. Albert Walker, Ringing Master.

The Rev. Richd. Dovey, Rector; Carter Burton and Chrstr. Steadman, Ch. Wardens. Lester and Pack, of London, Fecit, 1758.

Possessed of deep sonorous tone, this Belfry King sits on his Throne, And when the merry bells go round, adds to and mellows ev'ry sound. So in a just and well-poised State, where all degrees possess due weight,

One greater power, one greater tone, is ceded to improve their own.' On the other bells the old inscriptions reappear, with the addition: 'Recast 1928, Mears and Stainbank, London.'

The Bell Rope Croft Fund, from which the recasting of the bells is to be defrayed, is a fund created by a legacy. Two hundred years or so ago a 'croft' of land was left by a testator for the provision of bell ropes for St. Martin's. That land is now part of the City of Birmingham, and its value, of course, has grown beyond the dreams of the generous individual who bequeathed it. The 'Rope Croft' not only now provides new ropes, but is providing new bells, and it has provided and will provide in the future many other things for Birmingham's Parish Church.

When the opening of the bells takes place there will be ringing after the service, and it is hoped that it may be possible to arrange a big social gathering in the evening.

## AFTER THIRTY YEARS.

The peal at Harrold, Beds, recorded elsewhere in this issue, was arranged to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the first peal on the bells, which was rung on November 5th, 1898. Mr. C. W. Clarke called the first peal, and again called this one by the special request of the band.

The bells were restored in 1898 by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and they are still in as first-class running order as on the day they were opened. During the whole of the time there has been nothing done to the bells or frame except a coat of paint to the latter.

## TWO ASSOCIATIONS MEET.

## BIG GATHERING OF GUILDFORD AND MIDDLESEX RINGERS.

In the north-west corner of Surrey, the territories of the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the Middlesex County Association are divided only by the River Thames, and last Saturday the two organisations met at a joint gathering at Egham. It was the first venture of the kind for the Guildford Diocesan Guild, and so successful was it that it is hoped that gatherings of this nature may become an established feature in the programme of the Guild. Officially, the meeting was one in which the Chertsey District, which covers Thames-side and neighbouring towers, invited the South and West District of the Middlesex Association to join them; but the gathering resolved itself into something much more than this, for most of the Middlesex Association and Guildford Guild areas were represented, and, to add to the pleasure of the proceedings, there were many present from the neighbouring area of the Oxford Guild. Over sixty were present altogether, and the bells were going early in the afternoon. The local men had everything ready, and their cordial reception of the visitors was enhanced by the wholehearted welcome extended by the Vicar (the Rev. A. C. Tranter). The Guildford Guild's special service was conducted by the Vicar, the hymns used being 'Unchanging God' and 'The sacred bells of England.' Mr. J. A. Dart kindly presided at the organ, and the 'blower' was also enlisted from the congregation.

The Vicar's address from the lectern was one of welcome to the two associations, and of appreciation of the work of the ringers. He raised a smile when he spoke of the complaints he was likely to receive as the result of the ringing that day, but added that as a rule those who complained about bells would grumble at anything. He expected they would even grumble when they got to heaven at the monotony of the colour of the angels' wings.

Tea in the Church Hall was a very happy affair, when eventually accommodation had been found for everyone, for, as usual, there were many more present than had notified their intention of coming. The Vicar presided, and was supported by Messrs. C. T. Coles and W. H. Hollier (joint secretaries of the Middlesex Association), Mr. J. A. Trollope (hon. treasurer of the South and West District), Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (District Ringing Master), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. H. J. Chaffey (Chertsey District secretary), and Mr. W. T. Beeson (Chertsey District Ringing Master). Ringers were present from Christ Church and St. Mary's, Ealing, Southgate, Edmonton, St. John's, Hillingdon, St. Clement Danes', London, St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, Brixton, Guildford Cathedral, Chertsey, Bagshot, Walton, Yorktown, Egham, Thames Ditton, Ottershaw, Farnham, Putney, Kingston, Slough, Iver, Maidenhead, Old Windsor, Cookham, etc.

There was no business transacted, but the meeting expressed its sense of regret at the death of Mr. J. D. Drewett (Master of the Surrey Association) by standing in silence for a few moments.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith expressed regret that the hon. treasurer of the Guild (Admiral T. P. Walker), who, he knew, had been looking forward to that meeting, was unable to be present owing to serious illness, and the meeting passed a resolution of sympathy and of good wishes for his speedy recovery.

Mr. Goldsmith also apologised for the absence of the Master of the Guild (Admiral T. P. Walker), who, he knew, had been looking forward to say how delighted the Guildford Guild was to welcome the members of the Middlesex Association and other visitors among them on that occasion. That meeting was an experiment so far as the Guildford Guild was concerned, but its success led to the hope that there would be many more such. The more they could rub shoulders the better they would be, both as ringers and men, and he hoped that when the Guildford Guild paid the return visit to the Middlesex Association at Sunbury next June the members would attend in equally large numbers.

