THE RINGING WORLD

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APATHY, AND A WAY OUT.

The apathy of the clergy and many of the ringers towards change ringing and the Guild was a position which was emphasised at the annual meeting for the Winchester Diocese the other day. In a large area, such as that covered by the Winchester Guild, there is bound to be a number of parishes where interest in ringing affairs falls flat, but it would appear that the conditions are such that they call for special action. Where 'both members and towers in union fall much below standard,' as recorded in the annual report, it is well to face the position to see what can be done by way of reaching a more satisfactory level.

The Winchester Guild is not alone in its complaint of the apathy of the clergy. The recognition given to ringers by the Church in these days is far in advance of that which was experienced even twenty years ago, but ringers are entitled to expect even more encouragement in their work than many at present receive. The question is, do they go the right way to induce this treatment? The clergy, for the most part, are acknowledged to be badly overworked; in many parishes they have scarcely time to keep in touch with all the multifarious branches of par- hial life, and, we imagine, as long as they hear the bells rung for the services, and see the ringers in their pew, they are content. Many of them, perhaps, cannot tell whether all or only part of their bells are being rung—some, probably, would be totally unconcerned if they did know, and, as long as the rubric is complied with, would not mind what happened to the bells. This latter, of course, is a deplorable state of affairs, where it occurs, yet it may easily develop, if the ringers do not themselves keep in close touch with their incumbent.

Where ringers are apathetic it is only to be expected that the clergy will also be without interest—the two generally go hand in hand—and it is, therefore, to the ringers that the 'ginger' must be most applied. But all those who have had anything to do with efforts to 'stir up' ringers know what a heart-breaking job it is. They are the most difficult people in the world to move. A good deal of the ringers' interest, however, depends, we think, upon the stage of advancement which he has reached in the art. The further he gets on, the keener he is, and we believe that one of the greatest incentives to interest in an association is to be found in the progress he makes in peal ringing. A man who never gets, say, beyond Grandsire Triples, can hardly be expected to show the same enthusiasm as a man who has reached the Surprise ringing stage; therefore one direction in which an association can attempt to overcome the existing apathy is to extend the scope of the instruction which

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is given, and do more in the way of organising peal attempts. With few exceptions, peal ringing is left to the initiative of the individual, and it is not infrequently argued that if a man wants to get on he will seek his own opportunities for peals. That is true in a measure. The ringer whose enthusiasm is inborn will unquestionably bestir himself, and, as it were, carve out his own career. But there is another class which the associations cannot afford to ignore, and that is the ringers whose enthusiasm has to be created. They are usually those who are not quite so quick in grasping the intricacies of the art, or whose limited opportunities have prevented them from making headway. If associations, and we speak generally now, would lay themselves out a little more to give this direct encouragement, we believe they would be well repaid by results. Occasionally the interest of the ringers is secured by first interesting the incumbent, but in the majority of cases the incumbent has his interest aroused by the work done by his own ringers, and we feel sure that the best way to overcome the apathy of the clergy is to attack it through interest created in the local bands.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 28¾ cwt.

JOHN D. MATTHEWS ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES V. HARE	7
FRANK SMITH	2	*LEONARD H. BAYBUTT ...	8
ARTHUR J. NEALE	3	ALFRED H. WINCH	9
THOMAS NEWMAN	4	*PERCY MERSON	10
GEORGE A. CARD...	5	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	11
HARRY PARKES	6	*EDWARD PUGH	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

* First attempt for a 12-bell peal.

TEN BELL PEAL.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

JAMES A. HART	...*Treble*	†FREDERICK J. LAMBERT ...	6
GEORGE H. SHUKER	2	FRANK BENNETT	7
*PHILIP S. THOMPSON ...	3	ROBERT J. DAWE	8
*HAROLD S. HOSDEN	4	BENJAMIN HOBBS	9
†ALFRED C. PANKHURST ...	5	ALFRED J. TURNER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. R. J. Dawe.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SANDHURST, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

BENJAMIN ETHERIDGE	...*Treble*	JESSE GILLETT	5
WILLIAM H. HARRIS	2	JOHN AUSTIN...	6
THOMAS BALDWYN	3	ERNEST E. DAVIES	7
FRANCIS T. WAITE	4	GEORGE L. BRUNSDON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Benjamin Etheridge, who attained the age of 78, and is his first peal of Stedman Triples. Also Mr. J. Austin's 3500th peal for the above association, having conducted 235.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 4, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

GEORGE L. BRUNSDON	*Treble*	ARTHUR K. HARRISON	5
JOHN AUSTIN	2	GEORGE CONDICK	6
THOMAS BALDWYN	3	ERNEST E. DAVIS	7
JESSE GILLETT	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.
This peal has the 2nd never in 5—6, and the 3rd never in 6th.

COLESHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Tuesday, July 7, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

FREDERICK CLAYTON	*Treble*	FRED PRICE	5
*REGINALD T. DAVIES	2	†CHARLES DALE	6
JAMES GEORGE	3	BERNARD W. WITCHELL	7
†JOHN BAYLISS	4	†WILLIAM J. SIMMONDS	*Tenor*

Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire. Also first of Grandsire on the bells. This is the 800th peal on tower bells by James George. Rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rev. Canon G. E. Badger, M.A., Vicar of Bishop Ryder's Church and Parish Church, Birmingham. Illness near Bishop Ryder's Church prevented the peal being rung there.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, July 8, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

THOMAS BEVAN	*Treble*	WILLIAM T. POSTON	5
WILLIAM POSTON	2	WALTER T. BENNETT	6
MRS. R. RICHARDSON	3	JOHN CLARK	7
ROBERT E. SOMMERS	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by R. RICHARDSON.

ALREWAS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, July 8, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. W. PARKER'S SIX-PART No 2. Tenor 12 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFIELD	*Treble*	CHARLES DRAPER	5
JAMES PAGETT	2	GEORGE CHAPLIN	6
JOHN H. SWINFIELD	3	JAMES GEORGE	7
JAMES F. CLARKE	4	JOSEPH SLADE	*Tenor*

Conducted by M SWINFIELD.

This peal was the 150th peal of Stedman Triples which Mr. J. George has rung on tower bells. This composition is now rung for the M.C.A. for the first time.

LOUGHBOROUGH.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
F. H. DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 6½ cwt.

WILLIAM THORLEY	*Treble*	*GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS	5
E. HARRY STONELEY	2	HAROLD J. POOLE	6
F. HORACE E. STUBBS	3	†EDWARD READER	7
ERNEST MORRIS	4	JOSIAH MORRIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 100th peal. Aged 17½ years, believed to be youngest ringer to attain a century. † 200th peal.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.—On Sunday, July 12th, for evensong, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): H. W. Martin 1, W. P. Whitehead (conductor) 2, J. Pole 3, A. Disney 4, H. L. Smith 5, K. R. Elliott 6, R. Barrow 7, J. A. Bishop 8.

CHERITON, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

STEPHEN A. BAKER	*Treble*	*ALFRED G. WRATTEN	5
ALBERT CASTLE	2	FRANK VERNEY	6
*RICHARD J. BIRCH	3	LOUIS HEAD	7
GORDON WEBB	4	ALEC WEBB	*Tenor*

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

First peal for ringers of the 3rd and 5th.

LLANGOLLEN, DENBIGHSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. COLLEN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.
Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

SAMUEL MEADOWS	*Treble*	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON	5
THOMAS BUTLER, SEN.	2	WILLIAM S. HIGGINSON	6
ARTHUR ALLEN	3	THOMAS R. BUTLER	7
ROBERT T. EVANS	4	WILLIAM HIGGINSON, SEN.	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

IPSWICH.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER.
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM F. TILLETT	*Treble*	*CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	5
JAMES BETTS	2	ERNEST F. POPPY	6
*HARRY R. ROPER	3	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	7
H. CHARLES GILLINGHAM	4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY	*Tenor*

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by G. E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Superlative with an inside bell. Rung as a compliment to Messrs. Betts, Poppy, Symonds and Rumsey, whose birthdays fall within nine days of each other. First peal on the bells since the tenor has been rehung and the others overhauled by Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich.

BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE (R.C.) CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD, BATH ST.,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING	*Treble*	FREDERICK CLAYTON	5
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS	2	JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN.	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	JAMES GEORGE	7
BERNARD W. WITCHELL	4	WILLIAM DAVIES	*Tenor*

Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

Rung as a compliment to the conductor on his 63rd anniversary.

STONY STRATFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART Tenor 12½ cwt.

*M. G. PEDLEY	*Treble*	HERBERT C. EDWARDS	5
THOS. C. TOMKINS	2	WALTER W. BONHAM	6
WM. M. J. PEDLEY	3	ERNEST C. LAMBERT	7
EDWIN YATES	4	WM. G. CLARK	*Tenor*

Conducted by E. C. LAMBERT.

* First peal. Rung at the first attempt, and to celebrate the treble ringer's 14th birthday.

WINGHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

ALBERT CASTLE	...*Treble*	LUTHER HONESS	5
FRANK VERNEY	2	ROBERT WEBB	6
FRANK SLINGSBY	3	LOUIS HEAD...	7
STEPHEN BAKER	4	ALEC WEBB	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.
Birthday peal for ringer of the 5th.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in G.

