THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

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These famous bell-founding firms have kindly consented to this adaptation of their advertisements to meet the pressure on our space, due to the compulsory reduction in the number of our pages this week.

A SILLY HOAX.

There is now no doubt that the report which was sent us of a peal alleged to have been rung at Newport on June 2nd was no more than a hoax, and a silly hoax at that. This is clearly proved, not only by the letters we have received from Mr. Hannington, the secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, and from Mr. L. W. Prosser, but by the fact that the person who sent the report has taken no steps to establish his bona-fides. According to our information not only was no such peal rung or attempted, but there are no such ringers as those who were stated to have taken part. The writer gave a fictitious name and an address in a street which does not exist.

We do not pretend to guess at what the object of the writer can have been. The whole thing seems just stupid and meaningless. A good deal of harmless fun can, of course, often be caused among friends by what is known as 'pulling a person's leg,' but that depends on the deception being short lived and everyone concerned seeing the joke. A hoax like this sham peal is no more than a piece of vulgar lying without any sense or reason, and the man who is responsible for it ought to be ashamed of himself.

It has been suggested that in future we ought to guard against a repetition by declining to publish the report of an unusual kind of peal unless it is guaranteed by some man of standing, but we are quite sure that any such precautions are unnecessary. It is most unlikely that another person will think it worth while to forward a bogus report. Such a thing has never happened before during the seventy years in which there has there has been a ringing journal, and we should have said it was unique if we had not come across in 'The Era,' the sporting paper of more than a century ago, a paragraph which said that a fictitious band of ringers ascended the tower of the parish church in a non-existent village in Wiltshire and performed a peal of Stedman Cinques on a ring of bells with a tenor of 52 cwt. That, on the face of it, was bogus. Whether it was intended to be a parody of some peal by College Youths or Cumberlands at Southwark cannot now be said, for the key to the joke, if there was one, is lost.

The peal records of the Exercise have depended, and still depend, on the truthfulness of the men who ring them. When a band says they have rung a peal it has always been the custom to accept the bare statement however much critics may object to the way in which

(Continued on page 278.)

it was rung, or refuse to admit that it reached the standards necessary for a true peal, and it is quite impossible for 'The Ringing World' to adopt any other course. Any report sent us must be treated as genuine, for if we were to harbour doubts about accounts sent to us and make inquiries we should in the vast majority of cases be only casting an unmerited slur on innocent and deserving bands; in addition to which there is the important fact that it is no part of 'The Ringing World's' duties to sit in judgment on peal ringers and the peals they ring.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, June 30, 1945, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

Harry G. Wayne ...	...*Treble*	Sidney O. Cheney	7
Jill Poole...	2	Leslie W. G. Morris ...	8
Mrs. H. J. Poole	3	Ernest Morris	9
Frank E. Pervin	4	G. Stedman Morris	10
Frank W. Perrens	5	William J. Root	11
Frank J Smallwood... ...	6	Harold J. Poole... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by Fred Dench. Conducted by Frank W. Perrens.

TEN BELL PEAL.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Saturday, July 7, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5103 CHANGES;
Tenor 27½ cwt. in D flat.

William J. Robinson	...*Treble*	Frank E. Hawthorne ...	6
Alfred H. Pulling ...	2	*H. William Barrett ...	7
*George C. Goodman ...	3	William T. Bueson... ...	8
*Frederick A. Coley ...	4	George W Steere	9
Cecil J. Matthews ..	5	*Frank C. W. Knight	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by A. H. Pulling.
* First peal of Stedman Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HEDON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 30, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Augustine,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Penning's Five-part. Tenor 17½ cwt.

John G. Hobson... ...	...*Treble*	Frank Braithwaite	5
George F. Williams... ...	2	Fred Osgerby	6
Robert Owen	3	George Dowling	7
Cresswell G. Constable	4	Arthur E. Moody ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by George F. Williams.

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 30, 1945, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Giles,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt. in F.

*Rev. John E. Tredennick	*Treble*	Nolan Golden	5
Margaret D. Telford ...	2	*Godfrey G. Walpole ...	6
*George Sayer	3	Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow	7
*Rev. Walter G. Bridge	4	*Arthur G. Bason ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by Nolan Golden.
* First peal of Little Bob.

