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COVERING BELLS.

Two or three weeks ago we published the report of a peal of Minor rung on seven bells with a covering tenor, and we were not surprised when we received a strongly worded protest. There was, said our correspondent, no justification for the thing. It was against the Central Council's rules and ought not to be recorded, either by 'The Ringing World' or by the association.

So far as this journal is concerned, our custom is, and always has been, to publish the accounts of any performances sent us as peals, and not to attempt to discriminate between them. Our duties are advisory, not judicial. We have to give the best advice we can on matters relating to ringing, but we have no right to sit in judgment on what particular ringers do. The association is in a rather different case. It has subscribed to an undertaking to abide loyally by the rules and decision of the Council, and if the performance in question contravenes those rules, as our correspondent said it does, then the course of the association is fairly clear. But does the performance contravene any existing rule? There can be no doubt whatever in the minds of men competent to judge that the Council's rule relating to peals of Minor was intended to confine them to six bells, and any suggestion that they might be rung in an eight bell tower, with the second left out and the tenor covering, would have been negatived at once. The use of the back seven bells, as apparently was the case at Rochester, would have been condemned even more strongly.

But in fact the rule says nothing at all about the matter, for the reason that no one contemplated that a band would ever think of attempting such a thing. The whole practice and tradition of the Exercise are against it, and though there have been scores of cases where bands have met one short for a peal in an eight bell tower, it did not occur to any to ring Minor with a cover. Triples without a cover was rung on one or two occasions, but the general feeling was so much opposed to them that they were not repeated. The association is faced with a nice little problem. Does its loyalty to the Council bind it to a strictly literal and verbal reading of the rule and no more? or must the rule be read in the light of the general custom and opinion of the Exercise and what the Council obviously meant? It would be a pretty little problem for legal minds to argue.

Whether the performance at Rochester stands as a peal or not is, by itself, of no great consequence, and only a

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churl would wish to deprive the band of what credit they have gained, for they clearly acted in good faith even if mistakenly; but the principle involved is of great importance. It concerns the wellbeing of the Exercise whether the use of irregular covering bells should be tolerated or forbidden. Six months ago we gave reasons why they are undesirable even in short touches, and those reasons apply with vastly increased force to peal ringing. The peal in question was the first of its kind, and it is to be hoped that it will be the last. Meanwhile, the whole question of covering bells in peal ringing needs a thorough overhaul by authority, and it is greatly to be desired that next year the Central Council will tackle the subject after it has been fully ventilated in the associations.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SEDGEBERROW, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, September 28, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT AUBYNS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
MRS. J. THOMAS 1-2 | JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5-6
JOHN THOMAS 3-4 | GEOFFREY J. HEMMING 7-8
Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, October 3, 1945, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PHILIP J. COWARD 1-2 | JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS... .. 7-8
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Conducted by J. THOMAS.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT 35, WOODSTOCK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
BETTY SPICE 1-2 | WILLIAM L. B. LEESE... .. 5-6
*JOHN E. SPICE 3-4 | ALAN WHITE... .. 7-8
Composed by E. M. ATKINS.
* 250th peal. Non-conducted and silent.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WALSALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Wednesday, October 3, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, Tenor 26½ cwt.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 8067 CHANGES;

*HOWARD HOWELL Treble	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON... .. 2	WALTER R. HUGHES 7
GEORGE W. HUGHES... .. 3	ALFRED J. MOY 8
ALFRED ADAMS 4	JAMES S. EASTWOOD 9
†ARTHUR BOTTERILL 5	WILLIAM A. WALKER Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.
* 50th peal of Stedman. † First peal. Half-muffled for Mr. H. Gordon Howell.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, Tenor 19 cwt.
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*MISS P. FLETCHER Treble	GEORGE A. PACKER 6
E. DENNIS POOLE 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 7
ALFRED S. BAYLEY 3	RICHARD D. LANGFORD 8
C. KENNETH LEWIS 4	WALTER LAGO 9
*F. HECTOR BENNETT... .. 5	ARTHUR PRITCHARD Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ADLINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, September 29, 1945, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, Tenor 13½ cwt.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
*FRANCIS MCCARTHY Treble | †JOSEPH HILL 5
*JAMES BLACKBURN 2 | ARTHUR TOMLINSON 6
FRED BROWNLOW 3 | *JOHN JACKSON 7
†THOMAS TURNER 4 | ERNEST FARNWORTH... .. Tenor
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.
* First peal in the method. † First peal.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, September 29, 1945, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, Tenor 12 cwt.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*HERBERT W. PRATT... .. Treble	FRANK W. LACK 5
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 2	HARRY PARKER 6
*LESLIE W. FISHER 3	HERBERT FIELDS... .. 7
GEORGE E. CRISP 4	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.
* First peal on eight bells.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, September 29, 1945, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER, Tenor 25¼ cwt.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

