THE RINGING WORLD

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## THE EXEMPTION OF CHURCH BELLS.

The correspondence which we published last week concerning the new Control of Noise Order cleared up a position which had led to doubt in the minds of many authorities. It is now abundantly plain, as it was even under the first Order, that church bells may be rung for all customary purposes, including peal ringing. The new Order which, unlike the first, did not specifically mention the exception of church bells, gave rise to some serious qualms as to ringing in future, but the reply of the Ministry of Home Security to the inquiry made on behalf of 'The Ringing World' has settled any doubts on the matter. Confirmation also comes from the hon. secretary of the Central Council, who has been in touch with the Ministry of Home Security, and we publish elsewhere a statement agreed between the Ministry and the Central Council. As a matter of fact, there is nothing new in this statement beyond what has already been printed in our columns, but this fresh authoritative statement puts the position beyond doubt.

There is nothing in the new Order to prevent church bells being rung at any time, but this does not relieve ringers of the responsibility of acting at all times in the interests of public security. It goes without saying that, where the public interest demands it, bells will be immediately silenced, and for that reason the step which we have all along advocated, and of which the Minister has approved, of keeping a man posted to give instant notification of any air-raid warning, should be strictly observed. It should be the object of ringers so to act that there can be no cause for reasonable complaint about the ringing, as it concerns public safety, and it is in the interests of ringing that nothing should be done which may jeopardise the freedom from restriction which church bells now enjoy. In times like these there must be give and take, but it is very satisfactory to know that the new Order in no way curtails the exemption directly laid down by the first Control Order.

When war was declared, there was a sudden cessation of all ringing, more because of the fear of immediate calamitous happenings than anything else, but now the first three months have passed without such anticipated disasters materialising, and life in this country is being adjusted to the abnormal conditions, it is realised that there are some things which can safely be continued without risk. The ringing of church bells is one of them, and not only should service ringing be continued or, where it has ceased, be resumed, but every opportunity should be made to continue practices and hold meetings. There is, indeed, no reason in law why even peals should not be

(Continued on page 702.)

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rung, at any rate, for special occasions. There should, of course, be a certain amount of circumspection in doing this, and there may come times when such ringing would be altogether out of place, but, at any rate while conditions remain as they are, a certain amount of peal ringing could not be considered in any way to contravene public feeling. A correspondent this week puts forward reasoned grounds why peal ringing might be resumed, and where the church authorities offer no objection, and where proper precauions are taken, there is something to be said for continuing the ringing of peals.

But the greatest value of the exemption accorded to church bells is the fact that it enables service ringing to be maintained, and makes practices and the continued cultivation of the art of ringing possible. In many towers, of course, the 'black out' renders practices after nightfall out of question, but in a number of districts ringers are surmounting the obstacle by combining their forces and ringing either before darkness sets in or at towers where the structural conditions make it possible to comply with the lighting restrictions. For the next two months or so the short days will, of course, limit the afternoon practices except at places where lights can be properly obscured, but the opportunities which ringers continue to enjoy should not be neglected, and should be utilised not only to maintain service ringing but the interest of all the ringers who are left at home to carry on and, in addition, to raise additional forces to fill the gaps that, alas, must inevitably occur as the war goes on.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**
Tenor 6½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GEOFFREY HARRISON | ...Treble | SIDNEY O. CHEENEY | ... 6 |
| SHIRLEY BURTON ... ... | 2 | *†CHARLES ALLSOP ... ... | 7 |
| ERNEST RAWSON ... ... | 3 | COLIN HARRISON ... ... | 8 |
| WILLIAM J. ROOT ... ... | 4 | G. RONALD EDWARDS ... | 9 |
| *HARRY WAYNE ... ... ... | 5 | ‡FREDERICK H. DEXTER | ...Tenor |

Composed by WM. PYE. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. † 100th peal. ‡ 50th peal of Surprise Royal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Three Hours & Twenty-Seven Minutes*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5120 CHANGES;**
Tenor 24 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOSEPH BOYER ... ... | ...Treble | STANLEY HARRISON ... ... | 6 |
| MISS ANNIE POTTER ... ... | 2 | FRED GRUNDY ... ... ... | 7 |
| JOHN POTTER ... ... ... | 3 | PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... | 8 |
| WILLIAM H. SHUKER ... | 4 | JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... ... | 9 |
| FRANK REYNOLDS ... ... | 5 | CECIL RADDON ... ... | ...Tenor |

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOSEPH H. RIDYARD.

* First peal of Caters. Rung to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Robin Renshaw.


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## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

MIDDLETON'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 17 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HARRY JONES ... ... ... | *Treble* | PERCY NEWTON ... ... ... | 5 |
| FREDERICK G. BIGGS ... ... | 2 | RICHARD LEE ... ... ... | 6 |
| ROLAND BIGGS ... ... ... | 3 | F. DONALD BOREHAM ... ... | 7 |
| REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ... | 4 | H. WINGROVE ... ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. W. H. Marsh and Miss C. A. Lester, who were married at the Church of SS. Mary and George, Sands, that day.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

CUCKNEY, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JOB READER ... ... ... | *Treble* | ARTHUR E. CHILTON ... ... | 4 |
| FREDERICK FLINT ... ... | 2 | RICHARD REECH ... ... ... | 5 |
| GEORGE E. FOSTER ... ... | 3 | HERBERT T. ROOKE ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRANCIS KIRK ... ... ... | 1-2 | EDWIN A. BARNETT ... ... | 5-6 |
| ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ... | 3-4 | EDWIN JENNINGS ... ... ... | 7-8 |

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Umpire—C. C. Mayne.

HEVINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Sunday, November 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CONDUCTOR'S RESIDENCE,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven 720's, three callings.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JACK N. A. PUMPHREY... ... | 1-2 | WALTER C. MEDLER ... ... | 3-4 |
| *ERIC DURRANT ... ... ... | 5-6 | | |

Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

* First peal on handbells.

### THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am rather surprised at the continued correspondence concerning the interval signal used by the B.B.C. In the first place, it is most unlikely that any change in the way of a new record will be made at this time, and it may be that any steps we take as an organisation during war time will have just the opposite effect we desire, i.e., the disappearance of the bells record entirely.

We ringers have much greater problems. Service ringing must be kept up and practices arranged wherever possible. Recruits must be brought along under very adverse circumstances while the Exercise in general is affected when individuals succeed in using the present national emergency to gain their own way to curtail or stop the ringing of the bells in their locality.

Such attacks have been made, and with success, by people who have vowed vengeance on the bells for years past, and when this happens it presents a pretty problem for the band concerned. They have to decide whether it is a legitimate action or a little bit of the Hitlerism we are pledged to destroy.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

Bournemouth.

## A 'SHUNT' IN RINGING PARLANCE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I may be very dense, but I fail to understand why you say that the Oxford English Dictionary contradicts, when actually it bears me out altogether.

What clinches the matter is the definition you quote: The calling or omission of a bob in order to divert the track of a composition from one part to the corresponding point in another part. This so exactly describes the correct meaning which appears from the Jasper Snowdon series that he may have written it himself. I expect, however, it is more likely that his brother wrote it. It is to support this definition that I have written both now, and on previous occasions; and if anything I have written 'contradicts' it, I am only too glad here and now to withdraw any such words.

From his writings I should say that Jasper Snowdon was careful of his etymology. In conversation with his brother William I found that the latter was an etymological authority. He was, however, the only such ringer that I have met. Ringers as a rule have no use for etymology whatever, and I must sorrowfully admit that you are probably right in not giving much consideration to my arguments in that matter. I will, therefore, now give some mathematical reasons to which ringers may perhaps pay more attention.

Mathematicians have divided the science of mechanics into Statics and Dynamics. In Statics a machine is treated as being in full action at a given moment, but only that moment is considered. That is to say the work of the machine is alone discussed, apart from its movement: in Dynamics, movement is added.

These two divisions lend themselves well to change ringing. When figures are written or printed in a row, they are static: we may write or print another row: this also will be static. In fact, what is printed cannot be anything else.

Now let those two rows be rung. We can hear, or we can feel, each bell ringing after another, or each row coming after another. That is to say there is movement; the work is dynamic. We can further see that some words are static, some dynamic, and that we must keep them distinct.

Take your sentence: 'An operation which alters the position of . . . we will call a shunt.' The words 'operation' and 'alters' are dynamic; 'position' and 'shunt' are static. (The remaining words are indifferent.) The result is always static. The word by which it is brought about is dynamic. In all the meanings you quote from the Oxford English Dictionary, the word 'shunt' is static; but you equate it with a dynamic word, and use it in a dynamic sense. You are condemned by the authority you have called in.

You speak of a 'right.' I am afraid I know of no such right: of course anyone can be as puzzling as they wish. But why wish? The puzzle you set us is to know whether the word as you employ it is to be static or dynamic. Is a row intended, or is it work you speak of?

You use two other words in your description, why not keep to one of these? You could tell us very well about 'Operation, No. 1,' No. 2, etc.—or 'Alteration, No. 1,' No. 2 and so on. Or there are plenty of other words, such as 'Move, No. 1.' I assure you that the use of such words would make very much greater the usefulness of your excellent series of articles.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

The Oxford English Dictionary does contradict Mr. Drake. It does not agree that 'shunt' is a 'factitive form' of 'shun,' but says that the origin of the word is unknown. The various definitions it gives show that there is nothing static implied in the meaning. The general idea behind all the various meanings is that of something being moved from one track to another, which is the idea which lies behind our use of the word.

Neither Jasper nor William Snowdon used the word 'shunt' in connection with change ringing. It was first so employed by C. D. P. Davies as the name of the bobs in peals of Grandsire Triples similar to the extra bobs which Reeves added to Holt's Ten-Part to produce Reeves' Variation. These bobs have an exactly similar effect on the Coursing Order of the bells to the 'shunts' referred to in our articles.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

### A NEW RING OF SIX IN SOUTH WALES.

On Saturday last the recast and augmented ring of bells at St. Bride's Major, Glamorgan, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Llandaff, who gave the address.

As the procession of clergy returned to the chancel the bells were rung for a short while. Tea was provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, and in the evening Mr. J. W. Jones gave an address in the church on bells and bellringing.

Ringers were present from Newport, Llanbradach, Newton, Aberavon and Bridgard, as well as Mr. J. H. Shephard, of Swindon.

A well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung by J. W. Jones 1, H. Cassells 2, T. Roderick 3, C. W. Perry (conductor) 4, D. R. James 5, E Stitch 6.

The work of restoration included a new lead roof and new floors, besides the recasting of the old five bells, the addition of a new treble, and hanging them with up-to-date fittings. The work was carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. in their usual first-class style.

# CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

BY C. R. WOOLLEY.

(Continued from page 692.)

If we examine a method with places we can quite easily see the effects which places have. It can only be possible to do so with straightforward methods, having places made ' right ' (that is, at hand- and back-stroke) ; places made wrong (back and hand) are more complicated, so the reader is left to do this himself. The following remarks apply only to places made ' right.'

In straightforward methods the changes can be split up into pairs (at hand and back), and in each pair it will be seen that two places occur. In plain hunting these are at front and back. In making these places, bells turn round to hunt the opposite way. Now it will be easily seen that in any pair of changes an odd place (one in 3rd's, 5th's or 7th's) can take the place of the lead; and an even place (in 2nd's, 4th's or 6th's) can take the place of the lie. These internal places are made by bells which are turning round to hunt the other way before reaching the front or back, consequently odd places are made from the back, even places from the front. Also it will be seen that an odd place causes dodging in front of it without affecting the bells hunting above it; while an even place causes dodging above it, without affecting the plain hunt below it. Each pair of changes must contain one odd and one even place (external or internal).