WILLIAM CLOVER	...*Treble*	ERNEST WHITING...	5
GEORGE HOWLETT	2	CHARLES CLARKE...	6
FREDERICK R. BORRETT ...	3	FREDERICK SMITH	7
WALTER MOBBS	4	GEORGE H. CROSS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

BINGHAM, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S No. 1. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ALBERT H. WARD ...	...*Treble*	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ...	5
CHARLES DRAPER...	2	NEVILLE H. WIDDOWSON...	6
ARTHUR BRAINES...	3	GEORGE WEST	7
LAWRENCE CHADBURN ...	4	*FRED HOLEHOUSE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT H. WARD.
First peal of Stedman Triples on the bells. * First peal. The ringers wish to tender their thanks to the Rector for his hospitality at the conclusion of the peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

OLD DUSTON, NORTHAMPTON.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, July 6, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE.
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of seven different 720's. Tenor 8½ cwt.

†ALFRED BECKWITH	...*Treble*	THOMAS J. H. WISE	4
*ARTHUR MARLOW	2	THOMAS LAW	5
FRED WILFORD	3	TOM TEBBUTT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, July 7, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven differently called 720's. Tenor 13½ cwt.

FREDERICK PEARSON... ...	...*Treble*	FRANK DEWEY	4
*ARTHUR YOUNG	2	JOHN YOUNG...	5
WILLIAM E. CLARKE... ...	3	ARTHUR H. PALMER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR H. PALMER.
* First peal, and first attempt. Also there is great credit in the way he rang his bell, having lost a leg in the Great War.

SHOULDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.
On Wednesday, July 8, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

W. COUSINS	...*Treble*	J. H. RAPER...	4
A. BACON	2	C. COUSINS	5
E. BARKER	3	W. N. ASHBY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. RAPER.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD
(KETTERING BRANCH.)
On Friday, July 10, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Miss KITTY MOORE ...	...*Treble*	WALTER T. WILSON	4
Miss CECIL HEPBURN ...	2	TOM GARLEY...	5
ROBERT G. BLACK	3	HARRY BAXTER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY BAXTER.
Rung as a birthday peal for the conductor.

PRISTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, July 10, 1925, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*FREDERICK TARGETT... ...*Treble*	R. T. CLARK	4
†WILLIAM YOUNG	2	REGINALD BECK...	5
RONALD BECK	3	J. T. DYKE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 11, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

EDWARD KEMP	...*Treble*	WILLIAM KEEBLE	4
EDWARD P. BUCKINGHAM ...	2	HARRY BRADLEY	5
WILLIAM HAWKES	3	ISAAC T. POULTON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.
First peal of Surprise on the bells. First Surprise Minor by all except the conductor. This peal was rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 3rd, who attained his 80th birthday two days previously, and had not rung a peal for 30 years. He was heartily congratulated by all.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thursday, July 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
IN THE CATHEDRAL BELFRY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 in B flat.

JAMES E. GROVES...	1—2	GEORGE F. SWANN	5—6
ALBERT WALKER...	3—4	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... ...	7—8
		*H. DOUGLAS HARRIS ...	9—10

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.
Arranged for Mr. H. D. Harris, of Woburn, Bucks, on his 50th birthday. Also his first peal on ten bells, which was duly celebrated at the conclusion of the peal.

EPWORTH, LINCS.—On Sunday, July 12th, at the Church of St. John and St. Charles, for evensong: Robert Siggons 1, H. Pilsworth 2, T. Clark 3, J. W. Crowder (Barrow-on-Humber) 4, Hy. Balmforth 5, H. E. Dannatt (Barrow-on-Humber) 6.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, July 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples:—D. Washer 1, Saml. Mason 2, C. Strawbridge 3, W. Hoyle 4, F. Date 5, Sydney Mason 6, G. Atkins (conductor) 7, W. Male 8. This was arranged for Mr. D. Washer, of Bristol, and was his first quarter-peal.

GET YOUR RINGING FRIENDS TO SUPPORT **THE RINGING WORLD** BY TAKING A COPY EVERY WEEK

CHANGE RINGING CONTEST.

Halifax and District Association of Change Ringers held their annual meeting on Saturday, and an eight bell contest took place at All Souls' Church, Halifax. The length of contest was 768 changes, any method. Four teams had entered, and the draw took place as follows: No. 1 Bradford, No. 2 Birstall, No. 3 Huddersfield, No. 4 Batley. All the teams rang 'Kent Treble Bob Major.'

An excellent tea, which over 60 enjoyed, was provided.

During the evening the annual meeting was held in the School, the president (Mr. J. Hardcastle) occupying the chair.

The Treasurer (Mr. F. Salmon) said he was sorry to report a loss on the year, but he thought if the ringers would attend to their subscriptions he would be able to report at the next annual meeting a credit balance.

The officers for the next twelve months were elected as follows: President, Mr. C. E. Carrington (Halifax); treasurer, Mr. F. Salmons (Halifax); secretary, Mr. L. Hargreaves (Halifax).

A vote of thanks was accorded the retiring officers.

Mr. J. Lawson (Lightcliffe), on behalf of the association, thanked the Vicar and Church Council for the use of the bells, also the ladies for providing the tea. He specially thanked Mr. F. Gaukroger and Miss Mitchell, as it was through their generosity that the All Souls' bells had been made ringable.

The judges, Mr. J. Broadley (Bradford), Mr. F. Schofield (Lindley), with Mr. C. E. Carrington (Halifax) marker, gave their decision on the ringing as follows:—

No. 1—Penalties 20, faults 213, total 233.
No. 2—Penalties 20, faults 238, total 258.
No. 3—Penalties 10, faults 193, total 203.
No. 4—Penalties 30, faults 209, total 239.

No. 3 Company, Huddersfield, were therefore declared winners.

Mr. F. Gaukroger, in presenting the cup, apologised for the absence of the Vicar.

A vote of thanks was accorded the judges.

THE SHEFFIELD DISTRICT & OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting of the above society was held at Whiston on Saturday, July 4th.

About 40 ringers and friends turned up from Anston, Barnsley, Dore, Gainsborough, Killamarsh, Norton, Penistone, Rawmarsh, Rotherham, Sheffield (All Saints'), Pitsmoor, Cathedral, St. Mary's, Handsworth, St. Marie's (R.C.) and St. John',, Ranmoor, Treeton, Whiston and Wortley.

The bells (tenor about 12 cwt.) were raised in peal soon after 3 p.m., and were kept going in methods ranging from Grandsire and Plain Bob to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise till late in the evening.

Tea, presided over by the Rector (the Rev. A. G. Allton) and his wife, was followed by a business meeting, presided over by the Rector, supported by Mr. J. Holman (vice-president) and Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey (hon. treasurer).

The Rector, after a few words of welcome, emphasised the difficulties of forming and keeping together capable change ringing bands at the present time

The Hon. Treasurer explained to the meeting that the absence of the president, secretary and assistant secretary coinciding with some items of importance, it had been necessary for him to take matters in hand pro tem. At a committee meeting, held just previously, the pending resignation of the hon. secretary (Mr. T. W. Chown) was discussed, and the committee decided to ask the meeting to accept the nomination of Mr. Colin Harrison as secretary pro tem. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Harrison for his work in organising the successful Sunday Service Ringing Competition at the previous meeting at Norton was carried with acclamation. Mr. Harrison suitably responded.

Only one new member—Mr. J. Wingfield, of Ranmoor, was elected.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local company, and to Mrs. Allton and other ladies for their kindness in arranging the tea, to which the Rector suitably replied.

BARNSLEY & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting was held at Felkirk on Saturday, July 13th. Members and friends attended from Sandal, Wath, Darfield, Barnsley, Rawmarsh, Badsworth, Wortley, Royston, South Kirby, Shelley, Horbury, and from the local company.

Ringing commenced at 3.15, and easy methods were practised until 5 p.m., when tea was served. The business meeting followed the tea, Mr. R. Thickett being in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting, held at Cawthorne, in May, and the report of the cup contest were adopted. The secretary was instructed to write to Kirkthorpe asking for permission to hold the August meeting there.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Felkirk for his welcome to the church and use of the bells; to the sisters for their kind help in providing tea; and the local company for all arrangements made.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting of the Tonbridge District was held at Cranbrook on Saturday, July 11th, which was attended by upwards of twenty members. The members were met on arrival by the Vicar (the Rev. H. T. C. Swingler). The heavy going of the bells proved rather too great a task for ringing Surprise methods, but some good practice was obtained in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major. A service was held at 4.30, conducted by the Vicar. Tea was partaken of, and was followed by the business meeting, the Vicar presiding.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Burt Haffenden, of Mayfield, Sussex, was elected a non-resident life member, and seven members of the Brenchley band were elected practising members, the District Secretary remarking that as the result of holding a meeting at that tower all the ringers there were now members of the association.

The Vicar of Cranbrook was elected an hon. member.—Mr. S. H. Green (Tunbridge Wells) urged the members to try and arrange combined practices at the various towers.—The Vicar replied to a vote of thanks for the use of the bells, etc., and for his election as a member. —The District Secretary, in replying to a vote of thanks for his services, said that he hoped some of the meetings would be better attended than they have been during the past. The Vicar conducted the members round the ancient church.

BRISTOL BRANCH.

An interesting meeting of the Bristol branch was held at Marshfield on Saturday, July 4th. At 4.30 a service was held in the church, the Vicar (the Rev. L. O. Asplin), being away, the Rev. T. C. Fowler (vice-president) officiating. Immediately after the service he proceeded to the ringing chamber, followed by the members, where Mr. Lewis, the conductor of the local ringers, was asked to unveil the board which recorded the first peal ever rung on the bells and by local men.

On unveiling the board, Mr. Lewis remarked that it had taken a long time to achieve, being 15 years since the trebles were added, several peals having been attempted by some of the best of ringers, but it was to them that the first peal belonged. The ringers were congratulated on their success, and the bells were then rung by those who took part in the peal. An excellent tea was served by Mrs. and Miss Lewis. Mr. C. Harding, of Marshfield, was elected a member. The usual vote of thanks was passed, and the tower again visited, several touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob being rung.