WILLIAM AMBLER Treble	WILLIAM BARTON... .. 5
*ALFRED ASHTON... .. 2	RONALD H. DOVE 6
JEAN SOUTHERST 3	EDWARD BRADLEY 7
ERNEST RAYNER 4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... Tenor

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.
* First peal in the method.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.
On Monday, October 1, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, Tenor 13 cwt.
A PEAL OF IPSWICH SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES

ARTHUR JONES Treble	LEONARD TUFFREY 5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 3	*HERBERT C. SPENCER 7
HENRY H. FEARN 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN
* 100th peal. First in the method by the Guild and all the band.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, October 3, 1945, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION. Tenor 23½ cwt.
FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS Treble | JOHN FREEMAN 5
VALBALLA V. H. HILL 2 | FRANK C. W. KNIGHT... .. 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 3 | ALFRED H. PULLING 7
HAROLD A. MAY 4 | RONALD J. C. HAGLEY... .. Tenor
Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, October 3, 1945, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, Tenor 17 cwt.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ARTHUR J. TAYLOR Treble	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5
*ROBERT GEDEN 2	ARCHIE REED 6
WILLIAM SPARROW 3	†FRANK JONES 7
WILLIAM HARDIMAN... .. 4	EDGAR MITCHELL Tenor

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Conducted by FRANK JONES.
* First peal inside. † First peal.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Three Hours and Four Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, Tenor 12 cwt.

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

WILLIAM OLIVER... ..Treble	GEORGE W. HUTCHINSON... 5
GEORGE F. NEWTON 2	JAMES T. TITT 6
SAMUEL BRYANT 3	ROLAND PARK 7
GEORGE W. PEVERELL 4	W. NORMAN PARKTenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by ROLAND PARK.
First peal in the method by the association.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, Tenor 7½ cwt.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*ROSEMARY HOODTreble	WILLIAM F. GIBBONS... .. 5
MARGARET C. COSSAR 2	ALAN WHITE... .. 6
FRANCIS A. EDGAR 3	BETTY SPICE... .. 7
WILLIAM L. B. LEESE 4	JOHN E. SPICETenor

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by ALAN WHITE.
* First tower-bell peal.

WOODBRIIDGE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, Tenor 25 cwt.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5055 CHANGES!

LESLIE G. BRETTTreble	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 5
CHARLES E. FISHER 2	*PHILIP C. BICKNELL... .. 6
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 3	FRANK L. FISHER 7
SYLVIA R. E. PIPE 4	ALBERT E. WHITING... ..Tenor

MIDDLETON'S Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.
* First peal of Cambridge.

ALRESFORD, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST, Tenor 15½ cwt.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*NESTA D. SMITHTreble	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 5
HARRY N. NEWNHAM 2	WILFRED ANDREWS 6
*RICHARD SMITH 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN 7
LESLIE A. TREMEER 4	†GEORGE ALLENTenor

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.
* First peal of Triples. † First peal.

DAYBROOK, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, Tenor 10 cwt.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES!

FRANK BRADLEY... ..Treble	*ROBERT A. WARD 5
*REGINALD ALEY... .. 2	*HAROLD PAILING 6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT 7
*PECY C. BELL... .. 4	FRED A. SALTER... ..Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.
* First peal in the method.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, Tenor 14 cwt.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES!

STAFFORD H. GREENTreble	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 5
*LUCILE M. HUBBERT 2	ALFRED W. DURHAM 6
FREDERICK WHITE 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 7
THOMAS E. SONE 4	PHILIP A. CORBYTenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal in the method.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, Tenor 11½ cwt.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

FREDERICK S. ALMONDTreble	THOMAS W. HESKETH... .. 5
FRANK VARY 2	ARTHUR LINTOTT... .. 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON 3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE 7
THOMAS R. BUTLER 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSONTenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, Tenor 11½ cwt.

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A. JAMES GLASS... ..Treble	*WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ... 5
GEORGE MARTIN 2	*RONALD C. NOON 6
*WILLIAM E. JUDD 3	GEORGE GILBERT 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	WILLIAM HENLEYTenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by W. BIRMINGHAM.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Triples as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WILLERSEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1945, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, Tenor 12½ cwt.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 32 six-scores of St. Dunstan's and 10 of Grandshire.

*A. BYRDTreble	*H. KILBY 4
W. HEATH 2	F. SADLER 5
S. INGLIS 3	H. SADLERTenor

Conducted by F. SADLER.

* First peal.

RIPPLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 25, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, Tenor 13 cwt.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

W. GAINNEYTreble	C. HALLINGS... .. 4
J. ROBERTS 2	T. BENNETT 5
C. HAYTINGS... .. 3	P. BENNETTTenor

Conducted by C. HAYTINGS.

BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 2, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, Tenor 11 cwt.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES!

One extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's, and two each of Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

LESTER L. GRAYTreble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 4
MISS JOAN WEBSTER 2	DOUGLAS WATSON, JUN. ... 5
MISS MARJORIE WEBSTER... 3	FRANK VARYTenor

Conducted by F. VARY.

Half-muffled for Mrs. Mercer, an ex-Mayor of Birkenhead.

WEAVERHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, October 5, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, Tenor 9½ cwt.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES!

ERIC NOBLESTreble	*FREDERICK SHAW 4
MISS DOROTHY OSBORN 2	WILLIAM HORNBY 5
ERIC HORNBY 3	HARRY PARKERTenor

Conducted by E. NOBLES.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.



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CALLING THE BELLS ROUND.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

Of all methods Grandsire Triples is perhaps the most interesting in which to call the bells round. It can be done from any position in a short time and the ways of doing it are very varied; but, as we advised in the case of Bob Minor, the beginner will do well to study and practise one plan first and to make himself thoroughly acquainted with that before he experiments with other plans. The one we shall recommend will not necessarily be the quickest or the one which uses the fewest number of calls, but that will not matter since the number of leads required will not in any case be many.

Grandsire Triples can be brought round either at handstroke or at backstroke. In the first case the changes must be out-of-course; in the second, in-course; but for the present we will confine ourselves to bringing up rounds at backstroke and to begin with we will not concern ourselves as to whether the changes are in-course or out-of-course.

The first thing we do is to bring the Sixth and Seventh together in their right order—that is with the Seventh coursing the Sixth, so that they strike 6-7 behind at backstroke.

We watch the Sixth until it courses with one bell following it and then the treble. This will be in the lead after it has dodged in 6-7 up and when it is going to dodge in 4-5 up. A bob at that lead-end will put the Sixth into the hunt.

Next we watch the Seventh. After one or two leads it will be Before. It will make Thirds place, and when it returns to the front it will take off the Sixth which is in the hunt. Those two bells are now together, and when they go behind will strike 6-7 at backstroke. If the Sixth were left in the hunt, the next lead would, of course, part them again, so a bob is called which will make the Sixth dodge in 4-5 down and the Seventh dodge in 6-7 down. The next lead-end will be a course-end.

We now turn our attention to the Fifth. If it is following the Seventh in coursing order, it is in the required position, and we need trouble ourselves no more about it. If it is in the hunt we call the Seventh Before-with-a-Double or (which is the same thing) the Sixth In-and-Out, and the next lead-end will be a course-end with 5-6-7 at home.

If, after we have brought 6-7 together, we find that the Fifth is coursing immediately in front of the Sixth, we call the Seventh In-and-Out. This will put the Fifth in the hunt, and then by calling the Seventh Before-with-a-Double, 5-6-7 are brought together as we have just seen.

There is one more position in which the Fifth may be. It may be coursing after the bell that is coursing the Seventh and before the bell that is in front of the Sixth (the treble and the bell in the hunt are not counted in this coursing order). At the course-end after 6-7 first come together the Fifth will make Thirds place. In this case the Seventh is called Before-with-a-Double twice.

The three small bells remain to be dealt with. If at the course-end after 5-6-7 first come together the Fourth is in the hunt, a bob at the next course-end will produce

rounds provided the changes are in-course. To make sure of that we notice in the lead before we call whether the Third is hunting in front of the treble. If, instead, the Second is there, we call a single and not a bob.

If after 5-6-7 are brought together the Third is in the hunt, the Seventh must be called In-and-Out. This will either produce the plain course or put the Fourth in the hunt. In the latter an extra single must be called.

When 5-6-7 come together the Second may be in the hunt and the changes in the plain course. But it may be that the Third is coursing before the Sixth and the Fourth after the Fifth. In that case call the Seventh In-and-Out twice and then a single at Home.

462573	235746
—	672435 —
456327	546372 —
435762	534267
473256	—
—	523746
624573 —	675423 —
652347	346275 —
635724	324567
673452	—
246573 —	753624 —
254367	467253 —
—	234567 S

We will now test all this by an example, using figures. We pick at haphazard 1462573 to start from. Our first job is to get the Sixth into the hunt, and as it is at present making Thirds place, we must wait until it has dodged in 3-4 down, 6-7 down, and 6-7 up. At the next lead-end, when it is going to dodge in 3-4 up, we call a bob and that puts the bell into the hunt.

