



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,763. Vol. XL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5th, 1945.

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&  
JOHNSTON L<sup>td.</sup>  
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**UNATTACHED MEMBERS.**

Most associations have a rather lengthy list of names of men who are styled 'unattached' members; which means, as a rule, that they are ringers living within the association's area and actively engaged in the art, but who do not belong to any local band, and have no responsibility for service ringing, or teaching, or any of the other duties which fall to the lot of those intimately connected with one particular belfry. This does not at first sight seem a very desirable thing. A territorial association does not exist for itself. It is essentially a federation of parochial bands, and its main object is to assist those bands to carry out their local duties and activities. The real strength of the association does not consist in the number of its individual members or in their skill as ringers, but in the success and prosperity of the local companies. Hence the loyalty an association receives from its members should be given not directly to itself but through the parochial band. A man should be, first, a member of his local company and, secondly, and mainly because he is a member of his local company, a member of his territorial association.

That is the theory, and it is very largely the general practice. It would be the universal practice if the ringing Exercise were organised in the same way that other bodies connected with the Church are. A man would have to join one particular parochial band if he wished to practise ringing, just as a man must join one particular church choir if he wishes to take part in church music. But the Exercise was never organised on a strictly parochial basis as church choirs necessarily are. In the olden times, in the villages and smaller towns which possessed but one ringing peal, there were, of course, local bands, but they hardly counted among the parochial organisations and, as a rule, had little to do with the parson and churchwardens; while in the large towns the ringers were frankly independent of the church authorities. The best of the societies were social and secular bodies, and the rest, so far as they had any organisation, were scroff bands which existed mainly for the paid ringing. In such circumstances 'unattached' ringers were not only a natural feature but an excellent and even necessary feature, for they included a large proportion of those men who practised ringing for its own sake and not just for what they got out of it.

Largely because leading ringers remain leading ringers for so many years, traditions persist in the Exercise far

(Continued on page 2.)

more than among men in general, and changes, when they come, come very slowly. The tendency during these last forty or fifty years has been increasingly towards the formation of parochial bands with the parson as the nominal head, and as part of the church organisation; but the old style is by no means extinct nor altogether obsolete. The 'unattached member' still exists, and it would not be fair to look on him as necessarily one who takes all he can get and gives nothing in return. Nevertheless his usefulness and his justification are passing away. Whatever may be the case with individuals, it is correct to say generally that every ringer ought to attach himself to one particular parochial band and undertake a fair share of its duties and responsibilities. The days are gone by when paid ringing was sufficient to keep together a band of sorts. To-day the only things which will maintain a company are love of the art of change ringing for its own sake and friendship and mutual regard among its members. The most successful bands usually have no formal organisation and need none, and there is always room for any decent man who wishes to join.

There are not many general reasons now why a man should be unattached. He may think he will lose a certain amount of liberty, but he can gain far more in the closer friendship and esteem of his fellow ringers, and he certainly will be doing more to help others.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

OXFORD.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,  
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

### A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

ALBERT DISERENS ... .. Treble	+WILLIAM JUDGE ... .. 7
WALTER F. JUDGE ... .. 2	+NEIL ALLNATT ... .. 8
*MISS VALHALLA HILL ... 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD ... 9
REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... 4	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON 10
VICTOR J. F. BENNETT ... 5	MAJ. J. H. R. FREEBORN 11
WILLIAM C. PORTER ... .. 6	RICHARD WHITE ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.  
\* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First peal on twelve bells.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.  
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 26, 1944, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... Treble	WILLIAM D. WASE ... 6
*FREDERICK PRICE ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. CHESTER ... 7
E. DENNIS POOLE ... .. 3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 8
JAMES FERNLEY ... .. 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... 9
THOMAS PRICE ... .. 5	*JOHN N. LINDON ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.  
\* First peal on ten bells.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 26, 1944, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

SIDNEY T. HOLT ... .. Treble	ALLAN MORGAN ... .. 6
WALTER H. RAXTER ... .. 2	*ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... 7
REGINALD WOODYATT ... 3	JOHN J. JEFFERIES ... .. 8
GEORGE E. LARGE ... .. 4	CHARLES J. CAMM ... .. 9
WILLIAM LEWIS ... .. 5	WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.  
\* First peal on ten bells.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

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

VICARS' SIX-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

*WILLIAM NEWTON ... .. Treble	GEORGE DYSON ... .. 5
BERNARD MOODY ... .. 2	JOHN H. LENTON ... .. 6
FRED NEWTON ... .. 3	PTE. CHARLES BROWN ... 7
WILLIAM TATE ... .. 4	ARTHUR HECKINGBOTTOM Tenor

Conducted by J. H. LENTON.

\* First peal.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 20, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 16½ cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY ... .. Treble	ARTHUR LINTOTT ... .. 5
PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... .. 2	THOMAS W. HESKETH ... 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... .. 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER ... .. 7
FREDERICK S. ALMOND ... 4	FRANK VARTY ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 23, 1944, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

### A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 7½ cwt.

ERIC B. HARTLEY ... .. Treble	VERNON J. BENNING ... 5
RALPH BIRD ... .. 2	†DENNIS L. HALL ... .. 6
*WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 3	ALAN G. HALL ... .. 7
PHILIP A. CORBY ... .. 4	JAMES E. BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 400). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

\* First peal of Treble Bob on tower bells. † First peal of Major.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 23, 1944, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

### A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CORPL. W. PERKINS ... Treble	ANDREW THOMPSON ... 5
EDWARD STEELE ... .. 2	ARTHUR W. HALL ... .. 6
*WILLIAM EDWARDS ... .. 3	JOHN G. CARLIDGE ... .. 7
WILLIAM CARNWELL ... 4	CHARLES H. PAGE ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by J. G. CARLIDGE.  
\* First peal on eight bells.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 23, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

*TOM PAGE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM F. J. COPE ... 5
JOHN W. BEST ... .. 2	*HAROLD A. NOBES ... .. 6
*JOHN H. HUNT ... .. 3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT 7
*PATRICK PAGE ... .. 4	WALTER J. COPE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. BURNETT.

\* First peal of Triples.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 24, 1944, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

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

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE H. SPICE ... Treble	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 5
BETTY SPICE ... .. 2	JOHN E. SPICE ... .. 6
*VERNON J. BENNING ... 3	WALTER H. DOBBIE ... 7
GEORGE KENWARD ... .. 4	GEORGE WOOD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

\* First peal in the method.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 26, 1944, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt. in D.

