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6d.

THE GRECIAN HANDBELL RINGERS

On my way home from school one afternoon some sixty odd years ago I saw a poster which read:—

'Come and see The Grecian Handbell Ringers.

Fresh from Greece.

See and hear them play.

Admission one penny.'

My friend Harold suggested we should get our parents to treat us because it happened to be a special feature in connection with the Annual Carnival, so it was agreed that Dad should be asked to pay, and then compare results. Before approaching Dad I had second thoughts on the subject, for he happened to be leader of a good team of handbell ringers and he might not like me to patronise a party from Greece, but in my eagerness to comply with the bidding on the poster I resolved to chance it, for after all he could only refuse to let me see and hear handbell ringers from abroad.

When I mentioned the subject to Dad I fully expected him to say I ought to support home talent, but to my surprise he became interested in the wording I saw on the poster and told me to find out where the ringing was to take place. The next day I found out the performances would take place in a large marquee, but nobody could tell me what time train the Grecians would reach the town, so Harold and I had to be content with the knowledge that our entrance fees had been promised when the eventful evening came.

When the evening did come both of us found plenty of people entering the marquee, but we managed to get a seat at the back and, after a short wait, the stage curtains were drawn aside to show about twenty-five handbells on a table. Then came four men in red and white striped costumes with black faces. They began to play and, strangely enough, the tune was one I had often heard at home on handbell practice nights, and as I looked from one ringer to another the whole truth was revealed to me in a flash. Yes, there they were, Dad and three of his band posing as 'The Grecian Handbell Ringers fresh from Greece.'

Of course, Harold and I soon felt we had been duped, and when the performance was found to consist of two tunes with a course of Grandsire Triples in between we decided it was not good value for money, so a scheme to stay and hear another performance was hastily decided upon. This scheme consisted of sitting down behind the back form quite close to the side curtains while the audience went out and the next assembly began, but our calculations were soon upset, for two men appeared from nowhere and commenced hitting us on various parts of our heads with bladders. This attack was kept up until we reached the exit in spite of Harold telling them that my Dad was leader of the 'Grecians,' which only made them give us a few more whacks to end our visit. Harold went home after declaring the show a fraud, and he also resolved to give handbell ringing a wide berth in future, but I desired to investigate matters a little further and ascertain some more information about the affair.

The next morning I found things far from normal on my arrival downstairs, for Dad had come home from his 'Grecian' performances after Mum had gone to bed, and whether he was unable to restore his black face to normal by the removal of a new kind of make-up, or whether he was very tired and forgot about it, I could not find out, but you can readily picture what a shock Mum had when morning came! How Dad removed the stuff from his face and beard is a mystery to me, and what became of the pillow slip could not be ascertained, for my first question received a sharp reply; therefore I deemed it advisable to apply the 'silence is golden' rule.

Looking at the poster, which had not been removed, the words, 'Fresh from Greece,' caught my eye and, after pondering for a short while, I came to the conclusion that the Grecian Handbell Ringers were only connected with Greece by grease paint on their make-up. No doubt the disguise hoodwinked a lot of people and the ringers worked hard to give the public a good show for the modest sum of one penny, but for myself who had heard the tunes many times at home it was a disappointment until the humorous side of the affair became the subject of a good laugh, and when a goodly sum was handed to the hospital authorities it was a gratifying result to all concerned.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

TEN BELL PEALS

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 18 lb. in E flat.

JOAN BERESFORD Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 6
PETER BERESFORD 2	RICHARD J. WARRILLOW .. 7
ANN BARR 3	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 8
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	EDMUND MALIN 9
ALFRED BALLARD 5	GEORGE E. OLIVER .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

ALFRED J. MOULD Treble	BRIAN BUSWELL 6
HAROLD MARCON 2	*MRS. M. I. PAILING .. 7
G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 3	†JAMES H. PAILING .. 8
FREDK. A. SALTER 4	ALLAN SIMPSON 9
MRS. A. SIMPSON 5	*PETER M. GILES .. Tenor

Composed by B. JEALOUS.

Conducted by BRIAN BUSWELL.

* First peal on ten. † First peal of Caters. First peal on ten as conductor.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. J. Mould, and as a farewell to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hoodless, who have left Nottingham for Southsea.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. George and St. Denys,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

No. 3 Version. Tenor 27½ cwt.

ALAN J. BROWN Treble	JOHN WORTH 6
FRED DUNKERLEY 2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 7
BASIL JONES 3	LESLIE BOUMPHREY 8
JAMES FEARNLEY 4	PETER LAFLIN 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS 5	EDWARD JENKINS .. Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At Christ Church.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

*MRS. GAYNOR E. BARLOW Treble	ROBERT ARROWSMITH .. 5
†PHYLLIS HOLBORN 2	‡DAVID MANNING 6
†PHILLIP S. WHALLEY .. 3	RONALD T. BARLOW .. 7
†WILLIAM MASSEY 4	DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY .. Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal 'inside.' First peal in the method as conductor.

Rung just for experience.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew, Hampton.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EWART A. ANDREWS .. Treble	HAROLD E. RAXTER 5
*REV. ALBERT WEBB 2	ROBERT W. COLE 6
ANTHONY J. BRAZIER .. 3	WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. 7
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 4	GERALD C. HEMMING .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* First peal on eight bells

Rung as a compliment to Councillor Ewart A. Andrews, during his year in office as Mayor of the Borough of Evesham.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in E.

JAMES THORLEY Treble	*C. DONALD MANN 5
D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 2	IRVIN SLACK 6
MARGARET S. RHODES .. 3	ROY BETTLEY-COOKE .. 7
J. MARTIN THORLEY 4	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. Tenor

Composed by P. BRICKELL.

Conducted by R. BETTLEY-COOKE.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal in the method as conductor.

UPPINGHAM, RUTLAND.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 3 Hours,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 14½ cwt.

RONALD RUSSELL Treble	ROYSTON WILMORE 5
H. LESLIE WYKES 2	JOHN H. BLUFF 6
J. GEOFFREY GEARY 3	B. STEDMAN PAYNE 7
PERCY D. BALDOCK 4	REGINALD T. BERRIDGE .. Tenor

Composed by T. DAY.

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

WITNEY, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16½ cwt.

*COLIN J. B. TAYLOR .. Treble	†DONALD H. NIBLETT .. 5
†DAPHNE R. CASTELL .. 2	†KENNETH W. MACKINTOSH .. 6
†JAMES ADAMS 3	†ROBIN A. HODGSON .. 7
CHARLES COLES 4	MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., March 6, 1956, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes.

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in C.

EDWARD BARKER Treble	CHARLES F. TOVELL .. 5
HUBERT C. CROME 2	JOHN WILSON 6
ERNEST H. MASTIN 3	LESLIE HOUGHTON 7
*GEOFFREY R. DREW 4	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

* First peal on eight bells.

Rung as a farewell to John Wilson on his joining the R.A.F.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., March 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

RAYMOND OVERY Treble	JAMES W. JEFFERY 5
*MRS. K. SNELLING 2	†KENNETH SNELLING .. 6
GEORGE APPS 3	REGINALD V. JOHNSON .. 7
LEONARD STILWELL 4	WILLIAM SLAUGHTER .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

* First peal of Major. † 500th peal.

FRITTENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., March 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF 5056 DORCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt.

HARRY BAKER Treble	JOHN R. COOPER 5
GEOFFREY PEARSON 2	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. 6
FREDERICK G. HUCKSTEPP .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 4	MARK W. MARSHALL .. Tenor

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE.

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

The first peal in the method for all the band and for the Association.



CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance

Estimates and Advice Free

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

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., March 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO,

A PEAL OF 5056 HUNGARTON SURPRISE MAJOR

No. 7.		Tenor 16 cwt. in F.	
MRS. H. J. POOLE	Treble	JOHN E. COOK	5
ERNEST MORRIS	2	†JOHN A. ACRES	6
*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	3	*ERNEST J. JELLEY	7
JOHN M. JELLEY	4	BRIAN G. WARWICK	Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* 50th peal together. † 200th tower-bell peal for the Guild. The conductor has 'circled the tower.' The first peal in the method, which is Lyme with 8ths place instead of 2nds at the lead-end.
Rung at first attempt.

BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., March 9, 1956, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. HELEN AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.		Tenor 16 cwt. in F.	
SUSAN JACKSON	Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS	5
CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	2	GILES C. GALLEY	6
J. DESMOND PAINTER	3	JOHN G. GIPSON	7
*PETER F. WINDLEY	4	WILLIAM T. COOK	Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.
* First peal of Major 'inside.'

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-APOSTLE,

A PEAL OF 5152 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.		Tenor 18½ cwt.	
JOHN E. ROOTES	Treble	D. KAY ADKINS	5
*JOAN M. WILCOCKSON	2	WILLIAM WENBAN	6
REGINALD ROWLEY	3	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD	7
*KENNETH R. DUNSTAN	4	JOHN R. MAYNE	Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
* First peal in the method.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.		Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.	
LENA SKEET	Treble	WILLIAM T. BEESON	5
LEONARD STILWELL	2	KENNETH SNELLING	6
WILLIAM SLAUGHTER	3	RAYMOND OVERY	7
WILLIAM ROGERS	4	GEORGE JENNINGS	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.
Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Basil White, of Henfield.

KILDWICK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 PYRFORD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F.		Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.	
FREDERICK SEAGER	Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER	5
GORDON BENFIELD	2	BARRY SULLIVAN	6
HOWARD SCOTT	3	ALEXANDER E. MARSH	7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY	Tenor

Composed by H. J. POOLE. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
First peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and for the Association. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

LONDON, E.C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OLAVE, HART STREET,

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr.		Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F.	
G. F. CARTER (Imp.)	Treble	*C. FORSTER-JONES (Bed.)	5
D. BERESFORD (King's)	2	J. L. MORRIS (Qn. Mary)	6
GEOFF. F. BRYANT (U.C.)	3	†J. ARMSTRONG (Lon. Hosp.)	7
*HOWARD COLLINGS (U.C.)	4	ALAN F. THIRST (Imp.)	Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ALAN F. THIRST.
* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method.

OVERTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 OVERTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.		Tenor 16 cwt. in F.	
GEOFFREY K. DODD	Treble	JOHN N. DISERENS	5
ALBERT DISERENS	2	RONALD F. DISERENS	6
REGINALD W. REX	3	J. MICHAEL LAKIN	7
ADRIAN J. TUMBER	4	NOEL J. DISERENS	Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by NOEL J. DISERENS.
The first peal in the method.

SCORTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part.		Tenor 18½ cwt.	
JOSEPH THORNLEY	Treble	JAMES W. METCALFE	5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON	2	JOHN F. WOOD	6
STANLEY ANDERTON	3	ALAN PENDLEBURY	7
PETER CROOK, SEN.	4	RICHARD P. DAVIES	Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

Rung half-muffled as a memorial tribute to John Moss, Priest, Vicar of Bilsborrow, Canon of Blackburn Cathedral, who died on March 3rd. He was the donor of the tenor bell at Bilsborrow.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.		Tenor 18½ cwt.	
NORMAN HEAPS	Treble	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN	5
MARGARET E. RIDYARD	2	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	6
REV. R. D. ST. JOHN SMITH	3	RONALD KENRICK	7
*ROGER LEIGH	4	JOSEPH RIDYARD	Tenor

Composed by REV. H. L. JAMES. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.
* First peal in the method.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.		Tenor 12 cwt.	
JOE E. G. ROAST	Treble	*PATRICK W. SALTMARSH	5
*EDWARD W. ROAST	2	BRIAN J. HOWARD	6
ERNEST W. FURBANK	3	PETER J. EVES	7
PETER J. CAME	4	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS	Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to P. W. Saltmarsh.

TIVERTON, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.		Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in D.	
BRIAN PIDGEON	Treble	JAMES D. UPTON	5
RICHARD J. BOWDEN	2	R. JOHN KELLAND	6
PERCY J. MAYNE	3	GEORGE E. RETTER	7
JACK SALWAY	4	WILLIAM H. WARE	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. RETTER.

Rung for the Restoration Appeal for £15,000 for St. Peter's Church.

OVERTON SURPRISE MAJOR

—, 58, —, 16, —, 56, —, 36, 14, —, 12, 58, 16, —, 56, 3.
2nds place lead-end. Clear proof scale.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

UPTON PYNE, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Jan. 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven extents, each called differently.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*CECIL PARKER Treble	JOHN CARTER 4
SIDNEY SKINNER 2	ERNEST W. ROWE 5
KENNETH DAWE 3	JOHN QUICK Tenor

Conducted by JOHN QUICK.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung as a 14th birthday compliment to Christine, daughter of the ringer of the fifth.

