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FRIDAY, AUGUST 20th, 1937.

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**THE PLAIN METHODS.**

It is strange how sometimes a flippant remark may lead to a serious argument. A fortnight ago we published the report of the first peal of Bob Triples rung by the Suffolk Guild and, in pointing this out among 'Peal Notes,' casually and rather lightly suggested that it would probably be the last for a long time. We were promptly challenged to explain and, having, in response, suggested that Bob Triples is not the best or the most popular of methods, now find that there is still left at least one champion of this somewhat despised member of the Plain Bob family. Let it be at once admitted that if a band can put it to any useful purpose—and even if they can't—there is nothing to prevent them ringing a peal of it if they so desire. And the Central Council will recognise it, although deprecating its performance. The method may be all that our correspondent claims for it—a helpful step from Minor to Major—but that does not make our statement that it is not the best or the most popular of methods, any less true. None of the backstroke leads of the treble is a Triples change; there are four blows behind every time the treble leads. These are blemishes sufficient to justify discouragement of the use of the method, and they are so well recognised that few people ever desire to ring it. As well ring Grandsire Minor—it serves an equally good purpose to take the beginner from Doubles to Triples; but nobody does from the point of view of progress.

If, as our correspondent says, the step from Grandsire to Stedman is too much, there are other and more interesting things which can be rung instead of Bob Triples. Indeed, we could wish that many bands, who practise Grandsire entirely, would turn their attention to some of those methods published by the Central Council in their 'Collection of Triples Methods.' This book has been prepared specially for such ringers and provides them with material which should add to their interest in ringing as well as their competency in the art. There are several good methods which would be found quite easy for a Grandsire band of average ability and one of the most surprising things is that there is not more variety introduced into Triples ringing. Last year there were 163 peals of Grandsire Triples rung, but only 16 in other plain methods. Oxford Bob seems to be gaining a little ground, for nine of the sixteen were in that method—but out of the total there were only two peals of Plain Bob. Variety in pure Triples methods is, of course, much more limited than in Major or even Minor, but the best use is certainly not made of such scope as there is. The same complaint can be made of the practice of plain Major

(Continued on page 546.)

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methods. Double Norwich and Plain Bob last year ac-  
counted for 213 peals, but only 22 were rung in other  
plain methods, mostly Little Bob and St. Clement's, when  
there are scores, opening up a wide field, which might  
be practised.

## A SOMERSET WEEK.

TWENTY TOWERS VISITED.

The following peals were rung during a week's holiday at Wrington.  
Four other attempts were made which proved unsuccessful. In all, 20  
towers, mostly with six bells, were visited, and as a great many were  
rung from the ground floor, Canon Coleridge was able to join in a good  
deal of the ringing. At Worle he rang the treble to 720 Bob Minor.  
At Binegar the party were entertained to tea by the Rev. W. M. K.  
Warren, Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, and Mrs.  
Warren, and to them, and the various incumbents who gave permission  
for the use of their bells, the party tender their grateful thanks.

WRAXALL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 23½ cwt.

CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ... Treble	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 5
EDITH K. FLETCHER ... .. 2	ALBERT A. HUGHES ... .. 6
STEPHEN H. WOOD ... .. 3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... .. 7
ERNEST J. TAYLOR ... .. 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY.

CLEVEDON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 2, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. Treble	JOHN THOMAS ... .. 5
HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 2	STEPHEN H. WOOD ... .. 6
MRS. J. THOMAS ... .. 3	HERBERT W. KNIGHT ... .. 7
ERNEST J. TAYLOR ... .. 4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

WEDMORE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 3, 1937, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. 5 lb.

CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ... Treble	ALBERT A. HUGHES ... .. 5
HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. 6
JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. 3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... .. 7
STEPHEN H. WOOD ... .. 4	EDITH K. FLETCHER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

Umpire—Christopher W. Woolley.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen-and-a-Half  
Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ... .. Treble	HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 5
NORAH G. WILLIAMS ... .. 2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 6
EDITH K. FLETCHER ... .. 3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... .. 7
HERBERT W. KNIGHT ... .. 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDITH K. FLETCHER.

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**TWELVE BELL PEALS.**

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;**

Tenor 28½ cwt.

JOHN W. CORNFORD ... .. 7	WALTER SEAR ... .. 7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 2	ERNEST W. FURBANK ... .. 8
HARRY SEAR ... .. 3	EDWARD D. SMITH ... .. 9
LESLIE H. THRIFT ... .. 4	WILLIAM T. BOTTRILL ... .. 10
GEORGE W. STEERE ... .. 5	CECIL J. MATTHEWS ... .. 11
THOMAS NEWMAN ... .. 6	THOMAS G. BEVAN ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN

\* First peal of Stedman and on 12 bells. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. T. G. Bevan.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(St. Mary-Le-Tower Society.)

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-Le-Tower,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;**

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... .. Treble	FREDERICK J. SMITH ... .. 7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... .. 2	*ALFRED L. SIMMONDS ... .. 8
MRS. G. H. CROSS ... .. 3	GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 9
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... .. 4	JOHN W. WARD ... .. 10
FREDERICK DENCH ... .. 5	†GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... .. 11
RONALD H. BULLEN ... .. 6	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

\* First peal of Maximus and first attempt. † 100th peal in this steeple.

**TEN BELL PEALS.**

WIMBORNE, DORSET.

THE ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

At the Minster Church of St. Cuthberga,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;**

Tenor 29½ cwt.

Bro. CHARLES H. JENNINGS, St. Mary's Lodge, 707 ... .. Treble	Bro. ERNEST T. ALLAWAY, Arts and Crafts Lodge, 4134 ... .. 2
Bro. FREDERICK G. LEAKER, St. Keyna Lodge, 1833 ... .. 3	Bro. FRANK W. PERRENS, Arts and Crafts Lodge, 4134 ... .. 4
Bro. A. F. MARTIN STEWART, St. Cuthberga Lodge 622 ... .. 5	Bro. EDWIN BARNETT, Gavelkind Lodge, 4266 ... .. 6
Bro. CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER, Sanctuary Lodge, 5358 ... .. 7	Bro. THOMAS H. REEVES, Arts and Crafts Lodge, 4134 ... .. 8
Bro. WILLIAM A. CAVE, Abbey Lodge, 4491 ... .. 9	Wor. Bro. JAMES H. SHEPHERD, Emulation Lodge, 355 ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by Bro. FRANK W. PERRENS

Rung as a welcome to Dr. Neville Lovett, D.D., Lord Bishop of Salisbury.

WISBECH, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 12, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;**

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb. in E flat.

WALLACE W. COUSINS ... .. Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY ... .. 6
FRED WIGMORE ... .. 2	†FRANK WARRINGTON ... .. 7
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 3	WALTER H. FREEMAN ... .. 8
*FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... .. 4	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... .. 9
ARTHUR G. BASON ... .. 5	CLAUDE COUSINS ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal.

CARDIFF.—On July 1st at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): W. L. Prosser (first quarter of Caters) 1, G. Talbot 2, E. Coles 3, E. Hunt 4, J. Davies 5, J. W. Jones 6, Ed. Coles (first quarter of Caters 'inside') 7, J. Phillips (conductor) 8, A. W. Heath 9, S. R. Barker 10. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;**

Tenor 30 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in C.

R. WILLIAM BARBER ... .. Treble	ALBERT G. WARNES ... .. 6
GEORGE MAVERS ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. CLOVER ... .. 7
JOHN G. W. HARWOOD ... .. 3	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ... .. 8
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 4	CHARLES E. LOVETT ... .. 9
ARTHUR G. KING ... .. 5	HENRY TOOKE ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

A birthday compliment to the Rev. Canon R. Aubrey Aitken, Vicar of Great Yarmouth, and a vice-president of the association.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 25½ cwt.

WILFRED WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... .. 6
EDWARD J. CHARMAN ... .. 2	FRANK I. HAIRS ... .. 7
KENNETH SNELLING ... .. 3	JOHN DEARLOVE ... .. 8
JACK M. CRIPPS ... .. 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... .. 9
FREDERICK PAGE ... .. 5	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 5, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Leyton, E.,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

FRANCIS E. DAZE ... .. Treble	ANDREW THOMPSON ... .. 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... .. 2	A. PATRICK CANNON ... .. 6
JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... .. 3	ERNEST W. FURBANK ... .. 7
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ... .. 4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... .. Tenor

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by THOMAS W. TAFFENDER. J. J. L. Gilbert is from Sheffield and A. Thompson from Newcastle, Staffs.