Next we must find out where the Seventh is. At the last bob it dodged in 6-7 down, so we must wait for three leads before it makes Thirds place and follows the Sixth to the front. When those two bells get up behind they will strike 6-7 at backstroke, which is a sure sign that at the next lead-end a bob must be called to fetch the Sixth out of the hunt. The following lead-end is the course-end.

The Fifth is now coursing neither in front of the Sixth nor after the Seventh, nor is it in the hunt. What we do therefore is to call the Seventh Before-with-a-Double twice, or (which is the same thing) the Sixth In-and-Out twice. That will bring the three big bells together in their right positions.

The course-end which follows is easily seen, and as it is 324567, two bobs and a single will bring the changes round.

We could have brought the bells home with fewer calls and in less number of changes, but as it is we have had no more than 280, and the conductor who is not pressed for time will find it instructive and interesting to watch how the bells gather themselves in order into their home positions. The music, too, is almost the best that Grandsire Triples has to give. It is excellent practice for a conductor to call up some change at random (or get another to do it for him) and then to bring the bells round, using the plan we have described until he thoroughly understands it.

(To be continued.)

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM**MEETING AT PERRY BARR.**

A meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Perry Barr on October 6th. The weather was fine and the surroundings ideal. Service in church was followed by tea and the business meeting presided over by the Master, Mr. Albert Walker.

The following tower elections as life members were ratified: Miss Jill Poole, of Leicester, Mr. David Vincent, of Hale, Cheshire, Mr. P. J. Staniforth, of Anstey, Leicester, and Mr. N. G. Leech, of Dudley. It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Boldmere Parish Church on November 10th and the annual meeting at headquarters on January 5th, 1946.

The librarian, Mr. George F. Swann, moved that the Guild's peal books, which had been moved to a place of safety in the early days of the war, should now be brought back to St. Martin's tower, and this was agreed to. It was decided to hold the Henry Johnson Commemoration on the first Saturday in March, and, if possible, return to the pre-war custom of a dinner in the evening.

Mr. Walker referred to two old members of the Guild. Mr. Tom Miller, who was 86, was not in very good health and was now an inmate of St. Joseph's Home, Harborne. He suggested that it would be a kindness if any member when possible would pay him a visit to show that he was not forgotten. The other, Mr. James George, who was in his 92nd year, he would like to congratulate on having scored a peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells while on a visit to Bourne-mouth. Evidently he was in excellent health and spirits in spite of his years and infirmity. Forty-seven members and friends sat down to tea and the visitors included ringers from Coventry, Cambridge and London.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**MEETING AT CAMPSALL.**

Ringers were present from Arksey, Barnby Don, Thorne, Doncaster, Sprotborough and Pontefract at a meeting of the Doncaster and District Society, held at Campsall on September 29th. The Vicar, the Rev. G. L. A. Hicks, presided, and said that, as he could not get together a band of his own, he hoped the members would come again so that the bells could be heard more often. Miss Joan Travis, of Arksey, was elected a member. An invitation to hold the next meeting at Conisborough was accepted. A message of sympathy was sent to Mr. E. Stacey, the Ringing Master, who has recently had an accident.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT SHILLINGSTONE.**

A meeting of the North Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at Shillingstone on September 15th was attended by 36 members from Shillingstone, Okeford Fitzpaine, Childe Okeford, Shroton, Sturminster Newton, Kingston Magna, Hazelbury Bryan, North Cadbury, Stourton, Iwerne Minster and Stoke Wake. Ringing was at Shillingstone, Childe Okeford, and Okeford Fitzpaine.

The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. L. Haynes), and the address given by the Rev. F. L. Edwards. Mention was made of the death of Mr. Tom Foote, for many years the leader of the Marnhull band.

Dr. E. W. J. Hellins presided over the business meeting, at which the following new members were elected: Honorary, the Rev. M. L. Woodhouse (Zeals) and the Rev. H. L. Haynes (Shillingstone); life members, Mrs. and Miss Gillian Edwards (Mortimer, Reading); ringing members, Miss M. J. E. Mortimer (Okeford Fitzpaine) and Mr. William Dowding.

Subject to the approval of the Vicar, it was decided to hold the annual meeting at Sherborne.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT ASHFORD.**

The annual meeting of the Ashford District of the Kent County Association, held at Ashford on September 23th, was attended by over thirty members. Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. D. S. Bowen. Tea was served in the Parish Room and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Vicar presided. The district officers were all re-elected, Wye chosen as place of next meeting, and two new members were elected—Miss P. Lowe and Miss M. Newton, of Willesborough.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT EWELL.**

A meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association was held at Ewell on October 6th, at which about 40 members and friends were present. A good variety of methods were practised, including London and Bristol Surprise Major. A short service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. O. P. Davis, was followed by tea in the Church Hall. Six new members were elected at the business meeting, and the secretary reported that the next meeting would be held at Benhilton on November 24th.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

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Etc.

