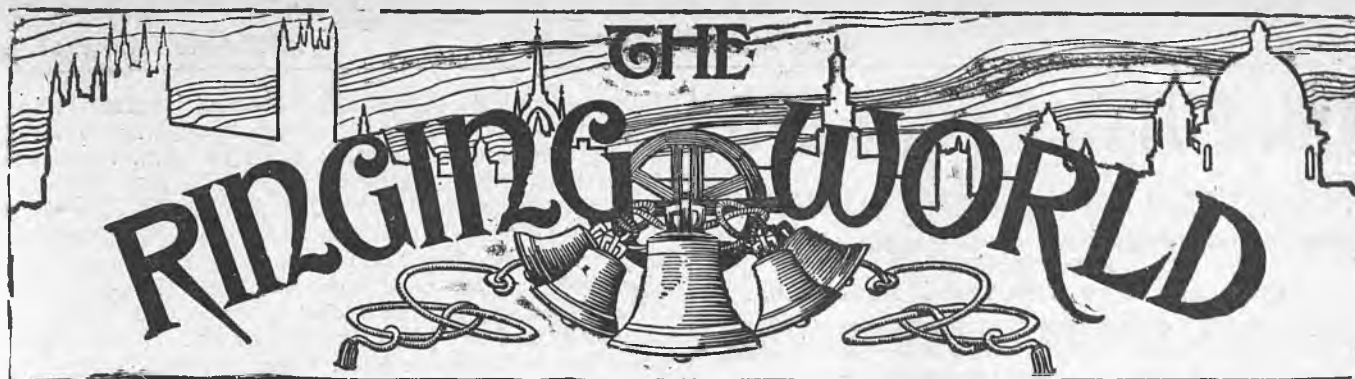




No. 1,538. Vol. XXXV.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1940.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
transmission as a newspaper.]

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## TWO WAYS OF HELPING.

It has been gratifying to receive from many correspondents the acknowledgment that, in these days, 'The Ringing World' is more interesting than when its columns contained the records of all the peals rung, and when many 'stereotyped' reports of meetings were printed. We would like to add that the production of a war-time publication, directed exclusively to the interests of a pursuit like bellringing, has been and must continue to be a very difficult matter. In days of peace there was never any lack of material; indeed the difficulty always was to find space to meet the demands, especially when the records of peals grew to large proportions. Now, however, not only are there no peals on tower bells, but there is practically no news of actual ringing. Meetings have been curtailed almost to vanishing point, and columns formerly filled with notices and reports of meetings have to be filled with other articles. The task, therefore, is doubly exacting. Empty space has to be filled at a time when much of the material formerly relied upon has disappeared. That we have, up to the present, been able to provide matter of greater interest than was formerly possible is, of course, a satisfaction, but there is a limit to the resources in this direction. We have been grateful to those correspondents who have ventilated their views on the many topics that have been under discussion, and we appeal to those others among the members of the Exercise who can write upon subjects of interest to give us their help by way of articles or letters and our readers the benefit of their knowledge. In this way, during the enforced idleness of the bells, ringers may still acquire information and help which can be turned to advantage when once more they can get back to the belfry.

And while we seek the assistance of all who are able to help in this way, may we make an appeal in another direction? It is that ringers will do their best to maintain the circulation of the paper. However well the columns may be filled, without circulation the paper cannot be carried on. The closing down of the towers seems in some places completely to have closed down, also, the interest of the ringers. That is bad for the art, bad for the Exercise, and has a repercussion on this journal. We know that many of the hundreds of ringers who have joined the Forces cannot afford, out of their meagre pay, to continue their support of 'The Ringing World,' but their friends left at home can do a kindly act to them and render a service to 'The Ringing World' by adopting the suggestion, recently put forward at an Oxford Guild meeting, to 'buy a copy and send it to a serving ringer.' The importance of main-

(Continued on page 434.)

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taining a ringing journal at this crucial juncture in the history of ringing is fully recognised by all who have the welfare of ringing at heart, it is up to them, therefore, to give that little extra bit of help which may make all the difference between survival and failure. The need for 'The Ringing World' in those days—we hope not far distant—when the Exercise is being reorganised and church bell ringing once more will come into its own, will be essential, but the time to ensure that important end is *now*, and not when the war is over. To do it now is to serve a double purpose. Not only will it preserve 'The Ringing World,' but it will help to keep alive the interest of those who have left the belfry for the Forces. Indeed, those who have gone out to take their share in the country's defence will welcome a copy of 'The Ringing World' each week for two reasons. It will maintain their interest in ringing and give them something which will help to lighten the burden of the hours. It is one of the main concerns of the Government that the men in the Forces shall not, in the coming winter months, suffer from boredom. Ringers can help their friends in this direction by sending them 'The Ringing World' every week, and even a couple of copies purchased for this purpose would not be a heavy burden among a half dozen or so ringers who may be left at home. Here, then, are two ways in which ringers can help 'The Ringing World,' help the art and help their serving colleagues.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

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Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

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GUNNER HAROLD BROWN, R.A. ... 5-6

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, September 1, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... .. 1-2 | CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... .. 5-6

RUPERT RICHARDSON ... .. 3-4 | PTE. A. J. BRYAN WAYMAN ... .. 7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

Witness—Miss Enid M. Richardson.

First peal of Bob Major and first peal 'in hand.' Six branches of the Services are represented in the above peal. The ringer of 1-2 is a member of the W.V.S., 3-4 Special Constable, 5-6 Observer Corps, 7-8 Private in the Queen's Royal Regiment. The composer was in the Royal Marines and the witness is a St. John Ambulance Cadet. Mrs. C. McGuinness also witnessed the peal.

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## THE NORWICH SCHOLARS.

### WERE THE PEALS OF STEDMAN TRUE?

We know that the Norwich peal of Grandsire Triples was true. We have good reason to suppose that the peals of Bob Triples and Treble Bob Major were true. Why should we not conclude that the peals of Stedman Triples were probably true also?

Unfortunately, the composition of Stedman Triples is not so easy as that of Plain Bob or Grandsire Triples. It has many traps and pitfalls and without definite evidence we must not assume that either Melchior or Crane avoided them. And there is no such evidence.

The figures are lost, but the advertisements give us a good deal of information, and if we had just a little more, we could reconstruct, not perhaps the actual compositions, but the general plans on which they were founded. Our chief loss is that we do not know what sort of bobs were used. The present day bob is to us



ST. GILES' CHURCH, NORWICH

so obviously the right one, that we have some difficulty in thinking that anyone would ever use any other. But in 1731 there was no precedent for such a thing, and Melchior uses language which seems to preclude its use.

