



No. 1,497. Vol. XXXIV.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1939.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

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REVIVAL OF MEETINGS.

The revival of activity among ringers all over the country is very emphatically evidenced by the large number of meetings advertised in our last issue. Nearly forty such gatherings were announced. It is gratifying that the associations are getting back, as nearly as conditions permit, to a normal procedure, and now that they have had time to take stock of the position, we hope they will find it possible to carry on with the good work. One doubtful point, at any rate, has been settled, and the position of church bellringing has been made absolutely clear by the Ministry of Home Security. There is no need for further hesitation among either clergy or association officials in providing opportunities for meetings. We can only repeat that for the maintenance of the art, and with it service to the Church, as well as providing a contribution to the upkeep of the public morale—for the cessation of all but war activities would quickly have a depressing effect—there is every justification for keeping the bells of the churches ringing for normal purposes. And in this connection meetings and practices have their part. The question of peal ringing may come in a slightly different category, but there are occasions when even peals may be rung without any affront to public sentiment.

The 'black out' is the most serious handicap to ringing at the moment. The lighting restrictions must be complied with, and there are many belfries where the making of effective provision under the regulations is almost out of the question, on account of the size of the belfry windows. The towers with only small window openings, which in ordinary times are often looked upon with disfavour, have come into their own, as it were, for they can now be effectively blacked out, whereas the well-lighted towers are debarred from use after nightfall. Nevertheless ringers are overcoming the difficulties by holding their practices on Saturday afternoons, as we suggested immediately after war began. There is, however, one point in connection with these Saturday afternoon practices that should be borne in mind. They should not be allowed to clash with association official meetings. Local practices ought always to give way for the larger gatherings of this kind, not only because they are more important, but also because the ringers owe a loyalty to the associations, which demands co-operation in making the meetings a success. In normal times, Saturday meetings do not clash with practices, which ordinarily take place on other evenings of the week, but now that the black-out has put an end to ringing after nightfall in so many places, Saturday afternoons are the

(Continued on page 714.)

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only alternative. There seems, however, to be some evidence that these Saturday practices are interfering with the attendance at the association meetings that are now being arranged, and at Kilburn, on Saturday, the question formed the subject of a resolution at a gathering of the Middlesex Association. After all, meetings are in themselves a practice and, indeed, usually provide a more advanced practice than can be got at the average tower by a local band. There is need in these days for every encouragement to be given to ringers to support the efforts of the associations, and it is hardly fair to those responsible for arranging the meetings that there should be rival claims, as it were, in the same locality. There should be a full measure of co-operation in this matter, and we feel sure that ringers have only to give the matter a moment's serious thought to see which way their duty lies.

SIX BELL PEALS.

POULTON-LE-FYLDE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*ALBERT ADCOCK	Treble	JOHN H. FOSTER	4
RUFUS COWELL	2	CHARLES SHARPLES	5
JOHN HANBY	3	BERNARD H. HALL	Tenor

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Miss Mary Ramsden
and Mr. Thomas Swarbrick. First peal of Doubles in the Fylde.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
(St. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*WILLIAM MCGREGOR	Treble	GABRIEL LINDOFF	4
*DAVID MCGREGOR	2	FRED E. DUKES	5
*MISS ADA C. DUKES	3	*MATTHEW DOOLAN	Tenor

Conducted by FRED E. DUKES.

* First peal. First peal by all in the method. First peal as
conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

HEADINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT 27, ANCASTER ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

MISS L. KATHLEEN BOWLING 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON	5-6	
JOHN AMBLER	3-4	*CANON C. C. MARSHALL	7-8

Composed by J. R. FRITCHARD. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal on handbells.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes

AT 92, BUTCHER'S ROW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 20 in F.

*FREDERICK ROBERTS	1-2	EDGAR RAPLEY	3-4
CECIL LONGHURST	5-6		

Conducted by EDGAR RAPLEY.

* First peal 'in hand.' A 21st birthday compliment to Dennis
Brook, of Sunbury-on-Thames, who is now in the Royal Artillery.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in 1 wo Hours and Six Minutes.

At 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

PERCY J. JOHNSON 1-2 | WILLIAM BARTON... .. 5-6
*MISS L. KATHLEEN BOWLING 3-4 | JOHN AMBLER 7-8

Composed by YORKE GREEN. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal on an 'inside' pair.

WALTON, LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in 1 wo Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes

At 56, CHEPSTOW STREET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

SELWYN H. DEARDEN 1-2 | WILLIAM H. DEACON 3-4
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE 5-6

Conducted by W. H. DEACON.

Witness—L. J. Horrridge.

First peal 'in hand' by all.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 24, 1939, in 1 wo Hours and Eight Minutes,

At THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*EDWIN H. LEWIS 1-2 | EDWIN A. BARNETT 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4 | EDWIN JENNINGS 7-8

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by E. H. LEWIS.

* First peal of Little Bob Major 'in hand.'

DEATH OF A GARSTON RINGER.

The Church of St. Michael, Garston, Liverpool, has sustained a great loss through the death of Robert Kelly.

Mr. Kelly for 36 years was a regular service ringer and a devoted churchman. He had been a member of the Lancashire Association for the 36 years of his ringing career. He was held in high esteem by his fellow-ringers, who deeply mourn his death.

The funeral service was attended by a large gathering of deceased's fellow-workmen, and the Vicar of Garston (the Rev. J. M. Swift) spoke in high terms of Mr. Kelly's loyalty and zeal when at work and of his value as a Sunday service ringer.

