



THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

'The Ringing World' has a double function to perform. On the one hand it has to report the week-by-week doings of ringers, and the peals they ring, and by means of notices to let the members of the associations know where their meetings are to be held. In other words, it is an important part of the machinery by which the activities of the Exercise are carried on, by which ringers are brought into touch with one another, and by which interest in the art of change ringing is maintained. It is a newspaper, and shares with all other newspapers the disadvantage that much of the matter it deals with is necessarily of but temporary and local interest.

How far 'The Ringing World' or some such journal is absolutely necessary to the life of the Exercise it is impossible to say, for the Exercise has not lacked the services of a weekly paper for more than seventy years. But it is not too much to say that the present organisation of ringing depends very largely on a weekly journal, and we like to think that the present healthy condition of the Exercise, after nearly six years of war, including the ban on ringing, is due in no small degree to this paper.

This is one of the things the reader should remember when he is tempted to think of any one particular issue that it contains very little which concerns or interests him personally. The Exercise is widely spread, and consists of men very varied in their tastes and abilities and opinions. No one class or kind of ringers can be considered exclusively; and if a man is inclined to complain that some things he values are not given the prominence he thinks they deserve, while other things which he rates of no importance receive more notice than he thinks necessary, he should remember that there are people who think differently, and who are entitled to exactly the same amount of consideration as himself.

But to minister to the week-by-week needs of the Exercise is not the only function of 'The Ringing World.' It has the wider and more difficult task of advancing the best and highest interests of the art of change ringing and the general well-being of the Exercise. It is for this reason that the long articles on technical and historical subjects are published. Many readers, no doubt, are inclined to think that they are rather out of place in a paper which often, like most newspapers, is read, put aside, and forgotten. These articles would, they consider, be more suitably published in book form where they could be studied at leisure by those whose tastes and in-

(Continued on page 174.)

clination are suited to the subjects dealt with. It is true that nearly all these articles do demand of the reader far more close attention than he habitually gives to the matter in a newspaper. Especially is this so with the technical articles on composition and the like. The matter dealt with is sometimes abstruse, and however careful the writer may be to express his meaning clearly, what he writes is not always easy reading. Should it then be included in a journal intended for the general reader?

The answer to that and, we think, the sufficient answer, is that history and experience have proved that such articles have been of the utmost value to the Exercise at large. In some cases their direct effect has been on the few, but the knowledge they imparted has gradually influenced to a greater or less degree the whole Exercise. It is quite certain that the remarkable advance in method ringing and in the knowledge of the things belonging to change ringing, which we have seen during these last forty years, has been largely due to the articles which appeared in 'The Bell News' and later ringing papers. These articles probably were read by few at the time and understood by fewer still, but their effect is seen to-day.

We have recently received two outstanding articles dealing with the same subject—the composition of Stedman Triples—from two men. One, Mr. Brian D. Price, is a newcomer to the ranks of our theoretical experts. The other, Mr. Joseph W. Parker, has during a long life fairly earned the right to be considered our leading composer. There are difficulties in the way of publishing Mr. Price's article, for he writes purely as a mathematician and uses methods and terms which would not be understood by ringers. Indeed, he did not expect it to be published. Mr. Parker's article, the summary of the results of a life's study, is necessarily not easy reading, but we consider it our duty to make it public as soon as ever the available space in our columns will permit it.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Leeds on April 28th. Members were present from Armley, Batley, Burley, Bradford, Drighlington, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Elland, Felkirk and Woodlesford. Sergt. J. Prior, of London, was a visitor.

Three new members were elected—Messrs. J. Bowers, of St. Chad's, D. Roe and R. Butterfield, of St. Michael's.

The officers were elected as follows: President, Mr. W. H. Senior; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. W. Strangeway, S. Barron and Fred Hutchinson; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse; Ringing Master, Mr. A. Smith.

The report of the hon. secretary stated that the membership now numbers 184. Thirty-three members were elected during the past year, and 21 are in His Majesty's Forces. The next meeting was fixed for May 26th at Batley.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT AYLSHAM.

Twenty-one ringers were present at a meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, held at Aylsham on April 14th. They came from Aylsham, Buxton, Mulbarton, Norwich, Northropps, Scottow, Wymondham and Wighton.

The chair at the business meeting was taken by the Rev. A. Blyth, who was supported by Mr. H. Tooke, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Mr. F. Nolan Golden, Mr. W. C. Duffield and the Rev. G. W. Wilson. The next meeting will be held at East Dereham on July 14th.

HANDBELLS IN INDIA.

On Easter Sunday, call changes and Grandsire Doubles were rung on handbells in Christ Church, Rawalpindi, before morning and evening services. On April 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles were rung by A. J. Adams (conductor) 1-2, B. G. Key (first quarter-peat on handbells) 3-4, A. Letten (first quarter-peat) 5-6.

TEN BELL PEALS.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1945, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

*WILLIAM FEENLEY ... <i>Treble</i>	ANDREW THOMPSON ... 6
†MARGARET D. TELFORD 2	CHARLES H. PAGE ... 7
TOM WILDE ... 3	GEORGE W. BIDDULPH ... 8
JOHN WORTH ... 4	DAVID VINCENT ... 9
ALAN J. BROWN ... 5	PETER LAFLIN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal of Royal on tower bells.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat. April 28, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... <i>Treble</i>	ERNEST E. HOLMAN ... 6
MISS VALHALLA HILL ... 2	*HERBERT SMITH ... 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 3	RICHARD W. STANNARD ... 8
CHARLES T. COLES ... 4	FREDERICK C. MAYNARD ... 9
HENRY RUMENS ... 5	JAMES BENNETT ... <i>Tenor</i>

Arranged and Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung in memory of Capt. Frederick George Coles, M.C., killed in action in Tunisia, April 28th, 1943.

CUDHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5094 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS J. HOULDSWORTH <i>Treble</i>	JAMES E. BAILEY ... 6
*DENNIS L. HALL ... 2	*NORMAN SUMMERHAYES ... 7
GEORGE LARGE ... 3	†RALPH BIRD ... 8
†HARRY HOVERD ... 4	*ALAN G. HALL ... 9
†HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5	VERNON J. BENNING ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. W. MOORHOUSE. Conducted by J. E. BAILEY.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters on tower bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EDMONTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1945, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 17½ cwt.

*VICTOR R. WOODARDS <i>Treble</i>	JOHN THOMAS ... 5
*ERIC A. DENCH ... 2	ALBERT W. COLES ... 6
*PHILIP J. COWARD ... 3	SYDNEY T. HOLT ... 7
MRS. J. THOMAS ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by J. THOMAS.

