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PEALS AND COVERING BELLS.

Recently our columns contained the records of two performances—one a five-thousand of Doubles, in an eight-bell tower, with 4, 6, 8 as covering bells; the other a five-thousand of Grandsire Triples, in a twelve-bell tower, with 8, 11, 9, 10, 12 behind—and it is hardly surprising that doubts have been expressed as to whether such performances ought to be recognised as valid peals.

The answer which might be made is that what a band does is often dictated, not so much by what it would like to do, as by what it actually can do, and, since, there was a natural desire to ring all the bells available in the steeple, it was of necessity and not by choice that there were so many covers. It is difficult to find fault with such an attitude or to blame bands for doing what they thought was the best in the circumstances, and it will be well not to criticise either of these two performances too hardly; but there is something to be said on more general lines. Although a band is entitled to ring what it pleases in its own belfry without interference by outside ringers, the Exercise as a whole has always claimed the right to decide what shall rank as a peal, and in more modern times the Central Council has laid down strict rules for peal ringing. Custom and the action of the Council do restrict the liberty of individual bands in these things.

What have the Council's formal rules to say about these performances? They ought to be decisive, but, as so often happens in such cases, owing to vague and faulty drafting, they throw little or no light on the matter. It seems to be implied that the rules for six, seven and the other numbers apply to the actually changing bells, and, except where stated, exclude covering bells. If so, then the five-thousand of Doubles with 4, 6, 8 behind comes under the rule for five-bell peals (or would do so if there were such a rule), and the peal of Triples with 8, 11, 9, 10, 12 behind comes under the rule for seven-bell peals. The published code contains no rule for five-bell peals, and the seven-bell rule says that the number of changes must 'be not less than 5,040 rung with or without a covering bell.'

According to the report the Newport peal did contain 5,040 changes and was rung with a covering bell. The rule says nothing about extra covers, and for the reason that the men who drew it up and the Council which adopted it never contemplated that a band would think of using more than one cover to seven bells. If they had, it is pretty certain that the rule would read, 'one covering bell only.' That, however, is beside the point. It is

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what the rule says, not what its authors meant, which must decide the present issue. The twelve Newport men can fairly claim to have rung a peal 'on seven bells' according to the Central Council rule, but it is a matter for consideration whether the whole question of covering bells does not require investigation. Any new rule which would merely restrict the liberties of a band must be avoided. The aim of the Council and its rules should be to raise the standards of peal ringing and to prevent the existing standards from being lowered.

So far we have written under the assumption that the report we received was sent to us in good faith as an honest record of ringing that was actually done, and we trust, for the credit of the persons concerned, it may turn out to have been so. But the letter from the secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, which appears on another page, throws grave doubts on the performance. Mr. Hannington writes that he was instructed by his association to repudiate the whole thing, partly because only one of the band was a member, but also, it seems, for much more serious reasons. This is a matter which should be cleared up, and quickly. Whatever disagreement there may be about details, there should be no difficulty in deciding whether or not on June 2nd the bells of St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, were actually rung for four hours to Grandsire Triples with five covering bells. We hardly need say that any letter or explanation from the conductor, Mr. Emylyn Evans, will be given full publicity by us.

As the presence of the name of a well-known ringer among those of the band has caused a considerable amount of speculation, it ought to be known that at the time the Newport peal is said to have been rung Mr. Wilfred Williams was taking part in an attempt for Spiced Surprise Major at Lambeth Parish Church. There may easily, of course, be two men of the same name.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFS.

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

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

ERNEST T. ALLAWAY... .. 1	*LEONARD TUFFREY 7
*EDGAR C. SHEPHERD... .. 2	*JOHN PINFOLD 8
*RICHARD J. B. HADDEN 3	FRANK E. PERVIN 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	*HERBERT C. SPENCER 10
FRANK E. HAYNES 5	*†HENRY H. FEARN 11
FRANK W. PERRENS 6	†GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

* First peal of Cambridge Maximus. † 100th peal together.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 15, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

COLIN HARRISON 1	HARRY G. WAYNE 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	*HERBERT W. PERKINS 7
*PETER J. STANIFORTH 3	WILLIAM J. ROOT 8
JILL POOLE... .. 4	G. SEDMAN MORRIS 9
*MRS. H. J. POOLE 5	*ERNEST MORRIS... .. Tenor

Composed by S. THOMAS.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First of Yorkshire Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wednesday, June 13, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes, AT THE R.C. CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOHN N. LINDON Treble	HERBERT C. SPENCER... .. 5
LEONARD TUFFREY 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
RICHARD J. B. HADDEN 3	HENRY H. FEARN 7
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

First peal in the method by all.

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 13, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ANTHONY A. G. HOLIFIELD Treble	FREDERICK MESSENGER 5
FRANCES A. WHITE 2	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 6
CUTHBERT G. WHITE... .. 3	RICHARD WHITE 7
ALAN CORNISH 4	EDWIN DREWITT Tenor

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 15, 1945, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S COMPOSITION.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

EDWARD B. WEBSTER... .. Treble	ALBERT HEYWOOD 5
MRS. MARY KINYON 2	CHARLES BROWNLOW 6
JOHN W. KAY 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. 7
EVEREST FORD 4	NORMAN CRITCHLEY Tenor

Conducted by C. BROWNLOW.

First peal as conductor.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEPULCHRE,

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

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G sharp.

ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS... .. Treble	JAMES G. RUMSEY 5
WILLIAM G. MAYERS 2	GEORGE SAYER 6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3	ARTHUR G. BASON 7
ERNEST G. SHORTING... .. 4	HENRY TOOKE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

EGHAM, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK G. ROBBINS ... Treble	ROGER CADEMY 5
DONALD C. PRICE 2	ERIC B. HARTLEY... .. 6
FREDERICK G. BALDWIN ... 3	RALPH BIRD 7
THOMAS COLLINS... .. 4	FRANK CORKE Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES HAZELDEN Treble	ERNEST J. AVLIFFE 5
GEORGE L. GROVER 2	*FRANK C. W. KNIGHT 6
FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS... 3	ALFRED H. PULLING... .. 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 4	HAROLD A. MAY... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

WRAYSBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES,
Tenor 10 cwt.

