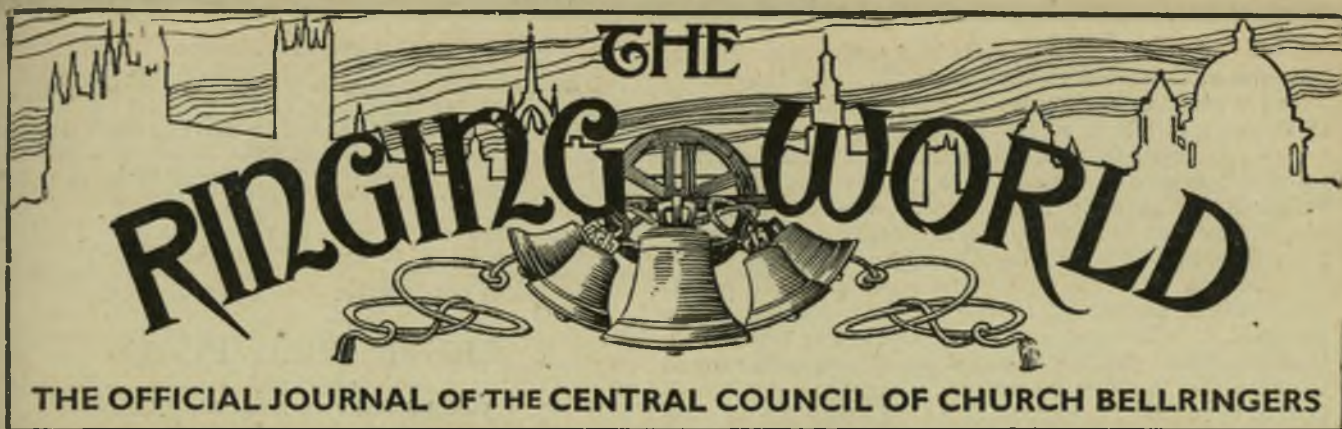




No. 1873 Vol. XLII

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1947

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON Ltd. CROYDON

Founders of the
HEAVIEST BELLS
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BRITISH EMPIRE

in

CANADA
S. AFRICA
NEW ZEALAND



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The Popularity of Bells

Evidence of the affection with which Church bells are held by the public reached us from an unexpected source last week. The B.B.C. have a Listeners' Research Department which makes exhaustive enquiries as to the tastes and desires of the public in regard to their wireless programme. Subject of a special enquiry was the Christmas Day broadcast, and the following, ascertained from that cross-section of the public so frequently referred to as the 'Man in the Street,' is indeed a high compliment to bells.

Of the listening community who replied to the questionnaire, the King's speech was placed first with 58 per cent.; second was the Christmas bells, with 30 per cent.; and then followed 1 p.m. News, 21; Kentucky Minstrels, 15; Carols, 11; 8 a.m. News, 10; B.B.C. Symphony at 11 a.m., 3 per cent. It might well be argued that circumstances are special on Christmas Day, but the high percentage of listeners who enjoyed the ringing broadcasts denotes that the music of the bells still commands the attention of the public.

In the light of these figures it might be assumed that the recording of bells will be more frequent. The time has arrived when a closer understanding should be reached between the officials of the different Regions of the B.B.C. and the Central Council of Church Bellringers. A statement was made at the Norwich Council meeting of preliminary negotiations and discussions in one Region. At the present time selection seems rather an haphazard affair, although the B.B.C. on their part have precautionary tests of the recordings. According to information which reached this office two towers were selected last Christmas: East Hagbourne, North Berks, for the overseas listeners, and Allesley Parish Church, Warwickshire, which was heard on the Midland Regional on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Both these towers contributed to the programme what might be called typical village bells and did well.

Ringers take a legitimate pride when their own bells are broadcast; in the case of the writer's own tower meticulous care was observed to ensure good striking. What the Exercise is anxious about is that the standard of ringing is good and that the towers selected are musical rings. The vast network of information available to the Central Council would readily be placed at the disposal of the B.B.C. if an appropriate liaison was established. The Exercise is proud of the bells of these isles; the people of this land have been accustomed to

Church bells and, as the B.B.C. questionnaire shows, they are still listened to with affection.

In the ranks of radio listeners are to be found hundreds of ringers, as letters to the Editor have indicated. We would specially ask conductors when they have given a recording or are to appear in a programme to let the Editor know as early as possible. We are only too anxious to give publicity to such occasions; they should be recorded in 'The Ringing World,' and readers should be given an opportunity of listening-in to these broadcasts, which are almost of 100 per cent. interest to the Exercise. To the technical ear of the ringer there are a number of finer points about such broadcasts which would be missed by the average listener. There is not a broadcast of bells which does not bring back memories to some ringer, and among many peal ringers the knowledge of bells is unique. If discussions take place between the Council and the B.B.C. on ringing generally, we trust that this question of advanced publicity of bells will be raised. Some of the best broadcasts of bells have been incorporated in the overseas programme, and to our knowledge there are many of our readers who desire information as to wavelengths of such events.

Lastly, ringers as a body are grateful to the B.B.C. for the outstanding honour conferred on the Exercise when Bow bells were selected for the interval signal. While perhaps to the Cockney these bells have a special appeal, nevertheless the country has grown accustomed to the rhythmic beauty of this recording. It is the sincere hope that such a sound signal which is traditionally English will be maintained. Many have found courage and inspiration in the hallowed message of Bow bells apart from the legendary association with Dick Whittington.

TEN BELL PEALS

SOLIHULL, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... Treble	HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 6
HENRY H. FEARN ... 2	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 7
ALBERT WALKER ... 3	JOHN S. MASON ... 8
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 4	JOHN PINFOLD ... 9
J. EDWARD CAWSE ... 5	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by J. E. CAWSE.

The conductor's first peal of Yorkshire Royal.

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALTER F. JUDGE ... Treble	WILLIAM C. PORTER ... 6
FREDK. A. H. WILKINS ... 2	NEIL I. ALLNATT ... 7
*LUCILE M. HUBBERT ... 3	PHILIP A. CORBY ... 8
†EDWIN G. MOORE ... 4	RICHARD WHITE ... 9
WILLIAM JUDGE ... 5	FRANCIS A. WHITE ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal on ten bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

†BASIL JONES ... Treble	†ERIC J. GILBERT ... 6
*ALAN A. POTTS ... 2	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ... 7
JOHN WORTH ... 3	PETER LAFLIN ... 8
*JAMES S. WEBB ... 4	*THOMAS ROGERS ... 9
*GEORGE LEDSHAM ... 5	*RALPH G. EDWARDS ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

* First peal of Oxford Royal. † First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Northern Branch.)

On Mon., Jan. 20, 1947, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part, 7th observation. Tenor 18 cwt. 21 lb. in E.

*MRS. F. METHAM ... Treble	NOEL E. CHAMBERS ... 5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 2	KENNETH W. MAYER ... 6
MISS JEAN METHAM ... 3	HAROLD MARCON ... 7
†ARCHER T. LOWMAN ... 4	CYRIL WARD ... Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal, † First peal of Triples. Rung half-muffled. In memoriam Rupert Richardson.

MOORSIDE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Jan. 21, 1947, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COWT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 18 lb.

FRANK LAWTON ... Treble	GERALD DARE ... 5
MARY DARE ... 2	STEPHEN L. PARRY ... 6
EILEEN BASTOW ... 3	FRED DUNKERLEY ... 7
HAROLD ARMSTEAD ... 4	ISAAC GARTSIDE ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by F. DUNKERLEY. In memoriam Canon Mackintosh. First peal in the method by a local band for the Rochdale Branch.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield District Society.)

On Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1947, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

E. DORICE KELLY ... Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 5
FREDERICK CARDWELL ... 2	HAROLD TAYLOR ... 6
JACK G. BROTHWELL ... 3	NORMAN CHADDOCK ... 7
*GORDON C. BRIGGS ... 4	JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT. * First peal in the method. First in the method as conductor. In memoriam, Rupert Richardson, and also George Thorpe, member of Dore company, who was killed in an accident on January 18th.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 22, 1947, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILTYD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED W. HEATH ... Treble	ROBERT E. COLES ... 5
ALBERT J. PITMAN ... 2	TREVOR M. RODERICK ... 6
ALFRED HANNINGTON ... 3	ERNEST STITCH ... 7
CHARLES H. PERRY ... 4	WILLIAM T. PETTY ... Tenor

Composed by DR. A. W. CARPENTER. Conducted by A. J. PITMAN. First peal in the method for all, on the bells and for the association; also the first peal in the method rung in Wales. A. W. Heath has now completed the circle in this tower.



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SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 23, 1947, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY & NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

STANLEY E. BENNETT ... Treble	ARTHUR J. FARR ... 5
*JOHN E. ALLEN ... 2	GEORGE W. MILLS ... 6
NEVIL HOLLINGWORTH ... 3	HAROLD BARSLEY ... 7
CYRIL WANDER ... 4	JOHN G. AMES ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal of Major. In memoriam, Rupert Richardson.

SCUNTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 23, 1947, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 18½ cwt.

MRS. JOYCE FINN ... Treble	GEORGE W. MOODY ... 5
FRANK LORD ... 2	PHILIP A. BARNES ... 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 3	JACK BRAY ... 7
GEORGE THOMPSON ... 4	FRED LACEY ... Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

In memoriam, Rupert Richardson.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF EARDLEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK A. COLEY ... Treble	HARRY HOVERD ... 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6
JAMES BENNETT ... 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7
GEORGE V. MURPHY ... 4	PHILIP A. CORBY ... Tenor

Composed by A. G. DRIVER.

Conducted by F. J. CULLUM.

First peal ever rung in the method.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1947, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

JOHN T. GARTSIDE ... Treble	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 5
*FREDK. RICHARD HARRIS ... 2	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... 6
EDWARD IDDON ... 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 7
ALBERT MORLEY ... 4	RICHARD BENSON ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal of Triples.

FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1947, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER & PAUL,

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

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED MEARS ... Treble	JOHN S. WALTON ... 5
*PHILIP H. SPECK ... 2	EDWIN S. SMITH ... 6
AUBREY D. MILLS ... 3	JOHN H. HUNT ... 7
HAROLD A. NOBES ... 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT Tenor

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.

* First peal in the method.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1947, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WILD ... Treble	FRED DUNKERLEY ... 5
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 2	ALBERT V. PICKLES ... 6
VERNON BOTTOMLEY ... 3	WILLIAM AMBLER ... 7
GERALD M. DARE ... 4	ISAAC GARTSIDE ... Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WM. AMBLER.

MAULDEN, BEDS.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Bob Minor: Ivor Herman (first quarter of Minor) 1, R. J. Sharp 2, M. J. Lockey (first quarter inside) 3, Tom Harris 4, A. C. Sinfield 5, C. E. Jeffries (conductor) 6.

ELSTOW, BEDS.—1,440 of Spliced Treble Bob and Surprise Minor, being 720 of Morning Star, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob, and 720 of Surfleet, Beverley and Durham Surprise Minor: Brian Sims 1, R. J. Sharp 2, C. H. Harding 3, R. J. Houghton 4, A. C. Sinfield 5, C. E. Jeffries (conductor) 6.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

CHAS. J. GARDNER ... Treble	*HENRY AUSTIN ... 5
THOMAS MOULDEN ... 2	†IVOR H. TRUEMAN ... 6
ARTHUR H. HOLLIDAY ... 3	WILLIAM A. T. CARTER ... 7
MARGARET E. RICHARDS ... 4	WALTER H. TRUEMAN ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by W. H. TRUEMAN.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.' Rung to celebrate the wedding of Austen A. Bailey and Joyce, eldest daughter of H. E. Wildern, churchwarden.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*J. B. ROWSELL (Jesus) Treble	J. H. HAYWARD (Christ's) 5
†K. S. B. CROFT (St. John's) ... 2	R. LEIGH (St. Cath's) ... 6
LORD WRENBURY (King's) 3	E. J. LINDLEY (Trinity) 7
J. F. MOOR (King's) ... 4	R. F. B. STEED (Caius)...Tenor

Composed by BENJAMIN ANNABLE. Conducted by E. J. LINDLEY.

