



No. 1,489. Vol. XXXIV.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1939.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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WAR TIME MEETINGS.

Ringing associations are gradually taking stock of the conditions brought about by the war and some of them have already decided upon a line of policy. They have got to adapt themselves to the changed circumstances, to the increasing difficulties of transport, the coming of shorter hours of daylight with the consequent earlier imposition of the 'black-out.' These things must necessarily limit the possibilities of meetings, but in most places the customary Sunday ringing can be carried on without risk. In most parishes the hour of evening service has been altered and the ringers can still discharge their customary task. There is no real reason, now that the first shock of the coming of war has passed why service ringing should not take place in all those areas where the police have no objection to the church bells being rung. We need not repeat the arguments which we have already put forward in support of keeping service ringing going wherever possible, and we believe that the lead which 'The Ringing World' has given has encouraged ringers in many places, where ringing had been abruptly stopped, to resume again.

The question of continuing practices and meetings is on a somewhat different footing, but we believe the obstacles can be overcome. If ringing is to be maintained during a prolonged war those who are left in the belfries have serious work before them to train up recruits to take the place of those who are called away to sterner duties. Much can, of course, be done in this training without recourse to open ringing, but there comes a time in the education of the ringer when, if the training is to be complete and the beginner fitted to take his or her place in the service ringing, some practice must be put in with unleashed clappers. How can this practice be obtained? Obviously, unless it is possible to darken the belfry windows—and there are a number of places where this should present little difficulty and involve but small cost—the ringing must be done during the hours of daylight. The winter months add a further handicap, but an enthusiastic leader and keen learners among a band anxious to keep up their numbers should easily find a way. After all, football matches have to finish before darkness sets in, and if thousands of on-lookers can find their way to the football grounds in time to watch an hour and a half's play before daylight disappears, there seems little excuse why ringers should not put in a similar period in the belfry to carry out a practice.

And then the meetings of associations. It should be possible in most districts to find towers where the black-out restrictions can be complied with without much

(Continued on page 618.)

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trouble or expense. The use of materials such as are now largely employed for the purpose of temporary shutters and costing only a few pence per square foot could be employed and the ringing chamber windows fitted to satisfy the regulations. In such towers, some of which there must be in nearly every district, meetings could quite well be held and ringing continued after dark, leaving the churches, where black-out requirements cannot be satisfied, to the summer months.

Various associations are already tackling the problem, and to-day we print reports of three which are laying plans for the future. The Lancashire Association, for instance, decided at the annual meeting last Saturday to carry on with the monthly meetings as long as the law permits; the Surrey Association's Committee has decided to hold a limited number of meetings; the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild propose to renew operations in the Southampton District with a series of Saturday and Wednesday combined practices. Here are examples which we hope many other societies will find it possible to follow. The meetings may have to be more localised than formerly on account of the restricted travelling facilities, although, be it remembered, in past days, before the advent of motor-cars, our predecessors in the belfry would find their way by hook or crook to any meeting held within a very considerable radius. And country roads were as dark then as now, trains were no more frequent, and motor-cars were not thought of. If we realise what was done in those receding years, why should we now just sit at home and say ringing meetings are out of the question because of the black-out? As long as towers selected for the purpose can be fitted to comply with the restrictions, the ringers themselves should be ready, even more ready than in normal times, to do their part to make association meetings a success.

It is not merely a matter of personal interest. The art has got to be kept alive, and, despite the dangerous days ahead, despite even disasters that may overtake us, let us do our share in preserving the life of the nation and those things which we cherish in our national inheritance. If we approach our ringing in the right way and enlighten the public on the objects of our ringing on all occasions, we need make no apologies for keeping our bells going. We believe that we have a service to render, let us see to it that neither lassitude nor misplaced sentiment, prompted by the dismal pessimists, causes us to fail in our responsibilities. The bells still have an important roll to fill in calling to public worship on Sundays and reminding the heedless of higher things; and the maintenance of that service demands that new ringers should be trained and our organisations kept alive against the coming of those less troublous times which we hope are not too far distant.

**ANOTHER RING OF EIGHT FOR CORNWALL.
GENEROUS GIFTS BY MR. J. C. ROBERTS AND
BARRON BELL TRUST.**

The 15th century tower of the Church of St. Crewena, Crowan, Cornwall, is to possess a ring of eight. Two trebles are to be added to the existing six bells. This has been made possible through the generosity of Mr. J. C. Roberts of that parish, who has given a donation of £100, while a grant of £162 has been made by the Barron Bell Trust. The work is being put in hand. It is a good sign that this augmentation is to be carried out in such troubled days.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

STILL MORE ABOUT COURSING ORDER.

To the conductor who aspires to be something more than a mere bob-caller a knowledge of Coursing Order is a necessity. The old way of calling peals (a way by no means obsolete to-day), was for the conductor to learn his peal and call his bobs accordingly. In addition he would learn the position of the bells at certain course-ends, such as part-ends, and by checking those course-ends when they came up satisfy himself that the ringing was correct. That is to say that he would have an opportunity of seeing whether the bells were correct five or six times during a peal. If he were a practised conductor he probably would know more course-ends. But the man who understands how to use Coursing Order can, if he takes a little trouble, by observing the order in which he meets the bells, during one journey from front to back or back to front, be quite sure at any point in the peal whether the bells are right or wrong.

We have seen that the order in which the bells are met throughout the plain course is 2, 4, 6, 7, 5, 3, with the treble in a different position among them in each lead. If we ignore 1, 7 and 8 (as we do when we write out course-ends) and write out the others beginning with the bell next after the seventh we get 53246. That will stand for the Coursing Order of the whole of the plain course.

In a similar way we can put down the Coursing Order of any one of the other 119 possible courses with the tenors together. Thus, supposing, for instance, we have the courses whose course-ends are 65243 and 32546, we can get their Coursing Order in the same way that we got 53246 from 23456 as the Coursing Order of the plain course.