The general ideas in the minds of the two men, however, are clear enough. Crane based his peal on Garthorn's Grandsire Triples with its hunts. It was the only plan that he would allow as correct for all methods. It worked admirably in one, and he did not see why it should not work equally well in all. It meant that in Stedman Triples the peal was divided into four equal quarters, each quarter was divided into equal and regular parts, the big bells came home at every quarter peal end, and at the half-way and end a double was made by the bells in 1, 2, 3 lying still. He made a great point in the fact that at the doubles the same bells were dodging behind, 'as Stedman does on five bells'; and that he had not 'turned the 6th and 7th bells, half one way and half the other, as theirs do.' Stedman, it should be remembered, made his singles on five bells in 2-3, not in 4-5.

Roughly, Crane's peal was on the same plan as that given by Annable in his note book. No true peal of the

kind has ever been composed, nor does it seem that one is possible, and Crane's peal was undoubtedly false, for he used 'alterations' to force up the required quarter peal end; and, apart from the fact that he crowded eight changes into a six, he introduced parts of some Q sets which can hardly have been completed elsewhere in the peal.

Melchior was very sarcastic about the alterations, those 'dismal changes' as he called them, and printed the figures in the 'Gazette.' They certainly introduced work which is not Stedman, but, if they had produced a true 5,040, they might have passed muster as special calls.

On the other hand, Melchior rejected the whole system of hunts as foreign to the method. He maintained that in Stedman every bell worked alike and quoted Doleman—'In this peal every bell hath one and the same course, there being no proper hunt or half hunt therein.'

This Crane denied. Stedman, he agreed, had said 'that all the bells have a like course,' but 'Stedman is mistaken, and so are you.' Melchior, of course, made a good debating point of that. 'Now, if Stedman be mistaken, who was the Master of a College in the University, and a learned mathematician, with Doleman and others, why need I take amiss Mr. Crane's saying I am mistaken too? For he is a learned man and knows *omnia bene* in his own conceit. However, he may look into Stedman and he may see why there are two alterations on five bells.'

Crane stuck to his point. 'You call me to account for saying that Stedman is mistaken and so are you, but, if I be right, it is so'; and he insisted that since two alterations had to be made in the six-score, it was impossible to say that in Stedman Doubles 'every bell hath a course alike.'

Both Melchior and Crane print Stedman Doubles as an illustration, and both print it, not in Sixes, but in Twelves, the end of the division being at the whole pull of the quick bell on the lead. It would have been better and simpler if this plan had been generally followed, and the fourth row of the quick Six, and not the last row, had been taken as the course end of the method.

Melchior's reference to Fabian Stedman is very interesting. The facts are all wrong, but it comes very near to verbal accuracy. Stedman was a Cambridge man, but he was a townsman, not a member of the University. We have no grounds for calling him a learned mathematician, but, as his book shows, he was of the stuff that mathematicians are made. And in 1682 he was elected master, but it was master of the College Youths, not of a College in the University.

We shall probably get as near understanding what Melchior's peal was like as we ever can do from the following:—

It was closely copied from the six-score of Doubles, which consists (as he is careful to point out) of two separate courses joined together.

The twelve changes from the middle of one quick Six to the middle of the next are the 'proper form and grounds' of Stedman Doubles, 'which, being wrought five times over in an expressible denominative course,' produced sixty changes, 'every bell a course alike.' In the same way his whole peal began from every twelfth change throughout the 5,040. This seems to indicate

that he kept his Twelves and probably his courses intact, and, therefore, could not have used the modern bob.

Crane taunted him with 'taking to himself a peal of five bells' and fleeing to Stedman for assistance. I can only explain this by a reference to the traditional way in which the early extents had been developed. It was common knowledge, and Fabian Stedman had pointed it out in his book, that if you take an extent of Plain Bob on any number of bells and put a treble in front of each row, you will have the lead heads and ends of the extent on the next higher number of bells. Or to express the same truth in a different way, if at the course ends of Bob Major you make 234567 work the full 720 changes of any six-bell method in which half the changes are triples, you will have the extent on eight bells.

Melchior had sixty courses of Stedman Triples to join together, and, if he could make five of his bells work a six-score of Doubles at the course-ends, he would have solved his problem as it appeared to him.

Unfortunately, Stedman Triples will not produce sixty true and independent courses as Plain Bob Triples will. Melchior's plan would have given him a true peal of Bob Triples, and it actually was by a similar plan that Annable produced his six-part composition, but there can be no reasonable doubt that Melchior's Stedman was false.

When Melchior accepted Crane's challenge to debate with him in private the public discussion came to an end, and we hear no more of it. We do not know who was the independent umpire before whom the debate took place or what his decision was, if indeed he gave one. Neither of the rivals convinced the other or gave up his own convictions, for such things do not happen. But we do know that the personal breach was healed.

The advertisements in the 'Norwich Gazette' cover a period of only four months, but they give us the most complete and vivid picture we possess of any of the ringers of past times.

The only other things comparable to them are the entries in Hearne's diary and Laughton's manuscript. Hearne was keenly interested in ringing, but he wrote as an outsider. He had neither the personal interest nor the technical knowledge that Melchior and Crane had. Laughton has much more to say than the Norwich men, but he was far inferior to them in all ways—as a writer, as a ringer, and as a man.

The Norwich episode is concerning a quarrel and a hot dispute, the clash of personal ambition, and professional rivalry. The disputants are thoroughly in earnest. They give and take hard knocks, and they fling gibes and personalities at each other. Yet the whole thing leaves a good impression. We feel that these people mean what they say, but they were friends a week or two ago and there is no reason why they should not be friends again a week or two hence. It is different with Laughton. We can see that his quarrel with Annable and the College Youths was too deep to be patched up.

All the principles in the Norwich dispute come out well, even Thomas Crane. No doubt he was not a very brilliant person and he took upon himself a foolish job. But he was honest and truthful. He did not swear that 4,860 changes had been rung because he was trying to invent a tale that would discredit the St. Peter's company. He really had counted only 4,860 changes. If he had counted 5,040 he would have said so. It was a priggish thing for him to tell John Webster that he never

spoke a word in his life, but he would swear the truth of it; but we may be sure that he had a better right to say it than most people. Melchior giped him unmercifully, but it is pretty certain that at bottom he rather liked him.

We have testimony from other sources that John Webster was respected and loved.

Edward Crane was a much greater and more intellectual man than his brother. Born in 1701, he was now 30 years old, and for two years had been parish clerk at St. Gregory's. In those days a parish clerk was an official of considerable importance in the civil and church life of the people. Crane had none of Melchior's brilliance, and as a controversial writer was overshadowed by his rival. When he tried to retort some of the other's gibes he was not very successful, but for the most part he states his case fairly and temperately.