Mr. W. H. Hollier acknowledged the welcome, and expressed the great pleasure which it gave the Middlesex members to visit their neighbours in this fraternal manner. When the suggestion for the joint meeting was made to him, he at once accepted, and they of the Middlesex Association were looking forward to the return visit next June. In the meantime the Middlesex Association was arranging for a similar fixture with their friends in the Oxford Guild.

Mr. C. T. Coles also acknowledged the reception given to the Middlesex members, and expressed his own pleasure at being present. In the North and East District of the Middlesex Association they had held similar joint meetings with members of the Herts and Essex Associations, and he was convinced that such gatherings did a great deal of good. It promoted friendship among ringers, and did away with that spirit of suspicion which sometimes crept in where associations came in contact with each other. They were not rivals, but all had the same objects in view. Mr. Coles concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the service and address, for his welcome and for presiding at the tea, and this the Rev. A. C. Tranter acknowledged.—Thanks were also accorded to Mr. Dart and Mr. Gilbert for their services at the organ.

Afterwards a little handbell ringing took place, and then the visitors returned to the tower, while others went back over the river to St. Peter's, Staines, where the bells had been placed at their disposal by the kindness of the Vicar, and where Messrs. G. Walsley and W. Parke had everything ready.

## EXTENSION, NOMENCLATURE AND NONSENSE.

BY 'MINORMANIA.'

If a body of ringers were asked to vote upon a question of extension, ninety-nine per cent. would say that they preferred to leave the experts to fight their own battles: in fact, this is the line taken by the Central Council when asked for a decision regarding the Superlative Maximus peal. If asked whom they considered to be the experts, they probably would refer to those gentlemen who have been endeavouring to explain exactly what extension means, viz., Messrs. Baker, Law James, and Trollope.

This attitude of the 'man in the belfry' is largely the result of apathetic indifference, but to some degree it is due to the hopeless mixture of essentials and non-essentials in the mass of argument that is placed before him. The fact that he will not unduly disturb himself in an endeavour to understand is hardly a matter for wonder.

Personally, I have assiduously followed what has been written, and have tried to assimilate the best in the hope of deciding for myself who is right, but must admit that I am confused as to the ultimate aim of some writers. It is not easy for an average ringer to follow what is written; or, at least, to understand why it is written. Some of the articles obviously are intended to enlighten the man who does not know, and yet they are couched in terms that enlighten only the man who already knows—to whom the articles are unnecessary!

Mr. G. Baker's writings are frankly not intended to be elementary. Mainly, they consist of figures and statements, in support of certain theories and facts dealing with scientific argument for and against particular things.

The Rev. H. Law James has written a series of short articles, apparently with the intention of leading us to a certain way of thinking: but they seriously are lacking in explanation, and the examples, in some instances, very badly set forth. Before me, as I write, I have one dated December 9th, 1927, on 'Plain Bob.' I am given the six rows on three bells with '4' covering. I am told to '... hunt the tenor down to lead ... between each section ... (write it out in full) ...' and that I shall get Reverse Bob Minimus.

Well I don't, that's all! I have tried, but it does not come; I can get Bob Minimus, but not the Reverse. My stupidity, I expect, but there it is. For myself, this article is spoilt by lack of adequate example.

Then, on April 13th, 1928, I read that Cambridge Minor is Double Oxford, Double Court (and what not?), with the bare statement that '... this method is derived from the Plain Hunting Course ...'; and along comes 'A Plain Ringer,' who, in a similar way and with only a treble hunt, proves that Bob Minor is Treble Bob! Again Mr. James' article is spoilt by lack of explanation.

And to what end has Mr. James striven? To show that Superlative Major may be extended to Maximus in two ways, either of which (apparently) has a perfectly valid 'scientific' claim to be called 'Superlative.' His summary of the articles appears to indicate that the naming of a particular extension depends entirely upon priority, and he resorts to 'Cambridge-with-plain-hunts' to support his argument. No wonder that the 'plain ringer' complains that the 'theorist pulls wool over his eyes.'

Mr. J. A. Trollope has made the best attempt to lead us to a solution of the problem. His articles are a careful and painstaking appeal to the every-day ringer, and, in spite of his dissertation on cycles and other things, he places his finger on the pulse—the 'work' of the method; he emphasises this one essential fact, that all methods can be extended in alternative ways, valid or otherwise. Both Messrs. James and Trollope have been at pains to convince us of this, and (mark this well) that certain ways have no more claim to be called correct than others. Mr. Baker will, I know, strongly disagree with this, but I am not arguing the 'scientific' side. I am aiming at a commonsense, everyday point of view—that of the man in the belfry.

Messrs. James and Trollope have shown us that Grandsire Triples is Bob Minor plus a bell in the hunt. Please note that 'plus.' This is very true, and a most obvious fact. Mr. Baker, by his Round Blocks, proves that Grandsire Triples (Bob Minor plus a bell in the 'hunt') and Bob Triples (Bob Minor plus a bell in the 'work') are not the same method. Again, a very true and obvious fact. But where is all of this leading us? Nowhere! One day we may know enough of the subject to enable us to agree upon a general and definite line of extension from a 'scientific' point of view, but in the meantime we want guidance in the naming of certain 'extensions.' Get that emphasis on the 'naming,' please. And this guidance should come from our governing body—the Central Council.