Course-ends	23456	65243	32546
Coursing Order	53246	45623	42356

But one thing must be noted. In a touch or a peal the course-ends we must deal with are not necessarily the rows which come at the end of the course, but are the rows which come at the beginning. To put it more properly, they are the 'natural' course-end, which are the rows which would come up if we ran on to the course-ends without any calls.

The adjoining touch consists of four courses, but actually only once do we ring 112 changes without a call, and that is when we run from the Wrong in the third course to the Wrong in the last course. We do ring the whole of the plain course, but one lead of it comes at the beginning and six leads at the end. The rest of the touch consists of parts of courses and each part has its natural course-end. We will write down these natural course-ends as follows:—

23456	52436	42635
64235	64235	24536
52436	35426	35426
35426	23456	23456

The first column represents the first lead of each course; that is from the Home to the Wrong. The second column represents the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth leads; that is from the Wrong to the Middle. The third column represents the seventh lead; that is

from the Middle to the Home. If from any row, in any lead, you continued to prick changes without any bobs or singles, when you came to the course-end you would get the row shown in the table.

Next transpose all these rows by 53246 as we did just now. That will give you the different Coursing Orders throughout the touch.

53246	32546	32465
34625	34625	34256
32546	25346	25346
25346	53246	53246

The man who knows these figures can tell definitely at any minute whether the bells are right or wrong, and we believe that there is no other means by which he can do so. But, you may say, there are forty-five courses in an ordinary peal and to learn a table like this for forty-five courses is a big job. Too big to be worth while. That may be true, and presently we will tell you how you can avoid most of the trouble. Meanwhile, it is not much trouble to study the matter with pencil and paper as we have explained it so far. Afterwards we can come to the short cuts.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I, for one, fully agree with Mr. Trotman. Rounds would have been tolerable, but monotonous. If the band that made the record were not able to strike a few changes of Grandsire or Stedman Caters decently they might have tried to produce some reasonable call changes, instead of fiddling about with 7-8-9 in that exasperating way. I suppose they thought anything was good enough for people who don't understand change ringing.

NEMO.

Sir,—Whilst agreeing with your correspondent, Mr. A. Trotman, that the record used by the B.B.C. could be improved upon, I do not agree with the alternative method suggested by him. I venture the opinion that a well-struck course of Stedman or Erin Triples is much more musical to the ear. I always think that when the tenor is 'turned in' the pleasing effect and sense of rhythm is lost, and further the magnificent note of a truly noble tenor cannot be fully appreciated unless it is rung behind.

F. C. A. BENNETT.

Wombourne.

Sir,—In answer to Mr. Trotman's letter regarding the interval signal, I must say that I agree that a change would be very welcome to our ears, especially as we hear this record sometimes for as long as eight minutes. There is a new record of the twelve, and it is a very fine recording. St. Margaret's, Westminster, has made a record of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and a little while back I wrote to the B.B.C. asking them if they could broadcast this record, to which I had no reply. May I add that a course of Double Norwich on Bow's back eight would be fine, although the ringing would have to be very slow. I don't know if Mr. Trotman has ever rung Bow tenor—she is a lump to turn in.

FRANK HOPGOOD.

Wimbledon, S.W.

P.S.—I have the numbers of these records if any ringer would like them

BRISTOL RINGER MARRIED.

The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, September 30th, at Llanhadoc Parish Church, Usk, Mon., between Mr. Donald G. Clift and Miss Marion Smith, of Abertillery, Mon.

The bride was a former nurse at the Cefn-Lla Convalescent Home of the Pontypool and District Hospital. The bridegroom, who is a member of the St. Stephen's Guild of Ringers in Bristol, is a tele-communications officer in the Head Post Office of that city. He took up ringing at Usk in 1927, and in 1932-33 was Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association. He also represented that body on the Central Council from 1933 to 1935.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY REGULATIONS AT ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

The church of St. Helen, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, now contains eight bells, with a tenor, cast in 1849, weighing 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. In 6 Edward VI. (1553) there were 'fyve belles and a hande belle.' Very little is known of this early ring, but the ancient tenor bell, dated 1571, weighed 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs.

On May 20th, 1628, an agreement, signed by nine inhabitants, concerning the ringing of the bells and keeping of the clock and chimes was made. This is preserved in a narrow folio volume (unbound) of 210 written pages containing the accounts of the churchwardens of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, together with those of the Constable (Hastings MSS. Vol. 1, Historical Manuscripts Commission).

It reads: 'None shall be allowed to ring for pleasure and recreation above twice in the week, and that not above the space of one hour at a time: unless it fall out that some strangers shall desire to ring a peal extraordinary, which they shall have liberty to do provided that they first obtain the Consent of two of the churchwardens for it. None shall be allowed to ring at burials above two short peals, viz., one before the body is buried and another after. None shall be allowed to ring at weddings above three short peals, viz., one before the marriage and two after. There shall be no peal at all rung on the Sabbath days, but the least bell at 7 o'clock in the morning, and at one in the afternoon, and the second bell at 8 o'clock in the morning and 2 in the afternoon (In the margin is written "this continued till Aug. 17") and the sermon bell presently after the chime hath ended after 9 and between 2 and 3 in the afternoon. The clerk shall ring the Curfew at due times throughout the year and the four o'clock bell in winter, and he shall ring no less than by the space of one quarter of an hour at either of these times. The clerk shall look to the keeping of the clock and chime in due order from time to time. If any of these orders be broken through the default of the clerk, he shall forfeit to the town for every default 12d., which said defaults the churchwardens shall receive from the feebee that is to pay him his wages next rent day. The churchwardens shall allow the clerk yearly towards the finding of bell ropes and maintaining them in sufficient repair 6s. 8d.'

