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TEXT BOOKS.

The policy of 'The Ringing World' has always been to print, not merely reports of peals and the current news of the Exercise, but also special articles which may help readers to learn and understand the art and science of change ringing.

We believe these articles have done a considerable amount of good, but obviously there are limits to their usefulness, especially those which are designed for the beginner who is just learning the practical rudiments. To be any good to him, the article must be very simple and elementary, and it must fit the exact stage of development he has reached. To anyone else, and to the beginner himself, once he has passed that stage, such an article is of very little interest. The utility of the more elementary articles is therefore questionable. Nevertheless, the value of the printed word in the instruction of beginners is very great and is not used nearly so much as it might be, and should be.

A distinctive feature about change ringing is that, more than almost anything comparable to it, it calls for much study and a long period of probation. The opportunities and the time that can be devoted in any tower to teaching are very small. They must usually be deducted from those available to the experienced ringers, and be at the expense of the surrounding public. It is to everybody's advantage that these difficulties should be lessened as much as possible, yet it is notorious that the best way of so doing is seldom taken.

There is much in change ringing that a beginner can only be taught by actual practice in the belfry, but there is much more that must be explained apart from the rope and, without which, practice is largely futile. Yet it is too often the habit to try to give both kinds of instruction at the same time, with the result that progress is slow and unsatisfactory.

The beginner (and there are many of them) who expects to learn to ring in the few minutes each week that he actually has a rope in his hand is not likely to go very far or very fast. If he is to make progress he must study the art outside the tower as well as inside, and if he is the right sort he can teach himself as much as others can teach him. But he must have help, and here is where the value of the printed page comes in. 'The Ringing World' cannot do a lot for him at this stage, but fortunately the Exercise possesses more than one text book which can be of the utmost assistance.

Three of them call for special mention. First there is Snowdon's "Rope Sight." It is more than sixty years old, but it carries its years remarkably well, and is a

(Continued on page 346.)

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most excellent book for the man who is just beginning to take an interest in ringing.

Then there is 'The Ringers' Handbook,' by E. S. and M. Powell, which has a wider range, though still elementary, and will be useful to the beginner not only in the early stages, but for many years to come.

And then there is Snowdon's 'Standard Methods,' which will carry him as far as he can reasonably hope to go in his practical ringing career.

These three books should be in the hands of every beginner. If they are studied they will greatly reduce the difficulties and the tedium of the early stages, and they will create and stimulate an interest in those wider branches of the art which make it so fascinating for the best ringers.

Whenever a person begins to take an interest in bells and looks like becoming a recruit, he should be induced to get hold of these books. He can buy them himself, or it may be good policy to give him one. After all, the price is not more than the cost of an ounce of tobacco. And when he has mastered them, there are others he may study with both profit and enjoyment.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF BERKSHIRE.

Paper restrictions have reduced the size of the sixth part of Mr. Frederick Sharpe's book on the 'Church Bells of Berkshire,' which, as will be seen from the advertisement in another column, can now be had from the author at the price of sixpence, but in no other way does it fall short of the standard set by the earlier numbers.

None of the rings dealt with is very familiar to the average ringer, but all are interesting archæologically, and the excellent illustrations of the bells and their lettering will appeal to members of the Exercise everywhere and do much to enable them to appreciate and understand the bells in their own districts.

The founders represented are Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, William and Robert Corr, and James Wells, of Aldbourne, John Sanders, Joseph Carter, and Henry and Ellis Knight, of Reading, William Taylor, of Oxford, Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, as well as the modern founders, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and John Taylor and Co. There is also an early mediæval bell from Wokingham without an inscription. This is the fifth at East Isley, the former home of Mr. Richard T. Hibbert, where he learnt to ring, and where he was largely responsible for increasing the bells to eight in 1921.

Mr. Sharpe gives some references to eighteenth century ringing matches, at which, it appears, the Hurst Youths were very successful. On August 15th, 1774, at Wokingham, they won the hats 'in their usual style.' Reading were second, Mortimer third, and Binfield fourth.

In 'The Reading Mercury' for Monday, May 29th, 1786, the following advertisement appeared: 'This is to give Notice that Stephen Herring at the Jack of Newbury at Binfield will give Six Very Good Hats to be Rung for on Whit Tuesday, viz.—Five for the men that ring the best round peal of 15 minutes long, and one for the winning umpire. No less than three sets will be allowed to ring. No ringing the day before the Hats are rung for—There will be an ordinary at one o'clock, and to begin ringing at three. No Binfield man to ring, or to be an umpire for either set. Every set to bring an umpire with them.'

As with the other sporting events these matches were arranged by the village inkeeper, who made a good thing out of the dinner (the 'ordinary') and the beer that the spectators and the partisans of the various bands would find it necessary to consume. Other times, other manners; and there does not seem to have been anything objectionable about these village matches.

Archæologically, a most interesting bell is the second of the ring of three at Hurley, cast about the year 1510 by John Sanders, of Reading, or his predecessor. An illustration of the lettering and crest on this bell is given. The headstock is said to be probably as old as the bell and the wheel obviously a sixteenth century half-wheel, to which a second half has subsequently been added.

Other illustrations show ornamental borders and lettering used by Ellis Knight, of Reading, about 1630, sixteenth century fittings, and the lettering used by James Wells and Joseph Carter.

FRIEZLAND. — At Christ Church on Sunday, August 19th, 1920 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor: J. Smith 1, *V. Bottomley 2, H. Nutt 3, J. Clayton 4, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 5, *J. Carter 6. * First in the method. Rung on the recently installed silent apparatus

HANDBELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 18, 1942, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALFRED BALLARD... .. 1-2 | PERCY L. HARRISON 5-6

HAROLD J. POOLE... .. 3-4 | *FRANK K. MEASURES... .. 7-8

FREDERICK E. WILSON ... 9-10

Composed by JOHN CARTER (No. 13 Broadsheet),

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Witness—Mrs. H. J. Poole.

* First peal on ten handbells and first attempt.

SITINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 19, 1942, in One Hour and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT 35, WOODSTOCK ROAD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Single Court, Single Oxford, Reverse and Double Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor size 17 in B flat.

*BRENDA M. RICHARDSON ... 1-2 | JOHN E. SPICE 3-4

†BETTY SPICE 5-6

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal in more than one method. † First peal of Minor. The first handbell peal in five methods for the association.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 22, 1942, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALFRED BALLARD... .. 1-2 | ERNEST MORRIS 7-8

HAROLD J. POOLE... .. 3-4 | FREDERICK E. WILSON ... 9-10

GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 5-6 | JOSIAH MORRIS 11-12

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Morris.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(OFFICERS' PEAL).

On Saturday, July 25, 1942, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT BLACKMOOR, ANCASTER ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

CAPT. MISS L. K. BOWLING, M.T.C. (Committee) 1-2

PERCY J. JOHNSON (Vice-President) 3-4

WILLIAM BARTON (Peal Secretary) 5-6

CANON C. C. MARSHALL (President)... .. 7-8

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1942, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes;

AT 48, HIGH STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS. 5016 CHANGES ;

Tenor size 13½ in E flat.