TUNSTALL, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, July 1, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

Joan Houldsworth ...	...*Treble*	William L. B. Leese ...	5
Betty Spice	2	*Wilfrid F. Moreton ...	6
Anna Sellors	3	Walter H. Dobbie	7
Jean A. Southerst	4	John E. Spice	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by John E. Spice.
* First peal in the method.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 2, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Remigius,
A PEAL OF VICTORIA LITTLE COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

Henry Tooke	...*Treble*	Ernest G. Shorting... ...	5
Margaret D. Telford ...	2	Cedric Curson	6
Russell W. Curson	3	F. Charles Goodman... ...	7
Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow ...	4	Nolan Golden	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by Nolan Golden.
First in method by all.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 2, 1945, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Margaret,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Heywood's Transposition. Tenor 10 cwt.

Peter J. Staniforth	...*Treble*	Ernest Morris...	5
Josiah Morris	2	*J. Stuart Iliffe	6
*Stanley R. Gardener ...	3	Redvers F. Elkington ...	7
Dennis Dodson...	4	*Derek Dodson	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Redvers F. Elkington.
* First peal of Stedman. Rung on the front eight.

ANSTEY, NEAR LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 5, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Middleton's. Tenor 10½ cwt.

Harold J. Poole ...	...*Treble*	†Norman G. McCrum ...	5
*Miss Dorothy Robertson	2	Peter J. Staniforth ...	6
Miss Jill Poole	3	Ernest Morris...	7
†J. Stuart Iliffe	4	Redvers F. Elkington	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Redvers F. Elkington.
* First peal. † First Surprise peal.

ST. ANNES, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 7, 1945, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Anne,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Parker's Six-part. Tenor 16 cwt.

Arthur Tomlinson ...	...*Treble*	Laurence J. Williams ...	5
William H. Ratcliffe ...	2	John H. Foster	6
Charles Sharples	3	*Herbert Ramsbottom ...	7
Joan Houldsworth	4	*Arthur Billham ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by John H. Foster.
* First peal.

BURGHILL, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 7, 1945, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10¾ cwt.

*Sheila St. B. Moreton	...*Treble*	William H. Symonds ...	5
William E. Williams ...	2	Rev. E. Geoffrey Benson	6
*Sidney Tuson	3	John E. Spice	7
Betty Spice	4	Wilfrid F. Moreton...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. Burton. Conducted by Wilfrid F. Moreton.
* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WOOL, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, July 1, 1945, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Rood,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different callings. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

*Derek K. King ... ...*Treble*	Edward A. Enticknap ... 4
Lionel H. Pink 2	William T. Shute 5
Frederick Precey 3	Sgt. P. Tocock ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by Sgt. P. Tocock.
* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Monday, July 2, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Trinity,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising one extent each of College and St. Clement's Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Reverse, Double and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

Anna Sellors ... ...*Treble*	Betty Spice 4
Joan Houldsworth 2	Wilfrid F. Moreton 5
Jean A. Southerst 3	John E. Spice ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by John E. Spice.

GAMSTON, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 7, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miss Josephine Salt ...*Treble*	*John Newbert 4
W. Eric Critchley 2	Harold Denman 5
Ernest Padgett 3	Ernest Short ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by Harold Denman.
* First peal.

FELKIRK, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday July 7, 1945, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

*Raymond Ford ... ...*Treble*	Lewis Steel 4
Arthur Firth 2	Peter Woodward 5
†George Smith 3	Daniel Smith ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. Smith.
* First peal on tower bells. † First peal. Rung half-muffled for Mr. J. B. Booth.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Friday, June 29, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At 35, Woodstock Road,
A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in C.

*Jean A. Southerst 1-2	John E. Spice 7-8
William L. B. Leese ... 3-4	*Wilfrid F. Moreton ... 9-10
Betty Spice 5-6	*Anna Sellors 11-12

Composed by J. Reeves. Conducted by John E. Spice.
* First peal on twelve bells.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, July 1, 1945, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
At Trentwood,
A PEAL OF GRANOSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 14½ in C sharp.