In 1741 a treble was added making six bells, and two trebles further added in 1814 completed the octave. In 1816 the Leicestershire change ringers rang 5,040 Grandsire Triples on April 26th, conducted by Thomas Sibson. In this peal Thomas Stringer (sexton) and Lawrence Staynes (vestry clerk) rang. These positions at St. Margaret's, Leicester, are now held by the present writer. The 7th bell was recast 1822 and the tenor in 1849, while in 1886 the whole were returned and rehung in a new iron frame.

There is a tradition relating to Ashby which says that a former inhabitant of the place, having lost his way, was, after wandering about the whole night and become almost exhausted, enabled to find his way home again by hearing the sound of the clock of St. Helen's Church. To mark his gratitude for this deliverance, he conveyed to the trustees of the Grammar School certain property, since called the 'Day-bell houses,' upon trust, among other things, that they should cause one of the church bells to be rung for a quarter of an hour at four o'clock every morning. This direction was carried out, and the 'four o'clock bell' was heard regularly every morning until the year 1807, when, upon the authority of a Decree of the Court of Chancery, this custom, 'useless and annoying' to the inhabitants, was discontinued. Instead of this early bell, one was rung at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the purpose of assembling the boys in the Grammar School, for which the authorities paid the church a certain sum annually.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES

On Sunday, September 24th, for the harvest festival at Colleshill, Berks, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung in 43 minutes by the following: L. Mace 1, A. J. King 2, E. A. Edwards (conductor) 3, E. Telling 4, T. Sappington 5, V. Jones 6.

On Sunday, September 24th, at Barwell Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: N. Lucas 1, T. Belton 2, J. Lawrence 3, A. Lucas 4, R. Belton (conductor) 5, W. Newton 6, W. White 7, H. England 8.

At St. Mary's, Lytchett Matravers, Dorset, after harvest festival evening service on September 24th, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes), being one extent of New Doubles, Stedman Slow Course, Reading, St. Simon's, April Day, Antelope, St. Dunstan's, London Singles, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and 60 of Grandsire: Miss P. V. Marsh 1, Miss V. M. Marsh 2, L. H. Pink 3, H. E. White 4, W. C. Shute (conductor) 5, M. A. Martin 6. First quarter-peal in eleven methods by all.

For harvest thanksgiving on Sunday, September 24th, at Broxbourne, 560 of Bob Major and 168 of Grandsire Triples for evening service: J. Luxom 1, Miss N. Radley 2, C. Gouldsmith 3, C. Byatt 4, F. Perrin 5, W. Newman 6, A. Radley 7, G. Radley (conductor) 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT BLACKPOOL.

The annual meeting was held at Blackpool under very adverse circumstances, members attending from Barrow, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Frodsham, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Southport and Whittle-le-Woods. Although five peals of bells were available for the use of visitors, there were not enough members present to ring until half-past two, when the bells at St. John's Church were set going in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. Service at 4 p.m. was said by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Yates, M.A.), and the address was given by the Rev. A. Scott, M.A. (president). His advice was to keep the bells going as much as possible both for services, practices and meetings.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, arranged and served by Mrs. Sharples and Mrs. Foster. The Vicar stayed for tea, but as he had no curate he had to leave to get ready for the Sunday services. He was thanked for his assistance and words of welcome in church, to which he responded. The ladies were also thanked for their share.

The business meeting was then held, the chair being taken by the president. The committee's report stated that the total membership was 1,515, 1,085 of whom lived in the association's area; 78 new members had been made and 36 crossed off for arrears, while death claimed eight (four non-resident and four ringing). Restorations had been carried out at Aughton, Poolstock and Morecambe. The Canon Eisee Memorial Window was dedicated on June 10th, and a peal board was unveiled at Moorside, Oldham, on October 10th. The number of peals rung during the year was 90. This does not correspond with the C.C. list, as the year ended on July 31st. Mention was made of Mr. G. R. Newton's 500th peal and also of several members who had passed their first, second and third 50th during the year, also of peals of Erin Caters (the first for the association) and Little Bob Major (the first for all the band) and a large number of first peals and firsts in the method.

Regrets were expressed that the treasurer could not come or send a statement. It was proposed that the balance sheet should be audited and passed and sent on to the president in time for inclusion in the annual report.

For the election of officers, Mr. J. Ridyard, of Southport, received the highest vote for vice-president for two years. The other officers—Mr. T. Wilson, ringing secretary; Mr. C. I. Davies, treasurer; Messrs. Barnes and Wilkinson, auditors—were re-elected without opposition.

The motion as to the election of Central Council representatives was put back until next year.

The meeting closed with best thanks to the Vicars of the various churches for the use of their bells; to Dr. Wood, the organist; the choirboys; Mr. Sharples, the branch secretary, and others who helped under the trying circumstances to make a success of the meeting.

Owing to the unsettled state of things, next year's meeting was provisionally fixed for Bolton as being a good centre.

A FAMOUS NORTHAMPTON BELLFOUNDER

DESCENDANT KILLED IN CASTING CANNON.

Next Monday is the three hundred and thirty-first anniversary of the baptism of Henry Bagley, the first of a famous family of bell-founders who cast many bells which still exist in the Midland Counties. Henry Bagley was born at Chacombe in Northamptonshire, where his father Matthew, who by trade was a blacksmith, was churchwarden in the year 1636. Henry began bellfounding about 1632 and he died about 1676.

The foundry then appears to have been carried on by his sons, Henry and William, the first of whom was elected a member of the Society of College Youths in 1686.

The will of Mathew Bagley, Henry's nephew, contains the earliest reference to half-muffled ringing we have. He 'requested a dumb peal, the bells muffled on one side.' This was in 1785 when he was a very old man.

Other members of the Bagley family carried on bell founding at Ecton, and a later member of the family, Mathew Bagley, migrated to London, where he acquired the foundry of Philip Wightman.

