THE RINGING WORLD

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## MAKE HASTE SLOWLY.

A few timely hints to those who are faced with the instruction of new ringers to fill the gaps in the belfry which are occurring everywhere in these times, appear in an article elsewhere in this issue, and we would like to emphasise them. The teaching of beginners should be no haphazard matter. There should be a definite plan for training new ringers, be they young or old, male or female. One of the greatest mistakes an instructor can make—if he desires to produce good ringers—is to rush his pupils. If there was any secret in the making of the good ringers of the past, about whom we frequently hear so much—although we doubt if there was any larger proportion of good ringers in those bygone generations than there are to-day—it was because they were subject to a painstaking instruction. A beginner was not then allowed, as one not infrequently sees nowadays, to join in ringing rounds by pulling at the backstroke while his instructor manages the sally. The beginner had to be able to control his bell properly before he took any part in open ringing. There are other ways in which new hands are pushed on prematurely besides this example which we have quoted, but the point we want to stress is that, be the need for ringers ever so great, it is a mistake to try to push learners on too quickly. It almost inevitably retards real progress towards the production of the finished ringer in the best sense of the term.

What our correspondent says about confining ringing, in the early stages of the beginner's career, to a small number of bells, is excellent advice. The making of a good striker, which should always be the first aim of an instructor, depends upon developing the 'ear' of the pupil as much as upon the correct handling of the rope. The fewer the number of bells the better chance the ringer has of hearing his own and of judging whether he is too wide or too close. The reason, of course, is not only that there are less bells to listen to, but that they are proportionately further apart, and the bad blow is thus more emphasised. To start a new ringer on eight bells, even if rung at a moderate speed, will more often than not produce only a confused jumble of sound to the beginner, out of which he finds it impossible to distinguish the bell he is ringing. He will be longer in gaining accuracy and confidence in his striking if his instructor tries to teach him on eight bells instead of on five.

Then, too, there is the mistake of attempting too soon to get the beginner into change ringing on tower bells. Far too often one sees instances of young ringers being put into method ringing before they have achieved real command of a bell. That has several drawbacks. In

(Continued on page 266.)

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the first place it is not fair to the beginner himself. Unless he can find his way with some degree of accuracy, he is too much concerned with the technical operation of ringing to be able to concentrate on the method, and the effort to teach him change ringing will have been largely wasted. Then it is not fair to the other ringers, who, while ready to make allowances for failings, are, after all, entitled to some consideration; and, lastly, it is not fair to the public. And this brings us to one of the greatest of all reasons why the beginner should not be allowed to take part in open ringing, and particularly method ringing, until he is master of his bell. As our correspondent points out, there is often insufficient consideration given to the point of view of the public, and it is all the more important, now that nerves may be a bit on edge, that nothing should be done to irritate them further. Until a beginner has reached a fair degree of proficiency, the instructor should be content to wait, and only to put the new hand in open ringing when he can properly command his bell. Patience in this is a virtue. And change ringing, too, should not be begun on open bells. Call changes will enable the beginner to learn to place his bell by holding up or cutting down, but to expect him at the outset to do this at every half-pull and concentrate at the same time on the method is asking too much of him. Obviously the striking must suffer, and so must the public. Change ringing should begin on handbells, and can begin from the moment the pupil enters the belfry, but it should not begin on the tower bells at the expense of the public comfort. Let us be perfectly honest over this. No band has any right to inflict bad ringing on the public, and ringers ought to do all in their power to avoid it. The mere fact that some people may not know the difference between good and bad ringing has nothing to do with it. Most folk who live in the neighbourhood of a church tower, and thus constantly hear the bells, soon become aware of what is good and what is bad in ringing, and it is these people who are the sufferers. In their own interests, however, those who now have to train up new bands—and there are many such—should make good their ground work in every stage before they attempt to pass on to the next. It will prove best in the long run.

### THE SOUNDS OF CHURCH BELLS.

AN ESSAY ON THEIR PRODUCTION.

There is probably no sound in the world more familiar to the human ear than that of the church bell. In this country it has become almost a part of the life of the people, and if it does not now take so important a place in marking the day as once it did, it still is one of the 'noises' which the public hear and accept as having a place in the general scheme of things.

But comparatively few there are, even among church bellringers, who are in constant association with these instruments, who know the exact truth as to how their sounds are produced. Of course, everybody is aware that a bell is a mass of metal of a peculiar shape and that when struck it emits a sound as the result of the vibration that is set up. But precisely how those vibrations act and counteract to produce the sound that gives the bell its note and harmonics is a matter of scientific explanation which is not generally known.

The result of all the investigations that have been made into the subject have now been drawn together in a chapter, which forms one of seven essays by Mr. Ll. S. Lloyd, C.B., M.A. (Cantab.), published as a book under the title of 'The Musical Ear.' Each of the seven essays deals with some subject of musical interest and introduces the reader to aspects of acoustics which bear on it. The book is primarily written for musicians and assumes no previous knowledge of science. The relations between acoustics and music have been approached, in the main, from the musical end.

Ringers who like to study more closely this subject of the sounds of church bells will find some interesting revelations as to their production, which will well repay attention.

'The Musical Ear' (Oxford University Press) is published by Sir Humphrey Milford, price 6s. 6d. net.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

OLVESTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, June 1, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 18¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALBERT M. TYLER ... | ...*Treble* | *ROYSTON G. BRYANT... ... | 5 |
| MISS MARGARET PACK ... | 2 | †THOMAS HARRIS... ... ... | 6 |
| MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS... | 3 | DONALD G. CLIFT ... ... | 7 |
| EDWIN H. NASH ... ... ... | 4 | JOSEPH T. DYKE ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

* First peal of Major. † First peal on eight bells. The first peal of Major on the bells.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

CASSINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Monday, May 27, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Comprising an extent each of Canterbury Pleasure Reverse, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *THOMAS W. BOND ... | ...*Treble* | WILLIAM C. PORTER... ... | 4 |
| *JOHN E. SPICE ... ... ... | 2 | *CECIL G. CALCUTT ... ... | 5 |
| *HARRY P. FLOYD ... ... | 3 | ALAN R. PINK ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in five methods.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Thursday, May 30, 1940, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,*
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Seven 720's. Tenor size 14 in D.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ERNEST MORRIS ... ... ... | 1-2 | WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... | 3-4 |
| RALPH NARBOROUGH ... ... | 5-6 | | |

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, June 1, 1940, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,*
AT 27, ANCASTER ROAD,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *MISS L. KATH. BOWLING ... | 1-2 | WILLIAM BARTON... ... ... | 5-6 |
| PERCY L. JOHNSON ... ... | 3-4 | MRS. JAMES COTTERELL ... | 7-8 |

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and to Canon C. C. Marshall.

### HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LADIES JOIN AT NORTH MIMMS.

Ladies are coming forward to keep the bells going in the St. Albans district of the Hertford County Association, and at the meeting on Saturday week at North Mimms good practice was given to learners, who showed signs of progress and that keen interest which is too often found wanting. The service was conducted by the Vicar, and the secretary (Mr. H. J. Hazell, A.L.C.M.) presided at the organ.

At the business meeting, at which the president (Mr. C. H. Horton) occupied the chair, four new members, three of them ladies, were elected.

The next meeting will be held at Hatfield on June 22nd, if permission can be obtained.

Mr. T. J. Lock referred to the passing of Mr. G. B. Lucas, a life member, who had done a great amount of work for ringing, and there was a short silence, all standing as a tribute of respect.

Mr. A. Day proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and the organist. Ringing ranged from Grandsire to Cambridge Surprise Major.

CANTERBURY.—At St. Alphege's Church on April 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): Vernon J. Benning 1, Frederick G. Brett 2, Randall G. Port 3, Cecil C. Dilnot 4, Peter J. Small (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, Victor J. James 6. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1 and 6.

### NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT MEETINGS.

THE SECRETARY REPLIES TO CRITICISM.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In reply to 'R.S.V.P.,' I think it would have been much better if he had put his name to his letter. I don't think he was at our annual meeting, or he would have had the opportunity of proposing someone else as secretary. For the last three years the secretary has wished to be relieved of the duties, but has been asked to carry on, no one else having come forward to take his place. I must say that our young friend does not know what has been done in the past in the Nottingham district. It was in the Nottingham district that monthly meetings were first started and not at the expense of the M.C.A. There were not only monthly but weekly meetings, and the arrangements of each meeting were left in the hands of the towerkeeper. If there was any expense, a whip-round was made, the district secretary having nothing to do with it. He was often there and we used to have some happy times together.

If ringers were interested it could be carried on now on the same lines, not leaving it all for the district secretary, thus saving the honorarium and a lot of work. It is all very well when one has a Saturday afternoon free, and I have always had them free—the whole day very often—until these last one or two years. Your correspondent says I did not show up at Bottesford meeting. Perhaps he would not have done so under the circumstances. I was up that morning by 4 a.m. working until 2 p.m. and could not get away, as I had to leave things ready for Sunday night. I arrived home at 2.30 ready for dinner; after that another 1½ hours' work at home, feeding pigs, etc., then a bath and get ready for Bottesford, which is 20 miles by bus. Will 'R.S.V.P.' explain how he would have done it, and then not being sure of a nice lot turning up. On another occasion when I had got a meeting I set out at 9.30 a.m. with a bag of tools, overalls and lunch in pocket, to get a peal of bells in good going order for the members who turned up at 2 p.m. They found me having a wash in the well in the churchyard. But I did not mind that, as the bells went like tops and we had some very good ringing, about 20 turning up. I could mention many more such cases if space would allow. At many meetings we have arranged, only Doubles have been rung.

I have now made up my mind to give up the secretaryship, as I have other duties to look after, and not knowing when I am going to be free. While this terrible war is on it is not a time for ringing, it is time for work and I have plenty of it, which has caused me to be laid up these last three weeks. So if 'R.S.V.P.' has time, let him get a few others together and set out to have a ringing meeting on their own and 'good luck' to them. Let them use their ears and strike clear. I am very sorry to have taken this step, but no one loves to have the bells going more than myself, but it is time I took things a bit steady.

E. C. GOBEY.

### OVER SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

'FATHER' OF MALDON BAND.

The death took place on May 18th of Mr. R. S. Hutson, the father of the Maldon bellringers. The deceased, who was 76 years of age, had been a member of the All Saints' band for over 60 years, and for more than 50 years a member of the Essex Association, of which some years ago he was made a life member.

Although he was a regular service ringer, he rang no peals, and his longest length was a date touch in 1882. He was the last of the band that rang in it.

At the funeral, which took place on May 25th, his fellow ringers were represented by Messrs. F. Chalk, W. H. Chalk, H. J. Mansfield, J. D. Buckingham, A. South, J. H. Waldock, Miss A. E. Waldock, E. E. Johnson, S. R. Linnett and S. C. Easter. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by Miss A. E. Waldock, J. D. Buckingham, H. J. Mansfield and F. Chalk, and after the funeral the bells were rung fully muffled except that the tenor was open at handstroke.

The deceased was employed by the Maldon Iron Works for 56 years as a machine fitter, and for several years he was foreman of his department. He retired six years ago. His wife died two years ago, but three daughters survive to mourn their loss.

### COVENTRY BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Sunday next, June 9th, is the 57th anniversary of the last peal rung upon the grand old bells at St. Michael's, Coventry, and perhaps the particulars of it will interest some of your readers.

'On Saturday, June 9th, 1883, the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, rang in 3 hours 33 minutes a peal of Stedman Caters, 5,063 changes: Henry Bastable 1, Job Joynes 2, Amos Cresser 3, Henry Johnson, sen. 4, John Dunn 5, Thomas Miller 6, John Buffery 7, Francis H. James 8, Henry Johnson, jun. 9, Thomas Reynolds 10. Conducted by Henry Bastable.'

Tom Miller is the last survivor of this band and also one of the few living ringers who have rung on Coventry old bells, which were destroyed in 1927.

Henry Johnson, sen., in speaking of this peal, referred to the bells as 'that masterpiece of the founder's art — the ring of ten at Coventry.'

'INTERESTED.'

# CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

## ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET STREET.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

The advent of Benjamin Annable had marked a stage in the history of the London Exercise; his death marked another. It was a time when the rivalries and ambitions of leading ringers were breaking up the old societies and forming new companies, and within a few years the London Scholars, the Eastern Scholars, and the Union Scholars either lapsed or fell into a feeble condition which soon ended in extinction. Even the Society of College Youths, so long the foremost company in the land, came very near to dissolution.

But out of the changes there emerged a company which, with the recently formed Society of Cumberland Youths, dominated the London Exercise for the rest of the eighteenth century and ultimately absorbed almost all that was best in the metropolitan ringers.

The company was a band formed out of the most energetic members of the two societies of College Youths and Eastern Scholars. It arose, no doubt, in the first place as an attempt to get together a first-class peal-ringing band, an attempt which was very successful, for the new company was one of the most distinguished in the whole history of change ringing.

They started in 1759 with a peal of Bob Maximus at Southwark; in the following year they rang the first peal of Treble Twelve ever accomplished, and they had many more peals to their credit. They called themselves College Youths, and though they had little or no intercourse with the members of the old company, at the beginning there probably was no intention of starting a new society. But as success came to them and peals multiplied, they were almost compelled to organise themselves and to appoint a master and stewards to carry on their business.

The old body of the College Youths still carried on, but they were sadly weakened by the dissensions and the loss of so many of their more energetic men.

So it came to pass that for thirty years there were two societies of College Youths, and it is indicative of the relative importance of the two that, while the old company was usually styled the ancient Society of College Youths, the newer company was styled the Society of College Youths without any qualification whatever.

For many years the headquarters of the College Youths had been at the Barley Mow, and their regular practice at St. Bride's, but now the ancient society moved to the Barn, which stood in what is now Trafalgar Square, and held their practices at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, leaving St. Bride's to the younger men.

These men, though they met regularly in Fleet Street, liked to go to different belfries for their peal ringing, and it was not until October 19th, 1761, that they rang their first peal at St. Bride's. It was one of Grandsire Cinques, 5,126 changes, and was conducted by George Meakins, who was their principal bob caller. He was one of those who had come from the Eastern Scholars, and most likely it was due to him more than to anyone else that the company had enjoyed so large an amount of prosperity.

The ringer of the seventh was Joseph Monk, who also had come from the Eastern Scholars. In his day he was the leading tenor man of London and, besides other good performances, he turned Southwark tenor in to the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus ever rung, and the 44 cwt. tenor at Christ Church, Spitalfields, in to 6,080 changes of Treble Bob Major. He edited the last edition of the J.D. and C.M. 'Campanalogia,' which was published in 1766. His peal book is now among the valuable manuscripts belonging to the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The man who rang the fifth, Thomas Bennett, had a long ringing career in which he took part in many fine performances, and called many peals. At one time or other he was a member of every society in London, a sign of the clash of personal interests and ambitions which was continually re-grouping the members of the different companies.

In 1761 the ancient society was enjoying one of their brief periods of peal ringing activity, and a month or so after the other company had rung their peal they beat it with one of 6,050 changes also of Grandsire Cinques. The conductor was a man called Francis Roberts, who earned some fame by being the first composer to bring Grandsire Caters round at handstroke.

'This,' says the 'Clavis,' 'is so great an improvement in Cater ringing that too much cannot be said in commendation of it or its author, whom, notwithstanding he has been dead for several years, yet his name will be gratefully remembered by every admirer of this pleasant and harmonious improvement.'

The first peal of Grandsire Caters brought round in this way was rung by the ancient Society of College Youths at Fulham on July 17th, 1759, and was conducted by George Partrick. Whether he called a composition of his own or one by Roberts is not known.

Francis Roberts' ringing career was only a short one, but in 1761, he called three peals, the Cinques mentioned above, a peal of Grandsire Caters, and one of Bob Royal. Rather curiously, the Caters was brought round in the then usual way at back stroke.

On March 21st, 1763, George Meakins called for the College Youths at St. Bride's 6,072 changes of Double Grandsire Cinques, which remains the longest length in the method, and, following that, no more peals were rung in the steeple for fifteen years.

The famous long peal contest between the College Youths and the Cumberlands was at its height in 1777, and one stage in it was a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, 5,232 changes, at St. Bride's, which temporarily gave the twelve-bell record to the College Youths.

About this time one of the branches of the London Youths contained a number of very skilful ringers who had been got together by William Jones, the man who afterwards wrote the 'Clavis,' and at the time was one of the most influential members of the London Exercise. The headquarters of the society had been at Whitechapel, but now they moved to the centre of the town and were able to hold their practices at St. Bride's, which shows that the College Youths had not sufficient influence in the belfry to keep it entirely to themselves. We know almost nothing about William Jones, but he may have been a man of means, and money bestowed on the steeplekeeper would no doubt unlock a door usually fast closed to other ringers.

Three days after the College Youths had rung the peal of Treble Bob, the London Youths rang one of Bob Maximus. John Reeves rang the treble, William Jones

the second, George Scarsbrook the fourth, Christopher Wells the sixth, and John Canney the ninth. All these men, in different ways, achieved something out of the ordinary. Reeves was one of the cleverest composers the Exercise has ever produced. Wells was the man who first discovered the liability of Treble Bob methods to internal falseness. Canney's beautiful writing can still be seen and admired in the College Youths' peal book. The peal was conducted by Christopher Wells.

Soon afterwards the Society of London Youths (or, rather, this branch of it) was broken up, and Jones took most of the men to the ancient Society of College Youths, which enjoyed a brief period of brilliancy before its final dissolution in 1788. As I have related elsewhere in these notes, there was a contest between the two societies of College Youths to see which could ring the first peal of Real Double Bob Maximus with two bobs in each lead. The 'junior' society rang the first at St. Bride's on March 24th, 1784, with John Povey as composer and conductor; and in the following year they rang 5,280 changes of Bob Maximus.

The 'ancient' Society of College Youths came to an end in 1788, and most of the members joined the other branch, which henceforth carried on the traditions and the prestige of the old body. They moved their meeting place to the Barn and held their practices at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and St. Bride's thenceforth ceased to play any important part in the history of ringing. One more peal was rung there in the eighteenth century—5,040 Treble Bob Maximus—by the College Youths in 1798, and after that more than forty years elapsed before the next.

