THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,828. Vol. XLI FRIDAY, APRIL 5th, 1946. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper] Price 8d.

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BROADCAST RINGING.

The charge is sometimes brought against ringers, and especially against peal ringers, that they are selfish persons who practise their art solely for their own amusement and without the least regard for the general public or the purposes for which bells should properly be rung. The charge is not really a fair one. Ringers can compare favourably with any other class of men and are not more selfish than other people. But it is true that, owing to peculiar circumstances they are specially tempted to look on their art, and everything connected with bells, from their own particular inside point of view, and to lose sight of the fact that in some things at least ringing does concern not only the Church, but the general body of public citizens.

Owing to the nature of the art, and to its history, the Exercise is virtually a secret society of initiated men, whose aims, and interests, and rules, and standards, are quite unintelligible to outsiders. A band that has met for a peal, when once they have locked the steeple door and climbed the belfry stairs, is as remote from the public and as much a secret meeting, as if they were masked conspirators gathered together by candle light in an East End cellar, or a tiled lodge of Freemasons. It would be remarkable if this did not profoundly influence the opinions and views of ringers though they may not realise it.

During a peal what the ringers are doing and how they are doing it are matters which, at the immediate time and for the men themselves, concern the band and no one else. And yet all the while there are no other performers the effects of whose art or work is more forced on the notice of outsiders. The ringers themselves are as completely cut off from contact with their fellow men as if they were on a desert island; the result of what they are doing is forced in the ears of all the people in the parish whether they like it or not.

These anomalous conditions are both an advantage and a disadvantage to the Exercise. One of the attractions of change ringing lies in the fact that it is something for the select few and not for the vulgar herd; but, on the other hand, there is the subtle temptation to forget that the opinions and interests of outsiders cannot ultimately be ignored in tower bell ringing as they can in handbell ringing. Besides which, ringers miss the stimulus which musicians, and singers, and speakers, feel when they perform in public. A good speaker or a

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good singer will respond and react to the feelings of his audience and only a bore will be indifferent to whether he pleases or no, and will keep on whether people like it or not. Ringers can never fully experience the feeling that they are public performers and that the value of what they do lies in the effect it has on those who hear it. That is inevitable because change ringing is not merely a musical performance, and its chief value and attraction, as change ringing, are for the ringer himself and not for the listener.

Ringers would do well to remember some of these things when they express opinions on broadcasting. Readers of 'The Ringing World' will naturally sympathise with those bands who, having been asked to broadcast, feel aggrieved because they are allotted no more than one or two minutes on the air. These men consider, and ringers generally will agree, that two minutes are not enough to do justice either to the bells or to themselves. But what is difficult for them to understand is that it is not the object of the broadcast to do them justice. The B.B.C. does not require their services to give an exhibition of change ringing. Theirs is the humble preliminary role of suggesting a church atmosphere, and what will decide the matter is not how long the ringers would like to be listened to, but how long the B.B.C. people consider is best for their particular purpose. After all, though little change ringing can be done in two minutes, it is a long time for the ordinary people who are listening on the wireless; and a band which gives two minutes of really good ringing may well afford more satisfaction to listeners, and gain more credit for themselves, than they would if they were allowed the full time they themselves would like.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WALSALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Thurs., Mar. 28, 1946, *in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 26¼ cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL ...	*Treble*	ARTHUR T. DUTTON ...	6
JAMES S. EASTWOOD ...	2	AUBREY M. PICKERING...	7
GEORGE W. HUGHES ...	3	ALFRED J. MOY	8
ARTHUR BOTTERILL ...	4	KENNETH W. KNOWLES...	9
HAROLD SMITH	5	WILLIAM A. WALKER ...	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by H. HOWELL.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

DONALD G. CLIFT	*Treble*	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD	6
EDWIN J. RIDLER ...	2	*NORMAN H. COOMBS ...	7
CLEMENT GLENN	3	WILLIAM H. PARKER ...	8
*MONICA RICHARDSON ...	4	*EMLYN F. HANCOCK ...	9
THOMAS W. KIMBER ...	5	LEONARD DERRICK ...	*Tenor*

Composed by G. R. FARDON. Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.
* First peal of Stedman Caters.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SPICER...	*Treble*	*WILLIAM J. DOVE ...	6
CHARLES F. SAYER ...	2	HAROLD V. FROST ...	7
EDWIN H. LEWIS ...	3	GILBERT E. DEBENHAM...	8
ALAN WHITE	4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM...	9
DONALD C. PRICE ...	5	WALTER AYRE	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE W. DEBENHAM.
* First peal of Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PENISTONE, YORKSHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 16, 1946, *in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¼ cwt.

ARTHUR CHAMPION ...	*Treble*	ERIC STAINROD	5
STEPHEN LL. PARRY ...	2	IVAN KAY	6
ISAAC GARTSIDE	3	FRED DUNKERLEY	7
FRANK BARRACLOUGH ...	4	W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ...	*Tenor*

Arranged by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT. Conducted by F. DUNKERLEY.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., Mar. 25, 1946, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*
AT THE R.C. CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15¾ cwt.

H. JAMES TURNER ...	*Treble*	LEONARD TUFFREY	5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ...	2	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY...	6
JOHN PINFOLD	3	HENRY H. FEARN	7
HERBERT C. SPENCER ...	4	GEORGE E. FEARN ...	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE BAKER. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
First in the method by all and for the Guild.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Mar. 28, 1946, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 11 cwt.

WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. BARBER ...	5
*MISS MARGARET FIDELL	2	DENIS A. BAYLES	6
THOMAS H. REEVES ...	3	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN ...	7
JOHN ANDERSON	4	RONALD H. DOVE ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
* First peal of Triples.

CROYDON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th the observation). Tenor 30 cwt.

*MISS DORA HAYWARD...	*Treble*	*WILLIAM A. HUGHES ...	5
†THOMAS A. BLOW ...	2	†ROY A. SIMMONS ...	6
*MISS EDNA GEORGE ...	3	HARRY W. SIMMONS ...	7
‡JOHN H. HAYWARD ...	4	*WALTER J. PERROT ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY W. SIMMONS.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. ‡ First peal away from the treble. First peal as conductor.

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PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25¼ cwt.

*JOSIAH D. HARRIS	*Treble*	*ALFRED MEARS	5
*FREDK. A. BURNETT	2	*ROBERT E. TURNER	6
*PETER R. BLACKMAN	3	*JOHN H. HUNT	7
WALTER C. ROSE	4	*FREDK. W. BURNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.
* First peal in the method. First for the Guild.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 21¾ cwt.