The bells were rung half-muffled before and after the service by his fellow-ringers and ringing friends from the churches of Woolton and Liverpool St. Nicholas.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CHATTERIS, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, November 26th, for evensong, 720 Double Court Minor: P. A. Smith 1, S. Murphy 2, W. Young 3, A. J. Abrams 4, W. Seekings 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

CHELSEA.—For afternoon service at St. Luke's Church on Sunday, November 26th, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: T. H. Taffender 1, F. Howson 2, L. Brown (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, C. W. Ottley 4, F. Skevington 5, A. F. Udall 6, C. Nicholls 7, S. J. Hart (first quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters) 8, G. W. Debenham (conductor) 9, C. Bartlett 10.

HASTINGS.—At All Saints' Church on Sunday, November 26th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1,260 changes) in 49 minutes: W. White 1, W. Bradfield 2, A. Funnell 3, A. Levett (conductor) 4, S. Driver 5, G. Piper 6, W. Jainer 7, W. Levett 8.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—At SS. James and Basil on Sunday, November 26th, for evensong, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Hedley 1, M. Anderson 2, A. Brown 3, J. Roach 4, T. W. Crowe 5, K. Arthur 6, R. Crosby 8. Specially arranged as a compliment to Nancy, daughter of Mr. M. Anderson, on the occasion of her marriage, which took place on the previous day.

COLCHESTER.—At St. Peter's Church on Sunday, November 19th, on the occasion of the state visit of the Mayor and Town Council, 992 Oxford Treble Bob Major: Mrs. G. Burch 1, H. T. Pye 2, G. Rashbrook 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, R. Cadamy 5, C.Q.M.S. R. W. Pye (Essex Regt.) 6, W. Chalk 7, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Church of St. Mary on November 9th for evensong, 448 Cambridge Surprise Major: E. J. Parish 1, G. E. Crisp 2, R. Smith 3, A. W. T. Ginn 4, C. Robinson 5, D. Adams 6, F. Warrington (conductor) 7, R. Thoday 8.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CANON COLERIDGE'S ADVICE.

The joy and confidence which bellringing gives to the public during war time was referred to at the annual meeting of the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at St. Nicholas' Parish Room, Newbury, on Saturday, November 18th. This was coupled with appeals to ringers to carry on as usual during the troublous times ahead.

'We have got to put our hands to the rope and keep going until every tower resounds o'er hill and dale the message of peace,' said Canon G. F. Coleridge. 'We are up against plenty of difficulties, but nevertheless the Guild is still full of life.' He congratulated the Newbury Branch on their pluck and determination in arranging the meeting and on having such a good attendance under the circumstances.

The Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford (chairman) said there was nothing like a peal of bells to give cheer and encouragement to the people. On every Sunday, and weekdays as well if possible, they wanted to hear church bells ringing from every tower. If ringing ceased, Sunday services would be like a garden without flowers.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary) appealed to those present not to allow either the Guild, the Newbury Branch or the towers to slip back. They should remember that Sunday service ringing should be the greatest pleasure of a ringer's life.

DEATH OF MR. 'TED' HADLOW.

STEEPLEKEEPER AT GRAVESEND PARISH CHURCH.

The death occurred suddenly on November 20th of Mr. Edward Hadlow, of St. Thomas' Almshouses, Wrotham Road, Gravesend. He was 80 years of age.

Mr. Hadlow was one of the best known men in the district. He was one of the oldest bellringers in Kent and had been in church choirs nearly all his life.

He had been steeplekeeper at St. George's for many years. One of the bells there is inscribed with his name, for, when the bells were restored 17 years ago, Mr. Hadlow personally collected about £550 for the restoration fund.

At a very early age he assisted his father, who was sexton at Harrielsiam Church for 50 years.

Some years ago he took part in a peal in which all the ringers were named Edward. On his birthday each year special peals were rung in his honour at St. George's.

He had had a varied career. He was employed at several windmills, including Lenham Heath, Lenham Town, Headcorn black mill and Headcorn white mill.

He was in the Canterbury Borough Police Force and Kent County Constabulary. He had also been a foreman in a fruit stores, engine cleaner, ship's steward, book-keeper and, prior to his retirement, a dock labourer.

He came to Gravesend about 46 years ago. He lived in Spencer Street for some 20 years and on his retirement six years ago moved to St. Thomas' Almshouses.

He was a member of St. George's Parochial Church Council, a member of the Kent County Association, and a member of the Gravesend Philharmonic Society.

In addition to the widow, five sons and a daughter are bereaved. One, Leslie, was recently promoted inspector in the Kent Constabulary and is at Ashford.

The funeral took place on Thursday. A service at St. George's Parish Church preceded the interment in Gravesend Cemetery. The Rector and Rural Dean (Canon H. T. Southgate) officiated. The choir were present.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The first monthly meeting of the society under war-time arrangements was held at Birstall on Saturday last. Instead of the full moon which was expected, heavy rain and boisterous wind were prevalent during the day. Ringing began at 3 p.m. and continued until soon after 7 p.m., except for a short break for tea, which was held at the Church Sale of Work that is always held on the last Saturday in November.

Members were present from Armley, Batley, Bradford, Drighlington, Headingly (St. Chad's), Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge and the local company, also Gunner Dennis T. Brock, of Sunbury-on-Thames, now stationed somewhere in Yorkshire.

No business meeting was held.

A CHURCH FESTIVAL.

On Saturday, November 4th, for the dedication festival at Fulmer, Bucks, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Miss D. R. Fletcher (Beaconsfield) 1, E. Harding 2, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 3, Miss E. Clarke (Chalfont St. Peter) 4, W. S. Childs (Denham) 5, H. C. Wingrove (Beaconsfield) 6. Also 240 Oxford Treble Bob and 240 Grandsire Triples, in which Miss F. M. Gutteridge and Miss Gudgin took part. Fulmer Church was dedicated by the Bishop of Lincoln on November 4th, 1610.