WHITESTONE, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Thurs., Feb. 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six six-scores of New Grandsire, four each of Bob Doubles, Old Doubles, Norfolk, three each of April Day, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Fortune, seven of Grandsire and eight of Stedman. Tenor 12 cwt.

CYRIL SAVAGE Treble	SIDNEY SKINNER 4
ERNEST W. ROWE 2	JOHN QUICK 5
CYRIL DEEM 3	JIM BRIGGS Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

First peal of nine Doubles methods for all.

Rung as a 26th birthday compliment to Cyril Deem.

TETSWORTH, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 25, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 240 Stedman, 480 each of Old, Northrepps, All Saints', Southrepps, Clifford Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day, Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew and Grandsire. Tenor 4½ cwt.

DAVID C. WOODWARD .. Treble	*FRANK A. BARRETT 4
VERNON GREEN 2	*CLIVE HOLLOWAY 5
ROBIN TREBILCOCK 3	†CLIVE WILKINS Tenor

Conducted by CLIVE HOLLOWAY.

* First peal in 11 methods. † First peal.

MARSTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

On Tues., Feb. 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 360 each of Fortune, St. Columb, Kennington, Norfolk, Old, Northrepps, All Saints', Southrepps, Clifford Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury, April Day, Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew and Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt.

ALEC GAMMON Treble	DAVID C. WOODWARD 3
CHRISTINE M. WOODWARD .. 2	VERNON GREEN 4
CLIVE HOLLOWAY Tenor	

Conducted by CLIVE HOLLOWAY.

First peal in 14 methods for all except the treble ringer.

Rung as a farewell compliment to Malcolm Journeaux, who has joined H.M. Forces.

THE LEIGH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 29, 1956, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 SINGLE COURT BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 20 cwt.

MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. Treble	CYRIL A. WRATTEN 4
IVOR GOULTER 2	DAVID J. MARSHALL 5
DAVID W. BEARD 3	DAVID BEACHAMP Tenor

Conducted by DAVID W. BEARD.

Rung on Leap Year's Day by six bachelors. Believed to be the first peal of Minor on the bells.

DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 8 lb.

STEPHEN K. WHEELER .. Treble	TONY OWEN 4
CECIL V. EBBERSON 2	JOHN WILSON 5
HUBERT C. CROME 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

Rung as a farewell to John Wilson on his joining the R.A.F.

SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores.

Tenor 7 cwt.

CYNTHIA B. HALL Treble	ALFRED E. G. OWEN 4
*BRIAN R. JONES 2	RICHARD F. DAVIES 5
ROBERT NICHOLLS 3	THOMAS H. ONIONS Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD F. DAVIES.

* First peal.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Cynthia B. Hall.

BRAMHAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN THORLEY Treble	D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 4
SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD .. 2	J. MARTIN THORLEY 5
MARGARET S. RHODES .. 3	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.

CHILDSWICKHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being four 720's of Plain Bob, and three 720's of Kent Treble Bob, rung alternately with different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ANTHONY J. BRAZIER Treble	R. ROGER SAVORY 4
REV. ALBERT WEBB 2	GERALD C. HEMMING 5
COLIN B. LONGMORE 3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

HOPE, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CYNFARCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven 720's: (1) Wavertree College and Childwall, (2) College and St. Clement's, (3) Double Bob and Plain Bob, (4) Fulbeck Bob, (5) Double Oxford, (6) Thelwall, (7) Oxford Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

*JOHN HUGHES Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 4
*JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 2	*DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD .. 5
HENRY O. BAKER 3	*PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal in as many as ten methods.

LONGSTANTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

J. DESMOND PAINTER .. Treble	DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 4
STANLEY SHIPP 2	GEOFFREY A. LUCAS 5
GEORGE E. CRISP 3	WILLIAM T. COOK Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.

**PEATLING PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES**

In ten methods, consisting of four extents each of Stedman, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place, Plain Bob, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, and six of Grandsire.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in A.
*ERNEST J. JELLEY Treble | ERNEST MORRIS 3
*BRIAN G. WARWICK 2 | *†JOHN M. JELLEY 4

*†BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. Tenor
Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in ten Doubles methods. † 50th peal together.

SCULTHORPE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Kent T.B. and St. Clement's and five extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt.
GEORGE A. COOKE Treble | *JOHN COUZENS 4
*GEORGE GREEVES 2 | *BOB ALLCOCK 5
GEOFFREY R. DREW 3 | TONY OWEN Tenor

Conducted by TONY OWEN.

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

STOCKBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of 16 six-scores of Plain Bob (four callings) and 26 six-scores of Grandsire (one Morris' 240 and ten callings).

Tenor 15 cwt.
GEORGE KENWARD Treble | CYRIL S. JARRETT 3
EDWARD C. BARTON 2 | *RALPH BIRD 4

ALBERT DUNK Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

* First peal in two Doubles methods. Mr. A. Dunk has now 'circled the tower.'

HANDBELL PEALS

BOURNEMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes.

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor size 15 in C.

MICHAEL J. E. BEST 1—2 | DANIEL T. MATKIN 5—6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3—4 | *PHILIP N. TUBBS 7—8

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* First attempt for a peal on handbells. The conductor's 600th peal.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes.

AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS.

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

*MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 1—2 | JOHN A. ACRES 5—6
BRIAN G. WARWICK 3—4 | JOHN M. JELLEY 7—8

Composed by E. J. LINDLEY. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Major away from 7-8.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 11, 1956, in 1 Hour and 56 Minutes.

IN ST. JAMES' BELFRY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents. Tenor size 15 in E flat.

ROBIN G. TURNER 1—2 | *DEREK TAYLOR 3—4

*TREVOR TAYLOR 5—6

Conducted by TREVOR TAYLOR.

* First handbell peal.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., March 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes.

AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK 1—2 | *JOHN M. JELLEY 5—6
JOHN A. ACRES 3—4 | MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal on an 'inside' pair.



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CROYDON



PEAL RINGING IN IRELAND

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

WITH the article on ringing in Wales, my main task was over, for there only remained places where very few peals had been rung. Over the past almost two years I have written about approximately 95,000 peals rung in the English counties. The Welsh article covered the 1,754 peals rung in that country. In the rest of the world we find that 219 peals have been rung in Ireland, 50 in Scotland, 49 in Australia, eight in New Zealand, three in South Africa, two in Canada and one in the U.S.A. No wonder change ringing is an English art!

Now for the peals rung in Ireland. Usually, the period commences with the peals published in 'Bell News,' which started in 1881. In this case it is possible to include all the peals which have ever been rung in this country. The first peal ever was rung on July 27th, 1872, at Waterford Cathedral (8) by the College Youths. It was of Grandsire Triples. Another in the same method followed on December 9th, 1873, also at Waterford. This is recorded in 'Church Bells,' vol. IV., page 31. The next peal I have come across is one at Lurgan (8) on July 31st, 1877 ('Church Bells,' vol. VII., page 459). This, too, was of Grandsire Triples. These are the only peals I have found before 'Bell News' commenced publication, and it wasn't until 1897 that the first peal in Ireland is recorded in its columns. This was at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, at the opening of the new ring of 10. It was the first peal of Royal in Ireland. The 10 were augmented to 12 in 1910, although it wasn't until 1927 that we learned of the first peal on the 12—the first peal of Maximus to be rung outside England. Actually, 18 peals had been rung on the 10 before the first war broke out. There were 20 from 1916 to 1936 and there have been two since 1945—in 1949 and 1953. The total of 40 makes it second on the list of towers for peals.

Most peals have been rung at Arklow (8)—51. No less than 42 of them were rung from 1899 to 1909—an average which compares very well with many English towers. There were 13 peals in 1904, including two by a touring band on one day (W. Pye and Co.). It can be surmised that there must have been a 'leading light' to have rung so many in this period, and the answer is—J. Washbrook, one of the most famous ringers of all time. It was his enthusiasm which led to most of the pre-first-war peals. Gabriel Lindoff is also a name which must not be forgotten when we are thinking of Ireland and Irish peals. He, too, has left his mark on the Exercise. After the first war only three peals were rung at Arklow before the second war—in 1918, 1927 and 1931. There were six from 1942 to 1950 (Ireland did not quite prevent it being said that, despite the ban on tower bell ringing in England during the war, no year was peal-less, for they missed 1941, although one or two were accomplished in 1942).

After Arklow and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, there is a big drop to the next tower in order of peals. Only three others have reached double figures. Holywood (8) has 20—the first in 1904 (on W. Pye's tour), and 16 since 1946 (none last year). The remaining three were from 1931 to 1936. Dublin, St. George's (8), has 15, as follows: 1902, 1903, 1909, 1930 to 1940 (5), 1942, 1944, 1947 to 1953 (5). Hillsborough (8) has 11—in 1904, 1909, 1931 and 1949 to 1953 (8).

We now turn to consider the towers in descending order of numbers of bells. The only 12-bell tower has already been mentioned.

There are six 10-bell towers and one of these (Wexford) is still virgin territory, I believe. This means that it is the only unconquered 10-bell tower there is. Very few peals have been rung on the other five. At Derry Cathedral there have been five peals (1930, 1931, 1936 and 1951 (two)); at Dublin, Christ Church Cathedral seven (1899, 1901, 1904, 1927, 1928, 1936 and 1953); at Dublin, St. John-the-Baptist's, two (1899 and 1904); at Enniskillen Cathedral three (1936, 1951 and 1953); and at Limerick R.C. Monastery one (1949). Thus only 18 in all, and mostly by touring bands.

The remaining 8-bell towers have figures as follows: Ballymena four (1931, 1936, 1951 (two)); Bangor four (1909, 1936, 1951, 1953); Belfast, St. Thomas' three (1904, 1909, 1931); Bray nine (1900 to 1909 six, 1927, 1953, 1954); Carrickfergus nine (1931 to 1936 five, 1947 to 1951 four); Coleraine four (1931, 1936, 1949, 1953); Drogheda five (1901, 1904, 1931, 1952, 1953); Kilkenny Cathedral one (1949); Limerick Cathedral two (1938, 1949); Lurgan eight (1904 two, 1909, 1931, 1947 to 1953 four) and Waterford Cathedral three (1904, 1905, 1949). The two Cathedrals at Cork still appear to be virgin territory.

As for 6-bell towers, none had been conquered before 1949, when a peal was rung at Drumbo. We now find five of the seven have had peals—Bandon one (1950); Belfast, St. Donard's (8), (all since 1950); Doneraile one (1954); Drumbo four 1949 to 1953; Rostrevor one (1950). There remain Blessington and Dublin, St. Andrew's, to appear in the peal columns. No peal has yet been rung on the only five-bell tower—Ross.

The best peal-ringing period in the history of the country was when J. W. Washbrook was resident there. Eighty-two peals were rung from 1899 to 1909. This is closely approached in the 11 years from 1945 to 1955, when 70 peals were rung (none in 1955, though). Apart from these two periods, very few peals have been rung except on the occasional 'tour,' e.g., 1931 and 1936. So much for the 'Emerald Isle.' Peals include all published up to February 3rd, 1956.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

Southern District

The hospitality shown to visitors at Baglan has to be experienced to be believed. Such an occasion happened on March 3rd, when the Guild's quarterly meeting was held there. One never fails to be impressed by the beautiful Church of St. Catherine, which is always worthy of a visit; also the spire and the six bells are on a par with the church.

Members attended from Gorseinon, Sketty, Llangynwyd, Llandilo, Cadoxton, Neath, Aberavon, Porthcawl, with the local band. Ringing during the afternoon and evening was under the direction of the Master, Mr. E. Morris.

The District secretary expressed the thanks of everyone for the excellent tea provided. At the business meeting the Vicar (the Rev. J. Llew Jones) welcomed all to Baglan, and said he was always pleased to entertain members of the Guild of Bellringers. The statement of accounts was read and duly adopted. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Dyffryn. Mr. D. J. Lewis expressed pleasure in seeing Mr. E. Phillips back again.

After a rope had broken early in the evening some of the members finished the day by going on to Aberavon.

J. A. H.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Melton District

The Rev. Canon Alfred T. G. Blackmore, Rector of Bottesford, welcomed the Melton District meeting to his lovely parish church—'The Lady of the Vale'—on March 10th. Bottesford is the last parish in the Diocese of Leicester and furthest from the Cathedral City. On several occasions meetings at Bottesford have been very poorly supported, but this time the lovely ring of eight was put to good use by a gathering of nearly 50 ringers.