BELL RINGING A DYING ART.

Addressing church bell ringers at Halifax, recently, Bishop Frodsham said it was not generally recognised that bell ringing, in which the bells were hung round in full swing, was an art peculiar to this country. It was a very different thing from chiming, in which the bell was swung just enough to make the clapper strike the side of the bell. The art of bell ringing was in danger of being lost which would be a vast musical loss, for there was all the difference in the world between chimes and a full peal of bells. Mr. Salmon, chief bell ringer at Halifax Parish Church, said the older generation of ringers refused to teach the secrets of the art to young men.

MUFFLED RINGING.

At St. Mary's Church, Hornsey, on July 13th, 360 Kent Treble Bob: H. Blee 1, T. G. Deal 2, J. G. Nash 3, T. Langdon 4, A. Putland 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6. Also touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles, and the whole pull and stand. Rung half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. H. Childs for upwards of 50 years a ringer at the above church.

DEATH OF GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

We regret to report the death of one of the veterans in ringing circles in Nottingham, at the ripe age of 73. George Johnson came of an old ringing family, which is still in active continuity in the sixth generation. His grandfather rang with the famous Wm. Doubleday Crofts, and George himself was one of the two veterans who formed the 'connecting file' between the old and newly revived Society of Sherwood Youths. He is also the one and only Nottingham man to call Holt's Original, which performance took place as far back as 1877. The history of ringing in Nottingham has been carefully recorded by him, and it is to his efforts, and his only, that a complete survey of past peals in this district is available. Several of the most important peal boards in the towers of St. Mary's and St. Peter's are his handiwork. His peals number 32, of which he conducted 18, the methods being Stedman, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major, Kent Major and Royal. Several of these peals were rung in Eccles, where he resided for a few years. Nottingham is the poorer for his loss, and many have lost in him an old and valued friend.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

By J. A. TROLLOPE.

Although he was not a change ringer, nor I think any sort of ringer, the name of Henry Thomas Ellacombe will always be held in honour in the Exercise. Many of us, no doubt, knew him only as the inventor of the familiar chiming apparatus, but besides being a most learned bell antiquary, he was one of the first who promoted what we used to call 'belfry reform.' You don't hear very much about belfry reform nowadays, because, happily, the abuses that were to be removed are largely things of the past. Some time ago, I came across an account of Ellacombe, which may be interesting. It is in a book called 'Oriel College and the Oxford Movement,' written by the Rev. Thos. Mozley, who was a Fellow of Oriel, brother-in-law of Cardinal Newman, and brother of a man who had a big reputation as a theologian. The book is dated 1882, when the writer had retired, and an old man.

This is the extract: 'Very early did I hear of Henry Thomas Ellacombe. Happy were they that knew him, or had talked with, or even seen him. Yet I am ashamed to say I did meet him once in Oriel Common room, and failed to retain an image, which was not eclipsed by the name. Ellacombe survives, and is ninety-three, or thereabouts. He is of that fortunate race—"sons of the gods" they may be truly called—that care for everybody and everything. There is no wealth like sympathy, for it is inexhaustible. I had heard of Ellacombe's addiction to church bells, to plants and flowers, to armorial bearings and genealogies, but when I went into Devonshire, I might say that not half had been reported to me.

'His magnificent quarto on the bells of Devonshire gives the size, tone, quality, date, and legend of every church bell in the county, with full particulars of their condition and surroundings. The first thing that strikes the reader is the evidently strong attachment of the people to their bells, and the lead bells have taken in church restoration. Long before Simeon was skeletonising our sermons, churchwardens were recasting our bells, and doing it very well, too. They made mistakes sometimes, and they dealt rather recklessly with the church towers. When they had not room for a larger peal, or even one more bell, they thought nothing of scooping out a waggon load of solid masonry. What was worse, when the "cage" would oscillate so much as to disturb the ringing they drove in big wedges between it and the walls, thereby communicating the oscillation to the walls, and in many cases cracking them from top to bottom.

'Ellacombe went about suitably apparelled, and with proper tools and materials, running up every tower in Devonshire. He did not think it always necessary to ask the parson's leave, but when the parson heard his bells tinkling, clanging and jangling, he knew somebody must be at them, and rushed out to see who or what it was. He found an extraordinary figure that might have stepped out of a scene of German diablerie, ascertaining the keynote of the bells, or taking a tracing of the legend, or a cast of the devices. One clergyman exorcised Ellacombe at once, and his church is conspicuous by its absence from the book . . .

'Ellacombe is a very short man, very much bowed with age, with a white beard reaching half-way to the ground, a beaming countenance, a pair of bright eyes, and a good clear ringing voice . . .

'One could not be in Ellacombe's company five minutes without learning something worth knowing, and in a distinct and positive form. What a loss it is that there are not the men to rescue these accumulations of knowledge before they sink into the ground, where all things are forgotten!'

And we may add, too, what a loss it is that when a man dies, full of knowledge and experience, there is not someone at hand to collect and preserve the books and MSS. that he had got together! Where, for instance, are Ellacombe's books? I did hear somewhere and somehow that there was a goodly collection, many of great interest to ringers, but they have all, or almost all, disappeared, probably lost for ever. And so, too, with many a lesser man. Mr. Jones is an enthusiastic ringer, and has got and treasures a good many books and letters about ringing. Mrs. Jones does not value them a little bit. Probably, good honest soul, she detests ringing and ringers, and everything connected with them. She would rather her good man stopped at home with her instead of going about peal ringing. And she can't bear these people coming to her place and talking about bells and bells, and nothing but bells; and so when Jones dies after a decent interval, she clears out the whole of the rubbish. Small blame to her, but once in a while a great loss to the Exercise.

Ellacombe's 'Bells of Devonshire' was the first of that series of books on church bells, which includes L'Estrange's 'Bells of Norfolk,' Raven's 'Bells of Suffolk,' North's 'Bells of Northamptonshire,' and others, which are monuments of learning and patience, and industry. It is a stupendous task to collect the details and inscriptions of the church bells of a whole county, not to be undertaken, and still less to be accomplished, unless the man has time and money and enthusiasm. And all these would not avail without learning, and the true archæological spirit.

A paper on bells by Ellacombe was published by the Bristol Architectural Society in 1850. Whether any copy exists now I do not know. This was reviewed in the 'Quarterly' of 1854. As was the custom, the reviewer used it as a peg on which to hang a lengthy discourse on bells, beginning with Tubal Cain, and so on, to the time of the writer.

For all its parade of learning, there is nothing much in it. He gives an account of change ringing as far as three bells, which, however is given wrongly, and goes on: 'One unparalleled enthusiast, whose book was printed in 1618, devoted 475 pages to prove that the principal employment of the blessed in heaven will be the continual ringing of bells. Southey pronounces that the art is at least entitled to the praise of being the most harmless of all the devices for obtaining distinction by making a noise in the world. The justice of the remark, however, is more than doubtful. Bell ringers as a class have always had the credit, or discredit rather, of being a disorderly set. The fellowship commenced in the belfry conducts to the public-house, all gratuities are spent in tippling, and it is a common observation that the ringers, after summoning the congregation to church, are prone to slip away themselves.' So there you are. And I confess that I, too, have formed fellowships that have led from the belfry to the public-house, and ofttimes after a peal a bitter has tasted wondrous good.

I am not acquainted with the reasons which were advanced for saying that change ringing is the principal employment in heaven; but assuming the fact to be so, what a complete answer it is to Mr. George Burton's objection that there is no need for the forthcoming Central Council collection of Major Methods. Or is he one of those who would like to ring Stedman Caters to all eternity?

There is a good deal of interest and fascination in copying inscriptions and taking rubbings of bells. It is a far nobler hobby than, say, stamp collecting, which depends to such a great extent on luck and a deep pocket. A good many of us, when we were young, were bitten with the hobby. Temporarily, of course, for the genuine collector is a rare animal. I came across such a one in one of my holiday excursions. I was looking at one of the old churches in, I think, Norwich, when he turned up. He had paper and heel-ball, and all the rest of it, and his quarry was monumental brasses, being very learned in the different kinds—the sixteenth century, and the fifteenth century, the Flemish School, the French School, and so forth. I called in my little—very little—knowledge of the matter, and, spreading it out very thin to make it go as far as possible, I talked with him. Had he been to Lynn? Of course he had been to Lynn. But (sadly) they would not allow him to take a rubbing But he had so and so, and so and so, and he opined that they were at least as good, if not so big, as those at Lynn. Holidays, however, were rare, and he had pretty well worked out his local district. Why not try bells? I suggested. He had never heard of such a thing. I explained the matter fully, urging him to eschew everything later than the sixteenth century. He was highly delighted with the idea, and went away happy. I saw him no more.

In my childhood, when I certainly was not more than six or seven years old, I read an account, somehow and somewhere, of a visit to a village church. The writer took his readers all round the building, showing and explaining as he went. At least I think so; for on this point my recollection is very hazy. At last he came to the tower and the bells, and he tells you to take a rubbing of the inscriptions. But, says he, you must be very careful, or (and this is the only part I do really remember) 'ten hundredweight of metal will crush you against the framework.' It was that one sentence that stuck in my mind. I knew nothing then, nor for long after, about bells, and I got a curious impression of what a bell must be like. Something like a cat of uncertain temper, harmless so long as you treated it right and stroked it the right way. But if you should happen to upset it, well, look out for teeth and claws.