The Fulmer ringers tender their best thanks to their friends for coming to help them on this occasion.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

MORE ABOUT METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

The best music, from the point of view of the listener, whether he be a ringer or one of the general public, is produced by those methods, in the plain course of which the natural Coursing Order of the bells is not altered, except by the varying position of the treble.

The reason is that a regular beat of the bells is sustained which, with good striking, gives that impression of musical rhythm which forms the main charm of change ringing for the listener.

This is usually described as 'keeping the tenors together,' but a good deal of nonsense has been talked about keeping the tenors together. People have argued that because in London Surprise Major the number of changes in which the seventh and the eighth are not parted by more than one or two bells greatly exceed those in which they are so parted, therefore the method produces excellent music. We have heard that said at Central Council meetings, and by eminent people, but not, we believe, by anyone who had rung much of the method, or had any very keen ear for striking or the finer points of bell music.

Now, the only operations which do maintain the Coursing Order unbroken, except for the varying position of the treble, are those which we have described under the names of the Extreme and Court Shunts. Therefore, when we are studying method construction, the first thing we must do is to see what are the methods which these Shunts produce.

Perhaps, to avoid misunderstanding, we ought to say that there is one other Shunt which comes very near giving the same effect as these do, but that cannot be dealt with now.

If you have written out all the possible leads on eight bells, each with one of these Shunts in a different position, you will find that you have got two possible Extremes, A and B, and two possible R. Court Shunts with the treble going from front to back.

If we work out the combinations of these we shall have all the methods on the plan which are now considered 'regular.'

For it is a condition required of methods that they should be 'symmetrical,' which, for our present purposes, means that if an R. Court Shunt is made in 3-4, when the treble is hunting up, another must also be made in 3-4, when the treble is hunting down, and if an R. Court Shunt is made in 5-6, when the treble is hunting up, another must be made in 5-6, when the treble is hunting down. So that we can work out our methods by pricking the first half-lead, and the rest follows automatically.

Now take pencil and paper and work out the methods.

With Extremes alone, we have three—Plain Bob, Reverse Bob, and Double Bob.

With R. Court Shunts alone we have also three—places in 3-4, places in 5-6, and places in both 3-4 and 5-6.

To each of the methods produced by the R. Court Shunts we can add one of the three combinations of Extremes, which will give us nine more methods, or fifteen in all.

From a musical point of view these fifteen are the very pick of Major methods. Some of them (Double Norwich,

for instance, which has the two R. Court Shunts), are well enough known, and are popular, but all of them deserve a greater amount of attention and practice than they have as yet received.

There remain the P. Court Shunts. These, as we said, keep the natural Coursing Order, but have the defect that, when used by themselves, they cause bells to lead or lie for four consecutive blows.

We can, however, remove this defect if we use the P. Court Shunt in 4-5 between two R. Court Shunts, as shown in the annexed half-lead.

That will give us a method which is quite distinct from the others and far more difficult to ring.

Every one of the Extremes and Court Shunts, by itself, will produce the lead-end 3527486, which is the first lead-end of Bob Major. Two of them in a lead will produce a lead-end which is the second lead-end of Bob Major. Three will produce the third lead-end. And so on. You can always tell lead-ends of these methods from the number of Shunts they contain.

In the method just given (which is Double Coslany Court) there are six Shunts. If we add an Extreme (either A or B), we shall have seven. That means that the treble will have completed its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the working bells, and the bells will run round at the first lead-end. But if we add both Extremes, we shall have a method (Double Mancroft), in which the first lead-end is the same as the first lead-end of Plain Bob.

On ten and twelve bells, combinations of Extremes and Court Shunts will give a large range of most excellent methods. Some of them are very difficult indeed to ring, but all of them, from the point of view of the outside listener, are much superior to the Surprise methods which, up to now, have attracted the attention of ten and twelve-bell ringers.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT KILBURN.

The North and East District meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, November 25th, was attended by upwards of 25 ringers, and the bells were rung in rounds and a variety of methods until 5 p.m. Prayers and a short address were followed by tea, after which the company sat around a nice coal fire to attend to business. It was the general opinion of those present that, while local towers showed enthusiasm by holding Saturday afternoon meetings when the usual week-day evening practice was not possible, support should be given to the district meetings by cancelling, if necessary, the local practice.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, if available, on Saturday, January 6th, 1940, which would be followed by the annual district meeting at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 27th.

After the business handbells were brought into good use and were the concluding item of an enjoyable gathering.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

On October 21st a general practice was held at Longton (eight bells), at which the attendance was fairly good and the following towers were represented: Leek, Stoke, Burslem, Hanley, Draycott, Cheadle and Longton. The following methods were rung: Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Double Norwich.

A welcome visitor was a ringer from London, who at present is staying in the district and has been giving a helping hand at the Stoke tower on Sundays. The ringers in the district are doing their best to carry on with the art.

At all the towers ringing is as usual on Sundays. Some of the members have joined the Forces, but those who are left are struggling on and pushing the young ringers forward.

12345678
21436587
24135678
42315768
24351786
23457168
32547618
23456781

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**HINCKLEY DISTRICT.**

Members and friends of the Hinckley District met at Croft on November 18th. They came from Broughton Astley, Burbage, Croft, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Peckleton, Sharnford, Thurlaston and Keresley (Coventry).

Good use was made of the light six bells until dusk, by which time Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise Minor had been rung.

The service having been cancelled, the bells were lowered in peal, and the company, 24 in number, partook of an excellent tea, arranged by the local ladies, in the nearby schoolroom.