He lost his life in a tragic manner while casting a gun for the Government. The 'Flying Post' of May 12th, 1716, gives the following account of the accident: 'Last Thursday night about nine o'clock a tragical accident happened at the Royal Foundry, near Upper Moorfields, where, when the workmen were casting a cannon, the metal that was running into the mould flew up on a sudden with great noise and violence and came down like drops of fire not only upon all the workmen, but spectators (of whom there was a great number to see the performance). Several attended from the Tower, particularly Mr. Hall, Clerk of the Ordnance, who was so sorely wounded that he dyed next morning. The Master Founder and his son with above twenty others were also very much hurt. 'Tis generally agreed that the said accident was owing to the dampness of the mould.'

The 'Weekly Journal' of May 12th, 1716, further states that 'Bagley, the Master Founder, has lost his eyes, and his son and sixteen others are desperately wounded.'

Bagley died of his wounds, for the registers of St. Giles', Cripple-gate, have the following entries:—

1716.—May 22, Mathew Bagley, founder, killed.

May 25, Mathew Bagley, jun., founder, killed.

SUNDAY RINGING.

SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.

Ringling for Sunday services is taking place at the following towers, and visiting ringers, particularly those serving with the Forces, will be welcome.

We shall be pleased to publish similar information in relation to other towers where Sunday ringling is being maintained.

Leytonstone, St. John's, 10 to 11 a.m. (second and fourth Sundays).

Leyton, St. Mary's, 10 to 11 a.m. (first and third Sundays).

Bagshot, Surrey, 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m.

North Stoneham, Hants, 10.30 to 11 a.m. (fourth Sunday 10 to 11 a.m.), 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Penge, St. John's, 10.30 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Practice Monday, 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Mere Parish Church, Wilts, 10.15 a.m. (first and third Sundays), 2.15 p.m. (second and fourth Sundays).

Ealing, St. Stephen's, 10 a.m., alternately with Christ Church 9.30 a.m. St. Mary's, 2.30 p.m.

St. Albans Cathedral, 4 p.m. Saturday afternoons in addition to service ringling on Sunday mornings. (Quarter-peals can be arranged).

Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, 10.20 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

Haslemere, Sundays, 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Putney, St. Mary's, 10.15 a.m.

Leicester, St. Margaret's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.

Leatherhead, Sundays, 10.30 to 11 a.m.; second and fourth Sundays, 2.30 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, practice 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Wolverhampton, St. Peter's, 10 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Kilburn, St. Augustine's, 10.30 a.m.

Trysull, All Saints', near Wolverhampton, 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Truro Cathedral, 9.30 to 10 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m. No practices are being held.

Tynemouth Parish Church, 10 to 10.30 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m.

Felkirk, Yorks, 10 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Worplesdon, Surrey, Sundays, 10.15 to 10.50 a.m.

RINGING AT CRAYFORD.

The band at Crayford, as most of our readers know, is one of the most active in the country, but, like so many more, is feeling the effects of these strenuous times. Mr. Edwin Barnott tells us, however, that they are doing their best to carry on, although they have lost some of their members. The Sunday ringling is much as usual, and an attempt will be made to hold practices on Saturday afternoons. If all ringers face the difficulties of the times in this spirit we do not fear that the Exercise will come through the crisis all right in the end.

POLICE SANCTION EVENING RINGING.

On Sunday, September 24th, when harvest festival services were held at St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, the bells were rung for 6 p.m. service, and, after consultation with the Chief Constable, were also rung after the service until 7.45. On each occasion a long touch of Grandsire Caters was brought round.

Ringling at Manchester Cathedral and Town Hall has been stopped, but at most of the other churches in the district where evening service is being held at 3 p.m. the bells are being rung.

A RINGER FOR SIXTY YEARS.

DEATH OF MR. J. R. BUNCH, OF YATELEY.

The funeral took place at Yateley Parish Church, Hants, on Saturday, September 23rd, of the late Mr. James Robert Bunch, who had been a ringer at Yateley for 60 years. Mr. Bunch, who was 78 years of age, had all his life been connected with the Parish Church. In the year 1888 he was one of the band who took up change ringling under the tuition of the late Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke, and in 1892 rang in the first peal on the bells, which was conducted by Mr. Frank Bennett. He also rang in the first peal at the neighbouring tower of Yorktown, Surrey, conducted by the late Mr. Henry White.

Admitted to the Winchester Diocesan Guild on June 1st, 1889, he attended the annual meeting at Ryde in July of that year, and was also present at the meeting there on July 1st of this year.

His certificate of admittance to the Guild is to be hung in the Yateley belfry. He rang in several peals in the district and was also a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of many years standing. The whole of the ringling band at Yateley attended the interment, and as the earth closed the open grave rang a half-muffled touch of Grandsire Triples on the bells Mr. Bunch had long and often cared for.

WEDDING AT KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

The wedding took place at All Saints' Church, Kingston-upon-Thames, on Saturday, September 16th, between Mr. Eric Parker, of 100, Park Road, Kingston, and Miss Beatrice Etheridge, of Elgin Cottage, Hampton Court.

The bridegroom has been a member of the Kingston band of ringers for several years and was a regular attendant at both service and practice ringling. Fortunately the bells have not been silenced and immediately after the ceremony touches of Grandsire Caters were rung by the local band. Those taking part were H. Howes 1, G. Massey 2, H. Andrews 3, W. Massey 4, W. Nash 5, G. Peck 6, G. Goodman 7, H. Barrett 8, F. Hawthorne 9, W. Maxwell 10.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The resignation of Mr. F. E. Haynes as Ringing Master at St. Martin's, Birmingham, has been followed by the appointment of Mr. Albert Walker to the office. Mr. Walker has occupied this position twice previously.

