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WHAT WE RING.

There is a good deal in the contention that ringers' natural instinct for good methods decides what they ring. In the very early days of the art, when practice was confined largely, if not exclusively, to five and six bells, the men of those days produced quite a number of primitive methods, but it was only a few that survived the test of time. In the same way the eighteenth century saw many methods, particularly on six and eight bells, brought to light, but the Exercise accepted for general use only a very few of them. Whatever its other merits may be, Bob Triples for example, is not a good method, and although it is one of the oldest and best known, it has only seldom been rung, not simply because it has, in a sense, been discredited by the pundits, but because ringers themselves realise its imperfections. Grandsire and Stedman have survived the test of centuries and still command the attention of ringers everywhere, not merely by long usage, but on their merits as true Triples.

On the other hand, one cannot ignore the fact that use and tradition do count for a good deal in what we ring. Particularly is this so in regard to Major and ringing on the higher numbers. It takes a long time for a new method to gain anything in the shape of popularity. Bob Major, Double Norwich Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob have had their popularity hardly touched by the many more interesting methods of their respective classes. Similarly in the Surprise category, with all the vast and varied selection that is now available, the old methods Superlative Cambridge and London are still easily a first choice, despite the fact that Surprise ringing has come into vogue only comparatively recently, and that there are many better methods. Bristol and Yorkshire, which are two among them, are slowly gaining 'a place in the sun,' but of the others some are rung once or twice and afterwards neglected; the rest remain undisturbed and largely unwanted. Individual bands have done something to bring new methods to light, but they do so only for the novelty of it and seldom with the idea of popularising anything, however good it may be. Indeed, it is noticeable that the bands who make a practice of ringing a variety of fresh methods seem to avoid everything which another company may have rung. It is, in fact, the idea of ringing 'the first in the method' that appeals to them, rather than ringing something that should be really worth while, especially if it may previously have been rung by others. What is desirable is that more good methods of every variety should be more widely rung. It is, of course, as well that we have certain 'standard' methods which are in use everywhere. It

(Continued on page 578.)

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simplifies the thing for those who visit other towers, but
there does seem good reason for urging that the general
'repertory' of the ordinary ringer should extend beyond
its present limited bounds.

TEN BELL PEALS.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, August 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATER, 5039 CHANGES;

F. STEDMAN WHITE Treble	ARTHUR H. WHITE 6
*FREDERICK C. WHITE 2	FREDERICK WHITE 7
COTBERT G. WHITE 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. ... 8
HENRY C. WHITE 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
FREDERICK MESSENGER ... 5	FRED WHITE Tenor

Composed by G. HOLIFIELD, SEN. Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.
* First peal away from treble. Tenorman's 100th peal in the tower
and on the same bell. Rung as a Coronation peal, also to accom-
modate the ringer of the 7th, from Cranbrook, Kent.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAMBERT,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

SHELFORD SPARROW Treble	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 6
WILLIAM J. GROOM 2	*ARTHUR R. WOODARD 7
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL ... 3	WILLIAM J. BUTTON 8
ERNEST F. POPPY 4	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 9
JAMES BETTS 5	HARRY D. LISTER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 36). Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER
* First peal of Royal.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

GEORGE E. FEARN Treble	JAMES GEORGE 6
ALBERT WALKER 2	HENRY H. FEARN 7
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY ... 3	THOMAS H. REEVES 8
FRANK E. HAYNES 4	A. PADDON SMITH 9
THOMAS MILLER 5	ALBERT E. NORMAN Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
First peal on the bells since they were recast by Messrs. Gillett
and Johnston. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung as a fare-
well to the Right Rev. Bishop Hamilton Baynes, who is retiring from
the position of Provost of the Cathedral.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

GORLESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

R. WILLIAM BARBER Treble	WILLIAM J. LEE 5
EDWIN R. GOATE 2	ARTHUR G. KING 6
JOHN G. W. HARWOOD ... 3	JOHN A. GODFREY 7
C. FREDERICK SAVER 4	HENRY TOOK Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.
First peal on the bells after their recent augmentation to eight by
Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

*R. S. WILLIAM SMITH Treble	SIDNEY O. CHENEY 5
RICHARD F. ROE 2	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 6
†KENNETH A. ROE 3	ERNEST MORRIS 7
ALFRED BALLARD 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by R. F. ELKINGTON.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method.

SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 26, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in E.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS 2	JOHN A. GODFREY 6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3	CECIL V. EBBERTSON 7
HORACE L. TUTTLE 4	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 26, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

NORMAN A. ONER Treble	CYRIL S. WEST 5
MERVYN G. PALMER 2	ERNEST J. MONDAY 6
CECIL C. WRIGHT 3	CHARLES E. BASSETT 7
*VICTOR G. ONER 4	ROBERT A. BUDD Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

* First peal.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

RICHARD A. CONSTANT Treble	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 5
JOHN H. CHERRMAN 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 6
EDWIN A. BARNETT 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER 7
JOHN WHEADON 4	HARRY HOVERD Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY.

Rung as a 78th birthday compliment to Mr. E. Hadlow, the steeple-keeper.

NORTH MIMMS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE A. SPENCER Treble	HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 5
JAMES H. RIDING 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 7
JOHN G. NASH 4	HAROLD V. FROST Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HAROLD V. FROST.

First peal of Surprise as conductor.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary, Portsea,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 7 lb.

KEITH HART Treble	JAMES TOPP 5
JOSIAH D. HARRIS 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 6
KENNETH SNELLING 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
OLIVER SIPPETTS 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Wystan,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

JACK BAILEY Treble	WILLIAM P. DEANE 5
*WILLIAM H. CURSON 2	BARNABAS G. KEY 6
*JOSEPH W. COTTON 3	*HOWARD HOWELL 7
*HORACE OVER 4	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON Tenor

Composed by J. COX. Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON.

* First peal of Kent Major. First peal of Major on the bells.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 7½ cwt.

*ROBERT G. CATCHPOLE Treble	ERIC DURRANT 5
HERBERT C. READ 2	GEORGE BAILEY 6
MISS E. J. C. ANGWIN 3	WALTER C. MEDLER 7
ARTHUR S. ROBERTS 4	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by WM. C. DUFFIELD.

* First peal on eight bells.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT Treble	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 2	*CECIL ALDOUS 6
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 3	UREAN W. WILDNEY 7
KEITH WHITTELL 4	FREDERICK J. SMITH Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

* First peal of Kent Major and first attempt. Miss Bowyer's first attempt to call a peal on eight bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION AND THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Wilfred,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Single Court, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.

MISS GRACE BURCHNALL Treble	KENNETH W. MAVER 4
MISS KATHERINE BURCHNALL 2	FRANK VERNON 5
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE SAUNDERS Treble	RONALD SUCKLING 4
GEORGE SCHLUETER 2	H. WALTER SMITH 5
JOSEPH JENNINGS 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

PIPE-CUM-LYDE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents each called differently.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*MRS. H. T. CHANDLER Treble	LESLIE EVANS 4
HARRY T. CHANDLER 2	WILLIAM DUGGAN 5
AUSTIN T. WINGATE 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS Tenor

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor.

SCOTTOW, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob.

GEORGE BELL Treble	MISS JESSIE ANGWIN 4
*MISS JEAN BELL 2	ARTHUR S. ROBERTS 5
ERIC DURRANT 3	WILLIAM C. MEDLER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. MEDLER.

* First peal in two methods.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, August 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of St. Clement's and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

FRED LACEY Treble	*FRED JEFFERY 4
JACK BRAY 2	HAROLD JODD 5
*PHILIP BARNES 3	ERNEST BRITAIN Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal and first attempt.

BOOTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

720 each of Hereward Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge and Beverley Surprise. Tenor 12 cwt. in A.

*THOMAS HORRIDGE Treble	JOHN MCKEE 4
JAMES MARTIN 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
GEORGE LUNT 3	ERNEST F. BENNETT Tenor

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

* First peal on six bells. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

NEW MILL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND
BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Canterbury, York, Wells, Newcastle, Durham and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

GEORGE LORD Treble	ARTHUR PANTHER 4
WILLIE GREEN 2	ARTHUR GILL 5
HAROLD CHANT 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by A. PANTHER.

First Surprise peal on the bells and first for the Yorkshire Association. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Potter, also for the birthday of the wife of the 2nd ringer.

DARLINGTON.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 28, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, Wells and London Surprise. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ROBERT JEFF Treble	GEORGE W. PARK 4
JAMES T. TITT 2	W. NORMAN PARK 5
RICHARD BUSBY 3	ROLAND PARK Tenor

Conducted by W. NORMAN PARK.

PEAL NOTES.

SIDELIGHTS ON PERFORMANCES.