But why should that particular sentence stick in my childish memory? And why should it continually reoccur? And this question I have never been able to answer. Was the man talking about what he did not understand? Or did he actually get down into the pit and take his rubbings with the bell up? And if so, how long was it before the providence that he so sorely tempted, lost patience with him, and put a period at once to his rubbings and his life.

I shall never find a solution to this problem. No, never.

RINGER'S ACCIDENT IN BELFRY.

While ringing at Battle Parish Church on Sunday last, Mr. Percy Carter missed the rope, which curled round his neck and pulled him off the ground twice before he could release himself.

He was badly shaken, his neck and ears were severely grazed, and the muscles of his arms sprained.

We wish him a speedy recovery.

CORRECTION.

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Jesmond during the North of England tour was conducted by Herbert E. Audsley, and not by Ernest E. Terry, as recorded.

DOUBLE NORWICH EXTENSION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir, I hope Mr. Baker will forgive me for butting in, but as I understand it, the Royal was the 'parent' of the Double Norwich family, the Maximus and Major being its 'offsprings.'

If this be correct, then there can be no question as to what is Double Norwich Royal. If any question is raised, it can only be with reference to the Major and Maximus. G. LINDOFF.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY ROBINSON.

Through the death on July 3rd of Mr. Henry Robinson, the Preston branch of the Lancashire Association has lost its oldest member. The deceased, who was sexton and steeplekeeper at St. Leonard's, Walton-le-Dale, for the past 36 years, was cutting grass in the Churchyard, when he died.

Mr. Robinson was in his 79th year, and had completed 63 years' service as a parish ringer at St. Leonard's, and 28 years as a chorister. The bells were rung fully muffled for matins and evensong on the 5th inst., and after evensong a mixed band rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob: Messrs. B. A. Knights (conductor) 1, J. H. Gartside (Chorley) 2, W. Sharples (Brindle) 3, F. Harwood 4, E. Armstrong 5, E. R. Martin 6. This was followed by a 240 of Bob Minor: B. A. Knights 1, W. Heald 2, W. Sharples 3, R. J. Armstrong 4, A. E. Woodhouse 5, J. T. Binison 6. On Monday evening, a 720 of Woodbine was rung by H. Martin 1, J. R. Taylor 2, E. R. Martin (conductor) 3, R. J. Armstrong 4, E. Armstrong 5, A. E. Woodhouse 6.

For the funeral on Tuesday, July 7th, the whole pull and stand was rung previous to the service, and after the interment the bells were rung half-muffled, and again in the evening. The Lancashire Association was well represented. The bad going of the 5th prevented any chance of a peal being rung, and it is rather singular that the last peal on the bells was rung for Mr. Robinson's golden wedding in April, 1922. He was a very keen and capable six-bell ringer in his younger days, and used to attend the branch meetings regularly. Mr. Robinson had two 5,040's of Minor to his credit in seven methods, one rung at Walton-le-Dale in 1882, and another at Higher Walton.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Sunday, July 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: W. Johnson 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Scott, junr., 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, W. Upton 6, A. Pye (conductor) 7, S. Moody 8. Arranged for Mr. A. Pye, of Seven Kings, on holiday in the Island.

TRAVELLING FACILITIES TO RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, appeal to all ringing societies to support an application which we are making for facilities in railway travelling?

On Saturday last, by appointment, a deputation of ringers, consisting of Mr. W. A. Cave (representing Bristol members of other associations), Mr. W. H. Thomas (watching the interest of the lady ringers), and myself (representing the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), met the Divisional Superintendent of the G.W.R.

Our main points were that guarantee numbers demanded by railway companies were of no use to us; that a concession, reducing the guarantee number to less than twelve, would be beneficial, but more than that was really necessary.

In short, we aimed for the privilege of travelling as anglers, viz., single fare for the return journey on the same day.

The superintendent received us very courteously, and we felt that our application had been favourably heard.

After having carefully stated a few facts, we were asked to make a formal application for consideration, and we were assured that the matter would be placed before the Clearing Board with favourable recommendation from the Bristol Superintendent's office.

In order to make a great effort, will all associations and societies kindly make a local application so that the Clearing Board will understand how large a number of ringers will be benefited?

I might add, that in the event of our application receiving the consent of the Clearing Board, it will be necessary to have some mark of identification. To meet this, I would propose at the next Central Council meeting that all qualified members of affiliated associations and societies should be registered members of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, and that the expenses thereof be met by their respective societies.

Each member would then have for production a registration card which might be renewed every year.

Trusting we shall receive the support of every ringing organisation.—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE.

On behalf of Mr. W. A. Cave, Mr. W. H. Thomas, and myself.

HORNSEY, N.—On Sunday, July 12th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: W. G. Blee 1, E. Hibble 2, H. Blee 3, F. Fensom 4, J. G. Nash 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The annual salmon and green pea supper will take place at Lydney on Saturday, August 15th. 'The Leading Salmon is Severn.' Those wishing to attend kindly advise Mr. J. W. Davies, 5, Railway Terrace, Lydney, early.

Mr. W. T. Tucker, who reached his 200th peal on July 2nd, is one of the enthusiastic band which Mr. George Williams has got round him at North Stoneham, and is the energetic secretary of the Winchester District of the Diocesan Guild.

Mr. J. E. Sykes, who is in Manchuria, says China is seething with rebellion, but, happily, is able to add, 'I am on velvet.' Lucky Joe. He looks well in Chinese costume.

Mr. J. S. Wilde, of Dunedin, New Zealand, one of whose compositions of Cambridge Surprise Major, was published a fortnight ago, still keeps up correspondence with a number of old friends in England. He went to New Zealand twenty or more years ago, and, having been successful as a bat manufacturer, has now retired from business.

Mr. George Pullinger, the re-elected hon. secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, who, at the annual meeting, received the congratulations of the members upon his recent marriage, is one of the few one-armed ringers. He lost an arm in the war, but, in pulling a bell, he suffers little incapacity. Not only is he an expert method ringer, but a remarkably good striker.

The opening peal at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, was rung by the College Youths on July 18th, 1798.

The first peal by a band of ladies was rung at Cubitt Town, London, on July 20th, 1912, when Miss E. K. Parker called a 5,040 of Grandsire Triples.

The record length of Kent Treble Bob Major, 17,280, was rung at Over, Cheshire, on July 21st, 1923, in ten hours.

The broadcasting of the bells at St. Martin's, Birmingham, will take place on Sunday at approximately 7.45 p.m. It has been suggested to the B.B.C. that this should be simultaneously broadcast from all stations, but up to the time of going to press no information on this point had been received.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Central Division was held at Lindfield on Saturday, July 4th, 33 being present. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and at 4.30 a short service was held in church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. R. Mead). At 5 o'clock a tea, which had been provided by the Vicar in a very liberal manner, was served. The Rector presided at the business meeting which followed, supported by the Master (Mr. J. T. Rickman). Messrs. G. W. Brackpool, C. Bonnett, P. Bonnett, C. L. Lucas, S. Luck, H. Robbins, E. C. Snashfold and H. Wild, of the newly-affiliated Turners Hill branch, were elected members of the association; also E. G. Benson, of Ardingley. The election of Mrs. and Mr. C. Hazelden, of Guildford, and Miss C. E. Orlebar, of Tunbridge Wells, was confirmed. At the invitation of the Rev. G. Irvine (Vicar), the next meeting of the division will be held at Turners Hill on Saturday, Oct. 17th. The meeting concluded by the Master proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, his very able address, and for his most generous hospitality, also to the organist and choir. The tower was again visited, and various methods were rung. The following towers were represented: Barcombe, Burgess Hill, Brighton (St. Peter's and St. Nicholas), Crawley, Henfield, Hurstpierpoint, Lindfield, Lower Beeding, Southover (Lewes), Turners Hill and independent members.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD AND YORKTOWN DISTRICTS.

On Saturday, June 27th, the combined meeting at Yorktown was a success, this being the first gathering of the two districts. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and continued until 5 p.m. in various methods. The Guild's form of service was then conducted by the Rev. R. M. Curwen, of Yorktown. The members' tea took place in the Parish Hall. In the absence of the Vicar, Mr. W. Melville, of Guildford, presided, and voicing the pleasure of the gathering that day, proposed that the two districts make it an annual event.—Mr. H. J. Chaffery seconded the proposition, and the voting showed a great majority in its favour.—Mr. Whitlington, Mr. Raddon and Mr. Nye also spoke.—It was decided to hold this meeting each year on the last Saturday in June, as both districts were represented. A touch of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Mrs. Hazelden 1—2, Mr. Hazelden (conductor) 3—4, Mr. W. Melville 5—6, Major J. H. B. Hesse 7—8. The ringing was arranged and conducted by Mr. Hazelden. The bells at Hawley were available during the evening, and were well used. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the lady organist; the Vicars of Yorktown and Hawley for the use of the bells; and to both captains of the towers for the trouble they had taken in bringing success to this meeting.

THE AUGMENTATION OF NORBURY BELLS

A CHESHIRE TOWER WHERE RINGING HISTORY HAS BEEN MADE.

Part of the great church enlargement and restoration scheme at Norbury, Cheshire, is the augmentation of the ring of six bells to a peal of eight. The entire project, which is nearing completion, is costing something like five thousand pounds, and although the bells form the last, they are by no means the least portion of the undertaking. It is not just a question of adding two trebles. The old ring had a tenor of about 9 cwt., and included two bells (the 3rd and 4th) cast by Oldfield in 1617. It is proposed to preserve these interesting relics, and they are now suspended from beams, for all to see, across the entrance porch. The new peal is to be increased in size to 14 cwt. by the addition of two tenors, with two new bells to replace the pair by Oldfield, and the recasting of the other four. The work is being done by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and will probably be completed in about three months' time.