FREDERICK A. FINCH Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER 6
GEORGE MARTIN 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 7
ERNEST C. S. TURNER 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 7½ cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN Treble	GEORGE LARGE 5
*AUDREY HOLDEN 2	FREDERICK A. COLBY 6
PHILIP A. CORBY 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 7
VERNON J. BENNING 4	ALAN G. HALL Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt.

*WILLIAM F. WARD Treble	JOHN E. BLOWER... .. 5
FREDERICK SOETER 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN... .. 6
WILLIAM PERRY... .. 3	JOHN E. GROVE 7
SYDNEY M. BAILEY 4	ERNEST W. PYE Tenor

Composed by J. W. BARKER. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.
* First peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BENTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty six-scores and one 240. Tenor 5½ cwt.

W. ERIC CRITCHLEY... .. Treble	*FRANK REED 3
*LUCY MOTTISHAW 2	*LAURA MOTTISHAW 4
LESLIE WOODHEAD Tenor	

Conducted by W. E. CRITCHLEY.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

GESTINGTHORPE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1945, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 16 cwt.

*ERNEST BROWN Treble	ROBERT LE BEAU... .. 4
THOMAS BIRD 2	REGINALD RIPPINGALE 5
ARTHUR C. RIPPINGALE 3	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Conducted by R. SUCKLING.
* First peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, June 12, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
ERIC A. DENCH 1-2 | JOHN THOMAS 5-6

MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS... .. 7-8
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*PHILIP A. CORBY 9-10
Composed and Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.
* First peal of Grandsire Caters.

QUARTER PEALS.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.—On Sunday, June 3rd, 1,260 Bob Minor: Joan Harding 1, H. E. Harding 2, Florence Reed 3, Betty King 4, R. J. Houghton 5, C. H. Harding (conductor) 6.

HOLME-LACY, HEREFORDSHIRE. — On June 7th, 1,264 Bob Major: Michael P. Moreton 1, George Davis 2, Mrs. E. F. Salmons 3, William H. Symonds 4, S. Tuson 5, Arthur Davis 6, Geoffrey Tayson 7, Ernest F. Salmons (conductor) 8.

SCUNTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, June 9th, 1,264 Bob Major: John Dunn 1, Jack Bray 2, Miss Joyce Lacey 3, George Thompson 4, Fred Lacey 5, W. Brian Bray 6, George W. Moody 7, Frank Lord (conductor) 8.

BOURNEMOUTH.—On June 10th at St. John's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Gould 1, D. Emery 2, Miss B. Adam 3, H. Mitchell 4, R. Mitchell 5, A. Rose 6, P. Goldsworthy (conductor) 7, G. Miller 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, June 10th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. A. Nobes 1, E. Brown 2, W. J. Vann 3, E. A. Jurd 4, J. D. Harris 5, W. Tate 6, J. H. Hunt (conductor) 7, W. Scaife 8.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, EVESHAM. — On Sunday, June 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. J. Hemming 1, J. D. Johnson (conductor) 2, F. Sadler 3, V. A. Hemming 4, R. Harris 5, W. Heath 6, J. Newman 7, R. Geden 8.

CHAKLALA, PUNJAB, INDIA.—On Sunday, June 10th, on handbells, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. J. Adams, R.A.O.C. (conductor) 1-2, B. G. Key, R.E.M.E. 3-4, S. Mason, R.A.O.C. 5-6.

STEEPLE ASHTON, WILTS.—On Tuesday, June 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Rowley (conductor) 1, V. Rose 2, F.-Sgt. K. Newman 3, G. Moore 4, H. Gummer 5, G. Burbidge 6.

EYTHORNE, KENT.—On Tuesday, June 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. C. Payne 1, C. George 2, C. Turner (conductor) 3, D. Harvey 4, E. T. Ellender 5.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Tuesday, June 12th, 1,280 Bob Major: G. C. Tarr 1, Miss T. Waldron 2, Mrs. G. Savill 3, H. Hodgetts 4, F. W. Allaway 5, L. Tarr 6, J. Cleaver 7, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 8. Also 1,248 Double Norwich: G. C. Tarr 1, Miss T. Waldron 2, F. W. Brinklow 3, H. Hodgetts 4, J. Cleaver 5, L. Tarr 6, W. Hodgetts 7, H. G. Cashmore (conductor) 8.

BLUNSDON, WILTS.—On Sunday, June 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Vincent 1, W. Trueman (conductor) 2, A. Aubrey 3, I. Trueman 4, G. Dodd 5, E. Portlock 6.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—On Thursday, June 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Grover 1, F. Bennett 2, W. J. Robinson 3, H. A. May 4, F. Day 5, A. C. Hazelden 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 7, G. L. Grover 8. Half-muffled for the Earl of Onslow.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKSHIRE.—On Thursday, June 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Temple 1, G. Martin (conductor) 2, W. Walker 3, J. Bales 4, E. Pugh 5, J. Fowler 6, E. Hobbs 7, H. Baldwin 8.

HUGGLESCOTE.—On June 14th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. E. Rowley 1, H. O. Over 2, O. A. Over 3, H. Turner 4, W. Goadby 5, E. J. Tovell 6, H. Moulton (conductor) 7, H. Powdrill 8.

BILLINGSBURST.—On Sunday, June 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Stilwell (conductor) 1, R. Wood, sen. 2, T. Adams 3, C. Longhurst 4, R. Wood, jun. 5, A. C. Greenfield 6, W. Wicks 7, T. Newman 8.

SALISBURY.—At St. Thomas', 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. E. Manns 1, T. Price, R.A.F. 2, C. Bond 3, F. W. Romaine (conductor) 4, R. F. Clark, R.E. 5, J. F. Figgures 6, L. Harris 7, B. Jewell 8.

WESTON-UNDERWOOD, BUCKS.—1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Armstrong 1, R. Howson 2, C. Sharp (conductor) 3, V. Adams 4, Rev. J. F. Amis 5, Miss E. Sharp 6.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT BENTLEY.

A meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held at Bentley on June 9th, at which ringers from ten towers were present. The Rector of Bentley, Canon Hugh le Fleming, conducted service, and in conjunction with the local ringers and friends entertained the ringers to tea at the Rectory. At the business meeting Mr. H. B. Ogbourn, of Farnham, and Canon Hugh le Fleming were elected honorary members, and Messrs. David Diamond, James Reith and Gordon Williams, of Aldershot, ringing members.

Standard methods up to Cambridge Surprise Minor were rung. During the evening parties visited Binsted and Froyle, two neighbouring six-bell towers.

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT WENTWORTH.

A meeting of the Barnesley and District Society, held at Wentworth on June 9th, was attended by over 30 members from Cawthorne, Darfield, Earlsheaton, Ecclesfield, Eastwood, Felkirk, Handsworth, Horbury, Rotherham, Sandal and the local belfry. Tea at the Rockingham Arms was followed by the business meeting, at which the vice-president, Mr. J. W. Moxon, acted as chairman. Five new members were elected, Messrs. J. W. Milner, R. Boyes, M. Hunt and J. Dewa, all of Horbury, and Mr. J. T. Myers.

The society's annual contest will be held at Felkirk on July 14th, and it is hoped to arrange a meeting in August at Wortley, near Sheffield.

CALLING THE BELLS ROUND.

MINOR.

It is an advantage to the conductor, who proposes to call the bells round, to know before he begins whether the changes are in course or out of course. That, for a man of average ability and experience, is not usually very easy; but, fortunately, at the outset it is of no great importance (except in a few cases, of which Stedman Triples is the most prominent), and when the time comes that he must definitely know, he can find out without much difficulty.

Every conductor should know exactly what is meant by the bells being in or out of course. Most of them perhaps do know, in that vague and indefinite way which serves most ordinary purposes, but can hardly be called real knowledge. Nowadays an instructed ringer knows what is meant by rows being odd or even, and he probably has read or been told that in course is only another and clumsier term for even, and out of course for odd. So they are when one is dealing with composition, but so they are not when one is dealing with practical ringing. Perhaps the best way to describe the difference is to say that the bells are in course when the course-end of the natural course then being rung is an even row, and are out of course when the natural course-end is an odd row.

It is outside our present subject to explain fully what this means, but we must point out that the turning up of an even row does not necessarily mean that the bells are in course, nor the turning up of an odd row mean that the bells are out of course. Indeed, in the majority of methods rung every course, whether it be in course or out of course, contains an equal number of odd and even rows. The familiar and easily recognisable 654321 is odd, and its near relative 87654321 is even. Both occur when the bells are in course. The importance of knowing whether the bells are in course or out of course lies in this: when the bells are in course, bobs alone will suffice to bring them round, but when they are out of course a single must be used.

The art of calling the bells round consists in being able to bring up rounds from whatever position the bells may be in, and the more skilful the conductor the quicker he will be able to do it. Obviously it will need different callings to produce rounds from different positions, and the man who can at once decide on the quickest way in any given position can claim to be a skilful conductor. The average man can hardly expect to attain to such proficiency, and fortunately there is no particular reason why he should. As we shall see presently, there is no position in any Treble Bob or Surprise Minor method from which the bells cannot be brought home by a single bob, but to expect a conductor to do so at a minute's notice is to expect a lot, and fortunately he can use one simple plan which, though not always the shortest way, will always serve his purpose quickly and efficiently. What we will do first, then, is to describe one method of calling round which the conductor will do well to stick to until he has gained the ability to read the bells and their coursing order, and to understand almost instinctively what effect bobs have on it.

We will begin with Plain Bob Minor, and at first we will ignore whether the bells are in course or out of course except for this: if the conductor knows that there has been no muddle in the ringing and has no reason to sus-

pect that two bells have shifted, he may assume that the changes are in course, provided he has called an even number of singles or no single at all. If the reason for calling the bells round is shortage of time, or a miscall, he may fairly decide whether the bells are in course or out of course without testing it by the actual changes which turn up. In the rather unlikely event of his estimate being wrong, he can still put matters right later on.

We will assume that he is ringing the tenor. The first thing he will do is to notice the relative position of the Fifth to himself. If that bell is coursing him he knows that it is in its required place, and he is saved half his job, but mostly likely he must first bring the Fifth home.

It may be that he is coursing the Fifth instead of the Fifth coursing him, in which case the bells strike 6-5 behind at backstroke. He could leave them in that position and bring the bells round at handstroke. In some instances it might be the best thing to do, though it sounds bad and is not to be recommended. He will notice which bells are coursing in front of the Fifth and after himself. If in the first instance it is the Third and in the second the Fourth, all he has to do is to wait until he is ready to dodge in 5-6 up. At the handstroke the bells will be home.

Otherwise he will wait until the lead-end after he has made Seconds and will then call a single, which he will make. He will notice the changes when the treble lies its whole pull behind. If the handstroke row is 234561, the bells are in the plain course. If it is anything else he will call himself out once or twice until either that row does come up or the row 243561. In the latter case a single at the course-end is needed.

When the Fifth is parted from the tenor it is convenient to wait until just before the course-end (the lead-end at which the tenor dodges in 5-6 down), and to take stock of the relative positions of the two tenors then. If the conductor meets the Fifth in 2-3 as he leaves the front he must not call a bob at the course-end, for that would be made by the Fifth and the tenors would come together in reverse order—a thing always to be avoided. But if he waits until the next lead-end, when he dodges in 5-6 up, and calls a bob then, the Fifth will run up and the two tenors will be together the right way.

If just before the course-end the Fifth is coursing in front of the treble, the conductor will call a bob when he is dodging in 5-6 down, and another when he is dodging in 5-6 up. The Fifth will run up at both and the two tenors will be together in the right way.

The conductor will now take stock of the three other bells—2, 3 and 4. His ear will almost certainly tell him if the bells are in the plain course, and in that case he has nothing further to do. But to make sure he will notice whether the Fourth is coursing in front of himself and the Third after the Fifth.

If the bells are not in the plain course, the conductor will wait until the lead after he has dodged in 3-4 up and will observe the changes when the treble lies its whole pull behind. If the handstroke is 243561 and the backstroke 234651 (these are easy rows to recognise), a single at the course-end will bring the bells round.