Melchior was the leading man of the piece. A witty and well-read man, he threw himself into the fight with gusto and dealt his slashing blows left and right. But there was no venom in his attack. He calls his opponents 'false malicious brethren' and refers to their 'base, scurrilous and scandalous calumnies,' but the point is that he does look on them as brethren. He banters Tom Crane for swearing what he knew nothing about, and he ridicules his brother's peal—'it must be called Ned Crane's Triples, not Stedman,' but there is no malice in it all. Only once when he seemed rather chagrined at the success of the Coslany peal and irritated by the suggestion that he was at the bottom of the street row, does he show any trace of really bad feeling, and even then he recovered before he got to the end of the letter. He is eager to discuss the question of Stedman composition with his opponent, and though he preferred a public debate at which he was more fitted to shine, he gave way to his request to meet him in private.

Thomas Melchior was a clever man, who had taken pains to study composition as it was known in his time, but he cannot be ranked among the great composers. He was not of the same calibre as John Garthorn, nor was Edward Crane. Both of them, no doubt, did not see any reason why they should not carry on the older man's work and be as successful as he, but they lacked the necessary qualifications, and nearly a century had to pass before the problem they had so confidently tackled was really solved.

## HEAVY BELL RINGERS OF OLD TIME.

### COMPARISONS FUTILE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should not like to say anything to belittle anything the late William Pye did in the way of heavy bell ringing, but most of your readers would hardly say, as Mr. E. G. Hibbins does, that 'he stood far above all others in any age as a ringer of heavy bells.' Some people would say that James W. Washbrook was the leading tenor ringer, at least of modern times if not of all times. Then there are those men of past years referred to recently in your columns by a correspondent—James Marlton, Samuel Muggeridge, and the rest. But comparisons in this matter are 'odorous,' for as a test of physical endurance the weight of a bell is not everything, or anything like everything. It would take more strength to ring some trebles of a couple of hundredweights to a peal than York Minster tenor, and some no man and no relays of men would ever ring to a peal. Skill of handling a big bell is a different thing to strength, but who shall say which was the most skilful of heavy bell ringers? Not, perhaps, the man who rang the most peals or the heaviest bells. There are some men among the College Youths who can turn a big tenor in pretty well as it should be done. And one could name one or two younger men who are really good tenor ringers, as well as some who think they are and perhaps are not. But you won't find out these things by reading the reports of peals that are rung.

'NEMO.'



**CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.****A FAMOUS YORKSHIRE RINGER.**

Yesterday was the ninety-sixth anniversary of the birth of Charles Henry Hattersley, who for years was not only one of the best known ringers of Yorkshire, but of the whole country.

He was born at Sheffield on September 12th, 1844, and came of ringing stock, for his grandfather, William Booth, was a leading ringer in the early years of the nineteenth century. It was he who first introduced Hattersley to the belfry, for he carried him up the stairs of the steeple at Sheffield Parish Church when he was only four years old to show him the ringing.

Charles Hattersley's first practical acquaintance with bells was when, as a youth, he used to chime the bell for evening prayers, and a little later he was skilful enough to take part in prize ringing, though it was not until 1862 that he and his brother Thomas were elected to the Sheffield company. In that year he rang his first peal, one of Stedman Caters, and soon took a prominent part in conducting, calling his first peal when he was only 19 years old.

In 1864 he was made a College Youth on the occasion of ringing a peal of Stedman Triples at Bethnal Green with a band that included Matthew Wood, Henry Haley and George Musket. On his first visit to Birmingham in 1867, he met Henry Johnson, and between the two men, who had much in common, a warm and lasting friendship sprang up.

Charles Hattersley was a manufacturer of silver plated goods, and in the pursuit of his business he travelled to all parts of the country, which brought him in contact with many ringers. He will still be remembered by older people for his genial personality and his almost endless fund of anecdotes.

He rang something like 200 peals and among them was the long length of Stedman Caters (13,041 changes) at Cheltenham in 1888. It was a fine composition, containing the 120 course ends by Henry Johnson, and it was finely rung, not a word being spoken for five hours.

His other notable performances included 9,238 Stedman Cinques at Birmingham in 1881, the then record length in the method; 6,595 Stedman Caters at Sheffield in 1886; the first non-conducted peal of Stedman Triples on tower bells, at Burton-on-Trent in 1886; a peal in the same method and at the same church, in which each ringer called a part (three courses) in turn; and 15,227 Grandsire Caters at Cheltenham in 1889. He composed and conducted the first peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques, and the first peals of Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major for the Yorkshire Association. He represented the Yorkshire Association on the Central Council from the time of its foundation until his death.

Thus he stood in the first rank as a practical ringer, but it was as a composer that he most earned fame.

His compositions included peals in Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Duffield, Superlative, Bristol and London Surprise, but probably it was in Treble Bob that he most excelled, though his peals of Stedman Caters and Superlative Major were of great merit and are still rung.

He had no patience with the people of his day who talked about composition having been all worked out and that there were no new peals to be had. 'To talk about composition being played out,' he wrote, 'is all moonshine and nonsense, as the possibilities of composition are almost of surpassing belief. I have been interested in change ringing for the past 60 years, and if I had another 60 years to live I should still keep on being interested.'

From 1862 to the day of his death Hattersley was connected with the Sheffield Parish Church Society, and they have commemorated his work by the establishment of a library, of which his books and manuscripts form the nucleus.

As we have mentioned, Charles Henry Hattersley formed a very interesting link with the Sheffield ringers of past generations. His grandfather, William Booth, who was born in 1783, made his mark in ringing at a very early age, and in 1804 took part in the last 5,000 on the old peal of ten and in the first on the new bells. In 1811 he rang in the first peal ever accomplished on handbells, one of Treble Bob Major, and later on in the first handbell peals of Treble Ten and Treble Twelve. He was one of the band that opened the twelve at Liverpool in 1814, and in 1816 he stood in a peal at Shoreditch with a mixed band, which included William Shipway and the younger George Gross.

Charles Henry Hattersley died on October 21st, 1915, and was buried at Eccleshall, Sheffield.

**'RETAINED IN HAND.'**

Sir,—Would someone kindly explain the words '(retained) in hand' in reports of handbell peals? In what other way *could* a peal be rung?  
W. C. B.

In reply to our correspondent's inquiry as to the object of the use of the phrase 'retained in hand' in the reports of handbell peals, it may be pointed out that in days gone by a good deal of 'lapping' of handbells was done—passing them on from lap to lap of the ringers to produce the changes—and when peals were rung in which the ringers kept the same pair of bells throughout, they were distinguished by the description 'on handbells retained in hand.' But as the 'lapping' of handbells has now almost entirely gone out of practice, 'retained in hand' has fallen into disuse.—Editor, 'Ringing World.'