'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,
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not to the Editor.

Members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association should
note that the meeting advertised to be held at Nash on October 20th
will be held at St. Mellons instead.

The peal of Stedman Caters at Walsall on October 3rd was rung
half-muffled for Staff-Sergt. H. Gordon Howell, a glider pilot, who
died of wounds received at Arnhem on September 20th, 1944. He
was a member of St. Matthew's band and a brother to the Ringing
Master.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL DINNER.

In spite of catering and accommodation difficulties, the optimism
of the committee of the Worcestershire and Districts Association in
reviving the annual dinner was fully justified on September 29th. The
seating of the only available room in Worcester was fully occupied,
and a party of 72 sat down under the chairmanship of the president,
the Very Rev. Arthur Davies, Dean of Worcester, who was supported
by Minor Canon the Rev. A. C. F. Davies (clerical secretary), the
Rev. A. M. Moreton-Jackson (St. Peter's, Droitwich), Mr. S. T. Holt
(Master) and Mrs. Holt, Mr. J. D. Johnson (general secretary) and
Mrs. Johnson, and Mr. W. H. Johnson (treasurer). Visitors were
present from Birmingham, Dudley, Enfield and Newport.

A letter was received from Mr. Albert Walker conveying greetings
from the St. Martin's Guild, congratulating the association on re-
viving the function and expressing good wishes for a successful evening.

Mr. J. R. Newman proposed the toast of 'Church and State,' and
the Rev. A. M. Moreton-Jackson responded. The Rev. A. C. F. Davies
gave 'The Worcestershire Association' and Mr. S. T. Holt replied.
'Kindred Associations' was proposed by Mr. B. C. Ashford, and
Mr. W. C. Dowding responded.

A farewell presentation was made to the Rev. A. C. F. Davies, who
is leaving Worcester to take up an appointment at Blackburn Cathed-
ral. In proposing his health, the Dean spoke of the work he had
done for the association and how he had thrown himself heart and
soul into the arrangements, which had to be made under difficulties
during the past few years. The speaker caused amusement by telling
of situations which had arisen due to both of them having the same
Christian and surnames, and adding that as they lived in the same
house, the Minor Canon was always on top of the Dean. He asked
Mr. Davies to accept from the association a music stool, suitably in-
scribed, and a music cabinet.

In his reply, Mr. Davies thanked the members for the presentation
and congratulated them on being able to keep a secret, for it had
come as a complete surprise to him. He did not know who was re-
sponsible for the choice, but he had wanted a music stool and it would
be a reminder of the many valued friendships he had made in the
county. He would miss Worcester and Worcestershire, but hoped to
return from time to time. The association had looked forward to
reviving the annual dinner. Only a short time ago it had seemed
hopeless for this year, but it was now an established fact, and he
was happy to have been in Worcester long enough to be present.
One other thing they were looking forward to—the formation of an
Eastern Branch—and they had recently had a committee meeting to
deal with it.

There were songs by Messrs. W. C. Dowding and G. J. Hemming,
with Miss D. J. Johnson as accompanist; tunes by the Wollaston
handbell band (Messrs. S. Thompson, P. Richards and J. Bass), and
a course of Stedman Caters by Mrs. J. Thomas, Messrs. J. D. John-
son, J. Thomas, A. E. Norman and G. J. Hemming.

PEAL RINGING.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am able to agree with almost all of your leading article in the current issue, but I feel that I must take exception to your statement that it requires less bodily exertion to manipulate a tenor at a quick rate. Apart from such considerations as the fact that one has to put one's total effort into less time, which doesn't seem good for your theory, my own experience leads me to believe entirely the contrary, except in a very few cases where the tower way is such that a fast rate may prove easier than a slower one.

My peal ringing has consisted a good deal of Major, rung on tenors between 20 and 30 cwt. I have found that for ease I need ten minutes over the three hours for the lesser weight and thirty minutes over for the greater, with intermediate weights pro rata. If for some reason or other I have had to cut ten minutes off these times, I have had to work very hard indeed. Nevertheless, I have to admit that on one occasion I rang 29 cwt. to a peal of Minor in 3 hours 17 minutes. But it was Plain Bob, and although I was very conscious that I did not get the bell quite into place at the down blow of each dodge, everybody but me seemed very pleased about it all. It occurred to me at the time that much of the lauded fast ringing was achieved at the expense of the dodges.