G. EDMUND DRABBLE... .. 1-2 | NORMAN W. FOX 7-8

G. GORDON GRABAM 3-4 | GORDON C. BRIGGS 9-10

A. ROY FOX 5-6 | *PERCY J. JERVIS... .. 11-12

Composed and Conducted by G. G. GRABAM.

* 50th peal.

THE TOWERS OF SOMERSET.

(WRINGTON, GLASTONBURY, ST. CUTHBERT'S, WELLS,

CHEWTON MENDIP.)

Oh! Wrington tower's a splendid sight,
And Glaston tower is fine,
And there's few in merry England
Our Cuthbert's to outshine,
And Chewton Mendip, oh! so grand—
Of these shall be my song,
And merrily swing the breezy bells,
Ding-a-dong dong, ding dong.

From a book by Alan C. Tarbat, called 'Flickerings from Somerset.'

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

THE NEED FOR PROPAGANDA.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Most writers recently on the subject of 'Post-war Reconstruction' have dwelt mainly on the difficulties facing the Exercise. Whilst I fully appreciate that there are difficulties, I feel that there is very definitely another side to the picture. Is it not a fact that when the ban is lifted the great majority of the general public will welcome the sound of the bells? It will be a sign for rejoicing that the war is over. People will feel tremendously relieved, and I believe that there will certainly be a wave of religious fervour and thankfulness sweeping over the country. Without appearing to be over-optimistic, this strikes me as an opportunity for ringers to get busy and make an appeal for recruits, who will be needed to fill the inevitable gaps.

How is this to be done? Certainly not by sitting down and bemoaning our difficulties. Ringing must be made attractive. If people's interest can be sufficiently roused, I think it is only reasonable to assume that recruits will be forthcoming. Generally speaking, I do not suppose that one person in a thousand has the faintest idea what ringing is, and I feel that it is this ignorance which is the main obstacle to be overcome. So we must devise ways and means to stimulate people's interest and attract them.

If I may make a few suggestions, I can think of a few ways of tackling the problem, subject, of course, to varying local conditions, which will always need considering. Get hold of the parson, ask him to call a parish meeting, then the ringers can put the case over. A demonstration of handbell ringing will help if it can be arranged.

Another idea, why keep the belfry door closed at all times? Why not extend an invitation to anyone interested to come and see for themselves how it is done—say on Sunday mornings? By all means, of course, the door must be locked when peal attempts are being made, but on other occasions I see no necessity for it. People will obviously not come unless they are asked, and the invitation must come from the ringers themselves.

In a nutshell, we have got to do a little propaganda work—an unpleasant word—but it covers the case as I see it better than any other. The time will be ripe after the war, and we must not miss the opportunity which will be presented. It is a call to action.

R. W. DANIELS, Capt., R.A.S.C.

A BOURNEMOUTH MEETING.

Although a garden meeting was planned to take place at the Rev. C. A. Phillips' house at Bournemouth on July 18th, it was decidedly more comfortable indoors, and so a very grateful company of 25 ringers occupied the large drawing room during the afternoon.

It was a pleasure to see Mr. George Williams, the Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, looking so well and full of energy despite the fact that he is (as he himself puts it) 'nearer 90 than 80.' His presence was evidence of his continued keen interest in everything pertaining to the Exercise. Very welcome, too, was a visitor from Lincolnshire, Pilot Officer J. T. Newington. Messages regretting inability to attend were sent by Messrs. E. T. Griffin and A. Rose, whilst Mr. A. V. Dent, formerly of St. Peter's band, and Mr. John Jagger, of Birmingham, sent good wishes.

Plenty of handbells were available and they were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Major and Grandsire Caters until tea time. Stedman Caters proved somewhat elusive, especially as the 'silence during ringing' rule was not strictly enforced.

Tea was taken at Parsons' Restaurant and was followed by a short informal meeting, at which a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. C. A. Phillips for his hospitality. Mr. Phillips replied and congratulated the local ringers on the progress made with the handbells. Since the first peal, on January 6th this year, eleven others had been rung. Six ringers had scored their first peal in hand and the conducting had been shared by Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay and Mr. A. V. Davis. Mr. Phillips was sure the ringers were not unmindful of the great help received from Mr. F. W. Townsend during the early stages of local handbell ringing.

The Vicar of Bournemouth, Canon Hedley Burrows, was able to spare a few minutes to visit the meeting, although too late for tea, and the opportunity was taken to thank him for all his helpful kindness to the Exercise in the district. In reply, he said how grateful he felt for the continuance of the fellowship of the belfry under such adverse conditions.

It was decided to arrange another meeting soon, September 5th being mentioned as a likely date, and Mr. George Preston spoke of the likelihood of some dumb practice on the bells at Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A pleasant meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Brookfield, Gorton, on Saturday, July 18th, at which the local record for hospitality was well maintained, and the few, though representative, ringers present sat down to a very enjoyable tea after a short service, during which the Rev. F. Cottier spoke very ably.

Standard methods were 'rung' on the silenced tower bells and on the handbells. There were present some old friends from Stockport, Disley, Macclesfield, and some new friends from Accrington.

THE SURPRISE METHODS. TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT.

(Continued from page 337.)

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, composers began to turn their attention to the possibilities of getting longer lengths in the standard Surprise methods.

Six thousand seven hundred and twenty changes had been the longest composition of London, but Mr. Frederick Dench discovered that if bobs at In and Fifths are used, the method has a clear proof scale with the tenors practically together. Washbrook turned this discovery to account by composing and conducting a peal of 11,328, which was rung at Drayton in 1896. He also published a new method which he claimed as superior to Superlative, and which he called Oxford Surprise. It is not symmetrical, and does not confirm to present-day standards. A peal of it was rung at Brighton in 1897.

In the next year the Brighton men rang the first peals of Norfolk and Westminster. The latter was produced by Mr. Dench. It does not now rank as Surprise and, in any case, has little to recommend it. Another, and better method, also by Mr. Dench, called St. Stephen's, was rung at Rochester Row, Westminster, by the Ancient Society of College Youths. In 1897 the Gloucester men rang a peal of Gloucester Surprise at St. Michael's in that city. It has not been practised since.

Thus, when the nineteenth century closed, the development of Surprise ringing had begun, but as yet peals had been scored in only five methods, which now rank as Surprise—Cambridge, Superlative, London, Gloucester and Norfolk—and in six which were then called Surprise, but are now relegated to other classes—Albion, Liversedge, New Cumberland, Oxford, Westminster and St. Stephen's.

The new century opened with the Exercise ready for a big development in Surprise ringing, and its early days saw the exact definition of what was to be considered as a Surprise method. The Central Council had been founded in 1891, and one of the first tasks it undertook was to draw up definitions, to set up standards, and generally to tidy up all matters connected with ringing. Among other things was the classification of methods, and the present definition was finally adopted in 1906. It has the advantages of being clear, definite and easily understood and applied, though we may doubt in the light of experience whether it was an unmix'd blessing.