* First peal. † First peal in the method on tower bells. First peal as conductor.

FLIXTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. Parker's Odd Bob Five-part. Tenor 14½ cwt.

ARTHUR LINTOTT ... Treble	THOMAS W. HESKETH ... 5
GEORGE HESKETH ... 2	EDWIN C. BIRKETT ... 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... 7
DAVID VINCENT ... 4	FREDERICK S. ALMOND ... Tenor

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in F.

LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... Treble	GEORGE WIGHTMAN ... 5
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN ... 2	FRANK L. FISHER ... 6
SYLVIA R. E. PIPE ... 3	LESLIE G. BRETT ... 7
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN ... 4	CHARLES W. BEECROFT ... Tenor

Conducted by L. G. BRETT.

In memoriam, Rupert Richardson.

ADLINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part.

*CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE ... Treble	*JAMES BLACKBURN ... 5
*THOMAS BARKER ... 2	JOHN JACKSON ... 6
JAMES W. GROUNDS ... 3	*KENNETH HALL ... 7
E. ROGER MARTIN ... 4	JOHN BOOTH ... Tenor

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH
SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH, S.E.,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*SQUIRE CROFT ... Treble	ALFRED PRIOR ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	ERNEST W. FURBANK ... 6
*CHARLES W. OTTLEY ... 3	JAMES BULLOCK ... 7
*THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ... 4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by T. W. TAFFENDER.

* First peal of Superlative Surprise Major.

BADGEWORTH, GLOS.—On Jan. 17th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,260 Doubles (240 Stedman, 360 April Day, 480 Plain Bob and 180 Grandsire): W. Woodyatt 1, W. Oakley 2, C. Rouse 3, M. Clifford (conductor) 4, N. Davis 5, A. Newman 6.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*SIDNEY SABANTreble	WILLIAM WELLING ... 5
WALTER SPARROW ... 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 6
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE ... 3	RICHARD E. PRICE ... 7
FRANCIS D. BISHOP ... 4	TONY PRICETenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

* First eight-bell peal.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Dexter's Variation.

Tenor 12½ cwt. (approx.).

MISS KATH. BURCHNALL Treble	THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... 5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL ... 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER ... 3	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 7
*NATHANIEL T. MOXON ... 4	WALTER NICHOLSTenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

* First peal of Stedman. In memoriam, Rupert Richardson.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANTA AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).

Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. A. S. ROBERTS ...Treble	MRS. A. S. ROBERTS ... 5
HARRY MILES ... 2	*WILLIAM J. SANDERS ... 6
E. LEONARD TAYLOR ... 3	†ALAN CARVETH7
CYRIL E. LANXON ... 4	EDWARD SANDERSTenor

Conducted by REV. A. S. ROBERTS.

* First peal of Triples 'inside.' † First peal on eight bells. First peal of Triples on the bells.

SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Middleton's.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*FRANK HOWETreble	FRANK BENNETT ... 5
JOHN H. HUNT ... 2	HENRY STALHAM ... 6
ROBERT PRIDGEON ... 3	FREDERICK PAGE ... 7
ALBERT W. BOND ... 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in a Treble Bob method.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Pitstow's Variation.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in D.

THOMAS W. TOMLINSON Treble	RONALD J. C. HAGLEY ... 5
PETER F. DAVY ... 2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	HAROLD A. MAY ... 7
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 4	T. MARK WHITETenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

CARRICKFERGUS, NORTHERN IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

(Northern Branch.)

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

WILLIAM PRATTTreble	JAMES RUSH ... 5
JOHN PALMER ... 2	*FRED E. DUKES ... 6
*NAT. SAVAGE ... 3	*JOHN T. DUNWOODY ... 7
*JAMES EDGAR ... 4	HARRY BROWNTenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by H. BROWN.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Bob Major as conductor. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th and also for that of his daughter.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Jan. 19th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: K. L. Brown 1, J. C. Birt 2, L. H. Bowler 3, J. E. Lewis Cockey 4, A. Cutler 5, D. K. Judd 6, F. A. Finch 7, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 8.

MONKEN HADLEY, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

JOHN W. LANGLEY ...Treble	HERBERT S. ARBIN ... 5
*MISS PAULINE JACKSON ... 2	THOMAS J. LOCK ... 6
MRS. T. J. LOCK ... 3	THOMAS BEVAN ... 7
FREDERICK A. BARKER ... 4	CHARLES W. WARD Tenor

Composed by H. HOWLETT.

Conducted by T. J. LOCK.

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

LYMM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

CECIL RADDONTreble	CYRIL VALENTINE ... 5
NORAH M. BIBBY ... 2	WALTER ALMAN ... 6
JOHN E. BEST ... 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES ... 7
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 4	PERCY SWINDLEYTenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

EDMONTON, LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 26, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*MARGARET F. EMERE ...Treble	ALFRED HOUSE ... 5
VICTOR R. WOODARDS ... 2	DENNIS H. LANGDON ... 6
PHILIP J. COWARD ... 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7
ERIC A. DENCH ... 4	W. DOUGLAS SMITH Tenor

Conducted by ERIC A. DENCH.

* First peal.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1947, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Johnson's Variation.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*MISS M. BEAMISH ...Treble	JOHN GIBBONS ... 5
JOHN E. S. MORETON ... 2	JAMES F. CLARKE ... 6
JAMES DRAYCOTT ... 3	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... 7
MRS. D. E. BEAMISH ... 4	LEONARD TREVORTenor

Conducted by L. TREVOR.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Cambridge Major by the local band.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 31, 1947, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*JOHN ORMETreble	CYRIL VALENTINE ... 5
†JAMES S. WEBB ... 2	WALTER ALMAN ... 6
NORAH M. BIBBY ... 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES ... 7
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 4	FRANCIS BIBBYTenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Bristol.

BEXHILL-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(Eastern Division.)

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER & PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

ROBERT W. R. PERCY ...Treble	REV. P. J. BOULSOVER ... 5
MRS. BETTY PERCY ... 2	JOHN A. DOWNING ... 6
*BERYL R. COWLIN ... 3	WM. A. KITCHENSIDE ... 7
ARTHUR F. LEWRY ... 4	FRANK H. HICKSTenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.—On Jan. 19th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: T. E. Taylor 1, Mrs. T. Cullingworth 2, R. F. Constant 3, W. W. Ring 4, G. A. Naylor 5, F. J. Cheal 6, T. Cullingworth (conductor) 7, G. J. Butcher 8.

IRCHESTER, NORTHANTS THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KATHERINE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Transposition. Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.
BURLY P. MORRIS ... *Treble* | HARRY RICHARDSON ... 5
WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 2 | BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ... 6
*ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 3 | GEORGE CARE ... 7
WALTER COPPERWHEAT ... 4 | GEOFFREY E. WATSON ... *Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE CARE.

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

HARPENDEN, HERTS. THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 15 cwt.
H. E. C. GOODENOUGH *Treble* | †THOMAS J. SOUTHAM ... 5
*I. E. T. HANSELL ... 2 | DENIS A. BAYLES ... 6
CHARLES F. SAYER ... 3 | *WILLIAM J. ARNOLD ... 7
ARTHUR DAY ... 4 | ‡FREDERICK C. JACKLIN *Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. ARNOLD.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal of Triples and in the method. ‡ First peal as conductor.

PENHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E flat.
BERNARD V. COLLISON *Treble* | ALFRED W. DURHAM ... 5
*DORIS E. COLGATE ... 2 | REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 6
ROBERT COLLINS ... 3 | THOMAS E. SONE ... 7
ERNEST J. DADD ... 4 | ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... *Tenor*
Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal in the method. Birthday peal for Mrs. A. W. Durham.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Variation. Tenor 20 cwt.
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT *Treble* | †RONALD EDWARDS ... 5
MARY WALSHAW ... 2 | ALBERT FORD ... 6
FRANK BARRACLOUGH ... 3 | HERBERT LUDKIN ... 7
*JOHN BARKER ... 4 | †VERNON TURNER ... *Tenor*

Conducted by H. LUDKIN.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to Ted Shaw, of Oldham, Lancashire's oldest ringer, and John Rolls, Ashton's oldest ringer, both of whom were interred during the week.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... *Treble* | CYRIL VALENTINE ... 5
NORAH M. BIBBY ... 2 | WALTER ALMAN ... 6
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 3 | GEORGE H. RANGLES ... 7
THOMAS W. HAMMOND ... 4 | *JOSEPH RIDYARD ... *Tenor*
Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

* First peal of London.

EWHRST, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER & PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.
*ERIC T. LEE ... *Treble* | TOM PAGE ... 5
*GEORGE L. GROVER ... 2 | EDWARD J. CHARMAN ... 6
WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 3 | FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
ERNEST J. MUNDAY ... 4 | C. ERNEST SMITH ... *Tenor*
Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Superlative on the bells.

SHEPshed, LEICS.—On Jan. 19th. 1.264 Little Bob Major: A. Wilson 1, Miss M. Smith 2, E. Walley 3, E. Webster 4, J. W. Bowley 5, C. W. Hall 6, H. Kirby 7, G. R. Edwards (conductor) 8. First quarter in method by all except conductor.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS

SWINDON, WILTSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 18, 1947, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, RODBOURNE CHENEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 8 cwt. 7 lb.
*JOHN E. MANNERS ... *Treble* | THOMAS I. HOLBOROW ... 4
W. BERTRAM KYNASTON ... 2 | WM. M. GREENAWAY ... 5
MISS MERCIA BOOKER ... 3 | GEORGE F. CAPELING ... *Tenor*

Conducted by W. BERTRAM KYNASTON.

* First peal (aged 13). A welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Hassett).

BURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 18, 1947, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. BOTOLPH & ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.
LEWIS J. LAST ... *Treble* | GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 4
*BASIL OSBORNE ... 2 | SYLVIA R. E. PIPE ... 5
CHARLES CLARKE ... 3 | CECIL W. PIPE ... *Tenor*

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. PIPE.

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

HATESBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 18, 1947, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER & PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 1 ton.
REV. BEAUMONT RUSSELL *Treble* | JESSE HALLETT ... 4
WALTER STARR ... 2 | SEALY S. WOODBURN ... 5
TREVOR HAYWARD ... 3 | KENNETH MEDWAY ... *Tenor*

Conducted by S. S. WOODBURN.

Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the treble on his election as chairman of the Bath Branch.

BATHAMPTON, NEAR BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Jan. 20, 1947, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 7½ cwt.
*ARTHUR JEYKINS ... *Treble* | MICHAEL POWELL ... 4
RAYMOND C. BREWER ... 2 | SEALY S. WOODBURN ... 5
GEORGE H. CROSS ... 3 | *GEORGE P. DYER ... *Tenor*

Conducted by S. S. WOODBURN.

* First peal. A welcome home from H.M.F. of the ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 6. Also for the engagement of the ringer of the 2nd.