Taking Double Norwich for an example, we see that the construction depends on a series of compartments or boxes formed by places made around the treble as it moves up and down; these are made as near to its path as possible without, of course, affecting its plain hunt.

Numbering the pairs of changes 1 to 8 as shown we have:—

| | 12345678 |
|---|---|
| 1 | 21436587<br>24135678 |
| 2 | 42316587<br>24361578 |
| 3 | 42635187<br>24365817 |
| 4 | 42638571<br>46283751 |
| 5 | 64827315<br>46287135 |
| 6 | 64821753<br>46812735 |
| 7 | 64187253<br>61482735 |
| 8 | 16847253<br>18674523 |

In (1) the treble is crossing 2-3. Fourth's place is made, which, with the lead, forms the ' box ' round the treble's path. This fourth's allows hunting in 1-2-3 but causes dodging in 5-6-7-8.

In (2) the treble is crossing 4-5. Thirds and sixth's places form the box, and these cause dodging in 1-2 and 7-8, only allowing hunting between them in 4-5.

In (3) the treble is crossing 6-7. Fifth's and eighth's form the box. Dodging in 1-2-3-4.

In (4) a whole pull at lead goes with the treble's lie. This allows plain hunting all through.

Now consider the effect on a pair. Take 7-8 for a simple example.

In (1) fourth's is made, so the pair dodge together in 7-8.

In (2) sixth's is made, so the pair do another dodge in 7-8.

In (3) fifth's is made; this allows the tenor to hunt down from behind, while the 7th lies the pull.

In (4) the pair hunt down parallel.

At the beginning of (5) the tenor has reached third's and the 7th fifth's. Consequently, the 7th must make the place, and this causes the tenor to dodge back into fourth's. Therefore the pair strike together in 4-5.

In (6) the pair have separated by two bells, and are in third's and sixth's. They thus make the places. Notice that all pairs of places in Double Norwich are made by pairs of coursing bells.

In (7) the pair strike together in 4-5, and the tenor, being in fourth's, makes the place. This causes the 7th to dodge back into sixth's, and this brings the pair into course again, with one bell in between.

In (8) the tenor goes down to turn the treble, the 7th following in course.

Since in this type of method an even place can only be made while a bell is leading a whole pull and an odd place while it is lying, we need really only know the internal places. So that the half lead may be summed up as: Fourth's, Third's and Sixth's, Fifth's; and the second half, Fifth's, Third's and Sixth's, Fourth's.

Looking at the Surprise methods we find that an internal place is necessary whenever the treble dodges to prevent repetition; or, looked at in another way, to cause the dodge. Also, by definition of the class, an internal place is also needed when the treble moves from one set of dodging places to another (that is, at every cross-section).

Taking Cambridge Minor as a simple example, we can set out the construction in the following way by the position of the treble, internal place, and its effect:—

| Position of treble. | Internal Place. | Effect. |
|---|---|---|
| Dodging in 1-2. | Third's. | Dodging in 1-2.<br>Plain hunt in 4-5-6. |
| Crossing 2-3. | Fourth's. | Dodging in 5-6.<br>Plain hunt in 1-2-3. |
| Dodging in 3-4. | Second's. | Dodging in 3-4 and 5-6. |
| Crossing 4-5. | Third's. | Dodging in 1-2.<br>Plain hunt in 4-5-6. |
| Dodging in 5-6. | Fourth's. | Dodging in 5-6.<br>Plain hunt in 1-2-3. |
| Lying in sixth's. | Fifth's. | Dodging in 1-2 and 3-4. |

The second half-lead is, of course, a repetition of the above in reverse, so need not be given.

Surprise Major can be treated in exactly the same way. A decided resemblance will be noticed between Cambridge, Superlative and Double Norwich, the two Surprise methods having the same places as the plain method at the cross-sections. London and Bristol both have places made ' wrong ' coupled with backward hunting; such places do not conform to the same rules. For example, place-making bells do not necessarily reverse, nor have they the same effects on the other bells. However, all methods can be similarly treated by construction for double-handed ringing.

## A DOUBLE CELEBRATION

A quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at Great Baddow, Essex, on Sunday, October 22nd, to commemorate Mr. George Green's 52 years as a ringer at Great Baddow and to celebrate the engagement of Anthony Tyrell, eldest son of Dr. Spencer-Phillips, Master of the Essex Association, to Miss J. Ducat Amos, of Reading, Berkshire: R. C. Thrift 1, George Green 2, P. Felton 3, P. Green (composer and conductor) 4, H. Carter (first quarter-peal in the method) 5, Pat Spencer-Phillips 6, Dr. J. Spencer-Phillips 7, L. J. Clark 8.

## LADIES' GUILD.

### PRESENTATION TO FORMER BRANCH SECRETARY.

Her many friends in the South Midlands Branch of the Ladies' Guild have presented Miss S. Thursfield with a brown leather handbag as a small token of their affection and of their great gratitude to her for all she has done for them in her many years' secretaryship. Owing to war conditions it has not been found possible to hold a meeting at which the presentation could be made, so the bag has been sent by post and Mrs. Powell has received the following letter from Miss Thursfield in acknowledgment.

'Dear Mrs. Powell.—I really do not know how to thank you all enough. I am simply delighted with the lovely bag and I feel quite overwhelmed with the kindness of all my friends in the Ladies' Guild. Please give them my best thanks; I do so much appreciate the fact of you all giving me anything, and you could not have chosen anything that I like more, for it is really a lovely bag. I am taking it into immediate use, as I was badly in need of a nice one, and I shall love to feel that I shall have it as a constant reminder of my friends in the Guild.