In March, 1901, the first peal of Bristol was rung at St. Peter's, Brighton. It was the greatest acquisition in methods which the Exercise had had since Reeves published Superlative in 1788. Taken up and made popular a few years later by the very industrious peal-ringing band belonging to the Middlesex County Association, which Arthur T. King had got together under the conductorship of William Pye, it soon ranked among the select number of standard methods.

The same band did much to spread peal ringing in Superlative and London, and they were not alone. Many other companies in other parts of the country were ringing those methods. In 1902, as many as fifty peals of Superlative were rung; in 1907, 83; in 1910, 79; and in 1913, 82. Peals of London numbered 12 in 1902; 26 in 1906; 37 in 1909; 24 in 1911; and 22 in 1930.

Cambridge for long was somewhat under a cloud. The older authorities, and especially Sir Arthur Heywood

and C. D. P. Davies, had no good word to say about it, mainly on account of its supposed faults in construction, for twice in every lead it has four places made in one change; but it received a steady amount of support, eleven peals being rung in 1902, and 14 in 1906; and when it was discovered that, alone among the then known Surprise methods, it could be extended to any even number as easily and as correctly as Plain Bob or Kent Treble Bob, it at once increased in popularity. Thirty-four peals were rung in 1909; 26 in 1910; 32 in 1911; and 49 in 1913, besides an increasing number of Royal and Maximus. Gradually it took the place of Superlative as the most popular of the Surprise methods, and before the present war was one of the most practised methods wherever there were bands of more than average skill.

The Wakefield men in 1822 had discovered the ability of the method to extend, and it is rather surprising that it escaped the notice of other and later authorities, and especially men like Shipway and Heywood, who were keenly interested in the problem of the extension of methods.

As soon as composers were able to produce greater lengths, bands were ready to attempt to ring them. In 1903, 14,112 changes of London by Gabriel Lindoff were rung at King's Norton, and the peal still remains the record, although Law James later composed what was practically the same composition but one lead longer. This has been attempted several times, but so far without success. Law James produced 12,160 changes of Bristol without parting the tenors, and the peal was rung in 1912 by the Hertford County Association at Knebworth, conducted by Mr. George Price, but it remained the record for little over a month. The Middlesex Association beat it at Hornchurch by ringing 15,264 changes, composed by Gabriel Lindoff and conducted by William Pye. In 1910 a new record was set up for Superlative, when 9,728 changes were rung at Clent in Worcestershire.

The first peal of Yorkshire was rung at Ranmoor, Sheffield, in 1903. The method, although a pretty close variation of Cambridge, is an excellent one. An occasional peal continued to be rung; in recent years it has much increased in popularity, and now can fairly take its place as a standard method.

The band, having rung Yorkshire, and having a peal of London as their ultimate objective, then practised another method and, having rung it, they called it Peterborough because that city was half-way on the road to the Metropolis. Peterborough is constructionally one of the most obvious of methods. It is double, and it has a clear proof scale, but its merits in actual practice are not very great. Since, however, it is the typical method of a very large class, no collection would be complete without it.

In 1913 a London band rang for the Norwich Diocesan Association at St. John's, Waterloo Road, a peal of Brighton. It is a very good method, and was revived and rung to another peal in 1936 under the name of Burton in the mistaken impression that it had not previously been rung. The earlier peal was rung with a fourth's place bob, the latter with a sixth's. Inferior variations, Ashtead and Boveney, have been rung to peals, the former several times.

Later in the year 1913 the Guildford men began a long series of new methods by scoring Guildford Surprise. It

(Continued on next page.)

THE NAMES OF THINGS.**THE MEANING OF THE WORD SALLY.**

The Oxford English Dictionary gives (among others) the following meaning of the word 'Sally' or 'Sallie': 'The first movement of a bell when set for ringing, a "handstroke" as distinguished from the reverse movement of "backstroke." Also the position of a bell when it is rung up to a "set" position. The doubt is expressed whether this meaning is now only local. The two earlier illustrations quoted are:—

(1) From the 'Tintinnologia,' 1668: 'Whole pulls is to be rung two Rounds in one change so that every time you pull down the bells at Sally you make a new change.'

(2) From the 'Campanologia': 'The falling of the bells from a Sett pull must be gradually done by checking them only at Sally, until the low compass renders the Sally useless.'

The dictionary gives the derivation of the word as perhaps from an obsolete use of the word 'Sally,' which meant a leaping movement.

Another meaning of Sally is given as 'the woolly grip for the hands near the lower end of a bell-rope composed of tufts of wool woven into the rope.'

The earliest quotation giving the word with this meaning is dated 1809.

THE SURPRISE METHODS

(Continued from previous page.)

was the second five-thousand of it that they rang, the first unfortunately turning out false in the composition. The method was revived in later years, and several more peals rung, all, or nearly all, conducted by Mr. Alfred Pulling.

So that in August, 1914, Surprise ringing had been definitely established as an important branch of ringing. In London and Bristol Major, what was thought to be practically the extent, had been rung; the standard methods were being practised by many bands; and the number of methods in which a peal had been scored had been doubled since the century opened.

And then came the first world war.

(To be continued.)

COMMEMORATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am in complete agreement with Mr. Albert Walker's suggestion to have an annual pilgrimage to the grave of our late Editor. There is also no reason why Mr. George H. Williams' suggestion should not be carried out. I would myself like to suggest that a brass or carved oak tablet should be erected in the church, and for it an appeal be made either to individual ringers or to the associations.

The various suggestions that have been made could be brought before the Central Council, and it could decide.

One sentence in Mr. Rupert Richardson's letter I greatly appreciate, 'If we fail in keeping "The Ringing World" in existence, the Exercise will have let down a man who would never have let the Exercise down.' I have been in hospital six years to-morrow, and J. S. Goldsmith, with his generous nature, always kept me supplied with a copy of the paper free of charge.

Colchester.

WILLIAM KEEBLE.

THE LATE MISS I. HASTIE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was with sincere regret that many Taunton ringers learnt of the death of Miss Irene Hastie. During her stay in Somerset in pre-war days she was a regular visitor to meetings in the deanery, and she had also attended a number of practices at the three Taunton towers. She took part in several peals arranged from Taunton and had been a welcome guest on a number of outings.

Her ringing ability, her readiness to take part in anything from rounds to Surprise, and her good-humoured interest in those about her, created a happy impression.

In expressing our sympathy for her relatives we can only add that we were glad to have had her with us for a while.

On behalf of Taunton Deanery ringers,

W. H. LLOYD.

THE NOTATION OF PEALS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It has always been a mystery to me why, in the setting out of compositions, the course ends are placed in front of the calling by which they are produced. There may be an explanation, but to me it is so obvious that M W H produces 65432, and must, therefore, come first, that I can conceive of no reason for putting it otherwise. Perhaps somebody can explain.

61, Belvedere Road, Ipswich.

CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The meeting at Sundridge on August 8th should prove a very pleasant gathering. Miss Brenda Richardson and her sisters, worthy daughters of a man who did much for the Exercise, are doing a great work for the Exercise in that quarter of Kent, and deserve all help and encouragement.