Mrs. J. Bray 1-2	George E. Feirn 5-6
Frank Lord 3-4	Jack Bray 7-8

Conducted by G. E. Feirn.
Witness—Miss E. Bray.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Sunday, July 1, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
At 35, Woodstock Road,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor size 17 in A.

Joan Houldsworth 1-2	William L. B. Leese ... 7-8
Betty Spice 3-4	Jean A. Southerst 9-10
John E. Spice 5-6	Wilfrid F. Moreton ... 11-12

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by John E. Spice.
First peal of Treble Twelve by all.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Monday, July 2, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
At 35, Woodstock Road.
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in D flat.

*Joan Houldsworth 1-2	*Betty Spice 5-6
†Jean A. Southerst 3-4	*John E. Spice 7-8
†Wilfrid F. Moreton ... 9-10	

Composed by F. Dexter. Conducted by John E. Spice.
* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. † First peal in the method.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, July 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At 17, Kingsfield Road,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

*Graham C. Tarr 1-2	Harold G. Cashmore ... 5-6
Christopher W. Woolley 3-4	*Laurence R. Tarr 7-8

Composed by S. Marsh. Conducted by H. G. Cashmore.
* First peal in the method.

HEREFORD.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 7, 1945, in Two Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Cathedral Close,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor size 11 in G.

*Betty Spice 1-2	Wilfrid F. Moreton ... 5-6
John E. Spice 3-4	†Michael P. Moreton ... 7-8

Composed by C. Change (C.C.C. No. 99). Conducted by J. E. Spice
* 100th peal. † First peal in the method and first of Major.

WICKHAM ST. PAUL, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, July 8, 1945, in Two Hours,
At 2, Broad Road,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents. Tenor size 15.

Reginald Rippingale ... 1-2	Thomas Bird 3-4
Ralph Bird 5-6	

Conducted by R. Bird.

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

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

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Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.
Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Paper Control have now released a further small supply of paper, which has enabled us to increase the number of copies per week. We have allocated some part for the benefit of those who purchase their paper through local newsagents, and have reserved a supply for would-be postal subscribers. Please place your order immediately. Remittances should be sent to Mr. G. W. Fletcher, and not to the Editorial Office.

Occasionally, though not very often, some of our friends write to say that 'The Ringing World,' which they usually receive by post on Friday or Saturday morning, has not turned up. Postal copies all go from the office at the same time every week, but in these days postal deliveries are occasionally late. We always do our best to replace any copy which has gone astray, but since we have very few spare ones (sometimes none at all), we ask our friends to wait for a day or two before complaining of non-delivery in case it is merely a case of postal delay.

Members of the Leeds and District Society should notice that the date of Sherburn meeting has been altered from July 28th to July 21st.

DEATH OF MR. J. B. BOOTH.

During a visit of the Holmfirth ringers to Felkirk on June 30th, Mr. Joshua Barber Booth, one of their number, collapsed while ringing the tenor and expired immediately. The band had gone to Felkirk to hold a practice in connection with the Barnsley Society's shield contest, which will take place on July 14th, and had been ringing for about five minutes when the tragic event happened. At the inquest a verdict of death from heart failure was returned.

The funeral service was at Holmfirth Parish Church on July 4th. It was well attended and was fully choral, as Mr. Booth had been a chorister for the greater part of his life as well as a ringer for over 40 years. The Vicar spoke of the services he had done for the church and said he could not have died better than while taking part in work of the church.

Mr. Booth, who was in his 57th year, was a member of the Barnsley District Society. The following ringers attended the service and rang touches on the tower bells fully muffled before and after the service: H. Winslip, C. Helliwell, G. Cutell, J. E. Milner and H. Booth, of Holmfirth, H. Haigh and F. Tinker, of New Mill, C. Byram, S. Manchester and E. Earnshaw, of Meltham, and D. Smith, of Felkirk.

On July 7th, a half-muffled peal of Bob Minor was rung at Felkirk in memory of Mr. Booth.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT LODDON.