'My association with the Guild has given me some of the happiest times I have ever had, and I thoroughly look forward to meeting everyone again. Meanwhile, the best of thanks to everyone. I appreciate it more than I can say.'

Miss F. E. Hart, of Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, has succeeded Miss Thursfield as district secretary, and a meeting of the branch is to be held at Rothwell on December 2nd.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

### DERBY DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting was held at St. Werburgh's, Spondon, last Saturday, when members attended from Nottingham, Breaston, Repton and Derby. A good variety of methods was rung, including Grandsire Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Bob Minor, Double Oxford, Double Court, Stedman Doubles, Oxford Bob, Spliced Treble Bob and Little Bob Minor.

At the short business meeting held in the belfry it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Luke's, Derby, on December 16th. Members were reminded of the meeting to be held at Loughborough the following Saturday. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the towerkeeper for having all in readiness were proposed by Mr. James Pagett, seconded by Mr. W. Slater and carried unanimously. The bells were lowered in peal about 5.15, after which handbells were brought into use till about 5.45.

## RINGERS WEDDED AT ALDERSHOT.

### MR. R. G. CROSS, R.N.—MISS I. S. TUCK.

The wedding took place by special licence at the Old Parish Church, Aldershot, on Monday, November 13th, of Miss Irene Stella Tuck, only daughter of the late Mr. Tuck and of Mrs. Tuck, of Ash Road, Aldershot, and Mr. Robert Gordon Cross, R.N., only son of Mr. and Mrs. Cross, of Twyford, Berks. The bride is secretary of the Float Iron Laundry, Aldershot, and a keen member of the local ringing company. The bridegroom is an Instructor-Lieutenant in the Royal Navy and is well known as an accomplished ringer.

The ceremony was conducted by the Vicar of Aldershot, the Rev. J. B. Rowsell. Mr. R. Tuck gave his sister away, while Miss E. C. Southby attended her friend as bridesmaid. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. C. W. Denyer.

As the bridal couple left the church, via the belfry, beneath an archway of bellropes and a shower of confetti, the bells rang out merrily. Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Cross left for the bridegroom's home at Twyford, where a brief honeymoon was spent, Mr. Cross having to return to his ship on the following Thursday.

## WEDDING BELLS AT THORNE, YORKS.

On Saturday, November 18th, at the Parish Church, the marriage took place between Mr. Ernest Thorley and Miss Violet H. Williams. The bridegroom is a member of the local band, and as the happy couple left the church, 672 Grandsire Triples was rung by his fellow-ringers: J. Thorley 1, T. Leask 2, A. Woods 3, T. A. Hepworth 4, C. H. Thorley 5, W. Hobson 6, C. Thorley (conductor) 7, H. Cooper 8.

## NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

### ARMISTICE DAY MEETING AT CHEADLE.

By the kind invitation of Father Macdonald, priest of the Roman Catholic Church at Cheadle, a meeting was held on Armistice Day, when the bells were rung half-muffled. Ringers attended from Norton, Kingsley, Leek, Uttoxeter, Longton, Burslem, Draycott, Stoke and the local belfry. The methods rung included Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise, besides rounds and Bob Minor for the young local band, who are doing well under the leadership of Mr. A. Hall.

Tea was provided at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, by the kindness of Father Macdonald, who sent a letter of welcome, not being able to be present in person, and in return a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

THE

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

**The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.**

**We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.**

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Next Monday, Mr. James George, of Birmingham, reaches his 86th birthday, and his friends everywhere will join in offering their congratulations. He has now recovered from his long illness and is enjoying good health. Few men have accomplished as much as Mr. George in the world of ringing, and but for the war we can imagine he would by this time have been as busy as ever at the rope end.

Last Tuesday was the two hundred and second anniversary of the peal at West Ham (mentioned in last week's issue) in which Philemon Mainwaring turned the 28 cwt. tenor in to 15,120 changes of Plain Bob Major.

On November 23rd, 1732, the City Scholars rang 6,012 changes of Grandsire Caters at St. Giles', Cripplegate, and on the same date in 1775 the Norwich Scholars scored the first peal on the grand ring of twelve at St. Peter Mancroft, which had recently been erected. The method was Grandsire Cinques.

November 25th is the anniversary of two other 18th century peals of Grandsire Cinques. In 1729 the London Scholars rang 6,204 changes at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and in 1799 the Union Society of Shrewsbury rang 6,006 changes at St. Chad's.

The board which recorded the Cornhill peal was in existence 100 years ago, but soon afterwards was taken down from the wall during some repairs, and ultimately was broken up and destroyed.

The dedication of the two new bells, cast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, to augment to twelve the present ring at St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, will take place on Sunday morning, November 26th. On the following Saturday there will be an open meeting for ringers.

Mr. Arthur Panther, of Wath-on-Dearne, Yorks, is at present in the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, where he has undergone several operations for internal trouble. We are pleased to state he is progressing favourably and have no doubt his many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at Worsley on Saturday was rung to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Robin Renshaw, son of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Renshaw. The ringers were invited to the Vicarage to drink the young man's health and wish him many happy returns of the day. All the band thank the Vicar for his kindness. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Mr. Frank Reynolds, the ringer of the fifth.

## RUGBY RINGER'S DEATH.

### ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY LOSES VALUED MEMBER.

The passing of Mr. Albert Bramall on November 7th robs the Rugby St. Andrew's band of its oldest member and the Warwickshire Guild of one of its few remaining pioneers. A robust man, he belied his 77 years by his handling of the heavier bells, and until a month before his death was ever eager to turn in the 25 cwt. tenor to a touch of Surprise.

