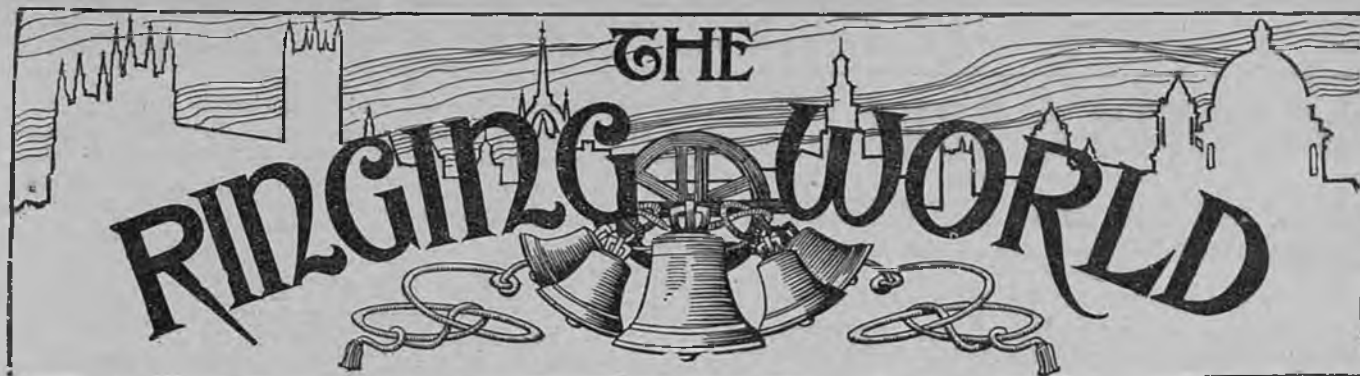




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FRIDAY, MARCH 19th, 1937.

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AN OLD LONDON SOCIETY.

The revival of the annual dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was a well merited success, with an attendance beyond expectations. The event had been allowed to lapse for many years, but a new spirit of enterprise, introduced by younger members, is leading to greater activities and the interest shown in last Saturday's venture promises a rejuvenation of this old London Society whose history goes back over two hundred years. Like other similar organisations, the Cumberlands have had their up and downs, but their long, unbroken existence gives them a proud position in the Exercise.

The history of ringing in London was, for nearly two centuries at any rate, written round the Cumberlands and their still older 'rivals,' the College Youths, with, through part of the time, a link between them in the old St. James's Society, since expanded into the London County Association. But with the College Youths and Cumberlands in the 'good old days' rested the maintenance and expansion of change ringing in the Metropolis. Their rivalries led to many great peal performances, and personal jealousies resulted in quite a number of leading ringers at different times going from one society to the other, and sometimes, as we know, back again. To this day no man can be a member of both societies at the same time, and there is no sign of this traditional mutual bar being broken down. The 'feeling' between the two societies has sometimes been strong, but the founding of the St. James's Society in the early part of last century brought the members into closer ringing contact, for in those distant days, of course, there were no territorial associations to provide a common meeting ground. Nevertheless, there have often been signs of ill-feeling, which, we hope, with the coming of a new generation, will entirely disappear. On Saturday expressions of goodwill and friendliness were made on both sides, and there could be no more fitting occasion than this tercentenary year of the College Youths for a complete rapprochement.

In these days of a changed outlook on the whole purpose of church bellringing there should be no room for partisan strife. Opportunities for practising the art are now so much enlarged that there is ample room for all, and these two old societies especially can find plenty of scope for their energies without any treading on corns on either side. We believe that the younger men who are now taking up the reins, or will soon do so, will have a wider outlook than some of their predecessors, from the mere fact that they approach their ringing from a different angle. The time has gone by for narrow pre-

(Continued on page 178.)

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judices, mean jealousies and suspicion in ringing, and we look forward to an era when the members of these two ancient societies and all others will meet in a rivalry that has as its only inspiration the desire to further the art of ringing and foster the spirit of service to the Church.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ROCHESTER, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE BLESSED

VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

TOM SAUNDERS 2	WILLIAM BUTTON 6
FRANK BELSEY 2	THOMAS E. SONE 7
HARRY SPRINGETT 3	LUTHER J. HONESS 8
WILLIAM GORRINGE 4	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS 9
JAMES G. POWELL 5	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. H. Button. This is the 50th Kent tower in which Mr. A. P. Cannon has rung a peal. The composition (No. 255) is rung for the first time.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*AIDAN J. N. BOYACK Treble	†MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT 6
JOHN H. WILKINS 2	ROBERT MAYNARD, JUN. 7
HENRY ROMENS 3	ALBERT A. HUGHES 8
FRED C. MAYNARD 4	ERNEST E. HOLMAN 9
ROBERT MAYNARD, SEN. 5	†HENRY STRANGE Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by R. MAYNARD, JUN.
* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Caters. ‡ First peal.

GREENWICH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ALPBEGE,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 6
*GEORGE M. KILBY 2	*JOSEPH MARKS 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT 3	*FRANK E. DARBY 8
HARRY HOSKINS 4	*JAMES H. RIDING 9
EDWIN F. PIKE 5	REUBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.
* First peal of Yorkshire Royal. First peal of Yorkshire Royal on the bells and in the county of Kent.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 6, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt, 3 qr. 21 lb.

JAMES FERNLEY Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
*KENNETH LEWIS 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6
†REV. FRANK BONNER 3	LIONEL CLOUGH 7
WILLIAM FERNLEY 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal of Kent Major. † First peal and rung at first attempt.

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WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, March 10, 1937, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

T. COLIN RYDER Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL 5
TOM BROTHWELL 2	ARTHUR FIRTH 6
MISS N. CAWTHORNE 3	REGINALD PAYNE 7
LESLIE HEYWOOD 4	ALBERT NASH Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by ALBERT NASH.

First peal in the method by the ringers of 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 and on the bells.

LITTLEPORT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5038 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

ROBERT SMITH Treble	REGINALD L. LATHBURY 5
BERRY WAYMAN 2	T. REGINALD DENNIS 6
*ARTHUR G. BASON 3	†SIDNEY BROWN 7
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 4	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.

* First peal of Superlative. † First Surprise peal. The conductor's 225th peal.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH Treble	CHARLES SHEMMING 5
*SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 2	GEORGE A. FLEMMING 6
SHELFORD SPARROW 3	HARRY D. LISTER 7
ERNEST F. POPPY 4	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* First attempt for a peal in the method.

LODDON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

NOLAN GOLDEN Treble	*GODFREY G. WALPOLE 5
GEORGE MAYERS 2	*ARTHUR G. KING 6
STANLEY W. COPLING 3	HENRY TOORE 7
*R. WILLIAM BARBER 4	WILLIAM J. CLOVER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Superlative.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LYDIARD MILLICENT, WILTS.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. (approx.).

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.	
*A. HAMILTON STRANGE Treble	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON 4
†CHARLES J. HAYBAY 2	RALPH SHAIRES 5
LOUIS A. WILSON 3	*NORMAN C. WHEELER Tenor

Conducted by W. B. KYNASTON.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells. Rung as a compliment to the Rector (the Rev. D. P. Harrison) on attaining his 80th birthday and on the completion of 55 years in the ministry.

MARGATE.—On Sunday, March 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Stockbridge (first quarter-peal) 1, F. Gadsden 2, R. Dadds 3, A. Dadds (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, E. Spickett 5, J. Waghorn 6, A. Saxby 7, R. Whybrow 8.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob, called differently.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

A. W. KING Treble	GEORGE SAYER 4
H. C. READ 2	WALTER C. MEDLER 5
*CLIFFORD BIRD 3	GEORGE BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BAILEY.

* First peal of Minor. † First touch of Surprise.

NETTLEHAM, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, and two extents of Plain Bob, called differently.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*S. GEORGE VESSEY Treble	THOMAS VESSEY 4
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5
†JACK VESSEY 3	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY Tenor

Conducted by C. A. VESSEY.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in six methods 'inside.' 25th peal as conductor. First peal in six methods on the bells.

KINGSLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Werburgh,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of York, Ipswich, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

ERNEST TWIGG Treble	JOHN G. CARLIDGE 4
HENRY CARNWELL 2	*BURLY P. MORRIS 5
WILLIAM EDWARDS 3	WILLIAM CARNWELL Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM CARNWELL.

* First peal of Minor in seven methods. Arranged for Mr. B. P. Morris, of Kettering, Northants.

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Viz.: Two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

*JOHN HASSELL Treble	†HERBERT MCKINNELL 4
NORMAN HOUGH 2	†FRANK REYNOLDS 5
*JOSEPH SAUNDERS 3	ALAN J. BROWN Tenor

Conducted by ALAN J. BROWN.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

SUTTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 25 methods, viz.:

- (1) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh and Abbeyville Delight.
- (2) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden and Marple Delight.
- (3) Charlwood and Braintree Delight.
- (4) Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
- (5) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Morning Star Treble Bob.
- (6) Capel, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob.
- (7) Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER Treble	WILFRED STEVENSON 4
JOHN WORTH 2	KENNETH LEWIS 5
THOMAS TAYLOR 3	JAMES A. MILNER Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH LEWIS.

There were 54 changes of method. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble. First peal in 25 methods as conductor.

BIDSTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. O. WALD.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Boverley and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford and Plain Bob.
Tenor 5 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

* JOSEPH SMITH Treble	FREDERICK DAVIES 4
JAMES F. SMITH 2	FRANK VARTY 5
DOUGLAS WATSON, JUN. ... 3	THOMAS ROGERS Tenor

Conducted by F. VARTY.

* First peal in seven methods.