Mr. H. Nutt, of Friezland, has received many enquiries about the silent apparatus referred to in our issue of July 10th, but finds it impossible to reply to all in detail. He will be glad to show and explain the apparatus to visitors and give explanation as far as possible, but correspondents should enclose stamped envelope for reply.

On July 26th, 1832, the Norwich Scholars rang at St. Giles' in that city 6,000 changes of Oxford Bob Major, the first peal in the method.

The College Youths rang the first peal in Ireland, one of Grandsire Triples, at Waterford Cathedral on July 27th, 1872.

On the same date in 1935, Mr. Ernest C. S. Turner conducted a peal of six spliced Surprise Major methods, his own composition, at Hillingdon in Middlesex.

James William Washbrook was born in Oxford on July 27th, 1864, and William Cooter, for many years one of the most prominent members of the London Exercise, died on July 28th, 1912, at the age of 87.

On July 29th, 1785, William Shipway arrived in London from Bath and began a ringing career which was not without great effect on the fortunes of the Exercise.

The Birmingham men rang 7,552 Grandsire Major at Ashton on July 30th, 1792.

Ten years ago to-morrow John S. Goldsmith called a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Laurence's, Reading. It was arranged as a 'secretaries' peal,' but the full band of secretaries could not be made up, and the performance had to wait until a later date.

To-morrow is the fiftieth anniversary of the first peal at St. Mary's, Willesden. It consisted of seven 720's in seven different Minor methods and was rung by the old Middlesex Association, conducted by Charles W. Tucker. The bells, a Whitechapel ring with a tenor of 9 cwt., were opened in 1793 by a band from Kensington. Of late years a good deal of ringing history has been made in the belfry.

Fifty years ago yesterday five peals were rung. They consisted of Stedman Triples 1, Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 1, Double Norwich Major 1, and Minor 1.

Fifty years ago to-morrow (August Bank Holiday) eight peals were rung—Grandsire Triples 2, Stedman Triples 2, Canterbury Pleasure Major 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 2, and Minor 1. One of the Kent was 7,008.

CHIMES AND CHURCH TUNES.

THE CAMBRIDGE QUARTERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Mr. Taylor was quite right about the so-called Westminster chimes. Their right name is 'Cambridge,' as that is where they were composed and first set up. When the clock was set up at Westminster, Sir Edmund Beckett (later Lord Grimthorpe), being a Cambridge man, chose the chimes from Great St. Mary's, and they have spread all over the British world.

Possibly it is the fact of the crack in Big Ben's making the note so indefinite that few people know the right relation between the last note of the fourth quarter and the hour note, so that they think the chimes can be used on eight bells. But they cannot. At Cambridge (as at Yeovil and St. Mary Abbot's) the hour strikes on the key note, an octave below the last note of the fourth quarter. If you have only eight bells, the tenor is only a fifth below. Let anyone try on a piano the effect (given in the key of C for simplicity) and he will notice how much better and more finished the correct form sounds.

Wrong	—	D	A	B	G	C
		7	3	2	4	— 8
Right	—	G	D	E	C	C
		6	2	1	3	— 10

The chimes were arranged by Crotch, then a pupil of Dr. Randall, Regius Professor of Music, from the well-known four notes in the fifth bar of the opening symphony of 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.'

W. C. B.

MR. TAYLOR REPLIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am glad my letter has brought out such a response, and I thank those who have written, especially Messrs. John Smith and Sons.

I am rather surprised that Mr. F. Smith, of Yeovil, missed my point. If the Westminster chimes are on a ring of eight with the tenor say C, then the quarters will be on 2347 and will be in the key of G, or on 3458 and be in the key of F, while in either case the hour bell is C. If there are ten bells the quarters can be on 1236 and the key will be the same as the hour. I believe Worcester Cathedral was the first place where the quarters and the hour were in different keys.

F. M. TAYLOR.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual business meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Oxford on July 18th, and, considering the abnormal times, was well attended. Eighty-one members were present.

The Master, Canon G. F. Coleridge, presided and was supported by the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master), Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary) and Mr. A. D. Barker (the hon. treasurer). Apologies from several members were received.

All the officers were re-elected, and the Master assured the members that their confidence would not be misplaced; all the officers would do their best for the Guild.

On the recommendation of the General Committee, it was decided that the arrangements for the annual festival of 1943 should be left to the General Committee meeting at Easter next. All branch secretaries and tower foremen were asked to keep a list of members serving with H.M. Forces, so that a correct list can be printed when peace comes.

It was decided to print a skeleton report and balance sheet at the end of this year.

The grant of £50 made by the committee for a special and urgent need was ratified, but one or two members expressed the hope that the committee would not often take upon themselves this great responsibility. The rearrangement of the Guild's accounts and the closing of the reserve fund were agreed to.

The election of nine new members was confirmed.

Capt. A. R. Poyntz proposed that, as there would be a great many calls on the restoration fund after the war, the Guild should ask all parochial church councils of towers affiliated to the Guild to subscribe annually two shillings (or at least one shilling) per bell to the restoration fund. This was warmly supported by Mr. A. H. Webb who seconded, and was debated by several members. Canon Coleridge asked Capt. Poyntz to draft an appeal and send it to him for approval. The motion was carried.

After the meeting a good tea was served by the Oxford Co-operative Society. Thanks were given to the Rev. F. S. Cragg, of St. Aldate's, for the use of the rectory room and the church for the service, at which the preacher was the Rev. F. B. Girling, Rector of Brightwell. Miss Cross and Mr. W. L. B. Leese each brought a set of handbells, and this contributed to the pleasure of all.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT NORTH MIMMS.**

The first meeting of the St. Albans District of the Hertford County Association held outside the city since 1940 was at North Mimms on July 18th, and despite unfavourable circumstances proved a success, 16 members sitting down to tea.

Handbell ringing began at 3.30 in the belfry of the Parish Church, the bands being made up alternately of 'old hands' and mixed beginners and experienced ringers.

Tea was at the Corner Cafe and was followed by a short business meeting, at which Mrs. Fergusson took the chair. No fewer than seven probationary members from St. Peter's, St. Albans, were elected. They had joined as the result of the recent 'bell week' at St. Albans. Mrs. Fergusson, who proposed them, and Miss K. West, who seconded, had themselves learnt to ring since the war started, their teacher being Mr. H. V. Frost, now in the Middle East.

It was announced that an attempt will be made to hold a meeting at Wheathampstead or Hatfield, in September.

The Hon. Secretary referred to the death of two life members of the association, John S. Goldsmith and Ernest Brett, and stressed the loss the Exercise had sustained. Three members of the Hatfield band had been killed in action.

The duty and necessity of paying subscriptions were pointed out by the secretary. Although activities are restricted, the association was still carrying on, and it was hoped that members would do what they could so that when the ban is lifted there will be something to work on.

The meeting concluded with more handbell ringing, in which the St. Peter's probationers took a hand.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT WOODFORD.**

A very enjoyable meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Woodford on July 11th, when there were about 15 members present from Loughton, Walthamstow, Wanstead, Chigwell Row, Leytonstone and Woodford. The service at St. Mary's Church was conducted by the Rev. — Ison, who welcomed the members and gave a very interesting address. The meeting was presided over by the Master, Mr. J. Chalk, who expressed regret at the passing of the late Editor of 'The Ringing World,' and all stood in silence as a mark of respect.