During the past few years we have followed the nomenclature controversy. Both 'nomenclature' and 'extension' have widely been discussed, but they have been kept severely apart. I want to express the opinion that this is all wrong, and that they are irrevocably bound: that the question of 'extension' is merely a question of 'nomenclature' and that I strongly disagree with the Rev. H. Drake's expressed opinion of 'one method one name,' for a reason which I hope to make clear.

Quite apart from any question of classification, the primary object in naming a method is for the easy recall to mind of its peculiarities. This could be arranged by numbers, but a name is more impressive upon the memory. A man who knows his 'Minor Methods' well

may be unable to tell you the name of No. 39 Surprise, but he would very likely be able to quote the number of 'Cambridge.'

So, then, we name a method in order to be able easily to visualise it. And to visualise what? The rows, the false course ends, or the Round Blocks? No! The vast majority are interested solely in the 'work.' 'Go Cambridge' tells us immediately what to do. Then the first hearing of the name should be upon the diagram, and other considerations should come after.

Let us agree that a certain method can be extended in many ways. Believe me, it is quite true. It may become an entirely different method; in fact, it certainly will do so. Bob Minor becomes Bob Major on eight, but the two extra bells have caused it to be no longer the same method. No amount of Round Blocks, Secondary Cycles, Bells-in-the-hunt, etc., can alter the fact that Bob Major is not, and never will be, Bob Minor.

Why, then, do we name this particular Major method 'Plain Bob'? Simply and solely because it is the nearest approach to the Minor work that an eight-bell method will give. Simply because, given ropesight, a Minor man easily can adapt himself to the Major, a Major man to Royal, and so on. Or, if you prefer, because a Maximus man can, by similar rules or diagrams, ring the Royal, Major, and Minor of 'this method.'

I learned Kent Treble Bob Minor in a certain way; later, I found that by slightly modifying my rules I could ring the Major and Royal. Mark that 'slightly,' please. I have found that Cambridge Minor will carry me through the Major and Royal without a deal of trouble, and examination of the diagram (or work) of the Maximus tells me that it is fully entitled to be called 'Cambridge.' In this connection, I certainly believe that, given ropesight, two Cambridge Minor bands could ring the Maximus; but perhaps 'B. Sharp' will be appeased if I modify Mr. James' alleged statement, and say that six Cambridge Maximus men undoubtedly could ring Cambridge Minor.

But nothing will convince me that Lincolnshire Major could, by any stretch of imagination, lay claim to the name of 'Cambridge.' The emphasis is upon the 'name.' Lincolnshire may be, it probably is, a scientific and valid extension of Cambridge Minor of some sort; but thinking of my Cambridge Minor does not help me to ring much of the Lincolnshire Major, except (perhaps) the 5/6 piece making.

For this reason, as a man in the belfry, I am content with 'Cambridge' for the name of that Major method with which it is coupled, and I shall remain so until an extension is produced which is nearer to the work of the Minor. 'Round Blocks' tell me that the Minor and Major disagree; Mr. W. Taylor tells me that Lincolnshire has more right to the name of Cambridge! but 'Round Blocks' and Mr. Taylor can go. The work is my guide when deciding between the two methods. Mr. Trollope calls it the 'inherited experience of the Exercise,' and it is the essential factor; point first to the 'work,' and let all other things follow. If Lincolnshire had come 100 years earlier as 'Cambridge,' then, I hope, upon the appearance of our well-tried friend a century later, that the 'Lincolnshire-Cambridge' would have been given another name. And to blazes with history!

It is absurd to bolster theories with continual references to 'historical facts.' If the latter are in direct opposition to present-day common sense the hoary mistakes must go. History has given us false peals and worthless methods, and they have gone. The Methods Committee itself, of which Mr. James is an illustrious member, has given us a Major method named 'Shipway's Court.' Is it as given by Shipway? I think not. In fact, an 'historical fact' has been modernised and has become 'Shipway's Court.' It is an historical fact that Nelson fought and won Trafalgar, but his wooden ships would have had a thin time at Jutland.

Why the Central Council cannot stand firm in the extension question, and say that it will lay down so-and-so, is beyond comprehension. It is quite capable of so doing in spite of a member's depreciatory remarks anent the Superlative Maximus resolution. It has so done in the past. It has told us that we may use only Bob Major lead-ends, and has debarred 'irregular' methods; it has classified methods and defined peals. In accepting the 'Collection of Major Methods' it has forced upon us the 'two-hunt' extensions of Major to Caters, which (apparently) have the same names as the Major, in spite of the fact that the 'two-hunt' extension of Bob Major is called Grandsire Caters. And, right or wrong, its decisions—generally—are accepted.