WISBOROUGH GREEN, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Jan. 23, 1947, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and four different extents of Plain Bob.
WILLIAM H. EDWARDS ... *Treble* | ERNEST TREAGUS ... 4
CECIL R. LONGHURST ... 2 | CECIL H. WOOD ... 5
EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... 3 | LEONARD STILWELL ... *Tenor*

Conducted by L. STILWELL.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. Randall Williams. First peal of Minor as conductor.

WESTON-ON-THE-GREEN, OXFORDSHIRE

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1947, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, Plain Bob and Grandsire; three extents each of Clifford Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, Old, Norfolk, April Day and Antelope; and two extents of Oxford Bob.
Tenor 8 cwt. 8 lb. in A.

*GILBERT WRIGHT ... *Treble* | CECIL G. CALCUTT ... 3
HARRY P. FLOYD ... 2 | REV. C. ELIOT WIGG ... 4
ALAN R. PINK ... *Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal. First peal in 13 methods by all the band, and the first peal on the bells. The greatest number of Doubles methods yet rung to a peal by the Guild.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Mary's on Jan. 19th. 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Lathbury 1, Miss N. Shorter 2, E. Butler 3, E. Armstrong 4, Mr. Lathbury 5, R. Grimwood 6, W. Peck (conductor) 7, J. Greenough 8.

ASH PRIORS, SOMERSET
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*GILBERT NEWBERRY ... Treble	REGINALD G. PERRY ... 4
†WILLIAM WARREN ... 2	ARTHUR H. REED ... 5
†JAMES COLE ... 3	THOMAS HANCOCK ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. REED.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*EDWARD LEDSAM ... Treble	GEORGE BAILEY ... 4
VINCENT A. HEMMING ... 2	ARTHUR MORRIS ... 5
THOMAS ABBOTTS ... 3	EDWARD T. LLOYD ... Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells by the Sunday band.

TICKNALL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

WALTER G. SOAR ... Treble	*WILLIAM H. CURSON ... 4
JOSEPH WM. COTTON ... 2	TOM J. MARRIOTT ... 5
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... 3	BARNABAS G. KEY ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR F. ROWLEY.

* First peal in four methods. Rung for the centenary of the recasting of the bells.

MONTFORD, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*FREDK. G. BEDDOW ... Treble	WILLIAM A. FARMER ... 4
A. EDWARD REEVES ... 2	F. HECTOR BENNETT ... 5
JOHN F. BUTLER ... 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal of Minor.

HARDWICKE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 15 cwt.

TREVOR PRITCHARD ... Treble	LESLIE BARRY ... 4
*JEAN COWLAND ... 2	†PATRICK ALLEN ... 5
*ILINE WHEATLEY ... 3	CHARLES HODGES ... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

EASTRINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob and five extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. (approx.).

*HAROLD DRAKE ... Treble	†J. J. TAYLOR ... 4
J. J. TUNE ... 2	W. A. HUDSON ... 5
R. B. SMITH ... 3	LESLIE WOODHEAD ... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE WOODHEAD.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' Rung following the institution and induction of the Rev. Dennis Wilkinson, B.D.

KNOWLE, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN, ANNE AND LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores.

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

WILLIAM H. SMITH ... Treble	WILLIAM HAYES ... 4
JOSEPH PRENTICE ... 2	JOHN N. LINDON ... 5
DAVID SMITH ... 3	THOMAS W. CHAMBERS ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN N. LINDON.

Birthday compliment to the treble ringer, who has also completed 50 years as a ringer at the above church.

EVERTON, NOTTS.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

(North Notts Branch.)

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDK. JACKSON ... Treble	HARRY MORGAN ... 4
OSWY STREET ... 2	HAROLD DENMAN ... 5
JOHN T. BARTRAM ... 3	HARRY BARNES ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY MORGAN.

In memoriam to Joseph Swindon, Everton, a founder of the North Notts Branch, who was laid to rest on January 14th.

LYMPSTONE, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tues., Jan. 28, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents of 720.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*SIDNEY H. SEAGER ... Treble	JOHN QUICK ... 4
SIDNEY SKINNER ... 2	*REG. C. WOODLEY ... 5
*JOHN CARTER ... 3	BRIAN PIDGEON ... Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN PIDGEON.

* First peal of Minor.

WEEDON BEC, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1947, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores each of St. Simon's, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire, and 240 Morris' Arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 16½ cwt.

*EDWARD W. ELSIGOOD Treble	*SYDNEY G. OSBORNE ... 4
*JAMES H. WEBB ... 2	ERIC NOBLES ... 5
*VICTOR A. PERRY ... 3	*WILLIAM J. ELSIGOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by ERIC NOBLES.

* First peal of Doubles. First of Doubles in four methods as conductor. Rung for the retirement of the Vicar (the Rev. F. H. Robertson).

DUSTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Mon., Feb. 3, 1947, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 six-scores of Grandsire.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 lb.

ALFRED BECKWITH ... Treble	PERCY AMOS ... 3
REGINALD FINCH ... 2	WILLIAM R. HAMMONS ... 4
ERNEST MORRIS ... Tenor	

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

HANDBELL PEALS

HALE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 22, 1947, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT 6, STANWAY DRIVE.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in B.

DAVID VINCENT ... 1-2	MISS MARGARET L. TUTT ... 5-6
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 3-4	JOHN WORTH ... 7-8

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by J. WORTH.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sun., Feb. 2, 1947, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN BAPTIST COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF WINCHESTER BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 1-2	JOHN E. SPICE ... 5-6
BETTY SPICE ... 3-4	WILFRID F. MORETON ... 7-8

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE. The first peal in the method by all the band and for the society; also the first peal in the method on handbells. Rung to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the society.

OXFORD.

THE UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 2, 1947, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

IN LADY MARGARET HALL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

*FRANCES A. EDGAR ... 1-2	MARIE R. CROSS ... 5-6
DENIS N. LAYTON ... 3-4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by R. F. B. SPEED.

* First handbell peal.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On Jan. 26th, at St. Michael's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Williamson (first quarter) 1, P. Eldridge (first as conductor) 2, W. Denyer 3, K. Williamson 4, R. Clist 5, C. W. Denyer 6, W. H. Viggers 7, H. Williamson 8.

AMESBURY, WILTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. L. Harris 1, L. A. Page 2, H. H. Abrahams 3, P. Anger 4, L. Harris 5, W. A. Theobald 6, P. D. Wenham (conductor) 7, L. A. Tremear 8. Rung on the anniversary of the dedication of the two trebles.

BENINGTON, Lincs.—On Jan. 26th at All Saints', 1,260 Bob Minor: G. Dawson (first quarter) 1, A. Pearson 2, W. Houghton 3, H. Harper 4, F. P. Harwood (first quarter as conductor) 5, E. Barnes 6.

BICKER, Lincs.—On Feb. 4th at St. Swithin's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise with the bells half-muffled: R. Howard 1, J. P. Morris 2, W. B. Dawson 3, W. G. Short 4, G. R. Dawson 5, A. H. Bennett (conductor) 6. A token of respect to Frederick Charles Pearson, of Donington, a local ringer, interred on the above date.

BREWOOD, STAFFS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. F. Dumbell (first quarter) 1, G. Warner 2, A. G. Hunt 3, T. Reynolds 4, E. E. Speake 5, R. W. Braughton (first quarter inside) 6, R. Hawksworth (first touch of Triples as conductor) 7, C. S. Dumbell 8.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 2nd at St. Peter's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: K. Hart 1, A. Gravett 2, R. G. Cross (conductor) 3, G. Ades 4, A. W. Bond 5, W. C. Hart 6, F. Page 7, A. Hobden 8.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Jan. 25th at St. Paul's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Doreen Roden 1, Noreen Brain (first inside) 2, B. W. Key (conductor) 3, G. Harrison 4, S. D. Ainger 5, W. J. Leach 6, G. L. Roden 7, E. J. White 8, L. Chamberlain 9. 8.9 covering. Rung for patronal festival.

QUARTER PEALS

CALNE, WILTS.—On Feb. 1st at the Parish Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Haines 1, Miss R. Maundrell 2, H. Parsons 3, F. Walker 4, E. Dixon 5, H. Burry 6, R. Barry (conductor) 7, A. Saye 8.

CHESTER.—On Jan. 27th at the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Walls, 1,344 Marlborough Bob Major: G. F. Sperring 1, J. Hayes 2, J. W. Best 3, J. Swindley 4, J. W. Griffiths 5, J. S. Webb 6, H. O. Baker 7, P. Swindley (conductor) 8. First quarter in the method by 1, 6 and 7.

CROSCOMBE, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 22nd at the Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Collins 1, F. Harvey 2, F. Bird 3, P. Hull 4 (first quarter as conductor) 5, G. Lawrence 6. Rung for the induction of the new Rector (the Rev. J. Bromley).

CHIPSTABLE.—On Feb. 4th at the Church of All Saints, 1,448 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Mrs. F. Beer 1, S. Smith 2, C. Tarr 3, H. Purchase 4, G. Sparkes 5, E. Quicke (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal of Cambridge by all, also on the bells.

EAST CROMPTON, LANCs.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 of Minor, being 36 Plain Bob, 504 Oxford Treble Bob and 720 changes of London Scholars, Sandal and Kingston Spliced: B. Whitehead 1, F. Butterworth 2, R. H. Byrom 3, J. Butterworth (conductor) 4, E. Harrison 5, J. R. Buckley 6. Rung on the 33rd anniversary of the 3rd ringer's wedding day and the 4th ringer's 61st birthday.

EVERSHOT, DORSET.—On Jan. 26th at St. Osmund's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. T. Groves (first quarter) 1, H. D. W. Bishop (conductor) 2, H. Smith 3, Mrs. H. Smith 4, H. C. R. Vine 5, W. Groves 6. For the induction of the Rev. Kelsey as Rector of this parish.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Gill 1, W. Simmonds 2 and 3, H. Colcombe 4, F. Dodson 5, C. W. R. Grimwood 6, W. Shepherd (conductor) 7, R. Clew 8.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd at St. Nicolas' Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Oldroyd 1, E. A. Etheridge 2, W. R. Morey 3, E. Lee (first quarter of Stedman) 4, W. Shepherd 5, C. E. Smith 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, F. Radford 8.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,264 Bob Major: S. Clarke 1, A. Burgess 2, R. Cochrane 3, A. Cull 4, A. White (conductor) 5, H. Nobbs 6, D. Price 7, J. T. Kentish 8.

KEMPSEY, WORCS.—At St. Mary-the-Virgin's on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. P. Higgins 1, F. J. Cubberley 2, P. Shortland (first inside) 3, G. H. Derrington (first inside) 4, E. F. Cubberley (conductor) 5, F. Salter 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—At All Saints' Church on Feb. 2nd, 1,280 Bob Major: E. Dodds 1, A. F. Thirst 2, Sheila Harris 3, G. Dodds 4, F. D. Bishop 5, D. J. Charnley (first away from covering bell) 6, H. W. Rogers 7, F. C. W. Knight (conductor) 8.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Feb. 2nd at St. Mary's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. H. Taffender (conductor) 1, J. Bullock 2, S. Croft 3, W. J. Ellis 4, C. Ottley 5, L. Bowler 6, R. Sanders 7, W. Hardy 8.

LLANDUDNO, CARNARVON.—On Jan. 29th at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: R. Oliver 1, Miss K. Ruffell 2, Miss M. Ockleston (first quarter-peal) 3, J. Flood 4, L. S. Griffiths (conductor) 5, H. Geeson 6. All are Sunday service ringers.