The next meeting, which will be the annual district meeting, will be at Leytonstone. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. — Ison, to the organist and to the ladies for providing a most excellent tea. During the evening a few touches were rung on the handbells.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**MEETING AT SANDAL.**

At the meeting of the Barnsley and District Society, held at Sandal on July 18th, members were present from Eastwood, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Handsworth and Sheffield Cathedral, and there was a good muster of the local company. The visitors were Mr. Christopher W. Woolley and Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hodgson, of Farnborough, who were spending a holiday in the district.

A room was reserved at the Duke of York Hotel, and after handbell ringing during the afternoon, tea was served at 5 p.m.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. Walls, presided at the short business meeting, at which an invitation was received from Mr. S. F. Palmer, the acting secretary of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association, to hold a joint meeting in August. This was accepted and the meeting fixed for Rawmarsh on the 8th.

The Vicar was thanked for his presence during the evening and for taking the chair, and the local company for making the arrangements.

Replying, the Vicar assured the society of a hearty welcome at any time and hoped it would not be long before the tower bells were heard again.

Further handbell ringing followed until 8.50 p.m. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Plain Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Little Bob Major, Plain, Little, Double and Gainsborough Major Spiced, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Bob Royal and Plain, Little, Double and Gainsborough Royal Spiced.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

One of the most pleasant and useful features of the fortnightly meetings of the Ancient Society of College Youths is that they afford a splendid opportunity for members and friends from the provinces to meet London ringers and so help to keep up the general interest in the Exercise which in these days is so essential. At the last meeting, on July 18th, Mr. Charles Sedgley, of Ipswich, turned up with Mrs. Sedgley, and Mr. Burley P. Morris came from Kettering.

The Master was in the chair and was supported by the hon. secretary, the hon. treasurer and the junior steward, Mr. G. W. Cecil. Others present were Messrs. G. Stannard, F. C. Newman, W. H. Pasmore, J. H. Shepherd, R. F. Deal, J. A. Trollope, E. A. Young, J. Chapman, A. Jarvis, E. Hartley, R. Spears, J. Botham, C. W. Roberts, E. Barnett, H. G. Miles and C. C. Mayne, Corpl. K. Arthur (R.A.F.), Pte. Len Fox and Pte. C. W. Munday, of Basingstoke.

Two new members were elected, Mr. Herbert W. Knight, of Bristol, and Mr. Hobart E. Smith, of Ipswich.

The Master commented on the handbell peals lately rung for the society in the provinces and the continued support and interest of country members. Attention was called to the rule requiring an umpire for every handbell peal.

Mr. E. A. Young was very much impressed when copying the name book to find so many provincial names, about two to every one from London. The society should congratulate itself, he said, and not be disheartened.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT SHALFORD.**

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association was held at Shalford on July 18th, and in spite of a poor attendance did arouse some interest amongst the local band.

A short service in the church was attended by several of the parishioners and the choir, and was conducted by the Rev. R. B. Vaizey. Mr. I. T. Chapman accompanied the singing.

The idea adopted by the North-Eastern Division for tea was copied owing to the difficulty of obtaining food, and worked very well.

At the business meeting which followed, in the absence of the District Master the Rev. R. B. Vaizey took the chair, supported by the secretary, Miss H. G. Snowden. The Vicar was elected an honorary member on the proposition of Mr. L. W. Wiffen, seconded by Mr. A. Saunders. Dunmow was chosen as the next place of meeting, with Halstead as an alternative.

Mr. I. T. Chapman proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. R. B. Vaizey, the choir and all who helped to make the meeting a success. The Vicar said he had always liked bells and taken an interest in ringers. He had not yet heard the bells at Shalford, as he had only been there since the ban; it was said that the tower and bells needed some attention, and he promised to see about it as soon as circumstances permitted.

Handbells were rung, and some of the local ringers were helped through a course of Grandsire Doubles. Other methods included Bob Minor, Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Minor.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It may interest Mr. Hewett and other ringers of St. Margaret's to know that I have heard one of the records of eight bells, choir and organ played in a cafe at Lausanne, Switzerland. I happened to hear it first when they were trying out a number of records, and it was put on again on Christmas Day.

Kington Magna.

F. LI. EDWARDS.

CHIMES AND CHIME TUNES.

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 340.)

In the 'Rites of Durham,' written before 1593, after mentioning the bells and duties of bellringers, is this quotation:—

'Then Tho. Sparke the Bishopes Suffrigaine lying at Durh^m & kepinge howse there, at ye same tyme havinge Intellegence what ye Deanes purpose was, dyd sende into Yorkshire wth all speade for a workeman & caused iij of ye said Bells to be taken downe [ye iiijth Bell Remaynes ther still & was neu^r Rounge synce yt was suspet, ye other did remayne a longe season but yet after removed in ye Lanthorne] & caused them iij to be hong up in ye newe worke called ye Lantren & maide a goodly chyme to be sett on ye said Bells ye wth dyd coste hime in chargs Thirtie or fortie pound^s w^{ch} chyme endureth to this daie, or els ye Bells had bene spoyled & defaced. . . . 'But in ye yeare 1655 ye clocke & chyme was repayred again w^{ch} was taken downe & preserved from ye sd ruine.'

This clock was originally placed behind the rood loft. The case was made by Prior Castell (1494-1519), and contained much of his work, with additions by Dean Hunt, 1632. It was removed to the south end of the transept when the rood loft was destroyed, and in its turn destroyed. The notes accompanying the foregoing state: 'It being on 3 bells could hardly have been for tunes. Perhaps it was a chiming apparatus by means of which 'rounds' or six changes possible on 3 bells could be produced. A large chime barrel which long remained disused in the lantern, was brought down a few years ago and, after lying some time in the workmen's yard, was bought up. This, however, appeared, from the great number of iron pegs that it bore, to have belonged to apparatus more recent and elaborate than that of Bishop Sparke would be.'

We are inclined to disagree with the above remarks as to the chime playing 'rounds and changes,' for at this period the art of change ringing was not sufficiently advanced. In fact, Fabian Stedman, writing in 1668, says: 'For within these Fifty or Sixty years last past changes were not known or thought possible to be Rang. Then were invented the Sixes, being the very ground of a six-score.'

Therefore the chimes must have played some sort of 'tune' or 'air.' Of course, very little can be done on three, four or five bells. Tunes, however, were played even on such a limited number of notes. Thus at North Cotes, Lincs, a tune called 'Village Vespers' was written for the three bells there by the then Rector, the Rev. T. R. Matthews, to the words, 'Through the day Thy love has spared us.' The notation of this tune is given in North's 'Church Bells of Lincolnshire, 1882.'