Mr. A. Ward, the captain, and members of the local band were at the tower in good time to meet the visitors, many of whom arrived at an early hour. A bright and cheerful service took place at 4.30, and although Canon Blackmore insisted that he was giving a 'little talk' and not an address, he held the attention of his hearers with an informed discourse on the origins of the use of bells in Christian worship. Mrs. A. Wheeler, of Kirby Bellars, assisted very ably at the organ.

A very fine tea was served at the Bull, when Canon Blackmore joined the company. Mr. J. H. Cook, District chairman, presided at the business meeting, and announced, to the great pleasure of all present, that Canon Blackmore had joined the Guild as an honorary member—the first in the District.

The District secretary, Mr. P. A. Corby, stated that the list of members to appear in the following Guild report had been fully corrected, and in accordance with the rules of the Guild persons whose subscriptions were in arrears would not appear as members. Members were asked to make this policy widely known and to point out to any who complained that their names would appear next year provided their subscriptions were brought up to date.

Mr. F. J. Williams was present from Blythe, Notts, and gave details of the arrangements he had made for the District outing in Nottinghamshire on Easter Monday. The next District meeting was arranged, subject to permission, to be held at Buckminster on April 28th.

Mr. P. A. Corby expressed the thanks of the District to Canon Blackmore, Mrs. Wheeler and the Bottesford ringers for the success of the meeting.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

The annual general meeting of the Sudbury District was held at Lavenham on March 3rd. This famous church proved a good attraction and the meeting was well attended. Visitors were present from Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, as well as the other Districts in Suffolk.

The Rector (Canon H. W. S. Cotton) conducted a short service and gave the Guild and visitors a very warm welcome. He also took the chair at the business meeting after tea, at which Mr. S. J. Twitchett was re-elected Master and Miss R. J. Seabrook secretary and treasurer.

After some discussion it was decided that instead of having a District dinner this year a supper and social evening should be held at Lavenham on June 23rd, in conjunction with the Lavenham Ringing Day. It was also suggested that a few peals might be rung at various towers in the District during the morning of that day, and anyone interested in helping to make up a band is asked to contact the secretary.

After the meeting further ringing from rounds to Yorkshire Surprise Major took place at the tower until 8.15 p.m.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Pamela R. Gough 1, June A. Grieveson (first 'inside') 2, D. H. Paine 3, C. D. Linington 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, D. Brown 6. Rung for Mothering Sunday.

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.—On Mar. 11th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: P. G. Erith (first quarter) 1, F. Southgate 2, H. Bacon 3, D. Andrews 4, F. H. Erith 5, A. R. Andrews 6, A. G. Butlin 7, R. Duesbury (cond.) 8.

BLECHINGLEY, SURREY.—On Mar. 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Major: W. Slaughter 1, D. Beresford 2, E. Talbot 3, G. Peters 4, G. Olliver 5, A. Bull 6, H. May 7, J. Euston 8. With thanks to all 'mothers.'

BROMESBORROW, GLOS.—On Mar. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Smith 1, Joy Smith 2, Mrs. H. Wilson 3, W. D. Wilson 4, R. D. Wilson (cond.) 5, R. Chew 6.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Mar. 11th, 1,272 Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor: K. Everett 1, P. Sims 2, E. Deacon 3, G. M. Rouse (cond.) 4, S. W. Bigmore 5, H. Stebbings 6. Rung for morning service.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—On Mar. 8th, 1,280 Wembley Surprise Major: J. E. Rootes 1, C. W. Woolley (cond.) 2, S. H. Hoare 3, D. Kay Adkins 4, R. Rowley 5, W. Wenban 6, J. R. Mayne 7, T. W. Sheppard 8.

CAWTHORNE, YORKS.—On Mar. 4th, 1,320 Plain Bob Minor: W. Broadhead 1, Miss V. Flint 2, F. Cowling 3, R. Brogan 4, H. Rusby 5, N. F. Moxon (cond.) 6. A farewell to the Rev. F. Barrie Flint and Mrs. Flint, also to Miss Valerie Flint, a faithful ringer at Cawthorne for the past 18 months.

CHARLWOOD, SURREY.—On Mar. 9th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: W. King 1, D. Attwater 2, A. J. Ede 3, G. T. Jennings 4, W. Slaughter 5, B. A. Cracknell (cond.) 6. First in the method for 1, 2, 4 and 6.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 Erin Triples: Miss A. Garnett 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Belcher 3, M. P. Moreton 4, B. Lunn 5, J. F. Smallwood 6, John Phillips (cond.) 7, J. Bell 8.

GLOUCESTER.—At the Church of St. Mary-de-Lode, on Mar. 4th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob and 660 Grandsire): B. Allen (first quarter) 1, P. Williams 2, M. Ling 3, P. Hurcombe 4, R. G. Corby (cond.) 5, C. Wixey 6. Rung as a farewell compliment to Bernard Allen, who is joining the R.A.F. Also on Mar. 9th, 1,260 Doubles (240 All Saints', 240 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 240 Reverse Canterbury Bob, 240 Plain Bob and 300 Grandsire): W. R. Wixey 1, M. Ling 2, P. T. Hurcombe 3, C. Wixey 4, R. G. Corby (cond.) 5, S. J. Pugh 6. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mrs. L. A. Wilton and Mrs. E. M. Jelf, both of whom were members of the above church.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON.—On Mar. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Bailey (first of Triples) 1, E. H. Smith 2, R. K. Russ 3, H. Hatto 4, C. Tigwell 5, F. G. Henbest 6, A. K. Street (cond.) 7, J. Smith 8. Rung as an 84th birthday compliment to Mr. H. Hatto.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Mar. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss G. Carless 1, C. A. Barron (cond.) 2, Miss J. M. Funnell 3, G. Hughes 4, Miss M. P. Flynn 5, R. Carless 6, W. C. Dowding 7, J. Blake 8. A farewell to Mary Funnell.

LONDON.—At the Parish Church of St. Dunstan and All Saints, on Mar. 11th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: H. W. Knauss 1, W. A. Hughes 2, C. W. Rideway 3, G. J. Boomsma 4, A. S. Lewry 5, R. Sumner 6, H. G. Weedon 7, L. J. Fox (cond.) 8. First of Major for 1, 3, 6 and 7. For Evensong.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. S. Morris (cond.) 1, Mrs. C. W. Powell 2, W. H. Poole 3, H. G. Keeley 4, G. H. Whitmore 5, Canon C. C. Cox 6, C. W. Powell 7, J. Rattenbury 8. For Evensong.

MARSTON, OXON.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each Northrepps, Old, All Saints', Southrepps, Clifford, Reverse Canterbury, April Day, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire and 180 Plain Bob): K. Tasker (first quarter) 1, C. M. Woodward 2, D. C. Woodward 3, R. H. Jones 4, C. Holloway (cond.) 5.

TURVEY, BEDS.—On Mar. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles (with 7, 6, 8 covering): Dorothy M. Pickering 1, Hazel N. Craven 2, B. Pattison (cond.) 4, Avril Thackray 4, J. E. Hilson 5, D. Angell 6, A. H. Craven 7, L. H. Savage 8. A farewell compliment to the Rector (the Rev. G. H. Browning, O.B.E.) on accepting the living of St. George's, Edgbaston.

WEST HARTLEPOOLS, CO. DURHAM.—On Mar. 11th, at St. Oswald's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. K. Lawson 1, H. Short 2, F. Robson 3, Miss M. James 4, T. Templeman 5, J. Clouston 6, K. Lawson (cond.) 7, G. Wright 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Fred Robson, who has completed 50 years as a service ringer at this church.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 St. Clement's, Bob Minor: Miss R. E. Gower 1, Miss P. Lawes 2, E. S. Ruck 3, C. T. Hillis 4, L. C. Smith 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6. For Matins. Also 1,320 College Bob: Miss R. E. Gower 1, Miss R. A. Gower 2, D. Staples 3, W. P. Garner 4, A. J. Lancefield 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

WOMBOURN, STAFFS.—On Mar. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Parkin 1, P. J. Barker (cond.) 2, Miss S. Thomas 3, C. Wallater 4, Miss S. Hughes 5, I. D. Thomson 6, J. Allen 7, G. Hughes 8. Rung after a peal failure.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

There arrived in England on March 2nd Tommy Turner and Pat Cahill. Tommy has been in Rhodesia several years, and returns home to Barrow, where he has been a member of the Lancashire Association for 21 years. Pat, one of the youthful band at St. Paul's, Durban, is looking forward to spending a year in the U.K., beginning at Salisbury. Both joined the regular band for practice at St. Mary's, Woodstock, Cape Town, before leaving.

Fellow ringers will congratulate Miss Jean Evans, a Hythe (Kent) ringer, on having been made a Queen's Guide.

The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead informs us that he is now collecting Surprise Major compositions!

A new series of articles, mainly for beginners, under the general title of 'Technical Tittle-Tattle,' by A. Y-B., will start next week.

With regret, we record the death of the Rev. Dr. G. Golding-Bird, who until last year had been president of the East Grinstead and District Guild for 17 years.

Mr. George P. Elphick, of Lewes, asks for definite information as to the oldest maiden bell in the country. He questions the claim of Broadwindsor, Dorset.

Mr. Edgar C. Shepherd has written for 'The Ringing World' a most useful series of papers entitled 'The Sunday Service Conductor.' In a sense it is an introduction to Mr. W. G. Wilson's book, 'On Conducting.'

The bells at St. Margaret's Church, Leiston, Suffolk, were rung half-muffled following the funeral of Mr. Charles Whiting on March 10th. Members of the local band and friends from Aldeburgh were among those who rang 1,240 changes of Kent Treble Bob and a short touch of Stedman Triples.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

St. Budeaux, Plymouth, has a band of six Girl Guides and their captain. They started ringing last October and have reached a state of proficiency to qualify for regular Sunday Service ringing. The Guides are Christine Rogers, Margaret McClinchey, Doreen McClinchey, Ann Hiscock, Veronica Elliott and Ann Warren.

The Surrey Association have decided to increase the subscriptions of both resident and life members as from next January.

Owing to tower repairs, ringing at St. Margaret's, Westminster, will be suspended from April 16th until further notice.

Mr. E. J. Taylor, general secretary of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, is making slow progress after his recent serious accident.

Mrs. William Easter, of the Rochester District, is now out of hospital and is enjoying better health.

Should junior members be allowed to vote at Guild meetings? This question has been engaging the attention of the Executive of the Guildford Guild.

Evesham, Worcestershire, has a ringing Mayor. Cclr. Ewart A. Andrews rang a peal of Plain Bob Major on March 3rd during his Mayoral year.

Six of the ringers who participated in the peal at Tiverton for the Restoration Appeal for £15,000 for St. Peter's Church are members of the local band. The peal was arranged by Mr. E. J. Taylor before his accident, and the band sends its best wishes to him for a good recovery.

Older ringers in the Rochester District will learn with regret of the sudden death of Mr. Daniel Thomas Hill in his 80th year. For a great many years he was a member of the Kent County Association and before the last war was an active member of the Chatham and Rochester Cathedral bands.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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MR. J. BENNETT'S ROUND THE WORLD TRIP

Mr. Jim Bennett, of Grundisburgh, Suffolk, sends us the following interesting account of his world's tour, during which he rang in Australia and Canada.

On a recent trip round the world by sea, land and air, it was my great privilege and pleasure to meet and ring with several of our friends in Australia, as well as at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, B.C. May 1, through 'The Ringing World,' say how grateful I am to them, not only for ringing arrangements during my stay of eight days in Melbourne and four in Sydney, but also for their very kind hospitality. Certainly no one could possibly have been better treated.

Before arranging my tour I wrote to Mr. Philip Gray (then resident in Melbourne and leader of the Cathedral band), who kindly supplied me with information generally regarding ringing in Australia, as well as leaving word with his successor of my hoped-for visit.

Of the several shore excursions en route, one was at Freemantle and another at Adelaide, but as these were one-day visits only, ringing arrangements were hardly possible. From Freemantle a coach trip took us to Perth, where I managed to look in the ringing chamber of St. George's Cathedral; there were eight ropes minus sallies. At the Cathedral, Adelaide, I was unable to reach the belfry.

On arrival at Melbourne on Sunday, January 15th, my namesake, Mr. Alan Bennett, was waiting at the hotel to greet me, and took me round in his car to view some of the city's beauty spots (there are many), and then to his home for the day. Mrs. Bennett insisted on my spending another evening with them the following week. Such is Australian hospitality.