WILLIAM T. BEESON ... Treble	GEORGE L. GROVER ... 5
VALHALLA V. H. HILL ... 2	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS 6
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3	GEORGE W. STEERE ... 7
CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT...Tenor

Composed by THOMAS BLOOR. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

MANCHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 26, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, MILES PLATTING.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 12 lb.

*LAURENCE WARD ... Treble	ALAN J. BROWN ... 5
CECIL AUSTIN ... 2	JOHN WORTH ... 6
†ALAN A. POTTS ... 3	FRANK REYNOLDS ... 7
Mrs. C. W. LAWTON ... 4	DAVID VINCENT ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major away from treble.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... Treble	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 5
GEORGE M. KILBY ... 2	HARRY KILBY ... 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 3	FREDERICK A. FINCH ... 7
FREDERICK G. BALDWIN 4	ARTHUR HARDING ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Rung to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the church.

ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

*RAYMOND A. CLIST ... Treble	†WILLIAM H. VIGGERS ... 5
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 2	GEORGE L. GROVER ... 6
WILLIAM J. BENNISON ... 3	CORPL. C. F. ANDREWS 7
C. ERNEST SMITH ... 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

\* First peal. † First peal in the method.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*ANNA SELLORS ... Treble	GEORGE KENWARD ... 5
BETTY SPICE ... 2	JOHN E. SPICE ... 6
VERNON J. BENNING ... 3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE ... 7
†S. JOHN HATCHER ... 4	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT...Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

\* First peal on tower bells. † First peal of Triples.

LITTLEPORT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES,

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM BECKENHAM ... Treble	WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 5
*REV. JOHN P. PELLOE ... 2	FRANK WARRINGTON ... 6
*PHILIP A. CORBY ... 3	CLAUDE COUSINS ... 7
†ERNEST H. MASTIN ... 4	*RONALD H. BULLEN ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

\* First peal of Oxford. † First peal of Treble Bob.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ST. IVES, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

On Sat., Dec. 23, 1944, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.	Tenor 12 cwt.
*JOHN P. STOCKER ... Treble	L.A.C. ERIC NOBLES ... 4
†HERBERT W. PRATT ... 2	LESLIE W. FISHER ... 5
JOHN PERKINS ... 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.

\* First peal. † First inside.

WOLLASTON, STOURBRIDGE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 26, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of York, London, Cambridge, Oxford and Kent, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.	Tenor 12½ cwt.
*CHARLES RICHARDS ... Treble	JOHN BASS ... 4
†SIDNEY THOMPSON ... 2	HAROLD COOPER ... 5
*FREDERICK HANDLEY ... 3	†SAMUEL THOMPSON ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD COOPER.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor inside. Rung for the wedding of Miss Brenda Hayward and Mr. Alfred W. Brown.

WYCHBOLD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-WYCHE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.	Tenor 11½ cwt.
WALTER H. RAXTER ... Treble	GEORGE E. LARGE ... 4
ALLEN MORGAN ... 2	REGINALD WOODYATT ... 5
DENIS R. MORRIS ... 3	GEORGE AMBLER ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEPULCHRE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.	Tenor 9½ cwt. in G sharp.
*MRS. GEORGE SAYER ... Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN ... 4
REV. A. G. G. THURLOW 2	*GEORGE SAYER ... 5
*ERNEST G. SHORTING ... 3	HENRY TOOKE ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 23, 1944, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Seven extents.	Tenor size 15.
EDWIN JENNINGS ... 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 3-4	*CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7-8

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.

\* First peal of Surprise on handbells.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 24, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,  
AT 202, FOSSE ROAD SOUTH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5111 CHANGES;

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.	Tenor size 15 in C.
*MISS JILL POOLE ... 1-2	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 5-6
†GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS... 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS ... 7-8
*Mrs. C. WM. POWELL ... 9-10	

Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal of Caters in the method on handbells. Rung for the christening of Roger Ashley Black, great-grandson of Mr. Josiah Morris.

## THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.

(Continued from page 525.)

Mancroft Bob.	Sandringham Bob.
12345678	12345678
21436587	21435768
24135678	24137586
42315768	42315768
24351786	24351786
23457168	42537168
32547618	24357618
23456781	23456781
<hr/>	
32547681	32547681
23456718	35246718
32546178	53426178
35241687	35241687
53214678	53214678
35124768	35126487
31527486	31524678
13254768	13254768
<hr/>	
13527486	13527486
31254768	31257846
32157486	32158764
23517846	23517846
32571864	32571864
35278146	23758146

etc.

From Double Mancroft Bob, by a simple rule of variation we get three more methods, all of them valuable and interesting.

When we examine the lead of Mancroft we find that in the first four changes while the treble is hunting from the lead to fourths, the four hind bells take first one step of forward hunting and then two steps of backward hunting, as shown by A. It is obvious that if, instead, they first take two steps of backward hunting, and then one step of forward hunting, the final result will be the same. In place of A we shall get B.

A.	B.
5678	5678
6587	5768
5678	7586
5768	5768

Putting it in another way, handstroke Fifths place can be made in the first change instead of in the third.

A similar variation is possible below the treble on the four bells in 1-2-3-4, when the treble is hunting from fifths to behind. Fourth place may be made in the seventh change of the lead instead of in the fifth.

C.	D.
2435	2435
2345	4253
3254	2435
2345	2345

Any variation made in the first half of the lead must be balanced by a complementary variation in the second half.

B above the treble and D below will give us Double Sandringham Bob.

B above the treble and C below will give us Halifax Bob.

A above the treble and D below will give us Shrewsbury Bob.

A above the treble and C below is, of course, Mancroft Bob.

In construction these four methods are very closely related. So they are to Coslany Court and, through that method, to Double Norwich, but for the practical purposes of the belfry, not only do the four introduce features into the ringing which are quite foreign to the Plain Major methods hitherto known to the Exercise, but each of them is in practice a distinct method with well marked characteristics. These qualities are obtained by using in the plain course much the same rows as are contained in the plain course of Double Norwich. The music, therefore, is good, though it lacks the excellence of that in Double Norwich. In methods of all classes excellence is mostly a matter of compromise. If we require difficulty we must to some extent sacrifice music.

To study the work of a single bell it is well to draw out a skeleton course and compare it carefully with the lead set down in figures. A detailed description is not needed here, but we may point out that a leading feature of this group of methods is the frequency of single blows in various positions, after which a bell retraces its path in much the same manner it does in simpler methods after a place is made. This feature adds in a large measure to the complexity and difficulty of the ringing.

The lead-ends of the four methods are the same as those of Bob Major, and consequently the whole of the great range of compositions in that method is available.

