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MORE MEETINGS.

There is plenty of evidence that widespread efforts are being made to bring Sunday service ringing back as nearly to normal as the changed conditions of war time will allow. Ringing before morning service has been resumed at the majority of towers where it appertained before the war began, and afternoon ringing, where evening service has been fixed for daylight hours, is taking place in many towers. Where service ringing is not taking place it is, apart from the ringers' own difficulty in raising a hand, due principally to the Church authorities, and only in a small proportion of cases is it caused by any action of the police. There are still a few instances where A.R.P. demands make it necessary that the bells should not be rung, but as time goes on, and defence preparations are worked out to meet the actual needs of the moment, the civic powers are ready nearly everywhere to remove their first embargo and, subject to local safeguards, to allow church bells to be rung for normal Sunday purposes. There are, however, still a number of clergy who, for one reason or another, desire their bells to remain silent. Every such instance must, of course, be judged upon its merits, but it does seem that, unless there is some special local reason, connected with the public safety, permission should be given for service ringing to be resumed everywhere where it can be done without infringing the black-out regulations.

The attitude of the police towards church bellringing during these weeks of war has been entirely sympathetic and, while the anti-noise Order specially exempts church bells rung for normal purposes and the police have no legal authority to stop them, it is a thoroughly sensible action, especially in populous areas, to consult the police on any ringing that it is proposed to do on other occasions than Sundays. The wisdom of this has been revealed more than once in these past weeks. Not only does it give official authority for the use of the bells on such occasions as meetings, but it enables a co-operation to be established that, in a sudden emergency, would be of great value in the interests of public safety. The plan of having someone on duty outside the tower to be ready, in the event of an air-raid warning, to stop the bells has proved an acceptable arrangement to the authorities, and should be employed everywhere where ringing takes place for any period beyond a few minutes. To-morrow there is to be a joint meeting of three associations at Kingston-on-Thames. This Surrey town is within the Metropolitan Police area, and the church stands by the market square. The police have been approached and, subject to having a watcher on duty to communicate with the belfry

(Continued on page 654.)

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if a warning is given, the authorities have not only consented to ringing during the afternoon, but also in the evening from seven to nine o'clock. If ringing can be permitted at a meeting under such conditions, conditions which, we imagine, are hardly likely to be more difficult anywhere, there seems no reasonable ground why meetings should not be arranged at any towers in the country. The police at Kingston must obviously be satisfied that, with the precautions agreed to, there is no danger to the public, otherwise they would not have given their consent, and what can be done at Kingston can be done elsewhere. We do not know the exact circumstances prevailing at Chilvers Coton, but it is surprising to read, in the report of last Saturday's Warwickshire Guild meeting, that the police superintendent forbade any ringing there after dark. If it was necessary, for the sake of any possible warning, to stop the bells in the evening, it must have been equally necessary to stop them in the afternoon. There are, in this war, no Zeppelins to hover over a town at night, yet this possibility seems still to be in the minds of some people in influencing their attitude towards ringing after dark. It would be interesting to know the exact reason for the police action in this case.

There is good reason why ringing meetings should be resumed more generally, but in view of transport difficulties attendances are bound to be smaller than in peace time. For that reason it should be the policy of associations to arrange a greater number of these gatherings covering a small area instead of large districts. Two meetings, each within reach of, say, half a dozen towers, will do more good than one intended for twelve towers spread over a wider radius, and, rather than curtailing meetings, it would be wise to consider doubling the number. The aim is not only to bring the members together, but to maintain interest and activity, so that in brighter days the art may quickly recover the ground it must inevitably lose during these strenuous times. Meetings beyond the range of the majority of members under present conditions will dampen, instead of encourage, the enthusiasm of those whom circumstances exclude, and it should be the endeavour of those who are responsible for meetings to develop them in a greater number of centres. The fact that attendances may be small will not be the criterion of the success attained—success will be measured by future results when we return to peace and happier days.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—If 'Enquirer' will publish his name and address in 'The Ringing World' his questions will be answered.

I refuse to enter into newspaper correspondence with anyone who is either afraid or ashamed to add his name to a letter, and I feel sure my fellow-secretaries hold this view.

F. M. MITCHELL, Hon. Sec.

114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

HALF-MUFFLED BELLS FOR CURATE.

The combined practice at North Stoneham, Hants, arranged for Saturday, October 14th, was fairly well attended. Besides members of the local band, the following were present: Messrs. A. Davis, E. T. Griffen, F. Eaton (Christchurch District), L. Tremear and Payne (Winchester District), F. S. Bayley, W. Linter, jun., T. Worsfold and Mrs. Guy (Portsmouth District).

The methods rung were Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Caters, Bob and Cambridge Royal, Superlative and London Major. The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of deep respect to the Rev. Cyril Wood (junior curate at North Stoneham), who was interred the same day. He was only ordained a priest as recently as last Trinity Sunday. He had been at North Stoneham only just over a year and died at the age of 26.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

Loughborough.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes.

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 6½ cwt.

GEORGE HARRISON Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON 5
WM. J. ROOT 2	HARRY WAYNE 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	COLIN HARRISON 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

A birthday compliment to Mr. H. J. Poole.

SIX BELL PEALS.

DILWYN, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

GRAHAM EVANS Treble	ALBERT E. JONES 4
WILLIAM J. FREECE 2	LESLIE EVANS 5
A. BRYAN ELSMORE 3	THOMAS R. ECELEY ... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE EVANS.

* 50th peal, rung in 28 towers. Rung in honour of the christening of George, son and heir of Mr. and Mrs. G. Bray, of Henwood, Dilwyn, which took place at the service previous to the peal.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clements', Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

BRIAN SIMS Treble	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 4
*ANDREW C. SINFIELD ... 2	C. HENRY HANDING 5
RONALD J. SHARP 3	*C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... Tenor

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

* 25th peal together. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ream, two highly respected villagers, on the occasion of their golden wedding.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes.

At 19, Monks Road,

A PEAL OF SPLICED PLAIN AND GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*P. MICHAEL FREEMAN ... 1-2	HAROLD CHANT 5-6
†JOHN FREEMAN 3-4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 7-8
*KENNETH S. B. CROFT ... 9-10	

Arranged by JACK BRAY.

Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal on ten bells. † First ten-bell peal 'in hand.' First peal of Spliced Royal by all the band. Each course rung P.P.G.P.P.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 22, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

At 50, Reddolph Road

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY ... 1-2	*EDWIN A. BARNETT 3-4
*EDWIN JENNINGS 5-6	

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal of Minor on handbells. E. A. Barnett has now rung Plain Bob on all even numbers from Minor to Maximus.

A WARWICKSHIRE GUILD MEETING.

EVENING RINGING FORBIDDEN BY POLICE.

The first quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held under war-time conditions at Chilvers Coton on Saturday. A big crowd was not to be expected, but nearly 20 enthusiasts arrived and enjoyed ringing on the handy eight. Permission had been given by the Vicar (the Rev. F. W. Moyle) for ringing during the afternoon and evening, and the belfry was blacked out specially in time for the meeting. Unfortunately a message was received from the Superintendent of Police forbidding any ringing after dark, thus upsetting carefully laid plans for the comfort and convenience of the visitors. However, ringing continued until 6 o'clock, a good course of London rounding off some good ringing.

The business meeting followed immediately in the vestry, presided over by the Master (Mr. J. H. W. White). The routine business was quickly disposed of, but the changed conditions created some discussion as to the future, resulting in a determination to carry on until April with quarterly meetings and possibly monthly practices on Saturday afternoons at convenient towers.

At the close of the meeting Mr. A. H. Beamish produced a portable gramophone and a record of the talented handbell band of the Herts County Association ringing a touch of Spiced Surprise Major, which was much appreciated by the members present.

Towers represented were Allesley, Bilton, Keresley, Nuneaton and the 'locals.' A welcome was extended to Mr. O. J. Hunt, of Manchester, a former auditor of the Guild.

A move was then made to a local hotel, where the needs of the 'inner man' were duly satisfied. Tunes and changes on handbells brought to a close a happy and successful meeting.

WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

WHAT THE TOWERS ARE DOING.

Glasgow Cathedral, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
 Penham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 10.15 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. Practice (handbells only), Fridays, 7.45 p.m.
 Portsmouth Cathedral, 9.45 to 11 a.m.
 Portsmouth, St. Mary's, 1.45 to 2.30 p.m.
 Norton, Staffs, 9.45 to 10.45 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m.
 Stepney, St. Dunstan's, 9.45 to 10.15 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Practice, Monday, 8 to 9.15 p.m.
 Brierley Hill, 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.
 Finchley, St. Mary's, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 6.30 p.m.
 Thorne, Yorks, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.
 Watford, St. Mary's, 10.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
 Bushey, Herts, 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.
 Charing, SS, Peter and Paul, 10.15 a.m. (except fourth Sunday in the month) and 3 p.m.
 Bexley, practice Saturday next from 3 to 5 p.m.
 Darley Dale, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Saturdays, 2.15 to 4.15 p.m.
 Isleworth, 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Practice, Saturdays, 3.30 to 5 p.m.
 Lincoln, St. Giles', Sundays, 8.45 to 9 a.m., 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2.30 to 3.15 p.m.
 Rotherfield, Sussex, Sundays, 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2 to 3 p.m.
 Brierley Hill, Staffs, Sundays, 10.15 a.m., 5.45 p.m. Also on first Sunday in the month 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.
 Cirencester, Glos.: Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8 bells), 9.15 to 10 a.m.; Parish Church (12 bells), 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., except first Sunday in the month, when ringing will be at Parish Church 8.45 to 9.30 a.m., and Watermoor 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when a quarter-peal is usually attempted.
 The Willesden band have arranged to hold a practice on alternate Saturday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. until dusk, beginning on November 4th
 At Burbage, near Leicester, practices will be held on Saturday afternoons between 2.30 and 4 p.m. A handbell practice is also held on Wednesday evening for the beginners.
 Visitors to Derby may be interested to know that ringing may be had at the following churches in Derby previous to services held at: Cathedral, 10.45 a.m. and 3 p.m. (10 bells); St. Andrew's, 10.45 a.m. and 3 p.m. (10 bells); St. Luke's, 10.45 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. (8 bells); St. Peter's, 10.45 a.m., no ringing for afternoon service (8 bells).
 The bellringers of Much Hadham Parish Church, where there is a ring of six, decided at a meeting held on Sunday, October 8th, to ring every Sunday morning, commencing at 10 o'clock (except the third Sunday in the month), and, when possible, for evening service, commencing at 2.15 p.m. They also decided to hold a practice every Thursday at 7 o'clock in the tower, with handbells. The ringers extend a hearty welcome to all who would like to come, and especially to any ringer serving in H.M. Forces.
 It is hoped to maintain ringing at Llanfrecifa throughout the coming winter and visitors will be heartily welcomed. There will be an open practice on Saturday afternoon, November 4th, at 3.30 p.m., when it is hoped that a number of ringers will take this opportunity of being able to have a ring. A bus leaves Corn Street, Newport, at 3.15 p.m., look for bus No. 7. There will be trains leaving Newport at 2.25 p.m., 4.8 p.m., 5.5 p.m., and book to Ponthir Station. Will ringers please take note of this date?

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.**COURSING ORDER—PLAIN, REVERSE AND DOUBLE BOB.**

Turn back to 'The Ringing World' of September 22nd and refresh your memory with what we said there. We saw that in Bob Major the bells keep the same Coursing Order throughout the plain course, except that, at the end of every lead, the treble alters its position among the other bells. The point at which this alteration takes place is the change in which second's place is made; and the result is that the bell, which in the previous lead had coursed in front of the treble, now courses behind the treble, the relative positions of the other bells being unaltered.

Any operation which alters the position of the treble in Coursing Order we will call a 'Shunt,' and, as in this case second's is made instead of eighths (which would have been made if all the bells continued plain hunting), we will call this an Extreme Shunt.

It is not a good thing, as a rule, to multiply technical terms, but sometimes it is necessary, and in this case we shall find it useful.

Next prick down Reverse Bob Major, a full course if you have time, but in any case, two or three leads. In this method all the bells plain hunt except when the treble lies its whole pull behind. Seventh's is then made by the bell coursing in front of the treble, the other bells dodging in pairs.

12345678	Coursing Order.
21436587	875312468
24163857	
42618375	
46281735	
64827153	
68472513	
86745231	

68472531	875132468
86745213	
87654123	
78561432	
75816342	
57183624	
51738264	
15372846	
13527486	

Now compare this carefully with your course of Bob Major, and you will see that all we said about the latter will apply to the former, except that the points where the treble alters its position in Coursing Order are different.