IOKLETON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*JOHN H. NEGUS ... .. Treble	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... .. 5
PERCY WEBB ... .. 2	ROBERT G. KING ... .. 6
BERRY WAYMAN ... .. 3	ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... .. 7
CHARLES W. COOK ... .. 4	FRANK WARRINGTON ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by ERNEST G. HIBBINS.

\* First peal on eight bells.

GREAT BEEDWORTH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER ... .. Treble	*HARRY PARKER ... .. 5
REV. FRANK BONNER ... .. 2	WILFRED STEVENSON ... .. 6
JAMES FERNLEY ... .. 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... .. 7
C. KENNETH LEWIS ... .. 4	JOHN WORTH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

\* First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—For evening service on Sunday, July 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by the following: S. Butler (first quarter-peal) 1, C. W. Denyer 2, Miss M. Hill 3, T. E. Denyer 4, W. Denyer 5, W. H. Viggers 6, Miss D. Viggers (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, R. Jonas 8.

WHALLEY, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 22½ cwt.

THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... .. Treble	JOSEPH WOODS ... .. 5
THOMAS WALLWORK ... .. 2	ARNOLD BRUNTON ... .. 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 3	RICHARD BALDERSTONE ... 7
REV. C. CAREW COX ... .. 4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by T. B. WORSLEY.

CHURCHKIRK, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt.

LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... Treble	LESLIE L. WILLIAMS ... 3
*HERBERT HOLDEN ... .. 2	RICHARD BALDERSTONE ... 6
REV. C. CAREW COX ... .. 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 7
*ERIC BRUNTON ... .. 4	ROLAND PARK ... .. Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

\* First peal in the method. The Rev. C. Carew Cox's 100th peal.

MONKS KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 24½ cwt. in D.

*LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD ... .. 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	PERCIVAL A. OLDHAM ... .. 6
ERNEST W. TIPLER ... .. 3	FRANK K. MEASURES ... .. 7
JOHN A. TIMSON ... .. 4	FRED PERRY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

BOVEY TRACEY, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 11, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET.

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 13½ cwt.

AUBREY L. BENNETT ... Treble	G. HARRY MYERS ... .. 5
MISS FLORRIE WYMAN ... 2	THOMAS G. MYERS ... .. 6
*ERNEST J. TAYLOR ... .. 3	CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ... 7
HENRY C. COLLYER ... .. 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... .. Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

\* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 12, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER ... Treble	WILLIAM BOTTRILL ... .. 5
GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 2	*ALBERT J. PITMAN ... .. 6
CHARLES T. COLES ... .. 3	GEORGE W. STEERE ... .. 7
JAMES BENNETT ... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

\* First Surprise peal away from the treble.

OSKEHAMPTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

W. H. R. SMALE ... Treble	W. H. HOWE ... .. 5
J. HOSGOOD ... .. 2	F. C. SMALE ... .. 6
R. W. BIFFIN ... .. 3	C. R. LILLEY ... .. 7
J. E. LILLEY ... .. 4	A. J. WARD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

**A PEAL OF WHEATLEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5086 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

JOHN WHEADON ... Treble	HARRY HOVERD ... .. 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6
DEREK M. SHARP ... .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7
HARRY HOSKINS ... .. 4	HARRY PARKES ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. G. DRIVER. Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

The first peal in the method, which is by E. W. Tipler.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

*REV. FRANK BONNER ... Treble	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 5
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 2	WILLIAM FERNLEY ... .. 6
JAMES FERNLEY ... .. 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... .. 7
C. KENNETH LEWIS ... .. 4	JOHN WORTH ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

\* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. A birthday compliment to Miss Ethel Fernley.

GREAT WALTHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

HERBERT DEVONISH ... Treble	†LEONARD G. DAY ... .. 5
REGINALD C. THRIFT ... 2	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 6
*ARTHUR H. EVERETT ... 3	GEORGE GREEN ... .. 7
†EDGAR C. BOYCE ... .. 4	GEORGE DAY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

\* First peal of Grandsire. † First peal. First peal on the bells since they were rehung.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 15, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	CECIL E. CARR ... .. 5
WILLIAM A. WOOD ... .. 2	PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... .. 6
*CYRIL ISON ... .. 3	ERNEST W. TIPLER ... .. 7
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 4	PERCY W. BENNETT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by E. W. TIPLER.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples. First peal in the method as conductor.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

RAYNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being one extent of Woodbine Treble Bob, two each of Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, and one each of Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt.

RICHARD PORTWAY ... Treble	RALPH BIRD ... .. 4
DONALD JENNINGS ... .. 2	DOUGLAS JENNINGS ... .. 5
HOWARD SAMS ... .. 3	RONALD SUGLING ... .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD SUGLING.

First peal in five methods by all except the conductor, and first in more than one method on the bells.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—On July 19th, at St. George's Church, 1,392 Bob Major: C. Harris 1, R. B. Tapp (longest length on an 'inside' bell) 2, F. Twigg 3, L. G. Burgess 4, E. A. Jackson 5, P. Laffin 6, H. Ashton 7, A. F. Bailey (conductor) 8.



THORINGTON, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

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

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, St. Clement's, Double Court and Oxford Bob.  
Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE A. BUTTON ... .. Treble	URBAN W. WILDNEY ... .. 4
GEORGE E. JENNINGS ... .. 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS ... .. 5
GEORGE A. ANDREWS ... .. 3	EDWARD E. DAVEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

First peal in seven methods by all except the ringer of the 3rd.

OLD WARDEN, BEDS.  
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

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

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford, Kent and Woodbine Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

JOHN PRESSLAND ... .. Treble	EDMUND WAGSTAFF ... .. 4
HERBERT SEERMAN ... .. 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... .. 5
ARTHUR DILLEY ... .. 3	PERCY TOMPKINS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

FOLKINGHAM, LINGS.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

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

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, Double Court, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Court and Oxford Bob.  
Tenor 13 cwt. (approx.).

*LEONARD W. WILSON ... .. Treble	ALBERT E. SCOTT ... .. 4
JOHN E. ALLEN ... .. 2	COTHEBERT T. H. BRADLEY ... .. 5
JAMES H. MUSSON ... .. 3	CHARLES WILKINSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. T. H. BRADLEY.

\* First peal in seven methods. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. John H. Botham and Miss Frances Humphrey, which took place the previous Saturday at Folkingham.

STISTED, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Seven extents called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

FREDERIC C. TOWNES ... .. Treble	RONALD SCKLING ... .. 4
RALPH BIRD ... .. 2	DOUGLAS JENNINGS ... .. 5
VICTOR MORLEY ... .. 3	GEORGE R. TOWNES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

SANDAL, WAKEFIELD.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Sunday, August 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5280 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of New London, Duke of York, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Sandal Exercise, Kent, Oxford, and 240 of Oxford, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and Sandal Exercise Spliced.  
Tenor 13 cwt.

*J. BEAVIS ... .. Treble	W. ROBINSON ... .. 4
E. CUTT ... .. 2	J. W. MOXON ... .. 5
C. E. NETHERWOOD ... .. 3	G. CUTT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by E. CUTT.

\* First peal and first attempt. Rung for evening service, and as a 21st birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

BILLINGBOROUGH, LINGS.—At St. Andrew's Church on Sunday, August 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung as a compliment to Mr. H. Coaten, on his 65th birthday. Mr. Coaten is an active member of the Billingborough company: G. Creasy 1, J. E. Allen 2, A. E. Chilton 3, L. Wilson 4, F. Carford 5, G. S. Collishaw (conductor) 6.

GREAT FINBOROUGH, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, August 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Consisting of 720 Cambridge Surprise, two 720's Oxford Treble Bob, one of Kent Treble Bob, two of St. Clement's and one of Plain Bob.

T. W. CRACKNELL ... .. Treble	F. BORLEY ... .. 4
A. GRIMWOOD ... .. 2	S. SPARROW ... .. 5
E. A. CRACKNELL ... .. 3	A. R. WOODARD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. R. WOODARD.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. F. Raper on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Dorothy Bird, of Bradfield St. George.

BIGBY, LINGS.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, August 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double and Single Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob and one of combined Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

HAROLD MORWOOD ... .. Treble	*HAROLD JUDD ... .. 4
ERNEST BRITAIN ... .. 2	GEORGE DOBBS ... .. 5
GEORGE E. FEIRN ... .. 3	JACK BRAY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

\* First peal in eight methods.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, August 11, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... .. Treble	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... .. 4
FRANK LAWRENCE ... .. 2	REGINALD WOODYATT ... .. 5
SIDNEY T. HOLT ... .. 3	CHARLES CAMM ... .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

Specially rung in honour of the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Knowles, who were married at this church, August 11th, 1887.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.  
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 12, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being seven extents: (1) Thelwall and Childwall; (2) Double Oxford and St. Clement's; (3) Double and Single Court; (4) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob; (5) London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob; (6) Capel and Sandal Treble Bob; (7) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*J. RICHARD WILSON ... .. Treble	FRANK VERNON ... .. 4
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY ... .. 2	RICHARD M. HARVEY ... .. 5
THOMAS VESSEY ... .. 3	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.