At the short business meeting, presided over by the district chairman, it was announced that the next meeting would be at Hinckley on December 9th, and arrangements for tea and the use of a room for the evening were in hand. Although tower ringing would of necessity be of short duration, there would be ample opportunity for handbell ringing and for the enjoyment of that 'get together' spirit for which the Hinckley District is noted.

Mr. C. H. Webb asked the meeting to stand for a few moments in token of sympathy with Mrs. Bailess and family in their very recent bereavement. Mr. Webb said he had known the late Mr. Bailess for many years, and although he had not been a ringer, his sons were. One was the local captain. Mrs. Bailess had expressed the wish that the meeting and tea should be carried on as usual.

Ringers were invited to attend the Earl Shilton practice nights on Wednesdays from 7.30 to 8.30, the tower having been successfully blacked out for the purpose.

Thanks to the local ladies and to Mr. J. Bailess for their excellent tea arrangements concluded the meeting.

Continuous rain by this time had set in, so the company passed the time handbell ringing until a suitable room over the way had been specially blacked out. The company then moved over and spent a most enjoyable time. Handbells were in continual use, several having their first attempt 'inside.' Others, more expert, showed how it should be done.

DUBLIN REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at St. George's Parish Church, Dublin, before remembrance (evening) service on Sunday, November 12th. The following (all members of St. George's Society) took part: W. McGregor 1, D. McGregor 2, Miss A. Dukes 3, G. G. Lindoff (conductor) 4, G. Lindoff 5, A. Worrell 6, W. Hall 7, M. Doolan 8. Rung on the front five with 7.6.8 covering.

A NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RESTORATION.**DEATH-WATCH BEETLE AT LANGAR, NOTTS.**

The Church of St. Andrew, at Langar, Notts, which has been called 'the Cathedral of the Vale of Belvoir,' suffered the ravages of the death-watch beetle in the belfry about three years ago.

Originally there were four bells. The first bell was dated 1611, the second 1636, the third 1601, and the fourth 1611. These were recast in 1859 and, through the magnificent effort of the late Rev. Thomas Butler, the then Rector, father of the famous Samuel Butler, a fifth bell was added. The tenor weighs 12½ cwt.

The mischief caused by the death-watch beetle has been repaired by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, to the complete satisfaction of all, especially the ringers, who attended the dedication of the work on Sunday afternoon, November 19th.

The service was conducted by the Rev. A. Chaplin, Rector of Cotgrave and Rural Dean of Bingham. The bells are rung on the ground floor, the tower being in the centre of the church, and, during the singing of the hymn which followed the address, the crowded congregation saw the bells raised in peal by Ralph Hardy 1, Leslie Holland 2, Ralph Narborough 3, Harold Parfremont 4, Walter Nichols 5, all members of St. Mary's, Nottingham. When the hymn finished the bells were rung for a few moments in rounds. After the service several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were brought round, conducted by Messrs. Nichols and Parfremont, to the delight of the inhabitants who had not heard their bells for many years. Several other ringers then took part in ringing, amongst those present being Mr. W. White, of Cotgrave, the hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association.

Afterwards the Rector kindly entertained the ringers to tea at the Rectory and thanked Mr. Narborough for all his efforts in helping to see their restoration successfully carried out. He told the ringers that he would now commence to raise funds to add a treble to make a peal of six.

WAR-TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Hatfield, 10.15 a.m., fourth Sunday 9.50 a.m.
 Brierley Hill, 10.15 to 11 a.m. only. Owing to the fact that a listening post has been placed not far from the church, other ringing has been stopped by the police.
 Ewell, Surrey, 9.30 to 10 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
 Chatteris, Cambs, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
 Over, Cambs, 5.20 p.m. Practice, Mondays, 7.30 p.m.
 Colchester, St. Peter's, 10 a.m.

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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.

Several handbell peals have been rung this week, and congratulations will be extended to the band at Walton, Liverpool, all of whom scored their first 'in hand.'

This peal of seven 720's of Kent Treble Bob Minor is the result of eight weeks' patient practice. When they first met they tried all the methods they knew and made no progress until 'they came to their senses,' as our correspondent puts it, and rang nothing but Kent. Then they achieved the success recorded elsewhere.

We congratulate Canon Marshall on his first handbell peal rung last Saturday. This was the first time, we believe, that a president of the Yorkshire Association has rung a peal in hand.

On November 28th, 1774, the Society of All Saints' Youths, of Worcester, rang 7,326 changes of Grandsire Caters. As the bells came round the tenor clapper fell out. On the same date in 1829 the Cumbrelands rang the first peal on the bells at St. James', Bermondsey. The method was Oxford Treble Bob Royal, and the bobs were called by the younger George Gross.

William Doubleday Crofts, of Nottingham, died on November 29th, 1809.

To-day is the anniversary of one of the earliest peals. At Greenwich 'the Society of Kentish Youths Rung on Fryday ye 1st of Decembr, 1732, A Peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in the Eighth Month of their Practice.' The record in the belfry, which for many years was hidden, has recently been uncovered. On December 4th, 1803, the Kensington band, with Edward Bartell from Spitalfields, rang the first peal of Stedman Triples which we know to have been true. On December 6th, 1731, the Norwich men rang the second five thousand ever accomplished in the method. The composition is lost, but, short of a miracle, cannot have been true.

By calling the peal of Doubles at Poulton-le-Fylde last Saturday, Mr. Charles Sharples has now rung a peal of Grandsire on all numbers from Doubles to Cinques. The peal of Cinques was that rung in Melbourne, Australia, on November 11th, 1934.

The other five thousand of Grandsire Doubles reported in our peal column was rung to celebrate the election of the Rector, the Rev. E. H. F. Campbell, to a prebend in St. Patrick's Cathedral. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. Gabriel Lindoff. Miss Ada Dukes, who rang the third, is the first resident Irishwoman to ring a peal.