Halifax Bob.	Shrewsbury Bob.
12345678	12345678
21435768	21436587
24137586	24135678
42315768	42315768
24351786	24351786
23457168	42537168
32547618	24357618
23456781	23456781
<hr/>	
32547681	32547681
23456718	35246718
32546178	53426178
35241687	35241687
53214678	53214678
35126487	35124768
31524678	31527486
13254768	13254768
<hr/>	
13527486	13527486
31257846	31254768
32158764	32157486
23517846	23517846
32571864	32571864
35278146	23758146

These four methods, with Coslany Court, show us what a great change is produced just by adding the handstroke Court Shunt (Fifths and Fourth) to the backstroke Court Shunts of Double Norwich. In theory there are in each half-lead three positions in which handstroke Court Shunts can be made—Thirds and Seconds, Fifths and Fourth, Seventh and Sixth—and the question naturally presents itself, What practical use can we make of the first and last? The answer is, not very much. William Shipway did produce a method which is constituted by the maximum number of Court Shunts, handstroke and backstroke. He published it in his book and rang two or three peals of it under the name of Place Major and Caters. He, of course, was not thinking

about Court Shunts or anything of that sort of thing. That way of looking at method construction was quite foreign to the ideas of his time and for long afterwards.

Place Major.	X.
12345678	12345678
21354768	21354768
23157486	23157486
23517846	32514768
32571864	23541786
35278164	32457168
53728614	23547618
57382641	32456781
<hr/>	
75836241	23547681
78563214	32456718
87653124	23546178
86751324	32451687
68715342	23415678
68175432	32146587
61874523	31245678
16847253	13254768
<hr/>	
16482735	13527486
61428375	31572846
64123857	35178264

His aim was to make as many places as possible next to the path of the treble, and by doing so he found he had a method in which the working bells hunted continuously backwards without a dodge throughout the course. The defect of the method was that the bells coursing next before and after the treble had to lead or lie for three consecutive blows. Place Major therefore is not a good

method—not one, in fact, that ringers would practise nowadays; but is it possible to use the handstroke Court Shunt in 2-3 and avoid the three consecutive blows? It is possible in some circumstances, but the resulting methods will not be very good ones. The Shunt made in 6-7 is still less useful.

The method marked X is an example of how it is possible to use the handstroke Court Shunt in 2-3 and avoid the three consecutive blows on the lead. The method is produced by adding the Shunt to Double Oxford Bob. In its natural form it would cause the two bells (2, 3) in 1-2 to lie still in the third change of the lead, but the complementary Shunt in the second half-lead would cause the same pair to lie still, and so we may omit all this place making. The correct lead-end is brought up, but the bells concerned do a 5-pull dodge on the front in reverse order, and we get 7, 8 at backstroke instead of 8, 7. That is not very agreeable. The work of the bells above the treble, however, is interesting.

(To be continued.)

**THE EFFECT OF A RULE.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am sorry to see that a chance word, 'rank,' was understood to be offensive (it was not used for that purpose). May I hurriedly correct by priding myself that I am a member who would prefer to abide by the rules of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. Regarding the drifting away from any society, I can only see that the drifters are those who, rather than 'put their shoulder to the wheel' for the society's betterment, choose more limelight for their own selfish ends. In any case, they are certainly not a loss to any society, and if all were tarred with the same brush the Exercise would not be long in becoming extinct. I have many good friends in the College Youths, but I will never be a turncoat. The rule in question certainly leaves us no doubt as to who are loyal members to their own society. College Youths and Cumberlands can always ring peals together if they wish.

Burnham, Bucks.

GEORGE GILBERT.

# John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

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MUFFLES,  
Etc.

### 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of  
Church Bell Ringers.

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*Hon. Secretary of the Council:* GEORGE W. FLETCHER.  
The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.  
*Treasurer of 'The Ringing World':* A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,  
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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Guildford, Surrey.

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C. W. Fletcher,  
The White House,  
Caister-on-Sea,  
Norfolk.

#### TO SECRETARIES OF ASSOCIATIONS.

All Notices and small advertisements must be prepaid.  
Remittances must be sent with advertisement to the  
Editor.

Peal compositions in which every course is called differently are  
few, and those (if there are any) which have been rung fewer still.  
The one, however, called by Mr. Ernest Turner at Acton last Satur-  
day had this quality.

The 720 Bob Minor rung at St. Margaret's, Leicester, for the 7 a.m.  
service was by the Morris family. It included 1 grandfather, 3  
fathers, 3 sons, 1 daughter, and 1 granddaughter.

#### MR. C. F. JOHNSTON.

At a recent Court of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers in  
London, Mr. Cyril F. Johnston was re-elected Master for 1945.

#### DEATH OF MR. A. L. COLEMAN.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Arthur L. Coleman, which  
occurred on December 26th in his 83rd year. 'He had been failing for  
some months,' writes Mr. C. E. Borrett, 'but wrote me a note on  
December 21st asking me to lend him a book and hoping to see me  
soon.'

Mr. Coleman was the son of the Rev. H. J. Coleman, Rector of  
Westwick, one of the founders of the Norwich Diocesan Association,  
and godson of the Rev. G. H. Harris, the real founder of the society.  
In his younger days, while living at Rugby, he founded the Warwick-  
shire Guild, and in 1916 succeeded Mr. Borrett as secretary of the  
Norwich Diocesan Association. For many years he represented that  
body on the Central Council. He was an engineer by profession and  
compiled many tables relating to the weights, diameters and notes  
of bells, some of which we published not long ago. He was buried  
very quietly at Aylmerton on December 29th.

#### THE LIBERTY BELL.

Mr. Bernard Samuel, Mayor of Philadelphia, has declined the offer  
by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, of London, to recast Philadelphia's  
cracked Liberty Bell, which the foundry cast in 1752. 'The bell is a  
symbol to 138,000,000 Americans, and the people do not want it  
changed,' he said.

#### WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.

##### MEETING AT NEW ALRESFORD.

A practice meeting of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan  
Guild was held at New Alresford on Saturday, December 16th.  
Visitors from various towers in the Winchester and Southampton  
Districts attended. Methods rung included Grandsire, Stedman and  
Oxford Bob Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich  
and Cambridge Surprise.

**MR. JAMES E. DAVIS.****FUNERAL AT STREATHAM.**

As we briefly announced last week, Mr. James E. Davis passed away on Christmas Day at 8 o'clock in the morning. The end was sudden and unexpected, for only on the Saturday before he had attended a practice at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and taken part in touches of Stedman Caters and Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Royal. He was in his seventy-eighth year.