* First Surprise peal.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 21, 1945, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Consisting of 1,408 changes of Kent Treble Bob, 1,088 of Oxford Treble Bob, 1,392 of Plain Bob and 1,120 of Double Bob; 77 changes of method. Tenor 14 cwt. in P.

JOHN R. SMITH ... <i>Treble</i>	NOLAN GOLDEN ... 5
MRS. GEORGE SAYER ... 2	GEORGE SAYER ... 6
REV. A. G. G. THURLOW 3	HENRY TOOKE ... 7
F. CHARLES GOODMAN ... 4	FREDERICK SEAGER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in four methods on the bells. Rung half-muffled for President Roosevelt.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wed., April 25, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
 AT THE R.C. CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY <i>Treble</i>	LEONARD TUFFREY 5
GEORGE E. FEARN 2	JAMES F. HARVEY 6
†HENRY H. FEARN 3	JOHN PINFOLD 7
GEORGE F. SWANN 4	WILLIAM T. FROGGATT ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal of Stedman. † 100th peal. 200th peal as conductor.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 26, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 5
ERIC B. HARTLEY 2	ROGER S. CADAMY 6
RALPH BIRD 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 7
FRANCIS KIRK 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Arranged and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., April 27, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
 AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

RALPH BIRD <i>Treble</i>	ERIC B. HARTLEY 5
GEORGE LARGE 2	HERBERT T. AUDSLEY 6
DENNIS L. HALL 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 7
ALAN G. HALL 4	JAMES E. BAILEY <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by F. J. CULLUM.

GRAYSHOTT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Three Hours,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

FRANK C. W. KNIGHT ... <i>Treble</i>	ERNEST J. MUNDAY 5
ALFRED H. PULLING 2	FRED A. H. WILKINS 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS 7
GEORGE L. GROVER 4	WILLIAM BEESON <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK A. BURNETT <i>Treble</i>	JOHN H. HUNT 5
*WILLIAM A. THEOBALD... 2	*HAROLD A. NOBES 6
STANLEY E. COOK 3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT ... 7
LEONARD HARRIS 4	WILLIAM SCAIFE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by FREDERICK W. BURNETT.

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

HANDBELL PEAL.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., April 27, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
 AT 17, KINGSFIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

GRAHAM C. TARR 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	LAURENCE R. TARR 7-8

Composed and Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

SIX BELL PEALS.

NEW BUCKENHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 22, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven extents in ten methods: (1) Double and Single Court, (2) Double Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, (3) St. Clement's and Double Bob, (4) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (5) Oxford Bob and Double Bob, (6) Cambridge Surprise, (7) Plain and Double Bob.
 Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

*WILFRED G. SAUNDERS... <i>Treble</i>	*GEORGE SAYER 4
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	*JOHN R. SMITH 5
*R. CHARLES GOODMAN ... 3	*HENRY TOOKE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in ten methods. Forty-five changes of method.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., April 24, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*FREDERICK HORSEWOOD <i>Treble</i>	ERNEST MORRIS 4
GNR. F. BAILESS, R.A. 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD 5
†FREDERICK WATSON ... 3	ALFRED E. WARWICK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal. † First 'inside.' Rung muffled for Pte. Robin Hands, chorister and ringer of this church, killed in Germany, April 8th.

BENFIELDSIDE, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 13 cwt.

*MARK PINKNEY <i>Treble</i>	STEPHEN THOMPSON, JUN. 4
JACK LISHMAN 2	CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB... 5
†PENTON ARMSTRONG ... 3	STEPHEN THOMPSON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by STEPHEN THOMPSON.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' Rung half-muffled for Douglas Oliver, former ringer, killed in action.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Rev. E. Banks James' Arrangement. Tenor 12 cwt.

*GEORGE W. PEVERELL... <i>Treble</i>	*GEORGE F. NEWTON ... 4
JAMES T. TITT 2	ROLAND PARK 5
WILLIAM OLIVER 3	W. NORMAN PARK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

* First peal of Surprise Minor.

FELKIRK, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Barnsley District Society).

On Sat., April 28, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Norbury, College Exercise, London Scholars, Kingston, Sandal, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt.

*LEWIS STEELE <i>Treble</i>	DANIEL SMITH 4
JOHN WILLIAM MOXON... 2	NOEL F. MOXON 5
HERMAN RUSBY 3	GEORGE TUTT <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal.



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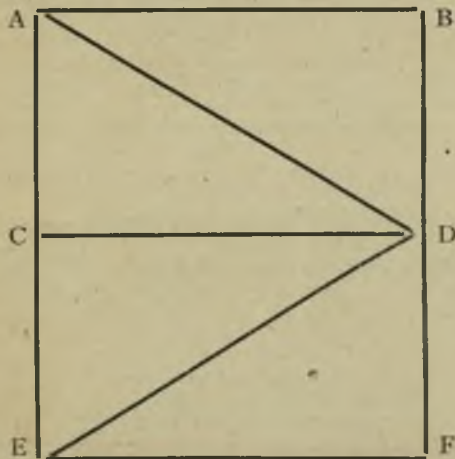
THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.

(Continued from page 136.)

Once or twice in these articles we have had to refer to certain methods and to point out that they are useless for present-day purposes because they are not symmetrical. Some of our readers, no doubt, have wondered what there is in symmetry to make it so important, and some perhaps have wondered what exactly is meant by symmetry.

Symmetry, of course, is a word in general every-day use, and conveys a definite, though undefined, idea. We talk about a symmetrical building, or a symmetrical design, and so on. Everyone knows pretty well what we mean, but all of us would be hard put to it to draw a definite distinction between what is symmetrical and what is not. An undefined borderland separates the two. How then can it be made an exact rule in method construction, and what purpose does it serve? Well, 'symmetry' is one of those words, common enough in our art, which was at first used in its rather loose sense, and then gradually hardened into a technical term with a definite meaning which belongs solely to change ringing. It did so because there was a need for it and it naturally supplied the want. We can still use the word in its ordinary fuller sense, as when we say that Double Norwich or Bristol Surprise is more symmetrical than Cambridge or London, but when we are dealing with the rules of method construction, we confine the term to one particular precise quality which is considered to be essential to every method worthy of being practised.

ILLUSTRATION 1.