OXENHOPE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Plain Bob, two of Oxford and three of Kent Treble Bob, called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ABRAM PARKER Treble	DENNIS MAUDE 4
HERBERT HELLIWELL ... 2	ALLAN RUSHWORTH ... 5
* STANLEY WHITEHEAD ... 3	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ... Tenor

Conducted by A. BAIRSTOW.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 10, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes.

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5005 CHANGES;

CARTER'S BROADSHEET, No. 132.	Tenor size 17 in 8 flat.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY ... 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	ALFRED BARNES 7-8

* HARRY ASHTON 9-10

Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Umpire—Peter Iaffin

Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

* First peal of Stedman and first on ten bells. Rang as a birthday compliment to Mr. Hiram Meakin, who attained the age of 70 on the 8th inst.

SPLICED SURPRISE RINGING RECORDED.

WATFORD MEN'S HANDBELL PERFORMANCE.
To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your readers will, I am sure, be pleased to know that a record has now been made of the 'Spliced' Surprise handbell ringing by the Watford band. The recording is of a touch of 352 changes in five Surprise methods, contained on two sides of a 12 inch record, and, I understand, except for two small trips on the second side, the record is perfect. The conductor is also heard calling the bobs and the change of methods.

The record has been made privately, but, provided sufficient orders are received, a limited supply, at an approximate cost of 4s. 6d. each, will be made available for those who require them. The cost will include carriage.

If any of your readers wish to take advantage of this offer and will advise me at once, I will pass the information to the right quarter.

G. W. FLETCHER.

45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

(Continued from next column.)

The Wrong in the second touch need not give any trouble, as it is called in the lead after the last Before.

When you have a series of calls in one position, like the three successive Betimes in the second touch, it is as well to make some other 'observation' so that you will know when the last of these calls has been made. In this case quite a good one would be to note that when the third Before is called the bell that comes out of the hunt is the one coming Before at the next part end. The good conductor, of course, always knows what his part ends are going to be. In this touch the last Before puts this particular bell in coursing order behind the second.

FOR BEGINNERS.

MORE ABOUT CALLING GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

In addition to calling Grandsire Triples by the position of the 'observation' bell; that is, the bell that returns to the same position at each part end, it is often possible and even more convenient to call touches and peals by the bells 'Before.' This means that you have to memorise the bells that will make the ordinary 3rd's place at the bobs.

An easy example of this kind of thing is the touch of 350 which can be got by calling any of the bells (except the 2nd) five times Before. The place to make the actual call, as we pointed out last week, is when the bell hunting down in front of the treble begins its whole pull at lead. What the bob caller has to watch for, therefore, is the lead in which the bell he has selected to call Before is hunting in front of the treble, and call the bob when that bell reaches the front.

This, in turn, implies that he must be able to watch the coursing order of the bells. At first perhaps he will be able to do this only as he passes them with his own bell, but he will see a lot more than that as he progresses. He must learn to make a mental note of the order in which he meets the bells. In this way he will soon have such a command of the ringing that if two bells try to do the same work he will be able unerringly to put them into their right coursing order.

Only practice will make a conductor efficient in this, but there are certain things which he can learn that facilitate his mental transpositions. The first and simplest is that when he meets the treble, the next bell must be the bell in the hunt. Another is that the bell that is hunting in front of the treble in one lead will be after the bell in the hunt in the next. And that leads to the 'cycle' which all the bells follow. This is how the bells come to lead in the plain course after the hunt bell (the 2nd) has led the first time:—

3467512 5346712 7534612 6753412 4675312

Notice how the order remains unchanged except that the bell in front of the treble takes its place next time immediately after the 2nd. It is hardly necessary, perhaps, to explain that the last 2 in the series is really outside this plain course.

When a bob is called the transpositions affect three bells instead of one. The bell in the hunt is changed and a new cycle is set up. Suppose we call a bob at the first lead, then the order becomes

3467517 5234617 6523417 4652317 etc.

The last two bells in front of the treble take their places immediately after the treble and in front of the bell leaving the hunt. Then the cycle plan proceeds as for a plain lead with the changed hunt bell.

When the touch is being called by the bells 'Before,' the conductor must follow this cycle of hunting, and, if he is observant, he will notice how in each lead the bell he is waiting to call Before will gradually close up to the treble. After he has called it Before once, he will find that the next time he meets it he will have four bells between it and the treble; the next lead three bells; the next lead two and the next one bell. In the following lead it will be immediately in front of the treble and then the next bob has to be called.

Sometimes it is useful to be able to base your observations upon the bells going into the hunt as well as those Before. In that case you call the bob in the lead when you have one bell between the bell going In and the treble. If you watch the coursing order carefully to note the wanted bell closing up to the treble, you should not have much trouble in observing it, but remember the actual 'call' has still to be made when the 3rd's place bell leads.

Now here are two quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples that have been sent us by Mr. H. J. Trim, which will give the young conductor good practice. They lend themselves to calling either from the 'observation' bell, which is the 2nd, or by the bells Before and In. They are each in five parts and the part ends are the lead ends of the plain course, in varying order. In the first, the leads of the plain course are in reverse order. At the side we have put the calling positions of the observation bell.

234567		234567	
672453	Out at 2	752634	Out at 1
256734	In	527634	Before
472356	Out at 1	625473	Before
724356	Before	426357	Before
247356	In	734526	Wrong
632547	Out at 1	267453	In
246375	In		

(Continued in previous column.)

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WING BELLS. AND THE PEAL AT QUEEN CAMEL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As I was the one responsible for sending you the account of the ringing at Wing, Bucks, I feel I must write a reply to Mr. J. Hunt. My statement that the bells are unpealable would, I am sure, be corroborated by other bands who have rung them. If we had rung them from the ground floor (the usual ringing room), we should not have been able to ring even a 720. By ringing in a room right under the bells we made things a bit better, but had the disadvantage of excessive noise, and also a tendency on the part of some of the ropes to slip wheel, due to the smallness of the holes in the floor through which the sallies had to pass (though this luckily did not occur during the 720). Still, the bells are there for any who would like to try their luck, but those who do so will have to be prepared to put in nearly three hours getting them ready before starting, and that might damp their enthusiasm a bit!

Now to the second paragraph in his letter re the peal at Queen Camel. I don't quite see what that performance has to do with ringing at Wing. However, I should like to correct one misapprehension in his letter, viz., 'the tenorman had enough in the fourth 720.' This is entirely misconstrued. What I said in 'The Ringing World' for January 8th was 'Double Oxford coming No. 4 was rather hard work, and the writer was glad when that was finished.' That statement certainly does not imply I had 'had enough'! It meant that I was glad to change to a method which did not require so much dodging and snapping. As a matter of fact, having now rung a peal there, I and the rest of the band do not consider it such a hard task as we had expected.

The excellent 'go' of the bells helped us considerably, and I can fully appreciate what they were like before they were rehung, and also Mr. J. T. Dyke's fine achievement in ringing the tenor to a peal of Minor in 1925. As they are now, the Rev. C. E. Wigg or myself would be quite prepared to ring the tenor again to a peal in an increased number of methods. But we don't want to be greedy, so what about another band, entirely strangers to the bells, having an attempt? Now then, you heavy bells aspirants, roll your sleeves up!

A. P. CANNON.

118, Sansfield Road, Balham, London, S.W.12.

TENOR RINGERS' QUALIFICATIONS.

Dear Sir.—In reference to the letter in your last issue from an old friend, J. Hunt, of Taunton, may I be allowed space to add a few comments? In my varied experience there are two kinds of tenormen. One, the tenor ringer, the other a tenor 'slogger,' and I will go further and say without fear of contradiction that to become a tenor 'ringer' requires three important things: patience, endurance and skill, which can only be acquired by constant practice.

In some cases there are other factors which have to be taken into account. I quote one only for illustration. Some years ago I got together a band to attempt a peal of Cambridge at Great Waltham, Essex, and we were successful, notwithstanding these noble bells had had such a bad reputation for years, but we were lucky in that we went just after a long period of wet weather. The tenor was rung by the popular District Master of the Northern Division, Mr. A. Saunders, I myself calling Middleton's 5,056 from the 6th. I may add that six of the band are still alive and can verify my statement. Some time after this peal the late Mr. W. Pye took a band there to attempt another Surprise peal, but, although stripping to the skin, they had, after several fruitless starts, to admit defeat, the simple reason being the weather.

I hear these noble bells are to be rehung in an entirely new frame and fittings, and, if so, they will be a valuable addition to the ringable bells of Essex.

Colchester.

W. KEEBLE.

'MEDALS,' BUT NOT OF GOLD.

Sir,—The letter from the pen of Mr. J. Hunt questioning as it does the opinion of the Rev. C. E. Wigg re the condition of the heavy six at Wing is nothing short of colossal impudence. I was one of a party (including the Rev. C. E. Wigg) who rang at Wing on August 4th last. We rang from the ground floor and I was invited to ring the tenor to 120 Bob Minor and call it. The tenor hunted itself to lead, but it required the proverbial 'gas engine' to hunt it back to 6th's place again, and I was glad to give in at the end of a course. The Rev. C. E. Wigg afterwards rang it to a course of Cambridge Minor, but not without great physical effort. We all respect Mr. J. T. Dyke as one of the finest heavy bell men the Exercise has ever known. Should he, however, go to Wing with the idea of attempting a peal and see for himself, I, for one, cannot believe he would be so foolish as to start. The bells at Wing are not unpealable? Oh, no! So roll up the men who put difficulties in the way of bad-going bells being rehung by attempting peals on them, and men who must ring a peal at any price. What price will they have to pay at Wing? They will go home minus a peal and any glory whatsoever. Of medals they will collect plenty, but not of gold. The sort I refer to are sore, blistered hands, aching shoulders and strained stomach muscles, and that will not be half of what they will deserve.