If any other changes turn up, one or two bobs Before must be called until either 234561 comes at hand and 243651 at back, when the bells are in the plain course; or 243561 comes at hand and 234651 at back, when a single at the course-end will bring the bells home.

Another plan, which can be used in place of this, or in addition, is to watch the bells coursing in front of the Sixth and after the Fifth. The bobs Before must be called until either the Fourth is in front of the Sixth and the Third after the Fourth, when the bells will run round without further calls; or the Third is in front of the Sixth and the Fourth is after the Fifth, when the bells will come round with a single at the course-end.

It has taken rather a lot of words to describe this process, yet it is really very simple, and the reader who carefully follows what has been said can quickly be able to call the bells round from any position in Bob Minor. He would do well to take a lead at random and from it bring the bells round on paper by the plan we have recommended. In these things we always advise the pricking to be done by both hand and backstroke and not by backstroke only. We will give an illustration.

356241
532614
523164
251346
215436
124563
125436

We start at a change selected at random. First we notice that the tenor, going up to dodge in 5-6 down at the course-end, passes the Fifth in 2-3. That means that there is no bob at the course-end. But one must be called at the next lead-end.

152346
125364
213546
231456

The tenors are now together in the right way, but the bells are not in the plain course. The next lead-end and the following changes will be:—

152634
156243
512634
521364
253146
235416
324561
342651

When the treble lies behind, neither 234561 nor 243561 turns up. So a bob must be called at the next lead-end. That gives us

165423
156432

and when the treble lies behind—

243561
234651

We are now in plain course, except that the Third and Fourth are reversed, and so a single at the course-end will bring the bells round.

(To be continued.)

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT ERCHFONTE.

A meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Erchfont on June 9th, was attended by 30 members from Chirton, Bishops Cannings, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's), Melksham, Keevil, Erchfont, North Bradley, Potterne, Steeple Ashton, St. James', Southbroom, and Westbury. The methods rung during afternoon and evening were Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, and rounds. Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Goldie, and tea was served in the schoolroom. At the business meeting which followed, the chairman welcomed Mr. G. Bevan, of Potterne, who had been a prisoner in Germany for two years.

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.
Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.
Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

All communications for this journal should be addressed
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subscriptions and notices must be prepaid.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Postal subscriptions at the
rate of 4s. 3d. per quarter, for the period commencing
July 1st, 1945, are now due, and should be sent to Mr.
G. W. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Nor-
folk. To ensure continuity, payments must be received
by Monday, July 2nd.

A report has been received of a peal rung at Winchester with no
method stated.

The estate of the late Mr. George R. Pye amounted to £21,285. He
left £1,000 and his house to his housekeeper.

To the people who are inclined to grumble because we have to cut
their notices of meetings as short as possible we should like to point
out that last week two London newspapers were fined, one £450, the
other £150, with the addition of costs in each case, for assigning too
much space to advertisements. The style we use just allows us to
publish every notice and to keep within the limits of the law.

THE MONTH'S PEALS.

MAY.

During the month of May 164 peals were rung, 151 of them on
tower bells and 13 on handbells.

The tower bell peals were: Grandsire Doubles 12, Triples 23, Caters
5; Plain Bob Minor 10, Major 19, Royal 1; Oxford Bob Triples 1;
Stedman Triples 6, Caters 5, Cinques 3; Kent Treble Bob Major 10,
Royal 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 9; Cambridge Surprise
Minor 3, Major 8; Superlative Surprise Major 1; Pudsey 1, Bristol 2,
London 1; Minor 20; Doubles 10.

The handbell peals were: Grandsire Triples 3; Plain Bob Minor 1,
Major 5; Stedman Caters 1, Cinques 1; Oxford Treble Bob Major 1;
Double Norwich Court Bob Major 1.

In January 60 peals were rung, in February 74, in March 77, in
April 84; making a total for the year (so far) of 459. In May last
year 41 peals were rung and during the first five months 210.

THE NEWPORT PEAL.

To the Editor.

Sir.—It has been established beyond any doubt that no peal of any
description was rung at St. Woolos' Church, Newport, on Saturday,
June 2nd. Enquiries have been made and nothing is known by either
the leader of the ringers or the vergier. Only one name out of the
twelve appears in our list of members.

The matter was discussed by a meeting at Abergavenny and I was
instructed by write and repudiate the 'peal.'

F. J. HANNINGTON, Hon. Sec.
32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff.

SPEED OF RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The question is often arising at what speed bells should
be rung. I write to ask what the considered opinion of the Central
Council regarding times should be taken to ring a peal of 5,000
changes, according to weight of tenor, and most pleasure to those
listening. If not already available, could a time-table be published
giving approximate times for ringing a peal with 5,000 changes for
the various weight of tenors?

Recently published were two peals of 5,024 changes each, tenor
18½ cwt., 2 hours 52 minutes, the other with tenor 16 cwt., 3 hours
25 minutes, a difference of 35 minutes. 'A NOVICE.'

'SYNTHETIC' BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It may interest your readers to know that, in harmony with probably 90 per cent. of ringers, I hated every thought of bells being reproduced from churches from gramophone apparatus.

However, the night peace was declared I was in Habanyer, which is right in the middle of the Irakian desert, and much to my pleasure and surprise I suddenly heard the sound of bells. Upon investigation I discovered the English church reproduced the bells, and I may say better than I had ever heard records before. It was grand, after hoping to be in England to ring for celebrations, to hear bells perfectly produced where it would be impossible to get the real thing.

I may add it would be very stimulating in this part of the world to hear even records, and I am now convinced that there are places where 'canned bells' can be very much appreciated.

F. N. MASKELL, F/L.

R.A.F., S.E.A.

COVERING BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was with pleasure that I read Mr. Bayles' letter, in which he compares several bells used as cover to call changes.

We do not ring call changes; because such changes are false. They are not true changes; and it is the work that change ringers alone can do, when ringing before service, to proclaim that God is a God of truth: and that truth is, to see as God sees. Therefore, we never under any circumstances ring call changes when ringing for service. We leave such things for interval signals, or for those who do not know any better.