During my stay at Melbourne I was able to ring at St. Paul's Cathedral on four different days, viz., two Sundays, practice night and a Saturday meeting specially arranged for my benefit. On two occasions we had the 12 going. After the Wednesday practice and Saturday's special, excellent teas were provided and served by the lady members of the band. Mr. Jack Roper is the very amiable and popular leader, and I'm pleased to say he has several promising learners as well as experienced ringers in his band, one of whom is Mr. Jack Spencer, who took part in the peal of Grandsire Cinques which was rung there in 1934 by a mixed band of Australian and English ringers. Under such leadership and pleasant atmosphere and a really good ring of 12, I feel sure change ringing will progress in Melbourne in spite of the fact that several move away while in the learners' stage.

On arrival at Sydney on Monday, January 23rd, I received the same kind welcome and treatment. Mr. Tom Goodyer, having arranged ringing on all four evenings of my stay, called at the hotel and took me in his car to the Cathedral of St. Mary Basilica, where there is a fine eight with a 15 cwt. tenor. After ringing, and a wonderful view of the sights of Sydney from the top of the tower, Mr. Goodyer drove me round to view two other towers in the city containing bells. At St. Benedict's there is a heavy six, which are rung about once a year, and at St. Philip's an almost unringable eight. After this a drive both ways over the wonderful Sydney bridge and around the city. This was not the only pleasant trip I had in Tom's car.

On Tuesday we visited Parramatta and, after ringing, an excellent late tea was served, during which we were joined by the very genial Irish Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Walker (83), who gave me

a warm welcome and certainly kept us well entertained until a late hour with an inexhaustible supply of amusing stories of his young days at home.

On Wednesday we rang at Turramurra. At both these towers there is a handy ring of six with 10 cwt. tenors (approx.), and both are situated roughly 16 miles from the centre of the city. On Thursday we rang again at St. Mary's Cathedral for a special service, and afterwards at Christ Church St. Lawrence, a fairly heavy six with a long draught.

This concluded my ringing in Australia, and time to say goodbye to real good friends came all too soon. Those present at every tower were Mr. and Mrs. Goodyer, Messrs. Jack Cummin and F. ('Chook') Fowell, and Mr. Clarke at three of them. It must have been the small (or large) hours of each morning before any of them reached home. Mr. and Mrs. Cummin both took time off from work next day and came on board the S.S. 'Orsova' to see me off with parting greetings, others wrote or telephoned same. I offer my heartfelt thanks and best wishes to all the ringers with whom I came in contact 'down under'.

IN CANADA

On arrival at Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver (via Auckland, Suva and Honolulu), a letter from Mr. E. W. Izard was waiting with a warm welcome and an invitation to come and join in the ringing at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, B.C., on the Sunday, and the offer to hold the usual weekly practice any evening suitable to myself. Victoria is 83 miles from Vancouver and is reached by two-a-day each-way boat services. Owing to the distance I was able to make the journey once only. The bells are a very fine eight with a tenor of nearly 30 cwt. and go excellently, and are a replica of those at Westminster Abbey, and were dedicated on July 12th, 1936. They are the only ring on Vancouver Island.

Mr. Izard is the respected leader, having held that position since the bells were installed, during which time he has taught 40 recruits up to method ringing and has at present a fully efficient band, included in which are his son and daughter. There are also a few learners. Even with the unavoidable absence of three, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were very creditably brought round, and this at a very isolated ringing outpost. The bells are rung regularly twice on Sundays and for the weekly practice. After the practice Mr. Izard very kindly drove me to his home for refreshments and a pleasant hour's chat with his family, and then to the landing stage to catch the midnight boat back to Vancouver, which was reached at 7 a.m. ('home with the milk,' and worth it).

On the journey across Canada, from Vancouver via the Rockies and prairie to St. John's, N.B., it was a great pleasure to meet Mr. Lewis Cockey, late of Ealing, London, and now resident in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Although arriving at a late hour Mr. Cockey met my train, three hours behind schedule owing to a real blizzard across the prairie. The 30 minutes' stop was fully occupied discussing ringing and ringers; I was the only one he had met since leaving England last July. Mr. Cockey is comfortably settled (in about four feet of snow) in Winnipeg, but misses the bells very much, and ringing friends at home. What ringer wouldn't?

On the round trip I travelled in three liners, one aeroplane and about 3,400 miles by the Canadian Pacific Railway, plus several hundred miles here and there by coach, car, train, tram, bus, boat and shanks' pony.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Increase of Subscriptions Proposed

The Master, Mr. R. Davies, opened the annual general meeting at Kingston-on-Thames on March 10th by asking the members to stand in silent tribute to Mr. W. Massey, of Esher, who passed away on January 30th. An apology was received from Mr. P. S. Davis, who was sick.

The committee's report, presented by the secretary (Mr. W. F. Oatway), disclosed the disquieting fact that over 100 members were in arrears with their subscriptions for 1955, and members were asked to remedy this as soon as possible. The report mentioned that only ten peals had been rung during the year, but also noted that Sunday service ringing had been well maintained.

After the adoption of the report, the meeting, on the proposition of the Master, unanimously elected Mr. A. Arnold, one of our oldest members, who, because of an infirmity, had difficulty in getting about and had tendered his resignation, to be a vice-president.

Mr. S. W. F. Kimber, treasurer, presented the statements of accounts, which were adopted. These showed a loss of only 3s. 6d. on the year's working, despite a loss of over £3 on the 75th Anniversary Dinner held in May.

With the exception of the treasurer, all retiring members were re-elected, with Miss K. E. Weller succeeding Mr. Kimber, who had decided to relinquish office in anticipation of his National Service commitments later in the year. All general and District officers were thanked by the Master for their services and co-operation during the past year.

The meeting decided to increase the subscriptions of both resident ringing members and life members as from next January.

It was decided to send a donation to the St. Mary-le-Bow restoration appeal, and to add to the amount any donations affiliated towers might like to forward to the general secretary, Mr. W. F. Oatway.

The meeting terminated with votes of thanks to the Rector of Esher for the use of his bells during the afternoon, to the Vicar of Kingston for taking the service, the use of the vestry for the meeting and use of the bells, and to Messrs. F. E. Hawthorne and R. F. B. Speed and their willing ladies for a splendid tea.

Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Royal.

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX

By kind invitation of the local ringers, members of the Guild met at Brighouse on March 3rd. The bells were put to good use during the afternoon until time for service, which was conducted by the assistant priest, and the lessons were read by two of the members.

An excellent tea was then enjoyed in the Parochial Hall by 30 members and visitors. At the business meeting the chair was taken by the Master. A vote of thanks to the local ringers was ably proposed by Mr. C. F. Sutcliffe. Coupled with this was a welcome to visitors from York Minster. It is hoped to hold the next meeting at Cross Stone on May 5th. No Guild trip is being arranged this year, but the Marsden ringers invite others to join them on June 9th.

Upon returning to the tower several other ringers arrived, and it was unfortunate for the visitors that they had to depart then, because the best ringing took place in the evening. Everyone was fitted in in methods up to Cambridge Major. A good lower in peal at 9 p.m. concluded a good meeting.

PEAL RINGING IN WALES & MONMOUTH

The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead's article on peal ringing in Wales and Monmouth was not sufficiently comprehensive for many of our readers who hail from the Principality. We give below two of the letters we have received on the subject. The elaboration will be welcomed by all who love Wales.

Dear Sir,—As an exile from the Principality I was most interested in the article on the above subject by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead. I am, however, disappointed that he sees fit to confine the matter to a mere two columns, and feel that in view of the small number of towers concerned a more comprehensive survey could have been given.

In connection with the statement that 55 peals have been rung at Llanelly, I would ask Mr. Felstead if he is aware that there are two places under this name in South Wales, one in the county of Carmarthen and one in Brecknock: both churches have the same dedication and both have rings of six. I feel that it is extremely unlikely that 55 peals have been rung in the former town, and I query that number for the latter.

While agreeing that a large number of peals have been rung in the Brecknock (Llanelly) tower, the statement that there have been 11 since 1946 is, I feel, inaccurate, particularly as Mr. Felstead says none last year. The last peal at Llanelly, Carmarthen, was on August 19th, 1954, and this prompts the question, have the totals for these two towers been mixed up? The peal books of the late George Popnell show that he rang 19 peals at Llanelly, Brecknock, between 1922 and 1938: however, the Rackham family, who rang at this tower for many years, undoubtedly rang more than this. Mr. S. T. Rackham, who was the conductor in this tower for many years, died some years ago, and did no ringing for some time before his death, and as far as I know there has been very little ringing in this tower since the war. I feel I must also criticise Mr. Felstead in this instance for, in the main, limiting his list of mentions to 25 peals and over. In an area such as Wales there are a number of towers containing magnificent rings which but for their geographical situation would undoubtedly have had many peals rung on them. Two of the most inaccessible are St. David's and Barmouth. Two counties have but one ring of eight—Cardigan and Anglesey—while Radnor possesses two—Presteigne and Knighton. All these towers have had more than one peal recorded, and as the total of peals rung in Wales must be small compared with those rung in some English counties, they should, I feel, have been mentioned.

In the heart of industrial Monmouthshire, Ebbw Vale has one of the best eights in Britain, while in the centre of the county Usk has had 24 peals rung on its fine eight. At Bassaleg, near Newport, there is a ring of six steel bells and a number of peals have been rung on them. Other Monmouthshire towers where the peal total must be well into double figures are Bedwellty, Llangibby, Marshfield and Peterstone-Wentloog. Llantrisant, Glamorgan, was also once a popular tower.

History tells us that the first College Youth peal in Wales was rung at Llanstephan, that Bertram Prewett called the first peal of Surprise at Llangollen, that Edwin Barnett, senior, called the first peal at Monmouth, and that the Union Youths rang an early peal at Chepstow.

Why, Mr. Felstead, couldn't we have had the peal totals at all these interesting towers? Please don't tell me that you are limited to space or I should be tempted to remember that your article on Yorkshire was published in two parts.—Yours faithfully,

DONALD G. CLIFT.

Harrow, Middlesex.

PEALS IN NORTH WALES

Dear Sir,—Re the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead's article on page 134 in 'The Ringing World.' Northop, Flint (8), is omitted. There have been several peals rung there and this church is well worth a visit. It is on the Chester-St. Asaph road, about 15 miles from Chester. The first peal on the bells (Double Norwich Court Bob Major) was rung by a visiting clerical band before 1925. I have rung in two peals there myself, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Treble Bob Major, 1925 and 1927.

Rhyl, Flint (8).—First peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in Wales, rung by Midland Counties Association (the Burton band) on August 13th, 1883. Other peals rung here being Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major (10,400 changes) in six hours and five minutes on February 9th, 1924, conducted by R. Sperring (still Welsh record), two peals of Cambridge Surprise Major, one in 1925 (conducted by E. Jenkins) and one in 1927 (conducted by F. Bennett). One peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a welcome for the Queen's recent visit. These bells are now difficult to get for a peal.

Bodelwyddan, Flint (8).—Two peals of Kent Treble Bob were rung here by Liverpool ringers before 1886. The first peal of Grandsire Triples was rung here by the Wrexham ringers, conducted by the late F. E. Dawe, in 1886. I have taken part in five peals here from 1912 to 1927, including Grandsire Triples, London Surprise Major, Superlative Surprise Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob Major. (There have been other peals, I think.)

Abergele (6).—Three or more peals of Doubles have been rung here and one Minor (?).

Llangollen (8).—Peals have been rung here. I rang in one of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1925.

Llandudno (8).—Several peals have been rung here. I have been in four.

Ruthin (8).—One peal of Plain Bob Major has been rung here.

Llandegai (6).—Two peals of Doubles rung here, the first in 1908.

Portmadoc (8).—I think about six peals have been rung here. I rang in one of Kent Treble Bob Major.

Barmouth (8).—Two or three peals, all by tourists, I think.

Machynlleth (8).—One or two by tourists, also Dolgelly, as far as I know.

Rhuddlan.—Some peals of Doubles.

Baumaris, Anglesey.—Trebles added 1925. Seven or eight peals have been rung here. I rang in four: Plain Bob Major (conducted by I. Piggott), Stedman Triples (conducted by W. T. Pegler), Plain Bob Major (conducted by A. W. Brighton) and Grandsire Triples (conducted by W. T. Pegler). The others were Grandsire Triples (conducted by R. Sperring), Yorkshire Surprise Major (conducted by E. Cawser) and Grandsire Triples (conducted by J. Griffiths).—Yours truly,

ALBERT J. HUGHES.