\* First peal on six bells. First peal in 14 methods 'inside' by all except ringers of 4 and tenor. The conductor's 50th peal.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Being one extent each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

KENNETH G. CARLTON ... .. Treble	CHARLES L. SMITH ... .. 4
RAYMOND J. CARLTON ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD ... .. 5
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ... .. 3	EDWARD S. RUCK ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD S. RUCK.

First peal in six methods by all the band. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Garner, headmistress of the Infants' School for 32 years.

GREAT YELDHAM, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

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

One extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford  
Treble Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 7 cwt. in A.

RALPH BIRD ... ..	Treble	*REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 4
BERNARD W. PETTITT ... ..	2	ALBERT CATTERWELL ... 5
ALRC M. GENERY ... ..	3	RONALD SUCKLING ... .. Tenor

Conducted by R. BIRD.

\* 25th peal.

SCOTTOW, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and five of Plain Bob, called differently.

GEORGE BELL ... ..	Treble	A. S. ROBERTS ... .. 4
J. PUMFREY ... ..	2	ERIC DURRANT ... .. 5
MISS ANGWIN ... ..	3	W. C. MEDLER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. C. MEDLER.

COWDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

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

Being 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and four of Plain Bob, all with different callings. Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

FRANK H. HICKS ... ..	Treble	ARTHUR F. LEWRY ... .. 4
* WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... ..	2	WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN ... 5
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ... ..	3	A. PATRICK CANNON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. P. CANNON.

\* 50th peal.

KIDSGROVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 14, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

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

Being 720 each of Ipswich, Cambridge, Durham and York Surprise, Duke of York, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ARTHUR W. HALL ... ..	Treble	JOHN G. CARLIDGE ... .. 4
JOHN E. WHEELDON ... ..	2	THOMAS HURD ... .. 5
WILLIAM CARNWELL ... ..	3	JAMES WHALLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by T. HORD.

**HANDBELL PEAL.**

MOLD, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 15, 1937, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

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

Seven extents. Tenor size 15 in C.  
E. P. EVANS ... .. 1-2 | J. S. METCALFE ... .. 3-4  
FRED HARTMAN ... .. 5-5

Conducted by FRED HARTMAN.

Witnesses—J. H. Jones and W. McGibbon.

The first handbell peal by all, and the first ever rung for the association. The conductor's 25th peal.

**A DOUBLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.**

On Tuesday, August 10th, at Billesdon, Leicestershire, a quarter-peal of Minor (Oxford and Plain Bob) was rung by J. Norton 1, R. Russell 2, H. Faulkner 3, J. G. Geary 4, A. N. Geary 5, Ernest Morris (conductor) 6. It was specially arranged to mark the 60th birthday of the treble ringer, who retires from the Post Office with over 47 years' service, also for the 21st birthday of Miss Margaret L. Morris, daughter of the conductor. Miss Morris rang the treble to 360 Grandsire Doubles prior to the quarter-peal.

**PEAL NOTES.**

INTERESTING DETAILS.

A Freemasons' peal of Stedman Caters was rung at Wimborne Minster, on Saturday week, as a welcome to the new Bishop of Salisbury, Dr. Neville Lovett, who was recently transferred from the See of Portsmouth. A previous attempt for the peal came to grief.

The report of a peal of Grandsire Doubles at Weston, Bath, has been sent without the date.

While on holiday in Lancashire, the Rev. C. C. Cox, Vicar of Lyne Regis, Dorset, rang two peals. The first, which was arranged for him, was Cambridge Surprise rung at Whalley, and the second Double Norwich at Churchkirk, which was his one hundredth peal.

The weight of the tenor at March, Cambs, on which the first peal since their restoration in 1929 was rung on August 7th, is 15 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in E. In the peal report sent us it was given at 16½ cwt., but the correction arrived too late to be made last week.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Bovey Tracey on August 11th, was arranged for Miss F. Wyman and Mr. Oliver Sippetts, who were spending a holiday in 'glorious Devon.'

An odd 240 changes in four spliced methods was added at the end of seven 720's rung at Sandal, Yorkshire, on Sunday, August 8th. It, of course, counts as a peal of 5,280, but if a band ringing Doubles added an odd touch in the same way, the oddment would not count—under the recent ruling of the Central Council.

Four ringers taking part in a peal for the North Notts Association on August 12th at Barnby-in-the-Willows rang their first peal in 14 methods.

A peal in six methods of Minor was rung with the bells half-muffled at Willesborough, Kent, on Saturday, as a token of respect to a much esteemed parishioner, Mrs. Garner, headmistress of the infant school of the village for 32 years and a member of the Parochial Church Council. It was the first peal in six methods by all the band and believed to be the first in the district by an entirely local company.

Mr. Leslie Thrift, of Chadwell Heath, rang his first peal of Stedman on Saturday. It was Cinques! Not often does a ringer begin his peals of Stedman on this number. The peal was rung by the Cumberland Youths at Shoreditch, and afterwards congratulations were extended to Mr. Tom Bevan, senior steward of the society, upon his silver wedding, which he celebrated on August 11th.

In March two trebles were added by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston to complete the octave at All Saints' Church, Okehampton, Devon. The first peal on the bells was rung on Saturday.

Wheatley Surprise, of which the first peal was rung at Erith on Saturday, is another method by Mr. E. W. Tipler and the composition is by Mr. A. G. Driver. The band wish to couple with the peal the name of Mr. E. A. Barnett, who was in the two previous attempts. Mr. D. M. Sharp filled his place.

This is the third Surprise method rung to a peal for the first time at St. John the Baptist's Church, viz., Erith, Lessness and Wheatley.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus rung at Ipswich on August 14th was a birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of the 11th. As Mr. Symonds has been ringing nearly 51 years, one can almost guess the age of his mother, although she is younger than the veteran Robert H. Brundle.

It was Mr. Symonds' one hundredth peal in the tower. These peals include some notable first performances.

The first handbell peal by the North Wales Association was rung on Sunday, seven 720's of Bob Minor being rung at Mold, Flintshire. Was it also the first handbell peal in Wales?

Mr. E. W. Tipler, of Lutterworth, who has produced many new Surprise methods, in ringing his first peal of Stedman Triples as conductor, 'completed the circle' at Gilmorton Church, Leicestershire, on Sunday.

Mr. Robert Matthews, who took part in the peal of Bob Maximus at Kidderminster, recorded last week, had previously rung a peal in the method. His name should have been included in our note with those of Messrs. Short and Bass as the only ones in the band who had previously rung a peal of 'Plain Twelve.'

Five towers were represented in the band who rang a peal of Stedman Triples at Monks Kirby, Warwickshire, on August 11th. The ringers of treble and 2 were from Leicester, of 3, 4 and tenor from Lutterworth, 5 from Croft, 6 from Hinckley, 7 from Burbage.

**WORCESTERSHIRE RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.**

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Knowles has been celebrated by a peal at Madresfield, at the church where they were married on August 11th, 1887, and where Mr. Knowles has been a ringer since 1881.

Mr. Knowles was for several years hon. secretary of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association and, later, Master. He has also been a representative of the association on the Central Council.

Mr. Knowles has spent much time in instructing beginners and helping struggling bands, and has done much towards raising the standard of ringing in the district.

Congratulations and good wishes have been extended by many friends to Mr. and Mrs. Knowles, who lost two sons in the Great War, and have four daughters and two grandchildren living.

**5,000 TREBLE BOB ROYAL.**

A COMPOSITION WITH SPECIAL FEATURES FROM OVERSEAS.  
Remarkable Coincidence.

Mr. Cornelius Charge, formerly of the Metropolitan Police, who has for some years been residing in Auckland, New Zealand, has sent the following composition of 5,000 of Treble Bob Royal. In forwarding it, he asked if a peal with the same qualities has been published before, viz., the 6th its extent at home, all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6, the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's, the 2nd only one course-end in 5th's, and an even 5,000, without a bob affecting the position of the four back bells.