If we take a pair of scissors and cut our course of Bob Major into fourteen pieces, each piece consisting of half a lead, we can put the pieces together again in a different order and produce a course of Reverse Bob. The actual rows in both courses are the same. We have now got a second Shunt similar to the first in everything except position, and to distinguish them we will call the first an Extreme Shunt A and the second an Extreme Shunt B.

If we use both Shunts in every lead we get a plain course of Double Bob Major. Prick out a course, or at any rate two or three leads, and study the position of the treble in Coursing Order.

The treble's path in Coursing Order through the other bells is a cyclical one, and it has to occupy each position

in turn. There are seven working bells and consequently seven positions between them. Therefore, as soon as seven of these Shunts are made the bells are in the necessary Coursing Order for coming round, with the treble between the third and the second. See what has happened when the seventh Shunt has been made in Double Bob. The following are the actual changes:—

87654312	
78563421	Extreme B.

87654321	
78563412	

If we carry on with plain hunting the bells would run round at the lead end. Actually in Double Bob we make second place and seven more Shunts are necessary before the course is completed.

We saw just now that we can cut the plain course of Bob Major into fourteen pieces and rearrange them as Reverse Bob Major. If we rearrange them in a different order we can get Double Bob.

But any combination of Shunts A and B, provided they are seven in number, will bring the bells round. For instance, prick out B.A.A.A.B.B.A. and see what happens. Or take any other combination you may think of. Or, to put it another way, take the half leads into which we have cut the plain course of Bob Major and see in how many ways you can arrange them into a round block.

You will be sure to have some pieces left over because none of these round blocks (except the courses of Plain, Reverse and Double Bob) will consist of the full 112 changes. But the experiment is worth doing because you will not only get a good insight into the foundation of method construction, but you will understand a good deal about how the three methods Plain Bob, Reverse Bob and Double Bob can be spliced into one composition.

Method splicing is probably going to be the great development of the art in the future. Up till now it has been almost entirely in the hands of the more advanced bands, because only the most difficult methods have been spliced. But the idea can be applied to the simpler methods quite easily, and there is no reason why a band which can ring Plain Bob should not splice it with Reverse and Double when once the principle of the thing is understood. To make the alterations is not much harder than to make bobs and singles, and anyhow it is a thing excellently well adapted for handbell ringing, as the Cambridge University Guild found out several years ago.

LADIES' GUILD.**GOOD MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.**

Over 20 ringers took the opportunity of having a good afternoon's ringing at the Ladies' Guild meeting held at Handsworth (Sheffield) on Saturday week. Early comers had the pleasure of seeing a pretty wedding and, at the suggestion of Mr. Lewis, the bells were 'fired' as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

Following this good start, touches were rung in various methods, including Stedman, Yorkshire, London, Plain Bob and a touch of Cambridge, which was a delight to hear and a joy to take part in.

At the business meeting the secretary (Mrs. Kelly) regretted that the attendance of ladies was poor, and read letters of apology from Miss Bowling, Mrs. Cotterell and Mrs. Haywood.

The following meetings will take place: Shipley (March), Todmorden (June), while local meetings may also be arranged between these periods.

On returning to the tower the secretary was thanked by Mr. G. Lewis and Mr. Palmer on behalf of the gentlemen for making possible such a useful meeting under present conditions. The bells, which are a war memorial, were rung down at 6.10 p.m.

AN OLD-TIME WEST COUNTRY BAND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There has recently been a good deal in 'The Ringing World' about rising and falling in peal, ringing a bell with a broken stay, some mention of the West Country term 'scientific' for change ringing proper, and, more important still, of change ringing in the great centres like Loudon and Norwich a century ago.

It may interest some people to know, especially in the West, that at the village of Cheddar there were ringers who were adepts in all these matters except 'scientific,' but even in that they came pretty close, for they rang half-pull changes over 100 years ago.

I should like to say first of all that to ring at all was pretty difficult. Until 1836 the bells were rung from the ground floor, the height to the vaulted ceiling is upwards of 35ft. and there were, of course, no guides for the ropes. It is amazing how elusive and skittish the sallies could be, and it was a rare thing to find a stranger able to handle a bell at all.

In spite of difficulties, Mr. Charles Copley (son of the Vicar, who left there in 1835) taught the ringers to ring the 'Vowr an' twenties' in half-pull changes. They learned no method, each man always rang the same bell, and he learnt the changes in a kind of sing-song, 'Up after the first, down after the third, In' after something else, etc. I do not know if up and down meant hunting up and down, or hand and backstrokes, or whether the 'In' meant stepping back at a dodge, or leading, or what it might be. Some of the men who were farmers rang in smocks, and two or three were noted for their physical strength.

I have been told that their favourite feat, for which they enjoyed some local fame, was to remove the sliders, ring the bells up in peal, which was done very slowly and perfectly, then ring the 'Vowr an' twenties,' 'Stand' by holding the bells on the balance, another ring and lower them. Some people claimed that they have even passed a cider cup from hand to hand, and took a drink with the bells held on the balance, and it was the mention of beer in Mr. Trollope's articles which brought the whole thing back to my mind.

R. ALSOP.

P.S.—Most of the foregoing (not the cider incident) I learned from the late Mr. George Hill, postmaster, whose name may be seen on the trebles of the present octave. Mr. Hill's father, a former postmaster, sometimes rang the treble before the old band broke up. Cheddar bells were, until 1834, a ring of five, three of them remain untouched, the treble (1618), the pre-Reformation second, and the 1759 Bilbie tenor in D.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A meeting of this district was held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday last, and was attended by members from Fareham, North Stoneham, Liss, Petersfield, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's) and Titchfield. Mr. C. E. Smith (Godalming) was also present.

Ringling took place from 2.30 p.m., and evensong was attended in the church at 5 p.m., at which the Guild form of service was used, conducted by the Rev. A. Van der Byl, who gave the address. Tea was served in the Parish Hall, after which the business meeting was held. In the unavoidable absence of the secretary (Mr. A. T. Greenwood), his duties were carried out by the general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers), supported by the Master (Mr. G. Williams).

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Fareham on April 20th, 1940.