Bangor.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On Mar. 7th, 1.260 Grandsire Triples: E. R. Retter 1, W. D. Ashdown 2, Mrs. G. E. Retter 3, J. Salway 4, D. Callard 5, G. E. Retter (cond.) 6, A. Holway 7, E. Morgan 8. Rung half-muffled after the funeral of Mrs. E. E. Retter, wife of the captain and mother of the treble and 6th ringers.

OTTERTON, DEVON.—On Feb. 28th, 1.320 Stedman Doubles: S. Skinner (cond.) 1, J. Carter (first of Stedman Doubles) 2, C. Savage 3, E. W. Rowe 4, J. Quick 5, R. Pitman 6.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Wirral Branch Annual Dinner

The eighth annual dinner, entertainment and dance, held once again at the Coach and Horses Inn, Moreton, on February 11th, was thoroughly enjoyed by over 120 ringers, relatives and friends.

The Branch chairman, Mr. W. R. Stanley, welcomed the guests of honour, the Rural Dean of Birkenhead (the Rev. E. O. A. Thomas) and Mrs. Thomas, who was presented with a bouquet of spring flowers by Miss Ethel Pemberton. The chairman was supported on the top table by the Ringing Master (Mr. T. Rogers), the hon. secretary and treasurer (Mr. A. J. Martin) and Mrs. Martin. The company included Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Pemberton (vice-presidents), Mr. C. B. Pemberton (Assistant Ringing Master) and ringers from St. Mary's, Birkenhead, Bromborough, Bidston, Moreton, Neston, Oxton, Wallasey St. Hilary's, Wallasey St. Nicholas' and West Kirby. Visitors welcomed were Messrs. J. Ridyard and R. Kenrick (Southport) and Mr. J. Roberts (Liverpool, now with the R.A.F. in Lincolnshire). Mr. Trevor Sutton also made the trip from Gloucestershire to maintain his unbroken sequence of attendances.

After an excellent meal the toasts were rapidly proposed and drunk, brevity being the order of the day. Miss Daphne Wain must be commended for responding so ably to the toast of 'The Ladies,' although 'butterflies in the tummy' interfered with her appetite. Toasts were interspersed with entertainment provided by Mr. Phil Kernot (comedian), Mr. T. Seed (bass), with Mrs. C. Matthiae as accompanist, and the Wirral Handbell Ringers.

The company then adjourned to the lounge to indulge in further liquid refreshment whilst the ballroom was cleared for dancing. The orchestra was quickly installed and dancing continued practically non-stop until midnight with but a short interval for light refreshments. So all too soon a much looked forward to function ended and the committee members are to be congratulated on once again arranging such an enjoyable occasion.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Society was held on March 3rd at Ranmoor, where a company of 60 members and friends rang on the light 10 during the afternoon. Tea was served in the Church Hall, and the business meeting was presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Pain).

During the proceedings it was interesting to note that the president, Mr. H. O. Chaddock, had received an appeal from London concerning the restoration of Bow Bells. Several members promised to subscribe privately, and after a short discussion it was decided that the Society donate £2 2s. to this noble cause.

Methods rung during the day ranged from rounds to London Major and a course of Cambridge Royal together with Grandsire and Stedman Caters.

NORWICH DIOCESAN

Despite the snow and icy roads some 30 members representing nine towers attended the annual meeting of the Western Branch held at Swaffham on February 25th.

The service was conducted by the Vicar. At the business meeting all the officers were re-elected. The next interim meeting is to be held at Great Ryburgh on April 14th; the quarterly meeting at Sculthorpe on May 26th, subject to permission.

Votes of thanks were expressed to all who had made the meeting so successful and to all officers and members for their support during the past year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE'S BELLS AND BOW

Dear Sir,—Mr. Goodfellow informs us in his letter of the proposal to demolish the tower of the Imperial Institute and suggests that ringers protest to their M.P.s on the matter. I agree that its removal would be an architectural loss, but the plain fact is that from the ringing point of view this swaying structure has always been a dead loss! I do not think that a lone protest here and there would carry much weight with an M.P. on such a matter.

There is little time left now to attempt to preserve the past. The thing now is for the whole Exercise to look forward in an attempt to preserve this fine ring of ten! As the tenor weighs close on two tons, why should they not be installed in the tower of St. Mary-le-Bow Church as the back ten of the ring of twelve scheduled to replace the ring destroyed by enemy action nearly 15 years ago. Two trebles could be cast from the salvaged metal of that ring. And the Ancient Society of College Youths would still be able to ring these bells on public occasions connected with Royalty. Just the job! Could anyone expect more?

That your paper should publish an appeal in connection with Bow Church and bells and, the following week, inform us of the possible removal and break-up of the Institute ring is, indeed, ironic!

WILLIAM A. STOTE.

Coventry.

OUR HEADINGS ON TOPICS

Dear Sir,—I feel I must thank the writers of the following front page articles: 'Into Print,' 'Where Are Our Instructors?', 'Acid Test of a Good Ringer,' 'Expansion of Our Art' and 'Sunday Service Ringing.' I think 'Into Print' (February 10th) seems to have been an inspiration, so here is my little quota, for as a lifelong aspirant of our art I have held Sunday service ringing in the same groove as W. Birmingham's Sunday service ringing article, and, as he states, 'After all it is good Sunday ringing we desire, and the outside listeners are only concerned with good striking,' or Colin E. Verdon's 'But what of the vast multitude of the "listening public," who neither know nor care what is being rung so long as the striking is good.' Therefore, in the cause of good striking and Sunday service ringing fraternity, I hereby make a statement which I feel will have a great deal of support.

In turning over from the front page what do we see? Two hundred and fifty to 300 names appear under peals which are registered. We should all be greatly shocked if we knew the percentage of those ringers who did ring for Sunday service. I give way to a certain percentage on the condition that the tower that they do really represent did have as little as a Minor set for their own church's Sunday service.

I have time and time again tried to give a lead towards good striking which I feel is the cause of our art. It is as much our part to the Church and its peoples as the sermon. It is an art. Let us try to keep it one and I do suggest to any of our fraternity to be whole-hearted towards each other, giving and taking, but firstly and foremost must be your own church bells and your Sunday service ringing, and I ask you to make this your life.—Yours faithfully,

J. BURGESS.

Friezeand.

[Note.—In the Editor's opinion the percentage of peal ringers who regularly ring for Sunday services is extremely high.]

JOINT MEETING AT BURTON-ON-TRENT

Dear Sir,—I do not wish to enter into a prolonged correspondence on the question of this meeting or to over-emphasise the point I made in my earlier letter.

The report I referred to, however, made an unqualified and unequivocal statement as follows:—'A joint Festival of the Society, the North Staffs Association, Midland Counties Guild and Shropshire Association, will take place at Burton-on-Trent on April 14th.' Any one not present at the meeting could only interpret the report, not as of an invitation yet to be made, but as an arrangement already agreed. The meeting at which this statement was made was held on January 21st, and the report was published in 'The Ringing World' on February 10th. The invitation from the Archdeaconry Society, as Mr. Bennett has stated, was not made until February 21st.

The North Staffs Association holds meetings on either the first or second Saturday of every month, and as the March and May meetings were both fixed for the second Saturday of the month it is purely a matter of good fortune that the date of the joint Festival does not clash with our April meeting. Whether this Association would be called upon to do any work in connection with the joint Festival is quite irrelevant.

In view of the fact that at the time of publication of the statement this Association had not been approached by the Archdeaconry Society to find out whether it had a meeting or other engagement fixed for that day, or even was willing to participate in a joint meeting, the Association and its officers were placed in the invidious position of having been apparently committed to an engagement of which they knew nothing, so it was felt desirable that the misapprehension occasioned by the report should be officially dispelled through the same channels by which it was created. The decision to do so was made only after discussion of the matter by officers and other committee members of the Association.

I would add that I take the strongest exception to the personal tone of Mr. Bennett's letter, which was discourteous and which cannot be conducive to the good spirit which is essential for the success of joint meetings and pleasant relationships.—Yours faithfully,

Stoke-on-Trent. EWART H. EDGE.

LINCOLN 'TIPS' WANTED

Dear Sir,—On page 539 of 'The Ringing World', August 22nd, 1924, appears a letter by the late Arthur Craven laying claim to the authorship of Rochester Surprise, and also giving the figures of 'Norton,' 'Ripon,' 'Lincoln' and 'New London' Surprise, all of which he claimed to have produced in May, 1923.

Upon reference to Corrigan's collection of Surprise Major methods, I find that 'Lincoln,' as published by Craven, is listed as 'Beddington' (method No. 23). Similarly 'New London' appears as 'Thorp' (method No. 312). 'Norton' and 'Ripon' appear in the collection as given by Craven.

I would be interested to learn, if possible, when and in what circumstances the names of the two methods referred to were changed, and whether peals have been rung in them (a) under their names by Craven, and (b) under their changed names. I would also welcome details of the authorship of the method given in the collection as 'Lincoln' (method No. 201) and how this came to supplant the Craven version.

Clarification appears to be especially necessary regarding 'Lincoln,' as otherwise a mixed band meeting for a peal in the method(s) could find that the only thing they had in common was the f.c.e. 24365.—Yours truly,

L. W. G. MORRIS.

Bradford.

ORIGINALITY OF COMPOSITION

Dear Sir,—As Mr. Speed rightly points out on page 139, the question of originality of composition is a very old problem and is never likely to be settled satisfactorily.

I would like to endorse his suggestion that 'would-be' composers study carefully the productions of the old masters from Annable and Reeves up to date. This will give them a sound grounding on which to assess the originality of a composition, and though they may find that others do not agree with them the present-day composers are, in the main, quite prepared to agree to differ.

Mr. Speed attributes the 6720 of London to T. B. Worsley, but it is, in fact, a transposition of the reverse of W. Harrison's peal:—

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 4 6 3 2 — — 3

5 3 2 4 6 2 — —

6 2 3 4 5 — —

four times repeated

which reversed becomes

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

4 5 2 3 6 — —

5 3 6 2 4 — 2 3

4 2 6 3 5 — —

four times repeated.

As regards Mr. Overy's letter there is no question of composers not wishing to divulge their secrets, if any there be, but most of them have arrived at their own systems by carefully studying the work of older composers and by spending their spare time working out as Mr. Overy did peals which merely turned out to be variations of a peal already composed. After much patient research they hit upon a new idea and exploit it. For example, it is within living memory that the three part plan with 2-3 fixed in Treble Bob was first exploited. Hitherto 5-6 had been the fixed bells.

Mr. Overy's peal is a transposition of the following peal of J. W. Washbrook:—

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 2 4 3 6 — —

3 5 4 2 6 (a) — —

2 4 6 5 3 — —

6 4 3 5 2 — (a)

3 4 2 5 6 — —

4 5 2 3 6 — x

5 3 4 6 2 — x

2 3 5 6 4 — x —

To convert Washbrook's peal into Mr. Overy's add bobs at (a). Both must be called otherwise the touch runs round at the part end.

In conclusion, may I say that I am glad to see more interest in this side of the art, and it was not the intention of my letter to discourage anyone but to sound a warning note. Might I suggest that a way out of the difficulty is to say 'Arranged by —' in place of 'Composed by —'.

Yours sincerely,

C. KENNETH LEWIS.

Altrincham, Cheshire.

FAST RINGING

Dear Sir,—Some years ago I conducted a peal of Grandsire Doubles (tenor 17 cwt.), rung in 2 hours 32 minutes. This was disputed, not the capability of the band, but time and tenor weight. I invited a responsible ringer to check on a 720 and satisfied my critics.

I am wondering if such satisfaction could be obtained for the peal of Minor rung at the Loughborough Foundry Campanile on Feb. 18th last in 1 hour 53 minutes? ('Ringing World,' page 132). I notice a peal of Doubles 'in hand' (page 133) took more than two hours.

Finally I think it time that this nonsense of fast ringing should cease as it cannot please those who listen nor can it allow the music of the bells to be appreciated.—Yours faithfully,

Yatton, Somerset.

H. A. PRICE.

LETTERS—Continued

RAILWAYMEN'S PEAL ATTEMPTS AT CREWE

Dear Sir,—I would be grateful if you would please give the wider publicity to the three proposed bands for the three railwaymen's attempted peals at Crewe on June 23rd. They are by no means 'cast iron,' and would depend entirely on those who travel to Crewe.

At Christ Church, Crewe.—R. Meadows (Bath), B. Sutton (Scarborough), F. Seager (Leeds), J. R. Cooper (Ashford, Kent), A. J. Pitman (Swansea), E. Morris (Swansea), B. Threlfall (Liverpool), J. W. Griffiths (Chester), R. D. Langford (Crewe), G. A. Packer (Crewe).