The first peal on the new bells at Birmingham Cathedral was rung on Saturday. A peal had not been rung there since August 22nd, 1903, a period of 34 years.

It is remarkable that in such a long interval only one of that band, Thomas Reynolds, has passed away. Three of them, Messrs. Allaway, Paddon Smith and Albert Walker, took part in the first peal on the new bells on Saturday.

The first peal rung at Petersfield, Hants, by an entirely local band for 32 years was accomplished on August 26th. None of the ringers, with the exception of the conductor, had ever stood in a peal in their own tower previously. The peal was rung as a farewell to Mr. C. S. West (tower secretary), who is to be married shortly and will then live at Midhurst, Sussex.

Mr. Harold V. Frost, who, at the age of 20, rang Cambridge Maximus as his first Surprise peal, rang his first peal of Cambridge Major, and conducted it, on Saturday at North Minns. Mr. Frost is one of the secretaries of the St. Albans District of the Herts Association.

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Gravesend, Kent, on Saturday, as a compliment to Mr. E. Hadlow, the veteran steepkeeper, on reaching his 78th birthday.

No fewer than eight Whites took part in a peal of Grandsire Caters at Appleton (which produced most of the 'family') on August 20th. One of the several Fredericks in the peal was of Cranbrook, Kent, the rest were Appleton ringers. Although rather late in the day, the peal was rung as a Coronation peal for Appleton.

Mr. Fred White rang the tenor to the peal. It was his one hundredth peal in the tower and on the same bell! He rang it to the 21,363 Stedman Caters on April 22nd, 1922—the record length by any one set of men—in 12 hours 25 minutes. He and the tenor must know each other well.

A peal of 5,056 Rob Major was rung at Swaffham, Norfolk, on August 26th in 2 hours 51 minutes. It was the shortest time in which a true peal has been completed on the bells, the tenor of which is just under 16 cwt. The composition by the conductor, Mr. Nolan Golden, was rung for the first time. It contains the 7468's, the 6th the course-end extent home and all the 6-5's and 6-4's.

Four first peals of Kent Treble Bob Major was the fine achievement in the peal at Repton, Derbyshire, and credit is due to the band which hails from seven towers. The ringers were: Treble from Spondon, 2 and 3 from Oversale, 4 from Hugglescote, 5 from Norton-in-the-Moors, 6 from Wolverhampton, 7 from Walsall and 8 from Anstey.

The bells at Gorleston, Suffolk, have recently been augmented to eight and the first peal on the octave was rung on August 21st. Mr. J. A. Godfrey, who took part, also rang in the first peal on the ring of six, in the year 1901.

Two ringers at Burton-on-Stather, Lincs, Philip Barnes and Fred Jeffery, rang their first peal on August 25th. It was Minor in three methods—and a good performance, considering it was their first attempt for a peal.

The Yorkshire Association's first peal of Surprise Minor was rung at New Mill on Saturday in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley. The peal was also a Barnsley Society peal, for Mr. Potter is president of this organisation.

The birth of a grandson to Mr. E. F. Poppy, of Stoke Ash, Suffolk, was celebrated on Saturday with a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Stonham Aspal, in which Grandpa took part. The composition, by Arthur Knights, was rung for the first time.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer, of Ipswich, who, as recorded last week, rang her first peal as conductor (Minor in three methods) has now called a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at the first attempt and from a working bell. She is the only lady, up to the present, to call a peal for the Suffolk Guild.

ESSEX RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

PRESENTATION AT MALDEN.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hutson, of Malden, Essex, have just celebrated their golden wedding. They were married at Heybridge Church on August 20th, 1887, and in honour of their jubilee a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at All Saints' Church, Malden, on Friday week, Mr. Hutson ringing the treble. Mr. Hutson is 'father' of the Malden ringers and has been a member of the Essex Association for 56 years.

The quarter-peal was rung by R. Hutson 1, Miss A. E. Waldo 2, W. H. Chalk 3, A. South 4, S. Easter 5, F. Lewis 6, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 7, E. Richardson 8.

Afterwards Mr. Hutson received the hearty congratulations of his belfry colleagues and the Vicar (Canon Seymour), who, on behalf of the ringers, presented Mr. Hutson with a walking stick and wallet and Mrs. Hutson with an umbrella.

Mr. Hutson, who was taken by surprise, thanked the ringers for their kindness and afterwards entertained them to refreshments at his residence, where handbell ringing and a chat over old times passed a very pleasant evening.

On Sunday, August 29th, for evensong, 720 Bob Minor was rung by E. Richardson 1, R. Hutson 2, A. Mansfield 3, A. Hubble (first 720) 4, A. South 5, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 6.

SEPT. 18th! See page 586

FOR BEGINNERS.

FROM GRANDSIRE TO PLAIN BOB.

The controversy which has arisen in 'The Ringing World' over Bob Triples has centred round the question of the utility of this method as a 'stepping stone' from Minor to Major. We are not among those who think that Triples of any kind is necessary as a stepping stone between the two even-bell groups, any more than Grandsire or Stedman Major is necessary to the practice of those who want to go from Grandsire or Stedman Triples to Caters. This, however, is not the place for us to air our views on the controversy, but we want to make it an opportunity to try and show beginners who are ringing Grandsire how they can step easily to Plain Bob as a means of going on to those 'illimitable realms' that lie before those who practise even-bell methods.

It may be helpful, perhaps, if we look for a moment at the difference in construction between the two methods; it may simplify things a bit.

The principle in Plain Bob is one hunt bell (the treble) with a bell making 2nd's when this bell leads, and the others dodging in pairs behind them; that is in 3-4, 5-6, etc.

Grandsire has two hunt bells (the treble and another) with a bell making 3rd's, when these two are leading, and the others dodging in pairs behind them; that is in 4-5, 6-7, etc.

Whether you learn to ring Bob Doubles or Grandsire Doubles in a five-bell tower you are taught to lead off the last bell of the preceding change; so that in going on to Minor leading from the last bell presents no difficulties.

If you have learned to ring Doubles in a six-bell tower, where the tenor has always been covering, you have got to acquire the skill to lead off the last bell when you ring Minor—whether your efforts have previously been devoted to Bob or Grandsire Doubles.

A little careful practice will enable you to do this. You probably know already that there should be a slight extra pause, or space, between the last bell in the backstroke change and the bell leading in the next handstroke change. That is particularly necessary in even-bell ringing; otherwise there is nothing whatever to mark the 'beat', and the ringing goes on like a barrel organ.

You have first of all to use your eyes to pick out the last of the ropes falling at backstroke, and then hold your bell for a trifle longer before pulling off at hand. The exact period, of course, depends upon the size of the bell you are ringing, and to judge this you must use your ears.

The difficulty which some ringers seem to find in going from an even-bell to an odd-bell method is in the dodging places. If they have always rung Grandsire and desire to turn over to Plain Bob they find that the habit of dodging in 4-5 makes it difficult to change over to dodging in 3-4 or 5-6, but there is no real obstacle to quickly acquiring the new condition.

A dodge, as we have often explained in these articles, is a step backward. Count yourself on to the farthest point of the dodging position, 5th's or 7th's, for 4-5, or 6-7 up in Grandsire; 4th's or 6th's or 8th's for 3-4, 5-6 or 7-8 in Plain Bob, then take one step back before going on again. Whether it is Grandsire or Plain Bob, every blow in an even place, 2nd, 4th, 6th or 8th, going up is at handstroke, and every blow in an odd place, 3rd, 5th or 7th, is at backstroke. Conversely, coming down, every even place is backstroke and every odd place is handstroke.

If you have been ringing Grandsire, you have probably learned by this time that the step back in your dodge is always at handstroke. In Plain Bob the step back is always at backstroke. A knowledge of this is helpful in fixing your dodging place.

In both methods the dodges follow in sequence, 5-4, 7-6, 6-7, 4-5 in Grandsire; 4-3, 6-5, 8-7, 7-8, 5-6, 3-4 in Bob Major, but Plain Bob is simpler in the bob making than Grandsire, inasmuch as a call only affects three of the working bells, instead of all but one. Whereas in Grandsire a bob involves double dodging above 3rd's place, the bells above 4th's in Plain Bob continue an unbroken course of single dodging.

The real secret of going from one method to the other is to count your places and remember that the dodging step back in Grandsire is at handstroke and the dodging step back in Plain Bob is at backstroke.

BACHELORS' RINGING TOUR.

THE WEEK'S PROGRAMME.