A meeting of the East Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association, held at Loddon on June 30th, was attended by 35 members from Beccles, Bergh Apton, Colchester, Haddiscoe, Norton, Norwich, Reedham, Mulbarton, Oxford, Wymondham, Yarmouth, Gillingham, Gorleston-on-Sea.

The belfry elections of Miss Margaret Telford and Mr. Frank Lufkin were ratified, and Mr. R. Browne was elected an honorary member. Somerleyton was selected as the place of the next meeting.

CALL CHANGES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You say, 'There is nothing "false" about call change ringing in itself.' But change ringing is false when a change is repeated. Call changes mean that changes are repeated. Therefore, call changes are false. This seems to me a perfect syllogism. Where is the flaw?

I said, and I repeat, that the reason why we do not ring call changes is because they are false. They are contrary to our profession. They are an unworthy offering to God, as a preparation, or an invitation to His service.

If call changes are all you say they are, we ought to have rules by which peals, or other attainments, could be obtained. All change ringers will cry out in horror at such an idea. Why should they do so unless they know in their hearts that call changes are wrong and an unworthy prostitution of our art?

As one who has been universally successful as a teacher in elementary ringing, as in other things, I am able to speak with authority; and I repeat that call changes are not necessary to learners, nor do they help them to learn good striking, but rather hinder it. Those who think they are good strikers because of call changes would no doubt be horrified to hear they really learned in spite of call changes. But that does not disprove it. All that people imagine they are teaching by call changes they could much more effectively teach by 'set changes' (or rather 'rows'). In set rows you begin with a row (say 'Queen's'), and end with that row, and ring the same all through. There is no change, so the changes cannot be either true or false as there are none: you naturally choose a row which will help, and both teacher and pupil see what is being done. This is more than can be said for call changes.

Fortunately (or unfortunately) I had an experience which has fallen to few if any change ringers, in that for a year in St. John's I lived near the R.C. Cathedral. There I heard the ring of bells jangled, in the Continental fashion, twice every Sunday and on other occasions. It was misery for me, as I was looking for good striking. But I was the only person in the Island who felt like that. Everyone else enjoyed it, and our people wished we had bells to rival theirs. We all know that people on the Continent prefer the jangling style of ringing. Of course, we think it shows their bad taste. But are we so sure? It certainly shows a difference in taste, but how is it that we so often try to teach non-ringers (often unsuccessfully) what to look for in good ringing? The Prime Minister in his broadcasts during the war often referred to ringing, but he always spoke of the 'clashing' bells. We ringers, when we speak of good striking, mean that there was no clashing. But here we find the P.M. saying just the opposite; and, moreover, all who are not interested parties agree with him. We have something to think about here. All other nations, and most English people, prefer clashing to well-struck bells.

Again, unfortunately, I have met several musical people, who have confided in me in a way that they do not usually confide in ringers, and have told me how they dislike hearing the sound of bells. It has turned out that it is only call changes (though they do not know them by that name) that they dislike. I ask again, for no one has ventured to answer this, can we afford to set these people against us? It is so little to ask ringers to give up call changes for so good a cause.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge.

[It is certainly news to us that 'most English people prefer clashing to well-struck bells' or that Mr. Churchill has had anything to say on the matter.—The Editor.]

INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor

Sir,—I have never seen anything in print that tells you how to raise and fall a 'ring' of bells as it should be done, nor how to ring light and heavy bells, all numbers, in oscillating towers, the difference in bells on ball and plain bearing, length of draught, etc., how light bells should be rung with the tenor turned, or how to ring with open leads. All that ever I have seen about open leads is that the silent period should be equal to the distance between the bells that are ringing. If this is right, then it stands to reason that on a ring of six striking at 30 to the minute the silent period would be longer than it would be on ten bells at 27 to the minute. Surely there is no need for the silent interval to be longer on six than on ten or vice versa.

I should like to see some of our leading ringers asked to write articles on the above, the whole to be pooled and set before a committee and a book compiled from same.