Take any one of the standard methods—Plain Bob or Double Norwich or what you like—and draw a line, first at the lead-ends, through the whole pulls of the treble; then at the half lead-ends; and then along the path of the treble as in illustration 1. You will find that you have four triangles, ABD, ACD, DEF and CDE. Now fold your paper along the line CD. A symmetrical method is one in which, when the paper is so folded, every place made in the triangle ABD will fall on a place made in the triangle DEF; every dodge in the one will fall on a dodge in the other; and if you draw a lined course showing the paths of the bells, the lines in the triangle ABD will exactly fall on the lines in the triangle DEF. Similarly, everything in the triangle ACD will fall on corresponding work in CDE.

Let us put it another way. When you are pricking a method, you start from the lead-heads (the rows at which the treble strikes the backstroke blows of its whole pulls in front), and you make your places, your dodging, and all the rest of it in exactly the same way in every lead. In a symmetrical method you could start from the lead-ends (the rows when the treble strikes the handstroke blows of its whole pulls in front) and, pricking exactly as before, you could write down the rows of the second halves of the lead, but in reverse order. Here is an example from Double Norwich.

12345678		16847253
21436587	4ths	61482735
24135678		64187253
42316587	3rds and 6ths	46812735
24361578		64821753
42635187	5ths	46287135
24365817		64827315
42638571		46283751

Read down the first column and then up the second, and you will have a lead of the method.

So far as practical ringing in the tower is concerned, the most important result of all this is that the work of each bell in any method is divided into two parts. For half a course it does a certain work; then it makes a certain place, and from that point its work is repeated, but in reverse order. Then another place starts the original work again. One of these places is always made when the treble is leading full, the other when the treble is lying its whole pull behind; and at every lead-end, and every half lead-end, one bell reverses its work. These places are called the Turning Places of the method.

In Grandsire, and other methods with a bell-in-the-hunt, the lines which form the triangles must be drawn, not through the treble's whole pulls before and behind but at the changes between the whole pulls of the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt. So far as the plain course is concerned, the bell-in-the-hunt is not a working bell but a colleague of the treble.

This is what we mean by symmetry in method construction, but we have still to see what its uses are, and why it should be looked upon as an essential quality in every method used for practical ringing. So far as the men at the ropes are concerned, it has this effect, that it makes the ringer's task less difficult, and he has only half a course to learn and then to repeat it backwards. It is an advantage to know this when you are ringing a complex method, but it should be remembered that one of the chief attractions of some methods is their difficulty, and the result of excluding unsymmetrical methods is to rule out what probably may be the most difficult of all. One way of solving the problem would be to splice methods by half-leads instead of, as is now usual, by full leads. But that is outside the scope of our present enquiry, and our reference to the effect of symmetry of methods on practical ringing is no more than a passing one.

(To be continued.)

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT SOUTH KIRBY.

A meeting of the Barnsley District Society, held at South Kirby on April 14th, was attended by members from Arksey, Ackworth, Bolsterstone, Cawthorne, Darfield, Eastwood, Earlsheaton, Fe'kirk, Sandal, Wath and the local belfry. The ringers were entertained to tea by the Vicar and churchwardens. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wath-on-Dearne on May 12th.

TO CALL THE BELLS ROUND.

GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

If the conductor knows that the changes are in course, he can call either the Second or the Third into the Hunt by a bob and wait until the bells run round. If the Second is in the Hunt, it will be at backstroke; if the Third is in the Hunt, it will be at handstroke.

If the conductor knows that the changes are out of course he will call a single instead of a bob.

If the conductor does not know whether the changes are in course or out of course, he can call either the Second or the Third into the Hunt by means of either a bob or a single. He must then notice how the Fourth and Fifth strike together when they come behind. If they strike 4-5 at backstroke when the Second is in the Hunt, or 5-4 at backstroke when the Third is in the Hunt, the bells will run round without further calls.

If the Fourth and Fifth strike 4-5 at backstroke when the Third is in the Hunt, call the Second into the Hunt with a single. If they strike 5-4 when the Second is in the Hunt, call the Third into the Hunt with a single. In either case no further call is necessary.

STEDMAN DOUBLES.

In Stedman Doubles, no matter how much the bells are out of their proper positions, the bells will run round by the ordinary working of the method, provided the changes are not out of course. If they are out of course, one single on any one pair of bells anywhere is enough to bring the bells round.

SERVICE TOUCHES.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

1,259.

23456789

65324978 7th in with S and out at 2 with bob

52364 8th in and 2

32465 8-9

24365 7-8

43265 7-8

53264 8-9 S

23465 8-9

34265 7-8

42365 7-8

32564 8-9

42563 8-9 S

23456 9th in and out at 2

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT MAIDEN NEWTON.

A meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Maiden Newton on April 21st and was attended by 35 ringers from Abbotsbury, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester St. Peter, Fordington St. George, Frampton, Maiden Newton, Stratton, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regis.

At the service Canon Markby read the lesson and Canon Slemack gave the address. Fifty people sat down to tea at the Newton Hall, hospitality being provided by Canon and Mrs. Slemack and the wives of the Maiden Newton ringers.

Canon Markby, chairman of the branch, presided at the business meeting. He paid tribute to the work of the Ringing Master, Sergt. P. Tockock, and congratulated the Abbotsbury band, who recently rang a peal with all local men. During the afternoon and evening there was ringing at Dorchester, Frampton, Stratton and Sydling.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HALSTEAD.

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association at Halstead was attended by 26 ringers from 10 parishes. Eleven new members were elected and Pebmarsh was selected as the place of the next meeting. It was decided that a collection shall be taken at every meeting for the bell restoration fund. Tea was prepared and served by Mrs. A. Snowden and Mrs. L. Edwards, and refreshments were given by Mrs. H. Martin and Miss E. Spurgeon. Choral evensong was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. W. Swallow. Several methods were rung, including Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT TURVEY.

At a meeting of the Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association, held at Turvey on April 28th, 38 ringers were present from Bromham, Stagsden, Kempston, Milton Ernest, Bedford, Biddenham, Elstow, Cardington, Northampton, Moulton, Brafield, Silsoe, Harrold, Tempsford, Maulden, Great Barford and the local tower.

Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. C. A. B. Allen, and was followed by tea at the schools, arranged by the local ladies. At the business meeting, presided over by Mr. J. Hinson, Keysoe was selected as the place of meeting on May 26th, with ringing at Riseley after tea if possible. Five ringing members and two non-resident members were elected.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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subscriptions and notices must be prepaid.

The peal rung on April 28th at Felkirk, Yorks, was a welcome home
to one of the local company, Warrant Officer J. Copley, R.A.F., who
for four years had been a prisoner of war in Germany.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD

CHANGE OF NAME.