The funeral was on Saturday at Streatham Park Cemetery, and the mourners were Mrs. Davis (widow), Victor and Cecil Davis (sons), Emily (daughter), and Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle (brother-in-law and sister-in-law). The ringers present were H. Belcher, C. T. Coles, A. A. Hughes, H. Hoskins, W. H. Hewett, H. Langdon, Mrs. Cecil Matthews and R. Sanders.

In the afternoon at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by Messrs. H. Belcher, H. Hoskins, W. H. Hewett (conductor), A. A. Hughes, C. T. Coles, R. Sanders, C. W. Roberts and R. F. Deal.

The band included members of the Society of College Youths, the Society of Cumberland Youths and the Middlesex, Surrey, Kent and Essex Associations.

At the meeting of the College Youths later in the afternoon reference was made to Mr. Davis' passing.

Mr. James E. Davis was born at Bermondsey on May 1st, 1867, and learnt to handle a bell at St. George's, Camberwell. Shortly afterwards he went to live at Deptford, where he joined the band at St. John's and began his change ringing. His first peal, one of Grandsire Triples, was at St. John's on April 19th, 1891, and his first peal as conductor, in the same method, was at Putney on January 5th, 1893. The composition was Holt's Original. At that time most of the ringers in the South London towers belonged to the Waterloo Society, and of that body Mr. Davis became first secretary and then Master. The meetings were for long held at St. John's, Waterloo Road, but afterwards were transferred to St. John the Divine, Vassal Road, Kennington, one of the churches destroyed in the early air raids. Not long after the move the society faded away, but Mr. Davis maintained the practices at Waterloo Road, where he became the unofficial leader of an unorganised band which was very active in peal ringing up to the outbreak of the last war. Peals in what was then a large number of methods were rung. They included Double Norwich, Oxford Treble Bob, Superlative, Cambridge, New Cambridge, Bristol, London and Brighton Surprise, Forward, Duffield and Waterloo Reverse Bob. Mr. Davis called many of these peals and Mr. Frank Bennett most of the others. The peal ringing at St. John's was only a part of the activities of the band. They visited many belfries, not only in the Metropolitan area, but further afield, especially in Kent. Before these things happened Mr. Davis took part in a peal of which he was always proud, Holt's Original non-conducted at Waterloo Road. In all he rang 117 peals on those bells, usually at the tenor.

Concurrently with his work at St. John's, Waterloo Road, Mr. Davis was closely connected with St. Margaret's, Westminster, where at one time he was steeplekeeper, and where he rang over 70 peals. After the last war he was put in charge of the belfry of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, which he made one of the leading centres of ringing in London. For a time it was the most prolific peal ringing tower in the country, and nearly all the peals were in Surprise methods, some of them outside the standard group. To make this large amount of peal ringing possible in a prominent City street, Mr. Davis invented his 'silencer,' which consisted of leather pads to enclose the clapper with metal faces to do away with the distinctive muffled sound. These silencers have been adopted in other towers in different parts of the country. Mr. Davis still held his position at Bishopsgate at the time of his death.

Before the last war and after, Mr. Davis was one of those men William Pye relied on to make up his bands for peals, especially for twelve-bell peals. Among the performances he took part in with Pye were the record length of Cambridge Surprise Royal, 10,400 changes

**MR. JAMES E. DAVIS**

at Walthamstow on December 26th, 1923, and the 7,392 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at St. Mary-le-Bow on December 19th, 1925. This was perhaps William Pye's best performance as a heavy bell ringer.

Mr. Davis rang 1,131 peals in all and conducted 264. His 1,000th was at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on November 27th, 1933. We hope to give more details of his peal ringing next week.

In his early manhood Mr. Davis joined the Army and served in the South African War, receiving both Queen Victoria's and King Edward's medals. He joined up again in the Great War and served in the Royal Engineers, holding the rank of quartermaster-sergeant. He also held King George the Fifth's Coronation Medal, being one of those who rang the almost unringable bells at Westminster Abbey.

**MESSRS. GILLETT AND JOHNSTON.**

On Wednesday, December 20th, a farewell dinner was given to those employees of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., who had joined the Home Guard, by Capt. Cyril F. Johnston, the managing director. The party was held in the works canteen, and sixty members and a few visitors sat down to dinner prepared by the canteen staff.

The visitors included Lt.-Col. G. H. Ward (Commander, 60th Battalion), Major J. H. Winston, Lieut. J. H. Milsted and Lieut. G. Brake. Col. A. Keevil, commander of A Sector, was unable to attend.

Capt. C. F. Johnston, in giving the toast of 'The Home Guard,' congratulated Col. Keevil on His Majesty's conferring on him the honour of C.B.E. and on Col. Ward of the O.B.E. He mentioned that 55 of the employees volunteered for the L.D.V.'s as far back as July, 1940, which later were renamed the H.G.'s. Altogether 101 employees of the firm had joined the Home Guard since the beginning, almost all of whom had served either in the 59th or the 60th Battalions.

Col. Ward, responding, paid a high tribute to Col. Keevil, whose devotion to duty had all through been an inspiration and an example to the officers, N.C.O.'s and men under his command. Col. Ward spoke with great pride of the 60th Battalion, which he believed had been one of the most efficient in the country. Thanking Capt. Johnston, he said, in reference to the O.B.E., that he regarded this as given to the Battalion. He was merely the instrument and it was his high privilege to hold it on behalf of the Battalion. He thanked the officers, N.C.O.'s and men from the bottom of his heart for their loyalty and support.

The toast of 'The Visitors' was given in jesting mood by Private F. C. W. Stevenson. Responses came from Major J. H. Winston and from Lieut. J. H. Milsted.

The Chairman asked those who had gone over to the 'Ack Ack' to stand, and the count showed that fifteen of them were present, who were then toasted by the remainder of the assembled company.

A concert followed, during which Capt. Johnston gave selections of airs and ballads on handbells. The rest of the time was given over to community singing, and the whole evening was marked by the greatest enthusiasm and fun.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT ST. ALBANS.**

The annual meeting of the St. Albans District of the Hertford County Association was held at St. Albans on December 16th. The bells of the Cathedral, which have been replaced in the steeple, were rung during the afternoon, and the service, conducted by the Rev. A. M. Fergusson, was at St. Peter's.

After tea, arranged by the younger local ringers, the business meeting was held, at which Mr. Walter Ayre presided. Messages from Capt. G. E. Debenham (India) and H. V. Frost (M.E.F.) were read. Four of the Hatfield band were promoted from probationer to full member, and two elections previous to a peal were ratified. The appointment of a ringing master to relieve the secretary of that duty was approved.