Mr. Bramall began his ringing career in 1886 at St. James', Grimsby, and rang in a peal of Grandsire Triples there on March 4th, 1889. His first peal, however, for the Lincolnshire Guild (also Grandsire Triples) was scored on August 18th in the previous year at St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby, where he may still be remembered as 'Old Blossom.'

His livelihood on the railway took him to Rugby in May, 1899, to be followed a year later by another Lincoln Guild enthusiast, Mr. J. B. Fenton, and the present standard of change ringing at Rugby owes much to their early encouragement on handbells.

Although Mr. Bramall rang but one peal for the Warwickshire Guild, he has been one of the most conscientious service and practice ringers during his 40 years at Rugby, and he will be much missed for a very long time to come.

On Sunday, November 12th, his colleagues paid their last tribute to him with half-muffled touches of Stedman Triples before morning service, one of these being called by his son, Mr. Leslie Bramall, who is the deputy ringing master.

# WAR TIME RINGING.

## CENTRAL COUNCIL AND MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY. AN AGREED STATEMENT.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Since the early days of the war I have been in touch with the Ministry of Home Security as to ringing in general, and am now able to publish the following agreed notice.

A copy has been or will be sent to all affiliated associations and all members of the Council, and I am arranging for a supply to be available for any tower secretary who may desire a copy. In the latter case a stamped addressed envelope will be appreciated.

All ringers are urged to observe the requirements of the notice and to advise me of any difficulties they may have with the authorities in their district. In this way we shall avoid troubles, help the Ministry and help ourselves.

I have indicated to the Ministry that we are all prepared to help, and in their last letter they write:—

'I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the co-operation which you have so kindly offered.'

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Central Council.

## THE RINGING OF CHURCH BELLS.

### CIVIL DEFENCE REGULATIONS.

Under the provisions of the Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order, 1939, the sounding of any instrument which might be mistaken by the public for an air raid or poison gas warning signal is, in general, prohibited. The use of church or chapel bells or clock chimes in a customary manner is not, however, considered to be likely to cause confusion, and is not prohibited.

It is, nevertheless, desirable that arrangements should be made for ringing (whether the bells be in rounds or changes) to cease immediately an air raid warning is given.

To ensure that the bells stop immediately, a ringer or some other responsible person should be posted outside the tower with means to communicate the warning.

Ringers are reminded that all ringing chambers, bell chambers and staircases are subject to the lighting restrictions, and all lights therein must be adequately screened or, where this is not possible, must not be used after sunset or before sunrise.

The foregoing notice has been approved by the Ministry of Home Security. All ringers are urged to observe the above requirements in the interest of public security and so that further restrictions may not become necessary.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Central Council.

## PEAL RINGING IN WAR TIME.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The Central Council's resolution of 1915, recalled by Rev. F. Ll. Edwards in 'The Ringing World' for Nov. 10th, regarding abstention from peal ringing during the Great War is interesting, but I hope it will not be taken as a binding precedent to be followed during the present war.

The attitude of the authorities is quite definitely in favour of the continuance of normal activities, so long as they do not lessen the nation's war effort. Forms of entertainment and sport have been encouraged as far as possible, and peal ringing, which, together with association meetings, forms the secular side of our art, seems to me to come definitely into this category. It might be argued that it would not be desirable to start for a peal on the day of the announcement of a big loss to our defence forces—though even that does not stop such things as football matches—but the only other reasons I can see for stopping peal ringing are those which have already in some places stopped or curtailed service ringing. One of the most necessary things at the present time is to keep up the morale of the ordinary population and this will not be done if one's ordinary means of recreation are cut off.

Obviously we cannot expect the usual number of peals to be rung—difficulties of travelling and of maintaining bands are often too great, but in places where this can be overcome peal ringing can do no harm to the country.

WILFRID G. WILSON.

## WAR-TIME MEETINGS IN LANCASHIRE.

At a meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association on Saturday last, the arrangement of war-time meetings was discussed. It was decided to select a tower where the windows could be blacked out and at a church in the town until the evenings were lighter. Bolton is fortunate in having seven rings of eight and one of six in the town itself. In some towers, when and how bells could be rung was a little doubtful, but the meeting felt thankful to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' for clearing the matter up.

The meeting was fairly well attended, eight local towers being represented, and the visitors included the president and the secretary of the Preston Branch and Mr. Fred F. Rigby, a former branch member, who has come back from Bournemouth to reside in the district.

## SUCCESSFUL COMBINED PRACTICES.

### ACTIVITY IN VARIOUS CENTRES.

A very successful combined practice of the Cranleigh-Ewhurst-Bramley-Wonersh block of towers was held at Cranleigh on Saturday afternoon, November 18th, when 16 ringers and learners were present from six different towers, together with members of the local band. The eight bells were raised in peal at 3 o'clock, and between that time and 5 o'clock, when the bells were lowered (again in peal), no time whatever was wasted, and ringing, from rounds to Double Norwich was continuous and enjoyed by all present. The opinion was generally expressed that an enjoyable and useful afternoon had been spent, and that such practices were well worth arranging, especially under present circumstances.

Arrangements have been made for further such combined practices from 3 to 5 in the afternoon, to be held at Bramley, November 25th; Shere, December 2nd; Bramley, December 9th; Ewhurst, December 16th; Wonersh, December 23rd; and Bramley, December 30th. All ringers will be welcome.

Combined practices have been held at various towers in South Buckinghamshire on most Saturday afternoons since the outbreak of war. Ringers will be welcomed at Hughenden to-morrow and at Chalfont St. Peter's on Saturday, December 2nd, both at 3 p.m.