23456	M	W	H
54326		2	2
53246		1	2
52436		1	2
36245	1	2	2
32465		1	2
26435		2	
62534	2		2
35284		2	2
32654		1	2
23456	2		2

These figures reached us a fortnight ago. Last Monday identically the same composition was sent to us by Mr. Nolan Golden, who had also produced it and called it at Wisbech on August 12th. He, of course, knew nothing about the existence of the figures by Mr. Charge. It is interesting to compare his description with that given above. 'The first peal of Treble Ten rung in the minimum number of changes containing all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 and the 6th the extent home, with the 2nd one course only in fifth's and calls only at M. W. and H.,' is the way Mr. Golden describes it.

**CLOCK HAMMER STOPS PEAL.**

An attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples at SS. Mary and Cuthbert's Church, Chester-le-Street, on August 11th, came to an end after an hour and a half's ringing through the clock hammer coming in contact with the tenor. The ringers were J. E. Scott 1, T. F. Preston 2, Miss M. A. P. Bertie 3, S. Patterson 4, A. Cook 5, W. Sheraton 6, K. Arthur (conductor) 7, J. Scott 8.

**NEW BAND'S PROGRESS.**

Four members of the recently-formed band at All Saints' Church, Birchington, rang their first 518 Grandsire Triples on August 11th: W. Huckstepp 1, \*J. Russell 2, F. Gadsden 3, \*H. Luck 4, G. Wilshire 5, F. Reeves 6, \*A. Hincksley 7, F. Finnis 8. \* Longest touch.

**ADAY IN HANTS.****TIME TABLE GETS OUT OF HAND.**

On a recent Saturday, the ringers of Leatherhead Parish Church, Surrey, with friends from Ashted, Ewell and Cobham, to the number of 15, made an enjoyable motor-coach tour into Hampshire. An early start enabled the first place of call, East Meon, to be reached soon after 9.30. Here touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major and a course of Cambridge Surprise were rung. Then on to North Stoneham, where they met their old friend Mr. George Williams, who was waiting to welcome them. At a second attempt a touch of Grandsire Caters was brought round on this merry little ring of ten. Although the front bells are of little weight, it was found they were no playthings, but had to be rung. Next a short touch of Grandsire Triples and, to finish, a course of London Surprise, with George and one of his 'boys' standing in. St. Mary's, Southampton, was next visited, and Grandsire Triples and Caters and three leads of Treble Ten were rung on this grand peal. Dinner, the next item, was, as usual, brought round without any false starts, but after this the time table got out of hand a bit. Some of the party went on a wild goose chase and found an 'Aviary'; at least that was their explanation when they left for Hursley nearly half an hour late. On arrival they found a nice ring of bells already up. A touch each of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples and a half-course of Cambridge were enjoyed before going on to Twyford still behind schedule time. Here they were met by a one time Ashted ringer, Mr. Harry Wilkinson. After a touch each of Oxford Bob Triples and Double Norwich, it was decided to move on and try and make up leeway. However, on reaching Alresford they were still 30 minutes adrift. Mr. Newnham, an old Leatherhead ringer of 40 years ago, was waiting patiently for the visitors. This was the first tower of the day where the bells were down, and it gave an opportunity of raising the back six in peal. A touch each of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Double Norwich Major were brought round and the back six lowered in peal. A meat tea and a chat with Mr. Newnham occupied the next hour, after which the party left for their last port of call, the Jolly Farmer at Puttenham. Here legs were stretched (and pulled) and elbows exercised in the usual ringers' manner for 40 minutes or so while the engine cooled. Then as the shades of night were falling fast (yes, very fast), the last 16 miles were safely accomplished and Leatherhead was reached soon after 10 p.m. after a happy and successful day. Through the medium of 'The Ringing World' the ringers wish to express their thanks to the various clergy and ringing friends who helped to make this possible.

A. H. W.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

### THE

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Every ringer should secure a copy of Mr. J. A. Trollope's new book, 'A History of the College Youths,' which 'The Ringing World' will publish towards the end of next month. Subscribers who apply for copies, with remittance, before September 18th can obtain them at 4s. each, with 6d. extra for packing and postage. After that date the price will be 5s. and postage. Therefore, order at once.

Owing to unexpected difficulties, the date (31st inst.) provisionally fixed for the unveiling of the Sir Henry Tulse tombstone has had to be postponed until the College Youths' Festival, November 6th, of which due notice will be given.

An interesting photograph of the six brothers White, of Appleton, appeared in the 'Evening Standard' on Saturday, but the author of the story which accompanied it went badly astray. The article was headed, 'Six brothers rang bells for 12 hours.' This and some of the other statements must be rather embarrassing to the modest band of Appleton brothers. As a matter of fact, only Dick and Harry were in the record peal of Stedman Caters in 1922.

The meeting of the Hunts branch of the Ely Diocesan Association at Stanground to-morrow has been cancelled.

## A BADGE FOR IDENTIFICATION.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—With regard to the 'meeting at Scarborough,' I have often thought it would be an advantage to ringers in their travels if the Central Council issued a small official badge, preferably in the shape of a bell, to be worn in the buttonhole, and, therefore, easily recognisable by a brother ringer, although I was greatly surprised to read that two ringers were in each other's company for a whole evening and during the course of their conversation the subject of bells and ringing did not crop up.

H. D. HARRIS.

## THE SOMERSET TOUR.

### A DISCLAIMER.

'Twas not that we were speeding within a built-up part,  
'Twas wrong to say our brakes were weak, for we tried them at the start.

Our number plates were also clean, and cars quite spick and span,  
For, being most particular, we clean whenever we can.  
'Tis true our names were taken, and what names they were, by jove!  
'Twas Jack, and Frank, and, let me see—who was the other cove?  
Methinks it was a Film Star, her name may not be guessed,  
But you can see her on the films, if you take a jaunt up West.  
'Twas early in the morning, so we really felt quite fine,  
But having halted at the 'Halt,' we failed to toe the 'line.'  
The policeman said: Your guide was good, he stopped where all good drivers should.

'Tis true we argued with the 'Cops,' but whatever good was that,  
Their minds were definitely made up to have us on the mat.  
'And so to Court,' they said, 'you go,' which brought a smile from leader Joe.

For Court was fixed to be in Wells—a chance for peal upon those bells.  
We passed the hat to raise the fine for jumping o'er that nice(?) white line.

But e'er we'd raised the thirty bob, the 'beak' refused to take the job.  
Our copy books were sent straight back, 'You're warned!' they said,  
So that is that. **GWEKT.**

## DEATH OF A HILLINGDON RINGER.

The death occurred on Monday, August 2nd, of Mr. J. H. Lucas, who had been a member of St. Andrew's tower, Hillingdon West, Middlesex, for nearly 14 years. He regularly attended Sunday service ringing and branch meetings until about two years ago, when he gave up through illness. He was not a great peal ringer, but had rung 38 in the standard methods.

The funeral took place on Friday, August 6th, and in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled: A. Bray 1, P. Jones 2, E. Hancox 3, S. Childs 4, F. Bolton 5, F. Corke (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, C. Nicholls 8.

Deceased, who was 57 years of age, leaves a widow and two sons in bereavement. Mr. Lucas' peals were: Minor in 3 methods 2, in 2 methods 1, Grandsire Doubles 1, Grandsire Triples 8, Grandsire Caters 2, Bob Minor 3, Bob Major 2, Kent Treble Bob Minor 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 1, Stedman Triples 15, Oxford Bob Triples 2, total 38.

## COMPLIMENT TO BELL DONORS.

In honour of Mr. J. and Mrs. A. Hatt, donors of the bells at Tetsworth Church, on the occasion of their visit to the parish on August 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles by the Sunday service ringers: J. Stone 1, R. Lindars 2, A. Peasley 3, J. Hedges 4, W. Gibbard (conductor) 5, F. Smith 6. First quarter-peal by all except the conductor and his first quarter-peal as conductor.



## LONDON BELLS BEFORE THE GREAT FIRE

### HOW THEIR NUMBERS INCREASED.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

One of my tasks in writing my 'History' was to find out, if I could, how many ringing peals there were in London before the Great Fire of 1666, and especially how many bells there were at St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, and St. Martin-in-the-Vintry, where, we are told, the College Youths first practised.

It is usually assumed that the only sources of information are Stow's 'Survey of London' and its various continuations, and such of the parish accounts as have survived, none of which tells us very much. But Mr. C. T. Flower, the secretary of the Public Record Office, very kindly made some investigations for me among State papers and afterwards put me in the way of making others myself. As a result I have found out that there were in London in olden times very many more bells than is usually supposed.