MARHAMCHURCH, CORNWALL.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Vinnicombe 1, A. J. Hicks (conductor) 2, C. E. Taylor 3, R. J. Hicks 4, J. Rich (first quarter) 5, L. Duke 6. First quarter by an entire Marhamchurch set.

NORTH MARSTON, BUCKS.—On Jan. 29th, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Minor: W. Banner 1, F. Gibbard (first as conductor) 2, G. Edmans 3, W. Woodford 4, H. France 5, F. Gregory 6. First quarter in the method for 1, 3, 5 and 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers*

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

At the meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild at Slough on February 22nd a memorial tablet will be unveiled to Mr. W. H. Fussell. We understand the tablet has been beautifully executed.

As we were going to press we received a notification of the death at Saffron Walden on February 7th of Mr. Ernest A. Pitstow, aged 86.

Six of the band who rang the peal of Bob Major at Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland, on January 25th were from Holywood.

A half-century as a ringer at Knowle, Warwickshire, has been completed by William H. Smith. He rang the treble to a peal in honour of his record.

Corrections.—Regarding the peal of Stedman Cinques at Saffron Walden, the ringer of the seventh was Frank B. Lufkin and not Frank A. Lufkin. The church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin.

A helpful book for the young ringer is 'Elementary Change Ringing,' by the Rev. F. F. Rigby. The publishers are the S.P.C.K., Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2. Price 3s. 6d.

A pleasant surprise awaited the ringers of Adlington, Lancs, on the completion of their peal of Stedman Triples on January 25th. The Vicar came into the ringing chamber, and after congratulating the band, invited them to tea at the Vicarage.

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Edmonton on January 26th was rung by a local band in appreciation of the work done by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, who taught all the ringers except the 5th and 6th to handle and ring a bell. It was a farewell peal to Dennis H. Langdon, who is joining the Forces, and a welcome home to W. Douglas Smith.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Memorable was the annual meeting of the Southwell Diocesan Guild on February 1st for the dramatic termination of the ringing at Eastwood. It emphasises the importance of coöperation in the belfry when an emergency arises. Conductors should bring this incident to the attention of all young ringers with clear instructions as to what to do.

Watch the company Mr. F. Dunkerley has at Moorside, Lancs. They have rung their first together of Double Norwich and have Cambridge as their next objective, which they hope to complete this summer.

News has reached Wollaston, Worcs., of the death in Canada of Mr. Charles Frederick White, a former member of the local band. In his memory 720 London Surprise Minor was rung by J. Bass 1, R. Matthews 2, F. Handley 3, S. G. Thompson 4, H. V. Cooper (conductor) 5, C. Richards 6.

A noble effort comes from Weedon Bec, Northants, where five of the company rang their first peal of Doubles, and the conductor, Mr. Eric Nobles, called his first of Doubles in four methods.

The whole of the post-war girls' band at Burnham, Bucks, has now rung one or more peals of 5,000 changes, with Miss Gwen Murkitt completing the list on Saturday, February 8th, by ringing the treble to a tripple peal of Grandsire Triples. Moral: Train some more.

According to the copy received, the peal of Doubles at Duston, Northants, on February 3rd, was not rung for any Association. We hope the ringers are not outside the pale!

It was not intentional that three of the four districts in the Guildford Guild held their annual meetings last Saturday. Protests have been lodged.

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IN AFFILIATION WITH CENTRAL COUNCIL

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

Although this Guild in its present form only dates back to 1924, it is a continuation of the Raunds, Wellingborough and District Society, which was formed at Raunds on July 5th, 1883, by the Vicar of Raunds, the Rev. Hugh Bryan, who became the first secretary. By the end of that year 63 members were on the books. The society grew steadily and change ringing and some peal ringing became well established.

On his retirement in 1892, the Rev. Hugh Bryan was presented with an inscribed copy of North's 'Bells of Northamptonshire.' About ten years ago the Guild secretary recovered this book from a firm of dealers in second-hand books and presented it to the Guild to be in the hands of the Guild secretary and loaned to members.

In 1896 the title of the society was changed to 'The Central Northamptonshire Association,' and that year at the annual meeting a discussion took place on the advisability of forming a Diocesan Association, but it was thought that matters were not ripe for this at the time. This society was split into three districts in 1905.

GOLD MEDALS FOR 100 PEALS.

One rule of the early days was that 'all members who ring 100 peals for the association shall receive a gold medal.' From the reports, those who received these medals were Messrs. J. B. Houghton, J. Garrett, W. Perkins, A. Y. Tyler, W. V. Newman, T. R. Hensher, W. Hensher, J. B. Martin, A. H. Martin, F. Wilford, F. W. Sawfoot, D. J. Nichols and E. J. Chapman. In 1914 this was discontinued and a new rule passed that a certificate, which bore a photograph of Peterborough Cathedral, be awarded to all members ringing their first peal on a working bell. This is still in force.

By 1923 there were five districts, and as the outcome of a meeting at Wellingborough,

addressed by the Bishop of Peterborough, it was decided to form a Diocesan Guild for the whole of the diocese which covers the counties of Northamptonshire and Rutland. This was formed at Wellingborough on January 5th, 1924, with the addition of Oundle and District Society and also the Peterborough and District Society.

The chief officers elected were the president, the Dean of Peterborough, Master, Mr. F. Wilford, and general secretary, Mr. D. J. Nichols. Mr. Nichols had done most of the routine work and the organising which made the formation of the Guild possible. There were now 81 towers in union, seven branches and over 600 members. In 1925 Daventry Branch was formed, and in 1930 the Towcester and District Society joined as the Towcester Branch of the Guild.

Early in 1926, Mr. Nichols, who had been in poor health for some time, had to resign his office. Mr. R. G. Black, the Kettering Branch secretary, was elected to succeed him. He still holds the office, combined with that of guild treasurer, and is the only official of the Guild to have held office continuously since its formation. Mr. Nichols died in 1928 at the early age of 48. He had rung about 130 peals, all of them for the local association or guild. He was the leader of Kettering band for several years and conducted peals by the local band in all the standard methods, and Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

Rutland Branch was formed in 1933, the membership of the Guild in that year being 98 honorary and 843 ringing members. Mr. Wilford resigned the Mastership in 1935 and the Rev. E. S. Powell was elected to the office. Mr. Wilford died in 1936. He had been a representative on the Central Council for over 30 years and attended every meeting until prevented by his illness, from which he did not recover.

The Guild weathered the war years well, and were ably guided during this difficult time by the Rev. E. S. Powell, the Master. The latter recently resigned the living of Staver-ton, and on retirement has left the diocese. In 1944 there were 145 members in H.M. Forces, which is a high percentage. In 1945, 112 new members were elected, mostly young people of both sexes.

The late Mr. A. H. Martin, of Higham Ferrers who died in 1941, was believed to be the last ringing member who had attended the 1883 meeting and had a continuous membership. In 1943 the Ven. C. J. Grimes, Archdeacon of Northampton, was elected resident.

The general secretaries since 1883 were the Rev. H. Bryan to 1892, Mr. F. J. Dennes 1892 to 1902, Mr. T. R. Hensher 1902 to 1906, Mr. F. Wilford 1906 to 1920, Mr. D. J. Nichols 1920 to 1926, Mr. F. G. Black 1926 to present time.

The Belfry Repairs Fund was formed in 1917 from collections at services, and in 1933, when the Guild was ten years old, the sum of £229 had been collected and grants had been made of £126 to various towers for restorations and augmentations. The Belfry Restoration Fund is still flourishing and at the end of last year was worth over £209.

PEALS IN NORTHANTS.

The earliest known peals in Northants are the two peals of Grandsire Triples rung at Kettering in 1729 and 1731 and which are recorded on the ancient peal boards still in that tower. The first peal of Major was a peal of Bob Major at St. Peter's, Northampton, by the College Youths in 1739, and was conducted by Benjamin Annable, who rang the seventh. This peal is No. 45 in the College Youths records.

Peals rung from 1883 to 1893 were Minor, Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples and Bob



THE LATE MR. FRED WILFORD

Major; Treble Bob in 1894; Double Norwich in 1896; Stedman Triples in 1897; Superlative 1897; Real Double Norwich 1898; Grandsire Caters 1898. In 1900 Mr. A. Y. Tyler conducted 9,312 of Superlative at Irthlingborough; Stedman Caters in 1901 and Treble Ten 1903, at St. Giles', Northampton, London in 1903, Cambridge in 1905, Bristol 1912, Cambridge Royal 1922, and a peal of Minor, 1922, by six ladies, this being the first time a band of ladies had rung a peal with the tenor 'turned in.' Erin Triples were rung in 1922, and Surprise Minor 1922. The total of peals up to the end of 1923 was 986.

The peals rung from 1924 to 1945 totalled 722, and Mr. H. M. Day conducted several of Surprise Minor up to 32 methods. The Irthlingborough band, who rang the first of Surprise Major, Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol, have also rung Irthlingborough and Irchester Surprise (the first in the methods) and Yorkshire Surprise Major.

HANDBELL RINGING.

One peal in hand was rung at Irthlingborough in 1905, being 5,056 Bob Major, conducted by A. Y. Tyler. In 1910 the Kettering band, assisted by Mr. E. M. Atkins, rang Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. Bob Royal was rung in 1911, Grandsire Caters in 1912, also Kent Treble Bob and Little Bob Major. In 1914 Kent Treble Bob Royal and in 1921 a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. This band in the period 1910 to 1921 rang about 40 peals in hand.

According to North, 1878, there were them nine rings of eight bells, 43 of six bells and 105 of five bells in Northants. In 1938 the numbers were two rings of ten, 26 of eight, 70 of six and 97 rings of five. The oldest dated bell is the second at Cold Ashby and is dated 1317.

CLAPHAM, LONDON.—On Dec. 15th, 1,260 Stedman Triples, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church: Mrs. Lathbury 1, Miss N. Shorter 2, T. H. Tafender (conductor) 3, Miss Mary Cole (first quarter in method) 4, W. J. Ellis 5, R. Lathbury 6, J. Bullock 7, S. Croft 8.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 19th at Christ Church, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: W. Nash 1, Mrs. C. J. Mathews 2, A. W. Coles 3, J. G. Nash 4, C. F. Sayers 5, S. Wade 6, T. J. Lock 7, H. W. Clark 8, C. J. Mathews 9, H. E. C. Goodenough (conductor) 10. First quarter of Cambridge Royal for ringers of 2, 5 and 10.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, RAUNDS

Where the old Association was formed on July 5th, 1883

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED.

The 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers was celebrated in Oxford during the first week-end of February. The ringing programme was a full one, though there were no tower-bell peals. A proposed attempt for Stedman Cinques by the society at Christ Church had to be cancelled owing to several last-minute withdrawals. Handbell peal attempts began on the afternoon of Friday, January 31st, but unfortunately met with no success. On Sunday afternoon, however, the society rang the first peal of Winchester Bob Major on handbells.

Official proceedings commenced on the morning of Saturday, February 1st, with ringing at St. Ebbe's (8) from 9.45 to 10.45. The society's festival service, conducted by the president of the society (the Rev. C. E. Wigg), then followed at the University Church of St. Mary the Virgin. The preacher was the Lord Bishop of Oxford. His useful and inspiring address was based on the text, 'I have a message from God unto thee' (Judges iii. 20), and once again the reminder was given that absence from divine service was a negation of the message ringers were called to deliver.

Ringing in the afternoon took place at the Cathedral (12), St. Giles' (8) and at Magdalen (10), and following an informal tea in the New Room, Magdalen, this part of the day's proceedings ended with an enjoyable hour's ring on the magnificent heavy eight at Merton.