The bachelors' party, suitably chaperoned, start their peal ringing tour to-morrow. Their headquarters will be at Bourton-on-the-Water, but they begin their ringing in Oxford. Their programme is as follows:—

Saturday, September 4th: Magdalen College, Oxford (10 bells).
Sunday, September 5th: Banbury (10).
Monday, September 6th: Great Tew (8) and Adderbury (8).
Tuesday, September 7th: Swindon (10) and Bampton.
Wednesday, September 8th: Northleach and Burford.
Thursday, September 9th: Appleton (10) and All Saints', Oxford.
Friday, September 10th: Stow-on-the-Wold and Chipping Norton.
Saturday, September 11th: Bourton and Kingham.

WHY FRANCIS IS GIVING UP.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Two or three years ago, when I was at school, I was persuaded by a friend of mine to learn ringing, because he said that ringers were all intellectual men with brains. I did so, and now I find that most of them believe—

- That the more a bell is 'tucked up' the quicker it swings.
 - That if you stand on a box to ring a tenor, you get a better pull than if you stand on the floor.
 - That a tenor quick at backstroke is easier to ring than a tenor slow at backstroke.
 - That a bell with a big wheel and a lot of rope swings slower than one with a small wheel.
 - That Cambridge Surprise Royal is more musical than Treble Bob Royal.
 - That if you cut the slow work out of Treble Bob Major you will improve the music.
 - That it matters a —, when you make a cup of tea, whether you put the milk and sugar into the cup before the tea or not.
- I like to associate with intelligent people, and so I am giving up ringing.

FRANCIS BACON.

PRACTICE MEETING IN THE HEART OF DORSET

SALISBURY GUILD'S SUCCESSFUL GATHERING.

In ideal summer weather the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild held a very successful meeting for practice at Hilton on Saturday, August 21st. The bells were kept going in various methods from 3 o'clock until 5, when members and friends adjourned to the Vicarage lawns, where an alfresco tea was awaiting them, the beautiful surroundings, including Milton Abbey Park, adding to the enjoyment of the gathering. After a chat over the tea cups, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar (the Rev. H. A. Cary) for permitting the use of the bells, his gardens and lawns, and to Mrs. Pfander for preparing the tea. Unfortunately, the Vicar was absent as he was taking the choirboys for an outing.

Those members of the Guild who required a change from the ringing chamber indulged in handbell ringing (the Vicar supplying two octaves), croquet, swings, etc. But the more ardent ones returned to the tower and continued some good practice until late in the evening, the Ringing Master (Mr. P. Field), assisted by the North Dorset Branch Ringing Master (Mr. W. Shute), doing some excellent spade-work.

Between 30 and 40 members and friends were present, representing the following towers: Bradford Peverell, Preston, Upwey, Hazelbury Bryan, Hampreston, Bovington, Lydlinch, Poole, Rampisham, Shroton, Staplehill, West Parley, Stoke Wake, Wyke Regis and there were welcome visitors from Reading. The following methods were rung: Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Stedman, Stedman Slow Course, Plain Bob, St. Simon's Doubles, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob Minor. All the visitors agreed they had spent a very happy time in the heart of Dorset 'far from the madding crowd.'

DEATH OF MR. F. G. WILSON, BASINGSTOKE.

NEARLY FIFTY YEARS A RINGER.

We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. Frederick George Wilson, of Basingstoke. Although not in the best of health, Mr. Wilson was at work as usual until two days before his death, which took place on Thursday, August 26th. He was 64 years of age.

Mr. Wilson had not been able to ring during the past three years, but previously he had been a most regular Sunday service ringer at St. Michael's Church, Basingstoke. He had rung many peals with the late Mr. Henry White, for the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, but in later years he had devoted his time to teaching others to ring. Altogether Mr. Wilson's ringing career had extended over a period of nearly 50 years.

The funeral, which took place at Basingstoke on Saturday afternoon, was attended by Mr. George Williams (Master) and many other members of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild. The bells were rung half-muffled before and after the funeral service.

The deceased leaves a widow, son and daughter to mourn his death.

LOUGHBOROUGH AND BOGNOR SURPRISE.

MISPRINTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I point out that in your issue of August 20th there are errors in the two methods, Loughborough and Bognor.

In Loughborough the section with the treble dodging in 3-4 down should read:—

23415678
32146587
23416857
32148675

and in Bognor the sections with treble in 3-4 up 23158764
32517846
23157486
32514768

and 5-6 down 24356178
23451687
32546178
32451687

23541786

Wigston.

K. A. ROE.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE TOUR. SOME NOTES ON CHURCHES AND BELLS The Story of an Interesting Week.

On a plot of rising ground I hear the far off Curfew sound,
Over some wide watered shore, swinging slow with sullen roar.
Maxwell.

By the time this account of the Bennett tour of 1937 appears in print most of my readers will have 'weighed up' the peal columns and summed up the week's work as reported in the last issue of 'The Ringing World.' To begin, the organiser in his letter of invitation modestly referred to his 'pretty stiff programme,' adding that he had confidence in the band, which eventually scored 14 peals in their list of 16 towers and completed them without mishap to man, bell or fittings.

A capable Master of the Guild had knowingly planned the daily route, encouraged by the respective clergy and foremen of belfries, who heartily welcomed the tourists at the various parishes. The team of 12 men were the same as on the Newcastle tour of last year. With three motor-cars at their disposal, they were able to travel in comfort and with punctuality.

The Cross Keys, Spalding, was headquarters—an historic old property, belonging to the Duke of Buckingham and dating from 1460. Here the tourists were received by Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson on their arrival—six by train and six by car—in time to take tea and get ready for their first peal attempt on Friday, August 13th.

The Parish Church of Spalding, dedicated to SS. Mary and Nicolas, is well portrayed in a small guide book by J. P. Hoskins, B.A., of London. One's first impression on entering the north door is 'she's as long as she's broad' with five aisles. It was built by the Benedictine Priory, which existed at Spalding from its foundation in 1051 to its surrender to the Commissioners of Henry VIII. in 1540. Fortunately many of the Priory records are extant and from them something of the history of the church is learnt.

Prior Simon de Hautebache (1228 to 1251) is recorded to have begun to build the parishioners a new church within the precincts of the monastery. This building was finished by his successor (Prior 1251 to 1274) and seems to have been known as St. Mary Stock. Prior William de Littleport (1274-1293) decided to transfer and rebuild the church, and the dimensions of this building are almost exactly those of the present structure. The Colc MSS. in the British Museum give particulars of agreements about building, etc., and amongst them, 'Land was to be given by the Priory for the enlargement of the cemetery and two bells of the price of £20 sterling, which were not to be rung when the monks were in their dormitory, except for fire, flood or other great disaster.'

LEANING TOWERS.

The tower and spire, over 150ft. high, leaning distinctly towards the north-east, began to subside very seriously in the middle of the seventeenth century. The cause of this was probably the digging of vaults inside the church by the north wall of the tower. Extensive cracks appeared in the east and north faces of the tower, the latter going up right into the spire and being large enough for a boy to squeeze through in many parts. To support the tower the western arch of the arcade was walled up in 1664, and the eastern arch of the tower in 1683, but nothing was done to the vaults that had undermined it and the tower grew more and more unsafe with the passing of the years, so that the architect who examined it in 1865 exclaimed, 'Why it does not fall I don't know.'

At the west end of the church is a small sanctus bell of great interest, bearing the letters I.N.R.I. and the date 1501. This is probably the only pre-Reformation bell not recast in existence for many miles around. It was bought in 1840 by a former Vicar from the Town Crier of the nearby village of Whaplode.

The bells were more than once the cause of disputes between the Priory of Spalding and the parishioners. The Priory agreed to provide two bells at the building of the church about 1284. The Prior appealed to the King (Henry IV.), the parishioners submitted an address in French, then the dispute was referred to the Bishop of Lincoln A.D. 1401, but his decision unfortunately does not seem to be known. North tells us the old ring of six bells were made up by a new treble added and the tenor recast by Dobson, of Downham, in 1801. Also William Carter, bellringer, was paid for his year's stipend in 1519 VIII. IIIId., and, for ringing when the tempest was, IIId.