B. T. JEANES.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT LINGFIELD.

A meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association, held at Lingfield on June 30th, was attended by 26 members and friends. The Vicar, the Rev. S. C. L. Miller, welcomed the ringers, conducted shortened evensong and gave an address. Tea on the Vicarage lawns was followed by the business meeting, conducted by the Master of the association, Mr. D. Kenneth C. Bird. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kingswood, if possible, in September, otherwise at Nutfield. The Vicar and one other ringer were elected members of the association.

THE BELL-WHEEL.

By George P. Elphick.

Have you ever wondered what life would be like without the invention of the wheel? Without it, our mechanised age would never have been born. Civilisation as we know it is dependent to a very great extent on the wheel. We can surmise that its parent was a rolling log. But who was the man that had the flash of insight to provide an axle about which his wheel could turn? We do not know. All we know is that the wheel was in common use by B.C. 1490.

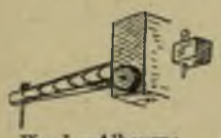


Fig. 1.—Albourne



Fig. 2.—Tortington



Fig. 3.—Worminghurst

While we do not know the story of the development of the common wheel, as is used for the transport of power and motion, we do know about a wheel which has been developed within the last few centuries. This is the bell-wheel, and without it our art would not exist. It has developed in definite stages, although they overlap each other by considerable periods. I do not think that the development of the bell-wheel has been set in order before, although it is evident from their works that many archæologists have mentally traced its growth. It is a development that can best be explained by sketches. The development may for convenience be briefly stated in three stages: first, horizontal lever; second, inclined lever; third, quarter wheel; fourth, half wheel; fifth, three-quarter wheel; and finally the full wheel. The term wheel in early records may not of necessity mean a full wheel, although once a circular rim was thought of the development to the full wheel may have been fairly rapid.



Fig. 4.—Binsted



Fig. 5.—Ashburnham



Fig. 6.—Singleton

The problems that the carpenters were faced with were to provide an even leverage to the rope, preventing the rope from slipping, making the wheel light yet strong enough to take the strains imposed upon it, and fixing it securely to the stock.

Undoubtedly the lever was the earliest method used to toll a bell. One of the branches along which it developed is shown very clearly in Ernest Morris's 'History and Art of Change Ringing'—the tolling of the Bourdon bell at Notre Dame, Paris, there being four levers, or treadles, with two men to each, not swinging the bell by a rope, but by placing and releasing their weight on the ends of the treadles. The other method in general use is by pulling a rope attached to its end, the lever being fastened on to or into the headstock. Fig. 1 shows a horizontal lever tenoned into the stock and secured by a pin. This example is from Albourne, and is the only carved lever that I have seen. While modern, dating from 1859, it may have been copied from the earlier one used to toll a bell cast *c.* 1307. Tortington, Fig. 2, shows an alternative method of fixing the lever by iron straps nailed to the stock. The ring of three at Botolph's, cast in 1536, is tolled by similar type levers. A most unusual form of the horizontal lever is shown in Fig 3. The thirteenth century long-waisted bell at Worminghurst is strapped to a lever four and a half feet long, which is pierced by an axle twenty-three inches long and two and a half inches square in section, with driven-in gudgeons. If this lever is as old as the bell, or even similar to the original, it is a priceless example of thirteenth-century bell hanging.

With a horizontal lever the effective pull is limited to about 20°, and with heavy bells this would be a serious drawback. A solution to this problem was to raise the end of the lever, which gave an effective pull of about twice the distance. Two methods are shown, for example, Binsted, Fig. 4, and Ashburnham sanctus, Fig. 5. The lever at Binsted is strapped and nailed to the stock, and that at Ashburnham is housed into the stock.

While I have not seen a specimen, I have no doubt that the quarter wheel was evolved in the same way as



Fig. 7.—Pyecombe



Fig. 8.—West Thorney



Fig. 9.—Ford

the full half wheel at Singleton, Fig. 6. With the addition of another lever it was but a short step to bend a board between the ends of the levers, and nail a fillet to its sides to prevent the rope from slipping, so forming a quarter wheel.

In most examples of quarter and half wheels the spokes are set at equal distances round the periphery, so that the strain is equally distributed. When a bell is rung to whole pulls, an even pull is not possible over the same distance as for tolling. Therefore we shall not expect to find wheels used for whole pull ringing with spokes equally spaced.