A talk on the future arrangements of ringing in the district took place, and Mr. W. Linter (Fareham) was thanked for his services in arranging mid-week practices for towers in the district, and it was agreed to recommend the annual district meeting to defray his expenses for postages, etc., incurred in arranging these meetings.

The Cathedral authorities would welcome their bells being used for practices on Saturday afternoons, and it was agreed to hold meetings for this purpose on November 18th and December 16th next, future practices being fixed from each quarterly meeting.

At the close of the meeting votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the ladies who had provided tea. Ringing during the day consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Bristol, London and Spliced Surprise Major.

WEDNESDAY BAND RING FOR ORGAN DEDICATION.

The rebuilt organ at Bishop's Waltham Church, Hants, was opened at a special service on October 4th. The address was given by the Rev. Canon L. S. Etheridge, Rector of Droxford, the service having been conducted by the Rev. N. H. Stubbs (Rector). The bells were rung for an hour before the service, and touches brought round in the four standard methods by members of the local band, assisted by members of the 'Wednesday' band, including Messrs. F. S. Bayley, W. Linter, sen., W. Linter, jun., H. Beckett, G. Williams, L. Knott and Mrs. Guy.

The newly-constructed organ was played for the first time at the Sunday service on the following Sunday, when Mr. Haydn Hull was the organist. A small balance is still wanted to wipe off the sum which has been expended, viz., between £700 and £800.

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♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Ringers proposing to visit Kingston-on-Thames to-morrow for the joint meeting of the Surrey, Middlesex and Guildford Associations will be pleased to learn that, with the approval of the police authorities, the bells at the Parish Church will be available in the evening as well as in the afternoon.

One hundred years ago to-morrow a new ring of eight bells was opened at Southover Church, Lewes, Sussex. The centenary will be duly celebrated by ringing and a dinner. By request of the police, however, the ringing will be limited to about three-quarters of an hour, and consequently devoted to an attempt for a quarter-peal.

The practice at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, which Mr. Jim Davis is trying to hold on Saturday afternoons is proving, so far, a success. Last Saturday the four standard Surprise Major methods were rung, both separately and spliced.

Ninety years ago to-morrow, Henry Dains, so long and so well known as a ringer, a composer, and a member of the Central Council, was born at Tibenham, a village in Norfolk, where there is a ring of six bells. Here, before the war, was one of the first bands to take a part in the great development of Minor ringing in these last 30 years or so.

On October 26th, 1822, the Wakefield ringers, with Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, rang the earliest peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. After that the method was practically forgotten, and when it was re-discovered 40 years ago, the peal rung at Cheltenham was claimed as the first in the method.

On the same date in 1837 Thomas Tolladay called a peal of 7,325 Grandsire Cinques for the St. James' Society at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

On Wednesday evening, October 30th, 1813, was rung on a peal of eight bells at the house of Mr. William Booth, Bailey Lane, Sheffield, a complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 5,088 changes, in 2 hours and 34 minutes, by the following artists, viz.: William Hudson 1-2, William Booth 3-4, Henry Grayson 5-6, George Hudson 7-8. The conductor of the peal was Mr. George Hudson. This was probably the first double-handed peal rung 'in hand.'

On October 15th, 1876, the bells of St. Albans Abbey, which had recently been rebung after a silence of more than 40 years, were rung by Souire Procter and his band from Benington. They rang a touch of 2,500 changes in seven methods, viz., Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Superlative Surprise Major, London Surprise Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples. It was, of course, not 'spliced' ringing, for each method was started from rounds, but at the time it was a very fine performance.

The report of the handbell peal at Crayford on October 15th, as sent to us, was inaccurate. Mr. G. V. Murphy rang 1-2 and Mr. E. A. Barnett 3-4, not vice versa as printed.

SALEHURST RINGER'S DEATH.

OVER FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

On Saturday, October 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Salehurst, Sussex, with bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Mr. James Goodsell, a respected member of the local band for 51 years. The ringing took place immediately after the interment at the Parish Church: E. Avery 1, F. Morgan 2, W. H. Hoad (conductor) 3, A. E. Edwards 4, L. Jarvis 5, W. Gorringe 6, E. Mills 7, A. Hoad 8.

DEATH OF MRS. FREDERICK DAY.

The death has taken place at Eye, Suffolk, of Mrs. Day, widow of the late Frederick Day, who 40 years ago was well known in the Eastern Counties as a bellhanger and bellringer. The deceased lady, who was 81 years of age, was buried at Eye Cemetery.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

THE MINOR OCTAVE AT EXETER RECOMMENDED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In Mr. Smale's letter under the above title in this week's issue of our paper he asks, 'What about a course of Stedman Triples on the minor eight, with the eleventh as tenor, from Exeter Cathedral?'

I once had the pleasure of taking a rope in a course of Stedman Triples on this octave, and in over 40 years of ringing on practically every important peal in England I have never heard anything so beautiful.

Being in a minor key it is particularly appealing, and to me was an inspiration to higher things. We all know that for services of prayer and intercession, such as are held in Lent, many hymns and chants are written in a minor key, and in my view a record such as Mr. Smale suggests would be particularly appropriate for the use of the B.B.C. before their studio services and in times of national intercession. It would, I feel sure, create the same feeling in its hearers as it did with me.

I do not suggest that this should take the place of Bow Bells, but merely, as Mr. Trotman describes, a Sunday service touch. As is well known, the eleventh at Exeter is one of the best bells in the West of England, and to my ear has most of the tonal qualities of the beautiful tenor at Lavenham. It can be imagined what a wonderful effect a bell (and peal) twice the weight of the latter would have.

S. R. ROPER.

Croydon.

NO BETTER ALTERNATIVE.

Dear Sir,—I have been surprised to read the letters from Mr. Trotman and others on the above subject. In my opinion, Caters, with the tenor covering, or call changes on similar lines, are far superior, from a musical point of view, to Major, or, indeed, even-bell changes on any number of bells, while plain courses or short touches of Grandsire or Stedman would be unsatisfactory because the interval signal is used for such short periods that they would almost invariably be faded out in the middle and so leave an impression of incompleteness.

It is not clear what 'Nemo' means by 'fiddling about with 7-8-9.' The changes are made in a methodical manner, one pair of bells at a time, until the 'Queens' position is reached, first on the back bells and finally on the whole ten. With 6-8-0 behind most of the time, not only is the musical effect good, but some sort of finish is obtained, no matter where the bells are faded out, and, taking everything into consideration, I cannot imagine any alternative which would be an improvement on the present record.