F. J. LAMBERT, SEN.	*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	5
ERIC A. DENCH	2	ALFRED W. DURHAM	6
WILLIAM ROGERS	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	7
REGINALD E. LAMBERT	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

EGHAM, SURREY.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ARTHUR H. CROSS	*Treble*	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM	5
FRANK H. HICKS	2	WILLIAM HENLEY	6
RONALD C. NOON	3	C. ALFRED LEVETT	7
WILLIAM WELLING	4	WALTER A. PECK	*Tenor*

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by W. BIRMINGHAM.
First peal in the method by all and for the Guild.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WYSTAN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*GORDON HARRISON	*Treble*	FRANCIS R. LOWE	5
FREDERICK G. BAILEY	2	SIDNEY H. JONES	6
ERNEST W. BEARDSMORE	3	WILLIAM H. CURSON	7
JACK BAILEY	4	BARNABAS G. KEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Major.

KIRTLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 16½ cwt.

*ROBERT HIGGINS	*Treble*	RICHARD A. POST	5
JAMES HIGGINS	2	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS	6
ALBERT DISERENS	3	*J. RICHARD CHAUNDY	7
REGINALD W. REX	4	WALTER F. JUDGE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.
* First peal in the method.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

*HUBERT C. CROME	*Treble*	NORMAN V. HARDING	5
WALLACE W. COUSINS	2	CECIL V. EBBERSON	6
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM	3	NOLAN GOLDEN	7
CLAUDE COUSINS	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS	*Treble*	JOHN EATON	5
*ARTHUR TIMMINS	2	JOSEPH H. COX	6
GEORGE F. SWANN	3	THOMAS GREENHALL	7
ALBERT H. HARRIS	4	WILLIAM DAVIES	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.
* First peal of Stedman.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOHN R. MAYNE	*Treble*	JOHN E. ROOTES	5
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE	2	CECIL C. MAYNE	6
WILLIAM WENBAN	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	7
*EDWARD J. LEVERSUCH	4	GEORGE A. HUGHES	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 23, 1946, *in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 8 cwt.

MRS. C. F. GOODMAN	*Treble*	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS	4
CHARLES F. GOODMAN	2	CHARLES E. G. BANHAM	5
JOHN MOOR	3	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE W. HOUGHTON.

SNAITH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 23, 1946, *in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*HERBERT COOPER	*Treble*	*THOMAS WM. TUNE	4
WM. ARTHUR HUDSON	2	FRANK LAMB	5
FRANK REED	3	LESLIE WOODHEAD	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE WOODHEAD.
* First peal.

WHICKHAM, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Mar. 27, 1946, *in Three Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

GEORGE WALL	*Treble*	JOHN ANDERSON	4
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	2	RONALD H. DOVE	5
*MISS MARGARET FIDELL	3	STEPHEN THOMPSON, JUN.	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
* First peal of Minor 'inside.'

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 13¼ cwt.

*PETER N. WHITE	*Treble*	GEORGE FOSTER	4
MISS K. BURCHNALL	2	HAROLD DENMAN	5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL	3	FREDERICK HOOPER	*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.
* First peal.

NEATH, GLAMORGAN.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob.

ERNEST STITCH	*Treble*	TREVOR RODERICK	4
ALFRED HANNINGTON	2	ARTHUR HOARE	5
THOMAS SCOTT	3	GWYN I. LEWIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by G. I. LEWIS.

HODNET, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Mar. 30, 1946, *in Three Hours and Four Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two each of Oxford, Kent and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM J. CHESTER	*Treble*	*F. HECTOR BENNETT	4
WILLIAM TYLER	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	5
THOMAS PRICE	3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 23, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At 'Trentwood,'
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Mrs. J. Bray	1-2	Jack Bray	5-6
Charles McGuiness ...	3-4	Frank Lord	7-8
George E. Feirn	9-10		

Composed by Jack Bray. Conducted by Frank Lord.
First peal in the method as conductor.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Mar. 24, 1946, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
At Swan Street,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Ronald Suckling	1-2	Thomas Bird	5-6
Albert Catterwell ...	3-4	Reginald Rippingale ...	7-8

Arranged by E. Jennings. Conducted by R. Suckling.

BOWDON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Mar. 25, 1946, in Two Hours and One Minute,
At 15, Priory Road,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents.

*Miss Mary Elkins ...	1-2	Alan J. Brown	3-4
C. Kenneth Lewis	5-6		

Conducted by C. Kenneth Lewis.
* First peal in hand and first in the method.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Mar. 31, 1946, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
In the Belfry of All Saints',
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.

J. Anthony Beaumont ...	1-2	Jocelyn B. Gardiner ...	3-4
C. Kenneth Lewis	5-6		

Conducted by C. Kenneth Lewis.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT ASHOVER.

At a meeting of the Peak District Society held on March 23rd at Ashover, a charming old world village with a fine church and a good peal of eight bells, about 25 ringers attended from various towers in the surrounding district, including Ashover, Clay Cross, Dore, Darley Dale, Morton and Sheffield. Darley Dale was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held on May 25th.

DEATH OF MR. T. H. WHITE.

The death occurred on March 21st of Mr. Thomas Henry White, who for many years had been secretary and treasurer of the company at Swaffham, Norfolk. He was 81 years of age and had joined the Norwich Diocesan Association in 1905. The funeral was at the Parish Church on March 25th, and in the evening ringers from Downham Market, Caston, Hilgay, Marham, Shouldham and the local band rang the bells half-muffled.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ASH.

A meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Ash on March 30th. At the service in the church conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. W. Carter, a collection for the Association's Benevolent Fund realised £1 15s. Tea was in the Lion Hotel, at which 85 members and friends were present, and at the business meeting five new practising and one new honorary member were elected, and Wickhambreaux was chosen for the next meeting.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE H. CUTTELL.

Mr. George Hust Cuttell, who for nearly sixty years was a ringer at Holmfirth, died on March 3rd at the age of 75. At the funeral in the Parish Church on March 6th ringers from the neighbouring parishes with the local men rang muffled touches on the bells before and after the service. Mr. Cuttell came of a family of ringers, and his father and grandfather before him were members of the local company. He did not ring peals, but took part in many ringing contests.

ACTON.—On Sunday, March 17th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: D. R. Judd 1, J. C. Birt 2, A. Cutler 3, J. E. L. Cockey 4, J. F. Smallwood 5, L. H. Bowler 6, F. A. Finch 7, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

BELLS—USES AND ABUSES.

By Ernest Morris.

(Continued from page 149.)