The only quarter wheel that I have found in Sussex is at Pyecombe, Fig. 7. I doubt if the early quarter wheels were of the same construction. One would have expected them to have been in the form of the upper part of a half wheel, or a quarter section of the wheel at West Thorney, Fig, 8, which, by the way, swings a bell cast *c.* 1250. Our knowledge of how the quarter wheel developed is still incomplete. Sussex has not provided an answer to all the questions; other counties may, when they have been explored.

(To be continued.)

NOISY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—For a recent meeting here I lightly muffled the bells and the result was that many people were impressed by the improvement. The hum was increased, they could be heard much further, they were much quieter near the tower and they sounded very much like a ring where the tenor is over 18 cwt. and this one is under 8 cwt. It is intended to keep these muffles on till they are worn out. The tower is surrounded very closely by houses, which made a solution of the noise and nuisance problem imperative.

GEORGE W. SLACK.

12, Wolseley Mount, Burley, Leeds 4.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT PUDDLETOWN.

At a meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Puddletown on June 30th, some 40 to 50 members were present from Bradford Peverell, Dorchester St. Peter, East Lulworth, Fordington St. George, Frampton, Maiden Newton, Puddletown, Stratton, Sydling, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regis, and visitors from the Salisbury Branch. The methods rung included Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Canterbury, Oxford Bob, Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and rounds.

The Guild Office was conducted by the Vicar, Canon A. L. Helps, and the address was given by Canon A. W. Markby, chairman of the branch.

Tea was served in the Vicarage garden by the wives of the Puddletown ringers and other helpers. During tea the Vicar played some gramophone records of bells, including one of the Puddletown bells recorded as they broadcast on VE-Day. A letter was read from the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards congratulating the ringers on their striking in that broadcast.

At the business meeting the chairman wished Godspeed to Sergt. P. Tocock, who was about to leave for the Far East. A present of money in a wallet had been given him by the members in recognition of his services as Ringing Master. To fill the vacancy Mr. J. Squire was elected Ringing Master and Mr. F. Precey deputy.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

MEETING AT ICKLETON.

At a meeting of the Cambridge District of the Ely Diocesan Guild, held at Ickleton on July 7th, about 25 members and friends were present from Cambridge, Ely, Elmdon, Fulbourn, Harston, Ickleton, Little Shelford, Melbourn, Meldreth, Sawston, Trumpington and Willingham. Service was conducted by the Vicar, and the business meeting was presided over by Mr. E. G. Hibbins, the Ringing Master. Master Peter Border, of Trumpington, Mr. D. Pepper, of Meldreth, and Mr. K. Hurst, of Little Shelford, were elected members. The methods rung included Grandsire, Stedman Triples and Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major. Bourn was chosen as the place of the next meeting.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT WITNEY.

The annual meeting of the Witney and Woodstock Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Witney on June 30th. Service in the church was conducted by the Rector, Canon Bale, and the address was given by the chairman of the branch, the Rev. H. Pickles, of Woodstock. Tea in the Witney Social Centre was attended by about 38, including visitors from Chearsley, Burford, Fairford and South Cerney. The chairman presided at the business meeting and was supported by the vice-chairman, the Rev. G. Bateman, of Bampton, and the Deputy Master, the Rev. C. E. Wigg. Owing to ill-health, Mr. W. Evetts resigned the office of branch secretary, which he had held since October, 1925, and Mr. H. C. Farmer was elected in his stead. Yarnton was selected as the place of the autumn meeting. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. There was also ringing at Ducklington and Standlake.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ILKLEY.

The summer meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Ilkley on June 23rd. The bells, which have recently been recast and rehung, were rung to various methods and a large number of young ringers were present. Tea was served in the Parochial Hall and the business meeting followed, with Mr. P. J. Johnson in the chair.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Drighlington in September, and the December meeting will, in all probability, be held at Bradford Cathedral. Eight new members were elected, and the collection to the Belfry Repairs Fund realised 16s.