WILLIAM A. STOTE.

Coventry.

LUTTERWORTH SURPRISE MAJOR.

METHOD AND COMPOSITION BY E. W. TIPLER.

5,152

12345678	23456	W	M	H
21436587				
12346857	23456	—	—	—
21438675	26435	—	—	—
24136857	42635	—	—	—
42318675	26435	—	—	—
24138657	34625	—	—	—
42316875	23645	—	—	—
24361857	56234	—	—	—
42638175	25634	—	—	—
42361857	62534	—	—	—
24638175	45236	—	—	—
42683715	24536	—	—	—
24867351	53246	—	—	—
28463715	25346	—	—	—
82647351	32546	—	—	—
28463751	65324	—	—	—
82647315	36524	—	—	—
86243751	53624	—	—	—
68427315	63425	—	—	—
86472135	43526	—	—	—
68741253	52436	—	—	—
86472135	35426	—	—	—
86741253	42356	—	—	—
68714235	34256	—	—	—
86172453	23456	—	—	—
68712435				
86174253				
81672435				
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18765432				

18674523

Bob 17864523

False course head.
24365

First rung on
Feb. 3rd, 1937,
at Old Windsor,
Berks, by the
Oxford Diocesan
Guild, conducted
by Alan R. Pink.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

VISIT TO LOWICK.

A special meeting of the Thrapston Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held at St. Peter's, Lowick, on Saturday week. The bells, a peal of six, have recently been rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. The visiting ringers, who came from a wide area, were very interested in the fine old church, which contains marble and alabaster tombs and beautiful stained glass windows.

Ringling commenced at 3 o'clock. At the Guild service held later the Rector (the Rev. P. W. Worster) gave a short and helpful address. After tea at the White Horse Inn thanks were expressed by the president of the branch for the use of the bells and to the hostess for such a fine spread.

Afterwards the ringers returned to the tower, where ringing, from rounds to Cambridge Surprise, was done. All were pleased with the 'go' of the bells, which were lowered in peal at 8 o'clock. Nineteen towers were represented, viz., Aldwinckle, Great Addington, Brigstock, Burton Latimer, Geddington, Kettering, Islip, Keyston, Pytchley, Raunds, Ringstead, Great Staughton, Swindon, Sudborough, Stanwick, Warkton, Woodford, Titchmarsh, Twywell and the local band.

NEWPORT RINGER'S LONG SERVICE.

FIFTY-SIX YEARS AT ST. WOOLLOS'.

In honour of Mr. F. Atwell, who has given 56 years' service at St. Woollos', now the pro-Cathedral Church of Newport, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes) was rung for evening service on February 7th: E. Howlett 1, F. Crabb 2, A. Slatter 3, F. Atwell 4, J. Bullen 5, F. Greedy 6, C. Greedy (conductor) 7, R. Lewis 8, W. Phillips 9, A. Thomas 10. After the service the ringers were entertained to supper in the Deanery by the Dean, the Very Rev. J. L. Phillips.

During his long service Mr. Atwell has seen the bells of St. Woollos' increased from six to eight, then the eight recast and two bells added to make ten. He hopes to see them increased to twelve in the near future.

'LESSNESS' SURPRISE.

NAME TAKEN FROM AN OLD ABBEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—To anyone unacquainted with North Kent, the name given to the new Surprise method in your issue of March 5th certainly is rather puzzling, and I am not surprised that you mention it in 'Belfry Gossip.'

Mr. Cullum, in naming it 'Lessness,' has perpetuated the name of an old Abbey which existed at one time in the parish of Erith, and from which the town of Abbey Wood (still in the civil parish of Erith) takes its name.

Lessness Woods, presumably part of the Abbey grounds, were acquired some few years ago to form part of London's 'green belt.' Crayford.

E. BARNETT.

SERVICES AT RINGERS' MEETINGS.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION DISCUSS THE QUESTION.

One of those now rare phenomena, a fine day, coincided with the meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association at Chiswick. This brought some old friends from a long hibernation, as well as the 'regulars,' the attendance reaching 40. A very good assembly at the appointed hour proved too unusual and proceedings were quickly interrupted with a broken rope. The doughty Joe then took the visitors in hand, and by the riverside they were treated to a discourse on rowing. The appearance of the Oxford crew at practice set the critics' tongues wagging, and it was agreed that the Dark Blues looked safe for a place! The raising of the delinquent bell announced the resumption of ringing activities and the 'watermen' were soon back at the ropes.

A short service, with a very reasoned discourse on the difficulties of the Church to-day, was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. C. Rich. Tea, ably served by Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Thurley and friends, followed in the Schoolroom. The Vicar came along and gave a greeting and handshake to everyone. Before leaving he was thanked for his hospitality by the vice-president, Mr. J. A. Trollope.

It is said an Englishman takes his pleasures sadly. If we said slowly and with great deliberation we should aptly describe how ten minutes' business took an hour to transact!

Arising out of the minutes, the question was raised on the amount of notice required to move a motion with the object of omitting the usual service at monthly meetings. After much cross talk, it was ruled from the chair that the matter was solely one for the annual general meeting of the association.

Returning to the subject later, an effort was made to direct the secretary to approach the clergy on the point when meeting arrangements were made, but this was rejected by the meeting. The tone of the meeting certainly appeared against any change in the usual practice of holding a service. Some speakers appeared convinced that at heart the clergy would rather have their Saturdays free from duties of this description, but no evidence from present incumbents was produced. Indeed, the secretary said his experience indicated that the clergy were delighted with the idea of the monthly service. The question, therefore, appears to be not whether the clergy want the service, but whether the ringers do not. And that question was not decided.

It was agreed to apply for Feltham bells for a meeting on May 8th, and Sunbury and Hampton on June 5th. The annual meeting of the association is to be held on April 17th at Cripplegate, and no district meeting was arranged for that month.

On the motion of the secretary, it was agreed to invite the Surrey Association to the three Guilds (Guildford, Oxford and Middlesex) meeting at Staines and Egham, provisionally fixed for August 28th.

The question of Coronation ringing was discussed, and the secretary agreed to make what arrangements he could with regard to ringing at towers with depleted band, or no ringers at all. Any volunteers for this work on May 12th should get into touch with Mr. Goodfellow at once.

News of an accident to Mr. C. S. Bird, of Heston, on the Great West Road, was received with much regret, and the best wishes of the meeting were sent to him, congratulating him on his escape from more serious injury.

And so the meeting closed with hearty thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Thurley for their labours in providing for the comforts of their visitors. Further ringing was curtailed to an hour. Rounds and methods including Surprise Major were rung under the able direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. E. C. S. Turner.

MARRIAGE OF MR. E. P. DUFFIELD.

CEREMONY AT COLCHESTER.

The marriage took place at Lion Walk Congregational Church, Colchester, on March 4th, of Mr. Edward Patrick Duffield, second son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Duffield, of Mill House, Saxlingham Thorpe, Norwich, and Miss Doris May Piper, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur William Piper, of Cranbrook, Fitzwalter Road, Colchester. The ceremony was attended by a large congregation, for both the bride and bridegroom are actively connected with the church and well known in Colchester.

The Rev. L. J. Tizard officiated at the service, which was choral. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by two bridesmaids, Miss Muriel Peck and Miss Christine Cross (friends). Mr. W. C. Duffield, the bridegroom's brother, was best man. A reception was held at the Albert Hall, Colchester, and afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Duffield left for a honeymoon in the South of France.

Mr. E. P. Duffield is one of the best known ringers in the Exercise and served for two years as Master of the College Youths, concluding his term of office last November.

The bride, whose father is an Alderman and ex-Mayor of Colchester, is local hon. secretary of the Surgical Aid Society and assistant hon. secretary of the Colchester Operative Society, in whose past productions she has taken a prominent part.

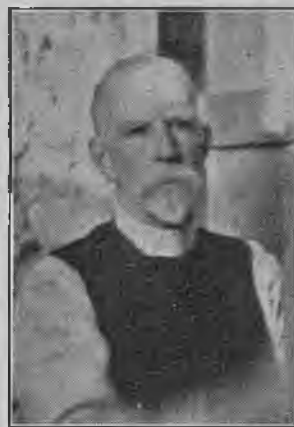
Mr. and Mrs. Duffield's residence is Acland Lodge, Acland Avenue, Lexden, Colchester.

DEATH OF THE REV. E. W. CARPENTER.

SECRETARY OF TWO ASSOCIATIONS.

We much regret to record the death of the Rev. Edward Westall Carpenter, who passed away at his home at Stoke-by-Clare, Suffolk, at the advanced age of 81 years, on February 9th.

In a quiet way, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter did a great deal to further the art of change ringing and raise the status of the ringer. He was not among those who made a name by peal ringing, but it was in organising that his services to the Exercise will be best remembered.



THE LATE REV. E. W. CARPENTER.

While Vicar of Bobbing, Kent, in 1889, he succeeded the Rev. R. Knatchbull Hugessen as hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, and during the time he held this office, the association, mainly at his instigation, was divided into districts for administrative purposes. In 1891 he removed to Margate, and gave up the post of secretary, in which he was followed by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore.

Later, Mr. Carpenter was preferred to the living of Thorpe, near Chertsey, Surrey, and for four years, from 1902 to 1906, was hon. secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, in which he was succeeded by the late Rev. C. E. Matthews, who afterwards held successively the offices of Master and president.

The Rev. E. W. Carpenter was for a long period a member of the Central Council. He was first elected to represent the Kent County Association, and when he

retired about two years ago he had been an honorary member for many years. For a considerable time he shared the rather arduous duties of the Analysis Committee.