At the annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild, held at Rugby
on Saturday, April 21st, it was decided by a large majority to
change the name of the Guild to the Coventry Diocesan Guild with
boundaries approximating to those of the Coventry Diocese. The
towers on the Birmingham side of Stonebridge, together with Poles-
worth and Grendon in the north of the county, will cease to be in
the Guild. This decision will avoid overlapping with the St. Martin's
Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, and members of the towers
affected will cease to pay as resident members of the Guild. It was
decided to divide the Guild into districts each with its secretary, so
that meetings may be held in more towers during the course of the
year and assistance given to a greater number of learners. The new
districts will be Warwick and Stratford (secretary, Mr. W. Collett),
Coventry and Rugby (secretary, Mr. W. Stote), and Nuneaton (sec-
retary, Mr. L. Trevor).

The Rev. R. T. Murray, Vicar of Chilvers Coton, was elected presi-
dent. The vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition of Mr.
J. H. W. White, who was Master of the Guild from 1930 to 1944.
Mrs. D. E. Beamish was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer,
with Mr. A. H. Beamish hon. auditor. Nuneaton was selected for
the meeting in July.

The report showed that at the end of 1944 the membership stood
at 306, being made up of 11 honorary members, 135 ringing members
and 160 non-resident members. The balance sheet showed a balance
in hand of £21 3s. 2d., with a defence bond of £20 in addition.

Service in church was conducted by the Rev. H. W. Baines, Rector
of Rugby, who afterwards took the chair at the business meeting.
Ninety-four ringers were present from Allesley, Broughton Astley,
Bulkington, Coventry, Meriden, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, Stratford,
Staverton, Warwick and the local belfry.

St. Andrew's, Rugby, possesses a light ring of four bells in a tower
at the west end, and a heavy ring of eight in a tower and spire at
the north-east end. Good use was made of both.

SYNTHETIC BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I feel as many other people seem to do that where a
church tower is not strong enough to support a peal of bells, the
installation of a machine to imitate church bells or a gramophone
reproduction of a peal of bells is a distinct advantage to a church
and parish. There does not further seem anything wrong in employ-
ing a machine in a church, as an organ with its electrically driven
blower is just as much a machine.

Some time ago I read in a local newspaper that a person was
walking one Sunday in the Leeds district and was struck by the fine
effect of what he thought a peal of bells in the vicinity. Not until
the walker was very near the church did he realise that it was a
gramophone reproduction of a well-known peal of bells. I have also
seen one or two articles in newspapers of this kind of reproduction
of bells and invariably the result seems to be a good one. It is, of
course, better to have the human touch where this is possible, but a
reproduction is the next best thing in calling people to worship.

PAUL BIRKETT

2, Brighthouse Road, Queensbury, near Bradford.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The first session of the nineteenth Council (48th annual meeting) will be held, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee, on Whitsun Tuesday, May 22nd, 1945, in the City Council Chamber, Birmingham (by kind permission of the Lord Mayor), at 11 a.m. precisely.

The morning session will be adjourned at 1 o'clock, and the afternoon session will commence at 2.15, or as may be decided.

AGENDA.

- Report of the hon. secretary as to representation of societies and as to unpaid subscriptions.
Apologies for absence.
Presentation of new members to the president (Rule 11).
- Election of president for 1945-48.
Mr. E. H. Lewis retires and is eligible for re-election.
 - Election of hon. secretary and treasurer for 1945-48.
Mr. G. W. Fletcher retires.
 - Election of hon. librarian for 1945-48.
Capt. W. H. J. Hooton retires and is eligible for re-election.
 - Election of hon. auditors (two) for 1945-48.
Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. A. A. Hughes retire and are eligible for re-election.
 - Election of honorary members.
The following retire and are eligible for re-election: Messrs. A. A. Hughes, E. C. S. Turner, E. H. Lewis, A. Walker, G. E. Debenham, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. C. Dean, T. Groombridge, C. F. Johnston, J. F. Smallwood, F. Sharpe, J. A. Trollope, E. A. Young, Capt. W. H. J. Hooton. There are five vacancies.
 - Loss of members through death.
 - Minutes of the last meeting.
 - Report of the hon. librarian.
 - Statement of accounts.
 - Report of the Trustees of the Carter Ringing Machine.
Trustees: Messrs. E. Alex. Young and A. A. Hughes.
 - To receive, discuss and, if thought fit, to adopt the reports of the following committees.
To pass such resolutions as may be necessary on matters arising out of the reports.
To reappoint or alter the constitution of the committees as may be considered desirable, and to appoint conveners of such committees.
 - Standing Committee.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker, E. C. S. Turner, G. E. Debenham.
Note.—Four vacancies occur through the deaths of Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Perry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Messrs. W. A. Cave and S. H. Wood.
The ex-officio members are: The President, Hon. Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Auditors, Conveners of Committees, and past officers (if still members of the Council).
 - Peal Collection.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Messrs. G. R. Newton and H. G. Cashmore.
 - Methods.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Messrs. J. A. Trollope and E. C. S. Turner.
 - Peal Analysis and Records.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Messrs. C. Dean, G. L. Grover and W. Ayre.
 - Towers and Belfries.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Mr. E. H. Lewis, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. E. Alex. Young.
 - Literature, Press and Broadcasting.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. A. Paddon Smith and A. Walker.
 - Peal Boards.
The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Rev. C. E. Wigg, Messrs. W. Ayre and W. G. Wilson.
 - Biographies.
Members eligible for reappointment:—
Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and Mr. A. C. Hazelden.
 - To fix the place of the next meeting.
 - Other business (if any).

GEORGE W. FLETCHER, Hon. Secretary.

The White House, Caister-on-Sea.

FOOTNOTES TO PEAL REPORTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was glad to note the remarks of the Rev. R. D. St. J. Smith in regard to footnotes. For sheer fatuity, some pre-ban footnotes would be hard to beat, and I for one was very glad when you decided to omit them from your reports. Recent events, however, have caused me to modify my views, and I feel that there is a definite desirability for the sober type of footnote. I learn that at a branch meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association grave dissatisfaction at the omission of two footnotes was unanimously expressed. Eight men rang a muffled peal to the memory of a great friend to all ringers, but the footnote they submitted did not appear. Again, ten men rang a peal as a farewell to their beloved Rector, and these, too, submitted a footnote, which also was expunged from the account. Now, sir, these men, men of mature thought, and in no sense 'peal snatchers,' felt that they had a right to their modest and entirely unfrivolous postscripts. They had solid reasons for thinking so. I am sure they had. It is quite evident that there is strong feeling in this district regarding the matter, and public opinion is a potent force.