In 1552 and 1553 inventories were made of the goods, ornaments and bells of all the parish churches throughout England and Wales. Many of these inventories still exist, those for some counties (Norfolk and Surrey, for example) being practically complete. In London at the time there were 105 parish churches and there are inventories for 95. But nine of them are mutilated and tell us nothing about the bells.

In the remaining 86 churches there were two rings of six, 34 of five, 26 of four and 21 of three. All of them had, in addition, a saunce or sanctus bell. St. Margaret, Pattens, is the only one that possessed a single bell, and that was because the steeple was being rebuilt when it was stopped by a dreadful fire which destroyed many of the houses in the parish and caused the death of nine persons. All Hallows, Lombard Street, had but two (one of them a saunce bell). A parishioner had bought the bells of the dissolved priory of St. John-at-Clerkenwell for the steeple, but he died and his son and heir refused to complete the gift. St. Pancras, Soper Lane, also had but two, but that was a tiny church.

In addition, there were rings of five at St. Paul's Cathedral and the Conventual Church of St. Martin-le-Grand. Soon after 1553, however, both these rings were destroyed. St. Martin's was broken up and sold, and St. Paul's perished by fire in 1561. The five at St. Anne and St. Agnes were also destroyed by fire. But all the rest were not only preserved and well looked after between 1552 and 1666, but in many instances were augmented. All Hallows, Staining, four in 1552, were made five; St. Andrew, Holborn, were increased in 1578 from four to eight; St. Alphage, London Wall, from three to six; St. Andrew, Undershaft, from four to six; St. Botolph, Aldersgate, from three to five; St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, from three to six; St. Christopher, Stocks, from five to six; St. Giles, Cripplegate, from five to six; St. Mary-le-Bow, from five to ten; St. Michael, Cornhill, from six to eight; St. Olave, Hart Street, from four to six; and All Hallows, London Wall, from four to six.

Probably there were other rings which were augmented, for a man left money for the bells of All Hallows, Bread Street, to be rung on certain occasions, and they were only four in 1552. All Hallows, Barking, too, for which there is no inventory, were made six in 1659, and

St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, of which the inventory is defective, were five at the end of the 16th century.

At St. Martin-in-the-Vintry there were 'V bells of on accord and a lesser bell.' Neither the inventory nor any parish accounts of St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, survive, and we shall never know what bells were there before the fire, but judging by comparison with other churches of a like importance, we may say that probably it had a ring of five.

The inventories for the Westminster churches have not survived, but we know from other sources that in the early 17th century St. Martin-in-the-Fields had five bells, the Abbey six, and St. Margaret's six. At St. Saviour's, Southwark, there was a heavy ring of six in 1552, increased to eight in the 17th century; St. Olave's had five; and Lambeth had five. St. Giles-in-the-Fields had three in 1552 and six in 1635.

All these bells were hung for ringing and were rung regularly, even the little threes in what were scarcely more than turrets.

The old societies rang on three and four bells as well as on fives and sixes, and we know from extant rules that it was their custom to go about from belfry to belfry, as fancy or convenience dictated; so that they had pretty nearly a hundred towers within walking distance to chose from.

The College Youths, in this respect, were not different from other societies. They were not specially connected with any one City church, and there is not a scrap of evidence to show that they had anything to do with any church on College Hill, even if there was a ringing peal there. In any case, the oft-quoted statement of Shipway that they rang Stedman's Principle at a church on College Hill cannot be true. The Principle was not composed until shortly before 1677 and all the bells at St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, and St. Martin-in-the-Vintry perished in the fire of 1666.

#### BOB TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read your reply to my letter re the peal of Bob Triples at Grandsire, and I am sorry to note your remarks are again very vague.

Apparently you do not consider Bob Triples serves a part in 'the advancement of the art of change ringing,' and that is where we disagree.

I am well aware that Bob Triples is greatly despised, especially in this part of the country, and it is mainly due to this fact that I feel inclined to give an opinion in favour of the method. Bob Triples is rarely, if ever, practised in this district, which may explain to a certain extent the difficulty one experiences in finding a tower where a band can ring anything other than Grandsire.

Do not misunderstand me. Grandsire is a good old-fashioned and simple method, and contains greater musical qualities than Bob Triples. But what a great percentage of our ringing friends who never advance further than Grandsire, the method they were first taught! You, yourself, have deplored that fact only recently, and have more or less considered the problem unsolved. A puzzle is made to be solved by the application of a little thought and rearranging, and that is where Bob Triples comes in.

I strongly maintain that if beginners are first of all taught the Plain Bob method on four or five bells, they will in a surprisingly short time master Bob Major. The point I am endeavouring to make understandable is that Bob Triples is a valuable stepping stone in the elementary course of a young ringer and should be encouraged. In other words, the stages from Plain Bob four or five bells to Bob Major and then to Treble Bob is much more simple than placing a beginner, with only rounds experience, to an 'inside' bell in Grandsire Triples, ultimately expecting him to conquer Stedman Triples as the next method.

The stepping stage is too great and only a few reach it, and the tower is left with a band of a few insiders to Grandsire and the remainder tenormen, neither of whom has a further desire for advancement.

CECIL W. PIPE.

Staines, Middlesex.

## COMPETITIVE RINGING.

ITS DRAWBACKS AND A POSSIBLE WAY OUT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With regard to your leader of August 13th, putting on one side the Church, as distinct from the secular side of competitive ringing, there is a good deal in what you say, but there are some points which never are considered amongst those who live in a competitive country and see them daily.

The first result of competitive ringing is undoubtedly to improve the standard of the method rung, be it rounds or anything else. It is a question as to whether this improvement (very temporary as will be seen) is worth the expense.

The second result, simultaneous with the first, is, in my experience, a complete selfishness on the part of a few ringers, resulting in loss of all progress and a final break up of the band. It stands to reason that, if you are going to have a competition, you must practise for that competition and that alone, if you are to do any good. The result is that six or eight ringers, according to the number of bells, constitute themselves 'the ringers, par excellence,' take up the whole of the practice time and discourage others from joining. If there are any other ringers they soon get disgruntled and leave and no one takes their place. One of the regulars dies or leaves the district, and the remainder, being used to perfect ringing, will not readily ring with a new man, who has to be taught from the beginning, or even with one of the band not in the clique, and the band breaks up.

I can show you dozens of such cases in a Round Ringing Country, and it appears at least possible that the same would happen in change ringing.

As to progress, the same applies. If you are to have any chance of a first place in the competition, you have no time for the practice of new methods. The prize ringing towers, which really count, in a Round Ringing Country do not even practise call changes.

Finally, such competitions discourage conductors and encourage the one conductor tower. It is possible that a very thorough organisation, by giving points for the number of conductors, number of ringers, and changing ringers around on different bells (most important of all), may get rid of these disadvantages. But they must be considered before any action is taken.

Crack ringers may be inclined not to treat the above very seriously; but it is not the cracks who will be taking part. For the rest I would warn them that the path of the competitive ringer is far from being a smooth one.

Now one word as to the church side. Competition will never and should never receive any encouragement from the Church. If some such scheme as you outline should, therefore, ever materialise, I would most strongly urge something which would have the same effect without the stigma of competition.

Such a scheme has been devised by a ringing association which is now affiliated to its diocesan guild. The ringing is judged as is 'prize ringing,' but no marks are issued. First, second and third class certificates are issued according to a standard in the hands of the judges, and as ringing improves so these standards become higher. The whole of the entries or none may, therefore, receive a first class.

It has proved very successful and it is hoped that advance in method ringing may be obtained later by having different classes. If this comes about it will have achieved a great object in combining all ringers into one brotherhood. But two things remain to be seen:—

(1) Whether it could survive an ultimate change of leadership.

(2) Whether the good of the show will triumph over the natural selfishness of the average ringer (I class myself in this, so no one need be hurt!).

The above scheme is, I think, a good one when the proposal is to combine, in one association, the competitive and non-competitive ringer, but I am firmly convinced that where it is merely a case of improving striking within an association (important as this is), any form of test should be avoided like the devil.

C. F. J.

## TENDER HANDS.

WHAT IS THE BEST REMEDY?

The inquiry of a correspondent whose tender hands suffer when he indulges in ringing has brought the following suggestions, which may be useful to other of our readers who 'blister.'

Mr. W. B. Kynaston (Swindon) says he finds surgical spirit (bought from the chemist's) a good preventive; also a remedial agent.