At St. Mary's, Nantwich.—C. Bassett (Wadhurst, Sussex), L. W. Giles (Wadhurst, Sussex), W. R. Rich (Ditton, Kent), J. A. Hoare (Swansea), J. Brough (Nantwich), C. E. Deem (Exmouth), P. G. W. Newstead (Great Yarmouth), L. J. Day (Melton Mowbray).

At St. Mary's, Acton.—(From) D. G. Clarke (Newport, Mon.), R. E. Dannett (Chelmsford), F. Sutton (Acton), J. Brown (Ormskirk), W. C. Farrimond (Coppull, Lancs), S. Foskett (Bedford), H. Douglas (Wellington, Salop), W. J. Carter (Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent), W. F. Stenson (Crewe).

I am in touch with British Railways regarding arrangements and facilities, which I hope will be published in 'The Ringing World' as soon as available. After which I would be grateful if all concerned will write and give me some idea as to what time they may arrive in Crewe.—Yours sincerely,

W. FRANK STENSON.

Crewe.

PROPOSED RAILWAYMEN'S GUILD

Dear Sir,—Three years ago I arranged a meeting of Western Region railwaymen-ringers at Bristol and a good number attended from a wide area. It was suggested that a further meeting be held at Swindon, and an invitation duly appeared in the staff magazine asking those interested to contact me. I received one notification outside Swindon.

A further invitation was inserted in last December's magazine with a view to a meeting at Swindon early this year, and to date only five ringers have intimated their willingness to attend.

In view of the circumstances outlined, it would appear that Western Region ringers are not interested in attending meetings of this nature and I am forced to the conclusion that there is little demand for such a Guild.—Yours faithfully,

W. B. KYNASTON.

Swindon.

RINGERS, LOOK TO YOURSELVES

Dear Sir,—I have never been so disgusted as I was at the last two ringing meetings I have been to. Owing to the fact that I have two young children I do not go around to other towers as I once did, so therefore looked forward to the ringing meetings which were close at hand. Each time the good ringers had their fill of Cambridge and Double Norwich, etc., while the less advanced looked on. When it came to their turn such a clashing and a clanging was never heard before, when just a little help from the advanced ones would have been such an advantage. It seems, therefore, that once a ringer can ring well, he or she becomes selfish and cannot bear to help the struggling ones.

Therefore I say: 'Good ringers, look to yourselves. Are you selfish or could you bear to be an instructor? You may be looking to these would-be ringers for Cambridge and Double Norwich in the years to come.'—Yours, etc.,

D. H. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bengeo, Herts.

VALUABLE GIFTS TO CENTRAL COUNCIL LIBRARY

The librarian of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers acknowledges with grateful thanks a magnificent gift by Mr. E. H. Lewis to the Library of the following collection of valuable foreign books. viz.:

- Bader, Turm und Glockenbuchlen, 1903.
 Bergner, Clocken Meinungen, 1899.
 Bergner, Clockenkunde Thüringens, 1896.
 Bericht, Clocken und Clockenspiele, 1875.
 Berthele, Fonte de Cloches, 1890.
 Berthele, Enquêtes Campanaires, 1903.
 Blavignac, La Cloche, 1877.
 Bohmers, Kechten der Altare, 1732.
 Blanchon, Dialogue Poétique, 1899.
 Bockeler, Beiträge zur Glockenkunde, 1882.
 Bonneire, Panegyrique, 1818.
 Bourgeois, Les Cloches de Giez, 1905.
Bulletin Archeologique, 1889.
 Chambery, Cas des Cloches, 1882.
 Cheron, Fondateur de Cloches, n.d.
Comment on fait Chanter les Cloches, n.d.
 Dergny, Les Cloches du Pays de Bray, 1863.
 Didron, Des Cloches, 1844.
 Didron, Des Cloches du VII au XVI Siècle, 1846.
 Ducis, La Savoyarde, 1893.
Deux Proverbes, n.d.
 Eguillon, Suspension des Cloches, n.d.
 Fuster, Les Cloches, n.d.
 Gachot, La Cloche d'Argent, 1880.
 Germain, La Cloche de Sarbazan 1573, 1892.
Glocke, Glockenspiel, etc., 1780.
Glocken zu St. Florian, n.d.
Herblay et ses Cloches, 1900.
 Hoffman, Glockenkunde des Hessenlandes, 1906.
 Lassus, Les Clochers, 1905.
 Launan, Clockengeieber, 1834.
 Lazzarini, De Vario Tintinnabulorum, 1822.
 Loofe, Mittelalterliche Glockenkrenze, 1906.
 Lvdovici, Campanas, 1739.
L'Eglise d'Yzeures, 1903.
Le Symbolisme de la Cloche, 1859.
 Marchel, Les Fondateurs de Cloches, 1892.
 Mortet, Cathédrale de Paris, 1901.
 Mortet, Notre-Dame de Paris, 1903.
 Napione, Saggi ed Osservazioni, 1794.
 Otte, Glockenkunde, 1858.
 Rabut, Les Fondateurs de Cuivre, n.d.
 Riomet, Les Cloches, 1911.
 Rossignol, Une Cloche Angienne, n.d.
Revue de l'Art Chrétien, 1857.
 Sancasciani, Le Nuove Campanie, 1885.
 Saporite, Della Metropolitana di S. Lorenzo, 1750.
 Sauvageot, Etude sur les Cloches, 1863.
 Schmidt, Glocken des Mansfelder, n.d.
 Schinz, Kirchenglocken, 1863.
 Schubart, Die Glocken, 1896.
 Sehe, Historische Notizen, etc., 1857.
 Signerini, Nos Vieux Chantres, 1894.
 Seybold, L'Art du Carillon, 1923.
 Toudouze, La Cloche, n.d.
 Tougard, Le Clocher de l'Eglise du Mont-aux-Malades, 1889.
 Travers, Carillon de Bethune, 1880.
 Vuillaume, L'Horloge et les Cloches de la Bastille, 1896.

Also of two English works:

- Kitchen, The Great Screen of Winchester Cathedral, 1899.
 Owen, The Church Bells of Huntingdonshire, 1899.

The gift to the Library of the following books by Mrs. Joan Padmore, grand-daughter of the late Thomas North, is also acknowledged with grateful thanks:

- Briscowe, Curiosities of the Belfry, 1883.
 Deedes and Walters, Church Bells of Essex, 1909.
 Daniel-Tyssen, Church Bells of Sussex, 1864.
 Dunkin, Church Bells of Cornwall, 1878.
 Ellacombe, Church Bells of Devonshire, 1867.

Ellacombe, Church Bells of Somersetshire, 1875.

Ellacombe, Bells of the Cathedral Church of Exeter.

Gatty, The Bell, 1848.

L'Estrange, Church Bells of Norfolk, 1874.

Lukis, An Account of Church Bells, 1857.

North, Church Bells of Bedfordshire, 1883.

North, Church Bells of Leicestershire, 1876.

North, Church Bells of Lincolnshire, 1882.

North, Church Bells of Northamptonshire, 1878.

North, Church Bells of Rutland, 1880.

North, English Bells and Bell Lore, 1888.

Owen, Church Bells of Huntingdonshire, 1899.

Raven, Church Bells of Cambridgeshire, 1869.

Raven, Church Bells of Suffolk, 1890.

Stahlschmidt, Church Bells of Hertfordshire, 1892.

Stahlschmidt, Surrey Bells and London Bell founders, 1885.

Various MSS. relating to bells, and printers' proof of books written by Thomas North.

FREDERICK SHARPE, Hon. Librarian.

MR. J. A. AINSWORTH'S
100 PEALS

With a peal at Drighlington, Yorkshire, on February 18th, Mr. J. Alan Ainsworth, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, completed his first 100 peals, rung for 10 different Guilds or Associations in 63 different towers. His first peal was at Whicklam, Co. Durham, on October 14th, 1950. Details are appended:—

Doubles.—Seven methods 1, Stedman 1.

Minor.—Three to six methods 7 (conducted 2), seven methods 8 (1), eight methods 1, 14 Surprise 1, Cambridge 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 3, Stedman 3.

Major.—Plain Bob 6, Double Norwich Court Bob 6, St. Clement's College Bob 1, Little Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 3 (1), Kent and Oxford Treble Bob (Ilkeston Variation) 1, Eardisland Delight 1.

Surprise Major.—Yorkshire 12 (1), Cambridge 6 (1), Bristol 4, London 4, Superlative 3 (1), Rutland 2, four Spliced 2, and one each of the following: Belgrave, Painswick, Ashted, Whitminster, Lyme, Aldenham, Lincolnshire, Caerleon, five Spliced, six Spliced, seven Spliced.

Caters.—Stedman 2, Grandsire 1.

Royal.—Cambridge 4, Yorkshire 1.

Cinques.—Grandsire 1.

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob (Granta Variation) 1.

Handbells.—Bob Minor 1.

Totals.—Tower bells 99 (conducted 7), handbells 1.

5,152 Edmondthorpe Surprise Major

BY SHIRLEY BURTON

5ths Out In 23456

—	63254
—	36452
—	64352
—	35642
—	54632

Repeat four times omitting three bobs at 'Out' once.

First rung at St. Thomas', South Wigston, on December 31st, 1955, conducted by B. G. Warwick.

Method is Biddenden with 8ths place instead of 2nds at the lead end.

WRAGBY BELLS RING OUT AGAIN

ON Shrove Tuesday evening, Feb. 14th, the six bells at Wragby, Yorks (after being recast and rehung), were dedicated at an impressive service by the Lord Bishop of Wakefield (Dr. Wilson) in the presence of a large congregation.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. d'Aubri Cullen), assisted by his predecessor, the Rev. J. H. Platt (Vicar of Cumberworth), under whom the fund for the bells was opened. The lesson was read by Major the Hon. Rowland Winn, of Nostell Priory, patron of the living, who entrusted the bells to the Vicar and wardens for their safe keeping and maintenance. The rope of the tenor bell was handed to the Bishop by Mr. Paul Taylor, of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., by whom the bells had been recast. Each bell was sounded in turn by Mr. J. Brewin, a local parishioner and ringer.

The original six bells bore the inscription:—'Wm. Mears, late Lester, Pack and Chapman, of London, fecit 1786.' The tenor bell was given by Lady Winn, widow of Sir Rowland Winn, fifth baronet, of Nostell Priory, and bore the additional inscription:—'Campanis Hujas Louisa Sabine Winn, donatrix, fecit 1786.'

All the old inscriptions have been reproduced on the recast bells, also additional ones: 'Recast 1955 through the benefaction of Thomas Ellis, a regular worshipper at this church'; 'Captain the Hon. Anthony Edmund Winn, Queen's Westminsters, killed in action at the battle of El Alamein, 1942' (youngest son of the late Lord St. Oswald); 'Recast and restored in the year 1955, in which the Winn family celebrate their 300th anniversary at Nostell.'

The bell scheme has cost £1,151, a large sum, but the bells were opened free from debt. After the service the bells were rung by members of the Barnsley and District Society of Change Ringers.

Wragby Church is of great beauty. The choir, and probably the nave, was built in 1533 by Prior Alured Comyn in the ninth year of his

Priorate (1524-1540). The tower was added later, certainly before 1578, by which time there were three bells, and may have been built by Sir Thomas Gargrave, Bart., owner of the Priory.

The sun dial over the south porch, dated 1812, bears the inscription:—'We resemble the shadow.' The pulpit contains panels of exquisite carving—'Adoration of the Magi,' 'Adoration of the Shepherds,' 'The crowning with thorns,' 'The taking down from the Cross.'

The lectern is probably unique, and is composed of the figure of a Christian martyr bearing a palm branch.

Underneath the east window are some fine carvings in oak. In the Winn Memorial Chapel is a fine marble tablet by Chantrey—two full-sized figures (Charles and Louisa Winn) weeping over the tomb of their brother, John Winn, Esq., owner of Nostell Priory.

There are 19 beautiful stained glass windows in the church, 17 of them being fitted with Swiss glass; this is considered the best and largest collection of 16th, 17th and 18th century Swiss glass in the country. All the seating is of oak, and the bench-ends are of the folds of linen pattern.