Recent practices at Stoke Poges and Clewer have been enjoyed by those enthusiasts who put in an appearance, despite the war and the black-out. Various methods were rung, including Surprise, some touches being nearly good enough for the secretary. A start has been made with some evacuees, who will be useful when they return to London. The next practice is at Cookham to-morrow, but as some of the meetings are put on at short notice, it is as well to keep in touch with one of the 'regulars,' in case there is not time to advertise in 'The Ringing World.'

It has been decided to visit the following towers on the dates mentioned for combined practices: Erith (Christ Church), November 25th; Crayford, December 2nd, Erith (St. John's), December 9th; Bexley, December 16th; Dartford, December 23rd. Practices will then be repeated in the same order. The idea is to keep the goodly number of young ringers at these towers interested.

## WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Newcastle Cathedral, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.45 to 3.30 p.m.
Merstham, Surrey, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Worplesdon, 10.15 a.m. Practice, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.
Broxbourne, 10.20 to 11 a.m. and 2.50 to 3.30 p.m. Practice, Wednesday, 6.45 p.m.
Bournemouth, 9.30 to 10.50 a.m. and 2.40 p.m.
Winchester Cathedral, 10.25 a.m. and 2 p.m.
St. Albans, St. Peter's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m. Practice, Monday, 8 p.m.

## BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

### DECISION TO HOLD ANNUAL DINNER.

The committee of Bristol United Ringing Guilds have decided to hold the annual dinner on the third Saturday in January (the 20th). The place will be decided later. Subject to any rationing conditions that may prevail, the dinner will be of the usual character and tickets will be 4s. 6d. each. The customary social programme will be arranged. Those who are proposing to attend should communicate with the hon. secretary (Mr. E. Guise) before November 25th.

The committee are also hoping to promote dances on Saturday evenings at St. Michael's Parish Hall, if sufficient tickets, at 1s. each, are sold.

## THE RECORD PEAL OF MINOR.

### CONGRATULATIONS FROM TASMANIA.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Readers of 'The Ringing World' will probably be interested to know how widely interest has been created by the band which rang the 104 method peal at Bigby on July 19th last. Amongst the numerous letters of congratulation one has been received by me from Mr. A. R. Wilson, hon. secretary of the Holy Trinity Bellringers' Association, Hobart, Tasmania. The members of the association sent their congratulations to the band who rang the peal.

Since ringing the 104 method peal, which was thought, at the time, to be the extent of methods in seven 720's, Mr. C. K. Lewis has found it possible to include 105 methods in seven extents. So the extent of methods has yet to be rung when we are in happier times.

Grasby, Lincoln. GEORGE E. FEIRN.

## MR. JOHN SHAND'S ARTICLE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Apropos your note in Belfry Gossip recently of Mr Shand's article in the 'Nineteenth Century and After.' I should like to draw your attention to the fact that this gentleman made a contribution to the 'Spectator' of October 30th, 1936, on the 'Bellringer's Art.' In this he spoke at length on aspects of general interest in campanology and told of the special preparations being made for ringing during the Coronation celebrations in 1937.

Fenham, Newcastle-on-Tyne. K. ARTHUR.

# CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

## HOW THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY WAS FORMED.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

Nowadays it is so unusual for any ringer not to be a member of one of the large societies or associations that we naturally think it was always so. But such was not the case.

The leading societies formerly were small and exclusive bodies, the members of which were closely associated together and formed one band only. There were, indeed, members who lived in the provinces or the outlying villages of Middlesex and Surrey, but they hardly counted in the general life of the society. The band at headquarters elected only just a sufficient number of recruits to fill vacancies caused by deaths or retirement.

Societies so constituted were very liable to vicissitudes of fortune, and there were many causes which might easily bring the whole thing to an end. A quarrel, the death of the leading members, waning interest, or the slackness which comes with increasing years—any one might cause the break-up of the company; and so the life of most of these societies was not a long one. And especially the fortunes of these bodies depended on the possession of good leaders. Where there was a man of energy and ability, there the society prospered. When such was lacking, there was decay and, usually, final extinction.

These considerations give us all we really need to know about the fate of the Society of London Scholars. It is most likely that they failed to adapt themselves to the changing conditions of the time, and after Doleman, in the early days of the eighteenth century, they do not appear to have had any leader of outstanding ability such as the College Youths found in Benjamin Annable, and the Union Scholars in John Holt. In 1742 some of their members joined the College Youths, and that probably marks the final break-up of the society.

The Society of Cumberland Youths was formed from quite a different class of people. Outside the leading companies there were many ringers, loosely organised into bands, who met at different towers, and did most of the not inconsiderable amount of paid ringing there was to be done.

Who they were, what they did, and what peals they rang, have mostly been forgotten, but in Laughton's book we get a brief glimpse of some of these people. In all there were forty-two men associated with the Ramblers' Club in 1733. Ten of them were, at the time, members of the Society of College Youths, one or two were, then or afterwards, members of the Eastern Scholars or the London Youths; but for the most part they were not members of any society that we know of.

They were ringers before the club was formed, and (we cannot doubt) they continued to be ringers after it was broken up. The majority of them lived in the north or north-eastern suburbs of the town. They rang at Christ Church, Spitalfields, and when Shoreditch Church was built and the new bells put up, they were the people who usually rang them.

As these men dropped out of ringing others took their places, and though they had, so far as we know, no formal society, there were all the materials for making one. All they needed was a first-class leader to organise them, and him they found at last in George Partrick.

Partrick was the real founder of the Society of Cumberland Youths; but for him it probably would never have existed, and since he had appeared it would still have come into being had the battle of Culloden never been fought.

This accounts for the discrepancy of the dates. When the society was founded it needed a name. It was the fashion at the time all over England to call things after the Duke of Cumberland, and, since he was nowhere more popular than in Spitalfields and Shoreditch, it was natural enough that the new company should be the Society of Cumberland Youths. That special permission was given to use the name, or that the Duke knew anything about it, is not in the least likely. The medal worn by the Master to this day, is an impress of one that had been struck to commemorate Culloden, and it was given to the society, not by the Duke, but by William Manley, a gentleman who lived at Woldham Hall, near Rochester, and who was Master of the society in 1774.