In connection with the meeting of St. Martin's Guild, which is to be held in Birmingham to-morrow, in addition to the ringing at St. Martin's from 5 to 6 p.m., there will be special service ringing at the Cathedral from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when all who can attend will be welcome.

The valuable possessions of the Ancient Society of College Youths, including the peal and name books, have been removed to safety for the period of the war. They have been deposited in the vaults at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Sunday is the one hundred and ninetieth anniversary of the first peal on the bells of St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, which had lately been cast by Thomas Lester, of Whitechapel. It was rung by the Society of Eastern Scholars, the method was Bob Major and the bobs were called by Thomas Bennett. There is, or was, a board in the belfry to record the performance.

Sunday is also the anniversary of the long peal of Bob Major, 15,360 changes, rung at Aston in 1795. It was a very notable performance, beating (in number of changes) the 15,120, also of Bob Major, rung in 1737 at West Ham, and remained the record length in any method until 1868, when the College Youths rang 15,840 changes of Kent Treble Bob at Bethnal Green. A longer peal of Bob Major was not accomplished until the 18,144 at Benington in 1933.

On October 5th, 1839, Thomas Hattersley, for very many years a noted ringer, was born at Sheffield, and ten years later on October 6th his grandfather, William Booth, another and equally well-known ringer of an earlier generation, died.

On October 8th, 1788, the College Youths rang at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever accomplished. The number of changes was 6,206, and Jasper Snowdon suggested that this length was chosen so as to make it more difficult for another band to beat the record. But the most likely explanation is that what was rung was the composition of a peal of Caters (probably the one in the 'Clavis'). A 5,076 of Caters applied to eleven bells gives 6,206.

Mr. Charles R. Lilley is one of the select number who have called peals on all numbers of bells. His list includes Grandshire and Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, and Plain Bob and Treble Bob on all numbers from Minor to Maximus.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your articles on the home front and war-time ringing are very timely and I should like to add to their importance by suggesting one or two points which I think, if followed, will greatly help to keep our art alive.

At St. Mary's, Bexley, we are holding practices on Saturday afternoons from 2.30 till 4.30 p.m., and any ringers, be they learners or experts, are welcomed.

Now we have in mind a scheme which I think will help beginners a great deal. First and foremost we are carrying on with handbell practices two or three evenings per week with the additional practice on tower bells, and I can say from my own experience that this procedure is not only keeping the young ones interested, but that they are making good progress. We have 17 here and I can assure you they are keener than ever.

We are also hoping to institute a system of combined practices in this district at the towers of Erith, Crayford, Dartford and Bexley successively, one tower per week, so that there will be one practice per month per tower.

Probably the same thing could be carried out in other places where there are, say, three or four towers within easy distance of each other. I think we all realise that the better the co-operation the better the results will be, and when the times become normal again we shall be in a position to go forward.

One thing more, I should like to see the articles on 'With Pencil and Paper' carried on and if possible extended. They are a great asset to the beginner. Finally, it is up to all of us to extend the sale of 'The Ringing World' to the utmost, for without it the Exercise would be dead. Thanking you for the good work you are doing.

H. A. HOLDEN.

IN THE BARNESLEY DISTRICT.

Dear Sir,—I am pleased to say we are not restricted at our tower, Felkirk, for ringing, as we ring every Sunday 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when any ringer or ringers who would like to have a pull of Minor will be welcome.

I understand that the majority of the towers in the Barnsley area, where there is a band of ringers, are ringing for Sunday services.

We are also allowed to ring a peal if we wish at Felkirk, and I should be interested to know the feeling of the Exercise as to whether we should ring peals during the war period or not.

DANIEL SMITH.

CHURCH BELLS IN WAR TIME.**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS TO BE CONTINUED.**

At the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association, held at Blackpool on Saturday, a discussion took place on the question of future meetings, and the following resolution was passed: 'That we, the Lancashire Association, in annual meeting assembled, agree that our service ringing, practices and monthly meetings shall go on as usual, except when law forbids.'

SURREY ASSOCIATION'S DECISION.**RETIRED RINGERS TO BE APPROACHED.**

A meeting of the General Committee of the Surrey Association was held at Merstham on Saturday last to discuss the present situation.

It was unanimously decided that it be recommended that, as far as possible, ringing in the churches affiliated to the Association should continue and that every effort should be made by members who were able to do so, to maintain the art throughout the district.

It was further suggested that steps might be taken to re-approach ringers, who previous to the outbreak of war had given up ringing, with a view to enlisting their services and thus strengthen bands depleted by the call of National Service.

It was further decided that, whilst it was not found possible to carry out the districts' pre-arranged programme, arrangements be put in hand in respect to three meetings, one to be held at Kingston, another at Redhill and the other at Beddington. Appropriate notices relating to these meetings will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

It was learnt that at quite a number of churches in the Association's area ringing is taking place twice on Sundays and members and other ringers will be pleased to hear that ringing at the twelve-bell tower of St. John's, Croydon, recommenced as from last Sunday.

Practices are still being held at Leatherhead and Beddington, and no doubt enthusiastic ringers will make the necessary note.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD SECRETARY'S APPEAL.

The General Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) writes as follows to all his fellow-members:—May I, through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' ask all of you in town or village towers to do your best to keep things going as best you can until these troublous times are over? Many bands will be depleted, but service ringing should be maintained as far as possible, and practices, too, in village towers will be practicable. Some branch meetings may, and probably will be held, and wherever possible I beg the ringers to back up branch secretaries to the very best of their endeavour.

In my own tower all practice night ringing is finished, but by 'blacking out' the windows we meet some of our beginners and get a good handbell practice, which, I hope, will bear fruit in the future. I cannot hope to meet my friends all over the three counties as I have done during the last twenty years, and as far as things go, my job as General Secretary is a sinecure for a time, but anything I can do I am willing to do for one and all.