THE DINNER.

Sixty-six persons sat down to dinner at the Randolph Hotel, where the society was pleased to welcome as the guest of honour Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council. The other guests were Miss M. R. Cross and Messrs. W. F. Judge, V. J. Bennett and W. C. Porter, of the Oxford Society, and the visitors were Messrs. R. F. B. Speed, P. K. Williamson, O. W. Woolley and Dr. F. S. Poole, representing the Cambridge University Guild, Miss B. Podger and Mr. G. T. Beynon from the Bristol University Society, Messrs. P. M. J. Gray and D. Layton from the London University Society, Mrs. C. E. Wigg and Mr. P. A. Corby. Before the dinner a photograph of all present was taken, and immediately afterwards three leads of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus were rung by resident members of the society.

After the loyal toast, the toast of the society was proposed by Dr. J. E. Spice, who noted with pleasure the presence of two other past masters, Messrs. H. Miles and A. E. F. Trotman. In sketching the history of the society since its foundation in 1872, Dr. Spice naturally had most to say of the period 1939-45 when he had been in residence, a period chiefly remarkable for the achievements of the society on handbells, and for the growth of the society to its present scale—a growth encouraged by the enthusiasm of lady members.

In replying to the toast, the present Master, Miss B. Spice, briefly reviewed the events of the past year. Notable inceptions had been the short tour held at Rochester in August, 1946, and the farming-cum-ringing fortnight enjoyed by present members at Honeybourne, Worcs., in the late summer. The present academic year had brought an unprecedented flow of recruits—as witnessed by the fact that 40 of those present at the dinner were resident members of the society—and, in addition to the hard work spent in teaching them, time had been found in the Michaelmas term for the ringing of nine peals, a record number for one term.

THE GUESTS.

The President then welcomed the guests and visitors. He regretted the absence of several old members, notably of Canon Co'erride, from whom a telegram of good wishes was read, and of the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, both of whom had played a large part in the early life of the society. The good wishes of other

old members were also conveyed to the gathering.

Mr. Lewis, responding to this welcome, expressed the pleasure of all the visitors at being able to be present. He recounted various amusing incidents which had taken place in joint peal attempts of the C.U.G. and O.U.S., and drew several morals from his stories in connection with good handling and striking of bells.

The toast of 'The Oxford Society' was next proposed by Mr. A. E. F. Trotman. He recalled with gratitude the invaluable help which the City ringers had always given to the society, making special reference to the period 1932-3 when he had been Master. Mr. V. J. Bennett, secretary of the Oxford Society, suitably replied.

Miss K. Higgins then briefly toasted 'Kindred Societies.' She hoped the younger University Societies would be able to look back on their lives with equal pride when they were 75 years old. In his reply, Mr. D. Layton expressed the sincere gratitude of the new University Societies to the O.U.S.C.R. for its hospitality on these occasions, and for the help and encouragement it had given, not only in providing new opportunities for ringing, but also in enlarging the friendship among ringers.

'ENGAGED COUPLES.' The last toast was in a somewhat lighter vein, being that of the engaged couples, three and a half of whom were present. Mr. J. H. P. Slade (a present member) turned his ready wit to great advantage and obviously enjoyed his descriptions of Cambridge turning to Oxford and Oxford to the North. Miss M. D. Telford expressed the thanks of those concerned for the good wishes which had been given, and concluded by saying that she had always been brought up to 'follow the Master' in all things.

Before going on to a short general meeting, some reminiscences of the very early life of the society were given by Dr. F. S. Poole, whose father was one of the foundation members, and who had left an interesting record of the earliest touches rung by him and his contemporaries.

TOUR FROM SHREWSBURY.

The main business of the meeting was the alteration in the proposed date and place of the tour. This is now arranged for the first week in August, immediately preceding the U.A.C.R. tour, and it is hoped to be held at Shrewsbury.

Sunday rightly began with a Corporate Communion for the society, celebrated by the Rev. Blake Wood in the Eastern Crypt of the University Church at 8 a.m.

Visitors were then welcomed by the Oxford Society to the usual Sunday ringing at Christ Church, All Saints' and St. Giles', and some also joined the University Society at St. Mary Magdalene's, St. Cross' and St. Thomas-the-Martyr's. The bells of New College were rung for evensong, and finally the glorious six of St. Mary's heralded the opening service of the Mission to the University held during the week.

Thus concluded a most enjoyable week-end, and a fitting commemoration of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers, 75 years ago.

PADBURY, BUCKS.—On Jan. 24th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Townsend (first quarter) 1, F. D. Wesley (first quarter) 2, W. Yates, jun. 3, C. Gough 4, E. Nicholls (conductor) 5, W. Yates, sen. 6.

PAINSWICK, GLOS.—Ha'f-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's Church on Jan. 28th: E. J. Birt 1, S. G. Goulding (conductor) 2, W. Staite 3, R. Watts 4, D. Thornton 5, L. H. Jones 6, D. L. Jones 7, C. D. Launder 8.

WOODSTOCK, OXFORDSHIRE.—On Feb. 3rd, at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss L. Pimm 1, H. P. Floyd 2, C. Bustin (first quarter inside) 3, T. W. Bond 4, L. Oliffe 5, G. Wright 6, A. R. Pink (conductor) 7, E. Knight (first quarter) 8.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Editor regrets that at the the order of the Government through the fuel emergency the next two issues of 'The Ringing World,' in common with all other periodicals, will be suspended.

The next publication, unless further restrictions are announced, will be on Friday, March 7th.

Financial adjustments will be made in respect of notices and quarterly, half-yearly and yearly subscriptions.

Oxford Diocesan Guild

MAKE HISTORY AT BLOXHAM.

When the Banbury and District Branch met at Bloxham on January 25th it was the first time, according to present records, that a meeting had been held at this beautiful parish church with its celebrated spire, one of three in line across the countryside. The local saying about it is: Bloxham for length, Adderbury for strength, King's Sutton for beauty. (King's Sutton is in Northants, but it doesn't give Bloxham many points.)

The ring of eight in the tower (tenor 27 cwt.) have not been rung together until recently for some 20 years. Permission has been given for the time being for the whole to be rung for short touches. The front six have been rung regularly each Sunday, and for practice when required by the local band during the 20 years. Sixty members attended the meeting; thanks to the efforts of the Vicar (the Rev. B. R. Buchanan) in trying to do all that is possible in order that the whole ring may be used, the members were able to ring Triples and Major. The service was conducted by the Vicar and the address given by the Rev. Sholto Douglas. Tea was prepared by the local ringers and relatives.

A record number of new members was elected at the business meeting, 15 in all from various towers. The next meeting, a joint one with the Bicester Deanery Branch, is to be held at Lower Heyford with Rousham in April.

The members stood in silence for a few moments as a tribute to the memory of Mr. J. Cuss, who had died recently.

The secretary was instructed to convey the best thanks and appreciation of the members of the branch to Mr. L. J. Malings, who had left Oxfordshire for South Wales, for the great assistance he had given to the Guild in teaching young ringers and in many ways furthering the art of change ringing in the right spirit, that of service to the Church.

Thanks were expressed to the Vicar and to all who contributed to make the meeting so happy and enjoyable. Rounds to Major again completed the day there, other members going on to Adderbury, making good use of the fine ring of eight in that tower.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Feb. 2nd at St. Giles' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Edwards 1, R. A. Pearson 2, N. F. Bull 3, W. R. Hammons (conductor) 4, P. D. Bishop 5, M. Smith 6. First quarter for ringers of 1, 5 and 6. First 'inside' for ringer of 3rd.

OTLEY, YORKS.—On Feb. 3rd, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. M. Heaton (first quarter of Grandsire) 1, Miss J. A. Southerst (first in method as conductor) 2, H. J. Roberts 3, R. F. Smith 4, J. F. Hodson 5, G. Benfield 6, D. Roe 7, P. H. Whitaker 8.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

PLANNING BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

The main feature at the annual meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, held on February 1st in accordance with tradition at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, was plans for the appropriate celebration of the bicentenary of the society. There is to be a dinner on July 12th and it is also hoped to hold a commemorative service.

Preceding the business part of the programme, the bells were available from 3 to 5 p.m., during which time the capacity of the ringing chamber was taxed to the utmost, as at one period over 90 people were counted there. A number of young members had their first pull on twelve bells, and throughout the afternoon the range of methods rung extended from rounds to Cambridge Maximus. Apart from members of the society present, a goodly number of visitors were welcomed in the tower, among the foremost of whom was Mr. George Fearn, of Birmingham.

Tea was provided in the crypt, which, like the ringing chamber, was scarcely big enough to accommodate the large gathering in comfort, although all those who had notified their intention of being present were supplied with food and drink. In all 68 persons cut of 70 who said they would be present turned up.

The meeting was held in the Vestry Hall, a beautifully paneled chamber overlooking the church on the north side. The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead presided and called upon the meeting at the outset to stand in silence in memory of Mr. Rupert Richardson, Major J. H. B. Hesse and other ringers who had died since the last annual meeting.

NEW MEMBERS RECORD.

Mr. G. W. Steere (hon. secretary) presented the balance sheet, which showed a balance of £48 8s. 4d., against £36 11s. 9d. at the beginning of the year.

The annual report stated that the year could be considered a period of steady progress. Thirty-six new members had been elected, a number not approached during the last half-century, as on only two occasions had the figure reached 30. Mr. Frank C. W. Knight was in no small measure responsible for the large increase.

Eleven peals had been rung at High Wycombe, Beckenham, Milton-next-Gravesend, Bexley, Kingston-on-Thames, Calne (Wilts), Guildford (2) and Burnham (2), and one on handbells. The peal at Burnham was in memory of Brian O'Neill and Peter A. Blamey, two members of the society.

The peal of Stedman Cinques rung on Dec. 1st, 1945, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields to commemorate the termination of the war has been duly recorded in the belfry, and the tablet hangs side by side with a similar record of the 1914-18 war. In this respect thanks were due to Mr. C. J. Matthews, who secured the services of a capable artist to do the work.

The report and accounts were adopted and Mr. C. J. Matthews was thanked for his kind offices in regard to printing the report.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. N. Harding (Slough), J. Millhouse and K. Mayer (Lincoln). New members elected were Miss Gwen Murkett, Miss Betty Hill, Miss Betty Frost, Miss Betty Hewison, Mrs. O. Barnett, Miss Mary Jaycock, Messrs. Clifford Vessey, Edwin J. Upton, Charles R. Chambers, William Picthall, Robert G. Rayfield, Walter Lemon, Frank Hopgood and Eric Dodds.

Meetings to be arranged for 1947 were: Burnham, March 29th; Prittlewell, June 14th; and Ansley, September 27th.

At the election of officers, Mr. A. H. Pulling expressed the opinion that the Master should be changed annually, and as the Cumberlands were a national society, the Mastership should not be necessarily tied with Sunday ringing at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. With this end in view he proposed Mr. E. A. Barnett as Master.

Mr. Barnett, while thanking his proposer for the honour, declined, stating he could not undertake the Mastership, as he was not in a position to attend regularly at St. Martin's.

There were several who spoke against this proposition, and it was argued it would be most disloyal to Mr. Cross, who had held the post for so long and so successfully, to make a change just at the moment when the society was about to celebrate its 200th anniversary.

Mr. Cross was the only nominee and his reelection was carried with acclamation.

Other officers elected were: Treasurer and secretary, Mr. G. W. Steere; senior steward, Mr. T. Bevan; junior steward, Mr. F. Hawthorne; trustees, Messrs. C. J. Matthews and Ralph Winterton.