MR. GEORGE MAYER

In the belfry of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on July 3rd, Mr. George Mayers, who has retired from the office of steeplekeeper after many years' service, was presented with a testimonial. Canon C. C. Lanchester made the presentation, and the Rev. E. A. Freeman, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow and Mr. Nolan Golden also spoke of the service rendered by Mr. Mayers.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, June 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. Dibble 1, T. Elliott 2, G. Maidment 3, J. Tudball 4, H. Lloyd 5, I. Farmer 6, A. P. Cannon (conductor) 7, W. Tudball 8.

SWAVESEY, CAMBS.—On Saturday, June 30th, two 720's Bob Minor: Eric Miles 1, W. Bavin 2, F. Warrington (conductor) 3, H. Robinson 4, B. Norman 5, R. Smith 6.

HEADINGTON.—On Sunday, July 1st, 720 Bob Minor: R. S. Coles 1, Miss P. Smith 2, F. Hill 3, D. Hill 4, L. J. Coles 5, T. Smith (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

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

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NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, E.1, Saturday, July 14th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.—A. B. Peck.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Western Division.—Prittlewell, Saturday, July 14th, 3. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead.

KENT ASSN.—Maidstone District. — Staplehurst, Saturday, July 14th, 2.30. Usual arrangements. Half travelling expenses paid up to 2s.

KENT ASSN.—Canterbury District.—Margate, July 14th, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, if possible.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Cobham, Saturday, July 14th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Church Room, Spencer Road.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—St. Mary's, Staines, Saturday, July 14th, 3 p.m. Business in belfry 4.15 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.—E. Lewis Cockey, 1, Listoke, Edgehill Road, W.13. Perivale 5320.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Turners Hill (8), July 14th. Tea 5 p.m.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Crewkerne (8), Saturday, July 14th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.—J. T. Locke, School Street, Drayton, Taunton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Biggleswade District.—Northill and Old Warden, Saturday, July 14th, 3 p.m. Tea at 5 at Northill. Old Warden after tea.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

DEVON GUILD.—North-East Branch. — Washfield (6), Saturday, July 14th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—C. G. Dymond, Fore Street, Silverton.

LINCOLN GUILD. — Grimsby District. — Annual, Grimsby, Saturday, July 14th. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Church House.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Western District.—Redbourn (6), 3 p.m., Saturday, July 14th. Usual arrangements. Committee in tower, 2.30.—W. Ayre.

KENT ASSN.—Rochester District.—Tunstall, July 21st, 2.45 p.m. Names by July 18th to G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual, Oxford, Saturday, July 21st. Service in Cathedral, 11.30 a.m. Business in Chapter House, after service. Bells: St. Aldate's, 3 to 3.30 p.m.; Merton College, 3 to 4 p.m.; St. Ebbe's and St. Thomas', 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Giles' and Holywell, 4.30 to 5.30 p.m.; All Saints', 6 to 7 p.m.; Carfax, 6 to 6.30 p.m. New College and Magdalen will be announced at meeting. Lunch in Christ Church dining hall 1.30 p.m., tickets 3s. Applications with remittance before July 17th, to Richard T. Hibbert, 69, York Road, Reading.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries and Eastern Branches.—Surfleet, July 21st, 2. Service 3.30. Tea 4. Bring own sugar. Names by July 17th to W. A. Richardson, Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Glaston Deanery.—Glastonbury, St. Benedict's (6), Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea meeting to follow. St. John's (8) after. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, 17th.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dove Cotes, Street, Somerset.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter and Mid-Devon Branches. —Teignmouth, Saturday, July 21st, 2.30 p.m.: St. St. Michael's (8) and St. James' (8). Service, St. Michael's, 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at Mudge's Cafe 5 p.m. Names to Mr. A. L. Bennett, Cornerway, Elliott Plain, Buckfastleigh (phone 3121), by July 18th.—W. H. Howe and A. L. Bennett.