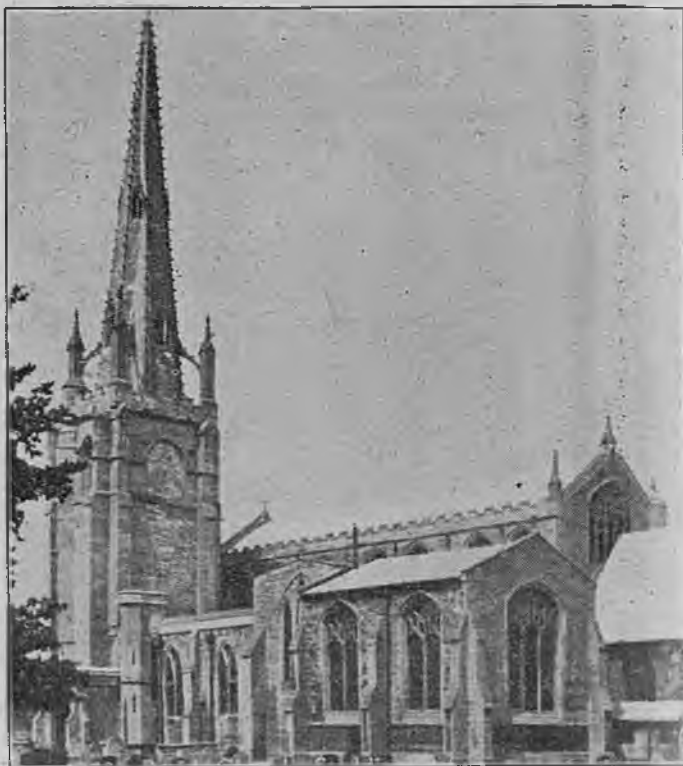
It will interest members of the Ladies' Guild to hear of the widow of the sexton of Spalding, who carried on his duties in the early part of the 19th century. She was also a washerwoman engaged at a clergyman's house with others. She used to leave her tub to ring the bell. On one occasion one of her companions wrapped a white sheet around her and followed the sexton to the south porch standing up on the bench there. As the old woman was locking the door the ghost started moaning, thinking to frighten her, but the old lady quickly drew the huge key from the lock and rushed at the figure with the exclamation, 'Be ye live or dead, here's a go at yer,' and nearly slew the would-be ghost.

The parish registers of Spalding begin in 1538. They are complete and in excellent condition. The present Vicar is the Rev. Canon

B. G. Nicholas, R.D., one of the 17 Spalding hon. members of the Elloe Deanery Branch of the Lincoln Guild. On the conclusion of the peal he sent a kind message of congratulation saying 'how much he had enjoyed listening to the ringing.'

The visitors were met at the church by Messrs. Knight, Ladd, Farr, Ames and others, and took a brief glance at the tablets on the belfry walls, which record among other things that Churchwarden Jarvis celebrated his 100th birthday on May 29th last year and that Richard Mackman was verger 1876 to 1923, had charge of the tower and for 50 years was a member of the association.

The present ring of eight bells was cast from old bells in 1926 and rehung by Taylors in new iron frame and fittings; each bell is dedi-



SPALDING'S SPIRE.

cated to a different saint, the 7th being known as Gabriel. The following was written by the Vicar, January, 1936, and gives some idea of the district to those who have not 'done' the county: 'South Lincolnshire has been disparagingly written of as a land of "fens and fogs and flats"; since it has been my privilege to live and labour there I have found it to be the land of the prosaic potato; of the golden corn; of the daffodil and the tulip in countless varieties and colours; the land of splendid sunsets and glorious churches unsurpassed by any in the Kingdom.' He might have added also the first to possess a ring of bells in all England, namely, at Croyland a few miles away.

EWERBY'S GRACEFUL RINGING 'ROOM.'

Ewerby, visited on Saturday, was the home of the late Fred Holden, whose first peal I conducted at Staines before he joined the Royal Navy. Alas! he now rests beside the chancel, but has left a fine family of boys to 'carry on.'

Our team arrived at the Church of St. Andrew at 9.30, and some time was spent in putting things right 'up above.' The Rector kindly gave us a welcome in the ringing room, which is conveniently on the ground floor level and a very handsome feature at the west end of the nave with graceful arches on three sides open to the church and a groined ceiling. The carved hexagonal font formed a centrepiece as the team surrounded it for Cambridge Royal.

The church is built entirely of stone, of handsome proportions, especially the tower and spire, and the cunning way in which the roomy spiral stairs up to the bells are constructed, in the south-west angle, is an object lesson to modern architects. The north aisle has a paving stone which serves to remind us of the disastrous period in the history of the Church of England, and here is the inscription: 'Here lyeth interred the body of pious and learned Mr. Silvester, gent, who faithfully and diligently served the Vicarage of this parish

(Continued on next page.)

STONE ROPE STRETCHER.

(Continued from previous page.)

for above 50 years, died March, 1730, aged 81 years. He gave the sum of £5 a year to the said Vicar for ever supposing he do reside upon the same Vicarage.

Another interesting tombstone is that of George William, Earl of Winchelsea, at the east of the chancel, who died in 1858. He was also a practical bellringer and gave the front six bells to make up the peal of ten with the four old ones. The Earl left a fund to give the ringers an annual Christmas supper and £1 per man as a Christmas box, and he generally, while in residence, took part in such festivities. The old tenor is dated 1616, and is 47 inches in diameter. In 1568 the churchwardens reported that two handbells, which belonged to this church in Queen Mary's time, had been sold to one Cuthbert, a pewterer of Lincoln.

Ewerby men have scored a peal of Caters on the bells conducted by Fred Holden, but of recent years it has been impossible to find and train ten men to man the bells regularly. Work and population are declining here, as in many other agricultural centres throughout England.

A large block of stone, with two stout iron ring handles, stands near the font. It is now used to stretch the bellropes, but I believe it formed, at one time, part of the market cross in front of the churchyard, and was used to tether cattle and the horses of the farmers attending Sunday service. Two o'clock lunch at the Hatton Arms was served by hostess Mildred Porter, and twelve signatures were added to her petition for permission for Sunday opening.

Heckington, which was visited in the afternoon, has a ring of six bells that were increased to eight in 1880 by two new bells—treble and tenor—cast by Mears and Stainbank. The old tenor, supplied by Warner and Son, 1859, is now the 7th. Many a dispute and wager have taken place in the village with regard to the figure on the 6th, in reference to William Taylor's gift of metal to this bell because 'he loved ringing so well.' They are a fine ring of bells, with a good belfry, the light, circle of ropes, draught and sound all being suitable for practising advanced methods. The walls of the belfry are carved in many places with the names and initials of old ringers dating from 1677. We were met by Mr. T. H. Clark, who did duty for us as tower warden. His connection with St. Andrew's belfry has lasted nearly half a century. Our cars were parked opposite the police station, near the tower, where the officer in charge expressed gladness at our departure, as the office books were in arrears. I referred him to Inspector Poole, of Leicester, and mentioned we had added a new method to the county list and celebrated the birthday of a famous London ringer, the late William Pye.

W. H. F.

(To be continued.)

ROUND BERKSHIRE TOWERS.**A TIME TABLE THAT WORKED.**

The ringers of St. Mary's, Rodbourne Cheney, together with a few colleagues from other Swindon towers, held their annual outing on Saturday, August 21st, accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. S. P. Allison). A time table had been worked out, which, contrary to the general custom, was strictly adhered to during the course of the tour. Permission had been granted to visit half a dozen Berkshire towers. After the 'gathering of the clans' from various points, an early start was made and the party were soon speeding away over the open downs into the Lambourn Valley, where the first call was made at Great Shefford. This is a 'left-handed' peal of six, and trouble was encountered by several of the novices before the 'hang' of things came 'right.' To the old 'uns it held no terrors, and good touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Minor were rung. Incidentally the writer was initiated into the art in this tower many years ago.

From here the excursionists passed on through the whole length of the delightful Lambourn Valley until Chieveley was reached. There another peal of six was encountered, and, although hung in an old wood frame, was found to be in excellent going order. This soon put the visitors into a happy mood and several well-struck touches were called. Apart from ringing, this tower is worthy of note, possessing some very antiquated steps to ascend into the bell chamber. The drive was continued through the pine woods of Hermitage to Hampstead Norris, where the bells were found already raised for action, and proved to be almost perfect both for handling and for sound. Some good ringing resulted.

Tea was partaken of at Compton, where the visitors were met by representatives of the local band. Ringing at the church followed. The tower appealed very much to some of the party. Others, however, developed 'dart-bagatelleitis' and failed to turn up at the belfry until the departure time. East Ilsley was next visited and the party were accompanied by some of the Compton band. The ring of eight was found to be a lovely going light peal, which, especially to the old 'uns, were a treat to ring. At no time were ropes going a-hogging. Some of the best ringing of the day was carried out here. At Wantage, the last tower, the metal of this peal of eight proved a bit too cumbersome for the majority of the party, but touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung. During a short spell for light refreshments, touches of Stedman, Grandsire, etc., together with a few tunes by the 'musical stars' of the party, were rung on the handbells and brought a delightful day to a close. The ringers wish to thank the various incumbents and towerkeepers for the use of the bells and arrangements that were made, the whole combining into a very pleasant and interesting outing.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

All those who have reserved tickets for the Ladies' Guild jubilee dinner should redeem their reservations at once. No ticket, says a notice in another column, can be reserved after September 25th.

After the joint meeting of four associations at Staines on Saturday, ringing took place at St. Mary's Church, where a band of 'experts' rang a course of Bob Triples as a special compliment to Mr. Cecil Pipe, of Staines.