The hon. secretary reported that two towers had been re-affiliated, leaving only Kimpton unattached, nine meetings with an average attendance of 27 had been held, and there had been regular ringing at most of the towers. Four peals had been rung, two on tower bells and two on handbells. The officers elected were: Hon. secretary, Mr. R. W. Darvill; deputy secretary, Mr. H. J. Hazell; Ringing Master, Mr. A. Day; committee, Messrs. A. Day, A. Lawrence, H. J. Hazell and A. Howkins and Mrs. Fergusson, the first two to serve also on the General Committee.

During the evening there was ringing at St. Peter's.

**DEATH WHILE RINGING.**

An inquest was held on December 18th at Packington, Leics., on Herbert Hatton (67), a farmer, who collapsed and died while ringing at the induction of his new vicar. The Coroner, Mr. H. J. A. Deane, said that Mr. Hatton had not done any bellringing for 20 years, but thought he could do at 67 what he could at 47 or 57.

**MUFFLED RINGING.**

On December 23rd, the bells of St. Peter's, Chertsey, were rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Hessey, the wife of Mr. John B. Hessey.

## HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE.

(Continued from page 516.)

The majority of the twenty-nine rules in Ellacombe's code relate to paid ringing, but one or two are interesting as referring to customs which were usual at the time among village bands. One said that 'when any person (man, woman, or child—rich or poor) is lying dead' within a specified area, 'the bells, out of respect to the feelings of the friends of the deceased, should be silent.' That was a very old custom common to most parts of the country. We have never come across any traces of it in the Eastern Counties, but William Laughton has a reference to it at Greenwich in the early eighteenth century. It survived in Devon until recent years, and it may not yet have died out. For obvious reasons it could not be observed in the towns so strictly as in the villages.

Another rule said that 'after the funeral of any one of our body, we agree to ring a muffled peal without any pay. And after the funeral of any good Christian in the full Communion of the Church, we agree to ring a muffled peal when requested to do so by the relatives through the minister. And, when the parties are unable to give anything, it shall be freely done by us as a work of Christian love and charity.'

Ellacombe and the men who thought as he did held very decided opinions about what they called the profanation of the bells by ringing for secular reasons. 'The use of the bells,' he ordained, 'is to be confined strictly to ecclesiastical purposes, as they were always intended to be: that is they are not to be rung for any political matters, such as elections; nor lawsuits, or trials, or suchlike; nor for any clandestine or run-away marriages, nor marriages elsewhere than in church, nor for prizes; nor to be fired or clashed, excepting twelve rounds on the 5th of November evening; if they are, the whole of the thirty shillings will be withheld; nor for any unusual special purpose, without first obtaining the consent of the minister and one churchwarden, which the foreman is to do before he gives any notice to the ringers.' This last clause is emphasised by italics and capitals.

One rather wonders why Ellacombe objected so strongly to firing the bells. It can hardly have been on musical grounds, though that would have been a justification. The reason, no doubt, was that firing was associated with those expressions of feeling on political and social matters which he condemned. By allowing the bells to be fired twelve times (but only twelve times) on Guy Fawkes Day he made a concession to the feelings of his parishioners which he probably would gladly have avoided if he had thought it advisable. He evidently considered the matter very important, for it is referred to a second time in another rule—'The Bells are not to be rung improperly, nor in any other way than the usual mode of ringings (except in the case of fire), nor are the bells to be fired or clashed excepting on the 5th of November, twelve rounds in the evening.'

Ellacombe liked to think that the 'profanation' of bells by using them to express popular feeling on political and other secular matters was an abuse of fairly recent origin, and one which contrasted strongly with the sacred and devotional uses of pre-Reformation times; but there is evidence that he was mistaken. When in 1524 all the bells of London rang 'at the triumph for the taking of the French king by commandment of the

mayor' it was certainly done to express the disagreement of the citizens and merchants of London with the policy of the English government, who were then supporting the French.

The band Ellacombe drew up his rules for was quite evidently a round ringing band, and though they may have practised stoney, they certainly were not change ringers. There is indeed in Ellacombe's early writings no indication that he knew anything about change ringing or had ever come across it. The qualifications necessary to gain admittance to the belfry and to become a ringer are laid down in one of the rules—'No person shall be considered a ringer qualified to share any of the money given to us, until he is able to raise and fall his bell in proper time and place, and ring one peal of changes. And before any person is taken into our company, his name shall be given to the minister and churchwardens, and if he is approved by them, he shall pay to our fund two shillings and sixpence as entrance money; after which we will endeavour to teach him.' Another rule said that 'none but the ringers or their substitutes should handle the bells. And the foreman is not to allow any idle corner-youths of the place to be with the company of ringers in the belfry.' It was all an attempt to break the old universal tradition by which ringers elected the men they thought fit to fill any vacancies in their company with no interference by any outside person. It is the custom which still obtains, and however much Ellacombe might denounce it as destructive of the proper authority of the parson and the churchwardens, it was and is the best possible way.

Ellacombe's code of rules was copied by many reforming parsons in different parts of the country with, of course, many modifications. It strongly influenced the 'Model Code of Rules, suitable for a Company of Ringers' issued by the Central Council in 1902. That code was mainly the work of Henry Earle Bulwer, but nominally of a committee, consisting of F. E. Robinson, R. S. Story, R. A. Daniell, and A. T. King. Under these rules the parson was to be supreme and the head-ringer was to be responsible to him for keeping the ringers in order. The ringers were to elect new members to the band, but they had to be subject to the approval and confirmation of the parson and formally admitted by him. Something like Ellacombe's endowment fund was recommended, with a yearly division of money and the deduction of fines which were not to go to the other ringers. Whether this code of rules was adopted by any company and how it worked we do not know.

When we ask the question whether Ellacombe's rules did any good, it is not easy to answer. Probably neither his code, nor any other code, ever did much good; for the simple reason that none is ever kept. A good band needs no rules. They can work, and generally do, under a loose arrangement which can be adapted to circumstances as they arise. They do not refrain from doing things because a rule says they must not do them, but because such things are not done. And they do things because they feel it is the thing to do, not because a rule says they must. On the other hand, no set of rules will restrain or influence a bad band.

Ellacombe's set of rules is important in the story of the reform movement of the last century, because it shows plainly what the reformers aimed at and what things they were trying to counteract.



**PEAL RINGING IN WAR TIME.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I quite agree with Mr. Post that I had missed the point he now makes regarding the special precautions one ought to take when one rings a peal in war time. Plainly I was justified in missing it, as it is quite irrelevant to the present discussion, which, so far, has solely concerned the morality of ringing peals in war time.