Norbury bells have more than a passing interest for ringers, for, upon the ring which has been taken out, ringing history has been made. Twenty odd years ago, Mr. James Fearnley got round him a band which made rapid progress in Minor ringing. They mastered a large number of methods, and, when they became re-established, after the war, got down to the difficult task of ringing 'spliced' methods, and so accomplished did they become that the number of methods included in seven true 720's was extended until, in December, 1923, they rang a peal of 5,040 in 35 methods, one of the greatest performances ever achieved on tower bells. In January of that year they had rung a thirty-method peal, which was scored at the fourth attempt, and aroused real enthusiasm among the parishioners, who had become interested in their ringers' successes. When the 35-method peal was attempted the parishioners were almost as keen upon it as the ringers, and, when it came safely home at the first 'shot,' the Norbury people were genuinely proud of their ringers' triumph.

This interest in the ringers is only an example of the spirit which prevails in the parish in connection with the church, a spirit which has been kindled and maintained by the example of the Vicar and the church officers. Norbury is a 'live' parish, so far as its church affairs are concerned, and there can be no better testimony of this than the way in which it has set about footing the big bill which the project above-mentioned has entailed. Even the Nonconformists have helped, and the expense of providing the new treble is being borne by them, special collections having been made in their churches for the purpose. The second bell is to be given by the parish in memory of the men who fell in the war. The third will be the gift of the ringers, and the only name that will appear upon it will be that of Herbert Williamson, one of the original band, who died after the Armistice as the result of war service. The Freemasons of Hazelgrove (of which Norbury forms a part) are giving the fourth, the 7th will be the special gift of the congregation, while the new tenor and the recasting of the 5th and 6th will be paid for out of the general fund. The bells will be placed in the tower in a new two-tier frame, and the general equipment of the belfry is to be worthy of the church.

Funds are still needed to complete the cost, and on Saturday a substantial sum was raised by a garden party, given in the beautiful grounds of Torkington Manor House, by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. F. Cawley Roberts. Some hundreds of partishioners of all ages and both sexes flocked to the Manor House, and spent a most enjoyable afternoon and evening, amid charming surroundings, with the flowers at their best, and with a variety of entertainments to amuse them. Stalls for the sale of flowers, fruit, and other articles, were in charge of ladies connected with the church, cokernut shies, clock golf and other less skilful, but more speculative, games, held out their allurements, frequent concerts, in which the ringers, who gave excellent selections on handbells, played their part, and in which also a feature was the exhibition dancing of a number of girls. The vocal items were contributed by local talent, and excellent talent it was, too. Then, also, there were sports for juveniles and grown-ups, and throughout the afternoon and evening Hazelgrove Silver Band performed a delightful programme of music, the proceedings being brought to a close with dancing on the lawn. Throughout the day, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were assiduous in looking after the comfort of their guests, and their kindness in this respect only adds to the indebtedness of the parish to them for placing their delightful grounds at the disposal of their neighbours, and helping so good a cause. To the many helpers who conducted the stalls, the concerts, the games, and, particularly those who had a strenuous time in serving tea—a pleasant and bountiful al-fresco meal, of which strawberries and cream were a feature—great thanks are due.

The people of Norbury are looking forward keenly to the return of their bells, which are, we understand, to be dedicated by the Bishop of Chester at a service arranged separately from that at which the new chancel is to be dedicated—thus emphasising the importance which the Bishop places on the bells. The ringers, who are well organised,

(Continued in Next Column.)

BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.

By E. A. YOUNG.

These bells were cast in 1774 by Pack and Chapman, at the Whitechapel Foundry, and were made as a complete peal of ten. The weight of the tenor was 31 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb., and the total weight 138½ cwt. (including the crown staples which were 'cast in'). The 6th was recast in 1799 by Thomas Mears, and the tenor was recast in 1805 by John Briant, of Hertford.

This peal of ten replaced a peal of eight (tenor 25 cwt.) cast in 1675 by Henry Bagley, of Chacombe, and this eight replaced a heavy peal of six (medieval bells), tenor 30¼ cwt.

Before the new peal of ten was erected, fear had been expressed that the tower was in danger from the heavy peal of bells (meaning the old eight), and after the old ten were hung, this fear was increased. A committee was formed to go into the question, and in 1794 the bells were taken down and rehung in a new frame, built up from the ground and unconnected with the tower. They were hung in two tiers. In 1805, when the tenor was recast by Briant, they were all again rehung, and brought down to one level. In 1885, at the time of the restoration of the church, it was considered that the tower was not strong enough to carry the bells for 'ringing,' and after several schemes had been put forward the bells were hung again for 'chiming' only, in the octagon. The tenor bears this inscription, which appeared on Bagley's tenor :—

'I am and have been call'd the common bell to ring, when fire breaks out to tell.'

Bells hung as a carillon are not really in accordance with the use for which they were intended in a church tower. Bells hung in churches were always intended to be rung—at least such has been the case for centuries past, and there is a very strong feeling against introducing a foreign idea of their use in an English church. It hardly needs to be pointed out that there is far greater dignity and majesty, in a peal of bells properly rung, than in a set of bells (no matter what number) chimed in tunes from a keyboard. There is nothing to say against a carillon of bells in their correct setting, but a Parish Church tower is NOT that setting. What is it that gives such an arresting effect at, say, St. Paul's on a Sunday morning and afternoon—the 'ringing' of the twelve bells. This, of course, applies to all towers where good ringing is the custom, and what a thin effect it would have at, say, St. Paul's, if the bells were merely hand-chimed. There is no comparison.

If, however, the Coventry authorities have made up their minds to have a carillon of fourteen bells—there is no reason why the four additional bells should not be made upon similar lines to the old—and the necessary adjustments in tune carried out to the old bells, but, on the other hand, if the authorities particularly wish to have an entirely new set of bells, there can only be one way of saving the existing bells, viz., by purchase for installation elsewhere. This would present some difficulty, i.e., in finding a church to take them.

If the Coventry authorities wish to have an entirely new peal, could they be persuaded to store their existing bells until another home is found for them? An announcement could then be made in the Church papers, and even in prominent daily papers, to bring the bells before the public.

In the opinion of the experts, both ancient and modern, these bells are amongst the finest in the country. William Shipway, the great expert on ringing, writing over 100 years ago, puts them with St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich; York Minster, Painswick, Gloucester and Westbury, Wilts.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN LONDON STEEPLEKEEPER AND SEXTON.

On Sunday, June 14th, the death occurred of Mr. Daniel Lovell, who had held office at St. Sepulchre's Church for over 45 years. He was a member of the Royal Cumberland Society, and assisted in ringing a good number of peals with some of his old friends, the late Mr. John Nelms and Mr. John Rogers, at St. Sepulchre's. He was also beadle for the ward of Farringdon, and when the executions took place at the Old Bailey Mr. Lovell used to toll the tenor bell. This has been done away with a good many years ago. The funeral took place on Thursday, June 18th, at the City of London Cemetery, Ilford. Mr. Lovell was in his 73rd year. Muffled touches were afterwards rung on St. Sepulchre's bells by the local ringers.

(Continued from Previous Column.)

with Mr. J. Fearnley as leader, and Mr. J. P. Fidler as hon. secretary, are naturally anxious to resume their operations, and it is pleasing to observe that, although they will have eight bells, which they will know well how to ring, there is no intention of dropping their practice of spliced-method Minor ringing. They hold a foremost position in the Exercise in this department of the art, and we hope they will continue to do so, even though they have more than six bells to perform on.

THE CRITICISMS OF 'CRITICUS.'

CENTRAL COUNCIL DELAYS—CARILLON 'MENACE'—LICHFIELD RESTRICTIONS.

We have now been able to read what our learned legislators had to say when the Ringers' Parliament met at Chester, and I think most of us have found in the report something to interest us. I am not one of those who have never seen any good in the Central Council. True, I do not think they have always spent their time profitably in the interests of ringing, although they may have had quite a good time among themselves; but I must say this, I am quite convinced that in the last few years there has been a well-intentioned effort to do good by the Exercise. Folk may ask: 'What have they done that is better or worse (according to the point of view) than anything they did before?' Well, I am not sure that I could define exactly wherein I see the improvement, yet one feels that what has been done in recent years has been of practical use to the Exercise.

The meeting at Chester, however, has emphasised what, to my mind, is one great drawback under which the Council suffers, and that is the slow pace at which it is compelled to move. In any matter which is deferred, at least a year must elapse before any further step can be taken. For instance, the report of the Nomenclature Committee could not be debated because it had not been previously published. Result—discussion adjourned for a year. The Rules and Decisions require overhauling—so the Council of 1924 decided. In 1925 the matter is referred to the Literature and Press Committee—though how in the world this comes within their province one cannot imagine. In 1926 they will probably report—if the Council is lucky. (There have been times when the Council has had to wait for years for a report from this committee.) Next year the report, if presented, will probably be deferred until it has been published, if precedent be followed. In 1927 it will be discussed, and, perhaps, adjourned for amendment; in 1928 it will be presented in final draft, and ordered to be printed; in 1929 (perhaps) 'Rules and Decisions, Revised,' will come from the Press. This may be an exaggerated view to take, and I may be too pessimistic, but it is the style of thing to which we have been accustomed from the Council

Then there is the Methods Committee. How long is it since they reported they were almost ready to print their collection of plain Major Methods? The delay in this case has been different because of the Literature Committee's past procrastination, but these long-drawn-out affairs are the very things which make ringers, who only look at the surface of things, exclaim: 'The Council never does anything.' But the Methods Committee, apparently, are now to be up and doing. Perhaps I ought, in justice to them, to say that they have been up and doing—doing a second time what had already once been done. In the course of this year, therefore, we ought to have this new Collection of Major Methods, and, despite the view expressed by one member, I believe it will be welcome to the whole Exercise. The six-bell Collection not only sold well, but the scores of methods have been rung. Why, then, should not the Major methods 'go' equally as well? Even if they are not all rung, at least ringers will desire to place the Collection in their 'Library,' but given, say, twenty years, I have little doubt that someone will have rung most, if not all of them. Methods are much more likely to be rung when they are in a published collection than when they appear in isolated issues of a newspaper. For one thing, unless a ringer makes a point of collecting methods for himself, he loses sight of these new productions, and when the time comes that he might perhaps make use of them, he cannot readily put his hand upon them, and so does not bother. If, however, he has these methods on his library shelf, where they are ready at a moment's notice, he is much more likely to be interested in them, and they are brought out for practical use at the first opportunity. I certainly do not agree that the selection of methods which is to be printed will be a 'scrap book.'