In some counties it was the custom—now seldom observed—to ring a peal after divine service on Sunday morning, when banns of an intended marriage were 'put up.' Such was the case at Humberstone and Owston in Leicestershire after the first 'asking.' The same took place at Bulwick, Northants; and at Sutton in the same county the custom (until 1867 when it was discontinued) was for some young men of the congregation to rush to the bellrope and jangle the single bell. The single bell at Pickworth, Rutland, was sounded a few times on the same interesting occasion. The banns peal was sounded at upwards of fifty parishes in Lincolnshire and, it is remembered, as of recent occurrence, in many more. The ringing usually took place after 'the first time of asking,' but in some instances after 'the last time of asking,' while in others after each of the three askings. In some parishes the custom is called giving the couple their 'spurring' or 'sporrings,' from the Danish 'sporge' or asking. At Denton, Swayfield, and North Witham the ringing is called 'spurrs.' The joyous peals which signify the celebration of a wedding have become proverbial among us: 'Merry as a marriage bell' is accepted as a simile for the acme of mirth and gaiety. Edmund Spencer (circa 1580) sings in 'The Bridal Day':—

'Ring ye the bells ye young men of the town
And leave your wonted labours for this day.'

The churchwardens of Loughborough about this time (1588)

'Agreed at this accompt that every marridge having or reqring to have the bells rung shall paye vid. to the poreman's box and vjd. towards repairinge of the bells.'

So also, a few years later (1612) it was agreed by the wardens of St. Martin's, Leicester, that only three peals be rung at weddings for half-a-crown: sixpence more to be paid for every peal beyond that number. Peals were not only rung after, but also before the ceremony. Ben Jonson, 'Tale of Tub. II. i,' writes:—

'We are going to church in the way of matrimony . . .
They have rung in already.'

In some parishes where there is only one bell a not very successful attempt is made on the occasion of a wedding to be hilarious; at Stroxton, Lincs, where, till recently, there was only one bell, and it was customary for three men to beat a kind of peal on it with hammers, which was called 'Three bell peal.'

At Pickworth, Rutland, they were wont to make as much noise as possible on their single bell; and at Little Raveley, Hunts, which had put one bell, a rustic joke was current that 'all the bells are rung for a funeral, but only one at a wedding.' Bells not infrequently bear inscriptions referring to the marriage peals. The 5th at Coton-in-the-Elms, Derbys. (1786), bears:—

'The Bride and Groom we greet
In holy wedlock joined:
Our sounds are emblems sweet
Of hearts in love combined.'

Two favourite inscriptions are:—

'When female virtue weds with manly worth
We catch the rapture and we spread it forth.'

'In wedlock bands
All ye who join with hands
Your hearts unite;
So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To laud the nuptial rite.'

In some places it was also customary to ring the bells early on the morning after the wedding, as at Hogsthorpe, Lincs, this being known as the 'Bride's Peal.' At Fotherby, in the same county, the peal was rung at 7 a.m., and was called 'Ringing them up,' and under this name at Steppingley, Beds., whilst at Grandborough, Warwicks, a peal was rung at 5 a.m.! Never did ringers receive payment in a larger bulk at a wedding than they did on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Stephen Brignall to Mrs. Mary Thrisby at Ottringham, Yorks, when, in 1778, the bridegroom paid all the fees in farthings—the ringers receiving two hundred and fifty as their share.

(To be continued.)

DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and Districts Guild was held on March 23rd at St. Thomas', Dudley, and was attended by 80 members and friends.

Service was conducted by the president, the Rev. J. Waring, who afterwards took the chair at the business meeting. The accounts showed an increased balance in hand. The officers were re-elected, with Mr. D. Holden as an additional auditor.

A presentation of Treasury notes was made to Mr. J. Goodman in recognition of services rendered to the Guild.

Eleven new members were elected, and Enville selected as the place of the next quarterly meeting.

The treasurer mentioned the question of the insurance of ringers and advised those present to approach their parochial church councils on the matter.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT ARMLEY.

At a meeting of the Leeds and District Society, held at Armley on March 30th, members were present from Armley, Bramley, Bradford, Drighlington, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell and Sherburn.

Mr. S. H. Barron, vice-president, took the chair at the business meeting, at which one new member, Mr. Brian Sissons, of Sherburn, was elected, and reference was made to the recent death of the Vicar of the parish.

The next meeting will be at Leeds Parish Church on April 27th, when the following nominations of officers for 1946-1947 will be confirmed: President, Mr. J. McGlenn; vice-presidents, Messrs. S. H. Barron, T. W. Strangeway and F. Hutchinson; Ringing Master, Mr. D Roe; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT BRENTFORD.

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association, held at Brentford on March 23rd, was attended by about 30 members and friends from Brentford, Ealing (St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Gospel Oak, Hillingdon (St. John's), Hounslow, Isleworth, Kilburn, Leeds, Oxhey, Twickenham and Willesden. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Little Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor, and rounds.

Service in church was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. M. Pitt, and tea in the Church Hall was provided by the Vicar and church authorities. Mr. W. H. Cole took the chair at the business meeting.

BARNSLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT EARLSHEATON.

At a meeting of the Barnsley and District Society, held at Earlsheaton in Dewsbury on March 16th, about 30 ringers were present from Almondbury, Bolsterstone, Cawthorne, Eastwood, Felkirk, Horbury, Headingley (St. Chad's), Hillingdon, Liversedge, Shelley, Shipley, Rotherham Parish Church, Wath-on-Dearne and the local belfry. They were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. H. Dransfield. Mr. J. R. Brierley, the president, took the chair at the business meeting, at which five new members were elected, Mr. Dransfield, of Almondbury, Mr. Hewitt, of Earlsheaton, Mr. A. Smith, of Headingley, Mr. Goodfellow, of Hillingdon, Middlesex, and Mr. Simpson, of Shipley. Eastwood, Rotherham, was selected as the place of the next meeting, to be held on April 13th.

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HANDBELLS, BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, Etc.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

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

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.
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., 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

All communications for this journal should be addressed to:—The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

The charge for supplying 'The Ringing World' by post is 4/3 quarterly, 8/6 half yearly, and 17/- yearly. All subscriptions and notices must be prepaid.

All orders for delivery of 'The Ringing World' by post and the remittance for same should be sent to Mr. G. W. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, and not to the Editor.

IMPORTANT.

Owing to the release of more paper, we are now able to insert all Notices sent for publication, without abbreviation of title, if so desired, on the following terms:—
Single insertion—minimum 2s. up to four lines.
All extra lines 4d. per line.
For additional insertions with no change, one half of above charge for each insertion. Advertisers should, in their own interests, be as concise as possible.

The charge for notices, other than of meetings, is 2s. 6d. for each insertion up to four lines. Extra lines 6d. per line.

This change to take effect from April 1st.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

DEATH OF MR. R T HIBBERT.