The pillars and arches are fine and well-proportioned. Nearly a century ago the interior masonry was stripped of its plaster and whitewash and then it was beautifully reschelled, which gives it a mellow appearance. Mr. Charles Winn, who succeeded his brother in 1817, and his son, Rowland (afterwards Lord St. Oswald), spared no pains and expense in beautifying this fine church. In the year 1902 the present fine two-manual organ was presented to the church by the second Baron St. Oswald. It had been in the Priory 58 years, and after 50 years' use in the church it was thoroughly overhauled. In 1954 electric light was installed and an electric blower added to the organ. Now, in 1955-56, the bells have received attention, and it is to be hoped that a vigorous band of ringers will be formed and prove equal to the one that existed there at the beginning of the century.

F. A.

OBITUARY

MR. J. C. MITCHELL

We regret to record the death, which occurred last Friday, of Mr. John Christopher Mitchell, of Streatham, of the age of 89 years.

Accompanied by Mrs. Mitchell, he attended the 317th anniversary dinner of the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1954, and he there rose to take wine with the Master as representing College Youths of over 70 years' standing. He was the oldest member of the Society.

Mr. Mitchell came to London as a young man from St. Albans and was a close friend and contemporary of Percy Debenham and W. H. L. Buckingham. A clever ringer, he was the last survivor of the band who first rang Holt's Original con-conducted on handbells, on March 11th, 1889.

Mr. Mitchell had a long association with London Passenger Transport undertakings, which began in 1886, when he entered the secretary's office of London Road Car Co., Ltd. He became secretary of the Company in 1905, retaining the office through various amalgamations. From 1921 to 1923, when he retired, he was secretary and treasurer of the Underground Group.

He was elected to the council of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries in 1910, and was also president in 1917. He was a justice of the peace for London, a past master of the Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and an active Freemason, being a past Grand Deacon of the United Grand Lodge of England.

The funeral service was held yesterday. A requiem mass was said at St. Peter's, Streatham, at 6.45 a.m., and cremation was at Golder's Green. The interment was at Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. GEORGE YEO

His death occurred on March 2nd at Long Ashton, near Bristol, of George Yeo, at the age of 86. Mr. Yeo learned to ring at Cheriton Bishop, Devon, and joined the band at Long Ashton in 1887. He was made a member of the Bath and Wells Association in the year that it was founded (1890) and held the post of secretary of the Chew Deanery Branch from 1903 to 1920, only retiring from the post of representative on the Association General Committee in 1952 due to increasing deafness.

Mr. Yeo enjoyed good health and was ringing at Long Ashton a week before his death. A good, steady ringer, he was respected and loved by all his friends, both old and new.

The funeral service on March 7th was attended by ringers from many of the towers in the Deanery and also from Bristol. After the service a half-muffled quarter peal of 1,260 Grandsire Triples was rung by the following:—E. Abrahams 2, M. J. Horseman 2, Hilda M. Kingcott 3, L. W. Pullin 4, G. Prescott 5, H. W. Knight 6, H. A. Price (conductor) 7, W. H. Kingcott 8.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. Bennett £1, F. Atkinson 3s. 6d., E. C. Wickham 4s.

Peals.—Cuckfield 4s., Alsager 4s., Tetsworth 2s. 6d., Marston 2s. 6d.

Quarter Peals.—Henley 2s., St. Dunstan's, London, 2s., Mangotsfield 4s., King's Norton 4s., Southgate 2s., Lawton 4s., Charlwood 2s. 6d., Gloucester 1s. 6d., Lyme Regis 2s., Bletchingley 2s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s., Bromesberrow 5s., Cawthorne 2s.

MR. KEN SNELLING'S 500 PEALS

Mr. Kenneth Snelling, of 68, Western Road, Haywards Heath, has recently completed his 500 peals. He expresses his indebtedness to Mr. L. Stillwell for compiling his list.

Doubles.—Three methods 1.

Minor.—Plain Bob 2, Kent 1, Cambridge 2, London 2, four methods 1, four Treble Bob methods 2, seven methods 8, seven Treble Bob methods 9, seven Surprise 1.

Triples.—Plain Bob 2, Grandsire 10, Oxford Bob 1, Stedman 4.

Major.—Plain Bob 19, Canterbury Pleasure 4, St. Clement's 1, College Single 2, Double Norwich 35, Kent Treble Bob 17, Oxford Treble Bob 2.

Surprise Major.—Superlative 55, Cambridge 66, London 77, Bristol 41, Yorkshire 28, Lincolnshire 2, Pudsey 3, Berkeley 1, Londonderry 1, New Cambridge 4, Rutland 1, Horsham 1, Imberhorne 1, Berkshire 1, Aldenham 1, Ramsay 1, Norfolk 5, Spliced Superlative Cambridge 1, four Spliced Surprise 19, five Spliced Surprise 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 3, Stedman 2.

Royal.—Plain Bob 3, Kent Treble Bob 8, Cambridge 31, Yorkshire 10, Spliced Yorkshire and Cambridge 3, Lincolnshire 1, Albanian 1, New Cambridge 2.

QUARTER PEALS

ARLESEY, BEDS.—On Mar. 4th, 1,260 Doubles (120 Bob Doubles and 1,140 Grandsire): M. Fox 1, Miss F. Smith 2, A. Simpson (cond.) 3, F. Shelton 4, C. Turner 5, B. Pike 6. First quarter in two methods by all. Rung for Evensong and to welcome the visiting preacher, the Bishop of Bedford.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. E. Hilton 1, D. J. Laker 2, E. H. Knapp 3, J. H. G. Gardner 4, E. S. Laker (first quarter) 5, A. E. Laker (cond.) 6. Rung for Matins and to welcome the Rev. J. F. Forrester Gardner, who was instituted and inducted the previous day.

CHEDDAR, SOMERSET.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): E. C. Wickham 1, F. S. Paramore 2, A. J. Peters 3, E. J. Small (first quarter) 4, E. S. Connock (cond.) 5, B. J. Clements 6, P. J. Hudson 7, M. Evans 8. A compliment to Mr. E. J. Fisher on his 82nd birthday.

NORTON, GLOS.—On Feb. 26th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: J. Stanier 1, Miss S. M. Parsons 2, Miss V. Willard 3, I. Goulter 4, D. W. Beard (cond.) 5, C. A. Wratten 6, D. J. Marshall 7, Dr. Beachamp 8. For Evensong.

TEDBURN ST. MARY, DEVON.—On Jan. 19th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: C. Parker 1, R. Perry 2, E. W. Rowe 3, S. Skinner 4, J. Quick (cond.) 5.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Mar. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Jacobs (first of Triples) 1, Mrs. Bagworth 2, A. Brunton 3, Susan Jacobs 4, J. Tomsett 5, M. Sinden 6, N. Bagworth (cond.) 7, J. Brickell 8.

A SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS LETTER

Mr. Cyril Chambers, of 71, Garmouth Avenue, King's View, Durban, who was on holiday in England last year and was prevented by the rail strike from attending the Central Council meeting, sends us the following news-letter concerning ringing in South Africa:—

'Mr. and Mrs. Vic Shepherd, of Cape Town, recently spent a couple of days in Durban. At one time there was a suggestion that several of the Cape Town (Woodstock) ringers would visit Durban in a body, but now that Bob Stickley has left them and gone to Nigeria the idea doesn't look as if it will materialise. I didn't see him in Cape Town as I came through as his ship, the "Pretoria Castle," sailed from Cape Town two days before.

'About 12 months ago I wrote to the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation suggesting they might like to broadcast a bit of ringing as being done in England, conducted by me here in Durban. They wrote acknowledging my letter and saying they were interested in the idea and would get in touch with me later. Nothing happened till September, when a Mr. Neil Hepburn, of the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation, telephoned me and said he had the job of making up a programme called "Merrily on High"—a half-hour devoted entirely to bells and bellringing.

'At a subsequent interview at my office he borrowed half a dozen text books of mine and later borrowed more. The programme was eventually broadcast early in December, and though it was excellent I felt sorry that ringing in Durban had no part whatever in the programme. If I had not been so busy I could, perhaps, have put more push and go into the business to see that we Durban ringers came into the picture, but all the same I feel that the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation were very high-handed. After the broadcast I had the impression that my text books would stay at the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation indefinitely if I didn't go and collect them, but one day Mr. Hepburn came into my office, bringing all my books back and all was forgiven and forgotten!

'As my work isn't so much on the top of me now I've been able to put a bit more energy into bellringing. On January 12th we rang the first touch on six tower bells I've ever rung in Durban, a 72 Grandsire Minor. With the aid of a bit of newspaper publicity our gains in recruits exceed our losses, and we ought soon to ring a touch of Minor as a regular thing.

'A year ago another young fellow, Ivan Weiss, left Durban to take a two-years' course at Pelham in order to enter the Ministry. I haven't seen Ivan's name in "The Ringing World," but I thought I should have done as he was quite keen on ringing.

'I was sorry not to be at the Council meeting and Lord Mayor's luncheon at Bristol. The rail strike was the cause of my not being able to stay. I had to be back on the Wednesday morning to join a coach party which included my mother, on a day trip to Hereford, and I had thought I could get back as far as Worcester by 11.15 a.m. and join the party there, but the rail strike caused a rush for the long-distance buses, and at one time I thought I might be stuck in Bristol for days. However, I left at ten minutes to eight on the Tuesday morning, and by taking three local buses I was back in Kidderminster soon after two p.m. I told Mr. Barnett on the Monday evening that I couldn't stay, but I suppose he forgot to convey my apologies. One chap whose acquaintance I made at Bristol was H. J. Shuck, of Cradley. He was introduced to me by my old friend, Bernard Ashford.

'Patrick Cahill, a keen Durban ringer, is leaving for England approximately on February 9th. and by a coincidence another ringer

will be on the same ship, Tom Turner, of Lancashire. Tom has been in Rhodesia for the last five years and is now going back to England, as the Rhodesian climate doesn't seem to suit his and his wife's health. Vic Sheppard wants Patrick to stand in for a quarter peal at Woodstock (Grandsire Triples, of course), and Patrick is looking forward very much to his first touch of Triples. Vic as yet doesn't know that Tom will be coming to Woodstock at the same time as Patrick, so he has a treat in store. Tom is catching the "Stirling Castle" at Cape Town and is going there in a small Hillman car.

'On Sunday, February 2nd, we had some Grandsire Doubles for morning service at St. Paul's, and it was the first time I had rung a touch of Grandsire Doubles in that tower. My two boys were in the band, which was as follows:—Patric A. L. Chambers 1, Christopher J. Chambers 2, Patrick Cahill 3, William Gardner 4, Thomas Turner 5, Cyril Chambers (conductor) 6. We rang a few 40's and 60's but couldn't manage a 120, unfortunately.'

PEALS OF THE LATE BENJAMIN KNIGHTS

The following is a list of the peals rung by the late Mr. Benjamin A. Knights, of Chesterfield, who died recently, aged 70 years. Unfortunately the list is incomplete as records of the peals he rang after 1925 are not available. From 1901 to 1925 he rang 369 peals.

Treble Bob.—Mainly Kent Treble Bob Major plus Oxford, and combined Kent and Oxford, Major and Royal—the bulk conducted by himself, 135.

Plain Bob.—Major 9 (conducted 3), Royal 1. Little Bob: Major 2 (1), Royal 1.

Double Norwich.—Court Bob Major 49 (17), Court Bob Royal 3.

Grandsire.—Triples 11 (3), Caters 12 (1). Stedman.—Triples 17 (5), Caters 32 (18), Cinques 5 (1).

Forward Treble Bob.—Major 2, Royal 1. Surprise Major.—Yorkshire 8 (1), Superlative 54 (16), London 13, New Cambridge 5, Norfolk 1, Peterborough 2, Cambridge 1, Bristol 3.

Surprise Royal.—Cambridge 2. Total (1901 to 1925): 369.

Performances of interest included in the above are: The record length of Stedman Caters rung in 1909; a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Mary-le-Bow, conducted by William Pye; peals on an Irish tour in 1909; a peal of Stedman Triples on the bells of Manchester Town Hall in 1912 (tenor 52 cwt.); a large proportion of the peals he conducted were composed by his father, Arthur Knights, and he took part in 122 peals on Chesterfield bells. N. C.

QUARTER PEALS

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (in hand): W. Rogers 1-2, E. J. Ladd (first on handbells) 3-4, W. H. Dobbie (cond.) 5-6, Mrs. W. H. Dobbie (first on handbells) 7-8.

SHORROOKE, DEVON.—On Feb. 16th, a half peal of Doubles (six extents of New Grandsire, four extents each of Plain Bob, Old, Norfolk, and three of April Day): C. Parker 1, C. Savage 2, C. Deem 3, S. Skinner (cond.) 4, E. W. Rowe 5, S. Sharland 6.