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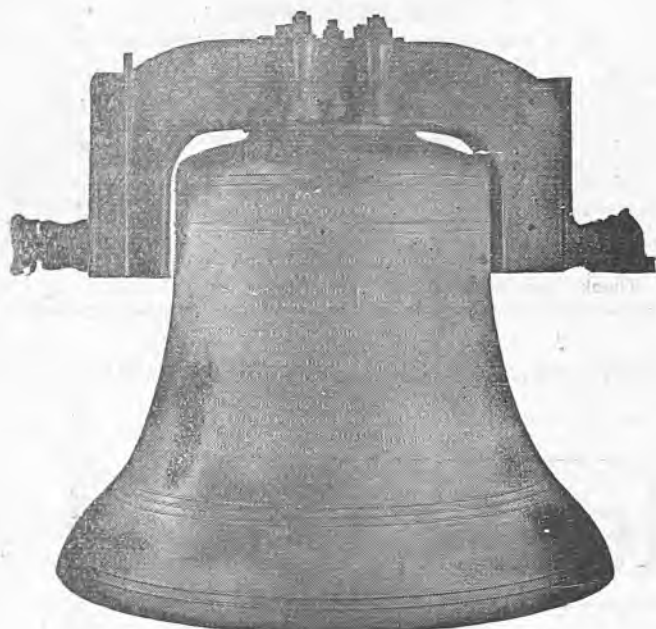
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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. A. B. Peck, hon. secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, informs us that the next meeting has not yet been definitely fixed, but it is expected that it will be held on Saturday, September 21st. There will be an hour's ringing at St. Lawrence Jewry from 3 p.m., and the meeting at 4 o'clock with handbell ringing afterwards.

Last Tuesday was the 199th anniversary of one of the earliest true peals of Grandsire Triples ever rung. The band, which Theodore Eccleston had got together on his country estate at Crowfield in Suffolk, rang at Coddensham 5,040 changes of 'Gathrine's Triples, being the first true peal that ever was pricked with two doubles only.' Eccleston rang the treble and John Foster called the bobs. Gathrine was John Garthorn, of Norwich, and Foster was the man who had been the landlord of the Eight Bells at Mancroft, both of whom figured largely in our recent accounts of the Norwich Scholars.

On September 15th, 1844, the ringers of Christleton in Cheshire rang 5,376 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, composed by I. J. B. Lates, of Birmingham. It was the first peal in the method away from the Eastern Counties and the Metropolitan area.

Charles D. P. Davies was born at Tewkesbury on September 12th, 1856. During a long ringing career he rendered many services to the Exercise. He was honorary secretary of the Central Council from 1902 to 1920, he was the first man to investigate the problems of composition on the modern scientific lines, and he was the author of two of the books in the Jasper Snowden series, 'Grandsire' and the first edition of 'Stedman.'

On September 13th, 1802, William Shipway called at St. Mary's, Islington, the first peal of Major in a new system introduced by himself, which he called Place ringing and which had no dodging. He had previously called a peal of Place Triples at Hackney and he afterwards called a peal of Place Caters at Shoreditch. No other peals in the method have since (we believe) been rung.

On the same date in 1823 the Junior College Youths rang the first peal on the bells, which William Dobson, of Downham Market, had recently hung in the new Church of St. George, Camberwell.

Charles Middleton died on September 14th, 1886.

The first recorded peal in Birmingham was one of Bob Major rung at St. Philip's on September 16th, 1755.

Gunner C. W. Denyer, R.A., hon. secretary of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, who joined the Army only about five or six weeks ago, has undergone an operation in a military hospital, and is now recuperating satisfactorily in a convalescent home somewhere in Surrey.

## DEATH OF MR. ALFRED BOWELL.

We much regret to record the death of Mr. Alfred Bowell, bell-founder, of Ipswich, who died after only a short illness on August 29th at the age of 66 years. The funeral took place on Monday of last week at Ipswich.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I quite agree with a recent correspondent that 'The Ringing World' is getting more interesting, by the various topics discussed since the ban on church bell ringing, much to the grief of all, and much more so to the large numbers of us who have been carrying out our Sunday service ringing regularly for so many years.

However, we have to submit to the powers that be and must do our best to keep our associations and guilds together and get as many as possible to air their respective ideas by 'copy' to fill up what would otherwise be called the peal columns. So far, I think, ringers have responded by the various opinions on 'call changes,' 'ringing speed,' 'ball versus plain bearings' and many other items, not overlooking the able reply by the Rev. E. Bankes James on the little query as to a peal of Grandsire Triples in ten parts with two ordinary singles half-way and end.

Last week I read with great interest the letter by Mr. C. E. Borrett, of Norwich, which brought back to my memory a certain peal of London Surprise (in which he took part) on the old ring of eight at St. Peter's, Brighton, in July, 1899. This peal is still talked of when certain of us get together in Brighton. His remarks on speed in ringing and on ball versus plain bearings proves he is still as exacting as to speed and striking as he was over 41 years ago.

No doubt there is a proper 'beat' or 'compass' for the speed of all bells to sound their best. But I think it all depends on the human element, and if you want good striking, whether ringing tenor or treble, you can only obtain it by ringing your bell as fast as the slowest ringer sees the method. I know of many such instances, and how irritating it is to those who see quickly and to others who always seem to want to get it over. Just the opposite was a remark made by the late Frank Hopgood, of Reading, in his dry Berkshire brogue, after stepping off the box at Romsey Abbey after a peal of Superlative: 'Well, I've enjoyed every change of that peal, in fact I was sorry when they were coming round.' This was on one of our ringing tours many years ago.

With Mr. Borrett's remarks on ringing a small bell to Maximus I quite agree. Give me plain bearings for ringing accurately and with ease, and as a correspondent said the other day, about 90 per cent. would agree. But, as our old friend Jim Hunt says, there is no doubt but that ball bearings have come to stay.

1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh, Hants. **GEORGE WILLIAMS.**

## CHURCH BELL ALARMS.

### MYSTERY OF THE WARNING.

Last Saturday night, while London was under the biggest air attack launched against it since the war began, there was an alarm sounded on the church bells in Surrey, Devon and Cornwall. No one seems to know why the alarm was given or by whom, and many have been the surmises.

In parts of West Surrey bells of a number of churches were violently rung, calling out the Home Guards. It appears to have been a false alarm and it is reported that the authorities are trying to find out who was responsible for it being given.

Enquiries by 'The Ringing World' have elicited the fact that messages were sent out soon after 10 p.m. to the incumbents of various churches to have the bells rung owing to 'a state of emergency,' and the instruction was complied with. In some cases only one bell was chimed, in others two. At one church, with only one bell, the Vicar's wife undertook the task.