Not only are call changes false for the ringers, but their music is false for the hearers. If such are rung on unsilenced bells, the ears of those who listen are debauched or debased. Do we want to do this? Naturally, musical people do not like this sound. They, of course, do not know why, but they bar all sounds of bells. Again, are they the people we want to influence in this way?

It is true that when there is one or more unnecessary covering bells, the rows themselves are not actually false; but the music is false and ought to be avoided. All sensible men would refuse to take part in it, let alone to claim such as a peal.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.

MEETING AT GORSEINON.

A meeting of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild was held at Gorseinon on June 2nd, at which members were present from Llanely, Gorseinon, Neath, Llangefelach, Tenby, Sketty, Morriston, Cardiff and Swansea.

During tea the Vicar made mention of the late Mr. Wallace Dobbins, whose loyalty and untiring efforts were rewarded by a band who reached a high standard of ringing.

At the business meeting the Rev. M. Williams presided. Mr. E. Stitch, the hon. district secretary, was unable to attend through illness, and Mr. Hoare, on behalf of the members, hoped he would be well again very soon. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Llanely in September. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and rounds.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ABERGAVENNY.

There was a good attendance from both dioceses at a meeting of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, held at Abergavenny on June 16th. Service was conducted by the Rev. Morgan Jones and tea, provided by the local band, was followed by the business meeting, at which Mr. John Jones gave an account of the Central Council meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SEFTON.

A meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Sefton on June 9th, at which members were present from Woolton, Childwall, West Derby, Wallasey, Aughton, Halsall, Liverpool (St. Nicholas') and the local company.

Before the service the curate, the Rev. H. M. Luff, unveiled a board erected to record a peal rung on victory day. At the business meeting the Rev. D. P. Roberts acted as secretary, and Halewood was selected as the place of the next meeting, at which elections and nominations for branch and association officers will be made.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wish to make known the discovery of three presumably new twin-bob systems in Stedman Triples:—

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Regular Bobs. | Twin Bobs. |
| A 1, 3, 8, 10, 11. | 6 and 7; 12 and 13. |
| B 1, 3, 5, 10, 11. | 6 and 7; 8 and 9. |
| C 1, 3, 5, 7, 11. | 8 and 9; 12 and 13. |

For the numbering of the bobs, see 'Stedman,' page 6. In each of the systems A, B, C, the seventh is not unaffected, performing a work which repeats every course. The regular (odd) bobs are called in every course, and the twin-bobs are added according to the composition. The course ends in each case are constructed from Hudson's course ends by first interchanging figures 3 and 4 and then transposing the second and fourth figures. This leaves 231456 and three others unaltered, and changes the rest. The twin bobs in each case act in composition in exactly the same way as Heywood's 'Q sets' (see 'Stedman,' page 145), the double set of twin bobs in each system acting like S and L, or H and Q in Hudson's system. These systems have the disadvantage that when blocks are inverted for singling in, the whole calling is changed.

Apologies to the person concerned if this is not new.

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SERVICE TOUCHES.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 1,260 | |
| 23456 | Call Seventh |
| 43526 | Before with S and Right with S |
| 35426 | Right |
| 54326 | Right |
| 42356 | Before and Wrong |
| | Five times repeated. Bob instead of Single at R in first course of third and sixth parts. |
| 1,260 | |
| 234567 | Call Seventh |
| 345267 | Before with S and R with bob |
| 453267 | Right |
| 543276 | In and out at 2 |
| 423576 | In and out |
| 235476 | Middle with S and W |
| 352476 | Wrong |
| 532467 | Middle and Wrong |
| 342567 | Before and Wrong |
| | Twice repeated. |

DEVON GUILD.

MEETING AT TAMERTON FOLIOT.

A meeting of the South-West Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, held at Tamerton Foliot on June 2nd, was attended by over 70 members and friends. The service was conducted by the Rev. F. B. Soudy, assisted by Prebendary E. V. Cox. Fifteen new members were elected and it was decided that the chairman, the Rev. F. W. Moore, and the secretary, Mr. E. W. Marsh, and other officers should hold their posts until the end of the year. Mr. S. O'Shaughnessy was elected to fill the vacant post of representative to the Guild General Committee. The next meeting will be at Plympton St. Maurice in September. The branch stood in silence to the memory of Mr. J. Woodley, Mr. Harry Chandler and Miss Muriel Doidge. The methods rung were Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Cambridge Minor.

SKIPTON, YORKS.

On Sunday, June 3rd, the Rev. Canon Sefton, Rector of Skipton, unveiled a tablet in the belfry, recording a peal rung on July 24th, 1944, in celebration of the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Billows. After the ceremony touches in various methods were rung, including 570 Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by Mr. Billows.

Mr. Billows joined the Yorkshire Association in 1887, when the Skipton bells were augmented to eight and has been a member of the band ever since. He has rung 31 peals, of which he has conducted 27, and now in his 87th year is still a regular service ringer.



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WILLIAM C. LUKIS.

(Continued from page 209.)

The following is our final extract from William C. Lukis' book. It contains a considerable amount of other matter, mostly inscriptions on bells in various counties, notices of bellfounders and descriptions of bell hanging, all of which is now more or less out of date.

I may mention some curious qualifications for a Royal Chaplaincy. Mr. Aubrey, in his 'Natural History of Wilts,' tells us that 'Mr. Forraby, the minister of Bishop's Cannings, was an ingenious man and an excellent musician; and made severall of the parishioners good musicians both for vocall and instrumentall music. They sung the Psalms in consort to the organ which Mr. Forraby procured to be erected. When King James I. was in these parts, he lay at Sir Edward Baynton's at Bromham. Mr. Forraby then entertained his Majesty at the Bush in Cotefield, with bucoliques of his own making and composing, of four parts which were sung by his parishioners, who wore frocks and whippes like carters. Whilst his Majesty was thus diverted, the eight bells (of which he was the cause) did ring, and the organ was played on for state; and after this musicall entertainment, he entertained his Majesty to a foot-ball match of his own parishioners. This parish in those dayes would have challenged all England for musique. foot-ball and ringing. For this entertainment his Majesty made him one of his Chaplains in ordinary.'