G. A. PECK.

Claygate, Surrey.

TYPICALLY ENGLISH.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest the letters that have appeared in the columns of 'The Ringing World' with regard to the B.B.C. signal. To me the signal is almost perfect. The ringing is magnificent, a sample of what good striking sounds like. That signal is heard by millions of people all over the world; it is typically English, because the bells are English, the ringing is English. It starts from rounds and finishes with rounds, which is the system our forefathers taught us. Why spoil a splendid record of ringing which no other nation can produce for a mere 30,000 English ringers? Let it rest as a typical and unique English signal which none can copy.

J. HUNT.

Taunton.

NO CHANGE NEEDED.

Dear Sir,—Bow bells are the most famous bells in the world, so why change them? But, then, some people are 'always never satisfied.'

JOHN JAGGAR.

Birmingham.

A FALSE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB.

In examining the compositions rung in the past by members of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. W. Barton, the honorary peals secretary, has discovered that the peal of 5,152 Treble Bob Major by J. Thorpe, rung at Drighlington on March 23rd, 1919, is false. The peal is No. 2,584 of the association's performances, and was conducted by Joseph E. Sykes. Internal falseness occurs in the fifth and last courses of the peal.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

AN INTERRUPTED MEETING AT DERBY.

On Saturday, October 21st, the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association held a meeting at St. Alkmund's, Derby. Members attended from Sawley, Ripley, Heanor and local ringers from St. Andrew's, St. Luke's and St. Peter's. Stedman Doubles was the first method rung, followed by Cambridge Minor. Double Norwich unfortunately came to grief, but a course of Cambridge Surprise Minor was successfully brought round. Then followed a touch of Stedman Doubles, and when everything was going splendidly the clapper of the fifth bell came out. As the bell chamber was locked and the caretaker had gone into town, taking the key with him, the meeting had to be abandoned so far as St. Alkmund's was concerned. Fortunately ringing for a wedding was taking place at St. Peter's, so a cyclist was quickly dispatched to tell them to carry on till the meeting was transferred, which was accomplished in about 20 minutes. Here Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung.

The business meeting which followed afterwards was held in the belfry, Mr. Jack Bailey presiding. It was decided to carry on with the monthly meetings, but to confine them to the immediate vicinity of Derby on account of the bus services, and also to the limited period of daylight, especially when summer time is terminated. Spordon was proposed as the next tower to be visited, and if the bells were not available, to try Alvaston as an alternative, the meeting to be held on November 18th. Votes of thanks to the Vicar of St. Alkmund's and to the caretaker, and to those friends at St. Peter's for so readily placing the bells at the disposal of the members, were proposed by Mr. Jack Bailey and carried unanimously.

HINCKLEY DISTRICT MEETING.

An attendance of 23 was recorded at the Hinckley District meeting at Sharnford on Saturday, October 21st, members and friends attending from a wide area. An early start was the order of the day, and soon Grandsire and Stedman Doubles for the youngsters were followed by Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise Minor, and Double Court, including one touch of what was stated to be 'Spliced Double Court,' which, however, came round, much to the surprise of everyone, including, it must be whispered, the conductor—a ringer of some renown. Ringing continued until about 5.45, when the bells were lowered in peal. Silencers had been fitted to the bells for the benefit of the local inhabitants and also to enable the conductors to 'conduct,' the bells being somewhat noisy.

Some splendid tune ringing by Mr. C. H. Webb and his 'lads' preceded the short meeting, presided over by Mr. A. Ballard, at which the following towers were represented: Broughton Ashley, Burbage, Croft, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Sapcote and the local company. There were also present Mr. C. H. Webb and party from Keresley, Coventry and Mr. W. Johnson, of Hugglescote. Mr. E. Morris was also present earlier in the afternoon, but had, unfortunately, to leave early.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Croft on November 18th—the last day of summer time—and also one at Hinckley on December 9th, providing these dates were suitable to local conditions.

By fixing the dates of both meetings it was hoped that local towers would be able to arrange their own Saturday practices in between.

It was pointed out that the Croft date would fall on the regular meeting date of the Warwickshire Guild, but it was felt that, while normally the Warwickshire date would be avoided, under present conditions, when regard had to be given to the periods of moonlight available, the clashing of meetings was unavoidable.

It was announced that Burbage hoped to be able to arrange fortnightly Saturday practices and that Earl Shilton were trying to black-out their tower in readiness for regular mid-week practice nights.

Thanks to the Rector concluded the meeting.

The general opinion of all was that the meeting had been the best for some time and that other meetings should be on the same lines.

It is said that a previous incumbent at Sharnford was keen on cock fighting. One Sunday, after the birds had been in action, he heard Stanton bells ringing. 'Come on,' he said, 'there's time for another fight before service.'

On another occasion he warned a visiting parson that on no account was he to use the pulpit as he had a hen 'sitting' there and she must not be disturbed.

A BELL RESTORATION.

The Rev. G. S. Thorpe, Rector and hon. treasurer of Lydford Church Bells Rehangng Fund, has announced that he has received £72 13s. in cash and promises, including a grant of £7 6s. from Tavistock Ruri-decanal Bell Ringing Festival Fund towards the cost of rehangng the bells. This is sufficient to pay for the contract (£71) and small incidental expenses incurred, the cost of the faculty having been paid by the church expenses account. The rehangng of the bells is to be completed by December 1st.

PEAL IN BLACKED-OUT BELFRY.

A peal of Minor has been rung at Tempsford, Bedfordshire, as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ream, two highly respected villagers, on their golden wedding. The belfry was blacked-out for the occasion. Afterwards the ringers were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Ream.

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CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In olden times, London consisted of what is now the city. Round about it, outside, was open and sparsely populated country, dotted here and there with a few villages and small towns, and between them farmhouses and hamlets.

To meet the needs of these latter, a few churches were built, and when men talked or wrote about them they spoke of them as 'in the fields,' to distinguish them from the other churches with the same dedication inside the walls. Thus the tiny church that 'standeth all alone as utterly forsaken, old, and weather beaten,' beyond the village of Islington, was called St. Pancras-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from St. Pancras, Soper Lane; the humble church by Charing Cross was called St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from the important and wealthy church of St. Martin-le-Grand; and, further north, where the country lane, which ran north from St. Martin's joined the main road from London to Oxford, was another small church, called St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from St. Giles-without-Cripplegate.