We grouse about the doings of the Central Council, but this is mainly due to its procrastination, its desire, apparently, to be 'blinded' by science—in other words, to be led by its nose; but in spite of all that we say we are fairly loyal to its rules and decisions.

For better or worse the Central Council must tackle this 'Extension-Nomenclature' question, and it is a pity if the work of the Burton Committee goes for naught. Much good could come from this if only the Council would take the trouble to give it due consideration. To have scrapped it altogether was a wanton act and one well worthy of the Council's brightest efforts. The committee's suggestions could be modified and some of them used, as some sort of general control will have to come. Mr. James has bemoaned the confusion arising from the existing Superlative Royal and Maximus, but it is

(Continued in next column.)

**'SUCCESSFUL'***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—A week's indisposition has prevented me writing about the list of names, but I must get up enough energy to ask what makes a meeting successful?

Is it such a large attendance that many who come have no chance of getting into the belfry, let alone of ringing? Or is it so small an attendance that everyone who comes has a chance of ringing something he cannot get at home, and where each feels after the meeting that he is a better ringer than he was before? We have had both experiences this year, and it would be difficult to say that one was more 'successful' than the other.

Some would say it depends on the number of towers represented, or the wideness of the area so covered; while others would say it depends on the influence which it has on the local band.

Is it the number of methods rung, or their difficulty? The perfection of the striking, or the help given to beginners? The number of new members roped in, or the addition to the skill and satisfaction of the old members?

More logically, is it the amount of business got through in the shortest time, or is it the carefulness of the discussion and the number of people who have been got to speak on it?

I am not asking these questions because I do not agree with your article: I should like to endorse every word of it. At the present time ringing depends on our societies. A ringer who does not support, as far as he fairly can, first his own company and then his own association, is in the position of a 'scab' or a 'blackleg' to a trades union. Every ringer should keep his own company's practice nice and sacred to that practice, and every ringing company should try to send as many members as they can to their association meetings, peals and other arrangements being postponed when necessary.

But, when all is said and done, there can be quite as successful results from small meetings as from large ones; and every secretary should feel he has neglected something, if he has not only had a fair number of six and five-bell tower meetings, but also at least one small meeting, in the way of members present, each year.

HERBERT DRAKE.

**BRISTOL GUILDS' CAMPAIGN.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The Bristol United Ringing Guilds are campaigning among ringers who have left off ringing for some reason.

We have in the Bristol Guild's area a total list of over 160 ringers who would be extremely useful if they could be persuaded to return. These have been (or will be) invited to a reunion evening, November 30th, and I should be extremely grateful if association secretaries, who may know of any ringers having left their home towers to work in Bristol or vicinity, would let me know.

We also suggest this scheme of stimulus to other associations and Guilds.—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE,  
Hon. Secretary.

39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

(Continued from previous column.)

no question of isolated cases. The matter must be tackled in its entirety, and this is what the Burton Committee offered to do.

If the Central Council will appoint a committee to decide what factors shall govern the naming of methods, the extension controversy will die. The committee should be representative and well leavened with practical ringers, and I have no hesitation in saying that a decision could be given. I will court ridicule, and, incidentally, commit myself to heresy, in stating that the factors should be as follow:—

First (and foremost), the diagram (or work).

Secondly, the lead-end, coursing order, and matters practical.

Thirdly, false course-ends and composite considerations.

Lastly (very much so), 'scientific' reasons for or against, in some sort of classified order.

My reasons for this classification? I have already said that a name is a matter of convenience. It should, then, appeal first to the majority, and we have (1) dozens of ringers for every conductor, (2) dozens of conductors for every composer, and (3) dozens of composers for every 'scientist.'

And I am going to carry my nonsense to its logical conclusion. Recently, in a tower, a friend suggested that I should try a course of a method I had never seen, and, naturally, I refused. He then thrust a diagram upon me, and said, 'Study those places, observe the five-pull dodging, and then ring Double Norwich.' I shall always think of that method as 'Double Norwich Surprise Major,' but I am compelled to remember that it is named 'Norfolk'!

Congenital young idiot, you say? Yes, I know! (I did not read the 'first ever,' and I have not steered hundreds of colts through their first peals). Yet, in spite of what I have written, I have a deep respect for bearded experience and its 'natural extension'—historical fact. But when the one borders upon senility and the other becomes a barnacled monstrosity, my respect suffocates and dies. Slowly, perhaps, but surely!

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

A REVISED 'RULE BOOK.'

Monday last was the 291st anniversary of the founding of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and, in accordance with custom, the members will celebrate the event with a dinner to-morrow at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, when a large muster of Metropolitan and provincial members and friends is expected.