By the way, when is the Council going to set up its History Committee, or appoint an historian? Many men have dipped into this branch of research, and there is in existence a considerable quantity of material which needs collecting. Even if nothing further could be done, a chronological record of all peals that have been rung, so far as they can be traced, might well be compiled and placed in the Council's Library. Then there is the collection of all existing methods and peal compositions, so that they can be made into a ready means of reference for those who come after and who, having found what they think to be a new method or peal, can turn to this file to test the originality of their work. Many writers have urged that this should be done, but up to now the Council has taken no action. In these days, when nearly everybody claims to be overworked, it may be difficult to find men with sufficient leisure to undertake tasks of this kind, but I think the Council ought to make an effort to do something. The longer these matters are delayed, the more difficult will be the task when it is put in hand. In the case of peal records, old papers may be destroyed or pass into the hands of those who have no interest in them, or, indeed, may not even understand them. Compositions, we know, multiply every day, and there are constantly recurring instances of peals published and having to be withdrawn because of a prior right of authorship. This position is likely to get worse rather than improve, because as composers pass away, there will be no one to uphold their claims. I am quite sure there are already cases of young composers claiming credit for figures which were produced years ago by some of the older masters. They have no piratical intentions, but, without any exhaustive means of ascertaining whether their compositions are new, they examine the limited number that are at their disposal, and, finding nothing like their fresh production, naturally claim their handiwork as original.

Many ringers must have been gratified at the timely appeal made by 'The Ringing World' to save Coventry bells, if possible. Whether the scheme suggested for breaking up this famous ring is to be persisted in or not I do not know—it will be more than a pity if it is—but I look upon this proposal as constituting a serious precedent. Hitherto augmentations of bells in this country have been by way of extending rings on lines which will enable a wider practice of our old English art. If, in future, there is to be a tendency to expand the numbers of bells in order that they may be chimed as carillons, it is going to be a serious menace to the Exercise. If the ten at Coventry are to be converted into fourteen merely for tune playing, some day, when another of our famous rings needs restoration, there will be plenty of people ready to advocate the substitution of the carillon for the ringing peal, and thus other bells may be lost to us. Coventry, with all its peculiarities and special circumstances, may be but the thin end of the wedge. We cannot expect our bell founders to turn down good orders, whether they are for rings or carillons. At the same time, it is to be hoped they will not lose sight of the fact that the 'bread and cheese' of their industry is the maintenance and extension of church bells used in the English and not in the continental fashion. Rather than arguing as to whether it is advisable or otherwise to increase peals of eight into peals of ten, the Central Council might well turn their attention to passing a motion deprecating the conversion of peals of any number into carillons. The Exercise will, I am sure, await with something more than interest and information as to whether the Council have done anything in regard to Coventry. Their interference, of course, might not be acceptable to the people of St. Michael's, but as representatives of three of the bell founding firms are, I believe, members of Towers and Belfries Committee who, presumably, would have to deal with this matter, there ought not to be serious difficulty in bringing the two parties into touch, because one might lay considerable odds that one of the three firms will be entrusted with the Coventry job.

Talking of bell founders, I read the other day for the first time of 'The Ancient and Honourable Company of Bell Founders.' It occurred to me that these founders had been hiding their light under a bushel, for though I thought I knew something about the gentlemen who make and hang our church bells, this was the first time I had ever heard of their being bound up in one of those old companies which are charactertistic of the civic life of London. I had only taken up and opened the book casually, and my eyes alighted on this line about the founders, but naturally I was tempted to read on, and I gasped when I saw that they had 'invited designs for a chapel to be erected in memory of the founder of their orphan schools at Longfields.' Then I realised that I had got hold of a work of fiction, but, of course, I read on. What tickled me most was this little speech: 'Father is a Bell Founder. You know what I mean. He goes to a big dinner once a year, and is in a bad temper for a week afterwards, through over-eating and making a long, dull speech.' I wonder if our famous men of the foundry will confirm this? I believe, from all I know, that bell founding, when you are in a big way of business, involves something more than a dinner and a speech once a year. I believe they sometimes cast bells; it may be only in their spare time, but they really do make bells as well as speeches, and undertake big contracts as well as big dinners. Isn't it funny that, whenever anything gets into print about bells, it is nearly always to give the public a topsy-turvy impression of the facts.

All clergy are not lovers of bells. That is a misfortune, but it is doubly unfortunate when their dislike prevents bells being rung. Ringers must have read with some surprise of the attitude of the Dean of Lichfield, who made it a condition of allowing the Staffordshire Society to ring the bells of the Cathedral at their annual meeting, that they should not apply for them next year. No one, I presume, can challenge the Dean's right to grant or refuse the bells, but the condition which he imposed looks as if he found it an easy way out of refusing his permission for 1926. Would he, I wonder, put the same restriction upon the use of any other part of his Cathedral if applied for by any recognised body of Diocesan church workers? On the contrary, I warrant he would welcome them with open arms. Well may the Staffordshire Committee contrast the attitude of the Dean of Lichfield with that of the Dean of Chester! 'The Cathedral does not belong to a group of old gentlemen,' said the Dean of Chester to the Central Council, but 'was the one great building in the county that really belonged to everybody.'

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CONCERNING ADDITIONAL SHUNTS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In my last article (February 20th, 1925), I described Constructional Shunts. Every method with treble and working bells contains one of these shunts. Many methods contain two or more. They are the framework on which the method is built. In methods which have Bob Major Lead Ends, they alone produce the lead ends. (We need not trouble ourselves at this moment with methods with irregular lead ends.) In some of the best methods these shunts produce the whole work of the method; for instance, the fifteen Major Methods described recently in the 'Ringing World.'

But many methods, and particularly those on the Treble Bob principle, contain other work, and that work is called additional shunts. An additional shunt is a cyclical movement on a number of the working bells less than the total number. Perhaps I can best explain their nature by describing a familiar and simple example. We will take the places in 3—4 in Kent.

34 The places in Kent are are a complete hunting course on two
34 bells, which is substituted for the regular dodging of the
43 method, for the purpose of preventing repetition of rows. Now,
43 notice that we have here a complete round block; and, secondly, that it is made quite independently of the work of the other bells, and even of the other similar places made in other parts of the course.

If you please you can omit it in one lead; except for repetition of rows the bells go on as before. Or you can transfer it to 5—6 or 7—8; except that you get different rows, the bells go on as before. But if you alter or omit any of the places in the slow work, be it ever so little, the whole structure of the method collapses.

In this example, the additional shunt is begun and completed straight away. But it need not be so. In Oxford the shunt is begun when the treble is dodging in 1—2 up; it is not completed till she is dodging in 1—2 down. Yet the two parts make one complete independent whole. Compare this with the Bobs in a Q-set. 42356, 34256 and 23456 are a Q-set of Bob Major or London Surprise. They may come as three successive Bobs in three successive courses; but they may come at widely parted peals in the peal. Yet they make one complete Q-set.

Here is one further example of an additional shunt :—

A	B
12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24135678	24135678
42316587	42316587
24361578	24361578
42635187	23465187
24365817	32645817
42638571	36248571
24365871	63425871
42638517	64328517
24368157	46238157
42631875	42631875
24613857	24613857
42168375	42168375
41263857	41263857
14628375	14628375
14263857	14263857

A is Double Oxford Bob. It is produced by the following constructional shunts :

1 Extreme Before.
1 Extreme Behind.
4 R. Court Shunts.

These constructional shunts cause continued dodging from the time the treble leaves the front until she returns. Instead of the dodging on the front four bells, from the fifth to the eleventh change, we substitute a complete round block of backwood hunting, thus :—

2436	2436
4263	2346
2436	3264
4263	3624
2436	6342
4263	6432
2436	4623
4263	4263

(Continued from Page 458.)

It appears to be different in the diocese of Lichfield, when not even a body of church workers can say, 'Here, at our Mother Church, we are always welcome.' What would be said if the boot were on the other foot; if the Dean was proud of his bells and desired them rung for some great annual festival, and ringers turned round and said, 'Yes, we will ring them for you this year on condition that you don't ask us to do so next'? The ringers would probably get 'the sack'—and would deserve it. CRITICUS.

Directly the additional shunt is completed the bells pick up the same rows as the original method. All I said about the additional shunt of Kent applies to this one.