ELY ASSN.—Ely Branch.—Haddenham (6), Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, followed by meeting.—R. H. Bullen, Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Leicester District. —Billesdon (6), July 21st. Tea and meeting, Village Hall, 5.15 p.m. Names by 19th to H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

CHESTER GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Marbury (6), Saturday, July 21st, 2.30 p.m. Names by July 17th to Richard D. Langford, 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Cirencester Branch.—Coln St. Aldwyn, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mr. W. Godwin, 12, Council Houses, Quenington, Fairford, Glos.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Hinckley District. —Kirby Mallory, July 21st, 3 p.m. Cups of tea 5 p.m. Peckleton 6.30 p.m.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Luton District. — Westoning (6), Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Names by July 18th to Miss D. E. Lidbetter, 13, Grove Road, Leighton Buzzard.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN. — Nottingham District.—Bottesford, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Important business. Names to Mr. A. W. Ward, High Street, Bottesford, by Tuesday, July 17th.—T. Groombridge, jun.

LANCASHIRE ASSN. — Manchester Branch. — Worsley, Saturday, July 21st, 3.30 p.m. Cups of tea. Bring food. Business.—Frank Reynolds.

SALISBURY GUILD.—West Dorset Branch. — Symondsbury (6), Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5. Number to C. H. Lathey by July 16th.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN. — Eastern District. — Durham Cathedral, Saturday, July 21st. Evensong 3 p.m. Ringing afterwards. Tea 2s. Names by July 18th to Frank Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grangetown, Sunderland.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Odiham (6), Saturday, July 21st, 2.30 p.m. Names by July 17th to Rev. L. Cole, Odiham Vicarage, Odiham.

HERTFORD ASSN.—St. Albans District.—Wheathampstead, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Sandridge during evening. Names to R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN. — Chew Deanery. — Clevedon (8), July 21st, 3 p.m. St. Andrew's (8), St. John's (5), All Saints' (5). Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Derby District. — Belper (8), Saturday, July 21st, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN. — Bristol Rural.—Coalpit Heath (6), Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—D. W. Gardner, 9, Cossham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol.

EAST DERBYS & NOTTS ASSN. and M.C.A. — Chesterfield District.—Alfreton, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. T. W. Hopson, 2, Grange Street, Alfreton, by July 18th.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Sherburn, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Miss D. M. Hawley, East View, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Leeds, by July 18th. South Milford bus 15 minutes past each hour from Leeds bus station.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Fylde Branch — Annual, Poulton, Saturday, July 21st, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—J. H. Foster, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Lancaster Branch.—Annual, Lancaster Parish Church, July 21st, 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. For tea notify F Postlethwaite, Mary Street, Lancaster.—H. Parkinson, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Northern Division.—Practice, Bolney, July 28th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—A. E. Laker, Hon. Div. Sec., Balcombe.

LANCASHIRE ASSN. — Bolton Branch.—Horwich, Saturday, July 28th, 2.30 p.m. Business 6.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Nuneaton, Saturday, July 28th, 3 p.m. Committee (including district secretaries) in Vestry 4 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. tea and business 5 p.m. Names by July 26th.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Bridgwater Branch.—Shapwick, July 28th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow.—C. Evans, 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

KENT ASSN.—Ashford District.—New Romney, July 28th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. Humphrey, 1, High Street, New Romney. — P. Page, Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSN.—South-Eastern District. — Ingatestone, Saturday, July 28th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Fryerning tower after tea. Numbers for tea by July 24th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

HEREFORD GUILD. — Annual, at Hereford, on Monday, Aug. 6th. Details later.—Rev. E. G. Benson.

OXFORD GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch. —The address of the hon. secretary is now Mr. H. Farmer, Yew Tree Cottages, Standlake, near Witney, Oxon, instead of Mr. W. Evetts, resigned.

RINGERS' WEDDING.

On Saturday, June 30th, at the Church of St. Emmanuel, Clifton, Bristol, the wedding took place of Hedley, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Gregory, of 39, Royal Park, Clifton, and Margaret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Salter, of 8, Randall Road, Clifton Wood, both of whom are ringers and members of the St. Emmanuel company. The bride was given away by her father, and the best man was Mr. Harold Edmondson, cousin of the bridegroom. The service, which was choral, was taken by the Rev. H. L. Bothanley, Vicar of Clifton, assisted by the Rev. W. B. Soole, Vicar of St. Emmanuel.

Among the presents received by the bride and bridegroom was an illuminated address from their fellow ringers of St. Emmanuel.

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