Coincident with this event, a revised edition of the society's 'Rules' makes its appearance, and will assuredly be welcomed by the members, as it would be by others in the Exercise, if it were open to purchase. It is far more than a rule book. Produced in elegant style and in a manner befitting a society with such traditions, it contains admirable reproductions of the society's famous certificate, which was engraved by Bartolozzi, of the chased brass plate on the cover of the original Name Book of the society, and of the elegantly-designed 'Invitation card' which was used in the eighteenth century. Only two copies of this card are known to exist, and these are now in the British Museum and the Guildhall Library. Had one lived in those days the invitation card would not easily have been mislaid, for it measured ten inches by eight inches! Another illustration is that of some of the most cherished property of the society, including the silver bell, the cups and the candlesticks which adorn the Master's table at the meetings of the society.

The booklet contains a concise history of the society, which was founded in 1637, its name being derived, according to Dr. Raven-ford, 'The College of the Holy Ghost and Hospital of God's House,' founded by the famous Dick Whittington in 1424. This college was situated upon the east side of College Hill, Upper Thames Street, in the City of London. The first Master was Lord Brereton, and the second Sir Cliffe Clifton, who were among those who founded the society.

A list of the Masters from 1637 to 1755, and from 1822 down to the present year, is given. Unfortunately, the custom of recording in the Name Book the Master for each year fell into abeyance, and there is consequently no record of those who occupied the office in the interval. The list contains some famous names, including Fabian Steadman, Benjamin Annable, and at least one Lord Mayor of London, Sir Henry Tulse, who was elected to the office in 1684. A list of notable performances is given, and following the actual rules themselves is an inventory of the society's property, which is varied and interesting, and among which the irreplaceable record books are the most cherished.

There should be a great demand for this little publication, and College Youths the world over will, we are sure, be anxious to possess a copy of it. It will be on sale to-morrow at the dinner, when the price at which it will be published will be announced. The work of revision has been admirably carried out by a committee consisting of the Master (Mr. J. S. Hawkins), the hon. secretary (Mr. W. T. Cockerill), the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. A. Hughes), and Messrs. G. N. Price, W. Roughton and E. Alex. Young.

**BELL LECTURE AT WINCHESTER COLLEGE**

On Sunday evening, October 28th, Mr. Nolan Golden, of North-repps, Norfolk, a student at King Alfred College, Winchester, gave an interesting lecture on 'The history and manufacture of English church bells' to an audience of upwards of forty in the Science Lecture Room. Among those present were a number of the Cathedral ringers, including Mr. Wilfred Andrews, the captain, and several tutors and students of the college.

Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, provided lantern slides, and Mr. Golden wishes, through the medium of this paper, to thank them for their kindness. Mr. E. A. Young also supplied the lecturer with valuable information in an interesting correspondence.

Following a description of the introduction of bells into England, and of the gradual equipment of towers with rings, the lecturer went on to speak of inscriptions on old bells, gave an account of the history of bell tones, and explained in detail the object aimed at in 'Simpson tuning.'

The whole process of founding was next dealt with, and the evolution of a set of bells from the casting stage to the hanging in the tower was explained with the help of the slides.

The lecturer next explained the difference between a 'ring' of bells and a 'carillon,' pictures of several examples of each being shown. Some famous big bells cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., such as 'Great Peter' of York, 'Great Paul,' and 'Great George' at Bristol University, were also depicted, and the lecturer explained how they were used.

At the end of the talk Mr. Andrews invited any members of the college who were interested to visit the Cathedral on any Sunday afternoon in order to see the twelve bells there actually ringing.

There are four ringers now in residence at the college.

**HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.**—For evensong, October 7th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major in 15 mins.: Aircraftsman Godden (Grantham) 1, J. Taylor 2, Miss E. Hopkin 3, A. Bashford 4, Miss N. Cawthorne 5, J. Garth 6, F. Curdwell 7, F. Watkinson (conductor) 8. Arranged for first quarter-peal for the ringer of the 4th, and for the treble ringer, who was a member of the local company previous to joining the Air Force.

### DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING AT NEWCASTLE.

The annual meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, which is held alternatively at the two Cathedral cities, was held in Newcastle on October 27th. After a committee meeting in the vestry the festival service was held in the choir of the Cathedral, the address being given by the Rector of Gateshead, Canon Stephenson, who described his strange experiences in a broadcasting studio, with only the announcer present, but talking to thousands of unseen listeners. He compared this to the ringer in the belfry, with only his fellow-ringers to be seen, but a vast congregation in the streets around having their thoughts thrown back to events in their lives connected with the sound of the bells.

The dinner and annual meeting were held at the Crown Hotel, about sixty members and friends being present, Mr. C. L. Routledge, president, being in the chair. The clergy present were Bishop G. J. Wood (Vicar of Jesmond), Canon Holmes (Tynemouth, curate of the Cathedral). After the loyal toast, Mr. William Story (Newcastle) proposed the health of 'The clergy of the two dioceses,' and made a strong appeal to the members not to neglect their duty as churchmen after they had done their duty in the belfry on Sundays. The Bishop responded in a delightfully humorous speech.



MR. E. E. FERRY, THE NEW PRESIDENT.