Mr. Carpenter was a scholar of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and took his B.A. degree in 1878, proceeding to his M.A. in 1881. He was ordained deacon in 1881 at Canterbury and priest in the following year. He was curate at Milton-next-Sittingbourne 1881-83, and Vicar of Bobbing 1883-1891. After a curacy at Margate he returned to Milton as Vicar in 1893 and remained there until 1900, when he became Vicar of Thorpe. This living he held until 1907, when he was preferred to the Rectory of Boothby Pagnell, near Grantham, Lincs, and remained until 1917. He continued to reside in the diocese of Lincoln until 1933 when he retired to Stoke-by-Clare, Suffolk. Even in his advancing years he taught a band to ring in this parish, and our photograph shows him in the belfry.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

A SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS.

Last Saturday, the North Notts Association paid its first visit to Barnby, where 28 ringers met to try the light six (tenor 6½ cwt.). The following towers were represented: Balderton, Eastwood, Farn-don, Hough-on-the-Hill, Lincoln Cathedral, Newark Parish Church, Nottingham (St. Mary's), Ordsall, Sutton-on-Trent and the home tower. Ringing commenced at 2.15 and went on until 9 o'clock except for the interval for tea.

The Vicar of Barnby, in opening the business meeting, welcomed the association to his tower, and paid a warm tribute to the local band who did so much for the church in that small village.

The hon. secretary (Mr. R. Towler) announced that arrangements were being made for the joint meeting of the Doncaster District of the Yorkshire Association and the North Notts Association at Blyth on April 3rd. The annual meeting had been altered to April 10th.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Rector of Ordsall, in replying to the Vicar's welcome, also complimented the Barnby ringers. They were, he said, very enthusiastic and had done great good in the district.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the ladies for providing an excellent tea were passed.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson raised the question of reports of the association's meetings being sent to 'The Ringing World' for publication, and proposed that the secretary be asked to forward a short account to the Editor. Mr. T. Vessey seconded, and the secretary replied that he would attend to the matter for this and future meetings.

A set of handbells was produced, and the company was delighted to hear courses of Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandshire Triples and Caters. On returning to the tower, further methods were rung, and a very successful meeting brought to a close towards 9 p.m.

ASHBRITTLÉ, SOMERSET.—At St. John the Baptist's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandshire Doubles, with ten callings, was rung for morning service on January 31st: S. Bristow 1, J. Manning 2, F. Alderman (conductor) 3, L. Alderman 4, H. Bristow 5, J. Alderman 6.

'MARCH 4th' AT APPLETON, BERKS.

On Saturday, March 6th, the 119th anniversary of Appleton bells was celebrated in the usual way. Visitors from many parts assembled and some good touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were brought round. Many young ringers from far away rang their first rounds on ten bells and were delighted with that experience. Between forty and fifty sat down to dinner at The Thatched Tavern, and no one 'went empty away.'

After the tables had been cleared and 'The King' toasted, tune ringing and song singing were the order of the evening, during which, for the benefit of many whose first visit it was, the veteran, Mr. G. Holifield, gave his usual interesting history of Appleton bells and the things that have been done there. One thing they have to be proud of is that from a population of only 400 there is once more a local Stedman Caters band, which is really a remarkable thing.

The evening was too short for most of those present; in fact, more than one was heard to say, 'Well, I shall come again, but next time I shall stay the night.'

R. T. H.

BLIND RINGERS.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Having read with interest the letters published in your journal re 'blind ringers,' I should like to mention one, John Kittle, who, having been blind from the age of four years, learned to ring here at St. Peter's Church, Colchester, in the year 1890, and rang several 360's of Bob Minor on an 'inside' bell. He was a very capable ringer on handbells, ringing two 'inside' bells and conducting 720's of Grandsire, Bob, Kent and Oxford Minor. He also rang double-handed several quarter-peals of Bob and Grandsire Triples, and just before he died rang half-way in an attempt for a 5.040 Bob Major.

G. M. RASHBROOK.

Colchester.

BLIND ORGANIST—RINGER.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest the correspondence in 'The Ringing World' with reference to blind ringers.

At Chiseldon, Wilts, the organist, Mr. H. Whittaker, who is blind, is also a regular ringer, having learnt to ring long after he lost his sight.

He rings and conducts several methods of Doubles from any bell in the tower (five bells, tenor 14½ cwt.), and has rung in at least one quarter-peal.

W. A. FARMER.

Shrewsbury.

MR. J. J. PARKER, 84.**COMPOSER OF THE FAMOUS 12-PART.**

On Monday, March 8th, on the occasion of the 84th birthday of Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, the bells of Hitcham Parish Church were rung to a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor and touches of Kent and Little Bob, Farnham Royal bells not being available. It was also a birthday compliment to the father of the captain of the Hitcham company, Mr. Berry, who has reached the age of 82 years. The ringers were Martin A. Blamey treble, Peter A. Blamey 2, George J. Berry 3, Bryan O'Neill 4, John E. Taylor 5, George Gilbert tenor. With the exception of Mr. Berry, all are members of the St. Peter's Society, Burnham. This was the Blamey brothers' first 720 of Oxford.

Oxford Bob was rung as it is a favourite method of Mr. Parker. A message of greeting was sent to the old gentleman by the young bloods of Burnham.

The bells at Stoke Poges were also rung in honour of Mr. Parker's birthday.

Mr. Parker, as most of our readers know, is the composer of the famous 12-part peal of Grandsire Triples and scores of other peals.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**SWINDON BRANCH AT HIGHWORTH.**

A good number of members and visitors attended the quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association at Highworth on Saturday, March 13th, and some very useful practice was obtained in the standard methods and Double Norwich and Cambridge Major.

At the business meeting the places for the next three meetings were provisionally arranged as follows: Purton, South Marston and Bishopstone.

Ringers were present from Bishopstone, Blunsdon, Cirencester, Coventry, Faringdon, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Stratton St. Margaret, Southwark and South Cerney.

NEW VICAR'S INDUCTION.

At St. Mary's Church, Frensham, Surrey, on Saturday, March 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): N. Overington 1, G. Ackerman 2, Miss D. I. Aslett 3, E. J. Pepler 4, A. J. Clutter (conductor) 5, K. Dalton 6. First quarter-peal by ringer of the tenor. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. Canon L. G. Buchanan, M.A., on the occasion of his institution and induction to the benefice of Frensham.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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GOOD FRIDAY.

On account of Good Friday, 'The Ringing World' will be published a day earlier next week.

Correspondents are reminded that all matter intended for publication must reach our office **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The sympathy of the whole Exercise will go out to the Essex veteran, Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, in the bereavement he has sustained by the death of his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Nevard had been married for 59 years.

The hon. secretary of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association must look a poor, harassed old bachelor. When he visited Highworth the other day to arrange a meeting, he was asked if he had come to have the banns 'put up'!

The Rev. E. W. Carpenter, whose death is reported, was one of the very few men who had had the distinction of serving two different associations as general secretary. He was secretary of the Kent County Association and afterwards of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Arthur L. Coleman, secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, was formerly secretary of the Warwickshire Guild. Mr. George Williams has been secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, after serving as a divisional secretary of the Sussex Association.

Mr. Challis Winney celebrated his 73th birthday on Wednesday, the day after his old friend, Mr. Francis E. Dawe, reached his 75th birthday. The Exercise will extend their good wishes to these two veterans.

The report of the Dudley and District Guild annual meeting will appear in our next issue.

PEOPLE'S MEMORIAL TO CANON ELSEE.

RINGERS' PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER COMMEMORATION.

On Sunday, March 7th, another memorial was dedicated to the memory of the late Canon H. J. Elsee, who had been president of the Lancashire Association for 45 years. The Church Lads' Brigade subscribed for a tent and altar rail, the local clergy have also a scheme in hand, so have the local Hospital Committee.

On Sunday the memorial was that provided by the congregation of St. George's, Bolton, where Canon Elsee had been Vicar for the past forty years.

The memorial is in three parts, comprising panelling to the baptistry, four pew frontals to the east end of the nave, and two choir screens in the chancel, all in oak.

The panelling to the baptistry is constructed as a background to the font, and it harmonises with the adjoining panelling to the main columns. Rising above the centre of this part of the memorial, at the angle of the north-east corner of the church, are two oak panels to which are secured bell-metal tablets referring to the late Canon and mentioning that he was Hon. Canon of Manchester Cathedral, Hon. Chaplain of the Forces, Rural Dean of Bolton, Proctor in Convocation and president of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers. Surmounting these tablets is a carved oak quadrant of a bell, and inside the bell is a light to illuminate the tablets with a floodlight effect.

The details for the pew frontals are in accord with the adjacent choir and clergy stalls. The late Canon frequently expressed a desire that the seating accommodation to the centre and wings of the nave should be completed in this manner. The choir screens are also designed to match the choir stalls and are required to shield the choristers from draughts. They are fitted with leaded lights, glazed with two shades of amber glass to correspond with the new clerestory windows in the chancel. The latter, the gift of Mr. Thomas Booth in memory of his wife, were also dedicated.

The gifts were dedicated by the Bishop of Manchester (Dr. Warman) in the presence of a large congregation. The bells were rung from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and also after the service, in touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, by ringers from many parts of Lancashire, including the hon. secretary (Mr. W. H. Shuker) and hon. treasurer (Mr. C. I. Davies).