THE BICENTENARY.

With regard to the suggested dinner to commemorate the 200th anniversary, it was decided to go ahead with the arrangements and book July 12th as the prescribed date. The venue would be the Old Bell Restaurant, E.C.1, and the number would be limited to 100. An official announcement will be made shortly on this subject, but it was stressed that all applications for tickets would be treated in strict order of receipt, and that a remittance should accompany all applications for tickets.

In connection with the dinner, it is hoped to arrange a special service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

A dinner committee of the officers of the society, augmented by the inclusion of Mrs. E. E. Davis and Messrs. Frank C. W. Knight and James E. Bailey, was appointed.

In the absence of Dr. Perry (churchwarden), unable to attend through illness, the society were welcomed to St. Martin's by Mr. Ambler.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Felstead for presiding, also to the Church Council for use of the bells and Vestry Hall, and Mr. G. Radley voiced the appreciation of the members for the work done by the officers.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

SOUTH OXON BRANCH HAS 40 NEW MEMBERS.

Forty new members at one meeting; That is how enrolments are taking place in the South Oxon Branch as happened at their meeting on January 26th at Benson. The Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) presided in the absence through illness of the branch chairman, supported by the Deputy Master (Capt. A. R. Poyntz) and the general secretary (Mr. T. Hibbert) and no fewer than five branch secretaries.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Hughes), assisted by the Master and Deputy Master. As to the ringing, some new members had their first touch of Triples, while others had their first 'pull' on the bells.

5 090 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE

BY BRIAN D. PRICE.

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—				34562
—	—	3		63542
—			3	34625
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—				56234
—				26435
—				63254
—		2		62534
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Rounds 2 changes after the single at W. which is an ordinary Bob Major single.

First rung at St. Michael's Church, Southampton, on January 18th, 1947, conducted by C. H. Kippin.

OBITUARY

MR. FREDERICK C. PEARSON.

The recent death of Mr. Frederick Charles Pearson, of Donington, Lincolnshire, aged 37, after a long illness, was received with deep regret by ringers in the Boston and Spalding area.

He learned to ring at Donington in 1924 at the age of 14 and rang his first peal in the same year. He had about 10 peals to his credit, but was prevented through ill-health, while still in his teens, from further peal ringing. He continued to be a Sunday service ringer when his health allowed.

Following the interment at Donington on February 4th, a quarter-peal with bells half-muffled was rung at the Parish Church, being 1,260 changes Bob Minor, by H. Clark (first quarter) 1, J. E. Allen 2, E. Staples 3, A. E. Woods 4, C. Wander (conductor) 5, S. V. Woods 6.

MR. JOHN ROLLS.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs, has lost its oldest ringer in the person of Mr. John Rolls, at the age of 94.

A native of Olney, Bedfordshire, Mr. Rolls helped to keep the bells going during the first world war at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, and was a very regular ringer.

A man of most kind and genial nature, he was beloved by all who knew him. He leaves a very large family and many grandchildren. The funeral was on January 29th. W.W.W.

MR. TED SHAW

One of the oldest members of the Lancashire Association and a member of the old Midland Counties Association, Mr. Ted Shaw died at Leesfield, Oldham, aged 87.

He was laid to rest on Wednesday, January 29th. The bells at Leesfield were rung half-muffled, also a course of Grandside Doubles over the grave by Herbert Barlow 1-2, Walter W. Wolstencroft 3-4, John Walmsley 5-6. W.W.W.

MR. DAVID H. WHITING.

The funeral took place at Diss Cemetery on January 25th of Mr. David H. Whiting, aged 73. The Rector (the Rev. J. A. Appleton) officiated.

A lifelong campanologist, Mr. Whiting rang at Wakefield Cathedral, Yorkshire, in his younger days, later moving to Yaxley, Suffolk, where he became captain of the local company. He came to Diss about eight years ago and joined the St. Mary's Society. His peal total was 88, ringing in 30 for the Norwich Association and 58 for the Suffolk Guild. He was also a keen handbell ringer.

Four members of the local band rang handbells over the grave: W. Elsey 1-2, Mrs. J. Tonge 3-4, Miss Kathleen Harrison 5-6, A. G. Harrison 7-8. The bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled for morning service on February 2nd.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

THE YOUNGEST MEMBER.

By the election of Michael David Goodman, aged 10, at the annual meeting of the North Norfolk Branch at Mulbarton on January 11th, the Association has its youngest member. Also elected were Ronald Dove and George Adams.

The branch chairman, the Rev. Blyth, who was in the chair, was re-elected, as was Mr. H. Tooke, secretary. To the committee were elected Messrs. G. Bailey, C. Curson, W. C. Duffield, F. C. Goodman and the Rev. G. W. Wilson. Buxton was selected for the next meeting on April 19th.

The president (the Rev. A. St. J. Heard) conducted the service, and tea was served by Mrs. Goodman and friends. Members were present from Attleborough, Buxton, Diss, Northrepps, Hethersett, Garboldisham, New Buckenham, Fornsett, Gorleston, Norwich, Scottow, Saxlingham, Wymondham, Great Yarmouth, Yaxley and the local company.

CORRESPONDENTS' VIEWS AND COMMENTS

Vancouver Ringer's Distinction

Dear Sir,—I am writing this thanking you for giving us in Vancouver, B.C., so much space and notice in the front page, etc., of 'The Ringing World.' But in the issue of December 20th, 1946, there is a mistake about my ringing a peal at Macclesfield and other places in England. Those peals should be credited to Mr. Andy B. Lomas, who is now ringing at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, V.T., B.C. I, of course, rang at the Coronation of King George V. here at Vancouver, being the first peal ever rung in Canada.

I have never rung a peal in England. I learned on the bells I installed here; perhaps I have the distinction of installing a peal in a tower, learning to ring on them and ringing on them the first peal in the country. Whilst visiting in England in 1912 I rang at Old Windsor, some of the ringers I remember being J. L. McDonald, the late J. H. B. Hesse, A. H. Pulling and other well-known peal ringers. But I could not call it a peal, as there was an awful mix up about half-way; in fact, there were several rounds of good firing and I was astonished later to see it recorded as a peal in 'The Ringing World' on my arrival back here.

Our peal we rang here on July 1st, 1911, was, I can honestly say, perfect as to being a true peal, not a bell being out of place and the striking good throughout. Some 85 or 90 years ago a peal was rung in the tower of Christ Church, Philadelphia, Penn., U.S.A., and recorded in that tower as rung by nine men, the tenor man having to give up and was relieved by another. Therefore, I think we in Vancouver can say we have rung the first peal of Grandsire Triples rung by eight men on the American continent.—Yours very truly,

A. C. LIMPUS.

208, Union Street, Vancouver, B.C.

YOUNGEST GIRL RINGER

Dear Sir,—As Mr. George Gilbert appears to be keeping a record of the achievements of the youngsters in the Exercise, may I remind him that he has omitted one from his list? If he will look up the issue of 'The Ringing World,' dated November 1st, 1946, on page 511 he will read of Margaret Beamish having rung the 2nd to a peal of Grandsire Triples at Chilvers Coton on October 12th at the age of 11 years. True, at first glance, the footnote was rather misleading, but that was made quite clear in Belfry Gossip the following week. Margaret was 11 on June 24th, 1946, and so was 11½ when she rang the peal.

On December 28th last she was in a peal attempt for Cambridge Major, ringing the 2nd. Unfortunately, the attempt broke down after an hour's good ringing, but through no fault of hers. However, she achieved a peal of Cambridge Major on January 27th at Chilvers Coton, ringing the treble in faultless style.—Sincerely yours,

A. H. BEAMISH.

21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BELLS RUNG BACKWARDS

Dear Sir,—Regarding bells ringing backwards. This was always the ancient form of declaration of war, and I hope they remembered it in 1940.

There are two well-known literary references:—

(a) 'Bonnie Dundee':—

'The bells they ring backwards.'

(b) Sir Walter Scott in 'Last Minstrel':—
'The live-long night in Branksome rang
The ceaseless sound of steel.

The castle bell with backward clang
Sent back a louder peal.'

But how Sir Walter's men managed to ring one bell backwards still beats me.—Faithfully yours,

F. A. CLUETT.

Gravesend.

London Vergers

A WILTSHIRE RINGER'S EXPERIENCE.

Sir,—I feel I would like to express my views concerning the above as referred to by Mr. Appleton in the last issue of 'The Ringing World.' Doubtless, he and his friend were disappointed for not being permitted to visit the belfry at their first verbal request to a verger.

But why blame the verger?

To avoid a similar disappointment in future, Mr. Appleton would do better if he followed the procedure I have during the past few years, in which I have raised and taught a new band of ringers at our church, either for ringing or inspecting some notable peal.

I make my plans beforehand, then write to the incumbents requesting permission for the visit. I always enclose a stamped and addressed envelope for a reply. I do the latter because some of us ringers are better off financially than some clergy whose stipends have not been increased with the cost of living. I do not approve of them paying even the cost of a postage stamp to provide us with the pleasures of an outing. During last year I sent out 14 such applications and received favourable replies from them all.

During May I took the band to London after having requested permission to visit Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's foundry. I received a favourable reply from Mr. Hughes, who provided us with a most interesting hour. This was on a Saturday, and he was the only member of the staff we saw there. We were very much impressed, as it did appear to us that he had turned up specifically to oblige us. This is only one instance of the fruits of making the arrangements beforehand.

Regarding the places we visited on the same trip where we had no intentions of first visiting and did not make the arrangements. We went on to St. Paul's and enjoyed a good look round. Suddenly I met a verger, and after some conversation I asked him if we could see the bells. He was very polite and told me that we could not. He added that I should have written to the Dean beforehand. I accepted this and informed the band, but this verger was not satisfied, probably because I had mentioned to him previously that we had travelled a hundred miles that day to London. He took me to the Dean's verger, who again told me that such visits were at the discretion of the Dean only, but under the circumstances he took it upon himself to grant the request.

The first verger we met took us up the famous Wren's stairway to the ringing chamber, then on to the bell chamber, from which place we had a good view of the famous dome, also an interesting talk on its structure. Then one to the clock, Great Peter and the clock bells. Returning again to the nave, the verger expressed his regrets that he could not show us the crypt. Another hour well spent. Could anyone wish for more courtesy than this?

Next we visited St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, where a congregation had assembled for a service which was about to commence. I asked the verger there about seeing the bells, but he informed me that during the service he was to remain present, but would gladly take us up the tower afterwards, but being as we were strangers to him, he would not allow us to ascend without him. I commend him for such a decision. Time did not permit us to accept his kind offer.

I have no desire to question what is required of these vergers at their work. As a ringer, it is not my business. I look upon them as paid servants, and as such they have a duty to perform. Providing they satisfy their employers, I see no reason why ringers should rebuke them for not doing certain favours.

I have always found them obliging and courteous, but our chief interest, or that of a

(Continued in next column.)

Ringers' Names on Bells

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest about some of the names of ringers recorded on bells. We have one at Aldbourne, Wiltshire, and as it is of an earlier date than those already mentioned, I thought it would be of further interest to some of your readers.

When the six were augmented to eight in 1778, the bell founder, Robert Wells, gave the treble and two of the ringers gave the second with the following inscription: 'Jos: Pizzie, Willm Gwyn. Music and ringing we like so well and for that reason we gave this bell.'

These two ringers also rang in a peal of Grandsire Triples 19 years later, this being recorded on an old peal board, 1797.—Yours truly,

T. A. PALMER.

Baydon Hill, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wilts.