In 1841 the Cumberlands rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, and two years later one of Stedman Cinques. In 1850, the College Youths rang another one of Stedman Cinques. This was composed and conducted by John Cox, and William Banister rang the fourth.

Cox was appointed steeplekeeper at the church and, as he afterwards seceded to the Cumberlands, the belfry fell under the influence of that society, but, so far as my information goes, they rang no peals there.

There is little to say about St. Bride's during the last fifty years. Owing to the proximity of the great newspaper offices and the unsympathetic attitude of the Church authorities, the bells have almost been silent and peals few and far between, but in 1883 the Cumberlands rang in the steeple 5,019 changes of Stedman Cinques, composed and conducted by John Nelms; in 1884 they rang 5,040 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus conducted by George Newson; and in 1886 5,104 changes of Grandsire Cinques conducted by William Baron. They also rang a peal of Grandsire Caters in 1887.

The College Youths, with James Pettit as conductor, rang a peal of Stedman Cinques in 1893 on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. F. E. Dawe. In 1903 the Middlesex County Association rang two peals of Stedman Cinques, one conducted by William Pye, the other by F. G. May, of Bristol.

## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — At St. Nicholas' Cathedral on Trinity Sunday, May 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,296 changes): G. A. Pickering 1, George Holliday 2, C. L. Routledge 3, John Anderson 4, Jack Hedley 5, E. Wallace 6, W. H. Barber (conductor) 7, J. E. Keen 8, W. J. Davidson 9, L. Ingledew 10.

REIGATE, SURREY.—On Trinity Sunday for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,295 changes): A. R. Bashford 1, G. F. Hoad (conductor) 2, M. A. Northover 3, A. G. Talbot 4, R. A. Tuffin 5, J. H. Judd 6, A. T. Skelton 7, W. Claydon 8, A. B. Peck 9, R. Jenkins 10.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

As will be seen from the notices in this issue, it has been deemed advisable to cancel two meetings, viz., that of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild at East Haddon, arranged for June 8th, and that of the Essex Association at Rettendon, arranged for June 15th.

On June 4th, 1919, John William Taylor died at the age of 66. He had for many years been the senior partner in the famous firm of John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and was also well known as a skilful ringer. He rang Loughborough tenor to the then longest peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 8,800 changes, in 1894.

In the year 1762 the parishioners of St. Mary-le-Bow represented to the Bishop that they had in their tenor one of the best bells in the world, but that the others were not equal in quality. They therefore prayed permission to recast them and increase the number to ten. An expert opinion having been given that the tower was sufficiently strong, the faculty was granted, and the new bells, by Lester and Pack, were first rung on King George's birthday, June 4th.

A band of Suffolk ringers, members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang at Debenham on June 6th, 1892, Thomas Day's peal of Treble Bob Major, 16,608 changes. They rang Oxford; the peal had already been rung to Kent at Mottram in Lancashire. James Motts was the conductor. Mr. Frederick Tillett, who rang the tenor, is still active. He is the only man who has rung a peal with his son and granddaughter in the band.

The length was beaten on June 8th, 1906, by 16,800 changes of Kent at Mottram.

A landmark in method ringing was reached on June 11th, 1927, when at Warnham a peal in the four standard Surprise Major methods spliced was rung for the first time. Mr. A. H. Pulling conducted.

## BELFRY WORDS.

### WHAT IS THEIR ORIGIN?

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I took up change ringing about two years ago, and a thing that has always puzzled me is how some of the ringing words originated. Belfry words such as Bob, Single, Grandsire, Surprise and Pleasure are in constant use, but few people know how these words came into being. Also why should the names Doubles, Triples, Caters and Cinques be associated with the French words meaning two, three, four and five respectively? It is difficult to see why the French language should have supplied any of the nomenclature for the very English art of change ringing.

CHRISTOPHER T. BROWN.

P.S.—I nearly forgot to ask about 'sally.' Perhaps Mr. Worboys would prefer a more masculine name to be used in the belfry!

[The question raised by Mr. Brown is an extraordinarily interesting one for those versed in philology, but it requires a real expert and a vast amount of research work to answer it satisfactorily, though it is easy enough to guess. It is safe to say that almost all the ringing terms which have come down from early times are ordinary English words used at first in their ordinary meaning so far as the then circumstances permitted; and that in the course of time they gradually crystallised into technical terms. Sometimes a word has two distinct meanings, which now seem to have little in common, but we can be fairly sure that the ultimate root is the same in both. Examples of such words are 'bob' and 'course.' The derivation of 'single' is easy; originally it meant a single change, that is to say a change where all the bells lay still except one pair. Doubles and Triples are double and triple changes, and originally 'Doubles and Triples' on six bells was pretty much the same as what we call Bob Minor. Where 'Caters' and 'Cinques' first came from we will not hazard a guess, nor why a part of the bell rope is called a 'sally.' We may be able to suggest an explanation later.—EDITOR, 'The Ringing World.']

## MR. G. L. JOYCE AND THE SURPRISE BOOK.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was very well pleased with Mr. George L. Joyce's letter in this week's issue of 'The Ringing World.' The explanations and arguments of the article he so warmly praises are some of the explanations and arguments of the new book on Surprise Major, and I hope that he will now realise that the criticisms of his earlier letter were based on insufficient knowledge.

The point he raises is dealt with in the book and no doubt will be dealt with in due course in the articles you are now publishing from time to time. I can answer it only very briefly here.

The section of a method he gives as an example produces four false course ends, viz., Q 62345, R 54263, P 34562, and S 46325. That means that in every method with this section there are four courses which contain rows which are also included in the plain course, and therefore all four false course ends are of equal value in proving peals.

The four false course ends PQRS form a group, and whenever in any method one of the four appears, the other three inevitably appear also.