My sincere wish is 'Success to you all,' and don't let the O.D.G. 'slip back' any more than it is bound to until Hitlerism is finished. With sincere good wishes to all friends in Berks, Bucks and Oxon.

RICHARD T. HIBBERT,
69, York Road, Reading. General Secretary.

SOUTHEND INVITATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your proposal that you would like information about Sunday ringing, we at the Parish Church, Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea, are ringing on Sunday mornings from 10.20 till 11 o'clock, and on Sunday afternoons from 4.30 till 5.30. The Sunday afternoon ringing is chiefly for our learners, who now, of course, have no other opportunity to practise. If there are any ringers who find their way towards Southend, whether privately or in H.M. forces, we should be very glad to welcome them.

A few of us are meeting at my house at 75, St. Mary's Road, on Monday evenings at 7.30 p.m. for handbell ringing, when we would be glad to see a visitor.

This handbell ringing we find difficult to teach, and agree with a letter from Sam Jones that a series of articles for the beginner would be appreciated by many ringers who have the duty of teaching.—Yours truly,

F. B. LUFKIN (Captain of local ringers).

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

To-morrow meetings are to be held as follows:—

St. Martin's Guild, quarterly meeting at Birmingham.
Lancashire Association, Rochdale Branch meeting at Moorside.
Oxford Diocesan Guild, Reading Branch meeting at Mortimer.
Bedfordshire Association, Biggleswade District at Sandy.

The Barnsley and District meeting at Monk Bretton arranged for to-morrow is postponed.

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRACTICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Just a few lines to say how much we appreciate your leading articles as to the best ways of carrying on in war time and let you know what we are trying to do in the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild. First I may say our Sunday service ringing at North Stoneham is confined to 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. services, meeting at 10 a.m. the fourth Sunday in the month for an hour's ringing before the 11 a.m. service, the usual time for ringing being half an hour, unless by special arrangement; visitors receive a hearty welcome and get a rope from rounds to Surprise Major or Royal.

We are arranging for combined practices on Saturday afternoons, and hope to meet on Saturday, October 14th, say from about 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. We hope those ringers interested will make a note of this and we shall endeavour to give the enthusiast an opportunity to practice Double Norwich, Cambridge and Yorkshire Royal, in addition to the simpler standard methods for others.

We also hope with Mr. Linter's Wednesday band to arrange for meetings at Soberton, but fixtures will have to be made from one meeting to the other, as the greatest difficulty is going to be the matter of transport, owing to the short ration of petrol. I shall be glad to hear from anyone who can help us, and also from anyone who can turn up at North Stoneham on October 14th.

1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh. GEORGE WILLIAMS.

RINGING AT CHATHAM.

Sir,—I am of the opinion that the curtailment of Sunday service ringing has been carried too far. I suppose this area is at the present time one of the most vulnerable places in the whole of the British Isles, yet our Rector has given permission for the bells to be rung on Sunday mornings from 10 till 11, and Sunday evenings from 4.45 till 5.30. Our bells have not been rung on Sunday mornings since 1921, owing to most of the band having to augment the company at Rochester Cathedral, where the bells are now silent. Any ringer who is with the Chatham Division will be welcomed. C. E. NORRIS.
Chatham.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. DIONIS' AND ALL HALLOWS'.

During the eighteenth century five peals are all that are known to have been rung at St. Dionis' and it is not until November 26th, 1850, that we have any account of another. On that date the Cumberlands rang 5079 changes of Stedman Caters, and two years later, on November 22nd, 1852, the College Youths rang a similar length of the same method.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century the character of the City of London had entirely changed. From being largely residential it had become almost entirely commercial. Outside, enormous suburbs were growing up with vast populations and scanty church accommodation, while the City, with its dozens of wealthy churches, was almost entirely deserted on Sundays.

The diocesan authorities were faced by the problem raised by so great an excess of material and money where it was not needed, and so great a deficiency where vast numbers of people were living without the means of public worship. Of late years the problem has become even more acute, but as early as about 1875 an attempt was made to adjust the balance. From the point of view of the spiritual needs of the Church and people it seemed that the only right thing to do was to sell the churches that were no longer needed, and, with the money, build others in the new districts; and an Act for the union of benefices was passed by Parliament.

There is, however, another side to the question. The City churches are the property of the parishes, and there was and is a natural and right objection to desecrate ground that had been consecrated to the service of God for, perhaps, a thousand years and to pull down buildings, some of them of great artistic merit and which, as a whole, form one of the most striking architectural features of London. The process of demolition, therefore, was slow and only those of lesser value were at first threatened. St. Dionis' was one of the earliest, and a scheme to sell the church and unite the parish and benefice with the neighbouring parish of All Hallows, Grasschurch, was finally approved by the vestry on April 28th, 1876.

Among the resolutions adopted was one that the parishioners, having received intimation that the bells of St. Dionis' Backchurch could be made available, recommended that it be a part of the scheme that such bells be presented to the church of the united parishes. This was included in the Order in Council, and, when St. Dionis' was pulled down, the bells were hung in the tower of All Hallows.

That parish, although it possessed a fine tower, had taken little interest in its bells and possessed only two. And now, after hanging in their new home for nearly sixty years, mostly silent, the bells are once more homeless. All Hallows, in its turn, has been pulled down, and the future of the bells is as yet uncertain.

Out of the sum received from the sale of St. Dionis', after money had been allotted to the restoration of All Hallows and other objects, a new church of St. Dionis' was built at Parsons Green, Fulham. To it many of the fittings were removed, including the font given by Sir Henry Tulse.

ALL HALLOWS, LOMBARD STREET.

'Then by the four corners, so called, of Fenchurch Street in the east, Bridge Street on the south, Grass Street on the north and Lombard Street on the west is one

fair parish church called All Hallows, Grass Church in Lombard Street; I do so read it in the evidences of record for that the grass market went down that way when that street was far broader than it now is, being straitened by encroachments.'