Bellringing may be made available in parishes for promoting the moral and religious improvement of the people. That which for years has been a curse may be turned into a blessing. It has been truly said that 'the bells are to the whole parish what a church organ is to an assembled congregation. They wake up the heart's affections and lead us in our praises to God.' And bells both symbolise unity and harmony, and sympathise with us all in our joys and sorrows, their melodious music possesses a charm which touches and enlives the spirit. But bellringing may be encouraged by the clergy for another purpose, viz., to promote the reformation of the ringers themselves where they need it, and to give them a hold upon young men. It is impossible to over-estimate the value of music, whether vocal or instrumental, in all educational systems, and it has proved an important element in our parochial schools. Why not then employ the music of the bells to carry on the same good work in our parishes? Is it not our *duty* so to make use of it? Ringers, generally, have need to be brought under a wholesome restraining influence, and no better influence can be brought to bear upon them than that of the music in which they take delight. When lads have left the day and Sunday school they can be brought under this influence.

There is something manly and attractive in the vigorous exercise of ringing which also recommends itself to youths; and they may soon be led to seek admission into the society, and to regard it as an honour and a mark of Christian respectability. The discipline of rules, to which they must submit, will also tend to ameliorate their moral character. Make the club a kind of religious

fraternity in which no one shall be received who is not a steady and consistent churchman, or who desires to be so. Give them a few simple rules; many are not required; and take care that they are observed.

No one but the clergyman can do this properly, seconded by the gentry of his parish, and he may be quite sure that, unless he does give himself this trouble, the rules will not be observed. The experience I have had has convinced me that it is utterly futile to attempt to reform the ringers or to maintain the respectable character of the ringers without a regular personal attendance in the belfry. But it is the same in this as in everything else undertaken in a parish; there can be no success without trouble and perseverance, and who should grudge his time and trouble in any matter that concerns the well-being of his parishioners? People may perhaps smile at the idea of a clergyman making a point of entering the belfry with his ringers, but they may depend upon it that much real good may be effected by so doing. People have had so bad an opinion of ringers that they considered them incorrigible drunkards and Sabbath breakers, but let the plan I have recommended be fairly tried and, in the words of some old belfry rhymes at Gulval, Cornwall,

'I'd have you not to vapour,
Nor blame the lads that use the clapper.'

(Concluded.)

DEVON GUILD.

MEETING AT BUCKFAST ABBEY.

The Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers held a meeting at Buckfast Abbey, Buckfastleigh, on June 9th, at which ringers and visitors were present from Bath, Exeter, Honiton, Clyst, Kenn, Dawlish, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Dartmouth, Dartington, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh, Plympton, Plymouth, Saltash and St. Mellion.

During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Stedman Doubles, Triples and Caters and Kent Treble Bob Major, as well as rounds on the various combinations were rung.

Nearly one hundred sat down to tea at the Abbey canteen, and before the business meeting the president (the Rev. Preb. E. V. Cox) thanked the Abbot for the use of the bells and the Abbey canteen, and for the warm welcome he had given to the branch. The Abbot replied and hoped the visitors would come again.

Five new members were elected, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting on October 13th. The secretary reported that he had received invitations from Dartington, Ashburton and Buckfastleigh, and after a short discussion it was decided to hold the October meeting at Dartington, and an extra meeting at Buckfastleigh on September 1st.

The Exeter Branch will be holding a meeting at Teignmouth on July 21st, and they desired it to be a joint meeting with the Mid-Devon Branch. This was agreed to.

Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise Minor were afterwards rung at Buckfastleigh Parish Church.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

MEETING AT WITTHAM.

A meeting of the East Grinstead and District Guild, held at Withyham on June 9th, was attended by 28 ringers from Rotherfield, Lamberhurst, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Hartfield, Hawkhurst, Withyham, Uckfield, Wadhurst, Paddock Wood and Sutton Valence. At the business meeting two new members were elected, Mr. F. S. Macey, of Sutton Valence, and Mr. C. Cullen, of Farnborough, and further meetings were arranged for Turner's Hill on July 14th and Tunbridge Wells on August 11th.

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CURIOUS TOWERS AND BELFRIES.

By ERNEST MORRIS.
(Continued from page 190.)

At the Roman Catholic Redemptorist Church of St. Alphonsus, Limerick, Ireland, is a ring of eight, tenor 26 cwt. The tower has the ropes ranged round the four walls of the ringing chamber—the first four occupying one wall with so small a space between that one could hold the ropes of treble and fourth at the same time, almost without deflecting either from the vertical, though the others are separated enough. This is due to the fact that the bells hang upon a double level, five below and three above.

The Church of St. Michael, Rowberrow, some three miles from Winscombe, Somerset, has a ring of six bells in a western embattled tower. Here pews have to be moved for ringing to take place in this small ancient church, which seats 118 persons. The bells are all dated 1752, and are by Thomas Bilbie, being installed by William Swymmer, Lord of the Manor.

At St. James', Syresham, Northants, the five bells, dating from 1624, hang in a specially designed frame independent of the tower. They are in two tiers—treble on top—mounted on massive oak pillars fixed in the corners of the tower from the ground (bedded down in the foundations) up to the bell chamber. There is only one floor between ringers and bells, and they are rung from the ground floor. There are two pillars in each corner, buttressed together by other woodwork and metal, so that the whole forms a sort of independent wooden tower inside the stone and shingle casement. No girders are built into the walls of the tower, the oak pillars taking all the weight. Back four bells are hung with wheels nearest the walls, one bell alongside each wall, and treble is hung in a frame on top, placed diagonally to those below. The treble rope falls about two feet in front of the second. The bells were rehung in 1886 and need re-hanging again now.

Stokesay Church, Shropshire, was partly destroyed during the Civil War, but was rebuilt in 1654, and cancelled 1664. It is mostly in early English style with a west tower containing six bells. A local guide thus describes the belfry and tower: "The floor is made of rough planks, and in the centre is a flagged space, like that of the banquetting hall of the castle nearby, on which a brazier used to stand before the fireplace was inserted on the top side. The belfry was used as the parish schoolroom up to the year 1859, of which the master's desk is an interesting relic. This now stands on the left of the principal doorway. The tower is battlemented, with two embrasures on each side, and a pyramidal roof, visible from outside. There are six bells, the oldest of which, the tenor, bears the date 1608. They were all rehung, and the tenor, which for many years had been cracked, was recast in memory of the Rev. James Dignes La Touche, 44 years Vicar of the parish, who died in 1899.