The hon. treasurer (Mr. G. S. Taylor, Sunderland) presented the financial statement, which showed a balance on the right side of £14 7s. 2d., which was considered very satisfactory in view of the fact that a full report had been published this year.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. E. Ferry, Newcastle), read the 51st annual report, and also referred to his work during the eight years of his secretaryship in building up the association again after the war. He reported that the first certificate for Sunday service ringing (8, 10 and 12-bell towers) had been won by Christ Church, North Shields, and the second by St. Ignatius', Sunderland, Newcastle Cathedral being third. Of the six-bell towers, Hurworth-on-Tees came first, and St. Oswald's, Durham, second. Forty-eight peals had been rung during the year, Mr. E. A. Hern breaking all records of the association by conducting 21 of them.

Mr. J. C. Pollard, president of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the officers for their work during the year, and the officers for the coming year were elected as follow: President, Mr. E. E. Ferry; secretary, Mr. G. S. Taylor; treasurer, Mr. J. W. Parker; editorial secretary, Mr. C. L. Routledge; and auditor, Mr. J. F. Bird.

In the course of a general discussion, Mr. C. Todd, Darlington, elicited the fact that owing to the expense the peal book had not been written up for some years, and the new secretary undertook to have this remedied as soon as possible.

### KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

#### LEWISHAM DISTRICT OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The annual meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. Mary's, Woolwich, on Saturday, October 27th, 1928. During the afternoon the bells were made good use of in all the standard methods from Grand sire Triples to London Surprise.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. A. W. Pickering), who gave a very interesting address. Tea, provided by the generosity of St. Mary's ringers, was efficiently served by their wives and friends. Some fifty members partook of the repast, but, despite their best efforts, failed to dispose of all the good things provided, a sufficient indication of the burden under which the tables groaned.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. The secretary read a report on the work of the past year, and this was adopted.

(Continued in next column.)

### NORFOLK GUILD. THE PROPOSED REORGANISATION.

A general meeting of the Norfolk Guild was held at King's Lynn on Saturday, October 27th, when, by the kind permission of the Rev. Jacob Blackbourne, C.M.G., M.A., Vicar of King's Lynn, the ring of ten bells at St. Margaret's and the ring of eight bells at St. Nicholas' were placed at the disposal of the members. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from the president (the Archdeacon of Norwich), the Archdeacon of Lynn, the Rev. J. Blackbourne, and Mr. B. S. Thompson. The Rev. A. N. Garrett (curate of King's Lynn) was voted to the chair, in the absence of the president of the Guild. He was supported by the secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman), the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, the Rev. R. L. B. Oliver, Messrs. W. J. Eldred, C. S. Tutthill and twenty-four members from the King's Lynn and Fakenham Districts.

The Secretary moved the ratification of the belfry election of Mr. Frederick Donch, prior to peal on August 15th, 1928.—Mr. Coleman also moved, and Mr. J. H. Roper seconded, the election of the Rev. Robert Lewis Baillie Oliver, M.A., Vicar of Dersingham, as honorary ringing member of the Guild.

The Secretary announced the resignation of Mr. George Hawes, district secretary, King's Lynn, and moved that Mr. William J. Eldred be elected district secretary for King's Lynn, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Secretary then gave a brief outline on the suggested reorganisation of the Guild into divisions coterminous with the three archdeaconries of the diocese of Norwich, in place of the eleven existing districts, and said that in the event of the divisions taking their titles from those of their respective archdeaconries, he thought it would be quite a logical course for the Guild to revert to its old diocesan title, viz., 'The Norwich Diocesan Association.' Mr. Coleman pointed out that there was a movement amongst some of the associations and Guilds bearing territorial titles to adopt diocesan titles where possible, and he thought such a movement to be in the right direction in consideration of the ringing Guilds and associations being so closely bound up with the work of the Church, and being purely diocesan in character, and, fortunately, no longer secular, as they once were. However, he would leave the matter there, and invite the members present to discuss the subject, for which the meeting was especially summoned.

Mr. W. J. Eldred said he thought that the only means of obtaining a real expression of opinion from the members on the matter of reorganisation was by a circular in the form of a questionnaire to all members, the attendances at the general meeting of the Guild being too small to take a vote upon such an important matter.—Mr. Eldred moved, and Mr. W. Curston seconded, that a circular be drawn up in the form of a questionnaire, and be sent to all members resident in Norfolk.—The motion was carried.

Mr. C. S. Tutthill said that he would be strongly against any change in the present title. He thought 'The Norfolk Guild' was the right one.

The Secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman) moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. Blackbourne for the use of the bells of St. Margaret's and St. Nicholas' Churches, and for the use of the Chapter Court in St. Nicholas' Church for holding the meeting, and also to the Rev. A. N. Garrett for presiding.—The Rev. R. L. B. Oliver moved a vote of thanks to the secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman), who responded gratefully to the kind remarks made.

The members then adjourned to the belfries of St. Margaret's and St. Nicholas', where some good touches were rung in the standard methods of Triples, Caters, Major and Royal, and so ended a useful and successful meeting.

(Continued from previous column.)