STAMFORD HILL, N.—At St. Ann's Church, on Mar. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Secker 1, Miss F. Secker 2, M. Rowe 3, B. Bladon (cond.) 4, M. Cubitt 5, R. Newman 6. First of Minor for 1, 2, 3 and 5. For Mothering Sunday.

STANMORE, MIDDLEX.—On Mar. 4th, 1,440 Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor (tenor covering): Miss D. Ward 1, Miss M. Mesley 3, Miss J. Wilcockson 4, A. C. Wenban 5, L. North 6, W. Wenban (cond.) 7, E. J. Leversuch 8. For Evensong.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

BIRTH

THORLEY.—On Monday, March 12th, 1956, at the Maternity Hospital, Leeds, Yorkshire, to Paddy and Martin Thorley, a daughter, Katharine May (7½ lb. in C sharp). 7979

ENGAGEMENTS

CHAPMAN—BATE.—The engagement is announced of Dennis Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Chapman, of 31, Firbeck Road, Doncaster, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs. B. Bate and the late Mr. R. H. Bate, of 174, Richmond Road, Handsworth, Sheffield. 7997

YARDLEY—HEPENSTAL.—The engagement is announced between Harold and Mary, both ringers at SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham. 7984

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—FOUR HANDBELLS: 7 in E, 7 in D, 9 in B flat, and 16 in B.—Write Box 7977. 'Ringing World' Office, Guildford. 7977

PUBLICATION

AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy now, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 21s. net. 7100

MISCELLANEOUS

COMPLETE YOUR FILES.—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available at the 'R.W.' Office, price 6d. per copy, post free.

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

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

MEETINGS

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—No meeting in Lent. 8002

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Tydd St. Giles, Saturday, March 24th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. —J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 7964

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Egham on Saturday, March 24th. Bells 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Parish Hall 5 p.m. 7947

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—St. Ippolyts, March 24th. 3 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Special method, Hull Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 7950

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Wendover, March 24th. 3.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 7955

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.
—Practice meeting, Northiam (6), Saturday,
March 24th.—H. Reynolds, Sec. 7949

WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.—The bells
(8, tenor 24 cwt.) will be available to all on
Saturday, March 31st. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea
5, in Town Hall. Short Evensong, 6 p.m.
Ringing afterwards. Names, please, to K. G.
Spavins, 8, London Road, Woburn. 7982

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSO-
CIATION.**—Annual general meeting, Taunton,
Easter Monday. Service at St. James' Church
12.30 p.m. Lunch at Gaumont Restaurant at
1.30 p.m., 5s. 6d. per head. Meeting, St. James'
Church Hall, at 3 p.m. Ringing at St. James'
(8) 11–12, North Curry (8) 10.30–11.30, Ruish-
ton (6) 11–12. Other details will be given out
at the meeting.—R. O. Fry, General Secretary. 7999

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual
meeting, Bedford, Easter Monday. Luncheon,
1 p.m., at Dujon, followed by business meet-
ing. St. Paul's (majestic 10): 10 a.m. to 12.45
p.m., 2.45 to 4.30 p.m., and 6 p.m. onwards.
St. Peter's (8): 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and
2.45 to 4.30 p.m. All ringers most welcome.
Names for lunch before March 26th, please, to
Mr. J. W. Sinfeld, 4, Queen Street, Houghton
Regis, Beds. 7924

**CUMBERLAND AND N. WESTMOR-
LAND ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meet-
ing at Appleby on Easter Monday. Bells (6)
available 1.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30 p.m.
Meeting to follow. Names for tea by March
28th to Mr. C. Heelis, Burrells, Appleby, West-
morland.—J. W. Brownrigg, Hon. Sec. 7995

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—
Annual meeting on Monday, April 2nd, at
Honiton (St. Paul's). Bells from 3 p.m. Ser-
vice at 4 p.m., tea and business after. Names
for tea by March 29th to W. Webb, Oakwell,
Millhead Road, Honiton. 7963

**EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTING-
HAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meet-
ing, Easter Monday, April 2nd, to be held at
North Wingfield. Bells ready 2 p.m. Service
4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. W. Wain,
South View, Church Lane, North Wingfield,
Derbyshire.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 7986

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meet-
ing, Easter Monday, at Ely. Ringing: Sutton
(6) 10 to 11, Hilgay (8) 10 to 11. Haddcnham
(6) 11 to 12. Ely (8) 11 to 1 and 6 to 8.30.
Wilburton 12 to 1, Stretham 1.30 to 3 and 6.30
to 8. Burwell (8) 1.30 to 2.45. Fordham (6)
1.30 to 3. Soham (10) 6.30 to 8.30. Service in
Cathedral 4 p.m. (address by the Lord Bishop).
Tea 4.45 p.m. at Holy Trinity Parish Room.
Business meeting after tea.—W. J. Ridgman,
Gen. Sec. 7987

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual
meeting, Rochester, Easter Monday, April 2nd.
Service at Cathedral at noon. Luncheon at
Corn Exchange. Tickets in advance by March
26th, members 4s. 6d., others 6s. 6d., also in-
formation leaflet including business agenda,
from Mr. B. W. May, Keithston, Keycol Hill,
Bobbing. Sittingbourne. Ringing at Gillingham,
Rainham. Chatham. Frindsbury and Rochester
Cathedral.—Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Hon. Sec. 7953

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSO-
CIATION.**—Annual meeting, All Saints', New-
port, Easter Monday. Bells 2 o'clock. Service
4, tea (1s. 6d. per head) and business to follow.
—F. J. Hannington, Hon. Sec. 7967

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Worces-
ter on Easter Monday, April 2nd. Service in
All Saints' at 11 a.m. General business meet-
ing in College Hall at 12.15 p.m. *prompt*.
Coffee obtainable in College Hall at 1.15 p.m.
and tea arranged at 5 o.m. for all who notify
me before Wednesday, March 28th. This notice
is essential. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 6
to 7.30 p.m., All Saints' (10) from 10 a.m.,
Claines (10), St. John's (8) and Kempsey (6)
all 2 to 4.30 p.m.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec.,
Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham. 7985

DEVON GUILD.—N.-E. Branch.—Meeting,
Bradninch, Saturday, April 7th. Bells 3 p.m.
Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to
W. Beed, 12, Culver Close, Bradninch.—W.
Ware, Hon. Sec. 7978

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western
quarterly meeting, April 7th, Loughton. Bells
(8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea
and meeting. Names for tea, please, to Mr. J.
Rann, 16, York Crescent, Loughton. 7983

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN
ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general business
meeting will be held at Cirencester on Saturday,
April 7th, in the Church Hall, Cricklade Street,
at 2 p.m. sharp. Tea to follow the meeting at
St. Peter's Hall, St. Peter's Road, Ashcroft
Road, at 3s. per head. Notifications for tea
to Mr. E. W. Wenban, William Strip Cot-
tages, Coln St. Aldwyn, Cirencester, not later
than Wednesday, April 4th. *No notification,
no tea.* The following bells will be available:
Kemble (6), Watermoor (8), 10 a.m. to 12
noon; North Cerney (6), Bibury (6), 11 a.m.
to 12 noon; Rendcombe (6), 10 to 11 a.m.; Ciren-
cester Parish Church (12), from 7 p.m.;
Kemble and Bibury, from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m.
Divine Service at the Parish Church at 6 p.m.
—F. Skidmore, Gen. Hon. Sec. 7961

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIA-
TION.**—Quarterly meeting and six-bell contest
at Friezland, Saturday, April 7th. For teas
please notify Mr. L. Dawson, 29, St. Mary's
Drive, Greenfield, Oldham, by March 31st.—
A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 7948

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—
Annual general meeting on Saturday, April 7th,
at Bishop's Stortford. Bells (10) 3 p.m. and
after meeting. Service 4.30. Tea (2s. 6d.) at
Parish Hall, 5 p.m. Business includes nomina-
tion of peal secretary, also position of Stanmore
band. Ringing also at Much Hadham (8),
Little Hadham (5) and Braughing (8), 10 a.m.
to 12.30 p.m.; Standon (6), 10.30 a.m. to 12.30
p.m.; Sawbridgeworth (8) and Thorley (6), 2
to 4 p.m. Lunch (3s. 8d.), Cavalier Restaurant,
Bishop's Stortford, 1 p.m. Names for meals
to Mr. H. Bird, The Nest, London Road,
Spellbrook, Bishop's Stortford.—H. V. Frost,
Hon. Gen. Sec. 7994

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—
Meeting at Bardney, near Lincoln, Saturday,
April 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea
4.45 p.m. Names for tea must be received by
Tuesday, April 3rd.—Mrs. A. Richardson, Glyn
Garth, Surfleet, Spalding, Lincs. 7993

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.
—Meeting at Stockton on Saturday, April 7th.
Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea by Thurs-
day, April 5th, to Mrs. E. P. Rock, 64, Tollesby
Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. 7981

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual
general meeting at Leicester on Saturday, April
7th. Bells: St. Margaret's, 2 to 3; St. John's,
2.30 to 4; Cathedral 3.30 to 4.30. Service in
Cathedral 4.30. Tea at 5.30, followed by

meeting. Names for tea to W. A. Lacey, 117,
Church Lane, Anstey, near Leicester, *cannot be
accepted after Monday, March 26th.* Further
details next week.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 7990

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury
Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Lower Heyford
(6), April 7th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m.
All ringers welcome. Please notify H. L.
Roper, Adderbury, Banbury, Oxon. 7988

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Meeting at
Staverton on Saturday, April 7th. Names for
tea to Mrs. C. Hall, Church Street, Staverton,
near Daventry, by Saturday, March 31st.—
F. W. Hancock. 7992

ST. LAURENCE, WINSLOW, BUCKS.—
Dedication of two new trebles and the opening
of augmented ring by The Lord Bishop of
Oxford on Saturday, April 7th, at 3 p.m. Buffet
tea 1s. All ringers welcome. 7996

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND
YOUTHS AND KENT COUNTY ASSOCIA-
TION** (Tonbridge District).—Combined quar-
terly meeting at Westerham, Kent, Saturday,
April 7th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Ser-
vice 4.30, followed by tea and business meetings.
All welcome—good attendance, please. Names
for tea by Tuesday, April 3rd, please, to Miss
M. Cosgrove, 9, The Green, Westerham, Kent.
—P. N. Bond and Doris E. Colgate, Hon Secs. 7991

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual general
meeting, Southwell Minster, April 7th. Bells
available 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4.15. Tea, fol-
lowed by business meeting, in Trebeck Hall, 5
p.m. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. Fred
Pickard, 47, Westgate, Southwell, by previous
Wednesday.—J. W. Raithby. 7989

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual general meeting
at Bury St. Edmunds, Saturday, April 7th.
Norman Tower (10) and St. Mary's (8) 2.30
p.m.—4 p.m. Service in the Cathedral 4 p.m.
Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Tues-
day, April 3rd.—J. W. Blythe, 29, Holton Road,
Halesworth. 7998

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Dis-
trict.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Ben-
hilton (8) on April 7th. Bells 2.30. Tea and
meeting at Red Lion 4.30. Evensong 6. Bells
after. Names for tea to me by April 5th, please.
—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec., 19, Eastdene Avenue,
Epsom. 8001

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern
District.—Quarterly meeting on Saturday, April
7th, at Hessele. Bells (6) from 2 p.m. Service
4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. J.
Pool, 6, Oaklands Drive, Hessele, E. Yorkshire.
—H. S. Morley, 40, New Lane, Selby. 7980

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

The spring quarterly meeting of the Swindon
branch was held at Wroughton on March 10th
and a good number turned up to ring on the
recently-restored and augmented bells. Various
methods up to Cambridge Minor were rung,
although it must be admitted that these are the
kind of bells which do not suit the drawing-
room type of ringer.

The usual service was conducted by the Rev.
C. Carrier, of Wroughton R.A.F. Station, and
tea was provided in the school. The efforts of
the ladies in arranging tea was very much ap-
preciated, as Wroughton School stands in a
very isolated spot well away from the village.

Various matters were discussed at the business
meeting and it was proposed that meetings be
held at Rodbourne Cheney, Malmesbury and
Bishopstone during the quarter ensuing. Fur-
ther ringing followed and visitors were wel-
comed from Chippenham, Fairford and Kemp-
sey. The proceedings terminated with an ex-
cellent lower in peal.

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62453	2			2
24365	2	x	2	2
42563	2			2
25346	2	x	2	2
26543	2			1
62534	1	x	2	2
35264			2	2
52436	2	x	2	2
23456			2	

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