There are seven other similar groups of four false course ends, but they are of comparatively small importance, as they seldom appear in any method suitable for ringing, and in any case make the composing of a true peal almost impossible.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

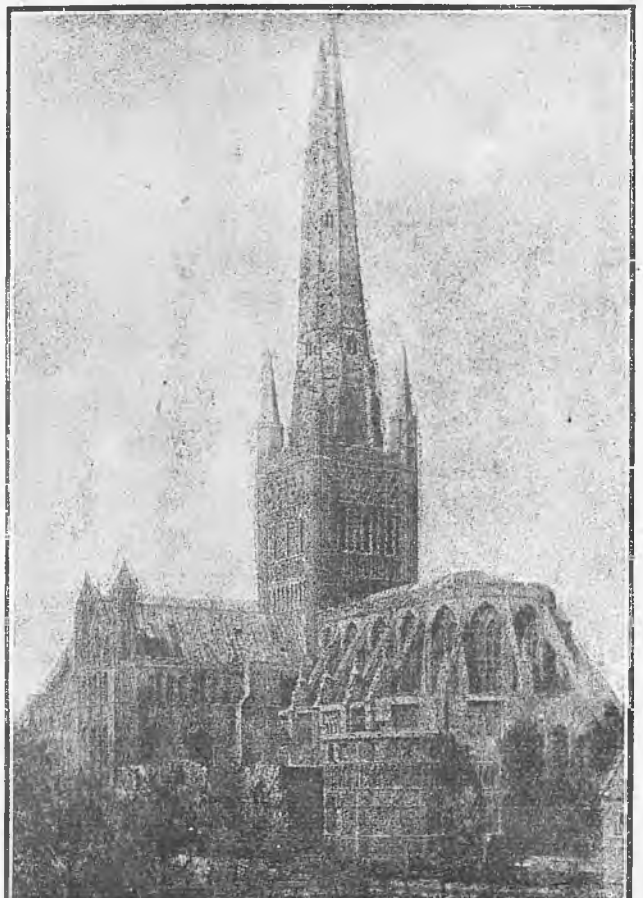
# NORWICH CATHEDRAL BELLS.

BY A. G. G. THURLOW.

(Precentor of Norwich Cathedral.)

Norwich Cathedral possesses a very interesting ring of five bells, all of mediæval date, except the 3rd, which was recast in 1635. They are tuned to the minor scale, to which reference was made in 'The Ringing World' of February 9th, 1940, and in subsequent issues. Bells 1, 2, 4 and 5 are dedicated to Saints Margaret, Andrew, Katherine and Mary respectively, and the tenor (cast about 1469) in addition bears a prayer for the soul of Robert Brentham, who was a monk here and held the office of gardener in 1451.

We have just discovered the names Saml. Thurston and Jno. Golding scratched inside the tenor.



NORWICH CATHEDRAL.

There is evidence that they were hung for ringing at some time, in the shape of a bell wheel probably of 17th century date in the bell chamber, and in a cross section of the Cathedral dated 1784, though where the ringing chamber could have been is a mystery, unless there was a floor immediately above the tower arches, as at Winchester. For some time it has only been possible to chime three, and the method of chiming has been very unsatisfactory. It seems impossible to consider ringing them to-day, for the great Norman central tower, in which they hang, stands on comparatively slender pillars, and is pierced with so many windows and passages as to render its stability doubtful, crowned, as it is, by a spire 315ft. high; also the ringing chamber floor would have to be about 100ft. from the ground!

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have recently fitted a chiming apparatus, and have carried out the work with their usual efficiency. This was no easy matter. The only satisfactory position for the chiming frame is in the triforium of the Presbytery, and from there the ropes are carried through the triforium roof, outside the north transept clerestory and roof, up a pipe outside the north face of the tower to the level of the bells, then through a hole in the wall to the bells themselves. During this long journey each rope passes over no less than eight pulley wheels, yet the writer can chime each bell with one finger.

While John Thomas was in Norwich, he and the writer inspected two derelict rings of six in the city (with a view to possible rehanging

(Continued in next column.)

# COUNTY BELL HISTORIES.

THE MONMOUTHSHIRE CHURCHES.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to the church bells in the various counties which are being written up and which you mentioned in your recent article in 'The Ringing World,' your readers may be interested to know that Mr. A. Wright, B.Sc., is doing the bells of Monmouthshire in the 'Archæological Cambrensis,' the journal of the Cambria Archæological Association.

Mr. Wright commenced his articles in the half-yearly report dated December, 1937, and he has not concluded his study. Like Mr. Frederick Sharpe, who is doing the bells of Berkshire, he is dealing with the parishes in alphabetical order, and he states that during the last 33 years he has been investigating the bells of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire and has personally visited every parish and, in most cases, has reached the bells.

Mr. Wright draws some interesting conclusions in his articles. He states that the proportion of pre-Reformation bells in the county is very low. However, there are several early examples of the bell-founders' art, such as Gwernesney, Kemeys Commander, etc., without inscriptions, but undoubtedly by their shapes of the thirteenth century period.

He writes of a bell calling men to work in a colliery.

Abertillery: St. Paul's, Cwmtillery (1892). One bell. 'The bell was first used in the local colliery (sunk over 100 years since) to call the men to work before the advent of a hooter. It was in the colliery storeroom when the church was built 1892, and was placed in the turret at the time.'

Regarding the bells at Monmouth, Mr. Wright says that this ring forms an unbroken ring from Rudhall's foundry and that the seventh is a notable bell.

Until recently at Manchester Cathedral were two bells, 7 and 9, with black letter inscriptions by Rudhalls, 1706. These are now recast, and thus No. 7 at Monmouth is the sole remaining example of Rudhall's black letters. The type employed is unusual, and the first s of the inscription in Missi is inverted.

Of Abergavenny bells he writes very interestingly. He states that at the time of the Dissolution St. John's was the Parish Church, and was then superseded by the Priory Church of St. Mary's. In the Priory Church were, in 1555, four bells weighing 45 cwt. 2 qr., and the parishioners refused to surrender them. Towards the end of the reign of Henry VIII., Edward Gostwick and Edward Watturs, Commissioners of the Court of Augmentations, were requested to inquire into the matter by order of the Lord Chancellor. One Thomas Richard Bourchier, age 90, deposed that the town of Abergavenny bought the bells, and that he himself paid 2s. 4d. towards them; that the Priory never paid a penny towards their purchase; that the town of Abergavenny was not able to pay the whole sum, and that the country helped and made up the rest. On November 24th, 1555, an order was directed to Walter Herbert to make a further inquiry, and he pronounced that the 'bells in tyme out of memorie were taken for, and used always as bells appertaynings to the parishe of Abergenie, and not the said late Priorie.'