These are simple examples, and I do not propose now to go into more complex cases. Not all are complete hunting courses; but all are cyclical movements. Here is a useful one: When the constructional shunts give six changes of continued dodging, substitute for it three changes of forward hunting, followed by three changes of backward hunting. Thus :—

5678	5678
6587	6587
6857 instead of	5678
8675	6587
6857	5678
6587	6587
5678	5678

The uses of additional shunts are as follows :—

1. In methods on the Treble Bob Principle to prevent repetition of rows, as in the cases of Kent and Oxford.

2. To introduce a greater variety of work than is produced by constructional shunts alone; as in the case of Double Oxford and its variation given above.

3. To remove certain blemishes which would otherwise prevent some of the constructional shunts being used in finished methods.

For instance :—

C	D	E
12345678	12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587	21436587
24135678	24135678	24135678
42316587	42316587	42316587
24361857	24361857	24361857
24368175	42638175	23468175
24368715	24368715	32648715
24367851	42637851	36247851
42637581	24367581	63427581
42635718	42635718	64325718
42635178	24365178	46235178
42631587	42631587	42631587
24613857	24613857	24613857
42168375	42168375	42168375
41263857	41263857	41263857
14628375	14628375	14628375
16482735	16482735	16482735

C is produced by the following constructional shunts :—

Two R. Court Shunts
One 4-bell Slow Work Shunt.

This latter causes some of the bells to lie still for a considerable time.

In D, continuous dodging on these bells is substituted, and we have a method fit to ring.

In E, this is further altered by an additional shunt similar to that in example B.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN BRANCH.

A Grimsby district meeting was held at Thornton Curtis on Saturday, July 4th. Members attended from Grimsby St. Andrew's, and Grimsby St. James', Uiceby, Bigby, Barton-on-Humber, Barrow-on-Humber, Elsham, and Burton-on-Stather, and the Rev. Douglas Stedman, Vicar of Barrow; Dr. Birtwhistle, of Barton-on-Humber; the Rev. H. C. Frith, Vicar of Elsham, and the local members. The bells were ready early, and were set going to various methods. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Park), who gave an excellent address. Tea was served to 25 members. The business meeting then followed, the Rev. H. C. Frith being voted to the chair, owing to the president (the Rev. H. T. Parry) being absent. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Election of new members then took place. The Rev. H. C. Frith proposed Mr. H. Stainton and Mr. W. Harrington, of Elsham, and was seconded by Mr. Tomlinson.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. H. C. Frith for presiding, and to the Rev. J. H. Park for the great pains he had taken in making the meeting a success; and further to Mrs. Park and the lady helpers for waiting at tea.—The Vicar suitably replied, hoping that there would soon be a regular band of ringers. Further ringing of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Minor, Stedman and Bob Doubles and Grandsire Doubles were rung. The next meeting is to be held on Saturday, August 15th, at Burton-on-Stather.

A contemporary publishes an article, entitled 'Bell Ringing as a Hobby'—thus disproving the theory that it is done for spite.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS. On Sunday, July 12th, for the evening service, on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Lord 1, G. Foster 2, J. E. Jones 3, E. Hookem 4, F. Elliott 5, J. B. Marks (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Sunday, July 12th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, to celebrate the occasion of the birth of a son to the ringer of the 3rd: H. Hodgetts 1, L. Simmons 2, C. Kazer 3, C. Leman 4, A. W. Dix 5, H. Cashmore 6, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 7, T. Norris (first quarter-peal) 8.

EARL SHILTON.—On Sunday, July 12th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: M. Coe 1, G. Newton 2, C. H. Webb 3, R. Belton 4, A. Waters 5, T. R. Deacon 6, H. Wright 7, W. Reynolds 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: Herbert Pickering 1, C. H. Webb 2, A. Waters 3, R. Belton 4, H. Wright 5, T. K. Deacon 6, C. Briggs 7, W. Reynolds 8. Both conducted by W. Reynolds. R. Belton is from Barwell, and C. Briggs from Stoney Stanton. First quarter-peal of Major for H. Pickering.

BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, before evening service, on July 5th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: G. E. Large 1, E. Large 2, C. Waithman 3, B. W. Witchell 4, F. Price 5, W. Davies 6, J. George 7, L. Shepherd (first quarter-peal) 8. Composed and conducted by James George. Rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rev. Canon G. E. Badger, M.A., as Vicar of the church and parish, the band wishing him another 25 years, and more.

BATH.—At St. Saviour's Church, on Sunday, July 5th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original: John Taylor 1, Joseph W. Bell 2, Miss Norah G. Williams (conductor) 3, Arthur Prince 4, Jesse Hallett 5, George Janes 6, Chas. W. Bell 7, Henry E. Mills 8.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—On Sunday, June 28th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins.: Miss B. Holloway 1, W. Welling 2, F. Middleton 3, F. Tindal 4, A. Cross 5, R. Wood 6, E. Gosling 7, S. Boore 8. Taken from Parker's one-part, and rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.—On Sunday, June 28th, for evensong, 720 London Surprise Minor: W. Surridge 1, W. A. Norman 2, G. F. Bell 3, R. C. Allen 4, A. J. Barcock 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by ringer of the 5th. Also first 720 by ringer of the 2nd, after about three years' incapacitation. His reappearance in the belfry gave the company much satisfaction.

ERITH, KENT.—On Sunday, June 21st, for evening service, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 51 mins.: L. J. Cullum 1, W. Axtill 2, F. J. Cullum, senr., 3, J. S. Morton 4, E. J. Ilott 5, H. A. Holden 6, F. J. Cullum, junr., (conductor) 7, R. A. Cullum 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. F. Cullum for over 50 years a service ringer at the above church, who passed peacefully away the previous day, at the advanced age of 93 years.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, July 4th, ten members of the above band, accompanied by tewo ringing friends from Bramford and a non-ringer from Ipswich, had their first outing since 1912. At 8 o'clock a start was made for a tour through West and East Suffolk. The first call was made at Wetherden, where there is a peal of six. Short touches were necessary, owing to the distance to be covered. The next stop was made at Woolpit, where there is also a peal of six, the 'go' being none too good. Drinkstone was next reached at 11 o'clock. Here they were informed that since obtaining permission to use the bells it had been discovered that the learners had broken two stays, and that the 5th was minus a slider. After visiting the tower it was decided to ring without them; each one holding his bell until the next man came to try. A course of Plain Bob was managed, but just as the treble finished the course he forgot himself and over it went. The next stop was at Hessett, a five-bell tower. Here they were soon pulling away at Boy Doubles. The next stop was at Rougham, where there is a good heavy ring of six, and a detour was made via Pakenham. Here the Vicar readily gave permission to ring his bells, although this was not on the programme. These were found to be a fine peal of five, and well worth another bell. These also, hanging left-handed, causes some confusion to some of the band at first. At Ixworth dinner was served, and two members rang a course of Double Norwich Major on the handbells, each taking four. Some well-known tunes were also played on the bells, in which all joined. The next move was to the church where the bells have just recently been rehung by Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich. After some Double Court and Treble Bob had been brought round a move was made for Rickinghall Superior, where there is a ring of six. Here some good Double Oxford was rung. The next stop was at Diss, where they were met by five of the local band, including John Souter and William Ireland. A course of Bob Major was brought round in creditable style without any outside help, and the locals and three members rang a good course of Double Norwich Major. A course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells and a start was made for Thornham Magna, where a good course of Cambridge Minor was rung. Wickham Skeith was reached at 8.30, and a good course of Ipswich Surprise concluded the day's ringing, Ipswich being reached at 10.30. The total distance covered was 76 miles, and 11 towers were visited.

MALDON RINGERS.

The annual outing took place on Saturday, June 27th. Starting at 8 a.m., they journeyed by charabanc via Colchester to Hadleigh, in Suffolk. There a halt was made to ring the beautiful peal of eight (tenor 28 cwt.) and the tone and 'go' were much admired by all. After a stay of two hours they journeyed to Long Melford, where a ring of eight was recently rehung. Although rather noisy in the belfry, the 'go' was splendid, and several touches were brought round, with some of the local ringers standing in. The next stop was at Clare, where the Vicar welcomed the ringers, and after an hour's ringing on the heavy bells the church was visited, which still retains the ringers' jug in a glass case. The party then proceeded to Yelham, Essex, where they were met by Mr. Cooper, and some of the local band. On a light ring of six, a contrast to the heavy Clare bells, several touches were brought round. Home was reached at 10 p.m., after an enjoyable day's outing. The ringers wish to take the opportunity of thanking the respective incumbents for the use of the bells, and the steeplekeepers for meeting them and having the bells in readiness.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

This outing was held on Saturday, July 4th, the company numbering 14, including some of the ringers' wives.

Taking the route through Colchester and along the Ipswich road, through the Constable Country, the party visited East Bergholt for the purpose of seeing the bells hung in a cage on the ground in the churchyard.

After this brief visit, the journey was resumed through Ipswich to Henley, where the light peal of eight were set going in several methods of Double Norwich, Stedman and Treble Bob. At Debenham, a hearty welcome was received from Mr. W. C. Rumsey. Touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Oxford were rung, after which the party sat down to an excellent lunch. — A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association, for the trouble he had taken in arranging all the details connected with the outing, and to which he suitably replied.

At Framsden, where there is a handy ring of eight, touches in various methods were rung, while at Helmingham the bells were set going to Stedman and Treble Bob. The last place of call before tea was Grundisburgh, where a short stay was made, and one touch rung. Tea was then served at Ipswich.