The new society was formed on September 6th, 1747, nearly eighteen months after the battle of Culloden, and the society's book leaves no doubt that it was a new company and not merely a change in the title of an old one.

The list of early members shows the connection with the Ramblers' Club. Jeremiah Gilbert, Laughton's close friend, was one of the foundation members, and so was John Harrington, another Rambler, while the names of several others suggest that they were the sons or relatives of men who had been associated with Laughton.

Of George Partrick nothing apart from his ringing career is known. We are tempted to think he was a member of a family which supplied more than one eminent ringer. There was a John Patrick, a leading composer at the end of the seventeenth century, two of whose six-bell methods are still rung. Another John Patrick was Master of the College Youths in 1736, and Robert Patrick, half a century later, was an excellent ringer and a bell founder, who cast the bells at Bishopsgate and Hackney and the tenor at Cripplegate. At least his name is on these bells as founder, but whether he cast them himself is perhaps doubtful.

George Partrick was a composer, but only one of his compositions has survived. It is the well-known one-part peal of Treble Bob Major in twenty-two courses which, curiously enough, is generally attributed to John Patrick.

At Spitalfields and Shoreditch, a large colony of French refugees had settled and carried on the trade of silk weaving. The names of many the members of the new society show that they were of French extraction, and notably among them were Samuel and Francis Wood, whose family name had originally been Dubois. Francis Wood was the grandfather of Matthew Wood, whom older people still remember to-day as one of the leading London ringers of a past generation.

This, then, is the genesis of the Society of Cumberland Youths, which was for many years so closely associated with the bells and belfry of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. I have mentioned that during the first six or seven years after the bells were put up only a couple of peals are known to have been rung on them, and those by a visiting company. It is a not unlikely explanation that other peals had been rung by these men before they became the Society of Cumberland Youths, for, soon after they had

(Continued on next page.)

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DIVISION'S SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place on Saturday, November 11th, at Docking, 33 ringers attending from 15 different parishes. In view of the circumstances which now prevail, ringing commenced shortly after 2 p.m. and was continued until 4 p.m., when a short service was conducted by the Dean (the Very Rev. E. Rogers, O.B.E.), and a collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to 8s. 4d. After the service ringing was resumed until dark, when the company adjourned to the Church Hall for tea, which was followed by the business meeting.

The District Master (Mr. F. Ridgwell) presided, and a splendid report on the year's work in the division was read by the secretary (Miss Hilda Snowden). Meetings had been held at Coggeshall, Stisted, Belchamp St. Paul's, and Bocking, with an average attendance of 31. The Yeldham meeting had to be postponed owing to the outbreak of war. Nine new ringing members had been elected. Twenty-six peals had been rung. The number was not so high as in other years, owing to the difficulty which had arisen from September, but the standard was a great deal higher than ever before. The analysis showed that the peals included three of Spliced Minor in 30, 32 and 34 methods, one each of Netherseale and Bourne Surprise Minor, one of Annable's London Minor, and seven more in other Minor methods; two of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, four London Surprise Major, two of Bristol, one of Superlative, two of Cambridge and two of Bob Major. The conductors were R. Bird (9), L. W. Wiffen (8), C. W. Woolley (3), J. Jennings and R. Suckling (2 each), J. Elliott and J. H. Crampion (one each). It was gratifying to note that the Spliced Surprise Major was rung entirely by members of this division, under the conductorship of Mr. L. W. Wiffen. It was also encouraging to note that several young ringers rang their first peal.

For the election of officers Mr. L. W. Wiffen took the chair. Mr. F. Ridgwell expressed a wish that someone else should be elected to the Mastership. It was, he said, an office that should go round, and he proposed that Mr. H. W. Smith be elected Master for the ensuing year.—This was seconded by Mr. F. Claydon and carried.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen, on behalf of the members, thanked Mr. Ridgwell for his past services.

Miss Hilda Snowden was re-elected hon. secretary on the proposition of R. Suckling, seconded by C. Burton.

Three new ringing members were elected.

A discussion followed as to what should be done in the division during the war, and all were in favour of the proposition that practices be held at available towers every second Saturday in the month, the secretary making the necessary inquiries and arrangements.

The possibility of future meetings was left to the secretary, when information was forthcoming regarding towers that were available.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean, and Mrs. Rogers and her willing helpers for the tea. He also welcomed the Sub-Dean's presence.—The Dean briefly replied.

Several members then made use of the handbells.

### ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

(Continued from previous page.)

been organised and George Partrick had assumed control, they became one of the most prolific peal-ringing bands in the metropolis.

But, though the Cumberlands looked on St. Leonard's as especially their tower, and practised there regularly, they never enjoyed a monopoly of the bells. The belfry was always open for peal ringing to any band who could get the right side of the steeplekeeper and, presumably, pay the recognised steeplage fee. It was not due to any generosity or tolerance on the part of the Cumberlands, for, as we had evidence in the account of the opening of Horsleydown bells, the relations between rival bands were normally anything but friendly. It seems that there were some towers where the local authorities did not mind how much ringing there was, and raised no objection if the bells were rung on two or three nights in every week.