A ringers' memorial has been occupying the attention of a committee for some time. The late Canon had often expressed a wish to see a peal of ten in Bolton Parish Church, and the fact that he was the Rural Dean caused efforts to be made towards that object, but it proved too big an undertaking for ringers only. It had been hoped to get the co-operation of other sections. Steps are, however, being taken to put St. George's bells into first-class order. It has been suggested that they should be put into a new frame at a lower level in the tower, and, if the response is good enough, add two trebles. If the church authorities grant permission for this, an appeal will be made for subscriptions.

HISTORIC PERFORMANCE RECALLED.**HOW HOLT'S ORIGINAL WAS FIRST RUNG 'SILENT.'***A Jubilee Celebration.*

A unique celebration took place a week ago, when, on Thursday evening, Mr. John Christopher Mitchell entertained a small party of ringing friends at his charming home in West Norwood. It was the fiftieth anniversary of a wonderful handbell performance. On March 11th, 1887, four College Youths, of whom Mr. Mitchell, then 19 years of age, was the youngest, rang Holt's Original 'silent' for the first time. The other members of the band were W. H. L. Buckingham, C. F. Winney and G. T. McLaughlin, and the peal was rung at the old headquarters, the Goose and Gridiron, in St. Paul's Churchyard, a hostelry which has since disappeared.

Of those who took part, Mr. Buckingham and Mr. Winney survive with Mr. Mitchell, but Mr. McLaughlin died some years ago, and the two umpires, Messrs. J. W. Rowbotham, of the College Youths, and W. Baron, of the Cumberlands, are also no longer with us.

**AFTER FIFTY YEARS.**

Standing: Mr. J. C. Mitchell (left) and Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham. Seated: Mr. C. F. Winney.

The little gathering that met last week as the guests of Mr. Mitchell included, in addition to Messrs. Buckingham and Winney, Messrs. E. H. Lewis (Master of the College Youths), A. A. Hughes (treasurer), F. E. Dawe (who was one of the unofficial witnesses of the peal) and J. S. Goldsmith, while other members of Mr. Mitchell's family present were Miss H. Mitchell and Mr. B. Mitchell. Unfortunately the weather prevented Mr. W. T. Cockerill (hon. secretary of the College Youths) from joining the party, but during the evening he was greeted on the telephone with good wishes and returned his congratulations.

After a happy meal together, during which tongues wagged and reminiscences of past days were retold, the proceedings were continued in the lounge, where handbell ringing took place and the three heroes of the great event of half a century ago showed they had lost little of their ability. When they sat down for the first touch, with F. E. Dawe at the tenors, Winney was asked to call a bit of Grandsire, but, presumably from force of habit, said 'Go Stedman,' and these youths, whose ages totalled 293 years, made no 'bones' about it.

*(Continued in next column.)***CENTRAL COUNCIL'S PUBLICATIONS.****THE VALUE OF THE SURPRISE MAJOR COLLECTION.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—May I make one or two short comments on your interesting article in last week's issue?

Personally, I am quite satisfied with the effect that the Major Methods Collection has had. I never expected that there would be an immediate increase of peals in Plain Major methods, for it takes a long time before the Exercise is ready for any great advance in such matters. The number of these methods that have been rung is greater than perhaps some people suppose and the full effect will not be seen for many years.

At present most ringers think that a Surprise method must be a better thing than a Plain method and so rather neglect the latter. Actually the average Plain method is better than the average Surprise method, and especially so on ten and twelve bells. Our Minor Methods book revolutionised six-bell ringing, but it was futile to imagine that a similar thing would happen on eight bells, at any rate for many years. But it is instructive to compare a list of the new methods rung in (a) the 18th century; (b) the 19th century; (c) the present century before the war; (d) the present century since the war. You have there a conclusive reply to those people who think that the Central Council books have not done an enormous amount to extend method ringing.

The new Surprise book is intended not only to make a large selection of methods available for ringers, but also to give information which is interesting to the great mass of ringers who have not the opportunity of actually practising new methods—information which will further the development of the art indirectly in many ways. When I was preparing it I considered the question of giving diagrams, and my then connection with 'The Ringing World' (from which I have benefited more than I should have thought possible) enabled me to get some information, from which I reluctantly came to the conclusion that the cost was prohibitive. You know much more about that than I do, but I fancy you will agree.

Of the value of diagrams there can be no question. When dealing with the Surprise methods I worked them all out and the selection was made from the diagrams in the first instance and not from the figures. If we could be sure of a sale of five thousand copies of the book spread over twenty or twenty-five years, it would be good business to have the blocks made. But where is the necessary capital to come from? I feel that a good deal can be done to improve the books which the Council publishes, and I am sure that the new Surprise book is on the right lines. For one thing, it is a book to be read and studied, and not merely a collection of figures which are of interest only when a band wants something new to ring.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

LONDON TOWERS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I had almost the same experience as Mr. Corby described in your last issue, and it was only by hearing the bells that I found the church. Even the 'Bobby' I asked didn't know. A good suggestion, Mr. Corby!

F. WARRINGTON.

Over, Cambs.

SUCCESS FOLLOWS MANY FAILURES.*(Continued from previous column.)*

Afterwards other touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Major were rung in which all present shared, and old times discussed until the little party broke up, with thanks to Mr. Mitchell for his hospitality and the hope that, despite the advance of 'Anno Domini,' these veterans might be spared to meet again.

In the days when this memorable peal was rung Messrs. Mitchell and Buckingham were living at St. Albans, but, being in business in London, were able to meet constantly for practice. It was Challis Winney's 'bright idea' that they should attempt the Original 'silent,' and they met at all hours of the day and night, often at Mr. Winney's home in Chelsea. On one occasion, when Mr. Mitchell was detained at business until 10 p.m., they started for a peal at nine minutes to 11 and finished at twenty minutes past one next morning. This peal was rung without bobs being called, but trips were corrected. Mr. Bill Garrard was the witness and it was the eighth meeting the band had had.

This was on February 25th, 1887, and enthusiasm had reached almost fever heat. On February 28th over half a peal was rung in strict silence. On March 2nd two-thirds of the peal was accomplished under similar conditions before it came to grief. On March 8th, 4,600 changes were rung. This peal was lost, so it was said at last week's gathering, because 'Buck' thought he heard St. Paul's Cathedral clock strike thirteen when it should only have struck eleven. Next evening nearly half a peal was rung, but nothing daunted by these failures, a further attempt was made on the 11th and triumph was achieved in 2 hours 39 minutes.

Many ringers heard the peal in an adjoining room and testified to the perfection of the performance, which stands out as one of the finest handbell achievements of all time.

It was fittingly the anniversary of the first silent peal of Stedman Triples rung 33 years earlier at the Whitlington and Cat. Bethnal Green, by J. Cox, W. Cooter, H. Haley and M. Wood.

BROADCASTS FROM ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS BELLS TO BE RUNG IN FUTURE.

In future, when the bells of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields are broadcast they will be rung instead of chimed.

This announcement was made by the Vicar of St. Martin's (the Rev. Pat McCormick) on Saturday, at the annual dinner of the Royal Cumberland Youths, the society which is responsible for the service ringing at the celebrated church in Trafalgar Square. The announcement will be received with great pleasure by ringers everywhere, for the chiming that has been heard for years has been a miserable travesty of church bell music, and in no sense befitting the dignity of the services which have followed.

The Rev. Pat McCormick was responding to the toast of 'The Church,' and, in reference to the increasing difficulty of getting ringers to ring for service in London, said it was a matter which rather perturbed him, because he was hoping very much that the Cumberland Youths were going to do another bit of work for St. Martin's.

I am sure all of you here, he said, will be glad to hear that arrangements are nearing completion and I hope will eventuate by the next broadcast service from St. Martin's (loud applause).

There are one or two reasons why I would like to have the bells pealed properly. One is because it will save me a great deal of correspondence (laughter). Not only do I get letters from bellringers protesting against this chiming, but also crowds of letters from other people saying that our bells are out of tune. As you know, it is nothing to do with the bells, but with the hammers. If the hammer is the slightest bit out of place where it strikes the bell, the bell sounds out of tune. I have to write back to all these people and explain so often that I get 'fed up' with it (laughter).

The other reason is, I think it is rather a scandal, having such a magnificent peal of bells as we have got, that they should not be rung properly so that people all over the world are able to hear them (applause).

We shall, of course, get a great many criticisms. We shall get criticism from the old ladies who love to hear the hymn tunes played on the bells. It is quite extraordinary what a number of people do like that. I suppose it brings back old tunes to them, or something of that sort, but we all know that is not the method of ringing bells.

I had hoped it would be possible to begin the new arrangement to-morrow. When I spoke to the Religious Director of the B.B.C. the other day he said, 'When are you going to have your bells properly rung?' I said, 'We are waiting for you, please.' Things of this sort have to pass through so many channels that they had not then been able to trace the correspondence, but the Director himself is also 'fed up' with the chiming of the bells of St. Martin's, so I am glad to be able to announce that we hope in future to have them rung (applause).

I am sure you will agree, continued the Vicar, that not only in the interests of bellringing, but also in the interests of what I may call the 'pride' of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, it is right that the bells should be pealed (applause). It means, however, that you will only be 'on the air' a short time. None of your running over time (laughter), because even if the bells are faded out I do not want to have to compete with the bells when I am taking the service. We cannot give you more than ten minutes to ring, because, as some of you probably know, we have a 'preparation service' before the broadcast service, and it would mean that that preparation would have to be cut down and would not be of the value that it is and ought to be. I believe that little preparation service, when we practise the hymns and say a prayer, is one of the chief factors which enables St. Martin's services to get over the air and be of such infinite value to listeners all over the world (applause). I hope you will all enter into the spirit of it and that by next time a broadcast takes place we shall have the bells properly pealed (applause).