And what was the result? Home Guards, who had previously been warned to 'stand by,' rushed to their posts, but the public were bewildered. They didn't know whether to stay indoors, go to their shelters, or go to help round up the raiders.

In one place, it was reported, some householders armed themselves with such things as garden forks and spades and prepared to defend their homes.

Except that the Home Guards manned their posts no one knew what to do. Why the authorities do not issue instructions, so that people may know what is expected of them, passes comprehension.

In the West of England, warnings are said to have been sounded from Cornwall to the outskirts of Bristol. That, too, was a false alarm and it is suggested it may have been due to a fishing fleet returning to a Cornish harbour through the mist earlier than expected after making a lucky catch.

Another false alarm was given early on Monday, in the West of Scotland, it was reported, and the ringing of church bells took place in five towns. The Scottish Command stated afterwards that they knew of no military reason for the ringing and an inquiry is being held.

The whole position is chaotic and will lead to unending confusion if unauthorised people, with nerves ajump, rush about giving orders to ring the church bells.

### LIFTING THE BAN.

#### APATHY OF RINGING ASSOCIATIONS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It seems to me that, speaking generally, our associations are doing little to justify their existence at the present time. One would expect that, instead of taking it lying down, the associations individually would exert themselves to the utmost until this absurd ban is lifted, at least as far as to permit ringing for, say, Sunday morning service.

I believe the Central Council have made some representations to the Ministry, but in my opinion it would carry far more weight if the Ministry were hammered at by every individual ringing association throughout the country. And your suggestion of enlisting the aid of higher authorities in the Church is an excellent one—this again can only be done by our associations making appropriate representations to their friends in high places in each diocese.

By their apparent apathy in this vital matter the associations are failing in their duty to their members and are neglecting an opportunity of demonstrating that even in war time they can still be worthy of support.

J. OLDHAM.

Loughborough.

### RISK TO CHURCHES.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It does not seem to have occurred to the minds of those in authority or even to our own Central Council officials that the exclusion of the use of church bells (or bell) for any but military purposes will specially render the churches assailable as military objectives.

Our enemy would naturally attempt the destruction of the churches by air attack some days before attempting a parachute landing in the same neighbourhood.

Please accept my congratulations on your continuance of the issue of 'The Ringing World,' which I have taken since the first issue, as I did the 'Bell News' for all its period.

Trusting you may be long spared to 'carry on.'

WILLIAM STORY.

## WELL KNOWN ESTABLISHMENT DAMAGED

### MR. AND MRS. A. A. HUGHES' ALARMING EXPERIENCE.

During the raids over London at the week-end damage was done to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's well-known establishment, but we are happy to say that Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hughes are unhurt despite a rather alarming experience.

Some of the windows of their house were broken during a raid on Thursday of last week, but on Sunday night a bomb exploded in a nearby street with such violence that stone setts from the road were hurled into the air and fell in a shower on the roof of the works, the roof being seriously damaged both by this and the blast from the explosion.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were sleeping at the time in the basement of their home, but escaped injury, the house being very little hurt, except that a paving stone came through the roof and landed in a bedroom on the top floor.

In conversation with Mr. and Mrs. Hughes on Tuesday evening, we found them both cheerful and showing little indication of their experience. Indeed, Mr. Hughes had been to the College Youths headquarters where he met two other members. The formal meeting arranged for the evening had to be abandoned, but the other part of the proceedings customarily observed on these occasions was not omitted.

### MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

#### JOINT MEETING AT COLEORTON.

On Saturday, August 31st, a joint meeting of the Burton, Derby and Loughborough Districts was held at Coleorton.

The weather was very favourable and a fair number of members and friends were present from Burton, Overseal, Netherseal, Appleby Magna, Ticknall, Ibstock, Loughborough, Copt Oak, Derby, etc.

The association form of service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Mr. Stevens, at 4 p.m., Mr. A. E. Rowley presiding at the organ.

Tea was served at the Rectory by Mrs. Stevens and helpers and was very much appreciated.

Very little business was transacted, but the main subject was the possibility of arranging a further meeting before the dark nights and the necessary curtailment of activities owing to bad travelling.

Mr. J. H. Swinfield spoke very strongly in favour of holding another meeting during September, and was supported by several speakers. Mr. Rowley, the secretary of the Loughborough District, asked if the Burton District would give support to a meeting if it could be arranged at Ibstock. Mr. J. W. Cotton, the secretary of the Burton District, agreed with the suggestion, and it was decided to leave Mr. Rowley to arrange one for the third or fourth Saturday in September, of which full notice will be given in 'The Ringing World.'

Thanks were accorded the Rector for conducting the service and to Mrs. Stevens for arranging tea.

The Rectory grounds and the Hall gardens were open to the visitors, and the non-ringing ladies of the party thoroughly enjoyed themselves while the others stayed in the Rectory with the handbells. Many members had practice in new methods, and much good work was done.

In spite of there being no tower bell ringing, this meeting was quite a success, both socially and from the handbell ringing point of view.

### CHECKING A PEAL OUTSIDE THE TOWER.

#### TWO YOUNG RINGERS' FEAT.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Regarding the recent paragraphs and letters on the ability of ringers to check peals from outside the tower, the following story may be of interest.

Some 18 years ago, in a Sussex village, two lads in their early 'teens were eagerly awaiting an opportunity to score their first peal. Their hopes ran high when a forthcoming attempt for a peal of Grandsire was mentioned one practice night, but, alas, they were evidently not considered good enough by the 'old hands,' and they were not among the chosen eight. Feeling rather 'sore,' they decided that if a peal was rung they would satisfy themselves that it was at least a true one.

On the Sunday afternoon when the attempt was to be made they settled themselves in a quiet corner of the churchyard, one with pencil and paper and the other with a Snowdon's 'Grandsire' to try and trace the composition.

As soon as the bells started into changes they were all attention, waiting for the treble to get back to lead. 'Yes, the 7th has made third's, it's a bob,' so down went 752634, and another wait for the next lead. Another half-dozen leads, and it became pretty obvious that it was 'Groves' Variation,' and as this was not in the book one lad set to work to write out the 360 lead ends, while the other checked them off as they came up. The full peal being written out, they then checked every lead end until rounds came up. By this time their screeness had vanished and they were as delighted as the performers that a peal had been scored.

The point to emphasise is that neither of them thought it in any way remarkable to be able to check a peal by ear.

Ringers are, on the whole, a modest crowd, and it is quite likely that there are many more with this gift than is suggested in your paragraph last week. As the writer was himself one of the lads in the story, the same modesty compels him to sign himself

'NEDBO.'

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## RECOLLECTIONS.

### THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT ADVENTURE.

September the 14th, 1934. It is but six years ago, yet so much has happened in the interval that it might have been a generation since that memorable day when a peaceful British expeditionary force set out on that great adventure to the antipodes, which made bellringing history. But that day, September the 14th, 1934, will remain in the memory of all those who shared in its pleasures and its excitements, until the end of life.

Six years ago that party of twelve set sail in the SS. 'Barrabool' for Australia, upon a bellringing tour the like of which had never before been undertaken, and I am sure that all of us, from time to time, live again through those happy months when we visited strange parts of the world, made a host of new friends in the Commonwealth, enjoyed their lavish hospitality, and gained a wealth of new experiences.

rung on the ocean. Two courses of Stedman Triples called the passengers to service, and afterwards a course of Grandsire Caters was rung.

It was also Bill Fussell's birthday. The day before we sailed he had rung his one thousandth peal and the double event cost him dear. On reflection at this distance of time, however, I think we ought to have treated Bill instead, for was it not he who had organised this adventure; he who had got the party together and made the plans which rendered it possible to put the great conception into operation. But a thousand peals is a thousand peals and a ringer's birthday is a ringer's birthday, and—well there you are. Next Monday Bill will have the good wishes of all his friends, and especially of his fellow voyagers of six years ago, for he will be 79. How this old war horse must be 'fretting at the bit' now that his beloved bells are silent.

It is not my purpose now to re-sketch even the outlines of all that memorable voyage, but in these troublous days, when church bell



THE PARTY THAT VISITED AUSTRALIA.

Standing at back, left to right: J. H. Hardcastle, Rev. E. B. James, Mrs. R. Richardson, J. S. Goldsmith, Mrs. C. Sharples, R. Richardson, W. H. Fussell, G. Martin and C. Sharples. The rest: Enid Richardson, R. Maude, W. Linter.

To-morrow is the anniversary of their departure from these shores, a departure which provided an amazingly enthusiastic send-off from London, amazing because it was so unexpected and amazing from the very nature of it. Representatives of many ringing organisations and ringers in their private capacity were there to bid us 'good-speed,' and who among them will forget the scene—the handbells on Liverpool Street Station with the admiring crowd of spectators who flung pennies into a hat; Bill Fussell singing 'All things bright and beautiful,' while precariously mounted on a baggage truck; the cheering and the waving—as the train steamed out? Then the excitement at the docks, whither many wellwishers had accompanied us; the final farewells and the realisation, as the ship with a whoop on her siren turned her head towards the sea and the uttermost parts of the earth, that we were at last really off on that long talked of expedition.

Next day there was all the novelty that one experiences when beginning a voyage at sea; the strange surroundings, the new faces, the mixture of feelings that can be sensed among those leaving friends behind and setting off maybe for years, maybe for ever from the land they love.

Those who, at the time, read the story of our voyage in these columns may recall how amid all these unsettling conditions a handbell peal was attempted on the English Channel, only to be smothered by a sea mist and the noise of the ship's siren. There was the call at Plymouth and then, when Sunday arrived, we were in the Bay of Biscay.

On that Sunday, probably for the first time, a 'service touch' was

ringing is no longer possible, it is not amiss to recall those happier times, when the world was at peace and ringers were able to travel to distant shores to forge new bonds of friendship and carry the flag of ringing to dominions beyond the seas. To all whom we met in those distant lands, the recollection of whose kindness will ever abide with us, those who went out upon that great adventure extend their fraternal greetings.

Though the seas divide, memories remain.

J. S. G.

### LYME REGIS RINGERS' WEDDING.

The marriage of Mr. Cuthbert W. Powell and Miss Laura Keelcy took place at the Parish Church, Lyme Regis, on Monday, September 2nd, in the presence of many relatives and friends. The ceremony, which was choral, was performed by the Vicar (the Rev. C. Carew Cox), the bride being given away by her father and attended by two small nieces as bridesmaids and a small nephew as page.

Both the bride and bridegroom are ardent members of the local band, and it was very disappointing that, owing to the ban on the use of the bells, no touch or peal could be rung in their honour. Later on, however, as they are both handbell ringers, it may be possible for them to join in a congratulatory touch or quarter-peal.

Among many presents received were a set of table knives from the local ringers, and a set of dessert knives and a beaten pewter cruet from the Guild of Servers, of which the bridegroom has been hon. secretary for many years.

A reception was held at the Tudor Cafe, and afterwards the happy couple left for a honeymoon in London.



## TRADITIONAL USES OF BELLS.

THE ANGELUS.  
To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I rather fancy Mr. Edwards is mistaken in saying that the death bell is 'practically universal' or 'in common use,' but perhaps he will give us further particulars. I should like to think he is right and I am wrong, but I believe that the death bell is now so obsolete that the great majority of people do not even know that there ever was such a thing.

Of all the traditional uses of bells, the death bell, or knell, was probably the most venerable and most widely spread. Its beginnings go back long before Christian times into the twilight of human history. In the early nineties of the last century, when I first began to take an interest in such things, it was still rung, but that was a time of great changes, and the age which saw the introduction of the telephone, the bicycle, free compulsory education, and the halfpenny daily newspaper, saw the end of many old customs and among them the death bell. It did not, of course, cease everywhere at the same time.

I can hardly believe that the larger number of parishes still maintain the custom of ringing the curfew. I wish it were so. I do not know of any instance apart from Tom of Oxford and (I suppose) Great St. Mary at Cambridge. The last time I heard curfew from a parish steeple was on one lovely summer evening in 1912. Mr. William Hewitt, Mr. Frank Hairs and I were in a boat on the River Deben, when, away in the distance, Woodbridge tenor was pulled up and rung for some minutes. Very beautiful it sounded across that 'wide watered shore.'

When Mr. Edwards and your correspondent W. C. B. say that the Angelus was in 'regular use in England for centuries before the Reformation,' and that 'up to the sixteenth century its use was universal,' they are repeating an opinion held by many people. Some time ago, for instance, 'The Church Times' informed an enquirer that the Angelus was a far older use than wedding bells. Nevertheless, historically there is no real foundation for such an opinion. Let us, however, be quite clear on the matter. By the Angelus these people mean, and Mr. Edwards and W. C. B. evidently mean, a bell rung at stated times daily, for the purpose of calling people to the recital of a certain devotion. That is the object for which churches ring the Angelus in modern times, but we can, I think, say definitely that no such ringing was generally done in English parish churches in pre-Reformation times. There was, it is true, the ringing of the Ave bell before or after divine service, as I mentioned in my article of August 30th, but that was a different thing. It was also laid down by certain bishops that the faithful should repeat devotions, such as the 'Our Father' and the 'Hail Mary,' when they heard the curfew or the midday bell. But the bells were not rung specially for that purpose, and their inception and continuance had nothing to do with the devotion of the Angelus. It was as if the bishop had told his flock to say a prayer when they heard the clock strike twelve, or at six in the evening. The midday bell and the evening bell, i.e., the curfew, were purely secular uses, begun and continued for the convenience of marking the working hours of the day. The early morning bell, in some cases at any rate, was rung for Prime, and therefore was a religious as well as a civic use.