Personal observation has seemed to teach me that all rings of bells have a natural pace. Mediocre bands striking that pace, and particularly if there is much plain hunting in the method, can put up a very good show indeed. They can ever ring them faster at the expense of the dodges, but the whole performance has rhythm and beat and is pleasing to hear. But it needs a very good band indeed to ring bells slower than their natural rate. A case in point is the peal recorded this week, run at Derby, where surely the tenor has grown since I was there last. I didn't hear the peal, but I am quite certain from what I know of my friends in the band that it was first class. An indifferent band would have made a poor job of it.

I have heard it argued that there is no such thing as perfection in ringing, but we can strive to attain it. Occasionally, we even get it as far as my poor ears can tell. I wonder if I am alone in my ideas in this matter. In any case, I should like to read the opinions of ringers of note, in addition to that of your very good self.

Chilcompton, Bath.

J. T. DYKE.

Dear Sir,—In the recent correspondence on peal ringing the most important point of all has not been definitely mentioned, namely, the sound of the bells. In the case of bells of poor quality, or with little 'breath' in them, quick ringing may be justified, and may even improve the effect, but good, resonant bells, especially when they are of some weight, can never be heard to full advantage unless they are rung at a steady pace and have time to give out their individual tone. It is positively disrespectful to a fine-toned peal of bells to ring them at a rapid pace. One can well understand a quick peal being not infrequently well struck, as it obviously requires greater skill to strike accurately with a longer interval between the bells, but in any performance on musical instruments rhythm is only one point to study; another, and a most essential point, is tone. In the case of such sonorous instruments as bells ample time is necessary for tone to have its true value.

F. L. EDWARDS.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The sixty-ninth annual meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held in Durham on September 29th. The President (Mr. M. D. Oubridge) referred to the deaths of Mr. C. L. Routledge and Mr. W. Story, and spoke in terms of warm appreciation of their services to the association.

Mr. Oubridge had intimated his desire not to seek re-election, and Mr. R. L. Patterson, of St. Ignatius', Sunderland, was elected president. Mr. Patterson said he regarded his election as an honour, not for himself alone, but for his belfry. Mr. W. N. Park, on behalf of the members, thanked the retiring president, who had held office since 1938, for his services during a most difficult and trying period.

The hon. secretary (Mr. R. Park) presented his annual report and the peal report, and the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. N. Park) presented a satisfactory financial statement, all of which were adopted.

The hon. secretary, hon. treasurer and hon. auditor (Mr. J. F. Bird) and the Central Council representatives (Messrs. W. H. Barber, W. J. Davidson and J. W. Parker) were re-elected. It was agreed that the hon. secretary and hon. treasurer jointly should carry out the duties of editorial secretary, the office having become vacant by the death of Mr. Routledge. The elections of district officers were confirmed.

Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Cambridge Surprise Major and rounds were rung at the Cathedral.

DEATH OF MR E. J. PALMER.

The death is announced of Mr. Edward J. Palmer, of Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, who passed away on October 3rd at the age of 58. He was in his usual place in the tower the previous Sunday.

The funeral took place on October 6th at Rodbourne Cheney and the bells were rung half-muffled, the whole pull and stand being rung after the interment.

A SEVEN-BELL PEAL.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was rather surprised when reading this week's 'Ringing World' at Senex's outburst about the peal of Minor rung at Rochester on September 15th. I think it would be as well if Senex was aware of the reasons why this peal was rung before claiming that there is no justification for such a performance.

The band had travelled considerable distances to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but had the misfortune to meet one short. Every effort was made to enlist one of the locals to take the tenor for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but none could be found to take on the job, call changes being all they had ever attempted. The local secretary, however, wanted to hear as many bells as possible, so after a short discussion it was decided to ring the peal of Minor on the back seven, and a very good peal it was. Better still, it aroused some interest among the ringers at Rochester, so much so that one of their number came along to our next monthly meeting to inquire how they could join the association and what instruction they could get in the art of change ringing. I am pleased to say that that instruction has been arranged. If as a result of our ringing change ringing is introduced at Rochester, we, the ringers who took part, shall always feel that our unorthodox peal was justified.

J. G. CARTLIDGE.

68, Queen's Street, Cheadle.

THE LONDON CITY CHURCHES.

Recently 'The Times' gave a list of the churches in the City of London with a statement of the damage suffered by them during the war. It makes sorry reading.

When the war broke out 49 churches were in existence within the City limits (omitting St. Paul's Cathedral and St. Peter ad Vincula in the Tower precincts, and including the Dutch church of Austin Friars and the Welsh church of St. Benet, Paul's Wharf).