We shall do away with the services of Mr. Blewitt, and for that I am sorry. He has played the bells ever since the first broadcast and has never missed once (applause). I shall be sorry for him, because I know he loves it, but he has retired actually from St. Martin's and has been coming up for this only bit of his duty left to him. I shall be sorry for him, but I am quite convinced, for everybody's sake, that the bells ought to be properly rung (hear, hear).

Speaking later, Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, said he was very pleased to hear what Mr. McCormick had said about the ringing of St. Martin's bells for the broadcasts. He hoped the Society of Cumberland Youths, when ringing for these services, would show some other parts of the country what broadcast ringing should be like. He got into trouble a while ago for some fairly pointed remarks about certain broadcasts, but he was not in the least repentant. They had had some better ones since. The last he heard was Croydon and it was really a treat to listen to. At Stepney, in view of the fact that a number of the band were comparative beginners, the broadcast was quite successful. They had a delightful course of Superlative from Pudsey, except for one trip, which was far better than certain broadcasts from another county in the North.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION MEET AT SNOWBOUND LONGWOOD.

The West Riding of Yorkshire had been practically snowbound for over a fortnight, and the winter was showing its very worst side on Saturday, yet it was in such conditions that the Western Division held their annual meeting at St. Mark's, Longwood. Only a few days before the meeting there had been another exceptionally heavy fall of snow and many of the roads on the Yorkshire Moors were impassable. The stalwarts of the Western Division made light of these difficulties, however, and one party at least travelled over 40 miles by road, through snow and fog—such was their enthusiasm. When the first of the visitors arrived, Mr. Rothery and the local company were busily engaged in excavating their church from the snow. Over 40 members were present from 20 towers and all helped to make a very successful meeting.

St. Mark's, Longwood, has a fairly modern tower, which was added to the church in 1914, and the peal of eight which it contains is one of the finest in the county. The bells were raised about 2.30, and, excepting for the tea interval, were kept moving until after 9 o'clock, when they were finally lowered in peal. The striking throughout the day was of a particularly high standard for meetings, and another pleasing feature was the number of young ringers who are being trained in the district.

The Rev. W. M. Griffiths, M.A., conducted a short Litany service in the church prior to the tea, and gave an inspiring address which was greatly appreciated. An excellent tea was served in the schools by the local ringers, to which over 30 members sat down. This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. W. H. Senior in the absence of the vice-president, who was called away immediately after the service.

A telegram was read from the association's president, Canon Marshall, expressing his regret at his unavoidable absence, and wishing the meeting every success. A letter was also read from Mr. Knight, of Stanwick, enclosing a short history of St. Mark's, and this was greatly appreciated by all present.

The three retiring members of the committee, Messrs. F. W. Dixon, J. Hardcastle and R. Bottomley, were elected for a further period of three years.

MR. JOE BROADLEY RESIGNS RINGING MASTERSHIP.

A letter had been received from Mr. Joseph Broadley, the retiring Ringing Master, expressing his desire to resign the office on account of his age. Mr. Broadley, who is now 78 years old, recently rang his 400th peal for the association.

It was decided to defer the appointment of a successor until the next quarterly meeting in June, when due notice would be given for nominations for the office.

The Chairman voiced the thanks of the association to the Vicar and wardens for kindly granting the use of the bells and for the welcome which had been received. He particularly thanked the Vicar for his inspiring address, which they had all enjoyed.—This was supported by Mr. Knight.

The Rev. W. M. Griffiths, M.A., in replying, said how sorry he was that the weather had been so bad, but assured the members, amid laughter, that he really was not responsible for it. He delighted his hearers by recounting his earliest experiences with ringers, and showed how, from his boyhood, he had always appreciated the comradeship which their calling implied.

Mr. Leslie Morris proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the local company for their splendid arrangements and for providing such an excellent tea, also to the organist for officiating at the service. This was supported by Mr. Hutchinson, and Mr. Ralph Williams replied for the local company.

The association's thanks are also due to Mr. Mellor for kindly placing Lindley bells at the disposal of the meeting, and had the weather been normal there is no doubt that both towers would have been fully occupied all day. The secretary reported that in his advertisements in 'The Ringing World' he had erroneously described the Lindley bells as having been recast. This was an error, as the bells had only been retuned, and whilst perhaps little difference would be noticed between the two, he wished to correct the matter so that no wrong impressions would be gained.

Two new members were elected—Mr. T. Lancaster, of Middlesbrough, and Mr. Andrew Blackburn, of Longwood.

The Chairman mentioned that as there had been some discussion on the subject of forming a district society round Huddersfield, he felt that there was plenty of scope, and if carried on in harmony with the Yorkshire Association he was sure that nothing but good would result. The Western Division covered a very wide area embracing over 80 towers, and as they only had four meetings every year, it was obvious that some considerable period must elapse between their visits to individual places.

An invitation had been received to hold the June meeting at Giggleswick, but owing to the great distance it was felt that it would be more advisable to try a place a little nearer, and so cover the whole of that area equally as well. It is, therefore, hoped that a meeting can be arranged in the Kildwick district about the second Saturday in June, but an announcement will be made later.

The following towers were represented at the meeting: Almondbury, Armley, Batley, Elland, Huddersfield Parish Church, Idle, Kirkburton, Lindley, Longwood, Meltham, Holbeck, Queensbury, Rothwell, Thadlington (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Rippenden, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Friesland, Heninghrough and Mirfield.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ANNUAL DINNER REVIVED.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths held a very successful dinner in London on Saturday. It was a revival after a great many years, and members from many distant places rallied to the committee's effort. After ringing at several churches in the afternoon, the company, numbering altogether 92, including 22 ladies, assembled at the Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Strand, under the chairmanship of the Master (Mr. George H. Cross). Among those present were the Rev. Pat McCormick (Vicar, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (hon. secretary, Salisbury Diocesan Guild), the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (Wokingham), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president, Central Council, and Master of the College Youths), Mrs. G. H. Cross, Mr. T. Bevan (senior steward) and Mrs. Bevan, Mr. J. Bailey (junior steward), Mr. G. W. Steere (hon. treasurer), Mr. N. Summerhayes (assistant hon. secretary), Mr. F. Smith (trustee), Messrs. J. Parker (Edmonton) and G. Gilbert (Maidenhead), Central Council representatives; Mr. T. H. Taffender (Master, London County Association), Mr. T. W. Taffender (hon. secretary, London County Association), Mr. J. Waugh (Master, Northern District of London County Association), Mr. W. Bottrill (vice-president, National Police Guild), Mr. G. Williams (Master, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough), Mr. F. E. Dawe (Woking), Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart (Dorset), Mr. G. Pullinger (Bishopstoke). There were also members and visitors from Maidenhead, Northfleet, Gravesend, Guildford, Brentwood, Romford, North Stoneham, Hampstead, Sevenoaks, Bishopsgate, Dartford, Swanscombe, Chiselhurst, St. Olave's, Hart Street, Shoreditch, Woodford, Broxbourne, Burnham, Christchurch, Oxford, etc. Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from the Rev. A. Taylor (St. Bride's), the Rev. Wellard (St. Olave's, Hart Street), Messrs. A. Hardy (trustee), G. Card (hon. secretary), J. Hunt (Taunton), H. Hopkins (Whitstable), A. H. Pulling (Guildford) and many others.

SERVICE RINGING IN LONDON.

The Master, at the conclusion of the meal, submitted the loyal toast, and afterwards, in thanking the company for making the gathering such an excellent one, expressed the hope that it would prove the forerunner of many more and that the next would be even better attended than this. There were, he said, two old friends who would specially be thinking of them, Mr. George Card, the secretary, who was in hospital, and Mr. Arthur Hardy, one of the trustees, who was absent through a family bereavement. He (the Master) thought they should write and tell these old members what a good gathering they had had.

Proceeding, the Master proposed the toast of 'The Church.' This was Coronation year, and the Church, he said, had a very important task to perform, namely, that of blessing the new reign. In that connection ringers would be expected to do their part in ringing at all the churches where ringing was possible. Sunday service ringing in London, said Mr. Cross, was very difficult, and he appealed to members of the society to give their fullest support to the service ringing for which the society was responsible. In conclusion, the Master said this was an interesting year for ringing in London, for the College Youths would celebrate their tercentenary. The Cumberlands all wished them the best of success (applause).

The Rev. Pat McCormick, in responding to the toast, said they in the Church knew they could not do without the bellringers. The close friendship between the two must always exist. The churches depended on the ringers, but the ringers also depended on the Church, because there were very few bells they could ring that were not in churches. He was glad to hear what the Master had said about ringing for services. He agreed that it was a very difficult thing for the London churches. It was all right in the country, because ringers lived, generally, fairly close to the church, but the position was rather perturbing him, as he was very much hoping the Cumberland Youths were going to do another bit of work for St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

The Vicar then went on to speak of the proposed ringing of St. Martin's bells before the broadcast services, which is reported under a separate heading. Then, returning to the subject of the toast, he said that this was a very important year for the Church, not merely on account of the Coronation, but in the whole life of England. If only taken properly he believed this year might be a year of real advance for the Church.

HISTORICAL REVIEW.

Mr. W. H. Fussell, one of the oldest members of the society, proposed the toast of 'The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.' The Cumberlands, he said, had two legs to stand on, and they went back before 1745. He thought he might put the toast by asking them to drink to the Ancient Society of London Scholars and the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. He thought one or two historical facts might be interesting to the younger members and encourage them to think that this old society was worth supporting and worth working for. In 1702 a work upon change ringing was published by two members of the London Scholars. Those members, with other members of the old society, must have known a good deal about campanology even at that early day. A few years later, in 1716, a peal of Caters was rung on the bells of St. Bride's. This was recorded on a tablet in the belfry and it was the first performance ever known in the way of a full peal. He saw no reason for refusing to accept Mr. Osborne's statements contained in the MSS. in the British Museum. Just as the great fire of London in 1666 destroyed the early documents belonging to the Ancient Society of College Youths, founded

in 1637, so the early records of the London Scholars were lost and their foundation was unknown. What fragments of history of these ancient societies had survived showed that both had manned the bells of the churches of London with never failing efficiency on all important occasions. The two old societies were promoting the art and science of ringing three hundred years ago.