A wash leather 'end' for the rope is advocated by Mr. H. D. Harris (Woburn). He says: I think your correspondent will find that by far the most effective way to prevent blistering of the fingers is to obtain a piece of wash leather, about 10 to 12 inches long and 2 inches or so wide, and make it into a tube by neatly stitching the sides together the whole length so that it will slip over the tail end, which then forms a miniature sally. Two small holes should be made at either end, sufficient to pass a piece of thread through, so that it can be tied to the rope to prevent slipping. He can, of course, carry it about with him in his pocket wherever he goes to ring, as it only takes a few minutes to adjust.

Mrs. E. (a ringer) writes: Re the correspondent who asks what is the best thing to use on tender hands to keep them from blistering when ringing, I suggest that he (or she) tries doing a few months of housework, at the end of which his hands will probably be nicely hardened.

## 'A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.'

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

To be published in September by  
'The Ringing World'

This new contribution to the literature of bell ringing will be found to be a volume of engrossing interest. It is based on new material brought to light by the author's own researches, and it is by far the most exhaustive history of the Society yet presented to the public.

As the Society goes back almost to the beginnings of change ringing, the development of the art has been coincidental with the life of the College Youths. The author's story, therefore, contains much of the history of the first two centuries of ringing, as well as of the Society itself. Distant events are reconstructed from a skilful analysis of old documents; men who, until now, have existed for later generations only in name, become once again personalities of interest.

This volume, coming in the tercentenary year of the Ancient Society, should be doubly welcome to the members, and will prove full of interest to every ringer.

It is to be illustrated by reproductions of old prints, and drawings of numerous London churches. Bound in cloth covers, the book will be published at 5/- (postage and packing 6d. extra). Obtainable only by direct application to 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking.

## SPECIAL OFFER

TO SUBSCRIBERS, whose orders, with remittance, are sent direct to 'The Ringing World,' BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18th, the volume is offered at the REDUCED PRICE OF 4/- (plus 6d. for postage and packing).

## ORDER AT ONCE

## DEATH OF MR. H. FOLKARD.

RINGER AT EALING FOR 35 YEARS.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Harry Folkard, which took place on Thursday, August 5th, at the age of 68 years. The deceased was a Suffolk man, born and learnt to ring at Framlingham, but for the last 35 years had lived at Ealing and rang at Christ Church and St. Stephen's, Ealing, and with the College Youths.

The funeral, on the 13th inst., at Ealing Cemetery, was attended by Mr. P. E. Clark (representing Christ Church and St. Stephen's), Mr. E. Harris, Mr. J. A. Trollope (representing the Middlesex Association), Mr. E. J. Walsam and Mr. C. F. Winney (representing the College Youths). A muffled peal was rung at Christ Church in the evening.

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Battle on Saturday, August 7th, over 30 members attending from Brighton (St. Nicholas), Eastbourne (St. Mary's, St. Saviour's and Christ Church), Mayfield, Uckfield, Heathfield, Brede, Hawkhurst (Kent), Sutton (Surrey), as well as Mr. Haig, of Etchingham, and members of the Battle company. A short service was held, and Mr. W. D. Smith presided at the tea and business meeting which followed.

The election of the following life members was confirmed: Messrs. Ernest Bishop and Stanley Etheridge, of Hawkhurst, and A. P. Cannon, of London. Messrs. John Downing and Jack Pennells, of Hastings, were elected members.

A vote of thanks was proposed by the divisional secretary (Mr. A. G. Pankhurst) to the Dean for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Sinden for making arrangements for the meeting.

The members then returned to the tower, and, in spite of the hot weather, the bells were kept going until 8 o'clock.

## GLORIOUS DEVON.

### HARTLAND'S WONDROUS CHURCH.

On Saturday, August 7th, the ringers of the Thorverton band held their annual outing. The party made its first halt at Okehampton, where the new peal by Gillett and Johnston responded to touches of Triples. The only 'grouse' was the ascent of the long path to the church.

The run to Great Torrington was particularly admired by the ladies of the party, and the views of Exmoor away north and the receding prospect of the Tors of Dartmoor provided something to think about. Who could not admire the deep vale of the Torridge as it half encircles Great Torrington?

The little market town, midst its commons on the hill, has a fine church (destroyed by gunpowder in 1645 and rebuilt in 1655) and spire, while its bells gave pleasure in every way. After ringing the party had luncheon in the 17th century inn in the square. Of course, the baskets were well packed. The journey was continued by way of the Torridge valley to Bideford and Hartland. Hartland Point, 'where the grey seas glitter and the sharp tides shift,' was the limit of the tour. Time, however, prevented the party from reaching the Point.



ST. NECTAN'S CHURCH, HARTLAND,  
With the tallest tower in Devon.

Hartland has a wondrous church, much as it was in the late 14th century, when its builders set up a glorious rood screen and erected the tallest tower in the county of Devon. They preserved a beautifully carved Norman font, and in the parvise over the north doorway may be seen many relics of historic Harton. The tower is 126ft. high and is a landmark for ships entering the Bideford Bay. But Harton bells, cast by the firm of Taylor, when located at Buckland Brewer in 1826, provided a man's job. They run 'tother way,' the tenor is a ton and they go hard. Their tones reminded the ringers of the waves moaning by the Bar. But the fresh breezes direct from the Atlantic, the panorama of the Bay even to Baggy Point, and the distant prospect of Dartmoor, gave something to be remembered.

The road runs high from Harton to Bideford, and the Leighs and Grenvilles of the past went that way to Stowe down in Cornwall. A diversion through Abbotsham gave the ringers a near view of Westward Ho. They glimpsed the Pebble Ridge and the white flecks of the crested waves lapping the boulders; they thought of Kipling and 'Stalky and Co.,' nor did they forget 'Ayacaurora' and 'Amyas Leigh' in Kingsley's 'Westward Ho!'

Bideford was reached by 5 p.m., and when it is stated that the tide was up, there is convincing evidence of the glory of 'the little white town on the Torridge.' And Bideford bells (a Taylor peal, 1929) were splendid in every way and led to expressions such as 'I'd like to ring

(Continued in next column.)

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### WELCOME TO CELEBRATED COMPOSER.

The storm might have completely washed out a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, held at Willesden on Saturday last. That it did not do so was to the credit of the ringers who attended, who were repaid for their enthusiasm by enjoying some good ringing in good company, and participating in a good tea.

It was regretted that the absence on holiday of the Vicar (Rev. G. H. Perry) prevented the usual service being held, although this gave a little more time for a chat after tea and some handbell ringing.

At the business meeting Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president) took the chair. The provisional elections to membership of three ringers were confirmed, amongst these being Mr. Albert J. Pitman, of Port Talbot, who was present at the meeting. Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary) said that Mr. Pitman was provisionally elected in that tower on the previous Tuesday. It was fitting that he should become a member of this association at Willesden, which was the tower at which the first of his many wonderful peals of Spliced Surprise Major was rung, one in ten methods, and which was followed by several others in different numbers of methods. Mr. Coles added that although Mr. Pitman was disappointed at losing his peal at Willesden, he was glad to say that one attempted at St. George's, Southwark, on Thursday, was successful, and Mr. Pitman rang his first Surprise peal.

Mr. Pitman acknowledged his election by thanking Mr. E. C. Turner and Mr. Coles for arranging ringing for him, and expressed his pleasure at spending such an enjoyable holiday amongst Middlesex ringers.

Finchley was chosen for the next meeting on September 18th, if available, the special method to be London Bob, No. 6 in the O.C. collection of Plain Minor methods.

Mr. J. A. Trollope called attention to the notice in 'The Ringing World' advertising the book to be issued next month, 'A History of the College Youths.' This, he said, was being published by Mr. Goldsmith, who was undertaking all financial risk in connection with it. Of course, he, Mr. Trollope, was hoping that the book would sell well, he did not deny that, but he was also very anxious that Mr. Goldsmith should not incur financial loss, and he, therefore, asked everybody present to send in their orders early, and to push the sales of the book to their utmost. It was not necessary to be a member of the College Youths to be interested—the book was more than a souvenir—it was a serious attempt to write up a history of change ringing, of people who were just as much the ancestors of all of us as they were of the members of one society.

Mr. Fletcher urged early purchase, saying 'Do it now!'

The hon. secretary reminded members that 'to-day, August 14th, is the birthday of that great ringer, William Pye,' and he asked all present to show respect to his memory by standing in silence for a few moments.—This was accordingly done.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the meeting to be held, and added that Mr. Perry had expressed his regrets at his absence on holiday.

Thanks were also accorded to Mr. H. Kilby, also on holiday, and Mr. T. J. Lock for arranging the meeting, and to Miss K. M. Bradford, Miss Wright and members of the Guild of St. Catherine for preparing an enjoyable tea.

Central Council publications went very well, and the hon. secretary almost sold out his stock.