To-day you have to travel very many miles from the sites on which those churches stood before you come to anything remotely resembling a field, but the names still survive, at least in the last two instances; and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and St. Giles'-in-the-Fields are two important churches, both of which have played a very distinguished part in the history of the ringing Exercise.

The story of St. Giles' goes back to the first year of the twelfth century. In 1101 Queen Matilda, wife of Henry I., built and endowed a hospital for lepers. This hospital was suppressed in the reign of Henry VIII., and the buildings and lands passed into lay hands; but the chapel still continued to serve the surrounding population and became a parish church in 1547. According to the inventory taken in 1552, it possessed 'a payre of organs, iij bells wythe a saunce bell,' and, in their returns to the Royal Commissioners, the churchwardens included among their expenses for the year, 'Item for makyng of a bell whele ijs viijd,' showing that the bells were hung for ringing.

In 1600 the district was still surrounded by open fields, but soon afterwards London began to push itself outwards in that direction, and preparations began to be made for building a new church. Four persons were appointed by the vestry in 1617 'to inspect the account of Mr. Bigg concerning the charge of building the steeple and casting the bells and also of buying some new bells,' when £125 17s. 5d. due to him for money expended thereon was ordered to be paid.

The new church, a small building, was consecrated on June 26th, 1623, and in the steeple was hung a ring of six bells by Ellis Knight, of Reading. Two of Knight's bells, the present third and fourth, are still in the tower.

In 1685 the two largest were recast by William and Philip Wightman, the tenor at the expense of the Duchess of Dudley, into whose family the old hospital lands had passed, and who had been a great benefactor to the church. These two bells also still survive.

By 1700 there were many houses in Drury Lane, and by the middle of the eighteenth century the whole of St. Giles' was covered with buildings. They were for the most part a network of mean and sordid streets, the haunts of vice and poverty, and for long afterwards the district had

almost the worst reputation of any in London. The once notorious Seven Dials is in the heart of the parish and little more than a stone's throw from the church.

The church of 1630 was small and inconvenient, and a century later, after Parliament had voted money to provide new churches for London, it was decided to rebuild the structure. The design, which was by Henry Flit-



ST. GILES'-IN-THE-FIELDS IN THE YEAR 1800.

croft, a pupil of James Gibbs, the architect of St. Martin's, is not without merit. The church was begun in 1730 and opened four years later, the total cost of building being £10,059 15s. 9d., of which £8,000 was supplied by the Parliamentary grant.

Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, was employed to overhaul the bells for the new church. He recast the old third and fourth and added two trebles, thus completing the octave which is still in the steeple.

Musically, the bells are rather a poor lot, but they have played an important part in the story of change ringing, and several very interesting peals have been rung on them.

(To be continued.)

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NEIGHBOURING TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A practice is to be held at Ibstock on Saturday to meet any ringers who care to pay us a visit, more especially those from neighbouring towers, and we are prepared to consider visiting other local towers on different Saturday afternoons in order to keep up the interest. I personally feel that much improvement could be made if other groups of towers would do the same.

May I take this opportunity of appealing to ringers in the Loughborough District. M.C.A., not to let the present shortage of official meetings interfere with the work of the district unnecessarily?

A. E. ROWLEY.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

BIRMINGHAM RINGERS' GIFT TO MR. AND MRS. G. E. FEARN.

In spite of the 'black-out' and the curtailment of travelling facilities, the quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham held on Saturday, October 7th, proved quite a success and justified the initiative of the officers in holding it. No doubt the fact that it was held in the belfry of St. Martin's Church in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, and that it was possible to have one hour's ringing helped towards its success. It was also a representative gathering, as members attended from the following towers: St. Martin's, the Cathedral, Aston, Erdington, King's Norton, Coventry, Shirley, Perry Barr and Selly Oak.

In the absence of the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, the vice-president (Mr. Albert Walker) occupied the chair at the business meeting.

A letter was read from the Ringing Master, Mr. F. E. Haynes, apologising for his absence, which was unavoidable, on account of his having been evacuated with his school. As it was uncertain how long he would be away, he felt in the interests of the Guild he should place his resignation in the hands of the members.

After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that he should remain in office until the annual meeting, when it was hoped the position would be clearer.

It is usual at this meeting to make preliminary arrangements for the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, but in the present circumstances it was agreed to defer this until the annual meeting.

The tower election of Mr. R. H. Robinson, of Portsmouth, was duly ratified.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting at headquarters on Saturday, January 6th.

Under the heading of 'Any other business,' the secretary referred to the recent wedding of Mr. G. E. Fearn, the Ringing Master at the Cathedral. His personal friends in the Guild had decided to give Mr. and Mrs. Fearn a wedding present, and although this had not yet been procured, he thought that as Mr. and Mrs. Fearn were present it would be well to take the opportunity of presenting it to them that evening. They had expressed a wish for a frameless mirror, which would be obtained and given them shortly. He had much pleasure in asking the chairman to make the presentation.

Mr. Albert Walker, in making the presentation (which took the form of touching the belfry mirror by Mr. and Mrs. Fearn), wished them both long life and happiness. Mr. Fearn, he said, was a first-class ringer, and, he felt sure, would make a first-class husband. He had no doubt, either, that Mrs. Fearn would make an excellent wife. On behalf of all the assembled company, he wished them every happiness with good fortune.

Mr. Fearn responded on behalf of his wife and himself. He thanked Mr. Walker for the good wishes he had so happily expressed, and thanked his many friends in the Guild for their kind gift, which, needless to say, he and his wife very much appreciated.

Several good touches on handbells, including Stedman and Erin Cinques, concluded the evening, and everyone present expressed the opinion that the meeting had been a success.