On November 24th next, the fifth anniversary of Stephen Wood's death in action, twelve men hope to ring a muffled peal to his memory on the bells of Redcliffe, Bristol. Should they be successful, I presume a footnote will be sent with the report. Will you leave that footnote out?

Mr. St. J. Smith's views on war-time peal ringing are largely my own. I feel that peal ringing should take place only for special reasons as distinct from plausible excuses. I have been asked to ring in the Redcliffe attempt, and I have accepted gladly, for that will be an occasion when I feel I can ring with a clear conscience.

J. T. DYKE.

Chilcompton, Bath.

[Peal footnotes are sometimes omitted because there is no room for them. If they refer to important events, reference to them is made elsewhere in the paper.—The Editor.]

COMPETITIVE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is with dismay that we in Barnsley read your article on competitive ringing, as your effort to approach the subject with an open mind was very weak.

The Barnsley and District Change Ringers' Shield Competition is held yearly in the summer at any tower within the 12-mile radius and is open to any band in the country. No difficulty is encountered in obtaining permission from the incumbents for the use of the bells, quite the reverse, for the vicars have shown keen interest and have offered hospitality to the judges and presented the shield to the winners.

The shield, which is held by the winning band for one year, was first put up for competition in 1926, and with the exception of the years of the ban has been the object of keen rivalry amongst the local bands and even from ringers on the Lancashire borders, but never has any unpleasantness or bad feeling resulted.

To say that perfection in striking is not improved by competition is wrong, for in this county, village cricket and football matches are invariably competitive, which perhaps explains why we in Yorkshire always do things a little better than the rest of the country.

N. F. MOXON.

COVERING BELLS.

The following letter from the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, then hon. secretary of the Central Council, appeared in 'The Bell News' of November 19th, 1892:—

'At the last meeting of the Council I was instructed to communicate to the editors of the ringing periodicals the following definitions of a valid peal on any number of bells from five to twelve, agreed to by resolution of the Council, and to request that the records of such peals as fulfil the conditions laid down by these definitions should alone be published.

'On five bells, without the addition of a covering bell, not less than 5,040 changes, rung without interval in true 6-scores and in not less than three methods.'

[The conditions for other numbers follow.]

'With reference to the above, you will perceive that it is the desire of the Council to limit the performance of peals of Doubles to five-bell towers, by discountenancing such performances where there is a ring of six bells, the tenor being used as a cover.'

RINGING TOURS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Now that nearly all civil defence duties have finished and that ringers generally have more time for ringing, may I ask whether any ringing tours are being organised during the summer months? I am quite sure there are several ringer-cyclists who would enjoy a week's tour, even if the distance covered over the week would not be as great as the tours undertaken in pre-war days.

H. PARKER.

64, Church Road, Northwith, Cheshire.

WILLIAM C. LUKIS.

William C. Lukis, to whom reference was recently made in 'The Ringing World,' was one of the pioneers in the belfry reform movement of the last century. This reform movement had the most profound and lasting effects on ringers and ringing, and the Exercise to-day owes a deep debt of gratitude to the reformers. I have already said something about them in my account of Henry Thomas Ellacombe.

Apart from his writings, I have not been able to find anything about Lukis' life and work except that he was a clergyman who held some preferment in Wiltshire, and was afterwards Rector of Wath, in Yorkshire. At one time he owned the copy of the 'Tintinnologia,' which afterwards was in the collection of the Rev. W. C. Pearson, and is now in the Cambridge University library.

Lukis was one of the earliest of the men who interested themselves in the bells which hung neglected in the village steeples, and he shares with Dr. Gatty and Ellacombe the distinction of being the first Englishman to write on the subject, though, of course, there are numerous passing references to bells in older books. He had obviously for long studied bells, and collected information about them, before he ventured on publication. In the year 1854 he read a paper to the Wiltshire Archæological Society which was printed in the following year in 'The Wiltshire Magazine.' To it he afterwards added matter, and in 1857 he published the whole in book form under the title of 'An Account of Church Bells.' As it dealt primarily with the bells of Wiltshire, it may be reckoned as the first of the county histories of bells, though the first complete county bell history was that of Sussex, published by Dr. Amherst D. Tyssen in the Sussex Archæological Volume of 1864. The Journal of the British Archæological Association for 1859 contains an account by Lukis of the Salisbury bell founders, and that seems to be the extent of his publications, unless (which is not unlikely) he was the author of an unsigned essay on church bells which appeared in 'The Quarterly Review' of June, 1854.

Lukis' account of the Wiltshire bells has been superseded by H. B. Walters' book, and his references to change ringing are very inaccurate, but his book will always have an interest for ringers for it is first-hand contemporary evidence of the condition of village bells and bell towers and bellringers in the middle of the last century. The book is rare, and we therefore reproduce some extracts from it.

Some persons apply the term 'belfry' to signify the whole tower; others limit its application to the part in which the bells are suspended; and others again to the room or space in which the ringers stand, which is either on the floor of the church or in one of the stages of the tower. This is a matter of very little consequence, and I do not intend to speak of this part of the church further than just to remark by the way that, as it was clearly erected for the purpose of carrying bells, it is a matter for our grave consideration how it comes to pass that so many of our village churches should have their towers in so dilapidated a condition.

I have seen several in the course of my Wiltshire rambles which are in so dangerous a state that the bells are forbidden to be rung. There is no doubt that this

arises from two causes. In the first place bells for which the towers were originally constructed were not subjected to the same revolutions and tossings as now. They were swung to and fro, it is true, as I shall explain presently, but very gently compared with the present wild somersaults of change ringing, an art of comparatively recent date. Consequently, in constructing the towers, the architects of those days had not to take into their consideration the great vibration of the walls produced by the violent motion of the bells.

In 1810 the spire of St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, fell as the people were assembling for service, and killed twenty-three persons. This catastrophe was partly caused by the vibration of the bells. Anyone who has stood in the belfry of the lofty and beautiful tower of Magdalen College, Oxford, when a peal is ringing on its ten sweet-toned bells, knows the way in which a tower is made to sway. To a person of weak nerves it is perfectly alarming, and it is easy to understand how this kind of vibration must loosen the masonry and eventually endanger the building.

The following is an extract from the ancient churchwardens' accounts of St. Thomas', Salisbury. 'At a vestry held 6 April, 1640. Item by reason of the danger wch the tower is in by ringing of the bells, since they were high hung, and in other respects, it is agreed that the bells shall be hung lower at the same pitch they formerly were hung att, and the churchwardens are desired to do itt accordingly.'