St. Keverne, or Okebron, Cornwall, founded 1155, appropriated to the Abbey of Beaulieu, Hants, is an edifice chiefly in Perpendicular and early English styles. It has an embattled west tower of three stages, about 60ft. high, surmounted by an octagonal ribbed spire, 38ft. high. Originally had three bells, but in 1907 these were taken down and eight by J. Taylor and Co., tenor 18 cwt., were installed. The tower is built in and not on to the church, and as the ringers perform from the ground floor, they are exposed to view on three sides.

At South Kilworth, Leics., the tower—with a fine broach spire—forms an entrance porch, and the congregation coming into church have to pass right through the circle of ropes. The writer called the first full peal on the five bells here on July 9th, 1932, after a previous attempt, when they were stopped by the Rector, following a very serious hunting accident, the injured party being brought home right close to the tower.

At Swaffham Prior, Cambs, there are two churches in one churchyard. The tower of one is in ruins, while the body of the other is in a similar condition. The sound tower has a ring of six bells, and so here we have the bells ringing in the tower of a ruined church, while the congregation assembles in the other church!

All Saints' Church, Sheffield (known as John Brown's Church), has a rather unusual means of access to the ringing chamber. One enters a staircase—in the porch—which finishes at the landing to the gallery at the west end of the church. The floor of the ringing chamber is over this gallery. To reach this floor, ascent is by three vertical ladders, the first resting on the landing outside the gallery, and when reaching the top of this first ladder you have to step back on to another small landing, on which is placed the foot of the second ladder. On reaching the top of this ladder you step back again to another small landing to a third ladder, which brings you to the entrance door of the ringing chamber. There is a ring of eight bells, tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

St. Lambert's Church, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk, has a ring of ten bells, tenor 24 cwt., and strangers here are told they have to walk a hundred yards over the top of the tower to reach the ringing chamber. The fact is, the top of the tower was removed so that the bells might be installed. Most of them hang above the top of the walls, and they are covered by a boarded timber framing which supports the roof. The masonry taken from the top of the tower was used, it is said, to make up the path to the church, hence the tale repeated above. To approach the ringing chamber one ascends a long wooden ladder with a thin iron handrail to hold on, and through a trap-door in the floor. The ringer of the 4th stands on this door to ring.

Swanage, Dorset, Church is an interesting cruciform structure of early thirteenth century date. It was entirely rebuilt with the exception of the tower in 1859, and enlarged in 1908. The tower is 80ft. high and has a ring of eight, tenor 22 cwt. The way to the ringing room here is somewhat unusual. One starts to ascend by a stone stair outside the tower, then through a door in the tower wall, and continues to ringing room by means of a series of wooden stairs built all round the inside of the tower.

In the same county, at St. Peter's, Shaftesbury, you go down six steps from the street level to get to the ringing chamber. This church is the most ancient of the four church here, and dates from the fifteenth century. It has been little used since 1878, but week-day services are held during summer months. In later years the tower has been repaired and the church restored in 1909. The inscription on the treble bell tells you how many there are here:—

'A wonder great my eye I fix,
Where was but three you now see six,
1684, T.P.'

(Continued on next page.)

CURIOUS TOWERS AND BELFRIES.

(Continued from previous page.)

The church at Little Peover, in Cheshire, is one of the few remaining in the half-timbered style of architecture, and quaint as its nave and chancel appear on the outside, it is more bizarre in the interior. Sturdy British oak, now black with age, largely replaces stone, and the scene which greets one is a great surprise when seen for the first time. Here is an ancient chest carved out of solid oak, the lifting of the lid of which is a herculean task. Tradition states that a Cheshire maiden who could not lift the lid with one hand was regarded as unfit to wed a Cheshire yeoman. The west end of the church terminates with a stone tower which contains a ring of six, tenor about 13 cwt. The base of the tower forms a porch, and also the ringing chamber. To prevent the congregation entering during ringing, a horizontal wooden bar is inserted in two slots across the doorway, the door being left open to provide light. There is, however, another porch on the south side of the building. Incidentally, the entrance to the local hostelry is through the churchyard.

At Midgham, Berks, is a ring of six, tenor 6½ cwt. Here the tower is at the south-west corner of the church, and as the bell ropes come down in the corner around the font, the ringers are thus in full view of the congregation.

Another instance of where the bell ropes fall among pews at the west end of the church is at Newton Valence, Hants, where there is a ring of five, tenor 6 cwt. At Odiham, in the same county, there is a large and ancient church of flint and rubble dating from about 1500, with a brick tower containing six bells and a sanctus of 1588. Here the ringers perform from the ground floor, and as the west door is entrance to the church, the congregation pass through the rope centre.

At Sulley, Glam, three miles from Penarth, the church has a machicolated west tower, the lower stage forming a porch with entrance on the south side. The ringing floor here has been thus amusingly described to me: 'Five bells, tenor about 8cwt., three by Evans, 1775, and two trebles Llewellyn & James, 1881. The most awkward range of ropes I ever saw. The tower door is the church door also, then a door out of that into the church. The treble rope comes down in the centre of this latter door; the second is in centre of main door; the 3rd is behind the door, therefore the 2nd man wants a neck like a duck because he has to look behind him for the treble. Then behind the door for the 3rd; then under a big ladder for the 4th.' They are, however, a good ring and hung in a strong heavy frame.' The same writer describes similarly the ring of five at St. Nicholas, near Cardiff (church of same name). This church has an embattled west tower, and here 'ringers stand all in a row one behind the other like ducks going to the water pool.' The bells are by Evans, tenor about 11 cwt. There is another St. Nicholas, near Fishguard (Pemb.), but this has only a turret with one bell.

Swainswick, near Bath (Somerset), has a very tiny tower to its ancient Church of St. Mary, being only about seven feet square. Here is a ring of six, tenor about 7 cwt., with an anti-clockwise circle of ropes. The bells were rehung in 1909, and are in a three-tier frame. Tenor at bottom, 4th, 5th above, and three trebles above again. All the bells are by C. and G. Mears, 1846.