We regret to announce that Mr. R. T. Hibbert died on Sunday last. The funeral was at Ilsley on Wednesday.

IRISH ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Irish Association was held in the Grammar School of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, on March 18th, and was attended by 74 members from Arklow, Bray, Drogheda, Dublin (Christ Church Cathedral, St. Patrick's Cathedral and St. George's), Limerick, Rostrevor and Waterford.

The report showed that the first practice meeting of the association was held at Bray on June 9th with an attendance of 25, four members had passed away, and though no peals had been rung during the year, progress in change ringing had been made at St. Thomas', Belfast. The Attendance Shield was won by St. George's, Dublin, but only six sheets were returned. Five teams in the north have entered for the 1946 competition, and this should create keen competition between north and south, as it is the first year any team from the Northern Branch has entered.

The statement of accounts showed a credit balance of £22 6s. 10d.

The election of officers was as follows: President, Mr. James Cunningham, Rostrevor, Co. Down; hon. secretary, Mr. Fred E. Dukes, Jenkinstown, Dundalk; hon. treasurer, Mr. David Gibson, Bray; Ringing Master, Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, Dublin.

Among those present were the Deans of St. Patrick's and Christ Church, Dublin, the Rev. Canon T. W. E. Drury, the Revs. W. Carroll, R. J. Kerr, T. P. S. Wood and J. Armstrong and Messrs. M. Hogan and H. S. Lightbody.

The ringing at St. Patrick's and Christ Church Cathedrals included Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Minor.

BROADCAST BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Amongst the adverse criticism in 'The Ringing World' about the time allotted by the B.B.C. to the broadcasting of bells just prior to religious services, I notice some mention now of Blackburn Cathedral. May I, as an organist who loves bells for what they are, say that on every occasion there has been a broadcast of the bells from this cathedral it has been entirely at my suggestion. Never has the suggestion come from the B.B.C.

Surely it is not now considered imperative for bells to be heard prior to a broadcast service? Neither is the organ voluntary any more necessary to attain the soul's true weal. Some of us think, maybe wrongly, that this is not the time for recitals of any sort. If, as someone contends, church bells must be heard on the air for 10 minutes before a broadcast service, then the organist, wanting his pound of flesh likewise, might legitimately demand his 10 minutes—total 20 minutes. The difference between a miniature and a symphony apparently needs to be realised as much in the belfry as in the organ loft (or pulpit).

A glance at some of the messages received here subsequent to our broadcasts, from hospitals, sick-bays, institutions for the aged and such like—nearly all of them mentioning their joy at the bells (even when broadcast for a brief minute)—might well convert any who have been led to think that 'getting up the bells' for such a space is not worth while. THOMAS L. DUERDEN, Organist.

The Cathedral, Blackburn.

A STERN REBUKE.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—Last week 'The Tough Veteran' made some remarks which I cannot let pass without commenting upon. Why is he so prejudiced against schoolgirl and more still schoolboy ringers? Does he forget that they are the ringers of to-morrow and without the young recruits it would be impossible to carry on the Exercise?

'Youths' are quite tough enough to meet the remarks made about their ringing by the 'Tough Veteran'—indeed, some of them would be tough enough to make him eat his words. Why does he remain anonymous? Why does he hint that the ringers of his day were heroes and the ringers of to-day are not?

We must be thankful that such men as the 'Tough Veteran' are few or little would be done to encourage youths to learn ringing.

RICHARD J. BOWDEN (schoolboy).

Riverton.

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

April 1st, 1927. At St. Michael Coslany, Norwich, the first ten-thousand ever rung on any number of bells. Though the method was Oxford Treble Bob Major and men had not yet discovered its great tendency to falseness, there are sufficient reasons for accepting the composition as true.

1755. The Cumberland Youths rang Cumberland Pleasure at St. Mary's, Whitechapel. The figures of the method are lost.

1929. At Chelmsford, the first peal of Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Maximus.

April 3rd, 1899, at Erith, Kent, a band which included Harry Flanders, Isaac Shade, John Cheesman, Edgar Wightman, and the three brothers Pye, with William as conductor, rang 15,072 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. It was William Pye's 100th peal. The band was a first-class one and the peal by general consent was an excellent one. A few weeks later at Kidlington, James W. Washbrook called 17,024 in the same method. The truth of that peal was hotly challenged and there can be little reasonable doubt that it was not rung correctly.

April 6th, 1916, Henry Dains died at the age of 78.

SERVICE TOUCHES.

BOB MAJOR.

496			
23456	W	B	R
23645	—	2	—
42356	—	1	—
34256			—
23456			—

512			
23456	W	B	
36245	—	2	
43265	—		
35426	—	2	
23456			

1,056				
23456	W	B	M	R
23564	—	1		
45236	—		—	—
34256	—			

Twice repeated.

496			
23456	W	B	R
52364	—	1	—
35264			—
23564			—
23456	—	2	—

512				
23456	W	B	M	R
23645	—	2		—
23564	—	2		—
45236	—		—	—
23456	—			—

1,056				
23456	W	B	M	R
35264		1		
42356	—		—	—
35426	—			—

Twice repeated.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

For more than three hundred years the Society of College Youths has generally been accepted as the leading society in the Exercise. This primacy, which, of course, has by no means gone unchallenged, has rested on various factors from time to time. In the 17th century it was mainly the social position of the members that gave them pre-eminence. In the 18th century, owing to the influence of several brilliant leaders, the society led the Exercise as practical skilled ringers. In the 19th century any social advantages were missing, and the performances in the belfry would not have been in any way remarkable if there had not been throughout England a general decline in ringing. During all the years the members varied enormously in social status and in skill as ringers, but throughout the society managed to retain most of the prestige which it gained in its earlier times. This no doubt was largely due to the fact that it was (at least until 50 years ago) thoroughly representative of the Exercise at large, both in its strength and its weakness, in its good qualities and its bad.

The history of the Society of College Youths is a chequered one, as that of any live and active body must be, but all through it has preserved its identity remarkably well. It was a far cry from the young aristocrats who founded the society in the reign of King Charles the First to the men who met in the King's Head at Southwark in the middle of the 19th century. There was little in common between them, yet there were continuous links and no real break in the chain. The College Youths are one of the strongest of the cords that bind the present-day Exercise to the past. How great is the value of it is not easy to say, but it is not small.