In the second place, and this I take to be the principal cause of the evil, churchwardens have been sadly negligent. With a little oil, and new ropes allowed now and then, they have imagined that their duty to the bells and to the parish has been faithfully done; whereas mischief of a threefold nature has been growing and increasing—mischief to the buildings, to the bells, and to the parishioners—the one ending in dilapidation and ruin; the second, in their utter destruction; and the third, to the prejudice of their pockets. In a tower in Wiltshire I found three out of six bells broken, as I firmly believe, from this cause; and several peals of bells are rendered nearly useless in consequence of the shaky state of the towers.

As an instance of the way in which some (I may say many) churchwardens speak and act, I will mention that I was warned by a parish clerk to be very careful where I stepped in the bell-loft, 'for,' said he, 'the tower be main crazy.' On asking the churchwarden for the key of the church, and mentioning the clerk's humane warning, he said, 'Sir, I have known the tower these forty years, and he never was no better than he is now. He's quite safe. I'll tell'ee what, sir; one day the bishop come, and he said, "Measter churchwarden, you've a very pretty church, and he's in very good order." Another day another gentleman come, I think they call'un a rural dean, and he said, "Measter churchwarden, you've a pretty church and he's sadly out of repair." When I returned the key I did not see the churchwarden, or I should have told him that in my humble opinion both the rural dean and the parish clerk were right; for I had seen very many churches and many belfries, but few in a worse condition.

An to illustrate the way in which these good, easy parish officers will sometimes suffer the house of God to fall into decay, while I fear they expend what they rob

Him of upon their own bodily comforts, I will tell you that, in ascending a Wiltshire tower with careful steps, I sank through the rotten floor of one of its stages and was preserved from a broken limb, if not an untimely end, by the joists, which happened to be less decayed.

Bells require very constant attention to keep them in proper ringing order. When you consider their enormous weight, the different parts of their gear, the iron and wood of which it is composed, bolted and screwed together; the framework on which they hang, and which in revolving they violently shake and vibrate; and then reflect that the iron and wood are both exposed to continual changes of atmosphere; and that under one condition of atmosphere when one of these materials expands the other contracts, and that then the bells cannot oscillate so easily, you will form some idea of the care and attention they require to keep them in ringing order. Well, suppose screws to get loose, and to remain so during many successive generations of churchwardens, the iron traps to become corroded, thin, weak and then to snap, the gudgeons to wear away unequally by the friction, and thereby to throw the bells out of the horizontal, you can imagine what the consequences must be. The bells revolve heavily, the frame-work shakes and creaks, and the ringers, who have no voice in the vestry and no power over parish money, do what they can to remedy some of the evil, and the very thing they do only increases the mischief. They put wedges between the framework and the walls of the tower to stop the creaking, but the result of this is to set the walls shaking, and finally to destroy them. Or, if this does not immediately happen, the clappers of the bells get out of order, and, striking the sound bow suddenly in a fresh place, cause them to crack instantly.

While upon the subject of Wiltshire bell-lofts, I cannot refrain from expressing another regret. I have been frequently much pained by observing the shameful state of filth and neglect of many of them. Generally speaking, the dark winding stone staircases (when they have any) leading to them are dirty, worn and difficult to tread, and you have to corkscrew your way up with very careful step; and when you have secured your footing, and are beginning to congratulate yourself on having passed every obstacle, you suddenly come across a huge heap of sticks, straw, feathers, bits of cloth and other rubbish, the patient and laborious work of the indefatigable jackdaws. When the towers have no stone staircase, the bells have to be reached by a succession of crazy ladders, planted on equally crazy floors. How very shameful that any part of God's house should be so neglected! Why should towers be so desecrated? Are they not as much a portion of the church as any other part? Why should they be left to the sole occupation of unclean birds and profane and irreverent ringers? Why, the very jackdaws, starlings and owls used to stare at me and linger among the bells before they took flight, wondering perhaps what kind of evil bird I was, and with what possible object I had intruded unbidden into the territory to which generations of parishioners had given them a prescriptive right.

We may, I think, attribute this state of things to two causes, first to a want of interest in the art of bellringing, and, secondly, to the difficulty which is experienced by the clergy in managing the generally most unruly set of men in the parish—the ringers. If gentlemen in a

parish really loved to hear their bells—

Those chimes that tell a thousand tales,

Sweet tales of olden times;

And ring a thousand memories,

they would not long endure the abominations that so frequently exist. And if clergymen would only take the ringers in hand in the right way—aye, and take a bell in hand with them if possible—they would soon bring them into order, and convert them into respectable parishioners. I know of more than one instance where, in consequence of the sinful and disgraceful practices of the ringers, the bells have been silenced by the clergymen, only one being allowed to be tolled for services. And one reason which has been given for the destruction of the magnificent peal of the Cathedral of Salisbury was the disgraceful scenes which used to occur in the belfry. It reminds me of Mr. Weller's story in the 'Pickwick Papers,' of the man who cut off his child's head to cure it of squinting. It is one way of stopping an evil, but not one to be recommended or imitated. Surely there is another and wiser remedy for such abuses. However, there has been a salutary reform effected of late years among another branch of church musicians, and we may hope to witness a reform in this respect before long.

Peal ringing is peculiar to England; it is not known abroad. It was formerly considered not only a healthy but a gentlemanly recreation. Sir Matthew Hale and Anthony Wood, who says that 'he often plucked at them (Merton bells) with his fellow-colleagues for recreation,' may be numbered among the amateurs of this art. Anthony Wood learned to ring on a peal of six bells which had then been newly put up at Cassington.

In our day, bellringers have been ranked among the disreputable characters of almost every parish; but, if we were to give credit to Paul Hentzner, a traveller in this country between 1550 and 1560, they had become notorious even at that period. 'The people of England,' he says, 'are vastly of great noises that fill the ear, such as the firing of cannon, beating of drums, and the ringing of bells; so that it is common for a number of them that have got a glass in their heads to get up into the belfry and ring the bells for hours together for exercise.' A very curious Latin book, published about the year 1600, contains a lawyer's decision whether the number of bells might be increased in a church, and whether their ringing could be stopped. It speaks of idle boys being very fond of running to the towers to do the work.

When ringing was more appreciated than, unfortunately, it is now, there were societies of ringers in Cambridge, Oxford, London—such as the College Youths (from their practising at St. Michael's on College Hill, London) founded in 1637—Birmingham, and in other places. There are some societies of ringers now in various parts of England, and there is, among others in London, a society of College Youths, but it is said not to be descended from the ancient society above mentioned, which became extinct in 1788. There is, I believe, an excellent society of Norwich Scholars. I do not know where to find a society of ringers in Wiltshire. There are sets of men who ring for what they can get, which they consume in drink, but there is very little love for the science or its music; and alas! much irreverence and profanation of the House of God. There is no 'plucking at the bells' for recreation and exercise. Church ringers with us have degenerated into mercenary

(Continued on next page.)