Next Tuesday is the birthday of Mr. J. W. Jones, the popular secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association. We offer him our congratulations.

Next Wednesday is the seventieth anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on December 6th, 1869. The band was made up of six Lewes and two Brighton ringers, and the father and grandfather of the Editor of 'The Ringing World' took part. Had it not been for the war a commemorative peal would have been attempted.

A BAGLEY BELL FRAME.

STILL SOUND AFTER 250 YEARS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice in 'The Ringing World' of a few weeks ago an article about Henry Bagley.

A few months ago I put in many hours cleaning and creosoting the timbers of our bell chamber at Willesbourne, in Warwickshire. These timbers were put in by Henry Bagley when the ring of six was put in in 1681. There have been no alterations to the timbers of the cage, but the third and fourth bells had new wheels and stocks fitted about 30 years ago. The timbers are still perfectly sound and the ring still pealable, although some of the bearings need replacing and tightening.

J. FARRINGTON.

Elstree.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

COMMITTEE AND SERVING MEMBERS.

The committee of the Kent County Association met at Maidstone on Saturday last and unanimously agreed that all members who had joined His Majesty's Forces, and those who may join during the progress of the war, should be retained in membership of the association without payment for the duration of the war. When tower secretaries send in their names and subscriptions for 1940, will they please include all serving members and mark accordingly.

The committee wished all serving members 'God-speed' and a safe return to the towers they had left.

It was also decided (D.V.), war or no war, to hold the annual general meeting on Easter Monday next at Maidstone.

REV. F. J. O. HELMORE MEMORIAL.

It has been decided to institute a memorial to the memory of the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, who for 38 years was hon. secretary of the Kent County Association. The Benevolent Fund of the association was initiated during his term of office, and the memorial will take the following form:—

'That a fund be inaugurated to be known as "The Helmore Memorial Fund" and the whole amount raised by subscription be invested with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the interest accruing therefrom be paid into the Benevolent Fund of the association, and that amount, together with any further sum necessary, be paid annually from that fund and to be known as the "Helmore Grant" to an old deserving member of the association, whose name shall have been on the books for at least 25 consecutive years, the recipient to be determined by the Benevolent Committee.'

It is felt that many would like to be associated with this memorial and the committee at their meeting agreed to open a fund and any subscriptions will be gladly received. All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the 'Helmore Memorial Fund' and crossed 'Lloyds Bank, Gravesend,' and forwarded to Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, who will gratefully acknowledge the receipt.



THE LATE REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT LEATHERHEAD.

No fewer than 17 towers were represented at the meeting of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Leatherhead on Saturday, and in spite of the very mixed bands, the ringing on the whole was good and covered a wide range, including rounds and several Surprise Major and two Surprise Royal methods. So it will be gathered that it was a meeting of enthusiasts in all stages.

Owing to the church not being blacked out, there was no service, but the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge), with his usual enthusiasm for ringers, came and presided at tea and the business meeting, which took place in the club room of the Duke's Head.

The retiring district officers were all renominated, despite a plea by Mr. A. Harman that someone should take his place as Ringing Master.

The Vicar said he was sorry that circumstances made a service impracticable, but he welcomed the ringers to Leatherhead, especially as he noticed many who were strangers to him, and he hoped it might be possible to hold a service at the next meeting in February.

Ringing was resumed until 9 o'clock.

SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

It is 60 years since Mr. Samuel Quintin started his ringing career, and on Saturday, November 25th, a quarter-peal was rung at St. Mary's Church, Thatcham, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild to celebrate the occasion and also as a birthday compliment to this 'youth': A. Smith 1, Miss Joan Matthews 2, T. J. Fisher 3, S. Quintin 4, C. Pearce 5, R. Rex 6, H. W. Curtis (conductor) 7, A. H. Brown 8.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

EARLY RINGING PRACTICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—War work and illness have combined to hinder a reply to Mr. Trollope's letter sooner.

In order to show that I am 'very little acquainted' with the matter of ringing in 1539, he quotes documents dated 1620, 1630 and 1636; about a century too late! Even then the quotations do not mention changes 'Rung in compass,' or 'more compass,' might to-day imply change ringing, or they might not. At the dates mentioned the question is more doubtful still. However, if Mr. Trollope wants to suggest that they were ringing changes at Halesworth in 1539 I do not wish to contradict him.

I quite agree with him about call changes. In fact, I 'dragged them in,' as he puts it, for this purpose.

As for foreign bells not being in tune, all those which I have heard out of England have been in tune, which is more than I can say for those in England. Once, for a year, I lived near a well-tuned octave (in a Roman Catholic Cathedral), but it was never rung in rounds, always 'jangled.' This disposes completely of Mr. Trollope's argument that bells must have been rung in rounds, because they were cast in scale. Indeed, it is so unlikely that one cannot believe it. All other instruments are tuned in scale, why should bells be any different? Rounds are not often played on other instruments (and then only as exercises), why should they be rung on bells? The answer, of course, is that rounds are one row in changes. Until changes were rung, no one would think of ringing rounds. They would be too objectionable!

If Mr. Trollope had remembered the whole of Ophelia's lament when she believes Hamlet to be mad, he would hardly have quoted just four words. Here is more of what she says on Hamlet's exit:—

O, what a noble mind is here o'erthrown!

..... I

Now see that noble and most sovereign reason,
Like sweet bells jangled, out of tune and harsh;
That unmatched form and feature of blown youth,
Blasted with ecstasy.