Apart from that, however, it was unwise of Mr. Post to pre-suppose that war-time peal-ringers are as negligent of their obligations to the general public as he appears to think. Some friends of mine, attempting a peal the other week in a tower which can be made into a veritable fortress if required, were stopped in the last few leads because the alert had been sounded. To get to the ringing room at this church one goes up a completely closed-in staircase, past two floors, and through at least one trap door. I can assure Mr. Post the person who stopped the ringing didn't drop through the roof.

Some other friends of mine were attempting a peal one evening last summer in a ground-floor ringing-room with the outside door wide open, and one of the band—a lion of the Exercise, well known to your readers—had to inform the many spectators in his politest terms that a little fresh air through the door would not be unacceptable.

Mr. Post may have forgotten that a few months you devoted a leading article to the advisability of taking precautions for ringing to be stopped if necessary, and at that time you advocated an abandonment of the 'locked-door' policy for the time being. I would be sorry to think that Mr. Post has evidence that the good advice given at that time has been completely ignored. At all events, if Mr. Post is worried about the locking-up aspect of peal ringing and does not feel that to ring a peal is of itself a sin, I would be more than happy to arrange a peal attempt for him if he should find himself in the near-London area, or better still in Cambridgeshire, within the next few weeks, and we shall either leave the door unlocked or else arrange for another ringer to lock us in and keep on the watch.

It is my opinion that without peals change ringing can never be fully awake, and during any period when peals are not being rung regularly the Exercise is asleep. One night this week, as I was cycling six miles to ring rounds on four bells for the benefit of learners, I reflected on Mr. Post's charge that I think that peals are the only interesting form of ringing. I need not burden you with my conclusions.

In my experience, I have found that peal ringers are for the most part the mainstay of Sunday service ringing. Certainly they are usually more useful in this connection than many of those gentlemen who, in spite of a life-long association with the belfry, exhibit but the slightest knowledge of change ringing, and less still of striking.

I agree with Mr. Post that, had there been a case to put, your correspondent 'B' put it well, but to my mind not one of your correspondents has proved that there is any case for not ringing peals in war time, provided local conditions are favourable, and we must be content for the parson to be the judge of that. I repeat my challenge—if you condemn war-time peals, why not condemn war-time meetings as well?

Herne Hill.

P. A. CORBY.

**THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.***To the Editor*

Dear Sir,—First a word of appreciation for the very interesting articles now appearing in your paper on the construction of various methods. They should be of value to all students, young or old.

The last instalment is the reason for this note. When perusing it I thought something looked familiar to me and was induced to turn up some of my old papers of some little time ago, when I had set out to find a Major method on the lines of Double Oxford, breaking up the long sequences in one position, but at the same time having the whole of the work in the front four places repeated on the back-four and thus completing the course in one journey. This I managed with the aid of the 4-5 shunt and the result was as given in your article as 'Mancroft.' At the time I thought this was such a good method for music and having the lead ends in the Bob Major order so that any peal in that method would serve, that I then tried if it could be adapted to Treble Bob. The result of that was that another really good Surprise method was produced having the same features and lead ends in the same order Bob Major peals doubled with singles again serving.

Now, until I saw your article, I had not seen these methods and still do not know if the Treble Bob one has a name, although I should think this is likely for the reason that when I tried what results would be obtained by leaving out 2nds and 7ths, the first gave 'Coslany' and the Treble Bob our old friend 'Bristol Surprise,' bearing out your remarks that they are related. It would be of interest if we could have the opinion of the author of Bristol on this subject as to which came first.

However, all this only goes to show how easy it is to find oneself on ground which has already been traversed, although approached from a different angle.

The above remarks do not mean that there are not yet problems that await solution. Here are two. First, find a principle (on the lines, say, of Stedman) capable of extension from Doubles to Cinques. Second, produce a ten or twelve-part peal of Grandsire Triples (similar to Parker's) or prove that neither is possible.

(Continued in next column.)

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.****REDEDICATION OF CHILVERS COTON BELLS.**

A meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Chilvers Coton on December 16th on the occasion of the rededication of the bells, which have been rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

The body of the church was completely destroyed in an air raid in May, 1941, and nearly £3,000 has been already contributed to a restoration fund.

The tower has been restored and the clock overhauled and re-started. The ringing floor has been removed and the ropes brought down to the ground. This, however, has not proved a success.

After the service in the parish hall, used temporarily as the church, the clergy and congregation moved to the ruins of the church, where, after a prayer of rededication, two courses of Stedman Triples were rung by J. E. Moreton 1, A. H. Beamish (conductor) 2, F. E. Pervin 3, Mrs. A. H. Beamish 4, J. Gibbons 5, D. H. Argyle 6, J. Draycott 7, E. Stone 8. This was followed by other ringing.

During the tea the Vicar asked for opinions regarding the bells, and several members urged the desirability of restoring the floor of the ringing chamber to its former position. The Vicar said that if the plans of the new church permitted, the belfry would be in its old place.

After tea there was handbell ringing, and in the tower most of the standard methods up to Bristol Surprise were rung. Over fifty members and friends were present, and the towers represented were Aillesley, Arley, Bedworth, Bulkington, Keresley, Polesworth, Stoke-in-Coventry, Rugby, Nuneaton, Wolvey and the local band.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT STURMINSTER NEWTON.**

The annual meeting of the North Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Sturminster Newton on December 16th, was attended by over 30 members from Sturminster, Ohilde Okeford, Shroton, Okeford Fitzpaine, Shillingstone, Iwerne Minster, Buckhorn Weston, Kington Magna, Gillingham, Lydlinch, Hazelbury Bryan, Stoke Wake and Ferndown. Service in the Parish Church was conducted by the Rev. W. Uphill, and the address was given by the Vicar.

After tea in the schoolroom the business meeting was held. The financial statement showed a balance of £7 18s. 8d. Dr. E. W. J. Hellins, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards and the Rev. William Uphill were re-elected to their respective offices as chairman, vice-chairman and secretary-treasurer.

Mr. E. P. T. Field resigned his position as Ringing Master, and Messrs. W. C. Shute and L. Perret were re-elected to that office. Thirteen performing members and two honorary members were elected. Mr. Hart, of Sturminster, was complimented on his work of bringing in and training young ringers. The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards spoke of the proposed ringing competition at Blandford, resulting from a legacy for that purpose. It was suggested that it should have three classes: Handbells, raising and lowering bells in peal, and change ringing.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT BEDFORD**

The annual meeting of the Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association was held at St. Peter's, Bedford, on December 9th, and was attended by about 55 members and friends from Maulden, Tempsford, Dunstable, Biddenham, Stagsden, Henlow, Bromham, Great Barford, Turvey, Great Staughton, Kempston, Northampton, Brafield-on-the-Green (Northants), Silsoe, Sandy and the local tower.