One visible sign of the society's continuity is the property it has inherited from the past. It has lost, it is true, its original name books and peal books and the most valuable it now possesses are copies. But they are old copies and are well authenticated, though they offer some most interesting problems for an historian of change ringing to solve. The engraving, which for rather less than a hundred years has been used as the certificate of membership, was originally the dinner ticket and was the work of Francesco Bartolozzi, a distinguished engraver of the late 18th century. The original copperplate is still in the possession of the society, and during the last few weeks Mr. J. F. Smallwood has been able to secure a supply of impressions from it on good pre-war paper. A copperplate, after it has been used a certain number of times, deteriorates in quality; but this plate has been treated in a special way and the imprints from it are as clear and as artistic as if the engraving were done but yesterday.

In addition to the certificates, Mr. Smallwood has been able to get reprints of the book of rules and inventory of property issued to members on election. This was first printed in 1928 and was a very artistic production. The new edition is almost an exact reprint, though a few minor corrections have been made, and a certain amount of unimportant matter omitted. In its general style and the quality of the paper the new edition will compare favourably with the old. The illustrations, which were a notable feature of the old book, have been reproduced.

Among these illustrations is one of an 18th century dinner ticket, and anyone who is interested in the history of ringing and the problems it sets the historian should compare the two books. In one the invitation is from the Society of College Youths; in the other it is from the Ancient Society of College Youths. Now in the 18th century there was no Ancient Society of College Youths. There was an ancient Society of College Youths, but that was a different body. The research worker of the future who comes across these things may be puzzled and may suspect a falsification of evidence. Of course, there is a simple explanation, but any use of the word 'Ancient' in connection with the College Youths before the year 1850 is almost certain to be spurious. Until quite recently what passed as the history of the London ringers was little more than insubstantial legends, and the historical account of the Society of College Youths given in this handbook will in due course need to be revised in the light of later discoveries.

HANDBELL RINGING IN BERLIN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Several weeks ago you very kindly published a letter of mine in 'The Ringing World' describing my handbell activities in Berlin with the two German boys.

As I have now returned to civil life, I am very anxious that they shall not lose contact with this branch of our art, as during the whole time of our practices their enthusiasm never flagged and they continued to make rapid progress with the tune ringing. I am desirous now that they shall possess a set of their own (12) and would be glad to contact anyone who may have some for sale somewhere about 15 size, so that I can present the boys with them.

If this is possible there is a comrade at my late military unit who has kindly offered to pass the bells on to the boys should I be fortunate to obtain a set. If anyone can help me in this matter I should be pleased if they would communicate to the address below as early as possible. Trusting someone will come and help me

S. HARRISON.

73, Hopefield Road, Leicester.

INSCRIPTIONS WITH A SMILE.

By John P. Fidler.

(Continued from page 137.)

Perhaps I may be allowed to digress for a short time and refer to one or two local 'sayings.' We have the old story of the rivalry between the three- and two-bell towers, the three-bell tower asking, 'Who rings best?' 'Who rings best?' to which the two-bell tower replies, 'We do,' 'We do,' but there used to be two couplets in the Ludlow district:—

'How dare you do so
Say the bells of Ludlow,'

to which the Leintwardine bells reply:—

'Because we've a mind
Say the bells of Leintwardine.'

Then we have the old Cheshire one:—

'Higher Peover kettles
Lower Peover pans
Knutsford's sweet music
And Rostherne's great drones.'

Of course, there are many more, and perhaps one day somebody will collect them and give us the benefit of their efforts.

Coming back to bell inscriptions, we have another old but still topical line:—

'May the single be married and the
Married happy'

at Chirbury. I wonder what the moulder would have put on had someone taken his H, A, P any Y stamps? Perhaps he would have put 'Single,' then it would have been an inscription in a thousand.

I do not suppose for a moment Briant composed the two following inscriptions on the treble and second when he cast them for High Ercall in 1812. More likely someone who knew the locality well produced them, and they certainly would not appear in any other district.

'Twin sisters we unite our tuneful powers
With this sweet band to charm the vacant hours;
In mazy changes chear the landscape wide,
And court coy echoes from yon mountains side.'

'Where meandering Roden gently glides
Or Turnes proud current fills its ample sides;
Thence meditation views our calm abode;
Heals the sick mind and yields it pure to God.'

On the treble, the Wrekin is referred to as 'yon Mountain,' whilst on the second the rivers Roden and Tern are brought into the picture.

Briant may have composed the following, which he placed on the fourth bell of Littlebury, Essex, in 1789:—

'Coexalted here we are on hegh
VI emblems of parish harmony,'

but, as it is another of those 'love orphan' types of inscription, I am inclined to be of the opinion that it is the work of a 'local lad.'

Henry Pleasant was one of those founders who never let an opportunity of advertising pass by, and sometimes in a subtle manner, as witness the old treble, second, third and fourth of All Saints', Maldon:—

1. 'When three this steeple long did hold'
2. 'They ware three emblems of a scold" ' '
3. 'No musick then bvt now shall see'
4. 'What pleasant mvsick six will be."'

Thomas Gardiner was another Eastern founder who did a lot of 'puffing,' and a favourite of his was:—

'Tho. Gardiner did me cast, I will seng
His prais to the last.'

A bit crude but, no doubt, it served its purpose.

In our next we have a 'puff' of a different nature, and it is an inscription which reminds us of the days when bell founders confined themselves to founding and left the hanging to the bell hangers established in various parts of the country:—

'The founder he has played his part,
Which shews him master of his art
So hang me well and ring me true
And I will sound your praises due.'

Another 'solo' inscription and one which passes rude remarks, but in a different form to the St. Benet's ones, appeared at Great Horkesley, Essex, and informs us:—

'Wm. Sadler who had a negligent partner caused me to be cast by Sudbury Gardner 1747.'

One can only presume that Wm. Sadler and the negligent partner were churchwardens, but not the best of friends; anyhow, judging by the mutilation the inscription has suffered, we can only imagine the negligent gentleman took umbrage at the offending inscription and, imitating Cromwell, knocked it about a bit in an attempt to obliterate it.

Still, we find more 'subscription list' inscriptions. This appeared at Little Berkhampsted in 1621:—

'Thomas Stens truth to tel gave twente povnd toard this bell.'

I think there is a bit of sarcasm underlying this one, and I should imagine Thomas Stens had found a 'hard nut' to crack; if we substitute 'strange to relate' for 'truth to tel,' I think we get the true meaning of the inscription. Of course, we get 'tightfisted' ones today, but they do not have an inscription to advertise the fact.

In 1703, 'John Eyer gave twenty pound to meek me a lesty sound,' appeared on the treble of six at Bentley, Hampshire, whilst, through a paraphrase of a common couplet on the fifth we learn:—

'Thomas Eyer and John Winslade did contrive
To cast from four this peal of five,'

whilst at Binsted, in the same county, the following appeared:—

'In 1695 Nicholas Wheeler did contrive
Too kast from fouar this peall of five
Docktar Nicholas gave five pound
Too helpe kast this peal tunable and sound.'