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

MR. W. KEEBLE'S ADVICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As one who has had some past experience in handbell ringing, I should like to make a few comments on this interesting part of the art. At the outset I must warmly thank your able contributor, Mr. C. W. Woolley, on his well thought out article in last week's issue, and I hope to see further articles from such an able pen. I should like also to thank both my friends, Mr. J. Hunt and Mr. G. Symonds, for their letters. I am in entire agreement with Mr. Hunt when he says do not try to ring two handbells. I presume he means do not start with two—that will come later. Practice makes perfect. Mr. Symonds appears to favour two bells, but in my experience it is more difficult with some ringing single-handed and others double. I should, therefore, prefer to start all single-handed. With a good handbell band, thoroughly conversant with ringing double-handed, it is quite a different matter. I should like Mr. Symonds to give us his views on this point. Which is easier for beginners—all single-handed or some single and some double? Your readers may like to know that I was recently asked for some advice on this interesting subject by a brother ringer, which I gave to the best of my ability, and it so happens that the advice I sent was that given by Mr. J. Hunt. Now, sir, I come to the P's. Pencil, paper, punctuality, practice and perseverance will, in the end, all help to produce success; but success will not come unless all the above P's are combined.

W. KEEBLE.

AT CIRENCESTER

A touch of 547 Stedman Caters was rung at Cirencester, Glos., on Sunday, October 1st, by A. Painter 1, H. L. Cooke 2, H. S. Parsons 3, F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 4, W. Godwin 5, F. J. Lewis, jun. 6, S. R. Hicks 7, J. Godwin 8, W. H. Havward 9, F. P. Bloxham 10. This was the longest length of Stedman Caters by Messrs. W. and J. Godwin. On the previous Sunday for evening service two courses of Grand sire Cinques were rung, this being E. Cooper's first attempt on twelve bells.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' TRICENTENARY.

AN INTERESTING MEMENTO.

The late Mr. W. Roughton was for many years one of the most ardent supporters of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Its recent tricentenary aroused his keenest interest and he largely contributed to the success of the festival connected with it.

About a year ago, Mr. Roughton's proposal that a memorial book should be made for future reference was adopted by the society and he was authorised to carry out his idea. It will be remembered that he had artistic gifts as a printer, and his arrangement of both type and format was always admired. His production of the society's booklet in 1928, giving its history and rules, is an excellent example of the revival of the art of printing. The members present, therefore, were confident that the result would be one worthy of the festival and all concerned.

The resulting memorial book was received by the society from Mr. Roughton's son on September 19th last and was much admired by the members present, for it exceeded all their expectations. It was Mr. Roughton's last work, and just as the architect Brunelleschi was wheeled to his window for one farewell look at his masterpiece—the Duomo, at Florence—so Mr. Roughton approved the final details of the work and saw its completion as he lay dying upon his sick bed. It is thus, also, his own memorial.

The volume is large folio, bound in brown morocco leather. After a simple but striking title page there come, mounted on and in the strong ivory tinted leaves, the Orders of Service at St. Paul's Cathedral and at St. Dionis Backchurch; the dinner booklet and the invitation sheet (reproduced from the society's 18th century one); photographs depicting events of the day, and, finally, several pages of news cuttings from 'The Ringing World,' 'Times,' etc., giving together a detailed account of all that was done on that eventful day. The titling and explanatory lettering are a fine accompaniment to this remarkable collection and the work is quite an acquisition. It is well worthy the place which it is sure to maintain amongst the society's other unique and valuable books.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESS OF A FIVE-BELL MEETING.

The effects of the situation and black-out were evident at the quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, which was held at Bozeat on October 14th, when 20 ringers were present, compared with a pre-war average of 46. However, the following belfries were represented: Irthlingborough, Wollaston, Mears Ashby, Wilby, Easton Maudit, Brasfield, Turvey, Harrold, Bronham and Bozeat.

A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Marlow), who is also branch president. He gave an interesting address from the text taken from I. Chronicles, xvi., 42: 'And with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should make a sound, and with musical instruments of God.'

This the preacher likened to the work of the ringer. He urged the members to do their best to carry on this work, which he considered was more than ever necessary now in these dark days, when people needed the message of hope which the church bells were meant to provide. He referred also to the various messages cast on their own Bozeat bells.

Tea was provided in the Church Hall by willing lady helpers. The business proceedings were presided over by the Rev. J. H. Marlow, supported by the branch secretary, Mr. A. Bigley.

The gathering stood a moment in silent tribute to the memory of the late Rector of Isham, the Rev. E. J. Atkins, who was for many years an honorary member of the Guild.

The secretary mentioned that the Rev. L. Crowther Green had cancelled the proposed special meeting, which should have taken place earlier. The next meeting was fixed for Irthlingborough and will be held in January.

Evening practice meetings are still being held, and take place as follows: Wollaston, Monday night, 7.30; Bozeat, Friday night, 7.30; Turvey, Tuesday night, 7; Brasfield, Thursday night, 7.15.

Five first peal certificates were presented to the following members: J. Stuart and W. Griggs, of Wollaston, Miss E. Scarr (Mears Ashby), G. W. Partridge (Wilby), and G. Brasfield (Wellingborough), who, with their conductors, were congratulated on their performance.

A letter was read from the Vicar of Great Doddington, asking for assistance to teach new ringers at that village, and it was decided to seek further particulars.

Good wishes were received from Mr. F. Barber, the former secretary. The secretary asked that the names of all members joining the Forces should be sent to him, so that they might be kept on the books.

A vote of thanks was given to the ladies for providing the tea, also to the Vicar and organist (Mr. E. Holloway, of Wollaston) for their services.

After the meeting the Vicar's handbells were brought out, and three courses of Bob Minor were rung by A. Bigley, A. Y. Tyler and D. Cockings, and the Bozeat team amused the company by lapping a course of Bob Royal. The church bells, a heavy peal of five, were rung during the afternoon and evening to various methods of Doubles.

OVERCOMING THE BLACK-OUT.**HOW A VILLAGE BAND HAS PROGRESSED.**

No method ringing has been done at the little village of Wadhurst, Sussex, for over a quarter of a century, and the band attached to the church when the war started might well have been content to excuse any attempt to revive it at such a time as this. Here, however, is the record of what has been done. Mr. C. A. Bassett, assistant secretary of the East Grinstead and District Guild, writes:—

Since the outbreak of war the local band at Wadhurst have been practising on the lines described by Mr. J. Hunt in his letter in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' and it has met with considerable success.

When we started five weeks ago only three of us could ring by rope-sight, so we set to work with the other seven, who could just ring one certain bell to call changes off a blackboard. In the blacked-out vestry rope-sight was thoroughly explained, and after two practices, at least four of the seven could take any bell and ring a plain course of Original Minor.