The object of the Angelus as a devotion was originally, no doubt, as W. C. B. says, 'to remind people to say certain texts and prayers in memory of the Incarnation,' but in actual practice other things were associated with it, as I mentioned in my article, and among the common people the thing most associated with it was the indulgences attached to it.

When the whole system of indulgence was discontinued in the English Church, the devotion came to an end, but that had not the slightest effect on the ringing of the bells.

W. C. B. quotes Thomas North and your other correspondent quotes Ellacombe, who expressed views directly opposite to those I have given. These men are acknowledged authorities on bell archaeology, and are mainly responsible for the opinions held by so many people to-day. It may seem presumptuous to disagree with them, but actually their opinions were based largely on conjecture. Ellacombe and people who were working on similar lines were very much concerned about what they considered the profanation of church bells by their being used for secular purposes. They held that the bells were put in the towers for the sole purposes of the Church and religion, and that in pre-Reformation times they were looked upon as instruments so sacred that no layman might ring them, but only clerics in minor orders properly vested. Secular uses of bells in pre-Reformation times were unthinkable, and it was only in the bad days after the Reformation that such of the old religious uses as still survived were retained for social and mundane purposes.

It all sounds very right and probable, but it is contradicted by such evidence as exists. One of the best authorities on ecclesiastical usage in the middle ages, Dr. Daniel Rock, the author of 'The Church of Our Fathers' and a Roman Catholic, did not believe that the Angelus was generally rung in England.

In any case the modern use of the Angelus in England is neither a survival nor a revival of anything that happened in this country in the Middle Ages. It has come to us from the Continent, and has been introduced and adopted by certain parsons, not because they think it is a traditional English use, but because they think it is a Catholic custom.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

## LEAD HEADS. AND ENDS.

A FURTHER REPLY TO 'MUCH INTERESTED.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In connection with the enquiry of 'Much Interested' in the issue of September 6th, there is one point which was not mentioned in your reply. Your enquirer asked how the lead end of a method could be determined from a half lead of a method, whereas in your reply you assumed that a further row was given. 'Much Interested' might like to know how to determine which place is to be made when the treble lies its whole pull behind.

There are, in a Major method, four possible places, 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th, and the following are the seven lead-ends common to all legitimate Major methods with a single hunt:—

| A | B  | C  | D  |
|---|----|----|----|
| 2 | 43 | 65 | 87 |
| 3 | 25 | 47 | 68 |
| 4 | 62 | 83 | 75 |
| 5 | 37 | 28 | 46 |
| 6 | 84 | 72 | 53 |
| 7 | 58 | 36 | 24 |
| 8 | 76 | 54 | 32 |

At the treble's whole-pull at lead, whichever bell in column A makes the place (either 2nd's or 8th's), the pairs which change are those given under columns B, C and D.

Similar conditions apply to the treble's whole pull behind. One bell makes a place (1st, 3rd, 5th or 7th), and the pairs shown under columns B, C and D change according to which bell makes the place.

The following are two examples of changes which might occur at the end of a half-lead of a method:—

- (a) 64285371  
(b) 74258631

To ascertain the place to be made, take each bell in 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th place in turn, and, assuming it to make the place, observe which pairs would be forced to change.

In the example (a), if the 6th lies a whole pull at lead, 42, 85 and 37 would change. Referring to the table above, we find that when the 6th makes the place, the pairs which should change to give a proper lead-end are 84, 72 and 53; therefore, a correct lead-end is not produced.

Similarly the 2nd cannot make 3rd's, neither can the 7th make 5th's and produce a regular lead-end. The 5th, however, can make 5th's, since it will be seen that the pairs which will change are 64, 28 and 37.

In example (b) we find that there are two alternatives. Either the 7th can lead or the 3rd can make 7th's.

To determine which lead-end will be produced, all that is necessary is to observe which bell changes with the 2nd at the half-lead. This bell will fall in 2nd's place at the lead-end and the rest of the change will be as shown in the table already given. If the 2nd makes the place the lead-end will be 2436587.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

65, Kingsley Avenue, West Ealing.

## 'BERKSHIRE BELLS.'

ANOTHER PART OF MR. F. SHARPE'S WORK.

A further contribution to 'The Church Bells of Berkshire' is now available in Part II. of Mr. Frederick Sharpe's work, now obtainable at one shilling.

It covers about a dozen parishes and follows, of course, the same meticulously careful lines of the earlier part. The accurate descriptions of the bells, with notes about their founders, make the work which Mr. Sharpe is doing all the more valuable, while the numerous illustrations add to the interest of both the student and the ordinary reader.

It happens that in this newly issued part there are included two bells of more than average antiquarian interest. One is the smaller of two bells at St. Lawrence's, West Challow, one of the earliest existing bells in England bearing its founder's name and also one of the earliest examples of London bell founding. It was cast by Paul the Potter, a London bell founder, somewhere between 1283 and 1312. Previous to the discovery of this bell in 1926, by Mr. A. F. Smith, of Swindon, no example of Paul the Potter's work was known.

The other bell of special interest is an early 14th century saunce-bell at Cholsey. It was discovered in 1932 by the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. For many years it lay forgotten in a dim recess in the tower and now hangs in the south window of the belfry. It was cast by Richard de Wymbish, a member of a noted Essex family of bell founders, at least three of whom were founding in Aldgate in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. It is a very thin bell, Mr. Sharpe says. It is 20 inches in diameter, having its strike-note G natural and harmonics unusually high in the scale for a bell of that date. Unfortunately it has lost its canons and is now secured to an elm headstock by means of bolts passing through the crown.

It is gratifying to know that, despite present difficulties, this new section of the 'Church Bells of Berkshire' has been able to appear.

**FALSE COURSE ENDS.****AN EXPLANATION BY MEANS OF EXAMPLES.**

We next turn to the second section of our specimen method.

25174386 -  
52713468 -  
52174386 +  
25713468 +

Here again the first and third rows are of opposite nature, so we transpose the table of the lead heads of the method by the first row, and the table of the lead ends by the other. Among the rows we produce are

7645823 from the fifth lead head,  
and 7654832 from the second lead end;  
as well as 5863742 from the sixth lead head,  
and 5836724 from the third lead end.