As Samuel Knight was the founder of these bells, it would appear he had a hand in the drafting of these.

Strathfieldsaye treble and second received inscriptions of a similar type, but the third is a horse of another colour:—

1. 'Wee will our voices raise
To ring Sq Pittes praise 1756.'
2. 'Mr. Murre did contrive to cast the
Fouer into five 1756.'
3. 'I will fight in amongst them all
Thos. Swain made me in 1756.'

As Mr. Murre seems to have been the instigator of the augmentation, if not the donor, it would seem that the 'Pitte' referred to was the Great Prime Minister. When we come to the third, we seem to have struck an 'all-in' do, although I have heard bells fighting for a place on many occasions, I never have seen an inscription so worded.

The events of the stormy days of George the Second were reflected in the inscription which was placed on the tenor bell of Fareham in 1742:—

'In vain the rebels strive to gain renown
Over our Church, the laws, the King and Crown
In vain the bold ungrateful rebels aim
To overthrow when you support the same
Then may great George our King live for to see
The rebellious crew hang on the gallows tree.'

I suppose the modern version of this would refer to mines, transport, friendly societies, etc., in the second line, or would it? It would seem that these echoes of the past are still with us.

Newport (I.O.W.) sixth also received one of those inscriptions in 1808 which could well be used to-day:—

'May England's coast the pride of commerce see
And Britain's pride be always to be free
May peace return to bless Britannia's shore
And faction fall to raise her head no more.'

There is little need to ask what the modern version of this would be. No alteration seems to be necessary.

Again, we come across one of those inscriptions that needs a little sorting out. Did the moulder do it on purpose, or did he know no better? Here it is, so decide for yourself:—

'Iamtheforstanthobotsmaliwilbehardabofeyoall.'

This appeared at Chilbolton in 1641, and at first glance appears to be just a jumble of letters, but it does make sense, as you will see.

Still we find evidence of the rivalry that existed between the old bellfounders. In 1581, Joseph Carter apparently recast a bell for West Hoathly, Sussex, and inscribed it thus:—

'Joseph Carter mede me bettrer.'

Probably some other founder had made the bell so badly in the first instance that it had to be recast, but Carter did not make a meal of it like Bartlet did at Richmond, when he recast the fourth in 1680, for he came out with:

'Lambert made me weak, not fit to ring,
But Bartlet amongst the rest hath made
me sing.'

Just for a moment let us take another look at the row of letters on the Chilbolton bell to see what sense we can arrive at. With a little trouble we get:—

'I am the forst an tho bot smal
I will be hard abofe yo all.'

Silly, is it not, but I suppose the producer was quite pleased with his effort.

At Glatton, in Huntingdon, the Leicester Foundry presented this one:—

'Searve God and o beay thy princ 1595.'

As this was cast during the reign of Queen Elizabeth one might wonder who the prince was they had to obey, but when comparing it with the inscription on Stanground tenor, which came from the same foundry, it is evident there is a mistake; here is the Stanground version:—

'Sarve God and obe thi princes 1588.'

No doubt Queen Elizabeth was meant by the Princess.

Another inscription which seems to be incomplete is that of 1723, third of St. Ives, Hunts, which reads:—

'Their sound is gone.'

No doubt 'Their sound is gone into all lands' should have been the inscription; but, as it reads, the bells never had any sound.

You, reader, might think the line was completed on the fourth bell; but no, the fourth bell received this:—

'Sometimes joy and sometimes sorrow
Marrige today and death tomorrow 1723.'

In the fifth we have another Fire Bell, for:—

'Whne backward rvng we tell
of fire think how the world
Shall thus expire 1723.'

I should imagine that by the time the ringers had arrived to ring the bells backward the fire would have burned itself out. This brings us back to recent times when Whitehall said the bells were to be rung in the event of enemy paratroops arriving, and no one could supply the answer as to how the ringers were to be mustered at a second's notice to sound the tocsin.

Not far from St. Ives, and still in the Fen country, is Godmanchester, where one of those inappropriate inscriptions arrived for Thomas Osborn's fourth, 'Made Hills and Valleys Echo Round'; thus it shows how a stock inscription can be very much out of place.

I am aware of one case only where a founder admitted that, as far as he was concerned, luck entered into the scheme of things, at Goodleigh in Devon. T. Wroth, in 1743, had the courage to place this inscription:—

'I am little, smart and small,
Luck made me concord to all.'

(To be continued.)

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

MEETING AT CAMPSALL.

A meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association, held at Campsall on March 23rd, was attended by about 35 ringers from Arksey, Barnby Don, Campsall, Doncaster, Felkirk, Goole, Hemingbrough, Hessle, Howden, Kirk Ella, Pontefract, Pudsey, Selby, Sherburn-in-Elmet Sprotborough and York.

Evensong was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. G. L. A. Hick, and tea in the Vicarage was followed by the business meeting, at which the Vicar took the chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Hedon, if possible on June 22nd.

The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain and Treble Bob Major, and Cambridge Minor. A collection for the Bell Repair Fund realised 17s. 6d.

RINGING IN AUSTRALIA.

The New South Wales Association referred to in a recent letter in our columns is not the first ringing association to be formed in Australia. Nearly fifty years ago, in June, 1899, a letter appeared in 'The Bell News' signed William Shenton, from which this is an extract: 'The Victorian Association is composed of members of both St. Patrick's and St. Paul's Cathedral Societies. We ring at each Cathedral one Sunday night and one week night in each month, but I am sorry to say that ringing is not flourishing in the Colonies as it should. We have plenty of bells, but nobody cares much for them, and somehow the colonial youth will not take to the art. At all the churches which have bells the authorities appear to care very little for them. In very few instances will they pay for ringing, they get into bad repair, and then it is chiming or something worse.'

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM HILLMAN.

The death is announced of Mr. William Hillman, a member of the company at Heene, Worthing, which took place on March 25th. Mr. Hillman had rung several peals, including some in Surprise Major methods. Fifty years ago he was one of the band at Henfield, who, under the leadership of Mr. C. Tyler, rang double-handed handbell peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques.

On Sunday, March 31st, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by F. Page 1, F. Meetens 2, R. W. Groves 3, E. Tregus 4, H. Weaver 5, H. Colley 6, P. Wood (conductor) 7, S. White 8.

STEDMAN.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—With some diffidence I put forward the suggestion that the time has come when the Exercise should consider the adoption of a logical go-off in Stedman by commencing the changes at the first row of a slow six.

H. MILES.

53, Oakthorpe Road, Oxford.