Last Monday night two more recruits were roped in, and they picked it up so quickly that with one on the treble and one inside we attempted Bob Minor and got into the fourth lead before breaking down. We are now busy on Sunday mornings teaching these two to handle a tower bell, and we are pleased to say the others are slowly getting rope-sight on the tower bells.

We have every reason to believe that 'method' ringing will return to Wadhurst after a lapse of over 25 years. The local record is very poor. The tower has never been affiliated to the county, a local band has never rung a peal, until last year only one local (the late Sam Wallis) had ever joined a guild or rung a peal. Only one meeting has ever been held at Wadhurst, about 1901, and the Hawkhurst Guild, which had arranged one for next Saturday, October 28th, has cancelled it. So, whatever happens, we shall not let anyone down, because the tower has never been on the 'up.'

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**WARM WELCOME AT WIDFORD.**

Members of the South-Eastern Division of the Essex Association were warmly welcomed to a meeting at Widford on Saturday by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Leslie Pike).

Between 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon various methods were rung and afterwards a service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, the lesson being read by the Master, Dr. Spencer Phillips.

Tea was served in the British Legion Hall by Mrs. Jennings and her helpers, but unfortunately several ringers were unable to stay owing to the 'black-out' making travelling difficult and some having to go on duty.

The business meeting was presided over by the Rector, and Mr. A. Booty, of Ingafestone, was elected a ringing member.

It was proposed to hold the annual meeting at Writtle on November 18th if permission could be obtained.

It was considered that since practice nights at present are impossible, it would be of great value if Saturday afternoon practices were held, so Great Baddow, Danbury and Boreham were decided upon for the next three weeks, ringing to commence at 2.30 p.m.

The towers represented were Great Baddow, Boreham, Chelmsford, Galleywood, Maldon, Springfield, Little Waltham, Widford, Braintree, Bocking and Newmarket.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN SHROPSHIRE RINGER.

The death recently occurred at Oswestry, after a somewhat protracted illness, of Mr. Robert T. Evans, a well-known Shropshire ringer. Deceased, who was affectionately known to his friends as 'Old Bob,' was 68 years of age, and learned to ring at Oswestry, where he resided practically all his life. Although he rang only about 40 peals, he was always a keen ringer and did a lot of 'spade-work' in the North Shropshire district, no distance being too far for him to travel for a practice, meeting or peal, etc., or to assist beginners.

At one period, about 15 years ago, he used to travel the eight-mile journey to Ellesmere quite regularly in order to make up a band to practise Stedman Triples there, and he regularly attended the meetings of the Shropshire Association. His peals consisted of Grand sire Doubles and Triples (some of which he conducted), Stedman Doubles and Triples, and Bob Major. He was also a keen bandsman, and was for several years a member of the Oswestry Town Band.

At his funeral the bells were rung half-muffled and six ringers acted as bearers. His passing will be keenly regretted by all who knew him, and his loss sadly felt by all his ringing colleagues in the district.

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 MONDAY.**

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (South and West District), **GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (Chertsey District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (North-Western District).—A combined meeting of members of the above will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, F. E. Hawthorne and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley (10 bells), on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 28th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock to 6.30. All other branch members cordially invited. No ringing after 6.30 p.m.—J. H. Ridyard, Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, Oct. 28th. The ten bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—By the kind permission of the Rector there will be an open practice at Halewood from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28th. No tea will be provided. No business meeting. All ringers cordially invited. It is hoped that the ordinary monthly meetings will be resumed on and from Nov. 11th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Lea on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells (6) available from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Short service. Tea at 5.30 in the Women's Institute, which will be available for a social evening. Should events take a more serious turn and the meeting have to be cancelled, all those who have let me know before Thursday, Oct. 26th, that they will be present will be notified. P.S.—There is still a very convenient train service to and from Lincoln.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cranford on Saturday, October 28th. Ringing from 2 to 5.15 p.m. Short service and tea to follow, concluding with business meeting.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The meeting arranged for Westhoughton on October 28th has been cancelled.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—A practice will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, October 28th, at 2.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Owing to many difficulties, the Grimsby District meeting at Scunthorpe, on Saturday, October 28th, is cancelled.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec.

RAMPTON CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE.—The new treble to make five will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Ely on Wednesday, November 1st, at 3.30 p.m. Ringers welcomed. The bell cast by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Shalford on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing. It is essential that all those requiring tea should notify me not later than Monday, Oct. 30th.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Nov. 4th (instead of Oct. 21st). Ringing from 3 till 6 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A commemoration luncheon to celebrate the 302nd anniversary of the society will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, on Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 1.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Special meeting at Malins Lee on Saturday, November 4th. Refreshments only for those notifying Mr. A. Woodvine, Meadow House, Dawley, Salop. Ringing afternoon and evening.—W. A. Farmer, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Forget the war and come and enjoy Withyham's nice octave, 2.30 p.m. till dusk, on Saturday, November 4th. All make own arrangements for tea. Handbells available.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. until dark. Please don't expect tea. All ringers will be welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The next meeting of the Lincoln District due to take place at Caythorp on Saturday, Nov. 4th, will be held instead at Lincoln Cathedral (12 bells, tenor 24 cwt.). Bells available from 1.30 to 4 p.m. Short service and meeting to follow. No tea arrangements.—K. W. Maver, Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Hanley on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (10) available from 3

p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. N. Sargeant, 58, Eastbourne Road, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday? Annual committee meeting at 3 p.m.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Shore on Saturday, November 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Subscriptions due. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Annes-on-Sea Parish Church on Saturday, November 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.—The bells will be dedicated on Sunday, November 5th, at 3.30 p.m. The ring of eight bells tuned and rebung and four new bells installed by John Taylor and Co.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Bocking on Saturday, November 11th. Bells available from 2 p.m. until dusk. Short service followed by tea and business meeting. Please note: Under the present circumstances tea can be provided only for those who notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, by Wednesday, November 8th. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Annual quarterly meeting due to be held this month at Rochester postponed, Cathedral bells not being rung. Members' views for or against holding of meetings in the Rochester district during the war period would be gladly received, and should be sent without delay to G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

RICKMANSWORTH.—Grandsire and Stedman Caters are rung every Sunday at Rickmansworth Parish Church. Visitors welcome. 5.30 p.m. sharp.—J. H. Freeborn.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of the Rev. K. C. Davis is now All Hallows' Vicarage, Bristol 5. Telephone, Bristol 56496.

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