A day in Oxfordshire for young ringers is being arranged for Saturday, September 11th, leaving Maidenhead Station by motor-coach at 9.15 a.m. Lunch, tea and fare, 7s. inclusive. There are a few vacant seats, for which application should be made by September 7th to Mr. T. J. Fowler, Cookham, Berks.

St. Peter's Church, Dorchester, is quite near the Dorset County Prison. The Rector, who is chairman of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Guild, is also prison chaplain, and on a recent visit to the 'house of correction' a prisoner told him how much he enjoyed listening to the bells, but that he would 'like to hear them ring in "Queen's" more.'

At the last two practices, arranged for visitors to that part of Dorset, Queen's have been rung for a few minutes in the hope that the nearby listener enjoyed the ringing.

As a result of the distribution of the booklet of touches of Stedman Caters and Cinques, Mr. W. A. Cave has been asked for touches of Grandsire Caters. He has prepared a small collection of musical touches and will send them to any who require them on receipt of a stamped (halfpenny) addressed return envelope.

In the peal at Chichester on August 21st the ringers of the 7th and tenor were Raymond Wood, jun., and Frederick W. Burnett respectively.

AUSTRALIAN LADY RINGERS.

NEARLY FORTY SCHOOLGIRLS LEARNING ON HANDBELLS.

Miss Joan H. Kynaston, who went out from England about two years ago to a teaching appointment at Frensham School, Mittagong, New South Wales, has been doing some splendid work among the pupils, which, we may hope, will benefit the art of ringing in Australia in the future.

Although there are no church bells available, change ringing is taught on handbells, and Miss Kynaston has now got nearly 40 keen ringers in the school, ranging from seven years old to the senior girls. There is also one learner among the staff who, it is hoped, will be able to carry on when Miss Kynaston returns to England at the end of the year.

This month one of her ringing pupils, Miss Joyce Layton, arrives in England, and will be in residence at the Physical Training College, Bedford. She hopes to get a practical acquaintance with church bell ringing during her stay, and we are sure she will be heartily welcomed by Bedford ringers.

BOB TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I reply to the advocate of Bob Triples, Mr. A. P. Cannon? What methods are rung in peals concerns me not at all, but when he talks of teaching beginners Bob Triples instead of Grandsire he encroaches on Sunday service ringing, of which I am afraid he knows very little. There are ringers, I am afraid, who never pass beyond covering and others who get as far as plain hunting and then stop, but they are of much more use to a tower with their regular attendance than the expert change ringers whose attendances on Sunday are few and far between. With two treble ringers and one tenorman, the Plain Bob band would be tied to Bob Minor with two covers, instead of courses of Grandsire Triples. With six inside, one treble and one tenor they would ring Bob Triples. To ring Bob Major requires seven inside and one treble, and unless this number were in the tower no music would ever be heard from their bells.

May I also point out that Grandsire is not a 'blind alley method leading nowhere.' There is a book of Triples methods published by the Central Council leading from Grandsire. I also fail to follow Mr. Cannon's reasoning that a ringer who finds a difficulty in grasping Bob Major after ringing Grandsire Triples could very easily learn the higher major methods if first taught Bob Triples. He could, at least, ring Grandsire Major and discourse the same sweet music as the Bob Triple ringer. I think Mr. Cannon will find that the 'blind alley' Grandsire, with its 'defects,' will long continue as the standard fare.

C. A. LEVETT.

Hastings.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Coalbrookdale, Salop, on Sunday, August 22nd, in honour of the wedding of Miss Ivy Doreen Edwards and Dr. Cyril Stansfeld-Parker, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): F. Jones 1, E. D. Poole (first quarter-peal of Caters 'inside') 2, W. S. Crawford 3, R. Evans 4, A. S. Bayley 5, W. Lago 6, E. V. Rodenhurst 7, W. Saunders 8, A. Pritchard (first quarter-peal of Caters as conductor) 9, F. Hill 10. The bride is the daughter of the managing director of the Coalbrookdale Iron Co., Ltd.

FOUR ASSOCIATIONS MEET ON THAMES-SIDE.

LARGE GATHERING AT STAINES.

The Value of Co-operation.

Four societies joined forces in a meeting on Thames-side on Saturday. At the invitation of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association, the East Becks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild, the Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the North-West District of the Surrey Association visited Staines, and a gathering of between 80 and 100 ringers and friends was the result. The morning had not been too promising, but the sun broke through the clouds in the afternoon and the visitors found St. Peter's Church, the centre of activities, in a charming setting on the river bank.

In addition to St. Peter's, the bells of St. Mary's, Staines, were open, as were also those of Egham, on the Surrey side, and Wraysbury, just over the Bucks border. All these are eight-bell towers and full use was made of them, St. Peter's, as was, perhaps, not to be wondered at, being specially crowded.

A service was held here, conducted by the Vicar, Dr. Flecker, and a new ringers' hymn, 'Ringslip Bells,' was used for the first time. Mr. J. A. Trollope (vice-president of the Middlesex Association) read the lesson.

The Rev. A. C. Tranter, Vicar of Egham, gave a forceful address, in the course of which he spoke of the conflicting voices in the world of to-day. The invention of radio had, he said, filled the air with voices to which men could listen if they would. But there were other voices. The voice of the bells was calling men to God, if they would but listen, and he asked ringers to remember when they were ringing, whether for Sunday service or practice, that they were sending out a message—a message of comfort in the everlasting love of God, a message to men to prepare for the coming King.

Commenting on the uncertainty of life, the preacher incidentally remarked that one of the most important things a man should do was to make his will. 'Why,' he said, 'I have got the hymn picked out for my funeral, but,' he added, 'that does not mean that I am going to die yet.'

After service, tea was served into St. Peter's Hall, but there were many more present than had notified that they were coming, with the result that the caterers were hard put to it to provide for the wants of the large gathering. Mr. J. A. Trollope presided and three general secretaries were present (Middlesex, Oxford and Guildford) in addition to the four district secretaries and ringers from nearly 40 different towers. Specially welcome visitors were Mr. C. J. Sedgley, of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, and the Rev. R. H. Gilding (curate at St. Peter's).

The Chairman extended a cordial welcome to the visiting associations. That, he said, was something more than merely a pleasant gathering; it was the outward and visible sign of the unity and good fellowship that existed among ringers, which was one of the finest characteristics of the Exercise to-day. Towers and associations alike benefited from the spirit of co-operation, but this spirit of co-operation had not always existed among ringers. In days gone by old societies like the College Youths and Cumberlands not only did not fraternise, but a member of one could not be a member of the other. In the case of these two societies this latter rule existed to-day, and it came about, as explained in the Cumberlands' rule book, in order to promote friendly rivalry. It was a survival of old traditions which existed two centuries ago, when every society kept itself to itself. It was only since the territorial associations came into existence that that spirit was really broken down, and it was largely because it had been broken down that the Exercise had progressed in the last half-century as much as it had done. He was casting no aspersions on those old societies, which looked back with pride on their past. Ringing owed a debt to them for what they had preserved. They had preserved this tradition, but in these days it was an anachronism, and, he thought, might well be honoured in the breach. Wherever they went throughout the country a man who was a ringer was welcomed in any belfry, and that was a thing which ringers had a right to be proud of. That was the spirit which brought about meetings of that kind, and for that reason he was glad to see such a large and representative gathering present that day.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Guildford Guild), Mr. A. D. Barker (Oxford Guild) and Mr. D. Cooper (Surrey Association) acknowledged the welcome given to the visitors and spoke of the success of the gathering.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar of St. Peter's was proposed by the chairman and acknowledged by the Rev. R. H. Gilding, and Mr. P. W. Goodfellow (Middlesex district secretary) moved a vote of thanks to the preacher, the organist and the caterers.

GREAT STAUGHTON'S OLDEST RINGER.

DEATH OF MR. G. FRANKLIN.

Great Staughton band has lost its oldest member with the passing of Mr. George Franklin, who died in hospital on August 24th after an operation, at the age of 67 years. Mr. Franklin had rung only one peal, but he was a regular service ringer and Sunday after Sunday would be at his post both morning and evening.

The funeral, which was choral, took place on Saturday, and immediately afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung with bells half-muffled by R. Stratton 1, N. Smith 2, J. Smith 3, H. J. Parker 4, P. W. Lack 5, F. Reeve 6.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A WELCOME TO SHIPLEY.

The monthly meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at the Shipley Parish Church on Saturday. Owing to the holiday season being in full swing, and the fact that the opening games of the football season were taking place in such glorious weather, the attendance was below expectations. About two dozen members were present from Armley, Burley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Holbeck, Idle, Rothwell, Sherburn, Drighlington and the local company, as well as a visitor from Kirkby Stephen. The bells were kept ringing from 3 o'clock until finally they were lowered about 9 p.m.