So wrote John Stow in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The church had been rebuilt in the early part of the sixteenth century, the steeple being finished in 1544. The



'fair stone porch' was brought from the lately dissolved priory of St. John of Jerusalem, near Smithfield, as well as the frame in which the priory bells had hung. One Warner, a draper of the parish, bought the priory bells, intending to give them to All Hallows, but he died before the transaction could be completed, and his son and heir refused to carry out his father's intention; 'and so,' says Stow, 'that fair steeple hath but one bell, as friars are wont to use.' In the inventory made in the reign of Edward VI. the number is given as 'ij in the steple,' one of them probably being a saunce bell.

The church was much damaged in the Great Fire and was rebuilt by Wren in 1686-1694 at a cost of £8,058 15s. 6d. Two bells, a large and a small one, were placed in the tower and no effort was made by the parish to obtain a ringing peal, until St. Dionis' was pulled down, when All Hallows received the bells from that tower as the parish church of the united parishes.

(Continued on next page.)

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY**PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. T. J. ELTON.**

The autumn meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Brewwood on Saturday last. In typical autumn weather, members began to assemble soon after 2 p.m. and the bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, while rounds and set changes were also rung for beginners. Despite the difficulties of transport, quite a good muster put in appearance. One unfortunate incident happened, and that was a stay got bent and, be it noted, not by one of the aforesaid learners! However, ringing continued until service time.

The Rev. C. Broughton Thompson (Vicar) delivered an excellent address, in the course of which he said he hoped that ringing would never die out and be substituted by mechanical means, also that ringers should keep up their practices and be ready to ring for peace. He spoke of himself as being especially fond of bell music.

Mrs. Mollie Winterton (daughter of Mr. J. Perry, the esteemed captain of the local band) presided at the organ, and right ably did she manage it.

A very nice tea was provided in the Jubilee Hall—through the generosity of some kind friends. This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar. Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary and treasurer; Mr. B. G. Key, Ringing Master, who is on active service; Messrs. J. Warrilow, C. Wallater, T. Benton, W. Peart and W. A. Walker.

On account of lighting restrictions, it was resolved that the next meeting, which was to have been held at All Saints', West Bromwich, in January next, should not take place. Also, for the same reason, the dinner arrangements for November should be cancelled.

A letter was received from Mr. W. A. Walker, towerkeeper at St. Matthew's, Walsall, stating that a suggestion was being made for the placing of a memorial tablet in St. Matthew's belfry to the late Mr. Thomas J. Elton, who for many years acted as captain in that tower, and who had done valuable work for the society in the cause of change ringing. Members and friends are invited to send subscriptions to Mr. W. A. Walker, 7, Birmingham Road, Walsall, which will be gratefully acknowledged by him.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address and use of the bells, to the organist for her assistance, to Mrs. Dumbell and her helpers in preparing and serving tea, was received with applause.

Handbells were then brought into use to the tune of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major, Stedman Doubles and Triples. Thus ended a happy gathering in spite of the difficulties which had to be overcome.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON

(Continued from previous page.)

The Order in Council provided that the two bells from All Hallows should go to the new church of St. Dionis' which was being built at Parsons Green, Fulham, but the churchwardens disregarded the order and disposed of them to St. Paul's, Southwark. The authorities of St. Dionis' appealed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners as the legal owners of the property of the demolished church of St. Dionis' Backchurch, offering to give £50 as an act of grace if they could have the bells; but the Commissioners disclaimed all responsibility in the matter, as they had belonged to All Hallows. Eventually, they gave to St. Dionis', Parsons Green, a bell that had formerly been at St. Michael's, Bassettshaw, and the vicar and wardens of the former church renounced all claims.

All Hallows stood on a site where land is as valuable as almost anywhere in the world and several efforts were made to sell it and use the money for building churches elsewhere. These efforts had always been defeated until lately, when serious structural defects occurred in the building and the east wall had to be taken down for safety. It was then decided to pull the church down and to build another in a new neighbourhood at Twickenham, to which the fittings, including the very fine carved woodwork, will be transferred.

As I have said, the bells are for the present without a home. Although the church stood in the centre of the City, it was so hemmed in by high buildings that it was almost entirely invisible. Nowhere from the street could more than one top corner of the tower be seen. It was impossible to get a photograph of it, and so I made a sketch which is shown in this article.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**HINCKLEY DISTRICT'S FIRST WAR-TIME MEETING.**

The first war-time meeting of the Hinckley District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, on Saturday. The back five bells were raised in rounds and Grandsire Doubles rung before 3.30. Other members and friends having arrived, Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung until service time. The attendance was only 14, many, no doubt, being prevented by their duties from attending, particularly those employed in farming. One member, engaged in dairy farming, can see no prospects of service ringing during the winter months.

The Rector (the Rev. E. Mills) conducted the usual M.C.A. form of service, which began with the ringers' hymn, 'Lifted high within the steeple.' In the course of his address, the Rector said that owing to the difficulties of catering in a small village at these times and also to the school being in use for a large number of evacuated children, in addition to their own, he was very reluctantly compelled to cancel the tea, but he hoped, on the return of happier days, to have the pleasure of again welcoming the district ringers and to be able to resume the usual teas. The Rector spoke of the work ringers could do at this time to help bring in the Kingdom of God. Bells, he said, ring out a message of invitation to everyone within hearing. There was room for everybody to work for the Kingdom, each in their own particular way. He was sure ringers would do their part by giving their services gladly.

After service a short meeting was held, Mr. A. Ballard, district chairman, presiding. The Rector was thanked for his address and for the use of the bells. Thanks were also expressed to the lady organist.