Mr. Trollope says that Shakespeare uses the word 'jangled' in exactly the same sense as any one of us would use it now. Well, I used the word a few lines back. I think that anyone who has read so far will have understood quite well what I meant, and moreover would have used it himself, had he wanted to express the same meaning. Yet I certainly did not use it in the sense that Shakespeare uses it, nor would any of your readers. The bells I heard were neither out of tune nor harsh; nor would anyone hearing them jangled, as I did, have thought the sound the least bit like madness. In case anyone may object that these were modern bells, I may point out that we have in the five-bell tower of St. Lawrence, Ipswich, a ring of bells which ring now exactly as they did in Shakespeare's time; nay even in the year 1539, of which we are speaking, and perhaps years before that. I have heard these well-tuned and sweet bells jangled by beginners, and I have heard them well struck by skilled ringers, but there was, in either case, nothing that would make me think of one deranged; nor would any way of manipulating them have done so.

Now supposing a number of very fine instruments were gathered together, and they were played at once without any tuning, either of the instruments themselves or with one another, would not that make one think of madness? It might, however, be objected that a crowd of madmen would be conjured up. Suppose, then, that one sounds a few bells, taken at random, in tune neither with themselves nor with one another, would not the result be harsh and just like the crude and disconnected musing of a madman? Is not this what was in Shakespeare's mind, when he wrote of sweet bells jangled? Instruments that might be so sweet, if only their harshness and lack of tune were put into proper order.

I have now shown two things. First that the word 'jangled' took on a new meaning (which it could not have had before) on the introduction of change ringing. All the ringers would now mean by the word, that bells are not 'well struck,' but clashing, and with ill-arranged intervals, and so on. So much will meet with general agreement.

As a corollary to this, I would suggest that before change ringing was introduced, bells were always jangled, as we now put it, and never rung in rounds or call changes. This is more disputable; and Mr. Trollope takes the other view from mine.

The second thing that I have shown is that Shakespeare used the word 'jangled' in its pre-change ringing meaning. This he must have done, as he was not accustomed to listen to changes being well struck or even struck at all. If, however, Mr. Trollope can prove that Shakespeare did hear change ringing, no one would be better pleased than I. But I fear he cannot do so from the words he has quoted.

It is a great comfort that Mr. Trollope, at any rate, knows exactly what was in the mind of Bishop Grandison and Martin Bucer. But when he speaks of 'particular circumstances' he is agreeing with me. All I object to is anyone saying that drinking connected with ringing *always* took place in the belfry. Usually there were (and often still are) places outside the church where ringers met. And at several places where I have seen ringers' jugs they could not have been taken up the stairs if they were full.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Uford Rectory.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON. FAMOUS RECORDS AT ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The first peal by the Society of Cumberland Youths was rung at Shoreditch on November 19th, 1749. The method was Bob Major, and the conductor was George Partrick. Three days later the same band (except for one man) rang a peal of Double Bob.

For about ten years Partrick continued to be the leader of the society and chief conductor; then he quarrelled with his friends and went over to the ancient Society of College Youths, with whom he rang a few peals. He was soon back again with the Cumberlands, however, and for the rest of his life was an honoured member of the company, but the conducting for the most part fell into the hands of younger men.

While Partrick was leader, the society rang at St. Leonard's one or two peals of special interest.

On March 28th, 1750, they scored a peal of New Bob Triples, the first and, I believe, the only one in the method ever rung.

New Bob Triples is the seven-bell extension of New Bob Doubles, which, notwithstanding its name, is one of the oldest of methods. It was in existence before Richard Duckworth wrote the 'Tintinnalogia,' and both on five and seven bells is worthy of practice to-day.

On October 12th, 1754, Partrick called 'Mr. John Holt's celebrated peal of Grandsire Tripples with a single at the half-way.' This is usually supposed to be the first performance of the ten-part, and the peal book seems to claim it as such. But in the previous May and June, William Underwood had called peals of Grandsire Triples at Romford and St. George's-in-the-East for the Eastern Scholars. The second one was said to be with two singles, and it is difficult to suppose what other composition it can have been than the ten-part.

The peal had been composed before 1753, perhaps a little earlier, for it is written out in the mutilated manuscript which once belonged to the College Youths and is now in the British Museum. We rather wonder why Holt did not call it himself, as he did the earlier Original. His last peal (which he conducted) was one of Grandsire Caters at St. Sepulchre's on the last day of 1752.

The Cumberlands had a habit of calling by their own name any variation of the standard methods that they rang. Other people did not adopt the names, and so, to-day, we are often at a loss to know what actually was rung. Among the performances at St. Leonard's were Cumberland Bob in 1753, Cumberland Grand New Double in 1755, and Cumberland Fancy in 1761. They also rang Cumberland Pleasure at Whitechapel, Cumberland Eight-in at St. George's-in-the-East, and Cumberland Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark. The last two, it is pretty certain, were the first peals ever rung of Grandsire Major, and Kent Treble Twelve.

When the bells at St. Leonard's were made into a ring of ten, it was the College Youths who rang the first peal on them, not the Cumberlands. The latter were having a lean time, owing, no doubt, to one of the quarrels which were so frequent in these old companies. From April, 1764, until October, 1766, they did not score a single five thousand.

The College Youths' peal was 5,112 changes of Grandsire Caters, rung on September 29th, 1765, and conducted

by William Underwood. A little more than a couple of months later the same society rang 5,202 changes of Double Grandsire Caters.

On October 19th, 1766, the College Youths, with George Meakins as conductor, rang the first peal of Royal in the steeple. It was 6,000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, and began the series of long lengths on the bells which still forms, perhaps, the most interesting ringing contest in the history of the art.