## 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 the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, November 25th, when there is nearly a full moon to counteract the black-out. Ringing from 3 until 5. Tea and business meeting at the Duke's Head, with further ringing until 9 o'clock. Owing to caterer's difficulties, please send numbers for tea to Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible. Everybody welcome.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint practice meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. until 'black-out.' Short business meeting will be held in the Church Hall immediately afterwards, to be followed by handbells, and also instructional advice on theory and advanced methods by Mr. George Lewis. All welcome. No tea provided, but refreshment obtainable close by. There will be a full moon on this date, therefore no transport difficulties anticipated. Rally up.—Sidney F. Palmer and Maurice E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. at King's Arms Hotel, P.R.H.A.—G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Method to learn, London Scholars'. For tea, please notify Mr. John Butterworth, 3, Society Street, Shaw. Business meeting to follow at 6.30 p.m.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, November 25th. The cathedral bells (12) open 4 to 5 p.m. St. Peter's bells (10) open 2.30 and after tea. Service at St. Peter's 5.15. Tea at McMeekan's Restaurant 5.45 p.m. Business meeting (further meetings, election of officers, secretary's report, etc.) and handbell ringing. All towers in the district should be represented. All ringers and friends welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Lavendon on Saturday, November 25th, from 2 to 7 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Learners and beginners invited. Tea, 1s. each, by notice on arrival.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Loughborough, Saturday, November 25th. Bell foundry bells (10) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. General meeting in ringing room 5 p.m. Owing to difficulty of transport, etc., members are asked to cater for themselves. Tea can be got at local cafe.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. until black-out. Meeting after business; important. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The Luton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, November 25th. The eight bells will be available from 3 till 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—E. A. Belson, Dis. Sec., 7, Queen Street, Leighton Buzzard.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Hyde on Saturday, November 25th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Please note change of tower, and also, in view of present circumstances, kindly advise Mr. T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, the number requiring tea.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea. Business and handbell ringing afterwards.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Upton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (5) available from 1.30 to 4.15 p.m. Short service. A whist drive will be held in the Village Hall during the evening.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Cookham (6 bells) on Saturday, November 25th, 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Stay to tea and go home by moonlight. Handbells as well, if possible.—S. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. Slough 23260.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Oxford City Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wolvercote to-morrow, Saturday, November 25th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4, followed by tea and business meeting. All welcome.—E. J. Morton, 11, Water Eaton Road, Oxford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District — There will be a practice at Little Waltham on Saturday, November 25th, at 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NEWPORT, MON.—St. Woolos' Cathedral.—The augmented ring of twelve will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth during 11 a.m. service on Sunday, November 26th. The two new trebles added and Nos. 3, 4 and 5 recast by Gillett and Johnston.

ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT, MON.—The 10 bells, now augmented to 12 in memory of the late Dr. Egerton Williams, will be dedicated on Sunday morning, November 26th, by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth. The following Saturday, December 2nd, the bells will be available for ringing until black-out time. Visitors please notify Mr. C. Greedy, 68, Morden Road.

CANNINGTON, NEAR BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The 'black out' will not interfere with the next meeting, to be held at Newhall on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 to 7.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45. Appreciation of the efforts made to ring after tea should be shown in attendance. All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting to follow. Will everyone please make an effort to attend this meeting, when it will be discussed what course should be adopted with regard to practice meetings?—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, December 2nd. The bells of St. Michael at Coslany available from 2-4. Tea in St. Miles' Mission Hall at 4.15. Business meeting to discuss plan of campaign and incidental problems at 4.45, followed by social evening, including the showing of a film in colour by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, taken by him on his recent holiday in Norway and Spitzbergen, and the use of handbells. It is most important that I know by Tuesday, November 28th, if you are coming.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treas., Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. David's Institute, Haldon Road, Exeter, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tea at 5 o'clock, preceded by a short service at 4.45. Will those requiring tea please notify me by November 25th? St. Sidwell's, St. Thomas' and St. David's bells available from 2 to 5 p.m.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. More ringing after business meeting. Nominations for district officers for 1940 at this meeting. All ringers welcomed. Names for tea to Mr. W. Simmonds, 33, Burwood Close, Hersham, not later than Wednesday, November 29th.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at St. Paul's, Wokingham, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2.15 p.m. until dark. All welcome, but please come early.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—South Midland District.—The next meeting will be held at Rothwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2 p.m. till black-out. Please send names for tea by Monday, November 27th, to F. E. Hart, Hon. Sec., Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, Leics.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Please notify numbers for tea by Tuesday, November 28th, without fail.—E. F. Cubberley, Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Ambrose's Church on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells open 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available 2 p.m. until black-out. Service and tea, with meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by November 28th certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. S. Churton, 1, Birks Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday. All ringers welcome.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Come along to Coleman's Hatch on Saturday, December 2nd, and help keep the East Grinstead flag flying. Bells available 2.30-8.30 p.m. Mr. R. D. Divall has made arrangements for tea, so play the game, chaps, and send him a postcard before November 30th, at Kewins, Hartfield.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—A meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. It is essential that those requiring tea should inform me not later than Thursday, November 30th.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone, 297.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mistley on December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting at Thorne Hotel 5.30. Will all those intending to be there please notify me by Saturday next?—J. R. Sparling.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dalton-in-Furness (10 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 till 4.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, during the afternoon of Saturday, December 2nd.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

LYDFORD, DEVON.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-opened at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A practice will be held at Braintree on Saturday, December 9th, commencing 2.30 p.m. sharp.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. Buses from Stourbridge Town pass the church. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. Service and meeting after. Ringing 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Election of officers, so please try and get there.—J. Lloyd, Ringing Master.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (six bells), on Saturday, December 9th. Kindly notify me for tea.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at the Parochial Hall, Brighton Road, followed by a business meeting and ringing again from 7 to 9 p.m. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. Gear, Sandyway, The Cutting, Redhill, by Wednesday, December 6th. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Sec., Hillview, Eastbourne Road, Godstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. T. Millar, Oak House, Midge Hall, not later than Wednesday, December 6th?—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Charles McGuiness is now 124, Carholme Road, Lincoln. Telephone, Lincoln 8451.

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