An attempt for Edmonton Bob on handbells was 'only nearly' successful, and Double Norwich was rung instead.

In the tower most of the standard methods from Grandsire to London Surprise were rung, and two or three touches of Edmonton Bob, the special method for the meeting, were successfully brought round.

### FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

LONDON.—On Sunday, August 8th, for evening service at the Church of the Immanuel, Streatham, S.W., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss O. L. Ashbrook 1, T. H. Taffender 2, E. J. King (conductor) 3, E. L. Miles 4, P. A. Corby (first quarter-peal in the method) 5, A. P. Cannon 6, F. E. Darby 7, F. Hopgood 8.

WILLESDEN.—At the Church of St. Mary on Monday, August 9th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Miss K. M. Bradford 1, C. E. Lankester 2, G. M. Kilby 3, W. G. Turner (first quarter-peal in the method) 4, J. H. Riding 5, E. B. Hartley 6, H. Kilby 7, T. J. Lock (conductor) 8.

(Continued from previous column.)

a peal here.' Ringing done, Friendships provided an excellent tea. After tea 'Sonny' (grandson) Ridler appeared rather concerned about his half-crown. But he got it all right and thoroughly enjoyed himself amongst the boats, while the party found diversion in the shipping activities near the ancient long bridge.

The return journey through Barnstaple and the Taw Valley will be remembered even in dull November. The waters above the Bideford Bar were as peaceful as a lake as the great red sun dipped over the ocean beyond. All were indebted to Mr. Ridler and his lieutenants, Messrs. Cory, Milford, treasurer, and Pook, timekeeper. He calls himself 'Marshal,' perhaps it's his joke. Mr. Ridler has, for something like half a century, trained young hands in the art of change ringing. He is over eighty and it seems wonderful to say that he took part in most of the touches rung during the day. But his motto is 'Doing what we ought, we desire no praise.'

F. C. S.



## FOR BEGINNERS.

### COURSING ORDER IN KENT TREBLE BOB.

The coursing order of the bells in Treble Bob can be followed with as much ease as that of Plain Bob. The essential difference is that the bell in the 'Slow' work (described a fortnight ago) is taken out of the coursing for the time being. In Kent Treble Bob the treble meets the bells in the order 2.4.6.5.3, as it does at the beginning of Plain Bob, but instead of hunting back through them in the same order, 2, having to remain in the slow, is missing, and in retracing its steps the treble meets the bells in the order 4.6.5.3 and then picks up 2 on the front. Next time, 4 goes in Slow and the order out is 4.6.5.3.2 and back 6.5.3.2.4.

If you are ringing one of the working bells you maintain the same cycle of coursing, but substitute the treble for whichever bell is in the Slow. Thus in the first lead of the plain course the cycle is 1.4.6.5.3 (2 being in the Slow), in the next lead 2.1.6.5.3 (4 being in the Slow), in the next 2.4.1.5.3 (6 being in the Slow), and so on. Or, beginning always with the treble, 1.4.6.5.3; 1.6.5.3.2; 1.5.3.2.4, etc.

When a bob is called, the bell immediately in front of the treble 'makes the bob' and is turned in its coursing order so that it follows immediately after the treble. Thus if the bells are coursing 1.4.6.5.3 (1, etc.) in the first lead and a bob is called, the coursing order becomes 1.3.6.5.2 in the next lead, and then 1.6.5.2.4 if a plain lead follows, or 1.2.6.5.4 if there is another bob.

If you are ringing on more bells than six, the coursing order follows the same rules. When you ring the method on eight you merely put 8.7 every time between 6 and 5; and if you go to ten you put 8.0.8.7 in that order between 6 and 5.

A knowledge of coursing is, of course, essential to the successful conductor. He must not only be able to 'read' it from the bells themselves, as he goes along, but he must be able to anticipate it; that is to say he should know before he calls a bob exactly what change will take place in the sequence of the bells.

Suppose he is calling Treble Bob Minor. He knows that the bob will have no effect on the bells going into and coming out of the 'Slow' work, that one bell is going to make 4th's and return to lead; while the others stop for the extra double dodging.

The three bells round the treble transpose their places thus: The one behind the treble goes into the Slow; the one from the Slow takes its place in front of the treble; while the one that had previously been immediately in front of the treble, having made the bob, becomes the one immediately behind it. While this was going on, the rest of the bells had been delayed and they fall into position behind the bell that made the bob in the same order as before the call, whether it be two bells in Minor, the four in Major, and so on to the higher numbers.

The ability to see this coursing order enables the young conductor to call his touches or peals from bells other than the observation bells. He can, for instance, tell when to call the bobs at 'In' or 'Out' when the tenor is the observation, although he may be ringing any of the others. He can, in fact, call the observation bell into any position required, by noting its position in the coursing order, and he will be able, with experience, to know where every bell should be each lead.

We do not pretend that what we have said will enable the beginner to 'read' the bells right off at once. We have only endeavoured to show him what to look for when he is ringing, to help him develop his powers of observation. He must apply it when he is in the tower and make a study of it on paper at home.

### COMING-OF-AGE CELEBRATED.

For morning service on Sunday, August 8th, the local band at East Ilsley, Berks, met early and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples to celebrate the coming-of-age of Miss Elsie Risien: W. Hibbert, sen. 1, Elsie Risien 2, Marjorie Field 3, R. Warwick 4, Mrs. E. Sneller 5, E. Sneller 6, C. J. Hibbert (conductor) 7, P. Carter 8.

It was intended to ring another quarter-peal in the evening, but the Rector was called away on urgent business and evensong cancelled, so three of the Ilsley people visited Reading and rang 503 Grandsire Caters for service at St. Laurence's: Marjorie Field 1, Mrs. C. J. Watts 2, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 3, W. Hibbert, sen. 4, C. J. Hibbert 5, H. Smith 6, E. Humfrey 7, C. Pullen 8, C. J. Watts 9, G. White 10. The ringers of both towers wish Miss Risien many more happy and prosperous years and more good peals. The touch at Reading was Miss M. Field's first experience on ten bells.

### FORMER RINGER AND CHURCHWARDEN.

#### DEATH OF COLSTON BASSETT VETERAN.

We regret to record the death, at the age of 79 years, of Mr. John Smallwood Faulks, of Colston Bassett, Notts, who was a ringer for nearly half a century. He began his ringing at the old church and was one of the band who first rang at the present church, which was erected 40 years ago. He was also churchwarden for some years.

Although he had ceased to take an active part in ringing he never lost interest and was always glad to help and encourage young ringers.

On Sunday, August 8th, prior to a memorial service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with 6.4.8 covering, was rung with bells half-muffled by: P. Greaves 1, G. W. Creasey (conductor) 2, G. Payne 3, G. Spencer 4, P. Richards 5, A. Boyce 6, H. Wagstaff 7, J. Spencer 8.

### SPliced SURPRISE IN FULL COURSES.

#### THE PEAL IN SEVEN METHODS.

A peal in seven Surprise methods was rung, it will be remembered, at Wigston Magna on May 12th.

All courses were rung with a lead each of Wigston, Leicestershire, Loughborough, Crayford, Huntingdon, Bognor and Buckingham in that order. At the Bob Before in each part two consecutive leads of Crayford were rung.

The composition was a 5,024, shortened from 5,472 by Mr. A. G. Driver.

23456 W. B. M. R.

64235	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—
63425	—	—	*
46325	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—
34256	—	x	—
23645	—	—	—

Twice repeated. Shortened to 5,024 by omitting three bobs R from \* in the first part.

The methods Loughborough and Bognor, both by J. S. Carter, of Wigston, have not previously been published, and are as follows:—

#### Loughborough.

12345678	23547681
21354768	25348718
12537486	52437681
21357846	54236718

12345678	32547681
21354768	23456718
12537486	24357681
21357846	42536718

23158764	45326178
32517846	43521687
23157486	34256178
32514768	32451687

23157864	24356178
23157486	32546178
32517846	23451687
32514768	32451687

23541786	23415678
25347168	32146587
52431786	32146587
54237168	32148675

23542786	23415678
23457168	32146587
32541786	23416857
35247168	32148675

45327618	31246857
43528781	13426587
34257618	31245678
32456781	13254768

53427618	31246857
35246781	13426587
32547618	31245878
23456781	13254768

23547681	13527486
Bob 12357486	

32547681	13527486
Bob 12357486	

### DEATH OF MR. HERBERT W. NEEDHAM.

#### AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

It is with deepest regret we report the death of Herbert White Needham, formerly of Leicester, which occurred on Wednesday, August 4th, at his son's residence at Coalville. Deceased, who was 76 years of age, had a stroke some years ago, since when he had retired from actual ringing, and, leaving Leicester, lived with his other son at Lutterworth. Mr. Needham was born at Barwell, but at an early age went to Leicester, where he took up ringing before the advent of the Midland Counties Association.