For the four bells at Tinwell, Rutland, an air—given in Nichols' 'Bells through the Ages'—to the words 'To Thy temple I repair,' was composed by Mr. W. S. Hadson in 1883. The old five bells at Hallaton, Leicestershire, for many years used to play a chime tune, and the following lines to this tune were formerly written up in the belfry:—

'Old Dunmore's dead, that good old man,
We him no more shall see:
He made the chimes to play themselves
At six, nine, twelve and three.'

In many places the clock maker's name was handed down to posterity through the medium of a chime tune such as this. Another five-bell tune sometimes played is 'Eudoxia,' or 'Now the day is over.'

The earliest clocks struck the hours or had alarms for calling the monks to devotions, but no dial or hands. They were usually made throughout of iron and are most interesting. Among other things they demonstrate that in principle the striking train in the 16th century, and even earlier, was almost exactly the same as to-day. They show that not only was the locking plate in use, but that the unlocking and warning arrangements were probably features of the very earliest striking clocks. We also find that musical clocks of the lantern type existed between 1680 and 1700, though such clocks are very rare.

From about 1690, when eight-day long-case clocks and bracket clocks were established, we find makers devoting a good deal of attention to chime and musical movements. Early musical movements are comparatively rare, and tunes played are generally unrecognisable in the present generation. The chief objection to musical clocks is that owners very soon became tired of them, and this has resulted in many being converted into eight-day chime clocks.

From earliest times the tune was changed by moving the barrel lengthways in its pivot holes to expose a fresh set of pins to the hammers. A musical barrel for a clock with seven tunes (one for each day of the week) and, say, 12 or 13 bells, required about a thousand pins. The majority of the old chime clocks were rather deficient in bells, six being a common or average number. There is something rather dull and uninteresting about a six-bell chime, so a very large number have been converted into eight-bell chimes within more recent years. With eight bells it is possible to obtain a pleasing number of tunes.

Ancient chime mechanism is very simple, and consists of a weight-driven barrel (generally made of wood), into which pins are driven, on exactly the same principle as that of a musical box. A primitive substitute for the properly constructed chime barrel was the trunk of a tree into which spikes were driven. The pins in the chime barrel pull down levers, lifting hammers with which they are connected by wires, and finally release them so that in their descent the hammers strike the bell upon the outside.

In mechanical chimes the bell is nearly always struck by hammers which operate outside the surface of the bell, and in this country such chimes usually play the melody only. In such a mechanism the barrel had to do all the work, which was satisfactory so long as the requirements were merely a regular succession of notes of equal length played at a moderate speed—a hymn tune or the like—but there are not so many melodies of real interest which come within these limits, particularly as regards secular tunes. Thus we often find more elaborate airs consisting of mixed long and short note values—groups of short notes in quick succession, etc., gave unequal demands on the barrel and made its speed irregular. This resulted oftentimes in one bar being played quicker than another and producing a most unsatisfactory musical effect, and in many instances producing merely a grotesque performance.

(To be continued.)

THE ORGANISATION OF THE EXERCISE.**A DIOCESAN BASIS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—If a thorough revision of the organisation of the Exercise was needed, and a committee of wise and learned men was appointed to deal with this matter, I do not think they would recommend a National Association. They would probably point out that the bells are church bells and are intended for use in church services. They would, therefore, suggest that the Exercise should be organised on Church lines, not on National lines.

First, the Exercise would be divided according to the dioceses and each diocesan branch would have its headquarters and officers at the cathedral city. Then each diocese would be sub-divided into arch-deaconries and each arch-deaconry into rural deaneries or groups of rural deaneries. And finally each tower would have its properly organised band.

Every sub-division would have its appropriate officers with well-defined authority and duties, and there would be officers specially charged to look after finance, arrangement of meetings, peal ringing, and the rest. Each officer would keep to his own sphere and there would be no overlapping. Finally, every ringer would have his own place in a particular band and would receive instructions as to everything he had to do. At the head of all these would be a Central Council composed of the very best brains and ability of the Exercise.

It would be a most efficient system and would provide for every contingency. Would it work any better than the present system? I do not think so.

'SENEX.'

A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—If the advocates of the National Association have not put up much of a show, perhaps it is because they are of the younger section of the Exercise and are thus very much preoccupied at present.

This diversion of our youth will last for some period after the war, and so, of necessity, the first stages of the rehabilitation will have to be carried through by the older people. I cannot myself see how any progress can be made in the immediate post-war months unless things are kept going now and unless we keep our 'Ringing World.' In my opinion, the whole financial resources of the Exercise should be considered available to preserve the continuity of our paper, and in any case I hope we may hear of a scheme soon which will enable humble folk of small means to assist the work of the journal.

Reverting to the subject of a National Association, surely such an association will have to have its sub-divisions manned by voluntary helpers. I must say I cannot see any better sub-division of our Exercise in general than the Diocesan Guild. Such a Guild is in close touch with the Church (which owns the bells), and, as far as I know, no diocese overlaps.

If the Exercise must be reorganised I plead for such reorganisation to be made on a Diocesan Guild basis, even to the sacrifice of the Counties Associations. The one or two Ancient Societies and the Ladies' Guild, etc., of course, would remain in being.

116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT CROWTHORNE.**

A meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held on July 25th at Crowthorne, by kind invitation of Canon G. F. Coleridge, the chairman of the branch.

After about an hour's handbell ringing in the vestry, service was held in the church, conducted by the Canon, who referred to the sterling qualities of the late John Goldsmith as a ringer, a friend and a churchman.

Tea followed at the Vicarage and more handbell ringing, ranging from Bob Minor to Stedman Caters. Twenty-four members were present, and the following towers were represented. Binfield, Hurst, Sandhurst and Sonning, and visitors from Reading, Guildford, Stoke Poges, Petersfield, Worplesdon and Tilehurst.

DEATH OF A DOVER RINGER.

The death is announced of Mr. A. T. K. Goodbourn, who passed away on July 10th at Lyminge, Kent, at the age of 71, after a long illness. He was one of the band at St. Mary's, Dover, when the bells were restored in 1898. He took a great interest in early morning ringing at Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide, and specialised in tune playing on the handbells. He and his party kept up the old custom of visiting the houses of churchfolk in the district and playing tunes on the doorstep.

DOVER RINGER MISSING.

News has been received by the relatives of Mr. R. J. Castle, of the Mercantile Navy, that he is reported missing and believed to be drowned. Mr. Castle was one of the ringers at St. James', Dover. He learnt to ring for the Coronation of King George V., and though he was not able to do much owing to being away at sea, he could manage the treble in Grand sire and the tenor. He was invaluable when at home. The Coronation band at St. James' was a suggestion by the Rector to the Youth Fellowship, eight members being instructed by Mr. C. Turner at St. Mary's.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.**THE USE OF SINGLES.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The following is the composition of the peal of Bob Maximus, called by myself at Swindon on May 26th. In composing it I had in mind the keeping of the pairs 3-4 and 5-6 as close together as possible in coursing order.

	5,016		
	W	M	H
23456	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—
53642	—	S	—
63245	—	—	—
23546	—	—	—
42536	—	—	—
34526	—	—	—
63542	—	S	—
53246	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—
56423	—	—	—
35462	—	S	—
45263	—	—	—
25364	—	—	—
62354	—	—	—
56324	—	—	—
45362	—	S	—
23456	—	—	—

Except for the opening and closing courses, and for one lead in the 12th course, the pairs of bells 3-4 and 5-6 are either coursing or have the 2nd coursing between them.