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH

Dear Sir,—I was the instigator of having the old bad going eight bells, also bad tone, recast into a splendid peal of eight bells at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, in 1923. The following inscription was cast on the tenor bell:—

'To the Glory of God and in memory of George and Mary Stevens, the bells in the tower of this church were recast and rehung by their nephew, Robert Raisbeck Gelling, 1923. Rev. Canon G. E. Badger, Vicar. James George, Ringing Master.'

On August 18th, 1917, I conducted a peal of Stedman Triples on the old bells in 2 hours and 56 minutes at this church. On January 28th, 1924, I conducted a peal of Stedman Triples on the new bells in 2 hours and 57 minutes at this church.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES GEORGE.

63, Thurlston Avenue, Sheldon, Birmingham 26.

FORTHCOMING BROADCASTS

Dear Sir,—I should like to support Miss Look's suggestion in her letter under the above heading which appeared in your last issue.

If 'The Ringing World' could possibly mention forthcoming ringing broadcasts it would be of great value. I frequently 'twiddle the knobs' on a Sunday evening in the hope of hearing some ringing, and if there is any I probably get the correct station just before the ringing ceases.—Yours, etc.,

E. T. PAUL FIELD.

Bleak House, Alton Pancras, Dorchester.

BACK NUMBERS

Dear Sir,—Following the example set by two people recently, I shall be glad if you will make it known that I have a number of spare copies of 'The Ringing World' for 1935 and 1936; and I shall be glad to send these (so long as they last) to any who care to ask for them, enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope.

In return, I wonder if anyone can supply me with a copy of the issue dated November 28th, 1941? For this I should be most grateful.—Yours faithfully,

L. K. BOWLING (Miss),

27, Ancaster Road, Leeds 6.

(Continued from previous column.)
steeplejack who would be pleased to see the weathercock, may not be theirs! Most vergers are advanced in years, while many of them suffer from some physical disability which only permits them to do a verger's work on the ground floor of a church, and I do think it is unfair to rebuke them because of an isolated matter as complained of. It is asking a lot of these elderly gentlemen to ascend sometimes a hundred steps to unlock a door.
H. GUMMER, Ringing Captain.
Steeple Ashton, Wilts.

Bath and Wells Association

CARY DEANERY BRANCH.

The annual meeting of Cary Deanery Branch was held on January 25th at the Church of St. James, Castle Cary, attended by 50 ringers, representing the towers of Barton St. David, Batcombe, Bruton, Castle Cary, Ditchat, Evercreech, Horsington, Maperton, North Cadbury, North Cheriton, South Cadbury, Templecombe and Wincanton, with visitors from Bath, Chilcompton, Drayton, Longbridge Deverell, Semley, Warminster and Yeovil.

The Vicar (Prebendary Kempe) welcomed the ringers.

At the business meeting the Rev. J. F. Holt (Batcombe) was unanimously elected president and the following officers re-elected: Mr. H. C. Lintern, secretary; Mr. H. J. Sanger, Ringing Master; Mr. H. P. Sparks, Deputy Ringing Master. Four new ringing members were elected.

The secretary, in a resumé of the year's activities, stated that at the four meetings held there had been an average attendance of 41; four honorary members and 24 new ringing members had been elected. A hearty welcome was extended to a very old member of the branch, Mr. Jack Norris, who had recently recovered from a serious accident. Mr. Norris, who is 80, has been a ringer at South Cheriton Church for 63 years.

Meetings were arranged as follows: South Cadbury, April 26th; Horsington, July 26th; Barton St. David, October 25th; with the annual at Wincanton on January 24th.

The tower was revisited, all classes were catered for and ringing continued until 8.45 p.m.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

DORCHESTER BRANCH'S GOOD REPORT.

The annual meeting of the Dorchester Branch was held at Dorchester on January 18th, and was attended by over 80 members and friends. The bells of St. Peter's (8) and St. George's, Fordington (6) were available from 3 p.m. onwards, and good use was made of both towers.

The Guild service was conducted by the branch chairman (Canon A. W. Markby), and the address given by the Ven. J. C. Shute.

The general meeting followed the tea in St. Peter's Institute, when it was stated that the branch membership had increased to 169, of whom 139 were ringing members. The meeting was honoured by the attendance of the Master of the Guild, the Rev. C. C. Cox, who congratulated the branch on its enthusiasm.

The secretary, in her annual report, mentioned with regret the passing of the Rev. R. H. Gundry, a former Master of the Guild. One tower (Wyke Regis) had been reopened and already a peal of Bob Major had been rung there, and it was hoped that the new ring of six at Martinstown would be ready early in the summer.

The Ven. J. C. Chute stated that he hoped soon to have the bells of Puddlehinton in ringing order.

Re-elections were as follows: Chairman, Canon A. W. Markby; vice-chairman, Canon D. F. Smeck; Ringing Master, Mr. F. Precey. Mrs. Godley, the hon. secretary and treasurer, not wishing to continue in office, Mr. J. H. Hayne was elected to the post, and Mr. F. V. Stedman was elected Deputy Ringing Master in place of Mr. Hayne, who had held this office during the past year. Twenty-one new ringing members, five associate members and one honorary member were elected.

It was suggested that meetings be held at the following towers during 1947: Wyke Regis, Buckland Newton, Martinstown, Charminster, and West Lulworth, final arrangements to be made by the secretary.

Votes of thanks were expressed to all who had helped in any way to make the service and meeting so helpful and enjoyable.

Guildford Guild

MR. R. HASTED RETIRES FROM MASTERSHIP OF FARNHAM DISTRICT.

For nearly 20 years Ringing Master of the Farnham District, Mr. R. Hasted, captain of the Farnham tower, has retired. At the annual meeting of the district on January 25th a copper beech walking stick bearing an inscribed silver band and a testimonial, which stated that the gift was made 'in gratitude and affection' by ringing members of the branch, was presented to him.

Mr. W. A. Dollimore, in making the presentation, said they wished him many years of continued interest in bell-ringing and hoped that with the aid of that stick he would walk round to all the churches in the district to see how they were behaving.

Mr. A. J. Stedman presided at the meeting, attended by 80 ringers. The annual report, presented by Mr. C. W. Denyer, stated that the standard of ringing at the five meetings held was somewhat disappointing. He appealed for extra effort to ensure ringing for all services on Sundays, the first duty of ringers.

The condition of certain bells and bell frames in the area was rather worrying. Some work was necessary at Bagshot and at Ash, and attention was necessary to ensure that the bells were kept going. The bells at Hawley were in a poor state, but there was little prospect of repairs there at the moment.

There were two candidates for Ringing Master—Mr. C. W. Denyer and Mr. W. H. Viggers. The former was elected by ballot. Other officers elected were: Hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. S. G. Joyce; to Guild Executive, Mr. P. Eldridge and Mr. W. H. Viggers (ringing), Mr. W. A. Dollimore (honorary). It was decided to support the nomination of the following Guild officers: Mr. A. Harman (Master), Mr. G. L. Grover (hon. secretary), Mr. J. Corbett (hon. treasurer) and Mr. R. Hasted (auditor).

Meetings during the year will be at Crow-dall, Hawley, Bentley, Bagshot and Ash.

The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. N. Selby-Lowndes). District members attended from Ash, Aldershot, Bentley, Seale, Farnham, Frensham, Yorktown, Farnborough and Bagshot, and visitors from Leatherhead, Croydon, Thames Ditton, Kingston, Guildford (Cathedral and St. Nicolas'), Alton, Pirbright, Godalming, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, and Clandon.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

MEETING AT PUDSEY.

When the society held its first meeting of 1947 at Pudsey on February 1st an announcement was made that Canon C. C. Marshall's health showed continued improvement after his accident. The secretary was asked to send him the society's best wishes for his recovery.

The president was in the chair and members were present from Armley, Bat'ev, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Calverley, Drighlington, Guiseley, Headingley St. Chad, Idle, Pudsey and Shipley. Apologies for absence were received from Canon C. C. Marshall, Messrs. P. J. Johnson and F. Hutchinson.

Three new members were elected, viz., Miss Norma Bickerdike, Miss Mary Shearsmith, of Pudsey, and Mr. Donald Marshall, of Bradford Cathedral.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company was proposed by Mr. W. H. Senior and seconded by Miss L. K. Bowling, this was supported by Mr. John McGlenn, who said that although the weather conditions were cold, the welcome to Pudsey was as warm as ever. Mr. W. Barton acknowledged the thanks.

The next meeting is due to be held at Birstall on February 22nd.

Southwell Diocesan Guild

A DRAMATIC TERMINATION.

The annual meeting was held at Eastwood on February 1st, and ringers from Nottingham, Daybrook, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Greasley, Derby and members of the local band rang from 2.30 p.m., including rounds for the learners, followed by Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and Plain Bob, also Double Norwich, until 5 p.m.

After an excellent tea, arranged by Mr. J. Johnson, of Eastwood, the meeting was held. The Rev. Robert Leaney kindly acted as chairman, and gave a warm welcome to all present.

The election of officers was the chief item. A summary of the past year's ringing in the diocese was reviewed by Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., who gave some good advice and encouragement. The past year's performances, he said, had been praiseworthy, five scoring their first peal, while 39 scored their first in the method, a figure which he hoped would be improved upon in 1947.

Mr. Groombridge also added that while five-bell methods were recognised for peals, he did not care to see these practised where eight and ten bells were available, as it pointed more or less to peal grabbing.

In conclusion, Mr. J. Hobbs, of Watnall, gave some interesting information on the history of Eastwood bells. Ringing on hand-bells followed the talk, while the rest of the members indulged in further ringing in the tower until about 8.30 p.m.

The bells were lowered in a most unusual fashion. A few rounds were followed by a loud noise from above, which startled the man on the tenor and caused him to make straight for the door, leaving the rope swinging to and fro. The rope then lashed around the electric fittings, tearing the wiring and bulb away from the sockets and putting the tower in darkness. The rest of the band did their best to carry on. An exciting five minutes, ending up fortunately with no one the worse for the experience, only a job for the steep-keeper of replacing the clapper in the tenor bell! T.V.J.

MARRIAGE OF MR. ROLAND PARK

The hon. secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, Mr. Roland Park, of Darlington, was married on February 8th to Miss Irene Richardson in Darlington. Mr. Park has been secretary of the association since September 1st, 1936. He and his wife, however, are leaving the country for Venezuela on a tour of duty for the South American organisation of his firm. Mr. and Mrs. Park will be away for two years.

Until the next annual meeting of the Association, therefore, his brother, Mr. W. Norman Park, of 10a, Woodlands Terrace, Darlington, will take over the duties of secretary.

Mr. Park says that one of the things he will miss most during his absence is his connection with the Exercise. He intends to make up for it on his return.

Flementary Change Ringing

By F. F. RIGBY 3s. 6d.

A book to help the learner of Bell Ringing in the study of Change Ringing

S. P. C. K.

Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is *one penny per word*, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change, one half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTH

LEWIS.—On Feb. 2nd, at 306, Wylds Lane, Worcester, to Florence (née Johnson), wife of Thomas W. Lewis, a son (Roger Linden).

MARRIAGE

PARK — RICHARDSON. — On Saturday, Feb. 8th, 1947, Roland Park to Irene Richardson, both of Darlington.

LINCOLN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual at Spalding, Feb. 15th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea at British Restaurant at 3.45 p.m. Business meeting in Church School 4.45.

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Annual meeting St. Mary's, Reading, Feb. 15th. Bells 3. Service 4. Tea (1s. 3d.) 5.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN.—South and West District.—Annual meeting Chiswick, Saturday, Feb. 15th. Bells 3.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Annual business meeting following tea.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, 1, Listoke, Edgell Road, W.13 (Perivale 5320).