The business meeting was held in the tower, and in the absence of the president and vice-presidents, Mr. P. J. Johnson (a former president) occupied the chair. A vote of thanks to the Vicar, wardens and the local company for their welcome was proposed by Mr. W. Jackson, and supported by Mr. F. Rayment, who congratulated the Shipley company on the splendid progress which they were making. After a number of very lean years, and years of hard work, they were at last reaping the benefits of their labours, and he hoped the progress would continue.

The Chairman, in putting this vote to the meeting, dwelt reminiscently upon several of the early Shipley ringers.

The Rev. T. Perrett, in replying, said how pleased he was to welcome the society to Shipley and hoped they would come again in the near future, when he himself anticipated being able to take a more active part in the proceedings. He always felt that ringers had such a grip on one another, a grip of comradeship—just like the grip one had on one's 'sally.'

Mr. Ernest Simpson also spoke for the local company and expressed his pleasure at the meeting.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Johnson for presiding.

The Chairman said he could not close the meeting without a reference to the death at the great age of 76 of Mr. Herbert Needham, the first secretary of the Leeds and District Society. The late Mr. Needham moved away from Leeds about 40 years ago, but he did a great deal of pioneer work for the society in its early days.

The next meeting is due to be held at Holbeck on September 25th, but an announcement will be made in the Press in due course.

After the meeting, the Vicar took part in the ringing before leaving to continue his other duties. The methods rung during the day ranged from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHATTERIS RINGERS' EXAMPLE.

A meeting of the Central Branch was held at Chatteris on Saturday, August 28th. There was a good attendance of visitors and branch members. The general secretary of the association (Miss K. Willers) was also present. Ringing commenced at about 2.30 p.m., Mr. A. J. Abrams being in charge, the Ringing Master arriving after tea.

It is worthy of note that nearly all the Chatteris ringers attended this meeting, which gives one food for thought, as, when going to other towers, the leader of the company is often the only local ringer present. If bands would follow Chatteris ringers' example, more Sunday service ringing would be done.

The Guild service was held in church at 6 p.m., conducted by the Vicar.

It is hoped to hold the next meeting at Haddenham if permission is obtained.

Methods from Plain Bob to London Surprise were rung, and the meeting proved a happy one.

IN PLEASANT SURREY BY-WAYS.

Some 16 members of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, with wives and friends, enjoyed an afternoon's outing on Saturday in the neighbourhood of Woking, Surrey. Chobham was the first tower visited, and Mr. A. Coleman had everything in readiness. A delightful surprise was the visit to the belfry of Messrs. Goldsmith, Hazelden, Corbett and Grover (of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), who were en route for Egham to attend a joint meeting. A journey of two miles brought the party to Horsell, with its perpendicular ladder leading to the curious ringing chamber, but very handy ring of six. Then into Woking for tea at the Sunray Restaurant and a look round the busy little town before ringing on the good going eight at Old Woking, the belfry hallowed by the memory of that friend of ringers, the late Admiral T. P. Walker. A pleasant run as the daylight faded brought the party to Pirbright, with its interesting church in a peaceful spot, where lie the remains of the great African explorer, H. M. Stanley. The nice going musical ring of six bells in the tower were well used until 9 p.m.

After crossing the Berkshire border on the homeward journey, passengers were gradually set down and 'good nights' shouted until the last reached home about 11 p.m., all tired but well content. Thanks are accorded to the four incumbents, their steeplekeepers and all who assisted to bring success and enjoyment, including Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, whose help was invaluable. The standard methods were rung in all the churches, and, in addition, at the six-bell towers, London and Cambridge Surprise.

W. J. P

ALL HALLOWS', LOMBARD STREET.

S.P.A.B. AND DEMOLITION OF FAMOUS LONDON CHURCH.

The 60th annual report of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings again forms an interesting record of the work carried out by the society in many directions during the year. Numerous church restorations have been executed with the collaboration of the society, but the matter, reported on at some length, which will interest ringers most, is that relating to the demolition of All Hallows' Church, London.

All Hallows' has a ring of ten bells, and London ringing organisations have directed the attention of the authorities to preserving the peal intact and erecting it in some other church where there is a tower which will enable the bells to be rung.

The S.P.A.B. report, as will be seen below, touches upon important matters relating to Diocesan Advisory Boards, who, given the additional powers proposed, may exercise still greater restraint in matters relating to bell restorations, although their jurisdiction, of course, touches practically everything connected with the fabric and the furnishing of the church.

The report on All Hallows' Church says:—

The decision to remove this church is a great disappointment to the society and to all those who have worked for its retention. That such a decision could be taken without reference to the London Diocesan Advisory Committee or to the Central Council for the Preservation of Churches, reveals an extraordinary state of affairs.

When the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Davidson, secured the exemption of churches from the Ancient Monuments Act in 1913 he certainly gave no pledge that every single church, early or late in date, should be preserved. No building-owning authority could do that, not even the Office of Works. But he did promise that the Church would set up efficient machinery to deal with questions of this kind. What has happened is not that the particular machinery has broken down in this case, but that All Hallows' has managed to escape it.

It is an amazing thing, but it is actually the fact, that, while it is and has for long been practically impossible to pull down a piece of an ancient church to add a vestry or an organ chamber in the Victorian manner, or even to carry out an old-fashioned 'restoration,' it is really possible to destroy a whole church! Such apparently is the state of the law.

NO CONTROL BEFORE CONSECRATION.

We understand that there is a strangely parallel situation in regard to new churches. It is not possible to place fittings or monuments in existing churches without the closest scrutiny, but prior to consecration there is no control over what may be placed in a new church. There is urgent need for some alteration in the law.

But there is no doubt that very real difficulties are arising in consequence of the shifting of the population and the traffic problems of urban areas. Certain recent schemes show that the municipalities are likely at any time to wish to destroy valuable buildings in central areas. How far State Control could protect some of them nowadays is a difficult problem. A Government department would certainly have to balance various interests against one another, and it might well be that without great expenditure of money and elaborate protective town planning, some loss would be inevitable in overcrowded areas. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings may congratulate itself that in the case of All Hallows' it has done all that could be done, and that the agitation has shown the public that buildings of a certain degree of importance cannot be touched without an outcry.

It is also satisfactory to note the change of opinion that has come over the country in regard to renaissance art. Notwithstanding the destruction of All Hallows', the balance of opinion in favour of the importance of preserving renaissance work is more with the Church authorities than with the State. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in their reports ignore everything from a few years after the date of All Hallows'. One may search most of their reports in vain for notice of anything of the later years of Wren or the work of his followers, while most of the Diocesan Advisory Committees are slow to tolerate interference with any eighteenth-century work of real distinction. The irony of the situation is that while a church like All Hallows' is to be pulled down, the London diocesan authorities have been encouraging the expenditure of vast sums of money in repairing the other city churches, and on the lines approved by this society.

What seems to be required is some new legislation by the Church Assembly to secure that cases like that of All Hallows' should come before the Advisory Committee at the very beginning of any scheme. The serious thing is that there may be other cases in the future. We must admit that according to the most reliable information, none of the other city churches in London are in any danger. New uses are being found for some of them: most are now well used on week-days. The scheme for pulling down nineteen is certainly a thing of the past. It is rather in some of the provincial towns that the danger lies, e.g., Sheffield, York, Norwich and Worcester. In none of these cases, as far as we know, has the Advisory Committee been consulted, though the destruction of valuable churches is contemplated as a consequence of urban depopulation.

There is another matter which requires ventilation. In London, notwithstanding the All Hallows' scandal, the Advisory Committee is a

(Continued in next column.)

'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 to every ringer. It is based on new material brought to light by the author's own researches in the British Museum, the Public Record Office and elsewhere, and it is by far the most exhaustive history of the Society yet presented to the public.

It is to be illustrated by reproductions of old prints, photographs and drawings of numerous London churches. Demy 8vo., 112 pages. Bound in cloth covers. To be published at 5/- (postage and packing 6d. extra). Obtainable only by direct application to 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking.

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CULPABLE NEGLECT ALLEGED.

(Continued from previous column.)

very weighty body, doing excellent work. But in some parts of the country it does seem possible to say that there has been culpable neglect in fulfilling the pledge that the Archbishop gave the nation in 1913. For the Advisory Committee system is either not working at all or else working very badly. Take the diocese of Hereford for example, or that of Derby, or of Durham. We do not know who their secretaries are, or what they are doing. And it still seems possible for an ignorant incumbent or parochial church council to hold up their work by sheer defiance. In the city of London the Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, has the unenviable distinction of possessing the dirtiest monuments. In the same church the advice of the eminent architects responsible for recent repairs was ignored by the parish on points of great importance. We could quote other similar cases. Though less spectacular, these are matters of grave concern, because, unlike All Hallows', they are within the sphere of responsibility of the new protective system.