The service, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F. Cottam, assisted by the Rev. F. A. Cox (curate), was followed by tea at Kish's Cafe. Miss E. Steel presided over the business meeting, when the secretary's report and balance sheet were read and adopted. The accounts showed a balance in hand of £1 7s. 8d. and the Belfry Repair Fund £6 19s. 8d.

Mr. F. C. Tysoe expressed his wish to retire in favour of someone younger, and Mr. L. H. Bowler was elected hon. secretary in his place. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Tysoe for his work during 12 years in office. Messrs. G. Hutchings, R. West, H. L. Harlow and J. Hilson were re-elected to serve on the committee. The sum of £1 was given from the Belfry Repair Fund towards the cost of rehanging the bells at Kempston. Three new ringing members were elected and one non-resident member.

Bromham was chosen for the place of the next monthly meeting, to be held on January 6th. The methods rung included Plain Bob, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge, London, York and Wells Surprise.

(Continued from previous column.)

As regards the first, I myself have not yet been able to find anything that satisfies me, and as regards the Grandsire Triples, the best I have managed is to obtain 12 blocks which give several peals, but not in uniform 12 parts, and further 12 equal parts, but minus 12 B blocks which cannot be inserted.

I think you will agree that the solving of either of the above would fill a long felt want. Finally, I would say that any comments you care to make on the above will be welcomed by

10, Londonderry Lane, Smethwick, Staffs.

J. PIGOTT.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**DARLSTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.**—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Hingley 1, Alb. Hingley 2, H. Hingley 3, W. Parker 4, D. Hingley 5, J. Buxton 6. First quarter of Doubles by all.

**BIDDENHAM, BEDS.**—On Wednesday, December 13th, 720 Bob Minor: Miss M. Jackson (first 720) 1, L. H. Bowler 2, Miss E. Steel 3, R. Brockett 4, R. Chapman 5, R. West (conductor) 6.

**WICKHAM ST. PAUL, ESSEX.**—On Friday, December 15th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor: R. Ripplingale 1-2, T. Bird (conductor) 3-4, C. Weavers (first 720 on handbells) 5-6.

**HARROW.**—On Sunday, December 17th, at 170, Headstone Lane, 720 Plain Bob Minor on handbells: John R. Mayne 1-2, Mrs. C. C. Mayne 3-4, C. C. Mayne (conductor) 5-6.

**HUGGLESCOTE.**—On December 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: O. A. Over (first quarter-peak) 1, G. Walker 2, G. D. Hadfield 3, H. O. Over 4, H. Moulit (conductor) 5, E. J. Tovell 6, H. Powdrill 7, T. Aldread 8.

**KERESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.**—On Sunday, December 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Ellender (first quarter-peak) 1, A. E. Bristol 2, H. Polwell 3, T. Hastings 4, W. A. Stote (conductor) 5.

**SKETTY.**—On Sunday, December 17th, at St. Paul's, 720 Grandsire Doubles, 1 and 2 leading bells: Derrick Jones 1, Leyton Knight 2, A. Hoare (conductor) 3, J. T. Williams 4, John Edney 5, A. Edwards 6, Leslie Hughes 7, G. Rees 8.

**ROTHERFIELD.**—On Sunday, December 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. R. Miles 1, E. Bishop, jun. 2, A. Lewry 3, E. Bishop, sen. 4, F. Hammond 5, W. Rogers (conductor) 6.

**BILLESDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—On Sunday, December 17th, 1,260 Doubles, being 480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire: E. Lewin 1, J. G. Geary (conductor) 2, J. Norton 3, \*C. T. Whitman 4, H. Payne 5, \*C. W. Matthews 6. \* First quarter-peak.

**NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.**—On December 17th, 720 Biddulph Double Surprise Minor: O. Williams 1, W. Corfield 2, S. B. Bailey (first 720 Double Surprise Minor) 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.

**UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.**—On Sunday, December 17th, 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Willett 1, E. Cubberley 2, E. Maund 3, F. Lawrence 4, H. Willett 5, H. Price 6, C. Camm (conductor) 7, H. Bishop 8. Rung half-muffled for Canon Edmundson, late Rector.

**UFFORD.**—On Sunday, December 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss Helen English (first quarter) 1, C. E. Fisher 2, W. A. Woods 3, J. Preastner 4, F. C. Nicholls 5, F. L. Fisher (conductor) 6, P. C. Bicknell 7, H. Cooper 8. Rung in memory of Mrs. Drake, wife of the Rector, the Rev. Herbert Drake. She was buried in Ufford Churchyard on December 9th.

**TREETON, YORKS.**—On December 18th, 720 Cambridge Minor: Albert Allwood 1, Jack G. Brothwell 2, Herbert O. Chadcock 3, Tom Brothwell 4, John H. Brothwell (conductor) 5, John E. Turley 6.

**WILLINGTON, BEDS.**—On Monday, December 18th, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 180 Plain Bob): R. Chapman (first quarter-peak) 1, C. H. Harding (conductor) 2, R. J. Houghton 3, L. H. Bowler 4, A. C. Sinfield 5, R. Brockett 6.

**DARTFORD, KENT.**—On Tuesday, December 19th, at 20, Swaisland Road, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: D. L. Hall 1-2, \*A. G. Hall 3-4, \*A. G. Williams 5-6, \*N. Summerhayes 7-8, J. E. Bailey (conductor) 9-10. \* First quarter-peak 'in hand.' First quarter-peak of Caters 'in hand' by all.

**BRAMLEY, HANTS.**—On Tuesday, December 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: \*Miss J. Baby 1, \*Miss O. Osler 2, Mrs. C. Osler 3, Mrs. M. Miles 4, W. Clift (conductor) 5, C. Herridge 6. \* First 720. First 720 Treble Bob by all.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At St. Giles' on December 19th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Ronald Pearson (first 720) 1, Philip Jones 2, Ronald C. Noon (conductor) 3, William Hammons 4, Joseph W. L. Linnitt 5, George Care 6. — On December 23rd, 1,264 Bob Major: \*Ronald Pearson 1, \*Philip Jones 2, \*Geoffrey Gayton 3, \*George Care 4, \*William Hammons 5, \*Ronald C. Noon 6, Sidney Foskett 7, \*Joseph W. L. Linnitt (conductor) 8. \* First quarter-peak of Bob Major.

**CROSTHWAITHE, KESWICK.**—On Wednesday, December 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Grisdale 1, \*Mrs. T. Wilson 2, T. Wilson 3, \*R. Grisdale 4, J. Brownrigg 5, T. Hogarth (conductor) 6. \* First in the method.