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—St. Albans District.—Practice meeting, Saturday, Feb. 15th, Barnet (8), from 3 p.m. Practice method: Yorkshire Surprise. Own tea arrangements (numerous cafes).—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec.

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOC.—Clifton, York, Feb. 15th, 2.30 p.m. Meeting in tower 4 p.m. Make own arrangements for tea.—T. H. Foster.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSN.—Northern Branch.—Meeting, Wordsley, 3, Saturday, Feb. 15th. Cups of tea 5 p.m.; bring own food.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

LADIES' GUILD.—South-Western District (Southern Division).—Meeting in conjunction with the Sussex C.A. at Chichester, Feb. 15th. Will lady ringers please attend if possible.—Mrs. G. W. Tamplin, Hon. Sec.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Lamberhurst (6), Feb. 15th, at 3 p.m.—R. Tappenden.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSN.—Cambridge District.—Stapleford (6), Feb. 15th. Bells, 3. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at Magpie Cafe 5 p.m. Please come and support your district meetings.—H. L. Martin.

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark Branch.—A hearty welcome awaits you at North Muskham to-morrow (Feb. 15th). Bells available 3. Food and drink provided. Come and support a new branch!!—J. W. Raithby.

BARKING, ESSEX.—Service ringing on Sunday mornings each month, 10 a.m., and weekly practices on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m., commencing Feb. 20th. All ringers welcomed.—A. W. Beard, Hon. Sec., 159, Clements Road, E.C.

ELY ASSN.—Ely District.—Willingham (6), Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—C. Gimbert, Sutton, Ely.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN.—Quarterly meeting, Bonvilston, Feb. 22nd. Bells (6) 2.30. Service at 4. Tea and business to follow.—F. J. Hannington.

LADIES' GUILD.—South-Eastern District (Eastern Division).—A meeting in conjunction with the Sussex County Association (Eastern Division) will be held at Christ Church, Eastbourne, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Names for tea not later than Feb. 17th. Will lady ringers please make an effort to attend?—Mrs. B. Percy, Hon. Sec., 5, Moy Avenue, Eastbourne.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Beckenham, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells (10) 3 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 6 p.m., Verney's Restaurant, High Street. Names for tea to Mr. W. J. Rawlings, 41, Monivea Road, Beckenham, Kent. Train 2.30, Victoria to Beckenham Junction.—E. E. Davis, Dis. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Annual, Christ Church, Eastbourne, Feb. 22nd, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea Pier Hotel, 3s. 6d. (members 1s. 9d.), 5.30. Names to Mrs. B. Percy, 5, Moy Avenue, Eastbourne, by Feb. 17th. St. Saviour's bells after tea.—John Downing, Hon. Sec.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Hathern (6), Feb. 22nd. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting Rectory. Bring own food.—C. W. Hall, Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSN.—North-Western district.—The annual district meeting will be held at Kingston on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Full particulars later.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDS ASSN.—Bedford District.—Meeting at Cardington (8), Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—Miss P. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Slough (8), Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 3 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 17th certain.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Warmley (6), Feb. 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—Miss M. P. Hilliar, 48, Kennington Avenue, Bristol 7.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSN.—Northern District.—St. James' and St. Basil's, Newcastle (8), Feb. 22nd, 3.30. Tea (2s.); names to K. Arthur, 29, Cherryburn Gardens, Newcastle, 4, by 17th.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon Branch.—Meeting at Alderminster (6 bells), 3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Cup of tea provided, but bring your own food.—A good attendance, please.—D. Stanley, Branch Sec.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Bawtry (6) 2.30 p.m., Feb. 22nd. Names for tea to W. E. Critchley, 21, Ashern Road, Bentley, Doncaster.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Axbridge Deanery.—Meeting at Shipham, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells (6) 6.30 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Saturday, Feb. 22nd, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, 3 p.m. Ringing, St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 4.30.—A. B. Peck.

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSN.—Derby District.—Monthly, Ilkeston, Feb. 22nd. Bells 2.30. Tea (2s.) 5. Names to Mr. F. Shaw, 38, Inglefield Road, Ilkeston, Feb. 19th latest. After tea, special business: formation Ilkeston District.—W. A. Parsons, Local Sec.

NORWICH ASSN.—West Norfolk Branch.—Meeting, Gaywood, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Room 5. Names, please to W. J. Eldred, 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOC.—

Meeting at Birstall, Feb. 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Members bring own food. Business meeting 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds, 12.

LEICESTER GUILD.—

Leicester District.—Knighton (5), Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Feb. 19th to W. J. Root, 8, The Portway, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—

Bolton Branch.—Meeting at All Souls', Bolton, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells available 2.30. Business meeting 6.30. Cups of tea provided.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—

Grappenhall Branch.—Meeting at Daresbury, Feb. 22nd. Names to Mr. S. Booth, Daresbury, for tea by the 19th.—J. E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—

Rossendale Branch.—Newchurch (8), Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—H. Parkinson.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSN.—

Hunts District.—The annual meeting at St. Neots, Saturday, Feb. 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Will arrange tea if possible. Cafes in town open otherwise.—H. J. Parker, Great Staughton, St. Neots

NORWICH ASSN.—

South Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting at Diss (8), Saturday, March 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. at the Waveney Cafe. Names by Feb. 26th. Special invitation to Suffolk ringers.—A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss.

SWANSEA & BRECON GUILD.—

Southern District.—Meeting Aberavon (8), March 1st, 3. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting follows.—E. Stitch, 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

KENT ASSN.—

Maidstone District.—Ightham (6), March 1st. Bells 2. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, London Road, Ditton, Maidstone.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—

The 59th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will take place on Saturday, March 1st, at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham. Dinner 6.30 p.m. prompt. Tickets to fully paid up ringing members 3s. each, to other members and friends 7s. 6d. each. As the number is strictly limited, early application for tickets, enclosing remittance, is requested, to T. H. Reeves,

The 'Houseling' and the 'Passing Bells'

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

In the Middle Ages, when a man fell grievously sick, the priest with bell, book and candle proceeded to the sick bed, lest he should die 'unhousell'd, disappointed, unanneal'd.' The 'houseling' bell, which is sometimes mentioned in the Edwardian Inventories, was a handbell carried in procession and rung when the Eucharist was borne to the sick person, that all might be warned of its approach and pay reverence, and might pray for the sick and dying person. In 1305 Archbishop Winchelsey issued a statute which, broadly speaking, remained in force until the Reformation, ordering parishes to provide certain vestments, chalice, etc., and among various items we find 'a bell to ring when the Body of Christ is carried to the sick.' In an Inventory of 1488 at St. Christopher-le-Stock, London, there is mentioned a 'cloth of gold . . . that serveth to bere over the Sacrament, with iiij bellis longyng thereto.' The parish of St. Michael, Cornhill, in 1469 purchased 'a little bell that ryngeth afore the sacrament.' Among the jewels belonging to 'owre Lady Church' at Sandwich in 1483 was 'a bell of sylver to be boryn with the Sacrament of IX ounces j quarter.' This bell was sometimes called the 'Houseling-bell' as at Great Gonerby, Lincs, in 1566, or a 'bossell-bell' as at Ilkeston.

Its use is referred to and condemned by Cramer in his Visitation Articles (1549):—'Item. That going to the sick with the Sacrament the minister have not with him either Light or Bells.' These handbells were also used in processions on the Rogation days, and notices of them as used for that purpose and similar are occasionally met with: at Addington, Surrey, in 1552 they possessed 'a Procession bell' and at Wattenbury were 'ij procession bells.' The Injunctions of Archbishop Grindal in 1571, whilst directing 'perambulation to be used by the people for viewing the bounds of their parish in the days of Rogation commonly called cross-week or Gangdays,' prohibit the wearing of the surplice by the minister, or the carrying of banners or handbells.

Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

OXFORD GUILD.—

North Bucks Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Twyford, Saturday, March 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 3.30. Names for tea by Feb. 22nd.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—

South Forest Branch.—Ruardean, Mar. 8th, 3.15. Dedication of memorial to Wm. Bishop by the Bishop of Gloucester, 4.15. Names for tea by March 3rd to Oliver Thomas, 11, Victoria Road, Lydney.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Two new treble bells, at the Parish Church, Mildenhall, will be dedicated by the Bishop of the diocese on Mar. 22nd. Fuller details later.—P. Fordham.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The two new treble bells at Allesley Parish Church, Warwickshire, will be dedicated by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Coventry on Saturday, March 22nd.

Naogeorgus in his 'Popish Kingdome' (1570), refers to the custom thus:—

'Saint John before the bread doth go, and poynting towards him
Doth shew the same to the Lambe that takes away our sinne.

On whome two clad in Angela shape, do sundrie flowers fling,

A number great of Sacring belles with pleasant sounde doe ringe.'

An inscription sometimes found on bells, as in Dorset and Somerset:—

'I sound to bid the sick repent

In hope and life when breath is spent.'

may be regarded as having reference to this period of man's career. Then comes the next stage in the sick man's pilgrimage on earth, the tolling of one of the church bells called the 'Passing Bell,' or sometimes the 'Soul Bell.'

'Toll the bell a solemn toll;

Slow and solemn let it be;

Cry for the departing soul,

"Misere Domine."

The ringing of the passing-bell, which is peculiar to England, is one of the earliest recorded uses to which the church bell was put in this country. The Venerable Bede, in relating the circumstances of the death of St. Hilda of Stranaeshalch (Whitby) in the year 680 says:—

'This nun on a sudden heard the well-known sound of a bell in the air, which used to awake and call them to prayers when any one of them was taken out of this world.'

Among the many objections of the Brownists, it is laid to the charge of the Church of England that though we deny the doctrine of Purgatory and teach the contrary, yet how well our practice suits with it may be considered in our ringing of hallowed bells for the soul. 'We call them,' says Bishop Hall, 'soul-bells, for that they signify the departure of the soul, not for that they help the passage of the soul.' The word 'passing' as here used signifies clearly the same as 'departing,' i.e., passing from life to death. So that even from the name we may gather that it was the intention in tolling a passing-bell to pray for the person dying, and who was not dead. The following clause in the 'Advertisements for due Order' in the 7th year of Queen Elizabeth is much to our purpose:—

'Item. that when anye Christian bodie is in passing, that the bell be tolled, and that the Curate be speciallie called for to comforte the sicke person: and after the time of his passage to ringe no more but one shorte peale and one before the buriall, and another short peall before the burialle.'

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

Despite the cold weather on January 25th, 100 ringers sat down to tea at the annual meeting of the Basingstoke District at Basingstoke.

Canon A. W. Chute, who conducted the Guild service at St. Michael's Church, presided, and the secretary reported a year of steady progress. Ninety-five members paid their subscriptions and those from one or two towers were too late for inclusion in 1946 accounts. With those members in the Forces the membership was well over 100.

Branch officers elected were: Chairman, Canon A. W. Chute; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Chesterman; executive committee, Messrs. C. J. Munday and W. Cift; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Ostler; hon. auditor, Mr. R. C. Flew. Eighteen new members were elected.

A hearty welcome home was given to those from H.M. Forces, and it was resolved to place on record those who had paid the supreme sacrifice from the district, viz., Donald Balaam and John Goldsmith (Wootton St. Lawrence), Ernest Hearnman (Vatelev), Ronald Kingham and Donald Nash (Basingstoke).

Both St. Michael's and All Saints' towers were visited during the afternoon and evening.

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