(To be continued.)

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.

CLAY CROSS.—Practice changed from Saturday to Wednesday, from June 20th, at 7 p.m.—Mary E. B. Hudson, Sec.

ESSEX ASSN.—North-Western Division.—Harlow Common, Saturday, June 23rd. Service.—W. Wheeler, Mill Street, Harlow Common, Essex.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Axbridge Branch. — Mark (6), Saturday, June 23rd, 2.30 to 9. Service 4.30. Tea 5, in Assembly Rooms.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

OXFORD GUILD.—Bicester Branch. — Annual, Saturday, June 23rd, 5.30 p.m. Middleton Stoney (6). Service, 6.30 p.m. Bicester (8) and Heyford (6) after meeting. — F. Sharpe, Hon. Sec., Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD. — Cefn Coed (6), Saturday, June 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Business after. Merthyr Tydvil bells after meeting.—D. H. Bennett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Council Houses, Bronllys, Talgarth, Brecon.

OXFORD GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch. —Farnham Royal, Saturday, June 23rd, 5 to 8 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—Cranford (6), Saturday, June 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by business in belfry. Cups of tea provided. — J. E. Lewis Cockey. Perival 5320.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Summer Festival, Hersham, June 23rd, 3.45. Service 5. Tea, Waterman's Arms, 5.30. Ringing at Walton-on-Thames, 3 to 4.30 and after tea.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Western Division. — Billingshurst (8), Saturday, June 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by meeting. No tea. — L. Stilwell, Pikeholme, Pulborough.

HERTFORD ASSN.—St. Albans District. — North Mymms, Saturday, June 23rd, 3 p.m.—R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

ELY ASSN.—General, Ely, Saturday, June 23rd, 2 p.m. Committee 3.30. Service 4.45. Tea 5.30. — K. Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington.

YORKSHIRE ASSN. — Western Division.—Ilkley, Saturday, June 23rd, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Bring food.—Wm. Ambler, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Eastern District. — Annual, Kirk Ella (6), Saturday, June 23rd. Service 4.15 p.m. Business after tea.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 45, Green Lane, Selby.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Southern District.—Shildon (8), Saturday, June 23rd, 2.15 p.m.—James T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Bedford District.—Bletsoe (6), June 23rd, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided if possible. Bring food.—L. H. Bowler.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, E.1, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.—A. B. Peck.

SURREY ASSN.—Southern District.—Lingfield, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Wallis, Mount Pleasant, High Street, Lingfield, by June 27th.—Alfred Gear.

OXFORD GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Annual, Witney, Saturday, June 30th, 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea (2s.) 4.30 p.m., Social Club. Names to W. Evetts, Hon. Sec., Hampton, Tackley, Oxford, by Thursday, 28th.

SURREY ASSN.—North-Western District.—Ashstead, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Names to Mrs. Massey, 173, Coverts Road, Claygate, Surrey, by June 27th.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Bromham (8), Saturday, June 30th, 1 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Names to L. H. Bowler, Maisonette, Bromham, Bedford, by June 27th. Frequent buses from Bedford. Two six-bell towers available in evening.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Knowle Parish Church, Warwickshire, Saturday, June 30th, 3.30 p.m. Names for tea by June 27th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

NORWICH ASSN.—E. Norfolk Branch.—Loddon (8), Saturday, June 30th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in Church Room. Names for tea by June 26th to J. Harwood, 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Hagley, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by June 26th.—F. Colclough, Hon. Sec., 27, Hall Park Street, Bilston.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Hinckley District.—Burbage (8), Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Tea only for those notifying Mr. F. K. Measures, 58, Lychgate Lane, Burbage, by June 27th.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

DEVON GUILD.—St. David's, Exeter.—Practice (Stedman and Bob Major), Saturday, June 30th, 3.30 p.m.—8 p.m. Meeting of General Committee 4 p.m.—F. C. Smale, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Bugbrooke, Saturday, June 30th. Service 4.15. Tea provided, 1s. 6d.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Puddletown, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Names by June 23rd.—M. M. Godley, Stratton Rectory, Dorchester, Dorset.

ELY ASSN.—Hunts District.—Somersham, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Gt. Staughton, St. Neots.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Burley, June 30th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food. Business in tower.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Bishop Stortford, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 p.m.; names by June 26th.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol Rural.—Bitton (8), Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—D. W. Gardner, 9, Cossham Street, Mangotsfield, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting, Church Kirk, Saturday, June 30th, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in tower 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec., 133, Ormerod Street, Accrington.

DONCASTER SOCIETY.—Arksey, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Names to W. E. Lloyd, 3, Cranbrook Road, Doncaster.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Northern District.—Welwyn, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m.—A. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Western District.—Tanfield (8), Sat., June 30th, 3 p.m. Bring food.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSN.—Denby, Saturday, June 30th, 3 p.m. Bring food.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Derby District.—Derby, St. Andrew's (10), June 30th, 2.30 p.m. Important business. No tea. Cafe nearby.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Monthly practice, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, July 4th (first Wednesday), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Southern Division.—Practice, St. Nicholas', Brighton, Wednesday, July 4th, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. E. L. Hairs, The Oaks, Theobalds Road, Burgess Hill, by July 2nd.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Christ Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea (8), July 7th, 2.30. Tea (free) 4.30. Service 5.30. Names for tea by July 2nd to Mr. S. G. Smith, 161, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.—John Downing, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Stewkley (8), Saturday, July 7th, 3 p.m. Tea 5. Names by July 2nd to R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Burton District.—Netherseale (8), Saturday, July 7th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided in Rectory Hall at 4.45 p.m. Bring food.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS and MIDDLESEX ASSN.—Southgate, July 7th, 2.45. Service 4.30. Cups of tea 5 p.m. Bring food. Tube to Southgate or 29 bus to Cherry Tree.—A. B. Peck and E. C. S. Turner, Hon. Secs.

BRIDGNORTH.—Saturday, July 14th, St. Leonard's and St. Mary's bells 12 noon. Names before July 10th to Mr. Hayward, Cliff Gardens, Bridgnorth, or to Mr. F. Colclough, 27, Hall Park Street, Bilston.

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