I should like to thank Mr. Turner for his excellent peal of Bob Royal. I notice he uses six singles. A well-known ringer once told me that any peal of Royal or Maximus should not have more than two singles. May I ask Mr. Turner, or anyone else, if there is any reason why more than two singles is undesirable?

M. MELVILLE.

The Knowle, Lichfield, Staffs.

[In fairness to Mr. Turner, we ought to say that he did not publish the Bob Royal as his own composition. He got it in the first place, we believe, from Mr. C. W. Roberts.—Editor, 'The Ringing World.']

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Like Mr. E. Turner, I think the arrangement for Bob Royal a very good one, and have used it for years as a variation of H. J. Tucker's well-known peal.

I usually place the singles half-way and end.

W. AYRE.

Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

OLD CUSTOMS AND MEMORIES.**A LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICA.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Letters have appeared from time to time in 'The Ringing World' in connection with old customs. At Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire, an eight-bell tower, it used to be the custom at a funeral to chime each of the bells, beginning with the treble and ending with the tenor, each one chimed twice for a child, three times for a woman, and four for a man. On Shrove Tuesday, the 3rd and 7th were chimed, though I cannot remember for how long, but it may have been for half an hour. In 1898 a man named Giles died, leaving the Chaddesley Corbett ringers an amount of about £2 per annum for ringing on the anniversary of his death. This they did, but one year the ringing was allowed to lapse. The following year they rang and claimed the £2. The executors refused to pay, and alleged that according to the particular clause in the will the legacy would completely lapse if the ringers failed to ring in any year. I understand that the ringers sued the executors and the latter had to pay up, but the Judge stated that he would not uphold the ringers' claim a second time if they should allow the annual ringing to lapse again. I believe ringing was then continued regularly each year until the ban. I took part myself once or twice (about 1935), and duly received 5s. per occasion.

At Chaddesley Corbett Church the sexton and steeplekeeper is (or at any rate was until a few years ago) a Mr. Jack Hemming—'Little Jack' as he was known to the ringers. He is the only man I have met who could make the little bell, or 'ting-tang,' at Chaddesley Corbett speak four times each whole pull, which he did for the five minutes preceding each Sunday service. The four notes were perfectly regular, usually equally loud, but occasionally one of the four weaker than the rest. Having been accustomed to hearing the 'ting-tang' right from childhood's days, I used not to notice it particularly, but, looking back, I realise now that it was to me, at any rate, quite unique.

C. CHAMBERS.

16, Merlin Street, Kensington, Johannesburg, South Africa.

ELEMENTARY COMPOSITION.

A SYSTEM OF PROOF.

By HAROLD CHANT.

Having read the articles on 'Elementary Composition' in 'The Ringing World' with the reference to bricks and building, it struck me that a chart that I have compiled at home for use (among other things) of the proof of Bob Major may be of use to 'average readers.'

It consists of the 120 courses that are possible with the tenors together, 60 (in-course) on the left-hand side and 60 (out-of-course) on the right-hand side arranged systematically thus: 23456, 42356, 34256, 32546, 53246, 25346, etc., etc.

As each course is divided into seven leads I have allotted a space for each of these seven leads, together with an insertion in the appropriate place of the course end to which the transference is made if a call is made at that lead. As this may sound more complicated than it actually is I append a facsimile of the course 23456.

Each course is treated in a similar manner and the actual chart is complete. I have now prepared some strips of cardboard sufficient to cover either one, three, four, five, six or seven leads, the latter, of course, being the complete course.

In proving a touch or peal (which is not, incidentally, the primary use of the chart) it is necessary to cover up with the cardboard strips whichever lead in any course is used as the composition proceeds, and to see that there is no overlapping or doubling of cardboard strips. If this condition is fulfilled the composition is true. To the composer and theorist the use of the chart will need no explanation, but to the 'average reader' to whom I am addressing myself some may be required especially in regard to Bobs 'Before' and '5th's and 4th's.'

THE FIRST RULE.

Start first of all with the Plain Course. If you ring it straight through and call no Bob at 'Home' you will inevitably return to the beginning of the course. Therefore, Rule No. 1 is 'If there is no Bob 'H,' return to the beginning of the course.' This rule may sound rather obvious, but remember it is possible to start in the middle of a course—even at the last lead—and then return to the beginning and ring the course through to that point, thereby utilising the complete course and jumping off as it were to a similar position in another course.

If we do call a Bob at the end of the Plain Course we move—if our courses have been arranged systematically—to the next course on the right. We can then ring this course through and move again to the next course on the right.

THE SECOND RULE.

After this, seeing that we have reached the last course of a 'round block,' we shall have to return to the first one again. So we can formulate Rule No. 2, which is, 'After a Bob "Home," move to the next course on the right in the same "round block," always remembering that from the last to the first of a round block is regarded as the 'next on the right.'

Take next, say, the touch 'three times Wrong.' Cover up the first lead of the Plain Course to show that this has been rung, the bob 'W' throws us into another course, the row 52436 informs us which course we have to move into and saves us the trouble of doing any transposition, mental or otherwise.

From the second lead of the course 52436 we can cover up the remainder of that course. As there is no bob at H we move back according to Rule 1 to the beginning of the course and obliterate by means of a strip the remaining lead. We are then informed by the 'W' transposition that we have to move into the course 35426, and this course is then treated in a similar manner to the previous one. The next transposition switches us back into the course 23456, and as there is no bob 'H' we arrive back at the place from which we had commenced (after covering with a cardboard strip the remainder of the course) and the round block is completed.

BOBS BEFORE.

With Bobs 'Before' it is necessary to remember that the 4th lead of the course must be covered both approaching and leaving. An example will perhaps best illustrate this. Take 'B and 3H' not a complete touch in itself. First cover the first four leads to show that they have been used. The B transposition (35264) moves us into the latter course, but we must remember also to cover up the 4th lead of the latter course when we move into it. This means that we use the first four leads of the course 23456 and the last four of the course 35264. A 'H' moves us one to the right and another 'H' one more to the right. We can now see, I think, much clearer than by figures why it would be impossible to follow 'B and 3H' with another 'Before,' for as the last H has moved us back into the course 35264, if we covered the first four leads again we should overlap, and the overlap would show us the lead which was being repeated, viz., the 4th lead (in this case) of the course 35264.

FIFTHS AND FOURTHS.

Where more than one 'Before' follows in succession a single strip laid over the 4th lead of the course we are transferred into will show us what leads have been used and in which courses.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH MADDOCK.

PROMINENT TAUNTON RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Joseph Maddock, of Taunton, which occurred on July 19th after a long illness.

The funeral was at St. Mary's Cemetery on Thursday, and was conducted by the Rev. Walter Green, Vicar of St. James', Taunton. At the end a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by H. Walker and A. H. Reed, of St. James' band, and W. H. Lloyd and H. P. Merson, of St. Mary's band. Among the floral tributes were wreaths from the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association and from the St. James' company.