It is only fair to say that legislation is now pending before the Church Assembly in which it is intended to stiffen up procedure before the Consistory Courts, and to strengthen the hands of the Advisory Committees and the Central Faculties Council. But the unhappy experience of All Hallows', Lombard Street, shows that that is not everything, as it is difficult to see how it will affect those unwanted churches in depopulated urban areas.

The All Hallows' case has shown the value that is attached to the city churches and to the work of the English renaissance. It is poor compensation for the loss of the church, but it is something to be able to recall the fact that, whereas in Victorian cases of destruction of city churches little care was taken of their contents, in this case the greatest care will be exercised even to reproducing in the new suburban church which will succeed All Hallows' the conditions of the east and west ends, so as to contain the woodwork in surroundings such as it was intended to fill.

It is clear that there are elements in the Church which still do not take their responsibilities seriously enough where artistic and architectural considerations are concerned. Unless new legislation is carried through and made to apply more widely, and unless local disloyalty to their own system can be stopped, the Church authorities are quite likely to encounter a renewal of the agitation for the taking over of buildings by the State. The Advisory Committee system has certainly made far-reaching changes in the last twenty years, not least by its insistence on the value of renaissance work, but events are showing that it has not gone far enough, and that its net must be made closer and stronger.

QUEX PARK.

A RECORD PICNIC MEETING.

A by-meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association, held at Quex Park on Saturday, August 28th, broke all records for attendance at any similar meeting of the district. Members and friends, numbering 80, were present, and 15 towers were represented.

The afternoon's ringing was broken off at 4.30, for those present to be shown over the Natural History Museum of Col. Powell-Cotton attached to the Mansion. They were taken round by the Curator, Mr. Penfold, who explained the many exhibits to them. The exhibition is unique in the fact that all the specimens, with the exception of three, were shot by one man. The posing of the animals in their natural surroundings gave rise to many expressions of delight by those who were fortunate to be present.

A picnic tea in the park followed. This was provided through the generosity of Mr. Harrison Smith and Mr. Jack Walter, and, needless to say, was enjoyed to the full by all. Thanks to these gentlemen and to Miss H. Smith for her 'home made' were expressed in no mean measure. The weather proved fine, and members were able to choose which 'chair' they liked, the most comfortable posture proving to be the 'back to back' position.

Birchington tower, with seven members, was re-elected, and notice was given that the annual district meeting would be held in Canterbury on October 9th.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Powell-Cotton for the use of the bells, for allowing the members to picnic, and for the opportunity of being able to look over the museum.

During the ringing the back ten of the ring of twelve were rung by a band composed entirely of ladies, the Wickhambreaux 'belles', having their first pull on ten.

Darts proved to be very popular during the afternoon and evening, a tree forming a good substitute for the more usual background.

The bells at Birchington Church were open during the evening, many having a pull there before leaving for home.

The gathering proved one of the happiest meetings at which the writer has been present.

THE 'OLD 'UNS' HAVE AN OUTING.

AGE TELLS ITS TALE.

Loughton ringers, most of whom are getting on in years, with friends and three other old ringers from Woodford and West Ham, had their annual outing on Saturday, August 21st, when they visited Essex and Suffolk towers. Pinchingfield, first on the list, was reached about 9 a.m. The bells were set going to Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major, and call changes for the probationers. A nice run through winding roads then brought the party to Woodbridge, where further touches were brought round. The steps up to this ringing room were more than one old and respected ringer of Loughton could manage. He had to be content with listening to the bells and expressing his great disappointment at not being able to have a pull. Dinner was served at the White Horse Hotel, Leiston, and ringing afterwards took place at the Parish Church, made famous among ringers by the performances of the Bailey brothers. This tower pleased the old warriors in the party, for they were able to ascend with ease. Touches were brought round in various methods, two of the local ringers joining in. The journey was then continued to Halstead, where Miss H. Snowden and her brother met the party. Tea was awaiting the party in the Lads' Drill Hall, and after the meal thanks were accorded to the organisers and a move was then made to the tower, where touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and Bob Major were brought round. Loughton was eventually reached about 9.30 after another most enjoyable day. The ringers wish to thank all incumbents and tower masters for their kind help and permission for use of bells, and especially Miss H. Snowden for her willing assistance.

COMPOSITIONS OF ROYAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read with interest, in the current issue of 'The Ringing World,' Mr. G. E. Symonds' letter under the above heading. He therein declares that the second has been 'subjected to such humiliations.'

Some time ago, I worked out a 5,080 of Treble Bob Royal, in which the second comes into its own, by being at home at every course-end. Surely in a peal of this sort the second plays an important part.

	23456	M	W	H
23564	2	2	1	
25634		1	2	
26354		1	2	
26545	2	2	1	
26435	2	2	1	
24365		1	2	
23645		1	2	
24536	2	1	1	
25346		1	2	
23456		1	2	

I do not wish to make any claims for the originality of these figures, as it is more than likely they have been discovered over and over again, although I have not seen them.

F. E. DARBY.

4, Gaynesford Road, Carshalton.

RINGING ON CARD INDEX SYSTEM.

HOW IT FAILED.

Salehurst, Sedlescombe, Brede, Rye, Winchelsea, Hastings, Bexhill, Brightling and Burwash were visited by members and friends of St. Peter's Society, Tunbridge Wells, on August Bank Holiday. It is rather a funny business going out with the St. Peter's ringers, the ringing being done on a kind of card index system. Each ringer has his or her card (provided with a small hole in which to place a piece of string to hang round the neck), on which is printed the number of the bell the performer will take in a certain band. It is a fine idea; you don't have ringers rushing to ring bells they wouldn't dare touch at home; in fact, there is no rush at all until the end of the day, when everybody begins to find out how to read the cards and looks at, instead of sitting on, them. Everything started in a very orderly way. The time schedule was worked out to the minute—bang on time starting, bang on time at Salehurst; Stedman, Bob Major, Oxford Bob Triples, Double Norwich and Kent, 14 ringers taking part, and the card index putting the party 15 minutes late in getting away.

Six musical bells at Sedlescombe were rung to Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent and Cambridge. Then to Brede, where is a beautiful church, containing many objects of interest, among them being an oak cradle, said to have been that of Dean Swift, author of 'Gulliver's Travels,' 'A Tale of a Tub,' etc. Quite a nice six at Brede, which were got going after juggling with the cards, to the above mentioned methods. After a little light refreshment, the party set off for Rye. No ringing at Rye, but luncheon. The orderliness began to vanish, some of the lighter-minded no doubt had visions of previous outings. Of course, the captain of the band was the last to get his first course, and quite a young Ladd was first to get all the courses. And when it was discovered that it was possible to get something to drink besides water, there was no end of a row, because the captain had filled the glasses with water. However, the young Ladd sitting close to one of the windows speedily disposed of the water, and everything settled down again, with little outbreaks of mirth occasionally, no doubt due to something a man said who used to live at Tenterden.

After lunch, a course of Triples on the handbells, and off to visit the historical old church, with its profusion of different periods of building, stained windows and the peculiar pendulum of the clock, which swings over the heads of the visitors as they enter through the doorway at the base of the tower. Mermaid Street, with its cobbles and quaint old timbered houses, provided the way to the 'charn,' which some of the less educated of the party would call the motor-coach. The journey to Hastings was made in rather a quieter mood; whether this was the effect of the lunch or the fact that the perfect time schedule had side-slipped to the tune of about three-quarters of an hour, it would be hard to say. A stop was made at Winchelsea to renew acquaintance with the wonderful old church. Here again the time of departure got 'hooked up.' You see, the man who used to live at Tenterden is something like the sailor who had wives in every port. He has friends in every port. However, the party didn't have to wait more than half an hour for him, and arrived at All Saints', Hastings, just in time to stop Mr. Levett from going home to tea. A fine peal here, but a little noisy. Off went the card index to Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Stedman Triples, Kent and Superlative Surprise. The non-ringers, who had been consuming great quantities of ice-cream and crossing the Atlantic on the boating pool, were picked up on the front, and the party set off to Bexhill. Owing to the fact that several of them knew Bexhill very well, the 'chara' went quite a long way past the church and the place for tea, and they had to ask a policeman where it was.