Of this 49 three are totally destroyed—Austin Friars, St. Mildred, Bread Street, and St. Stephen, Coleman Street. Nothing remains except the pavement of Austin Friars. St. Mildred, Bread Street, is unrecognisable. It was one of Wren's most attractive interiors, hardly altered. St. Stephen, Coleman Street, has left no more than the rubble of walls; it possessed a quaint timber lantern and gilded weather-vane, with many late 17th century fittings, including carved and painted Stuart arms on the gallery front.

A fourth church damaged grievously is that of All Hallows-by-the-Tower. Its walls of the 13th century and onwards stand roofless; the red-brick Cromwellian tower has lost its cupola. With its Roman undercroft, early Saxon doorway, and memories of Archbishop Laud and William Penn, it looks across many centuries but also forward. Toc H and parish services are held in the Porch Room.

A further 24 churches have been more or less severely damaged. Of them the worst examples of destruction are St. Alban, Wood Street, and St. Mary, Aldermanbury, in the burnt-out area north of Cheapside; St. Augustine, almost under the east end of St. Paul's; St. Lawrence Jewry, near Guildhall; St. Nicholas, Cole Abbey, standing alone in what was once Queen Victoria Street; St. Olave, Hart Street (Peppy's Church, near Mark Lane); and St. Swithun, opposite Cannon Street Station. Nothing is left of the interior of these churches.

Only one church, that of St. Mary Woolnoth, at the junction of Lombard Street and King William Street, is intact.

The loss of bells has been grievous. Three peals of twelve, five of eight and one of six were destroyed, some of them completely, so that there is scarcely a trace of metal left. The twelve-bell rings were: St. Mary-le-Bow, St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and St. Giles', Cripplegate. The eight bell rings were: St. Andrew's, Holborn, St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, St. Lawrence Jewry, St. Olave's, Hart Street, and St. Stephen's, Coleman Street. The ring of six was St. Vedast's, Foster Lane.

A BELL IN JAPAN.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—During the visit of my ship to Japanese waters in connection with the signing of the surrender terms, I went ashore in Yokohama, and although there was not much to see except bomb devastation, one of the untouched buildings, and all the more conspicuous because it was the only spire to be seen, was the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart. I climbed the tower and found one bell, weighing, I should judge, about 12 cwt. It had two bands of floral design and two inscriptions, one being the name, presumably, of the priest-in-charge at the time of casting the bell, and the other being the founder's name. This inscription read: Bollee and Sons, Founders, Accordeurs au Mans, France, 1874.

I am not sure what 'Accordeurs au Mans' means. An accordeur is a tuner. Possibly it has some connection with the town of Le Mans. The bell itself was longer in the waist than British bells and had an enormous iron headstock and some sort of balance lever on one side shaped roughly like a half wheel, but with no flange and no rope attached. The bell itself produced a much higher note than I should have expected for its size.

A. R. PINK.

H.M.S. 'Duke of York.'

A RINGER IN THE COTSWOLDS.

By JAMES F. HARVEY.

(Continued from page 393.)

Painswick holds a commanding position on a ridge, and the ghostly spire of its church is a landmark for miles around. The tower was built in 1632, and is a lofty structure in three stages. The bells were all originally by Rudhalls, and dated from 1731 to 1821, but the two bells of 1821, by John Rudhall, were recast in 1887. The spire was struck by lightning in 1883, when much damage was caused by falling masonry. The modern gateway to the churchyard is built partly of old timbers taken from the belfry. The (then) record peal of 1883 (10,224 changes in 6 hours 50 minutes) is still quoted with pride.

The famous avenues of yews are only some 150 years old. There are several curious superstitions about the trees: that they can never be counted twice alike, and that, although there are 99, the 100th yew can never be made to grow. Yet the present number is more than 100.

Two skirmishes took place at Painswick during the Civil Wars, the second, in the spring of 1644, finding the Parliamentarians entrenched in the churchyard, whence they were driven to take refuge in the nave and tower. From there the Royalists succeeded in ousting them 'by firing the doores and casting in land-grenadoes.'

I found the village full of evacuees, and there wasn't a bite of food to be had anywhere. But I was fortunate it having friends just outside, and so made my way down the steep hill to Haines Green. Here I received a warm welcome from Mrs. Mills, who runs a riding school, and her two young daughters, Anne and Daphne. The latter was well named. She was (and is) a sweet little creature with a face like a flower. All three are accomplished horsewomen. After a long chat and a cup of tea (without chlorine), the two girls set off on their ponies to accompany me to Bull Cross, where I hoped to catch a bus to Miserden, some three miles from home. Their mother was to follow. So, the children trotting on before, I once more toiled up the long hill to the ridge and down into the Sheepscombe Valley, where the fall is so steep as to be unridable. There was still the even longer hill up to Bull Cross, and time was getting short. Mrs. Mills had now caught us up and hurried on with the youngsters to stop the bus for me, while I made what speed I could. Fortunately, they succeeded and held it up till, puffing and blowing, I arrived.