The election of one member previous to a peal at Beckenham was confirmed.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the re-appointment of the retiring district secretary (Mr. A. G. Hill) and two Central Committee representatives.

St. John's, Lewisham, was chosen as the place for the next quarterly meeting in January.

Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., notified the members that a member of Holy Trinity, Dartford, band of ringers, Mr. E. Bates, had met with a fatal accident while at work, and had left his widow in straitened circumstances, with three children to support. Mr. Bates had been a member of the association for a great number of years.

Mr. W. J. Jeffries moved, Mr. W. Smith seconded, and it was decided, that an application for aid be sent to the association's Benevolent Committee on behalf of Mrs. Bates.—The secretary was instructed to convey the meeting's sympathy to Mrs. Bates.

Mr. F. W. Thornton moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for presiding at the meeting, to the ringers for their generous hospitality, to the ladies for attending to the catering, and to the organist (Mr. R. Scales) for his services. The motion was carried with applause, and the Vicar, in responding, invited any member who was able to help his hand on their practice night (Tuesday).—Mr. Scales also responded, as did Mr. Aldridge (leader) and Mr. C. E. Palmer (local secretary) on behalf of the ringers and ladies respectively.

This concluded a successful meeting, and after some handbell ringing the company returned to the tower for further touches.

**SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**DENHOLME, YORKSHIRE.**—On Sunday, November 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: W. Foster 1, J. Windle 2, A. Birstow 3, A. J. Smallbones 4, W. Proctor 5, L. Rawnsley 6, V. Birstow (conductor) 7, M. Harrison 8. First quarter-peal on the bells by a local band. Longest length in this method for all the ringers.

**LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.**—On November 4th, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, A. Woolston 3, A. Phillips 4, G. H. Carter (conductor) 5, W. Lawrence 6.—For evening service, 720 Oxford Delight: W. Williams 1, W. S. Lawrence 2, S. Head 3, A. Phillips 4, W. H. Lawrence 5, G. H. Carter (conductor) 6.

**GREAT BARDFIELD, ESSEX.**—At St. Mary-the-Virgin's Church, for evening service, on November 4th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes): W. Richardson 1, G. Hills 2, A. Piper 3, F. Suckling 4, W. Piper 5, G. Piper 6, E. Townsend 7, J. Jennings (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal by the local band of Sunday service ringers, and the first on the bells since they were made into a peal of eight.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL TOUCHES.**

**DURHAM.**—On Sunday evening, October 21st, at the Church of St. Oswald for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes) in 43 mins., being 360 changes each of New Doubles, Grand-sire, and St. Simon, and 180 changes of Plain Bob: G. A. Johnson 1, J. E. Temple 2, A. Clement 3, C. F. Vasey 4, W. H. Johnson (conductor) 5, W. R. Natrass 6. First quarter-peal in four methods by all the band, who are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

**WANDSWORTH.**—On Friday, October 19th, at All Saints' Church, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): W. E. G. Hewson 1, W. E. Stacey 2, T. W. Welbourne 3, E. E. Bish 4, W. Essery 5, J. Rumley 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, W. G. Gray 8.

**DEPTFORD.**—At St. John's Church, on Wednesday, October 17th, for harvest festival service, the last quarter-peal of Holt's 'Original' in 42 mins.: E. Flower 1, C. Elliott 2, H. G. Martyn 3, W. A. Martin 4, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 5, R. Steers 6, C. Davis 7, A. F. Petrie 8.

**BRATON, WILTS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, October 7th, for evening service, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Doubles in 44 mins.: B. Cook 1, C. H. Lawrence (conductor) 2, L. P. Tinnams (first quarter-peal) 3, H. J. Smith 4, F. Emm 5, A. J. Smith 6.

**LATE NOTICES.**

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Grappenhall Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch and dedication of the bells after rehanging will take place at Grappenhall on Saturday, November 17th. Service at 4 p.m., followed by meeting. Will all ringers requiring tea please let me know before November 14th?—G. A. Taylor, Hon. Sec., The Village, Grappenhall.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Burton District.—The next district meeting will be held at Ashby Parish Church on Saturday, November 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea in Parish Room 5 p.m. The Vicar is kindly providing tea for all who notify Mr. E. W. Beadsmoore, 1, Avenue Road, Ashby, by the 15th. All welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec. pro. tem.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry will be held at Trumpington on Nov. 17th. Bells (6) recently rehung 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea advise Miss K. Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambs. by 14th instant? May I request members to try and attend. Good bus service from Cambridge (2 miles).—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ryde on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Welby Institute. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than 21st instant?—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