A turning point in the history of their own society was in 1745, when they lost touch with the London Scholars, after the rebellion in the North, when there was a battle royal between Bonnie Prince Charlie, grandson of James II., and William Augustus, second son of George II. The latter proved the victor and received the title of Duke of Cumberland and a pension of £25,000 a year. The use of the name 'Cumberland' became fashionable. Streets and inns were named Cumberland, and the ringers who practised at Shoreditch either had that title bestowed upon them or acquired it by some unknown means. When the Duke returned to London by the road which entered the city by the old church at Shoreditch there was great rejoicing and no doubt the bells were fully employed.

In the year 1747 a new code of rules was drawn up by the society under its new title, and in 1748 a peal of Bob Major was rung at Shoreditch, which was the beginning of the long list of ringing records to be found to-day in their Volume I., which contained a portrait of the patron Duke on the front page.

Mr. Fussell went on to recall the Cumberlands' song of 1802, which said:—

For Cumberlands we are,
And Cumberlands we will be
To perform with any ringers
In town or country.

He regretted to find there were a few old faces missing—men who had been members for over 50 years. They remembered Ben Foskett and Edwin Barnett, but they were pleased to have with them Mr. George Williams in his 80th year (applause). He (Mr. Fussell) was elected a member of the society in the belfry of St. Giles in 1881. Mr. Fussell concluded by remarking that the present Royal Family, through Queen Mary, were in direct line of succession from the famous Duke of Cumberland, and if they wanted to compliment the youngest member of that royal house, they could ring a peal on the birthday of Princess Margaret Rose (applause).

WELL WORTH SUPPORTING.

Mr. Norman Summerhayes expressed great regret at the absence of Mr. George Card, the hon. secretary, who was ill in hospital at Fulham. Mr. Summerhayes gave a long list of apologies from members and friends and went on to refer to the fact that since the last time they had held a dinner they had lost Mr. J. D. Matthews, who was their Master for 21 years. During the time he was Master he built up the society into a strong organisation and had a great deal of support from the members. It was Mr. Matthews' great desire that the society should long continue to flourish and grow, but with his passing there was a falling off in the vigour that was shown. Members who had been very enthusiastic supporters failed to maintain their enthusiasm as they might have done. The society was well worth supporting and deserved the support of all the members. Last year they made 45 new members, and he thought they would agree that that was a very good year's work (applause). If they could do that in one year they could do it the next, and if the old members would continue to support them, they could progress and build up a position which would be the envy of all other societies (applause). He hoped this year would be one of renewed activity and that they would have the support of all the members. They had made a very good start with that dinner (applause).

Mr. George Gilbert proposed 'Kindred Societies.' He said they, unfortunately, often found that the spirit of 'kindred' was left out of relations between ringers and societies. He had found that there was a little too much of the 'peal at any price' in some quarters; and much of not wanting to ring with 'so and so.' That was not 'kindred' and it was not 'society.' He would like to see a little closer association at the root of the societies. In the past there had been petty bickerings, even to the extent of 'hammer and tongs' arguments, instead of a friendly rivalry to advance the science. They were told, said Mr. Gilbert, that ringers could not be got. He challenged that statement in any village. They would not come, but they could be got if the ringers would go out and fetch them. He had often wondered how many ringers rang to the honour and glory of God? If they did not ring to the honour and glory of God, then, he said, they had never heard bells rung as they should be rung. On behalf of the Cumberlands present and many who could not get there, including Mr. Harry Hopkins, of Whitstable, who joined the society on January 14th, 1872, he wished success to kindred societies.

CORONATION OPPORTUNITIES.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, in replying to the toast, said he had been much interested in what Mr. Gilbert had said, and he agreed with a great deal of it, particularly about the quality of ringing. He felt very strongly there was a great opportunity for ringers in this Coronation year, when a large part of the public will be expecting a great deal of ringing, to show what they can do in the way of quality. He hoped all the bands who rang during the Coronation ceremonies would only attempt what they could ring perfectly and not go in for new or complicated methods with which they were not quite familiar. They should ring so well that people will say how nice it is. In that way they could recover some of the sympathy for ringing which he was afraid they had lost in previous years, owing to the prevalence in many parts of the country of striking that was not good.

(Continued on next page.)

Friendship Between London Societies.

(Continued from previous page.)

Continuing, Mr. Lewis said that in years gone by there was a good deal of bitterness between their society and his society, but he hoped that was a thing of the past (applause). 'Although we are mutually exclusive,' said Mr. Lewis, 'we can, I hope, be very good friends (applause). We, at any rate, wish to be friendly with you, and I feel certain you wish to be friendly with us (hear, hear). Before I received the invitation to this dinner, my Dinner Committee had already decided to send an invitation to your Master to our tercentenary dinner on November 6th this year' (applause).

Referring to the subject of getting ringers, Mr. Lewis said he agreed it was quite possible to get them in a village, but he was convinced the first thing to do was to pick their recruits from the congregation, who were already churchpeople. He knew that occasionally they could get someone outside who was not a churchman and eventually, perhaps, interest him in the church, but it was far better, to his mind, to begin at the other end and pick their recruits from members of the congregation. Then, he thought, they would not find a difficulty in keeping them as ringers, provided they gave them plenty of interest in their ringing. Mr. Lewis illustrated his point by quoting his own experience at Brasted, and spoke of the advantages of teaching absolute novices, by being able to train them to handle their bells properly.

VISITORS WELCOMED.

Mr. G. W. Steere proposed 'The Visitors,' whom he welcomed. There were some, he said, who were not ringers, but he hoped their presence would increase their interest and that they would come again. With regard to the feeling between their own and other societies, their society was only too willing to be friendly with any other society in London or the provinces (applause).

Mr. F. E. Dave replied to the toast. He remarked that he joined the College Youths fifty years ago, and while he had many old and good friends in that society, he also had a remarkable number of friends in the Cumberland Society, for whom he had the greatest possible respect. He was one of those who regretted that the project, put forward about 50 years ago to permit anyone residing more than 25 miles from London to belong to both societies, was rejected. Mr. Dave mentioned many of his friends among the Cumberlands of a bygone day whom he knew well, and particularly John Cox. He had, he said, many letters from him, as he also had from men like Jasper Snowden and Henry Johnson, and when he had time he intended to collect them and hand them over to the Masters of the various societies. Through his friendship with old Cumberlands he was able to call five peals of Cinques, divided between St. Martin's and St. Bride's. There was one tower left in London where he would like to call a peal, and that was at Shoreditch. He did not know whether it would be possible to make arrangements for him to do this by ringing it for the old St. James' Society, which was now the London County Association. He would very much like to do it. In conclusion, he wished both his old and his young friends in the Cumberland Society, good health and long life to carry on the ever pleasant and interesting science in which they were engaged (applause).

MORE PUBLICITY NEEDED.

Mr. J. E. Bailey proposed the toast of 'The Press.' He said they often heard of the difficulty of getting young ringers because of the counter attractions that were offered. Other forms of entertainment attracted young people by publicity, and he thought it was up to them as ringers to meet their opponents on their own ground and to use greater publicity through the local and national Press. Mr. Bailey paid a warm tribute to the services rendered to ringing by 'The Ringing World' and its Editor, whose name was coupled with the toast.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, in responding, said it gave him special pleasure to do so as an old Cumberland. Ringing to-day, he said, was well treated by the Press in general and this year offered a great opportunity to ringers everywhere to show the Press that ringing was a great art and worthy of consideration and sympathetic treatment.

This concluded the toast list, in the course of which a course of Stedman Cinques, and songs by Miss Dawson had been interspersed. Miss Dawson greatly delighted the company with 'Ring, bells, ring,' and 'Bells across the meadows.' Mr. V. Harrington was the accompanist. Later an entertainment of a varied kind, which was thoroughly enjoyed, was given by the Co-optimists Concert Party, and further handbell ringing took place. The success of the evening was largely due to the efforts of the Dinner Committee and particularly of the energetic dinner secretary, Mr. J. E. Bailey.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, January 31st, at the Church of St. John, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. T. Mitchison 1, M. J. Morris 2, F. Price (conductor) 3, R. C. Ingram 4, G. H. Williams 5, F. W. Rushworth 6, G. F. Swann 7, C. Davies 8. Longest length as conductor from non-observation bell.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—On Sunday, February 28th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. E. Spice 1, P. Spice 2, A. S. Boar 3, F. Bennett 4, G. Kenward 5, J. W. Unwin 6, G. H. Spice 7, W. Spice, sen. (conductor) 8. Rung to celebrate the 76th birthday of Mr. W. Spice, sen.

NOTICES.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TO ALL MEMBERS.

All notices of motions must be sent in forthwith to conform to the rules.

TO ALL SECRETARIES OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES.

Subscriptions became payable on January 1st.

G. W. Fletcher,
Hon. Sec.

45, Walsingham Road,
Enfield, Middlesex.