The invitation of the Rector of Sharnford to hold a ringing meeting there on October 21st was accepted. The next item—roll call of towers represented—was arranged so that the time of Sunday service ringing at each tower was stated. These were: Burbage, 10.20 a.m.; Croft, 10.20 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.; Hinckley, 10.30 a.m. and 2.45 p.m.; Kirkby Mallory, 10.30 a.m. and 2.40 p.m.; Peckleton, no ringing; Sharnford, 10.30 a.m.; Market Bosworth, 9.45 a.m.

In cases where no afternoon ringing is mentioned, the present evening services are to be shortly altered, and consequently no times could be stated, as these times are given so they may be of use to visiting ringers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

A discussion followed on how to maintain meetings and interest in ringing.

It was learned that one group of four towers near Hugglescote propose to hold a Saturday afternoon practice at each tower in turn on, perhaps, the first Saturday in each month.

It was agreed that meetings should be held as frequently as possible, preferably in weeks when use could be made of moonlight, and that, whenever possible, tea should be arranged followed by a social.

It was pointed out that as ringing in the towers would be severely restricted during the winter months, it was important that the social side should receive more attention.

Groups could also be arranged to practice handbell ringing. Some literature would be most useful for many hands.

It was agreed that each tower should ascertain if their bells would be available for Saturday afternoon ringing and that reports should be made at the Sharnford meeting, when the place and date of the next practice meeting could be decided.

The secretary asked all towers to take at least one copy of 'The Ringing World' in order to inform themselves of the meeting arrangements and so help both the paper and his postages.

Further ringing was indulged in until darkness compelled members to proceed homewards. One party, who, it was alleged, had brought jugs in their gas mask cases, carried on the way. Quantities of chips and 'cobs' were requisitioned, together with some 'pre-Budget' refreshment.

When these were preparing for the road, much hilarity was caused by the efforts of two well-known members to reduce the lighting efficiency of their new rear lamps, purchased, it was claimed, especially to attend the meeting, and which gave much better illumination than is permitted even for headlamps. Two thicknesses of notepaper was found to reduce the 'searchlight' effect. Even then, one proposed to cycle backwards. He said he could see *much* better.

DEATH OF A DOVER RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Charles R. Mellway, of Dover, who passed away on September 25th after a long illness.

The deceased gentleman, who joined the Kent County Association in 1894, was at the time leader of the band at Borden, near Sittingbourne, and did excellent work in that tower and the neighbourhood. Thirty-five years ago he moved to Dover, and from that time had been a member of the St. Mary's band. The funeral took place on September 27th and was attended by Messrs. H. Whitehead and S. A. Hill, representing the association.

EALING.—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Mary's Church, for a civic service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 minutes: J. A. Trollope (conductor) 1, J. E. Churchill 2, P. E. Clark 3, P. Rowe 4, A. M. Stacey 5, E. C. S. Turner 6, A. Harding 7, F. Miller 8.

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.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

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

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Owing to the National crisis the quarterly meeting, arranged to be held at King's Norton, will be held in St. Martin's Tower, Bull Ring, Birmingham, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 5 to 6 p.m. Short business meeting at 6 p.m., to be followed by handbell ringing. Please make an effort to attend.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Moorside, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Come along and forget your worries for an hour or so. Everybody is welcome.—J. Kay, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The autumn meeting will be held at Mortimer on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Mary's (8), St. John's (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service at St. Mary's at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage at 5 p.m.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Branch Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Please come. All ringers welcome. To arrange for the future work of this district.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BUSHEY SOCIETY.—There will be a practice meeting at Oxhey on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4 p.m.—E. Jennings, Master.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at Headquarters (The Coffee Pot) on Tuesday, October 10th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The meeting which was to have been held at Farnborough on Wednesday, Oct. 11th, has been cancelled.—C. W. Denver, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Binegar on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. H. Nash.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made for all who notify Mr. W. Thompson, 29, Fur-

long Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before Wednesday. Please come early and have a ring before black-out time.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (p.v.) at Bozeat on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Service 4 o'clock. Important to have names early; send post-cards to Rev. J. H. Marlow, The Vicarage, Bozeat.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Will members please make an effort to attend this meeting, when a report will be given on what course the annual meeting adopted at Blackpool on Sept. 30th.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at St. Giles', Lincoln, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8, tenor 18 cwt.) available from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Short service 3.15 p.m. Visitors must bring their own food, tea (beverage) will be provided at small charge in the Parish Room, which will be available for handbell ringing during the evening.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. until black-out. Sheffield and District and all visitors welcome. No tea, but refreshment provided for lady visitors at home of Hon. Sec., E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined practice will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at St. Dunstan's-in-East, Eastcheap, E.C., from 2.30 p.m. till approximately black-out time. All ringers welcome.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The joint meeting of the Western Division and Leeds and District Society, previously advertised for Sept. 30th, will now be held on Oct. 14th, at Shipley. Bells from 2 o'clock. Business meeting approximately 6.30.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, Oct. 14th, 2-5.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 2 p.m. Time of service and tea to be announced at meeting. Come early. Will those wishing to have tea please notify me as early as possible?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The meetings proposed to be held at St. Athan and Abergavenny respectively are postponed until further notice.—George Popnell, Master; Rev. Ivor J. Richards, Hon. Treasurer; John W. Jones, Hon. Sec.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — The address of Mr. E. Jennings, Master of the Bushey Society, is now 50, Rudolph Road, Bushey, Herts.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

SLOUGH RINGER'S DEATH.

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There passed away at Slough on September 2nd Mr. Alfred W. Leader, aged 64 years, after a painful illness of five months' duration. He was buried at St. Mary's Church on the following Wednesday, near the tower where he learnt to ring under his father, the late William Leader, who was foreman for 40 years.

Alfred Leader was a chorister before taking to the bell rope and for many years a member of the Herschel Lodge of Oddfellows. Change of business, soon after the war of 1914, prevented his attendance for Sunday service ringing, after 20 years of regular duty.

He had rung about half a dozen peals—all Grandfire Triples—for the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

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

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