After tea, a visit was made to St. Mary-le-Tower, where the visitors received a very hearty welcome from the local ringers, where a touch of Treble Bob was rung on the back eight. This was followed by a well-struck touch of 295 Stedman Caters, rung by the following band: W. P. Garrett 1, H. C. Gillingham 2, R. H. Brundle 3, C. H. Howard 4, H. E. Hammond 5, G. Wiffen 6, L. W. Wiffen 7, F. Tillett 8, G. E. Symonds 9, C. Catchpole 10. The ringers of 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th hail from Braintree, and it was the first attempt at Caters by the ringer of the 5th. This was followed by rounds upon the full peal of twelve. The ringers wish to thank all those who helped to make the outing a most enjoyable success.

ST. IGNATIUS, SUNDERLAND.

On June 24th, the annual outing was a most enjoyable 100 miles tour through Tynedale and Weardale.

A pleasant hour was spent at Hexham, looking through the Abbey and listening to a well-struck peal of Cambridge, which was being rung by the London band, who are having a 'ringing week' in the North. Allendale was reached shortly after 12, where the party partook of lunch, and indulged in a light peal of six at St. Cuthbert's. After a look round the pretty village, the long pull out of Tynedale was continued. The party passed through Weardale, Wearhead, St. John's Chapel, Westgate and Frosterley, and shortly after 4 o'clock arrived at Stanhope.

After tea, the homeward journey was commenced, a stop being made at Brancepeth to inspect the beautiful Castle, and while the ringers were enjoying a touch of Stedman Triples on the bells of St. Brandon's, other friends were admiring the wonderful wood carving, etc., in the lovely old church.

While passing through Durham, the party had a fine view of Durham Castle, and saw the elaborate scaffolding which has been erected for the purpose of carrying out the necessary repairs. Sunderland was reached shortly after 9.30, bringing a most pleasant trip to an end.

NOTICES.

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

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Est. 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on July 30th; St. Magnus the 23rd; Southwark the 21st; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, the 28th, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. —William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Singleton (6 bells) on Saturday, July 18th (not 11th) as intended. Bells ready 2.30, business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.— A district meeting will be held at Prittlewell (10 bells), on Saturday, July 18th. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea to follow.—E. Butler, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.--Rossendale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Bury Parish Church, on Saturday, July 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Meeting at Barnet, on Saturday, July 18th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Hadley (8) will probably be available during the evening.—W. Bottrill, 29, Queen's Mansions, North Road, N.7.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual Festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 18th (D.V.). Service in Cathedral 11.15 a.m. Preacher, the Ven. R. Wickham Legg, Archdeacon of Berks. Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30. Dinner tickets, 2/6 members, 3s. non-members. The L.M. & S. Railway will grant cheap tickets from any station in the Diocese. The G.W.R. will grant return tickets for single fare from any station in the Diocese on application for same 'to attend Bell Ringers' Festival.'—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.— The annual meeting will be held at Minehead on Saturday, July 18th. Meeting in the Infants' School at 3 p.m. Service in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Will visitors who wish to ring early let Mr. G. Aitkins, 125, Cher, Minehead, know the time they wish to ring.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The next quarterly meeting of the Guild will be held at Stoke-in-Coventry on July 18th. Bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., and meeting to follow.—J. A. Fenton, General Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—The annual meeting and election of officers will be held at Aldwincle on Saturday, July 18th. Usual arrangements. Tea 5 o'clock, provided by the Rector. —J. Nickerson, Halford Street, Thrapston.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A special meeting will be held at Daventry (8 bells) on Saturday, July 18th. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow, when it is hoped a new branch of the Guild will be formed. All ringers cordially invited.—David J. Nichols, Gen. Sec., 3, York Road, Kettering.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 18th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 5.30. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, Branch Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting will be held at Willingham, Cambs, on Saturday, July 18th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening.—A. E. Austin, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELL-RINGERS.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bromfield on Saturday, July 18th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—W. J. Beniams, Hon. Dis. Sec., 33, New Street, Ludlow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Desford on Saturday, July 18th. Bells (6) available from 3.30. A good attendance is requested.—W. Cope, Hon. Sec. Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Old Warden on Saturday, July 18th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District. — Next meeting at Stanmore on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea at 5.30, and meeting to follow. One shilling will be charged for tea, and I shall be glad to know by the 22nd how many require same. Harrow Weald bells also open for ringing after tea.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The summer meeting will be held at Allendale at Saturday, July 25th. Tea at the Golden Lion Hotel (1s. 9d. to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members) at 5 o'clock. Those intending being present at tea please notify me by Wednesday, July 22nd.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next monthly meeting of the Bristol branch of the above association will be held at Olveston on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at Mr. G. White's 5 o'clock. Please notify me by July 20th.—P. E. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Shoreham, near Sevenoaks, on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Meat tea at 1s. 9d. per head. It is essential that all who require tea should let me know, by first post, Tuesday, July 21st. Half-fares (maximum 2s.) paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A service in connection with the completion of the restoration of the tomb of the late William Rayner will be held at Arreton, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 25th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Arrangements will be made for ringing at neighbouring towers. All ringers, friends and subscribers welcomed. Teas can be arranged.—G. Pullinger, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Danbury on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow at the Griffen Hotel. Sandon bells will also be available in the evening. All those intending to be present please notify me on or before Wednesday, the 22nd.—P. Timson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Tring on Saturday, July 25th. Short service, tea and meeting. Eight bells, available from 3 p.m. Motion for meeting: 'That the financial year shall end each year on December 31st. Subscriptions still to be payable in advance.'—W. Ayre, Dis. Sec.

DIOCESES OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Bourton-on-the Water on Saturday, July 25th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, kindly provided by the Rector (Canon W. E. White, R.D.). Business meeting to follow. Stow-on-the-World (8 bells) will be available, 7 till 9. All those that intend being present please notify me by the 21st inst.—Walter Yeend, Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Fishlake (6 bells) on Saturday, July 25th. Tea will only be provided for those who notify me before the 22nd.—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Darley Vale on Saturday, July 25th. Ringing from 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited. — Charles Draper, Local Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — A meeting will be held at Southport, at the Church of St. Emmanuel, on Saturday, July 25th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting at 5.30. A good meeting is requested. —James Grounds, Branch Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Puttenham on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (6) available at 3. Service at 5. Tea and short business meeting after. — E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hillcrest, Baillie Road, Guildford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Worsley on Saturday, July 25th. Bells ready 3.15. Meeting 7 o'clock.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Warfield on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Guild service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. Names of those requiring tea must reach me not later than July 20th.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Marple on Saturday, July 25th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5.15 p.m.—John P. Fidler, Hon. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Clifford District. —The next quarterly meeting will be held at Clifford on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow.—J. P. Hyett, Dis. Sec., Dulas Terrace, Hay.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bottesford on Saturday, July 25th. Tower open 2.30. Tea and meeting at Rulland Cafe. Will those requiring tea please advise Mr. A. W. Ward not later than July 23rd? All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Special ringers' service at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, at 3 p.m., Sunday, July 26th.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Presteign District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wigmore on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (6) available 4.30 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea 6 (business meeting to follow). Free to those who notify me not later than Monday, July 20th. — Jabez Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembridge.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Tattershall on Saturday, 25th July. Bells (5) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by usual business meeting. Arrangements are being made with Mr. S. G. Lovell, of Stickney, for a charabanc, which will run by way of Sibsey, Old Leake, Benington, Freiston (Halltoft End) and Boston. It will leave Boston not later than 2 p.m. for Tattershall. Those requiring tea and a seat in charabanc must advise me not later than Wednesday, 22nd July. Coningsby bells (6) will also be available.—John Phillips, Hon. Sec., The School House, Butterwick, Boston, Lincs.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Wenhaston on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited to attend.—George Wilson, 41, Valley Road, Leiston.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —A meeting of the Hunts District will be held at Great Staughton, on Saturday, July 25th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. W. Lack, Great Staughton, Hunts, by Thursday, July 21st?

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Moorside, Oldham, on Saturday, August 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. P. J. Johnson is now 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Arthur Mason has removed to 16, Bennett Park, Blackheath, S.E.3. Mr. J. Wheadon, of Dartford, has removed to Crewkerne, Five Wents, Matfield, Paddock Wood, Kent.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Mr. Reginald D. Marshall has removed to 10, Royal Sussex Crescent, Victoria Drive, Eastbourne, Sussex.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District. — Secretary, Miss Williams, Weston House, Weston, Bath, Somerset.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The annual commemoration dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon will be held at Leeds on Saturday, September 19th.

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THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Northern Division was held at Barley on Saturday, July 11th, through the kindness of the Rector.

The church, which was restored and enlarged in 1864-1871, is an ancient structure. The lower part of the tower is of Saxon masonry, followed by Norman arches and windows.

The bells are a sweet-toned ring of six, having been rehung in recent years, and the 'go' is admirable. Mr. W. Mansfield kindly provided tea. At the meeting, Mr. T. R. Dennis (the Central Council representative for the Ely Diocesan Association) was voted to the chair. It was arranged that Stevenage be the next place for meeting.—Votes of thanks were recorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, also to Mr. Dennis for presiding, and to the ladies for their good catering. The ringing included Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Oxford, Double Oxford, Double Court, Woodbine, Stedman, Cambridge and London Surprise. By kind invitation of the Rector, the grounds of the Rectory were at the disposal of the ringers.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, GLOS.—On Whit Sunday, May 31st, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Graudsire Triples (1,260 changes): T. Bond (Evesham) 1, B. Phillips (Bourton-on-Water) 2, H. Gillitt (Bourton-on-Water) 3, F. E. Davis (Stow) 4, E. Pardon (Stow) 5, T. Banning (Bourton-on-Water), W. Large (conductor, Stretton-on-Fosse) 7, W. Richings (Stow) 8. First quarter by B. Phillips.

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