In the first of these pairs 6, 7, 8 occupy the same relative positions, but 2 and 3, and 4 and 5 are transposed. The false course end, therefore, is 32546, and the incidence of the falseness is between the first half of the fifth lead of the plain course and the second half of the second lead of the course 32546.

In the second pair of rows 5, 7, 8 occupy the same relative positions, and 2 and 4, and 3 and 6 are transposed. The false course end, therefore, is 46253, and the incidence is between the first half of the sixth lead of the plain course and second half of the third lead of the course 46253.

But both 32546 and 46253 are in reciprocal relationship to 23456, therefore there will also be falseness between the second half of the second lead of the plain course and the first half of the fifth lead of the course 32546. And between the second half of the third lead of the plain course, and the first half of the sixth lead of the course 46253.

Next transpose the table of lead ends by the first row of the section, and the table of lead heads by the third row. Among the rows we produce are the following:

6745832 from the second lead end,  
and 6745823 from the fifth lead head,  
as well as 8536724 from the third lead end,  
and 8563742 from the sixth lead head.

The first gives us the false course end 32546 with the incidence of falseness between the second half of the second lead of the plain course and the first half of the fifth lead of the course 32546; and between the first half of the fifth lead of the plain course and the second half of the second lead of the course 32546. The second gives in the false course end 46253, with the incidence of falseness between the second half of the third lead of the plain course and the first half of the sixth lead of the course 46253; and between the first half of the sixth lead of the plain course and the second half of the third lead of the course 46253. Here are the actual rows:

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| From 23456.  | From 32526   |
| 5th 76145823 | 2nd 76418532 |
| 67418532     | 76145823     |
| 67145823     | 76418532     |
| 76418532     | 67145823     |
| 2nd 67518423 | 5th 76154832 |
| 76154832     | 67518423     |
| 76518423     | 67154832     |
| 67154832     | 76518423     |

6th 58163742  
85617324  
85163742  
58617324

3rd 85317642  
58136724  
58317642  
85136724

From 46253

3rd 85617324  
58163742  
58617324  
85163742

6th 58136724  
85317642  
85136724  
58317642

A 32546 and D 46253 are complementary false course ends. Both of them are produced by the first set of transpositions and, therefore, both of them are also produced by the second set of transpositions, D in the second taking the place of A in the first, and A in the second taking the place of D in the first. The result is that in the second sections of our method we get two sets of four repetitions, instead of only one set of four as in the first sections. (We are concerned for the moment with the rows in which the treble is in thirds, not those in which it is in fourths, of which more anon.)

At the first sight all these details appear rather complicated and involved, but if the reader takes the trouble to follow them slowly and carefully he will find that they are quite simple and, once understood, almost obvious.

When we are studying a new method with the idea of composing a peal (if possible) it will pay us to make all the transpositions. We shall probably save time in the end and we shall certainly have a better chance of understanding where the liability of the method lies and the best ways of avoiding it. But we could deduce all the false course ends and the incidence of the falseness from the first set of transpositions, as was explained in our last article.

We can go further, and we can be certain from an examination of the section, without making any transpositions at all, that it produces the two false course ends A and D.

For it is a general rule of all regular Treble Bob and Surprise Major methods that wherever in any section two bells which are next but one to each other in natural coursing order make places side by side, then the false course ends 32546 and 46253 are produced, provided that two of the rows with the treble in the same position are identical except for the place making bells.

In our example method 5 and 2 make places side by side. In the natural coursing order of the plain course these bells are separated by 3.

Something similar happens when in any section two bells which are immediately next each other in natural coursing order make places side by side. Then the false course end 24365 is always produced.

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Staverton Vicarage, near Daventry.

## NOTICES.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—A meeting will be held at Claines on Saturday, September 14th. Service in church 4.15 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea will be provided if possible. — E. F. Cubberley, Branch Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held in the Church Room, Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Business meeting at 6 p.m., to be followed by handbells and discourses, etc. All ringers, especially beginners, warmly welcomed.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Western Division.—Quarterly meeting arranged at All Saints', Bingley, on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Church House available during afternoon and evening for handbells, billiards, etc. Conducted ramble through St. Ives Estate, starting from Church House at 3 o'clock. Tea (approx.) 5 p.m. Business meeting at 6 o'clock. All welcome and a good attendance specially requested.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

**BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Felkirk on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Handbells available in Schoolroom 2.30 p.m. Short service in church 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and further handbell practice. A hearty welcome to all.—D. Smith, 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual festival will be held at Chester Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 14th. Evensong at 4.15. Tea and business meeting directly afterwards.—H. Parker 64, Church Rd., Northwich.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch. — Quarterly meeting at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, Sept. 14th, at 6 p.m. Discussion as to future and handbells.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, September 14th. Tower bells (silent) and handbells from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Will ringers please bring own tea? Business meeting and social evening.—S. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bletchley.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Ravensthorpe on Saturday, September 14th. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea will be provided, but please bring sugar. Will all members make a special effort to attend.—H. H. Shrivs, Hon. Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — North Bucks Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, September 21st. Handbells from 5 p.m. Short business meeting including former secretary's presentation at 6 p.m. A good attendance specially requested.—R. H. Howson, Sec., 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selby on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Handbells will be available. Service in the Abbey at 4 o'clock. Tea at 5 p.m. Names, please, by Sept. 18th. The Vicar, Canon Solloway, D.D., will conduct those present round the Abbey. Outstanding subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The next meeting has been arranged to take place at Nuneaton on Saturday, September 21st. A room in the Parish Hall, Vicarage Street, will be available from 4 to 7 p.m. Tea and light refreshments provided (please bring own sugar). It is hoped that there will be a good muster.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Uttoxeter on Saturday, September 21st. Service in the Church at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m., charge 1s. 9d. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. Roberts, 46, Ashbourne Road, Uttoxeter, Staffs, by Tuesday.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.** — Departure from the Diocese of the Rev. Hugh McMullan, President of the Association. A farewell meeting will take place at Norwich on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Handbells in St. Giles' Hall, Cow Hill, 3—7.30 p.m.; six of St. Giles' bells (minus clappers!) also available during that period. Tea (bring sugar!) 4 p.m., followed by business meeting, including presentation to president. Kindly broadcast this notice and send all donations to the Testimonial Fund to F. Nolan Golden, General Secretary and Treasurer, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

**HERTS ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting on Saturday, September 28th, at Girl Guides' Studio, Falconer Road, Bushey, from 4 till 8 p.m., for social talk and handbell practice. All interested in ringing are welcome. Tea can be arranged if required.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, on Saturday, September 28th. Service at 4 p.m., business immediately after. As the business is important will as many as possible turn up.—W. H. Shuker, T. Wilson, Hon. Secretaries.

## APARTMENTS.

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