[The present go-off of Stedman is quite 'logical' and convenient. If there is anything 'illogical' it is in considering that the method runs in Sixes and not in Twelves.—The Editor.]

NOTICES.

KENT ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—Brenchley (8), Saturday, April 6th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Practice, Tonbridge, Friday, April 5th, 7.30 p.m.—T. Saunders.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM. — Owing to the death of Mr. W. Davies, Ringing Master at Aston, revised arrangements to-morrow as follows: Memorial Service 4 p.m. Tea, business meeting and ringing afterwards.—T. H. Reeves.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Western Division.—Horbury, near Wakefield (8), Saturday, April 6th; also Ossett (10) available. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5.

SUSSEX ASSN. — Northern Division. — Practice, Lower Beeding, Saturday, April 6th, 3 p.m.

LINCOLN GUILD. — Grimsby District.—Thornton Curtis (6), Saturday, April 6th, 2.15 p.m. Service 4.15. Towers will be notified about tea.—H. I. Mingay, 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Curry Rivel (8), Saturday, April 6th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Good bus services.—J. T. Locke, School Street, Drayton, Taunton.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—St. David's, Brecon (6), Saturday, April 6th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — North Stoneham, Hants. Ringing, April 12th, 5.30 to 6.30. Induction of Rector. Practice, April 13th, 3 to 7 p.m.—G. Pullinger.

DERBYS AND DISTRICT ASSN.—Chesterfield Branch.—Old Whittington (6), April 13th. Names for tea to G. J. Newman, 54, Brearley Avenue, New Whittington, by Wednesday, April 10th.—Sam Scattergood.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—North and East District. — St. James', Clerkenwell, Saturday, April 13th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—T. J. Lock, 57, Holloway's Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

LANCASHIRE ASSN. — Rochdale Branch. — St. Leonard's, Middleton, Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—I. Kay.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Preston and Fylde Branches. —St. Anne's, Saturday, April 13th, 2.30 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—F. Rigby, J. H. Foster.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — Balcombe (8), April 13th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. Laker, 4, Barnfield Cottages, Balcombe.—C. A. Bassett.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Daventry Branch. — Badby (6), Saturday, April 13th. Names for tea to Miss H. M. Smith, Furnace Lane, Lower Heyford, Northampton.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Chew Deanery.—Chew Deanery.—Backwell, Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN. — Swindon Branch.—Blunsdon (6), Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Wilts.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Blackburn Branch.—Blackburn Cathedral, April 13th, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Business in tower 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, 133, Ormerod Street, Accrington.

LEICESTER GUILD.—Melton District. — Harby, Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Tea and business 4.30. Names to J. Butcher, Harby.—J. H. Cook.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Frome Branch.—Ubley (6), Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names to E. H. Nash, The Talbot, Mells, by April 10th.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Bath Branch.—Newton St. Loe (6), April 13th, 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Corston (8) from 6 p.m.—S. S. Woodburn, Manor Lodge, Weston, Bath.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Alton and Petersfield District.—Blackmoor (6), April 13th, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and business, 5 p.m., in School. Numbers by April 9th.—C. E. Bassett, Sunnybrook, Brook Lane, Warsash, Hants.

SUSSEX ASSN. — Southern Division. — Practice, Ditchling, Saturday, April 13th, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by April 10th to Mrs. E. L. Hairs, The Oaks, Theobalds Road, Burgess Hill.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Ottershaw (6), Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by business. Horsell (6), 3 to 4 p.m. Names for tea to D. Sleet, Fushia, Brox Road, Ottershaw, by April 8th.—F. E. Hawthorne.

SALISBURY GUILD (North Dorset Branch) and BATH AND WELLS ASSN. (Ilchester Branch). — Nether Compton, Sherborne, Saturday, April 13th.

ELY ASSN.—Cambridge District. — Trumpington (6), Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at Green Man.—H. L. Martin.

LEICESTER GUILD. — Leicester District.—Groby (6), Saturday, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names by April 10th to W. J. Root, 8, The Portwey, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Practice, Kirkby-in-Furness (6), Saturday, April 13th, 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby.

ELY ASSN.—Hunts District.—Brampton, April 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea will be arranged.—H. J. Parker, Great Staughton, St. Neots.

CHESTER GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—Lymm, Saturday, April 13th. Advise Mr. L. Bradburn, 20, Church Road, Lymm, by April 10th to enable catering arrangements to be made.—John E. Ashcroft.

BARNSLEY DISTRICT. — Eastwood, Rotherham, April 13th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 1s. 6d. each. Notify Mr. A. G. W. Measures, 209, Rother View Road, Canklow, nr. Rotherham, by April 9th.—D. Smith, 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, nr. Barnsley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, April 20th, 3 p.m. New rule books now available to members; price 3s. 6d.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts Branch.—Annual, Retford, Saturday, April 20th, three towers available. Service 4.15. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who notify Mr. O. Street, 61, Cobwell Road, Retford, by April 17th.—H. Denman.

KENT ASSN. — Annual, Ashford, Easter Monday. Committee in Parish Room 11 a.m. Service in Church 12 noon. General meeting 2 p.m. No catering available. Allowance to members attending. Ashford and outlying towers open during the day.—F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN. — General, Minehead, Easter Monday. Names for lunch. Details later. — J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Annual, Bedford, Easter Monday, St. Paul's (10), 10.30 a.m. Own arrangements for lunch. St. Peter's (6), 2 p.m. Service at St. Paul's 4 p.m. Meat tea, 3s. per head, 4.30 p.m., in the Trades Club, followed by business. Names for tea to Mr. F. J. Plummer, Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard, by April 13th.

NORWICH ASSN. — Annual General, Norwich, Easter Monday, April 22nd. Bells, Mancroft, St. Giles', St. Miles', St. John de Sepulchre, 10 to 11.45 and after 3. Service, Mancroft, 12 noon. Lunch, Samson and Hercules, 1 p.m., 4s. each. Business, S. and H., after lunch. Names for lunch must be sent to me by April 12th.—A. G. G. Thurlow, 52, The Close, Norwich.