WILLIAM C. LUKIS

(Continued from previous page.)

performers. In more than one parish where there are beautiful bells, I was told that the village youths took no interest whatever in bellringing, and had no desire to enter upon change ringing.

The whole number of changes that can be rung on any given number of bells is called a 'peal,' and various series of changes or permutations have been invented, which are known by the names of their composers. One such series, called Grandsire Triples, was invented by Mr. Benjamin Anable, who died in 1756, and was subsequently improved by Mr. Holt. Another composer was Mr. Patrick, a maker of barometers, in the beginning of the last century. But one of the earliest composers was Mr. Fabian Stedman, of Cambridge, who about the year 1657 invented a complex method of ringing which has ever since been called 'Stedman's principle.' He tells us that 'For the Art of Ringing, it is admirable to conceive in how short a time it hath increased, that the very depth of its intricacy is found out; for within these fifty or sixty years last part changes were not known, or thought possible to be rang: then were invented the sixes being the very ground of a six-score: then the twenty and twenty-four, with several other changes. But Cambridge forty-eight for many years was the greatest peal that was rang or invented; but now, neither forty-eight, nor a hundred, nor seven hundred and twenty, nor any number can confine us, for we can ring changes ad infinitum. Although philosophers say no number is infinite, because it can be numbered, for infinity is a quantity that cannot be taken or assigned; but there is (infinitum quoad nos), as they term it, *i.e.*, infinite in respect of our apprehension. Therefore, a ringer's knowledge may seem infinite to dive so infinitely into such an infinite subject—but, lest my discourse should be infinite, I will conclude it.'

(To be continued.)

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT GREASLEY.**

Fifty members and friends attended a meeting of the Midland Counties Association at Greasley on April 28th. Tea was arranged by Mr. M. W. Ratcliffe, and Canon Wilkinson presided at the business meeting which followed. It was decided to hold monthly meetings during the summer, the arrangements being left to the local bands. Cotgrave was selected for May, and Stanton-by-Dale for June. The July quarterly meeting will be at Bottesford. On May 12th the newly hung ring at Daybrook will be open to the members. Seven new members and three non-resident life members were elected.

A committee, consisting of Mr. R. Narborough, Mr. W. Nichols, Mr. F. A. Sa'ler, Mr. J. E. Hobbs, Miss I. B. Thompson and Mr. Thomas Groombridge, jun., was appointed to deal with the task of forming the new Southwell Diocesan Guild. Reference was made to the death of Sergt. W. H. Johnson, V.C., of Daybrook, who had been buried that morning. Four members of the local band rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells at the graveside.

DEVON GUILD.

A meeting of the Aylesbeare Deanery Branch at Sowton on April 7th was attended by nearly 50 ringers. Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung, and East Budleigh was chosen for the place of the next meeting. The hon. secretary gave a satisfactory report of progress made.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.—On April 14th, 1,264 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, half-muffled: Russell W. Curson 1, George Peggall 2, Walter Farrow 3, George Sayer 4, Philip W. J. Fryer 5, Nolan Golden 6, William Clover 7, Henry Tooks (conductor) 8.

CARDIFF.—On Tuesday, April 17th, at St. John's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. W. Prosser 1, F. Hannington 2, J. Davies 3, W. Heath 4, A. Rowley 5, L. Hulbert 6, E. Coombes (conductor) 7, S. R. Barker 8. Half-muffled for President Roosevelt.

COMPTON, BERKS.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 1,260 Bob Doubles: W. H. Turvey 1, C. Parfitt (conductor) 2, E. Pontin 3, W. M. Greenaway 4, J. Butler 5, C. Curtis (first quarter-peal) 6.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, E.1, Saturday, May 5th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Annual, Brighton, Saturday, May 5th. Ringing, St. Peter's, afternoon and evening, St. Nicholas', evening. Service, St. Peter's, 4.15. Allowances, tea 1s. 3d., max. rail fare 2s. 6d.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Kenmure Avenue, Brighton 6.

KENT ASSN.—Walmer, May 5th, 2.30. Service 4. Tea (1s. 6d.), 4.30.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Annual, Leeds Parish Church, Saturday, May 5th, 2 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) in St. Peter's Hall, 4 p.m. Business in St. Peter's Schools immediately afterwards.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

DEVON GUILD.—Huntsham (8), May 5th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—C. G. Dymond, Hon. Sec., Silverton.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSN.—Worcester, All Saints', May 5th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea provided.

ESSEX ASSN.—Thorpe-le-Soken (6), May 5th, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea (1s.) 4.30 p.m. at Crown Hotel. Last bus to Colchester 6.55 p.m.; last train, 7.54 p.m.—L. Wright, Park Farm Cottages, Shimpling, Bury St. Edmunds.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Leek (10), Saturday, May 5th, 3 p.m.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Eastern Branch.—Sawbridge-worth, Saturday, May 5th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 p.m.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Drayton, 2 miles from Langport, frequent bus service, Saturday, May 5th. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Martock.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Sunderland, St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth (8), Saturday, May 12th, 2.30. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—Frank Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grangetown, Sunderland.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Lancaster and Furness and Lake District Branches.—Silverdale (6), Saturday, May 12th, at 2.30 p.m.—H. Parkinson and N. M. Newby, Branch Secs.

NORTH NOTTS ASSN.—Laxton (6), Saturday, May 12th (Edwinstowe unavailable). Bus from Tuxford 2.3 p.m. No tea.—H. Denman, Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE.—Northern.—Chaddesley Corbett, Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Tewkesbury Abbey, Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by May 9th.—W. Yeend, Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Shaw-cum-Donnington (6), Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mr. F. J. Owen, Love Lane, Shaw, near Newbury, by May 9th.—T. J. Fisen, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—May 12th, Fairwarp (8) (Uckfield not available), 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Cricklade (5), May 12th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Wilts.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester and Southampton Districts.—Hursley, May 12th, 2.30. Tea 5. Names by May 8th.—W. G. Goodchild, 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Staverton (6), Saturday, May 12th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN.—Annual, Clerkenwell, May 12th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at 1s. 3d. Names by May 7th. Ringing: Clerkenwell 2.30 to 4.30 and 7 to 8.30; St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, 2.30 to 4. Another tower will be announced at the meeting.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

TITCHMARSH, NORTHANTS (8).—Saturday, May 12th, 5.30 p.m.—G. W. Jeffs, 4, Highfield Road, Thrapston, Kettering.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Luton District.—Flitton (6), Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Miss D. E. Lidbetter, 13, Grove Road, Leighton Buzzard, by May 9th.