Mr. Wright's articles are illustrated with photographs and drawings of the inscriptions, and it is hoped that he will bring out his articles in book form so that they may reach a wider public.

EDWARD J. THOMAS.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF CARMARTHEN.

Mr. Thomas himself has done good work among the bells of Carmarthenshire, and on May 17th last 'The Welshman' printed an article by him, in which he gave an interesting account of the great bell of Talley Abbey, which was taken down in 1773 and was supposed to have gone to Exeter, but what really became of it is not known.

Mr. Thomas also gives particulars of the bells of some of the Carmarthen churches with their inscriptions and the legends that are told about them.

## DEATH OF AN OLD EASTBOURNE RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Ben Hobbs, who passed away on May 25th and was buried on the following Thursday.

He was born at Waldron in December, 1865, and learned to ring at his native village. About 40 years ago he moved to Eastbourne, and from then until the time of his death he was a member of the St. Saviour's band. He joined the Sussex County Association when it was formed in 1885, and had been a member ever since. He kept no record of his ringing performances, but he had taken part in over 100 peals.

## NORWICH CATHEDRAL BELLS.

(Continued from previous column.)

in the distant future), and edified the caretaker by chiming Bob Minor, etc., on them. It later transpired that the caretaker strongly suspected that we had just dropped over from Germany, disguised as a bell founder and a clergyman! It would be a typical example of Nazi thoroughness to give their clerical parachutists a preliminary training in change ringing, as well as an example worthy of imitation to the real live clergy over here!

# FALSE COURSE ENDS.

## THEIR NATURE AND USES.

In every symmetrical Plain method on all numbers of bells (excluding those which have a bell in the hunt) all the possible rows are grouped into a number of mutually exclusive natural courses, which means that every individual row has a definite place in a particular lead and in a particular natural course, and can never come anywhere else. If, therefore, the composer makes sure that he never uses the same part of any natural course twice, he can be certain of the truth of his peal. He can prove his composition by natural course ends, as was explained in our issue of March 1st. In doing so, when he parts the tenors, he must remember that any course can come either forwards or backwards, the handstroke lead ends in one case becoming the backstroke lead heads in the other, and vice versa.

In symmetrical Royal methods on the Treble Bob Principle the natural courses are also mutually exclusive, so long as in every section the two rows with the treble in the same position are of opposite nature.

But in Major methods, on the Treble Bob Principle, the case is different. There the natural courses are not mutually exclusive, and no one of them can exist which does not contain rows which are also included in another natural course. The 40,320 possible rows can in no Treble Bob or Surprise Major method be set down in 180 independent courses or P. Blocks.

If, however, we confine ourselves to the courses in which the tenors are not parted, we shall find that there is a limited number of methods which have mutually exclusive natural courses, and in them, so long as we compose by means of bobs at M, B, W, and R only, we need fear no internal falseness which does not show at the lead ends or in the natural course ends.

These methods are said to have a Clear Proof Scale (C.P.S.), and the only feature which is necessary to ensure it is that 1, 7, 8 shall never within the plain course fall twice into the same relative positions in rows of like nature (both even or both odd).

Such methods are very rare. In the vast majority there are courses which contain rows which are also included in the plain course, and if there are one or more courses which are false against the plain course there is the same number false against every course and in the same ratio.

The first thing, then, when we are composing in any Treble Bob or Surprise Major method, is to see what, if any, courses contain rows which are also included in the plain course.

If, for example, we write out the plain course of Superlative in full, and the two courses which begin with 13246578 and 14326578 respectively, we shall find that the latter contain rows which are included in the plain course, and if we ring the whole of either or both of these courses as well as the plain course our peal will be false.

When we have discovered which courses are false against the plain course, we use their course ends in proving our peals, and we call them the False Course Ends (F.C.E.) of the method.

Just as we may not use the whole of the plain course and the whole of either or both of the courses 32465 and 43265, so, if we ring the whole of any one natural course, we must not use the whole of either or both of the two courses which bear the same relation to it that 32465 and 43265 do to 23456. In Superlative, for every single course we can use there are two others that we may not use.

In any Treble Bob or Surprise Major method there are sixty natural courses. If the method has a clear proof scale we may use as many of the sixty as we like. But the presence of only one course false against the plain course automatically reduces the number of available full natural courses to thirty. When there are two courses false against the plain course, we might expect that the number of available true courses would be reduced to twenty, but fortunately that does not always happen.

There are sixty possible natural courses in any method, and at the first sight there seems no reason why any one of them should be less likely than any other to be false against the plain course. But actually, owing to the fact that the methods which are practised have Bob Major Lead Ends, their false course ends are almost entirely confined to seven.

These seven fall into two groups, one of five, ABCDE, and one of three, BFG, B being common to both groups.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 32546 | | |
| B | 24365 | B | 24365 |
| C | 53624 | F | 32465 |
| D | 46253 | G | 43265 |
| E | 65432 | | |

If we examine a large number of methods most suitable (in all ways) for ringing, we shall find that a few have a clear proof scale, a few have false courses other than those in the above list, but the majority have one or more of these seven, and they have them in one or two very marked ways.

In the first place, B (24365) is the only one which appears by itself, and it is the commonest of them all. Quite a large number of the new Surprise methods which have been rung in recent years have this false course end and no other.

The others all come in pairs. If we get A we also get D; if we get C we also get E; if we get F we also get G.

This occurrence of false course ends in pairs is not peculiar to these six. It happens whenever there are false course ends and whatever they are. It is due to the fact that in the plain course the method produces half its rows by the first half leads going forwards from 2345678, and half by the second half leads going backwards from 2436587; and if there are two even rows in the plain course in which 1, 7, 8 occupy the same relative positions, there will also be two corresponding odd rows where they occupy the same relative positions, and therefore two complementary false course ends which are related to each other as 2436587 and 2345678 are related. B (24365) does, as we have said, appear alone, but that is because it is complementary to itself and appears in both positions. In a similar way 26543 and 25634 are each complementary to itself and appear by themselves.