In the previous year, James Barham and his band at Leeds in Kent had rung 6,000 changes in the method, but the London men knew nothing of that, or, if they had heard of it, they thought little of the other men's ringing.

Three months after Meakins' peal it was beaten by the London Youths, who rang 6,200 changes. The peal was composed and conducted by Christopher Wells, who was the first man to discover that Treble Bob Major may be true at the lead-ends and yet have repetition in the interior of the leads. Nevertheless, the peal of Royal that he called was a false one.

So, too, was one of 7,080 changes rung three months later by the Cumberlands with John Reeves as conductor, but whether it was false in the composition or the ringing we do not know. The band was a first-class one. It included Charles Purser, George Gross, John Povey, Francis and Samuel Wood, and Samuel Muggeridge at the tenor.

Muggeridge was, perhaps, the best tenor man of the day; Purser, Gross, Reeves, Povey and Samuel Wood were among the leading conductors of the century; and John Reeves was one of the cleverest composers the Exercise has ever produced.

What happened we do not know, but it looks as if there was a violent quarrel, and the performance was not entered in the peal book. Reeves left the society and, though he came back again for a short time after a few years, it is clear that there was bad feeling between him and George Gross, which lasted for the rest of their lives. After this the contest died down for a while, but it broke out again in 1777 with redoubled force.

The Cumberlands started on January 20th with 6,240 changes, which they claimed as 'the first true 6,000 and the most ever rung.' George Gross was now the society's conductor, and the tenor was again rung by Samuel Muggeridge.

On February 18th, the College Youths, perhaps with the idea of settling the contest once and for all, rang ten thousand changes in 7 hours and 28 minutes. Charles Purser who, in the meanwhile, had left the Cumberlands, called the bobs from the fourth; John Povey, who had also gone over, rang the fifth, and the tenor was rung by Muggeridge's son, who was also named Samuel.

This performance set the Cumberlands a hard nut to crack, but they did not intend to be beaten. Their doubt seems to have been concerning their tenor man. The elder Muggeridge probably did not consider himself young enough to attempt a ten thousand on a 30 cwt. bell, otherwise we should have had the interesting spectacle of the tenor men of the two competing societies being father and son.

The Cumberlands had, therefore, to find a new tenor man, and they solved the difficulty by putting Samuel Wood and Robert Mann, who had rung the eighth and ninth to the 6,240, on to the ninth and tenor.

But, before starting for the record length, as practice

they rang 5,080 changes on March 12th and 8,120 on April 5th.

On May 10th they rang 10,200 changes, and so gained the record, but they held it for nine days only, for the band of College Youths that had scored the ten thousand, 'insatiated with glory,' as they described themselves, rang 11,080 changes, and so grasped the palm of victory, which remained in their hands for seven years. A month earlier, at Southwark, they had also gained the twelve-bell record.

The Cumberlands' long peals at Shoreditch were composed by George Gross, the College Youths' by Charles Purser. We know something, but not much, about Gross as a composer; we know nothing about Purser. All the peals of Treble Bob by both men are lost, and the best we can say is that Gross' may have been true, and that Purser's may not have been false.

The climax of the long peal contest came in 1784. On March 10th, the College Youths, by ringing 7,008 changes at Southwark, regained the twelve-bell record which in 1778 had gone to Norwich; and on March 27th, by ringing 12,000 changes, at Shoreditch, the Cumberlands finally gained the ten-bell record.

George Gross called the peal, as he did the other long lengths. The composition was by John Reeves, but on the board and in the peal book it was claimed as the production of Gross. Here we may see one of the causes of the ill-feeling between the two.

Only three of the hand who rang the 10,200 in 1777 took part in the 12,000. The new tenor man was Allen Grant.

No long peal in the history of change ringing has captured the imagination of the Exercise quite as much as this one did. A century later, Jasper Snowdon could still refer to it as a performance which was not likely to be approached, let alone exceeded in his time.

When, late at night, on March 27th, the Cumberlands walked through a cheering lane of people from Shoreditch tower to the White Hart, the society stood at the supreme moment of its history, and its leader had staked out a claim to be the foremost ringer of his generation. Three months later a violent quarrel had split the company, Gross had broken with his friends, had left them and started a new society.

BEDFORD TOWER'S LOSS. DEATH OF TWO MEMBERS.

The Bedfordshire Association has lately had to mourn the loss of two of its members, both from the St. Paul's, Bedford, company. Mr. Herbert Sharp, better known as 'Jack' to ringers in Beds and Northants, passed away on September 24th at the age of 68. He had been in failing health for some time, but in spite of acute deafness kept on his ringing till his last illness. He learnt to ring at Clapham and then went to live for some years in Northamptonshire, where he developed into a very fine heavy bell ringer. Later, returning to Bedford, he was one of the foremost ringers of the day. His many peals included the first of Cambridge Surprise Major and of seven Surprise Minor methods for the Bedfordshire Association.

Mr. Edgar Tingey died on November 12th after a painful illness lasting ten weeks. He was 58 years of age. He started to ring at an early age and rang a number of peals up and down the country. He was secretary to the St. Paul's company and his quiet influence in the tower will be much missed.

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.

'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. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT, MON.