It is always a job to get postcards of the various churches on Bank Holiday, but the captain (he's a bit of a 'smart Alec' sort of fellow) found a shop where they sold quite good photographs of the church for one penny each. He bought about a dozen, got late for tea, had to hurry through the first part to be in time for a cream bun or two. He then collected for the waitresses, collected pennies for the postcards, got it mixed up and, well, the waitresses didn't do so badly. But that isn't the end of the story. Owing to their 'punctuality,' the verger at Bexhill thought they had been tipped into the sea or blown up, and, having something else to do besides wait about all night for a band of ringers who seemed to think time was nothing, went off with the key, and the party didn't ring at the place they had postcards of after all. So they went on to Brightling, card indexes came out, everybody knew just which bell to grab, including the lady who made a mistake in the number and rang the tenor at Hastings (Brightling tenor is quite light, too). But disappointment awaited them. They were met by Mr. G. Pont and informed that owing to a death nearby there could be no ringing. Burwash was on the route, and off they went in the hopes of obtaining the use of the bells there. However, it being rather late in the day, other diversions were tried by various high lights of the party, and found to be very successful. So home to Tunbridge Wells after a very enjoyable day.

A. T. R.

HALF-PEAL AS A FAREWELL.

On August 26th, at St. Benedict's Church, Wombourne, Staffs, as a farewell to Mr. E. Lindley, who is leaving Wombourne to take up teaching duties in Kenya, Africa, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2,520 changes): E. Lindley 1, L. Key 2, H. Howell 3, N. Leach 4, K. Pardoe 5, A. Collins 6, B. Key (conductor) 7, A. Clarke 8. The original intention was a peal, but it was called round at half-way owing to the bad 'go' of the bells.

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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All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

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. Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Bolsover Parish Church (8 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 4th. For tea, please notify Mr. J. Saxton, The Bungalow, Moorfield Lane, Bolsover. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Tower open for ringing at 5.30. A meeting during the evening in the tower. Please do your best to attend. If you cannot, then persuade your friends.—J. Porter, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next district meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Parish Hall. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot, Hants.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Drighlington, on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Tea in the Schools at 5.30, followed by business meeting. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Owslebury on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Service in the Parish Church at 4.30, followed by tea at 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. Bells available at 2.30. Twyford bells also in the evening. Please let us know if you are coming. Bus leaves Winchester Broadway 3.50.—G. and Miss Noice, Hon. Dis. Secs., 6, Cathedral View, Winchester.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at the six-bell towers at St. Albans on Saturday, Sept. 4th. St. Michael's available from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. St. Stephen's after tea.—W. Nash, N. Mimms, Hatfield, and H. V. Frost, St. Albans, Dis. Secs.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—Next meeting at Denver on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Wem, Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. — R. R. Pole, Craigmore, Upper Road, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A ringing meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, 5 p.m. This is specially arranged to make a presentation to our president and former secretary for long and active service. Please, therefore, make it a record meeting. A very hearty welcome to all.—Daniel Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at Hurworth on Saturday, Sept. 4th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome.—R. Jeff. Dis. Sec., 29, Reid Street, Darlington.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bishop's Waltham.—The dedication of the bells by the Archdeacon of Portsmouth will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 8th, at 6.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. on the Rectory Lawn, by kind invitation of the Rector (Rev. N. H. Stubbs) and Mrs. Stubbs. All requiring tea please inform Mr. W. Knight, Hoe Road, Bishop's Waltham, Hants, by Saturday, Sept. 4th. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on Sept. 16th and 30th, St. Andrew's on the 9th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 14th, Southwark Cathedral on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District meeting at West Clandon on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Please send me numbers for tea by Sept. 9th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cadeleigh on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Monday, Sept. 6th?—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Ruislip on Sept. 11th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. and after tea. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. at the George Hotel. Joint meeting and social at Hillingdon on Oct. 16th.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Next meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Please look up Double Court. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m., followed by meeting. Kindly advise me if requiring tea not later than Sept. 8th. All ringers welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION (Manchester Branch) and LADIES' GUILD (Northern District).—A joint meeting is to be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Tea, 1s. each. All ringers cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify Mrs. W. W. Wolstencroft, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, not later than Sept. 8th.—Mrs. E. D. Kelly, Hon. Dis. Sec., Ladies' Guild; J. H. Ridy, Manchester Branch, Lancashire Association.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A joint ringing meeting, with the East Grinstead and District Guild, will be held at Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Please come and help make this meeting a success. Tower open 2.30 p.m. There is a ten minute bus service to St. Peter's Church from Central Station or Opera House. Route No. 82. Please notify me for tea by Tuesday, Sept. 7th. — Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Kirdford on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30, 1s. per head. Half rail fare, maximum 1s. 6d., to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Lichborough, near Towcester, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Service 4.15. Numbers for tea by previous Tuesday. — S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stewkley (8 bells), on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Service 3.30 p.m., Names for tea in good time, and good attendance will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Malmesbury on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (5) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. On bus route and G.W.R.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A joint meeting of the Kent County Association (Tonbridge District) and the East Grinstead Guild at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. For tea, please notify Mr. A. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough, Kent (or the undersigned) not later than Sept. 7th. All are welcome. — B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A meeting for practice will be held at All Saints' Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, Sept. 11th, from 3 p.m. All are welcome.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — Meeting at St. John's, Leicester, on Sept. 11th. Bells available 2.30. For tea, please notify Mrs. Hardy, 3, Winchester Avenue, Leicester, by Sept. 9th. Gentlemen invited.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Nottingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch. — A practice meeting will be held at Ulverston on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Anyone interested in going to the annual dinner please attend. — N. M. Newby, Brewery Mount, Ulverston.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Sturminster Newton on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Guild office 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business. A hearty invitation to all.—J. Ralph, 9, Orchard Road, Gillingham.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. Let us have a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy, Beds.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Stagsden on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (6) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, Sept. 8th. A hearty welcome to all. — Daniel Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The September meeting will be held at Flamstead on Sept. 18th. Usual arrangement. Those requiring tea must notify me by the Thursday previous. A hearty welcome to all, for anything from Rounds to Spliced Minor (Plain and Surprise).—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Withycombe Raleigh on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Monday, Sept. 13th. — R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Heathfield on Saturday, Sept. 18. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Finchley, on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. Special method, London Bob Minor, No. 6, C.C. Coll. Plain Methods. All members and friends welcomed. Nearest station, Finchley, Church End. Cheap day tickets from King's Cross (L. and N.E.). There will be a twelve-bell practice at St. Giles' Church, Cripplegate, on Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, from 7.30 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—A meeting will be held at Marsham (bells 8), on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will members please send names, or numbers for tea, to H. Tooke, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk? Bus leaves Norwich at 2.15.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Wednesday, the 15th?—F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—A meeting will be held at Chipping Campden on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Service 6.30. Will those who require tea please let me know not later than the 14th inst.?—Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Kirkburton, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, Sept. 18th, when the bells (8) will be available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. A meeting of the General Committee will be held at 4.15. Tea (1s. 6d.) at 5 p.m. for all who notify Mrs. F. Carter, George Street, Kirkburton, by Sept. 15th. Nominations for the general secretaryship should be handed in at this meeting. The undersigned will NOT be available for reelection: J. E. Cawser, Cragdon House, Ashton Lane, Braithwell, near Rotherham.

EBBW VALE, CHRIST CHURCH.—The new ring of eight bells, by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth on Sunday, Sept. 19th, at 3.15 p.m. The service will be broadcast.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The sixth annual dinner will be held at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Tything, Worcester, on Saturday, Sept. 25th, at 6 p.m. *prompt*. Bells available: All Saints' (10) and St. John's (8), 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. each) may be obtained up to Tuesday, Sept. 21st, from branch officers, members of the Dinner Committee, or J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

RICKMANSWORTH (10 bells), Saturday, Sept. 25th. Herts Association meeting. — C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting on Saturday, Oct. 2nd, at Burbage, nr. Hinckley. Bells (8) open from 2 p.m. Committee meeting 4. Tea 5, followed by general meeting. Names for tea (1s. per head) *must* be sent not later than Sept. 29th to Mr. G. Dudley, 47, Sketchley Road, Burbage, Hinckley.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

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.

LADIES' GUILD.—Jubilee Dinner.—To be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Saturday, Oct. 23rd. Will all who have reserved tickets kindly forward cash (6s.) for same at the earliest possible date, as no ticket can be reserved after Sept. 25th?—Edith K. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.

JUST A REMINDER.—Book the date for the annual dinner of the Lancashire Association, Oct. 30th, at the County Hotel, adjoining the Palace Theatre, Promenade, Blackpool.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Raymond Overy is now 94, South Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

BIRTH.

LARGE.—On Sunday, August 29th, at Hawford, Worcester, to Mary, wife of George E. Large, a daughter.

DEATH.

RICHARDSON.—On August 25th, at Bryngwyn, Surfleet, Sarah Jane, the beloved mother of Rupert Richardson, of Glyn Garth, Surfleet, aged 84 years.

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