SURREY ASSN.—Annual, Reigate (10), May 12th, 3.15 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and business 6 p.m. Names to Mr. W. Claydon, 8, Chartfield Road, Reigate.—C. de Ste. C. Parks, Assn. Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Western District.—Apsley End (6), Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Names by Wednesday, May 9th, to W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Annual, Saturday, May 12th, at 29, Chain Street, Reading, 3.30 p.m., followed by tea at 1s. per head. Service in St. Mary's 5.15 p.m. St. Mary's and St. Giles' bells in evening. Names by Wednesday, May 9th.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Liverpool Branch.—Huyton (6), Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

ELY ASSN.—Ely Branch.—Annual, Sawston, Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Wath-on-Dearne, May 12th, 2.30. For tea notify Mr. W. Green, 9, Moor Road, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, by May 9th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Rochdale Branch.—Healey, near Rochdale, Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Tea at Schoolroom. Meeting in tower 6.30 p.m. Names to R. Lord, 2, Market Street, Ending, Whitworth, Rochdale.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Preston and Fylde Branches.—Leyland Parish (10), May 12th, 2.30 p.m. Names to L. Walmsley, 5, School Lane, Leyland.—Fred Rigby and J. H. Foster, Hon. Secs.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Dunster Deanery.—Carhampton (6), Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting at Village Hall 5.—Geo. Stacey, Minehead.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Annual, Kettering, Whit Monday, May 21st. Committee 2.45. Service 3.30. Tea and business after. Names for certain by May 12th. Ringing: Burton Latimer (8), Rothwell (8), 10.30 to 12.30, Kettering from 1 p.m., Weekley (6), Warkton (5) after tea, Burton Latimer.—R. G. Black, Hon. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

ESSEX ASSN.—Annual, Chelmsford, Whit Monday, May 21st. Service in Cathedral 11.30 a.m., followed by business in Chapter House. Lunch at County Hotel, 1.15 p.m. Send numbers as soon as possible. Bells: Cathedral 12, Great Baddow, Galleywood, Writtle, Widford 8, Broomfield and Springfield 6.—L. J. Clark, Hon. Sec., Southdene, Petersfield Lane, Gosfield, near Halstead, Essex.

NOTTINGHAM.—St. Peter's. Ringing Sundays 10.15 a.m. and 6 p.m., Thursdays 7.30 p.m.—Frank Bradley, Ringing Master, 60, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WORLE, SOMERSET.—On April 21st, 1,260 Doubles, being 120 St. Simon, 360 April Day, 360 Plain Bob, 420 Grandsire: J. Button 1, J. Weadon 2, G. Prescott (conductor) 3, L.A.C. E. Nobles 4, W. Hart 5, S. Thomas 6. Also 720 Bob Minor: J. Button 1, G. Prescott 2, J. Weadon 3, E. J. Avery 4, *J. Peacock (conductor) 5, L.A.C. E. Nobles 6. * First 720.

LLANDUDNO.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Geeson 1, Miss M. Jones 2, L. Barry (conductor) 3, A. Stedman 4, H. Rumens 5, C. Smith 6.

ROSS-ON-WYE.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. H. Winney 1, W. T. Poston (conductor) 2, P. Bird 3, A. Morris 4, J. J. Webb 5, W. Poston 6, R. E. Summers 7, W. T. Hart 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. A. Theobald 1, L. F. Cook 2, S. E. Cook 3, J. H. Hunt 4, W. Tate 5, H. A. Nobes 6, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 7, W. Scaife 8.

RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Alfred Long 1, William Upton 2, Charles A. Drake 3, John H. Hunt 4, Percy Long 5, Frederick W. Burnett 6, Albert R. Ward (conductor) 7, Arthur Jackson 8. Rung half-muffled for President Roosevelt.

QUEENSBURY, YORKS.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 1,260 Bob Major: E. Whiteley 1, P. Birkett 2, D. Taylor 3, S. Bindell 4, C. Ellison 5, V. Bottomley 6, W. Ambler 7, S. Longbottom (conductor) 8.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. F. M. Bowerman 1, W. Birmingham 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, H. Worsfold (first quarter-peat of Stedman) 4, E. Hudson 5, W. H. Gutteridge 6, F. W. Goodfellow (conductor) 7, E. H. Preston 8.

WHEPSTEAD.—On Sunday, April 22nd, 720 Grandsire Doubles: W. Hurrell 1, A. W. Rolfe 2, F. Payne 3, G. Jennings 4, L. Wright (conductor) 5.

GLASTONBOURY.—On Wednesday, April 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: *V. Voisey 1, *W. Gregorv 2, L. Scull 3, H. Scull 4, H. J. Trim (conductor) 5, C. Neal 6. * First quarter-peat.

HUGGLESCOTE.—On April 25th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Hemsley 1, J. H. Dean 2, H. Turner 3, O. A. Over 4, H. O. Over 5, A. F. Rowley (conductor) 6.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCS.—On Thursday, April 26th, 720 Bob Minor: *K. Leeming 1, J. Littlefair 2, *F. Littlefair 3, L. Scholes 4, W. Taylor 5, *H. Catlow (conductor) 6. * First 720 of Bob Minor.

BARNBY DON, DONCASTER.—On Saturday, April 28th, 720 Bob Minor: E. Padgett 1, F. Reed 2, B. Cooper 3, R. Lunn 4, F. Lamb 5, C. H. Thorley (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, April 29th, 720 Bob Minor: E. Padgett 1, E. Critchley 2, B. Cooper 3, R. Hirst 4, R. Lunn 5, L. M. Woodhead (conductor) 6.

TEWIN, HERTS.—On Saturday, April 28th, 720 Bob Minor: *R. Cochrane 1, A. Cull 2, H. Shire 3, *A. R. Burgess 4, A. White (conductor) 5, W. T. Holmes 6. * First 720 of Minor.

BATH.—On April 29th at St. Mark's Church, 1,260 Bob Minor: H. Merrett (first quarter of Minor) 1, H. Andrews 2, Mrs. A. Evans 3, F. Castle 4, G. Hawkins (conductor) 5, T. F. King 6.

HASTINGS.—On Sunday, April 29th, at All Saints', 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *Gdsn. D. Palmer 1, W. J. Bradfield 2, A. E. Faston 3, Flight-Serjt. J. E. Pennells 4, S. G. Smith 5, G. Piper 6, J. Downing (conductor) 7. *J. Pegden 8. * First quarter-peat.

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