ECKINGTON, Nr. Sheffield.—Ring of eight (tenor 17 cwt.), restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. A ringers' gathering will be held on Saturday, March 20th. Tower open from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea in the Parish Room at 5 p.m.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Next meeting at Marham on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Edmonton on Saturday, March 20th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock (not 5 p.m. as previously announced). Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. Special methods, Cambridge Court Bob Major and St. Clement's Bob Triples. This meeting is held jointly with a meeting of the Ladies' Guild.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea in the Parish Hall at 5 p.m., and meeting to follow. Further ringing until 7.30 p.m., when there will be a short service.—A. P. Cannon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 118, Sarsfeld Road, Balham, S.W.12.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.—The new ring of 12 bells (by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough) will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Winchester on Saturday, March 20th, at 3.30 p.m. The Dean and Chapter, together with the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, invite visiting ringers to tea in the Guildhall after the service. Admission will be by ticket only. The Cathedral bells will be available for ringing from 6 to 8.30 p.m., by kind permission of the Very Rev. the Dean of Winchester.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—A joint meeting will be held with the Middlesex County Association on Saturday, March 20th, at All Saints', Edmonton. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. (not 5 p.m. as previously announced). Tea (1s.) at 5.30 p.m. All those requiring tea please notify Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex. — M. L. Cross, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. 3d. per head. Meeting after tea for election of officers, etc.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch. — Half-yearly meeting to be held at Broughton-in-Furness on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30. Meeting to follow. Names for tea to Mr. W. T. Clark, Gable Mount, Broughton-in-Furness. — N. M. Newby, Branch Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—The eighth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 20th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, Gloucester, at 6 p.m. prompt. Tickets, 3s. The following towers open for ringing: Barnwood (8) at 1 p.m. if required; St. Mary de Lode (6) 2.30 to 3.30; St. Mary de Crypt (8) 3.45 to 4.45; St. Michael's (10) 4.45 to 5.45 p.m.—W. H. Harris, Hon. Branch Sec., G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting is to be held at Redbourn on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Short service, tea and meeting. Come along and extend your knowledge of Minor methods. — W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

JOINT MEETING OF THE LADIES' GUILD (Southern District) AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Guildford District) at Chiddingfold, Saturday, March 20th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea at Swan Hotel, 5.30 p.m. — Miss H. F. Mills, Maidencombe, Northbrook Road, Aldershot; G. L. Grover, East Clandon, Hon. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District. — Quarterly meeting at Anstey on Saturday, March 20th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. All welcome.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, March 20th, at 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Souls', Bolton, on Saturday, March 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. No business meeting.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on Saturday, March 20th. The bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5 p.m. Address by the Vicar. Tea and business meeting after. I hope for a good attendance of old friends and new.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

POYNTON, NEAR STOCKPORT.—Special services for the reopening of the bells on March 21st, at 10.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Ring of 6 rehung by John Taylor and Co.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Two trebles added to complete the octave, tenor 15½ cwt., and hung in a new frame for eight by Gillett and Johnston. Dedication service by the Lord Bishop of Exeter on Wednesday, March 24th, at 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM. — The ring of 8, tenor 17½ cwt., recast and rehung in new frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be dedicated on Thursday, March 25th, at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 57th annual general meeting will be held at Ashford on Easter Monday. The association service will be in St. Mary's Church at noon (preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of Maidstone), followed by lunch in the Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards to elect officers, and consider the adoption of the revised rules, etc. The following towers will be open for ringing during the day: Wye (8) (after meeting), Mersham (8), Willesborough (6), Eastwell (6), Great and Little Chart (6), Hothfield (6). Ashford bells will be available at 10 o'clock till noon and after the meeting. Luncheon, free to practising members, 2s. 6d. to others. Application for tickets must be made on or before first post Wednesday, March 24th, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope and a list of names attending. After this date no application can be entertained.—Fred M. Mitchell, General Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at St. Neots on Easter Monday, March 29th. Bells available from 12 noon. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea, 4 p.m., followed by business meeting. Other towers: Eaton Socon, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 7 to 9 p.m.; Eynesbury, 2 to 3 p.m., 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.; Huntingdon, All Saints', 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Honiton on Easter Monday, March 29th. Service, 4.30, St. Michael's Church. Tea and meeting, 5.15, Gill's Café. Bells (6) available 2 p.m., also Ottery St. Mary (8). All are welcome.—J. H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, March 29th. Business meeting in the College Hall at 2.45 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m., with address by the Rev. J. F. Hastings, M.A., clerical secretary. Tea (non-members 1s. each) provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, March 24th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), St. Nicholas (6) and St. Swithun (6, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. only). Central Committee meeting in St. Helen's Church House at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 12 noon and 1 p.m.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgemoor, Evesham.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Service in Cathedral 4.30 p.m., with address by the Dean. Towers open as follows: Cathedral (12), St. Stephen's (6), St. Michael's (6), 12 noon to 1 p.m.,

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and again at 2.30 p.m. St. Peter's (10), 2.30 p.m.; Sandridge (6), 11.30 a.m. It is advisable for those wishing to ring at the six-bell towers to inform me, so that someone may be in attendance. Meat tea, 2s. per head, in the Abbey Institute immediately after service, followed by business meeting. Let your secretary know if you are coming to tea not later than Easter Eve.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Heanor on Easter Monday, March 29th. Bells available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea provided at 5 o'clock to those who notify Mr. A. Elliott, 82, Milward Road, Loscoe, by Thursday, March 25th. Business meeting to follow.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Nottingham, Easter Monday, March 29th. Towers open: St. Mary's (10 a.m. to 3.50), St. Peter's (10 a.m. to 3.40) and St. Paul's, Daybrook (10 a.m. to 3.15) and after the general meeting. Committee meeting 3 p.m., St. Mary's Institute, Barker Gate. Service, St. Mary's Church, 4 p.m. Address by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Neville S. Talbot, D.D., M.C. Tea, in the Institute, immediately after service, 1s. 6d., to all applications received by Miss I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham, on Wednesday, March 24th; after that date 1s. 9d. General meeting follows.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting of the association will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, March 29th. By kind permission of the incumbents, the ring of bells at St. Peter Mancroft, St. Michael-at-Coslany, St. Giles', and All Saints', will be placed at the disposal of the members from 10 o'clock a.m. Divine service will be held at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the address will be given by the Rev. Christopher H. Flack, M.A., Rector of St. Augustine, Norwich. Luncheon will be served at the Bell Hotel, Orford Hill, at 1.30 p.m.; tickets, 2s. per head, followed by the annual business meeting.—Arthur L. Coleman, Gen. Sec. and Treas.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Llandaff (in lieu of Cardiff owing to tower repairs) on Easter Monday, March 29th. Cathedral bells available in the afternoon. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.30. Business meeting to follow. The Dean will preside.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Tewkesbury on Easter Monday, March 29th. The twelve bells will be available throughout the day. Business meeting 2.30 p.m. in the Parish Room. Business: Election of officers, etc., and, most important, proposed rules. Owing to the lengthy agenda and weddings at the Abbey, there will be no service arranged. Tea will be provided after the general meeting, or, if necessary, the meeting will be adjourned for tea. It is essential that a large number of members should attend to deal with the proposed rules, which can be obtained beforehand by enclosing one penny stamp. This will bring a copy of the annual report direct to each member.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday, March 29th. The bells of St. Paul's (10) will be avail-

able from 10.30. St. Peter's (6) from noon. The tea and business meeting will be at St. Peter's Church Hall at 5 p.m. Tea 1s. per head.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. — The next meeting will be held at Croydon Parish Church on Easter Monday, March 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting in the Parish Hall, Sylverdale Road. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. D. Cooper, 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon, by first post Wednesday, March 24th. — F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meeting for practice will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on March 30th. Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —Sleaford District.—Quarterly meeting at Heckington, near Sleaford, on Saturday, April 3rd. Bells of St. Andrew's Church (8) open from 2.30. Service at 4.15. Tea will be provided in the Village Hall at 1s. each to all who notify Mr. J. H. Clark, 6, Banks' Lane, Heckington, Sleaford, by April 1st.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Aston, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 3rd. Bells (12) available at 3.30 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Please notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, regarding tea not later than March 31st.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Clive on Saturday, April 3rd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Will all requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, March 30th.—R. R. Pole, Hon. Sec., Craigmere, Upper Road, Meale Brace, Shrewsbury.

THORLEY, near Bishop's Stortford.—On Sunday, April 4th, at 11 a.m., the Bishop of Bedford will dedicate the bells which have been restored and augmented to a ring of five by John Taylor and Co.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at West Malling (8 bells) on Saturday, April 10th. Usual arrangements. Details later.—A. Waddington, Dis. Sec.

CALLING ALL CARS!—HITCHIN, Saturday, April 17th. Special meeting as farewell to Rev. R. F. R. Louth, President of Hertford County Association, who is leaving the county. District secretaries in Herts and South Beds please do not clash with this date. Full particulars later.—Don Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. C. H. Webb (late of Rugby) has now removed to 68, Brownhill Green Road, Radford, Coventry.

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On Saturday, February 27th, at the Church of St. Laurence in Reading, the marriage of Mr. W. Hibbert, to Delia, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke, was solemnised. The Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild) officiated. The ringers assembled to give 'Young Bill' and his bride a send-off. The bells were 'fired' and two courses of Stedman Cinques rung in good style. An interesting fact was that listening to the ringing were two of the bride's sisters, once peal ringers of note when they were the Misses Alice and Dora White. The ringers wish the couple a long and happy life.

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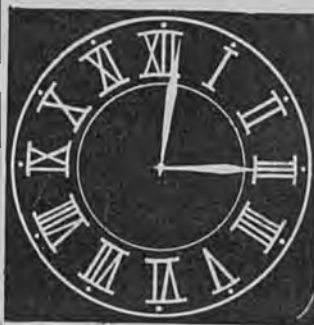
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