**NOTICES.**

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The 291st anniversary dinner will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10th, at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., at 6.30 p.m. Towers open for ringing from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.: St. Andrew's, Holborn (8 bells), St. Magnus', Lower Thames Street (10 bells), Southwark Cathedral (12 bells). Service at St. Michael's, College Hill, at 5 o'clock. Preacher: Rev. F. L. Edwards.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at Southwark Cathedral on November 29th, St. Magnus' on the 22nd, \*St. Giles', Cripplegate on the 11th, at 5.30 for evensong, and on the 13th (election night), St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 15th, \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 27th, all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.**—Exeter Branch.—Special practices in Minor methods will be held at 7.30 p.m. as follows: St. Petroe, Exeter, Nov. 15th; Exminster, Nov. 21st; and Newton St. Cyres, Nov. 29th. All Guild members welcome.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—The district annual meeting will be held at Leyton (8 bells) on Saturday, November 10th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea in Parish Hall, Church Road, 5.15.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Shipley on Saturday, November 10th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 5.30, and 6.30 to 9. Tea, at a charge of 1s. 9d. per head, will be provided to all those who send in their names to Mr. E. H. Simpson, 18, Wainman Street, Shipley.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea (6d. each) at 6 p.m. Those desiring tea notify Mr. E. Humphriss, Stoneleigh Cottage, Woolton. Special methods: Stedman and Spliced Treble Bob.—Claude J. Davies, Branch Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Watford on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Usual arrangements.—K. J. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon.

**ST. CLEMENT YOUTHS.**—St. Clement Danes' Strand.—Ringing every Sunday 10 a.m. Nov. 11th: Half-muffled ringing before and after morning service; also ringing for evening service 5.30 to 6.30. All visitors welcome.—F. W. H. Sergison, Hon. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—Practice meeting at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill, on Tuesday, Nov. 13th. Bells from 7-9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17th, at the Church of St. Andrew, Wells Street. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea, meeting, ringing and social hour. A welcome to all. Please notify your intention to be present to J. Herbert, Hon. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Loughborough District. — The next meeting will be held at Castle Donington on Nov. 17th. Bells (6) ready 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton, St. Thomas' Church, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells ready 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Please look up Double Norwich and Oxford. All ringers welcome. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lincoln District.—Next meeting at Branston (6), Saturday, Nov. 17th. Tower open 2 p.m. Excellent bus service to and from St. Mary's Street and St. Mark's. All ringers heartily welcome. Notification for tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division. — The annual district meeting will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Will all members requiring tea please notify Mr. G. Green, 3, Bell Street, Great Baddow, by the Wednesday previous? A good attendance please. All ringers welcome.—R. C. Clark, Dis. Sec., 8, Hill Road, Chelmsford.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Irthlingborough (8) on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Will all who require tea kindly let me know by Nov. 13th?—S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wrington on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.** — A ringing meeting will be held at Limpsfield Chart on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Tower open at 3. As arrangements are difficult to make, will those who require tea let me know by Wednesday, Nov. 14th? — George Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Drayton (8 bells) on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea should give notice not later than Wednesday, the 14th.—F. Farrant, Hon. Sec., Martock.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at St. Paul's, Wokingham, Saturday, Nov. 17th, from 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome. Branch committee meeting 5 p.m.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Shaw (half-mile from Newbury) on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 1s. Business meeting afterwards. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea please advise me by Wednesday, Nov. 14th? H. W. Curtis, Hon. Branch Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Linsdale on Saturday, Nov. 17th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. (The tower is one minute from Leighton Buzzard Station.)—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Biggleswade District.—The annual meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Address by Mr. A. Sowden. Tea at 5.15. All ringers welcome. — C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will take place at Evesham on Saturday, November 24th. Service will be held in St. Lawrence's Church at 5 p.m., with an address by the Rev. G. S. Stubbs. Tea will be provided, but it is important that names should be sent to me not later than the Tuesday previous. Bells (10) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD'S BIRTHDAY.**—Final arrangements are being made with regard to the celebration of the above. Stoke and Allesley bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. A meat tea will be provided for all members and friends at the Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry, on November 24th, at 6 p.m., to be followed by a social evening. A good programme is being arranged, and it is hoped that members will turn up with their wives in goodly numbers. Tickets, at 2s. 9d. each, can be had not later than November 20th from Mr. F. W. Perrens, 45, Engleton Road, Radford, Coventry, or the Sec., J. A. Fenton, 6, Frederick St., Rugby

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division. — The annual district meeting will be held at Sible Hedingham on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Short service at 4.30, followed by tea. Will all requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Nov. 20th? All ringers welcome.—W. Arnold, Dis. Sec., Holt Street, Earls Colne.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells available from 2.30. Will those intending being present please inform Mr. R. Rigby, Bridgefoot, Eccleston, not later than Tuesday, Nov. 20th? A good attendance requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. A short service has been arranged for 5 p.m., followed by tea at 5.30 p.m. Will all those who will require tea please notify me in order to facilitate catering?—D. C. Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., The School House, Offley, Hitchin.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—The next bye-meeting of the district will be held at Goodnestone, near Wingham, on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells (5) available from 3 p.m. The secretary will endeavour to make arrangements for the Wingham tower to be at the disposal of ringers in the evening.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Sec., Fair View, Littlebourne.

**ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.**—Practice nights, Mondays, 8-9.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. E. Judd.

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