ELY ASSN. — Annual general, Cambridge, Easter Monday, April 22nd. Tea at Dorothy Cafe, 2s. each. Details of ringing later.—W. W. Cousins, Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SURREY ASSN.—North-Western District.—Epsom, Easter Monday, St. Martin's (10), Christ Church (8), 3 p.m. Service, St. Martin's, 5 p.m. Tea, St. Martin's Church Hall. Names for tea to Mr. W. Massey, 173, Coverts Road, Claygate, Surrey, by April 17th. — D. Cooper.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN. — Annual, Newport St. Woolos' (12), Easter Monday, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—F. J. Hannington, 32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Annual, Cheltenham, Easter Monday, April 22nd. Parish Church bells 11 a.m. Meeting 2.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Charlton Kings, Leckhampton and Prestbury bells after tea.—Cyril R. Harding, 77, Bromley Heath Road, Downend, nr. Bristol.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual, Ipswich, Easter Monday. St. Mary-le-Tower 9.30 a.m. Five towers. Service, St. Mary-le-Tower, 12 noon. Lunch, Regent Cafe, 12.45, 3s. 6d. per head, for those who notify Cecil W. Pipe, Grundisburgh, by April 15th.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSN.—Annual, Worcester, Easter Monday, April 22nd. Service, All Saints', 11 a.m. Meeting, College Hall, 12 noon. Bells: All Saints' (10) and St. Swithun's (6) 10 to 10.45 a.m. Cathedral (12) 5.30 to 6.30 p.m. St. John's (8) 3 to 5 p.m. Luncheon, 1.30 p.m., by ticket (2s. 6d. per head). Application, with remittance, by April 16th.—J. D. Johnson, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Owing to catering difficulties on Easter Monday, the committee has postponed the annual general meeting to Saturday, May 11th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—Any ringer visiting, or resident in Slough, is invited to St. Mary's Parish Church (ringing: Sundays 5.30; Thursdays 7.30), or to communicate with W. Birmingham, 6, Cranbourne Road, Slough.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — The address of E. J. Munday is now Shelvingford, London Road, Liphook, Hants. Telephone: Liphook 3264.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

NYE—HAMMOND. — On April 6th, 1896, at St. Anne's Church, Bagshot, Frederick Charles Nye to Charlotte Jane Crosby Hammond.

DEATH.

DAVIES.—At Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, March 28th, William, Ringing Master, Aston Parish Church, age 66. Cremated at Perry Barr, April 2nd.

WANTED.

WANTED.—'Among the Bells,' by Robinson, 2 copies. Also all copies of 'The Ringing World' from August, 1944, to date. 3d. per copy offered.—Write, Frank C. W. Knight, 48, Howard Road, Walthamstow, London, E.17.

DEATH OF CAPT. B. GLAYSHER.

Capt. B. Glaysher, who before joining the Army was a member of the band at Bromley, Kent, was killed on February 20th by an explosion in a mine at Dortmund in Germany. He was 26 years of age and had been a member of the Kent County Association since he left school.

QUARTER PEALS

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE. — On Sunday, March 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. J. Brazier 1, A. R. Geden 2, W. D. Sparrow 3, W. T. Hardiman 4, A. G. Taylor 5, A. Reed 6, F. E. Jones (conductor) 7, G. Maisey 8.

CLAPHAM PARK.—On March 20th, at St. Stephen's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. H. Taffender (conductor) 1, C. Pothecary 2, A. Thirsk 3, T. W. Taffender 4, J. W. Chapman 5, J. G. Prior 6, R. Sanders 7, S. Howard 8.

EALING.—On Sunday, March 24th, at St. Stephen's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Cutler 1, D. R. Judd 2, J. C. Birt 3, A. Jones 4, J. E. L. Cockey 5, F. A. Finch 6, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 7, W. G. Wilson 8.

BISHOPSTOKE, HANTS.—On March 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: K. Burt 1, Mrs. E. Salmons 2, G. Hutchinson 3, P. Whitford 4, G. Pullinger 5, E Wheeler 6, R. Burford (conductor) 7, A. Ashford 8.

FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKS.—On March 26th, 2,160 Bob Minor: C. Gardner 1, J. Mason 2, R. Elliott (conductor) 3, W. Jones 4, P. Mason 5, D. Mason 6.

CALNE, WILTS.—On Thursday, March 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss R. Maundrell 1, Miss B. Hacker 2, W. Hacker 3, F. Hacker 4, L.A.C. Ring 5, H. Burry (conductor) 6, R. Barry 7, W. Haines 8.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK. — On Sunday, March 31st, 1,320 Bob Minor: F. Cooper 1, A. E. Austin (conductor) 2, R. Simmonds 3, G. Jennings 4, W. Hurrell 5, J. Ford 6.

STREATHAM COMMON.—On Sunday, March 31st, at Immanuel Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. Howard 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, E. L. Miles 3, S. Croft 4, C. Pothecary 5, T. W. Welbourne 6, J. W. Chapman 7, R. Sanders 8.

WILLESDEN.—On March 31st, 1,264 Bob Major: E. Lankester 1, F. G. Robbins 2, G. M. Kilby 3, H. C. Collier 4, R. C. Kersey 5, A. Cutler 6, H. Kilby 7, L. H. Bowler (conductor) 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT. — On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Warnett, sen. (conductor) 1, C. H. Walker 2, J. Bennett 3, E. Jones 4, E. Mounter 5, H. Warnett, jun. 6, J. Dafters 7, R. Boyce 8.

BATTERSEA.—On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Murdock 1, W. Coe 2, R. Ireland 3, A. Williams 4, E. Dodds 5, R. Hart 6, S. Hart (conductor) 7, G. Barber 8.

RAINHAM, KENT. — On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Trevor Cross 1, Thomas G. Dennis 2, Eric Naylor 3, William E. Court 4, Francis J. Cheal (conductor) 5, George A. Naylor 6, William J. Walker 7, William Hollands 8. Also 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Trevor Cross 1, Mrs. George A. Naylor 2, Francis J. Cheal 3, William E. Court 4, Fredrick G. Southgate 5, William J. Walker 6, George A. Naylor (conductor) 7, Alfred Naylor 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. E. Turner 1, L. P. Cook 2, E. E. Whitmore 3, S. E. Cook 4, H. A. Nobes 5, E. A. Jurd 6, J. H. Hunt (conductor) 7, C. Philpotts 8.

FARNHAM ROYAL. — On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss R. Tabraham 1, A. Birch 2, Miss R. Lund 3, H. Wingrove 4, D. Pearce 5, W. Eastwell 6, C. A. Levett (conductor) 7, E. Briden 8.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, March 31st, at St. Gregory's, 1,264 Bob Major: H. G. Herbert 1, H. G. Felton 2, W. A. Scott 3, H. Day 4, T. Chinery 5, L. Johnson 6, A. A. Fitch 7, A. J. Haynes (conductor) 8.

PULBOROUGH.—On Sunday, March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Stilwell (conductor) 1, R. G. Blackman 2, L. D. W. Atfield 3, R. Stredwick 4, A. V. Corden 5, A. E. Holden 6, A. C. Greenfield 7, H. J. Doick 8.

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Printed for the Proprietors by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Breams Buildings, London, E.C. 4.