**HITCHAM, BUCKS.**—On Friday, December 22nd, 720 of Doubles, April Day, Reverse Canterbury, Grandsire and Plain Bob: Hilda Taylor 1, Freda Murkitt 2, Jean Broomfield 3, Joyce Hearn 4, G. Gilbert 5.

**OAKLEY, BEDS.**—On Saturday, December 23rd, 720 Bob Doubles: Miss M. Watson (first 720) 1, J. Hilson 2, C. H. Harding (conductor) 3, R. Chapman 4, R. J. Houghton 5.

**STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.**—On Saturday, Dec. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Dean 1, A. Thurogood 2, B. Dean 3, G. Easy 4, A. Hurst (conductor) 5, E. H. Finch 6.

**BUCKNALL, STOKE-ON-TRENT.**—On Sunday, December 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: C. Bowen 1, Mrs. A. Bowen (conductor) 2, G. Mountford 3, F. W. Grocott, sen. 4, F. Grocott, jun. 5, R. O. Preston 6.—On Christmas Day, 720 Bob Minor: C. Bowen 1, F. Grocott, jun. 2, G. Mountford 3, P. Jeffries 4, F. W. Grocott, sen. 5, R. O. Preston (conductor) 6.

## NOTICES.

**THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION** of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

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**NOTICES** must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lincoln District.—Annual district meeting at St. Giles', Lincoln, Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells (8) 2.30 to 8.30. Service 4.30. Bring food and tea. Hot water provided in Parish Hall.—K. W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Carline Road, Lincoln.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**—Winchester District.—Annual district meeting at Winchester Jan. 6th. Ringing at the Cathedral (12) and St. Maurice (6) 2 to 3.45 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Meeting and tea 3.45 p.m. at Dumpers' Restaurant. Service in the Cathedral 5.15 p.m.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 6th, at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Ringing at St. Martin's, 4.30 to 6 p.m. Business meeting at 6.15.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**—Crewkerne Deanery.—Annual meeting at Ilminster, Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Drayton, Taunton.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD** and **SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Joint meeting at Rotherfield, Jan 13th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names to Mr. W. Rogers, 1, Vine Cottages, Rotherfield.—C. A. Bassett, J. Downing, Hon. Secs.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at St. John de Sepulchre, Norwich, Saturday, Jan. 13th, 2 p.m. Tea and business 5. Names to Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, 52, The Close, Norwich.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**—Aylesbeare Branch.—Meeting at Withercombe Raleigh, Jan. 13th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 7th to Brian Pidgeon, Hon. Sec., East Budleigh.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at St. Francis Xavier's, Salisbury Street, Liverpool, Jan. 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea and meeting. Names to G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Amptmill Road, Liverpool 17.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Meeting at Holy Trinity, Morecambe, Saturday, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Names to E. Swain, 23, Thornton Road, Morecambe.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at Bury on Saturday, Jan. 13th: Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business in tower 6 p.m. Names to H. Parkinson, 7, Holme Street, Stacksteads, Bacup, by Wednesday, January 10th.—H. Parkinson, Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**—Frome Branch.—Annual meeting at Chewton Mendip on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names by Jan. 10th to E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., The Talbot, Mells.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Meeting Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Jan. 13th, 3 p.m. Ringing at All Saints', Poplar, 4.30.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Derby District.—Meeting and election of officers at St. Peter's, Derby, Saturday, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Tea (1/) in Parochial Hall 5 p.m. followed by business. Names by Jan. 11th to W. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**—Southampton District.—Annual meeting at Bishopstoke, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Jan. 8th.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch.—Meeting at Wroughton (heavy five), 3 p.m., Jan. 13th. Tea 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Wilts.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—Annual meeting at All Saints', Hertford, Saturday, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15. Names by Jan. 10th.—G. Radley, 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—Practice at Daventry (8 bells), Saturday, Jan. 13th, 7 p.m.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—Annual meeting at Biggleswade, Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Annual meeting at Barnsley, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Tea provided. Names by Jan. 10th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Hunts District.—Meeting at Great Staughton, Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Preston (St. Mark's), Saturday, Jan. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Bring food.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carlington Road, Chorley.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Leatherhead District.—Annual meeting at Leatherhead, Saturday, Jan. 13th. Service 4.45. Tea and business 5.30 at the Duke's Head. Notify Mr. G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**—Taunton Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Mary's, Taunton, Saturday, Jan. 13th. Ringing 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by business and further ringing. No tea, but available nearby.—A. Walker, Local Hon. Sec.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Bridgwater, Saturday, Jan. 20th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by Jan. 17th.—C. Evans, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—Meeting at Leeds, Saturday, Jan. 20th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Cup of tea and bun in Parish Hall 5, followed by business. Bus leaves Maidstone for Leeds 1.45, or a No. 10 bus to Hollingbourne Corner every 20 minutes. Names to C. H. Sone, Linton, Maidstone.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec.

**SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.**—Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 20th, for all Notts ringers to discuss proposal to form Southwell Diocesan Guild. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business 5 p.m. Names to Miss K. Burchnell, Pembroke House, Sutton-on-Trent, by Tuesday, Jan. 16th.—T. Groombridge, jun.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—Annual meeting at Earl Shilton, Jan. 20th, 3 p.m. Tea in schools 5 p.m. Names to Mr. G. Newton, 26, Avenue South, Earl Shilton, Leics, early.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wellingborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Finedon, Saturday, Jan. 20th. Service 4.30. Send names early.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthingborough, Wellingborough.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The first of a series of 12-bell practices at St. Laurence's, Reading, on Saturday, Jan. 20th, 5.30 to 8.30 p.m.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., and A. D. Barker, Hon. Treas.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton District.—Annual meeting at Dunstable, Saturday, Jan. 20th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names to Mr. A. E. Sharman, 199, High Street North, Dunstable, by Jan. 17th.—D. E. Lidbetter, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Dorchester Branch.—Annual meeting Dorchester, Saturday, Jan. 20th. Bells (St. Peter's and St. George's) 3 p.m. Service St. Peter's 4.30. Tea and business at Spinning Wheel 5.15. Numbers for tea by Jan. 15th to M. M. Godley, Hon. Sec., Stratton, Dorchester.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—The new address of Mr. F. E. Dukes, Hon. Sec., Irish Association, is Jenkinstown, Dunkalk, Co. Louth, Eire.

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**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—The Master, the Rev. Noel E. Hope, wishes all his friends in Gloucestershire and Sussex a very happy New Year.

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