Mr. Maddock was a native of Stogumber, and as a young man worked for Mr. John Sulley, a bellhanger. Later he became a master builder and was in business at Taunton for a number of years.

He was one of the original members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, and served on the General Committee for 35 years. At first he belonged to the band at St. Mary's, Taunton, and later went to St. James', where he was captain for about 30 years. He took a leading part in the scheme to augment the six bells at St. James' to the full octave. He was the first secretary of the Taunton Deanery branch of the Diocesan Association, and was later elected an honorary life member. He had rung about 85 peals, of which he had conducted 45.

A reliable conductor and an excellent striker, he did much good work teaching ringers, both as bands and individuals, and was a popular and highly esteemed figure in the West Country Exercise. He had many friends outside the diocese. Mr. Maddock was 77 years of age.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN C. NOLAN,

AN AUSTRALIAN PIONEER.

The death occurred on May 1st last at Melbourne, Australia, of Mr. J. C. Nolan, who was captain and for 56 years a member of the St. Patrick's band. He was born in the year 1863, and at an early age was introduced by his father to St. Patrick's belfry, where at the time was the only ring of eight bells in Victoria. The ringing then was stoney, but Mr. Nolan, with the help of Mr. James L. Murray, altered it to change ringing. They possessed a copy of the 'Clavis,' and began to practise Grandsire Doubles on the six bells of St. James' Cathedral and at St. Patrick's. Shortly after the arrival of the late J. M. Guest in Melbourne, about the year 1882, St. James' bells were increased to eight and Grandsire Triples became the order of the day, but since Doubles had been rung regularly at both cathedrals during the previous ten years, the honour of introducing change ringing to Australia belongs to Messrs. Nolan and Murray.

After St. Paul's Cathedral was consecrated, the bells of St. James' were abandoned, but the band at St. Patrick's progressed in spite of the bad musical properties and bad go of their bells. Stedman Doubles and Triples were regularly practised, and a few attempts for a peal of the latter were made.

For some time there was close and regular co-operation between the bands at the two towers, and in 1896 a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Paul's by four men from each company. It was conducted by Mr. Nolan. The same party also rang in the same year the first peal in Australia, Grandsire Triples, composed and conducted by Arthur E. Beames.

In September, 1941, Mr. Nolan had a heart attack, and though he was about again in a few weeks' time, his ringing days were over. He could no longer climb the belfry stairs, but he regularly listened to the bells from the street below.

Mr. Nolan was respected and honoured by all who knew him, he was a man who never spoke an unkind word about anybody and he never made an enemy. He taught many pupils Grandsire and Stedman, and though he never called a peal, he was quite capable of doing so.

WANDSWORTH RINGER MISSING.

The family of Mr. Leonard F. Hopgood, who was serving in the R.A. in the Middle East, have received news that he has been missing since June 20th. He was a member of the All Saints', Wandsworth, band. His friends will hope for news that he is safe.

A SYSTEM OF PROOF.

(Continued from previous column.)

In 5th's and 4th's we must realise that the 2nd, 3rd and 4th leads are never used, but for them one lead is substituted, which is no concern of the chart at all. Example: take 'W, 5th's and 4th's. M and H,' commonly called a 'Bob Course.' Single strips over the 1st, 2nd, 6th and 7th leads of the respective courses 23456, 52436, 64352. 34256 will illustrate to any thinking person what has actually taken place, always remembering that a lead, during which the tenors have been separated, and that does not appear on the chart, has been rung.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 4d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 2/-.

For Notices other than of Meetings 6d. per line (minimum 2/6).

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. 3d. per quarter.

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 1st, at the Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, at 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Lawford on Saturday, August 1st. Handbells available from 2.30 p.m. in the church. Service at 4.15 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and more handbell ringing in the Ogilvie Hall. There is a good bus service from Colchester. Manningtree Station is $\frac{3}{4}$ mile away.—Leslie Wright, Hon. Dis. Sec., Lower Barn Farm, Dedham.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on August 1st. Tower open for silent bellringing, also handbells, from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.45. Tea at 5.30, followed by short business meeting.—G. Radley, 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton and Loughborough joint meeting.—A meeting at Copt Oak on Saturday, August 1st. Silent tower bells from 3 p.m. Handbells in Vicarage grounds. Cups of tea provided, but bring own eatables. Buses from Coalville or Leicester every 15 minutes. Connection there at 2.46. Bus from Whitwick approximately 3 p.m.—J. W. Cotton and A. E. Rowley, Hon. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Algarkirk on Saturday, August 1st. Bells (6) available for silent ringing at 5 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. All ringers welcome.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-Western District) and GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District).—A joint rally will be held at Leatherhead on Monday, Aug. 3rd. Meet at Boxhill S.R. Station at 3 p.m. to ramble through Norbury Park to Leatherhead. Service at Leatherhead Parish Church at 4.30. Tea at the Duke's Head at 5 p.m. Eight silent tower bells and handbells available during the afternoon and evening. All heartily welcome.—G. W. Massey and A. H. Smith, Dis. Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Sundridge on Saturday, August 8th. Tower open from 2 p.m. with six silent bells. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, followed by business meeting. All requiring tea must let Miss B. M. Richardson, Beechcroft, Sundridge, Sevenoaks, know by Wednesday, the 5th. London Transport buses run every half-hour from Tonbridge via Sevenoaks, and from Croydon via Westerham, No. 403. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. will be paid to members who have paid their subscriptions.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec., East Peckham, Tonbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting at St. Thomas' Church, Moorside, on Saturday, August 8th. Tower bells from 3 p.m. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided for those who bring own food. Please make a special effort to attend. All are welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A combined meeting with the Barnsley and District Society, the Doncaster and District Society, and the Sheffield and District Society will be held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, August 8th. Handbells available at the Church House from 2.30 p.m. A short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Church House at 5 p.m. for all those who notify Mr. F. C. Wilson, 131, Wheatcroft Road, Sandhills, Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, not later than Wednesday, August 5th. Owing to catering difficulties, this is important. Business meeting after tea, followed by handbells and friendly discussions. All are welcome, and a good attendance is desired, this being our last summer gathering.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—A practice on the silent apparatus of the bells of St. Peter's, Dorchester, will be held on Saturday, August 8th, commencing at 6 p.m. Suitable train service.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 59, Portland Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

PUBLICATION

THE CHURCH BELLS OF BERKSHIRE, Part VI, reprinted from the Journal of the Berkshire Archaeological Society. To be obtained from the author, Mr. Frederick Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Price: 6d.

BIRTH.

BAILEY.—On July 19th, at County Hospital, Dartford, Kent, to Jean Margaret, wife of J. E. Bailey, 20, Swaisland Road, Dartford, the gift of a daughter, Christine Mary.

BOYNE HILL.—On Friday, July 10th, in the belfry of All Saints' Church, on handbells, in 40 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): *W. Walker 1-2, W. Judd 3-4, G. Martin 5-6, *J. Eldridge (conductor) 7-8. *First quarter-peal on handbells.

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