The relationship of two complementary false course ends is shown by the following formula:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 23456 | (x) 32546 | A |
| 24365 | (y) 42635 | |
| | (z) 46253 | D |

(x) is a false course end (A).

(y) is produced from 24365 as (x) is produced from 23456.

(Continued on next page.)

# WAR-TIME DEPLETION OF BANDS.

## HOW TO TEACH BEGINNERS.

Now that, owing to the depletion of bands through members being called up to H.M. Forces, the problem of teaching beginners has become a general one, I should like, if you will allow me, to offer one or two suggestions.

The first is that, when there is a lot of beginners, too many of them should never be allowed to ring at once. The outside public have got to be considered, which is a thing far too few ringers take into account. You will find six or more beginners, not one of whom can properly manage a bell, set to ring rounds in an eight-bell tower. It does not give either them or the instructor a chance, and it can be torture to the people living next door. What the instructor should do is to ring as few bells at a time as possible. If you ring five, in place of the whole eight, you can pick your band according to its ability, and you can give the learner a chance of hearing his own bell and knowing for himself if he or she is striking somewhere in the right place. Usually they have not the slightest idea about the matter, and they are usually expected to ring a bell before they are properly instructed in handling it.

When you have got them to ring rounds fairly decently on five, you can go on to six, but if you want to teach a band with the idea of making a good band, and if your material consists of beginners or mostly of beginners, then it is better to leave the eight alone. Never pull the trebles up. Take the ropes off if you think the temptation too strong. Your chances of making a good six-bell band out of raw material are at least twenty times as many as of making a good eight-bell band.

First of all, teach your learner to handle a bell so he can really control it. To do that you must have the clapper tied. There are people who think they can teach a beginner by making him ring when the rest are trying to ring rounds. It can't be done, and time and patience spent with a lashed clapper will repay both learner and instructor.

Finally, let me insist that no band should ever attempt to ring changes until they can ring rounds really well. After that, let them have a good dose of call changes with frequent changes. Meanwhile they should be taught change ringing on handbells and on paper.

X. Y. Z.

## DEATH OF MR. JOHN PRITCHARD.

### WELL-KNOWN LOUGHBOROUGH BELL-ROPE MAKER.

The death has occurred at Loughborough of Mr. John Pritchard, managing director of the old-established bell-rope making business, whose products are to be found in belfries all over the British Isles. Mr. Pritchard died suddenly on May 1st. He seemed to be in his usual health in the morning and attended at his business. In the afternoon he went into the garden to do some work in the greenhouse and was later seen lying at the coal-house door by a neighbour, who gave the alarm. It was found that Mr. Pritchard had succumbed to a heart attack.

The business of which Mr. Pritchard was the head was established in 1820 by his great-grandfather and since then has become one of the principal tent contracting and rope-making businesses in the country. The present premises of the firm have been in the hands of Mr. Pritchard's family for over 100 years.

Mr. Pritchard was the tent contractor for Kingston Show for over 40 years, and at his premises are pictures depicting the tenting he made for the coming-of-age celebrations of the late Duke of Rutland (then the Marquess of Granby), who died recently, at Belvoir Castle.

Mr. Pritchard was a Freemason and a very keen devotee of bowls. As a boy he was a chorister at Loughborough Parish Church, where the funeral service took place. Mr. Pritchard leaves a widow, but no family.

The business, now John Pritchard (Ropes) Limited, will be carried on as usual.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT KIRBY-LE-SOKEN.

A meeting of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Kirby-le-Soken last Saturday, when 18 ringers attended from Harwich, Mistley, Great Holland, Great Bentley, Thorington, Tendring, Dedham and the local tower.

Ringing began at 3 p.m. and lasted until about 8 p.m. A service was held at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Vicar, who gave an interesting little talk on some of his experiences with bells, and people who were always ready to grumble about something. He mentioned an old gentleman who got so annoyed with the bells whenever they rang that he took legal proceedings against the Church authorities, but when the case was heard he proved himself so deaf that the judge could not make him hear anything and so he lost the day.

After the service tea in the Church Hall was provided by the Vicar and the Parochial Church Council.

At the business meeting the Master (Mr. G. Waterman) presided, and five new members were elected, viz., J. Byford-Smith, J. Oxley, J. Oxborrow and J. Bartle from Kirby, and A. Marshall from Great Holland.

A letter was read from the Rev. W. A. Parker Mason, Vicar of Ardleigh, inviting the division to hold its next meeting at his church in July. This was accepted with thanks. The Master called the attention of members to their slackness in notifying the secretary of their intention to be present at tea. Notice must be given by the Wednesday before the meeting.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and for the splendid tea he and the Church Council had provided. Thanks were also expressed to the organist and the choirboys for their services. The Vicar replied in humorous vein and paid a high tribute to Mr. U. Wildney for all he had done in the belfry and for the Essex Association.

Courses of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung on the handbells and then the ringers adjourned to the belfry for more ringing.

## DEATH OF A VETERAN LIVERPOOL RINGER.

It is with much regret that we record the passing of Mr. George Hislop, of Woolton, at the age of 76 years.

Mr. Hislop joined the Lancashire Association in the year 1890 and had therefore been a member for 50 years, for the greater part of which time he belonged to the band at St. Peter's, Woolton, Liverpool. He had rung 17 peals, his last being on November 19th, 1938.

At the funeral, which took place on June 1st at Woolton Churchyard, the Rector conducted the service, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the open grave. A half-muffled touch of Grandsire Triples was rung on the tower bells by fellow ringers.

## LINCOLNSHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

We regret to announce the death, at the age of 59, of Mr. Henry S. Cunnington, which occurred on May 23rd after a long illness.

The deceased had been a regular service ringer at Edenham until illness prevented him from taking part in the belfry. He was a member of the band when there were only five bells in the tower and helped to raise the funds to add a treble in 1908. He rang in the first 720 of Minor on Easter Sunday, 1908. He never had the pleasure of ringing after the bells were increased to eight in 1931. He had not rung a great number of peals, but took part in some of Doubles and a few of Minor. He was a member of the old South Lincolnshire Association until it joined with the other branches to form the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, of which he became a member.