He was present at the first meeting held in St. Margaret's Schools on January 13th, 1883, when the title of the association was changed from the Derby and District Association to the Midland Counties Association, and his name as a peal ringer appears under No. 17 of the societies' performances at St. Saviour's, Leicester, June 5th, 1883.

Later Mr. Needham migrated to Hull, and rang frequently with members of the Yorkshire Association in many towers of the district. Then he returned to the Midlands and was in Nottingham for a number of years. Eventually returning to Leicester, he attached himself to St. Martin's company, and although never a prolific peal ringer, could always be relied on at practices and for Sunday service ringing. When St. Martin's (now the Cathedral) company essayed and rang many different Surprise Royal peals, 'old Herbert' was a source of great help when any vacancies occurred at practices—and he filled those vacant places well and truly!

He was laid to rest in Lutterworth Churchyard on Saturday, August 7th. Besides the family mourners, most of Leicester Cathedral Society followed the cortege, as well as Mr. Ernest Morris (general hon. secretary, M.C.A.), Messrs. A. J. Harris and H. Perkins (chairman and local secretary, M.C.A.), Mr. J. H. Swinfield (Burton), Mr. J. B. Fenton (Rugby), Mr. R. Barrow (Belgrave) and others. A wreath from the Cathedral Society bore the inscription:—

'No more the distant tenor sounds,  
His life's full peal goes into rounds.'

A course of Grandsire Caters was rung over the grave by P. L. Harrison 1-2, S. Cotton 3-4, H. J. Poole 5-6, E. Morris 7-8, F. E. Wilson 9-10. Immediately afterwards a muffled peal of Stedman Triples was attempted at Lutterworth Parish Church, but unfortunately lost after ringing 2½ hours.



**NOTICES.**

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

**NOTICES** must be received **NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.**

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**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at **STREET** on Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4, tea and meeting to follow.—**F. D. RICKARDS**, 3, **GREAT STANHOPE STREET, BATH.**

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—A monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 21st, at Arley. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea 5 p.m. at 1/. Midland Red buses run direct from Coventry and Nuneaton.—**Malcolm Melville**, Gen. Hon. Secretary, Exhall, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A joint meeting of the Preston and Fylde Branches will be held at Preston Parish Church on Aug. 21st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m.—**A. Blogg** and **C. Sharples**, Branch Secs.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Bodenham on Saturday, August 21st. Bells (6) available 3 to 8.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—**L. H. Stickley**, Dis. Sec., The Green, Fownhope, Hereford.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Milford-on-Sea on Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 on the Vicarage lawn.—**G. Preston**, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, August 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (6d. each), for which please notify **Mr. P. Shaw**, 36 Church Road, Rainford, nr. St. Helens.—**S. Forshaw**, Branch Sec., 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. George's, Mossley, Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. **Rev. J. F. Southworth, B.D.**, will officiate and extends a hearty welcome to the Bolton branch.—**J. H. Ridyard**, Branch Sec.

**PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Next meeting, Baslow and Edensor (6 bell towers), Saturday, Aug. 21st. No arrangements are being made for tea, as there is plenty of convenience for all members and friends who turn up.—**H. L. Warburton**, Hon. Sec.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Hunts Branch.—The meeting at Stanground on Saturday, August 21st, is cancelled.—**H. J. Parker**, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Soar on August 21st, Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.—**H. O. Over**, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on the 26th, St. Mary-le-Bow on the 31st.—**Wm. T. Cockerill**, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Quex Park on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. A picnic tea has been arranged, and will be provided free to members who send in their names to **Mr. Harrison Smith**, The Green, Wickhambreaux, near Canterbury, not later than Wednesday, August 25th. Permission has been obtained whereby members will be shown over the Museum, at 4.30. Please note, only one entrance to the tower, by the farm gate, and thence by the tradesmen's road.—**B. J. Luck**, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, tea and business meeting after. The Cathedral bells will be available during the evening. Will all those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, August 25th, certain?—**H. W. Shadrack**, Hon. Div. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

A **JOINT MEETING** of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Chertsey Dist.), the Middlesex County Association (S. & W. District), the Oxford Diocesan Guild (E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch) and the Surrey Association (N.W. District) will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, August 28th. Service at 4.45, preacher, **Rev. A. C. Tranter**, Vicar of Egham. Tea at 5.15 in Church Hall, price 9d. each. Names for tea to district secretaries or **Mr. G. Walmsley**, 13, Commercial Road, Staines, not later than Tuesday, August 24th. Ringing arrangements: St. Peter's, Staines, 3.30 to 4.45, 6.30 to 7.30; St. Mary's, Staines, 7.30 to 9; Egham, 3 to 4.15, 7 to 8.30; Wraybury, 3 to 4.15. All ringers and friends welcome. District Hon. Secs.:—**F. E. Hawthorne** (Guildford Guild), **A. D. Barker** (Oxford Guild), **F. G. Woodiss** (Surrey Association), and **F. W. Goodfellow**, Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks (Middlesex Association).

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Crewe Branch.—Will ringers please note that the next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Wrenbury (6 bells) on Aug. 28th, and not on the 21st, as stated on the list on meeting cards? All those who intend to be present will greatly assist if they will send word on or before the 24th inst.—**Rich. D. Langford**, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

**HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A meeting will be held at Burwash on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Tower open 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—**C. A. Levett**, Hon. Sec., 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

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**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil St., Blackburn.

**DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea can be arranged near the church. A good attendance is hoped for at this meeting. Everybody welcome.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing practice will be held at Great Linford (6 bells), on Saturday, Aug. 28th, 5 p.m. All ringers will be made welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Shipley on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church. Business meeting in the tower at 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Grappenhall Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Frodsham on Saturday, Aug. 28th, at 3 p.m. Kindly advise me if requiring tea, not later than the 25th.—John E. Ashcroft, P.O., Grappenhall.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Business meeting 6.30 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—Next meeting at Broughton Astley (5 bells) on Wake Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 for those who notify Mr. Bird, Station Road, Broughton Astley. It will help the caterers if cards are sent as early as possible.—Wm. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Central Branch. —A meeting will be held at Chatteris, Cambs, on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Short service if arranged. Please notify Mr. A. J. Abrams, East Park Street, Chatteris, for tea.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Mill Road, Over, Cambridge.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton District. —A meeting will be held at Toddington on Saturday, Aug. 28th, from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Come if you can, you'll be welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Romaine, Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Welton (5) on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Usual arrangements. — W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-West Division.—A mid-week meeting will be held at Hatfield Broad Oak on Wednesday, Sept. 1st, at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. — S. Clark, Potter Street, Harlow.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sketty on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., with tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, Aug. 31st, certain. All ringers welcome.—E. Stitch, 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

**DEVON GUILD.**—Exeter Branch.—Meeting at Dunsford, Sept. 4th. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15. Motor coach leaves Paul St. Park 2.30 p.m., visiting Bridford before tea, Christow after tea; fare 2s. 6d. for members, visitors 4s. Bands and visitors please notify by Aug. 28th; not later.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at Great Baddow, Essex, on Saturday, September 4th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, Sept. 1st? Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND SUFFOLK GUILD.**—A joint meeting of the East Norfolk Branch and Suffolk Guild will be held at Bungay on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells from 3 p.m. Bungay (8), Ditchingham (6). Tea at 5.15. Will members please take note, to send names, or numbers for tea to H. Barrell, 23, Staithe Road, Bungay? Correspondence to E. R. Goate, Smallgate, Beccles, or J. Harwood, 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

**BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HANTS.**—Dedication of the bells by the Archdeacon of Portsmouth on Wednesday, Sept. 8th, at 6.30 p.m. Ring of 6 tuned and peal augmented to 8 by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Northampton, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Usual arrangements. Please notify for tea not later than Tuesday previous. — J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

**PRELIMINARY NOTICE.**—The Annual Commemoration Dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and past officers of the Yorkshire Association will be held at the Leeds and County Conservative Club, South Parade, Leeds, on Saturday, Oct. 9th. Tickets 4s. each, and early application for same should be made to Mr. F. G. Sherwood, 8, Vesper Walk, Leeds 5.

#### BIRTH.

**ELLIOTT.**—On Aug. 10th, at the Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton, to Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Elliott, of Yardley Hastings—a son.

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