—The 10 bells, now augmented to 12 in memory of the late Dr. Egerton Williams, and dedicated on Sunday morning, November 26th, by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth, will be available for ringing until black-out time on Saturday, December 2nd. Visitors please notify Mr. C. Greedy, 68, Morden Road.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The 'black out' will not interfere with the next meeting, to be held at Newhall on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 to 7.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45. Appreciation of the efforts made to ring after tea should be shown in attendance. All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m., with business meeting to follow.—E. F. Cubberley, Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Ambrose's Church on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells open 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Come along to Coleman's Hatch on Saturday, December 2nd, and help keep the East Grinstead flag flying. Bells available 2.30-8.30 p.m.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. More ringing after business meeting. Nominations for district officers for 1940 at this meeting. All ringers welcomed.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at St. Paul's, Wokingham, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2.15 p.m. until dark. All welcome, but please come early.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—South Midland District.—The next meeting will be held at Rothwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2 p.m. till black-out.—F. E. Hart, Hon. Sec., Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, Leics.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting to follow. Will everyone please make an effort to attend this meeting, when it will be discussed what course should be adopted with regard to practice meetings?—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available 2 p.m. until black-out. Service and tea, with meeting to follow.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. David's Institute, Haldon Road, Exeter, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tea at 5 o'clock, preceded by a short service at 4.45. St. Sidwell's, St. Thomas' and St. David's bells available from 2 to 5 p.m.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, December 2nd. The bells of St. Michael at Coslany available from 2-4. Tea in St. Miles' Mission Hall at 4.15. Business meeting to discuss plan of campaign and incidental problems at 4.45, followed by social evening, including the showing of a film in colour by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, taken by him on his recent holiday in Norway and Spitzbergen, and the use of handbells.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treas., Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—A meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone, 297.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mistley on December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting at Thorne Hotel 5.30.—J. R. Sparling.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dalton-in-Furness (10 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 till 4.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, during the afternoon of Saturday, December 2nd.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Ringing during afternoon and evening. Please don't expect tea. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—Practices will be held at Galleywood on December 2nd and Springfield on December 9th, both at 2 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LYDFORD, DEVON.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-opened at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting of the society will be held at the Coffee Pot on Tuesday, December 5th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LYNDHURST, HANTS.—The ring of six bells tuned and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co., will be rededicated by the Bishop of Winchester at 2.45 p.m. on Wednesday next, December 6th.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. Buses from Stourbridge Town pass the church. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. Service and meeting after. Ringing 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Election of officers, so please try and get there.—J. Lloyd, Ringing Master.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (six bells), on Saturday, December 9th. Kindly notify me for tea.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at the Parochial Hall, Brighton Road, followed by a business meeting and ringing again from 7 to 9 p.m. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. Gear, Sandyway, The Cutting, Redhill, by Wednesday, December 6th. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Sec., Hillview, Eastbourne Road, Godstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. T. Millar, Oak House, Midge Hall, not later than Wednesday, December 6th?—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at York Town on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting in Church Room 5.15 p.m. Nominations for officers for 1940 to be made at this meeting. Please notify for tea by December 6th.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Marnhill on Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready at 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30. It is essential that those intending to be present at tea send word by Tuesday, 5th, to the Hon. Sec., Rev. W. Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Goldington, on Saturday, December 9th, from 2 to 8 p.m. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cuddington on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (6) available 2.15 to 4.30 p.m. Service, tea and meeting to follow.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The fourth and last war-time meeting for 1939 will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, December 9th. Bells from 2 p.m. until dusk. Names for tea to Mr. B. Ridgway, 61, Priesthills Road, Hinckley, early. A room is being reserved for the evening. Come early, all are welcome, especially friends from Warwickshire.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Annual branch meeting at Christ Church, Swindon, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (10) available 2.30 to 4.30. Tea and meeting. Please advise for tea if possible.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please send a postcard?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The usual December monthly meeting, which should have been at Garston on Saturday, December 9th, cannot be held this year owing to war-time difficulties. Leaders of towers will be notified in due course, when and where the next meeting will be held.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Buckby (5 bells) on December 16th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous, please.—H. H. Shives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held on Saturday, December 16th, at St. Mary's, Watford. Full particulars next week.

CROWAN, CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.—The two new bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Truro at 2.30 on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Peal augmented to a ring of eight by John Taylor and Co.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Mr. A. T. Greenwood, of Portsmouth, has removed to 15, Fir Tree Avenue, Walkerville, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 6. The secretarial duties of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild are now being carried on by Mr. F. W. Rogers.

Mr. Wilfred Williams has removed to 63, Kennington Oval, London, S.E.11.

SITUATION WANTED.

RINGER (any number), married, seeks job, anything considered; experienced gardener, groundsman, or caretaker.—Write Box S.M., 'The Ringing World' Office, Lower Pyrford Road, Woking.

RINGING FOR A NEW MAYOR.

On Thursday, November 9th, the bells of Tynemouth Parish Church were rung to touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob to celebrate the election of Alderman N. T. Smith as Mayor; and again on the Sunday morning, when the newly-elected Mayor with the Corporation attended divine service.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRAINTREE.—At St. Michael's on Sunday, November 12th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Hammond 1, A. Wiffen 2, B. Redgwell 3, G. Lindridge 4, H. Felton 5, S. Warne 6, L. Wiffen 7, R. Martin 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Howard, late Master of the Essex Association.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,293 changes): Keith Welsby 1, Arthur James 2, Charles J. Ridyard 3, Frank Barrowclough 4, Robert Allred 5, Benjamin Budd 6, Fred Grundy 7, Percy H. Derbyshire 8, Joseph H. Ridyard (conductor) 9, Robert Jones 10.

HALESOWEN.—On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. Woodall 1, A. H. Harris 2, W. Brown 3, H. Shilcock 4, L. Clissett 5, T. Greenhall 6, J. H. Cox (conductor) 7, N. Saunders 8. Rung for the 60th birthday of Mr. W. H. Well, Ringing Master.

WREXHAM.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, October 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. Lea, sen. 1, A. Clutton 2, W. Jones 3, F. Evans (conductor) 4, A. Lea, jun. 5, T. Cathrall 6, J. Capper 7, F. Mitchell 8.

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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.