Although Mr. Cunnington was unable to get up the steps to take a rope for the past few years, he always had an interest in listening to the bells when he could do so.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—For evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. Hawker 1, Miss L. Keeley 2, J. E. Philbrick 3, C. W. Powell 4, G. H. Whitemore 5, H. G. Keeley 6, Rev. C. C. Cox (conductor) 7, E. Tett 8. Rung for the Whitsun festival, also in celebration of the election of the Vicar, the Rev. C. C. Cox, to the Mastership of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

## FALSE COURSE ENDS

(Continued from previous page.)

(z) is produced by transposing (y) by 24365 and is the complementary FCE (D).

The second important fact is that in the methods most suitable for ringing, the false course ends belong to either one or the other of the two groups. We get ABD, or CE, or ABCDE, or FG, or BFG; but seldom false course ends from both groups. This, as we shall see, makes it comparatively easy to compose true peals. The falseness of Cambridge Surprise is due to the fact that the method is an exception to this rule. Its false course ends are ABDFG.

## NOTICES.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—The meeting arranged to take place at East Haddon on Saturday, June 8th, has been cancelled. —H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, June 8th, in conjunction with the East Grinstead and District Guild. The eight bells will be available from 3 o'clock. A service will be held.—C. A. Levett, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston Church on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—F. Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells from 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Pensnett, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Business meeting afterwards.—John Goodman, 45, Holcroft Street, Burnt Tree, Tipton.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A joint meeting with the Sussex County Association will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, June 8th. Make own arrangements for tea. Everyone welcome at this popular tower.—C. A. Bassett, Assist. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Kirton Lindsey on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6, tenor 20 cwt.) available from 2.30 to 8.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., for which names need not be sent.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at King's Somborne on Saturday, June 8th next. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting in the Village Hall.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next meeting will be held (D.V.) at Crondall on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Cricketers.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot, Hants.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kibworth on June 8th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8th, at Gawsworth. Bells (8) from 3 p.m.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Meeting at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Tea 5 p.m. Please advise if possible.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Long Crendon on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please send a card if you require tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bletchley, Bucks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Sefton (6 bells) on Saturday, June 8th. Tower open from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Service at 5, followed by the meeting. Owing to local difficulties, it has not so far been found possible to arrange tea. Please do not let this deter you from coming. —G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION. —The quarterly meeting will be held at Pleaseley on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock to those who notify.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The postponed meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Visitors welcomed.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at South Kirkby on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Moreton on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—W. H. Wheeler, Hon. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —Please support Ladies' Guild meeting at Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, June 8th.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sutterton on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Cups of tea will be provided at Sutterton Vicarage, but all attending must bring their own food, including sugar.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Next meeting will be at Clay Cross (6 bells) on June 15th. Short service 5 p.m. Please arrange for own eatables. Cups of tea will be provided. Postcards to Mr. F. Marshall, 203, Thanet Street, Clay Cross, Chesterfield.—Sam Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM**
**TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.**
**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.**

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—In view of the present situation the meeting at Rettendon on June 15th, has been postponed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A combined meeting with the Sheffield and District Society, the Barnsley and District Society and the Doncaster and District Society will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be served at Binn's Cafe at 5 p.m. Charge, 1s. 6d. per head. All those requiring same must notify Mr. A. Gill, 84, Doncaster Road, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, by Wednesday, June 12th, without fail. Business meeting in the Church House immediately after tea. All ringers cordially invited.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Newdigate on Saturday, June 15th. Service at 4.30, tea afterwards. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. E. Vine, the Village Club, Newdigate, Dorking, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec., Recreation Bungalow, Dorking Road, Great Bookham, Leatherhead.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The summer meeting will be held at All Saints', Ilkley, on Sat., June 15th. Bells (8, tenor 18¾ cwt.) available from 1 o'clock. Addingham bells (6) available all evening. Service at 4.30. Tea at Blue Bird Cafe 5 o'clock (1s. 9d.). Names to W. H. Crawshaw, 20, Leicester Crescent, Ilkley, by Thursday, June 13th. Business meeting after tea. All welcome.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Next meeting on Saturday, June 15th, at St. Mary's, Woolwich. Ringing from 3 to 8.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m.—C. M. Meyer, Acting Southern District Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hagley (D.V.) on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m., service 4.15 p.m Tea (1s. per head) 5 p.m., followed by business meeting and ringing until dusk. Numbers for tea by Wednesday June 12th, please, and help minimise the difficulties of war-time catering.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Stretford, on Saturday, June 15th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, June 18th, at 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at Bexley, Kent, on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 9 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (1s. 4d. per head) and business meeting at 5.15. Will all those who require tea, please notify Mr. H. A. Holden, Church Institute, Bexley, Kent, not later than Monday, June 17th?—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—Owing to the joint meeting at Lawley being postponed to June 22nd, the next district meeting will be at Ibstock on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 1s. each, at 5 p.m. Please notify me if you are expecting to be present. All members and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints', Pontefract, on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, in All Saints' Church House at 5 o'clock. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Peaker, Wesley House, 53, Northgate, Pontefract, by first post, Thursday, June 20th? Business meeting after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Borley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 29th, will be at Anstey (not Ratby and Groby). Bells (8) available during afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Other details later.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

HERTS ASSOCIATION. — It has been considered advisable to cancel the meeting arranged for July 6th at Rickmansworth, Herts. Will all supporters please note.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Stockport Branch.—Please note that Mr. T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, has taken over the secretarial duties of the branch as the secretary has been called up for military service.

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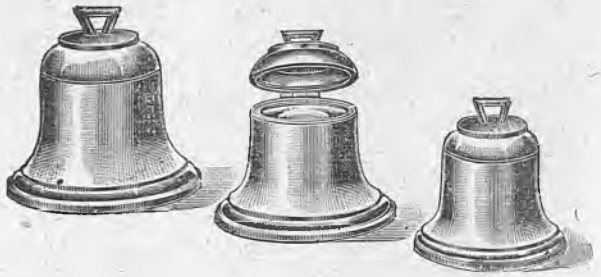

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