The famous tumulus of Belas Knap lies on the heights of Cleeve Cloud overlooking Winchcombe, and one misty morning I set off to make my first acquaintance with it. My route lay through Colesbourne, Withington and Andoversford.

Colesbourne Church, like others in the Cotswolds, is in the park close to the manor house. I crossed the park, beautifully situated on the slopes of the Churn valley, and went into the church. There are five bells in a handsome western perpendicular tower, all by Abraham Rudhall (1719). 'Sir Robert Atkyns records that eight acres are given to the church, called Bell-rope land, being applied for that use' (Daubeny).

Leaving the park by the path beside the lake, I struck off up the road to Withington, lying over the ridge in the Coln valley. A Scotch mist was blowing across the hills, obscuring the view, and the outlook for the day

was not cheerful, but before I had covered the three miles to the village the mist was thinning fast.

Withington Church was originally a small Norman edifice built about 1160. It has a central tower, partly rebuilt in the 13th century, the upper part being completed in the 14th century. There is a large west window of the 15th century, and a lovely Norman doorway on the south side. There are six bells, all by Rudhall (1739). By the time I left the church the sun was shining, and there was every prospect of good weather.

The road from Withington to the junction of the Andoversford road runs straight as a line for a full three miles. It is probably part of one of the Roman roads so common to the district and, although as a rule I prefer to walk, I by no means despise a lift when the road is uninteresting, as these usually are.

The first motorist to answer my signal was a member of the A.T.S. She very kindly picked me up, and so, with beauty at the wheel, these few miles were soon covered, and she set me down in Andoversford. This is one of the few ugly villages in the Cotswolds and did not detain me.

Leaving Sevenhampton and Charlton Abbots down in the valley on my right, I struck off along the ridge to Cleeve Common. The sun had by this time sucked up the mist, but Bredon Hill and the Malverns were still invisible. The clock inside me, and a wide stretch of grass by the roadside combining to suggest it was lunch time, I settled down for my meal. There was a little fellow from a cottage nearby playing about on the grass, and on my offering him a biscuit he sat down beside me and joined in, thus helping me to keep alive a rite of hospitality going back many thousands of years. I think it is Kropotkin who states that the savage alone in the woods, before commencing his meal, always called out three times an invitation to share it. And so, after a drink of water at the cottage and a kiss from little Johnny, I set off once more. Belas Knap, looking like some crouching animal, was now visible on the far hillside some mile or more away.

Cleeve Common is an extensive and lofty plateau overlooking the Severn valley, and is famous for its views. It is well worthy of exploration. But the notice board at the gate is rather alarming, having regard to the number of offences against the regulations it is possible to commit. However, as I desired neither to snare birds, to erect booths, to graze cattle, to indulge in gambling, brawling or swearing, or to offend in other and divers ways, I ventured to go forward. Having crossed the valley and climbed the hill, I arrived at last at the ancient tumulus.

According to the official description (it is now preserved as an ancient monument), Belas Knap is 18ft. high, 178ft. long and 60ft. wide. It has four burial chambers formed up upright slabs linked by dry walling and originally covered by corbelled roofs. When opened, it was found to contain the remains of 18 human skeletons together with animal bones, flint instruments and pottery of the Neolithic (New Stone) Age. Its date is probably about 2,000 B.C. I walked all round and over the top; I saw all there was to see; I studied the official description, and then I sat me down on the grass within the horns of that old burial place where, 4,000 years ago, people of Britain had conducted their funeral rites, and smoked a meditative pipe.

(To be continued.)

BELLS—USES AND ABUSES.

BY ERNEST MORRIS, F.R.HIST.S., F.R.G.S.

(Continued from page 388.)

Prebendary Wordsworth's 'Mediæval Services in England' gives much information on the ringing of bells, from which the following is extracted. Dealing mainly with Lincoln, he tells how matins was said at midnight in summer, and daybreak in winter. Before this the ringers had their duty to perform. The first of the five 'peals' began with the great bell knolling for half an hour, about an hour and a half before the service. At Wells there were three peals of several bells (*turbæ*), and one tolling of the great bell (*signa*) at intervals. First and second peals went for half an hour each, the doors being opened and lights lit, between the two: then third and fourth for a quarter of an hour each; and the last for such time as would allow a Canon to come from the most distant house in the Minster Yard. It was the duty of the bellringer to provide lighted charcoal for the thurifers when there was incense to burn at 'Te Deum.' At Exeter, after the bell had rung for the 'Lady Mass' whilst the epistle was being read, the first bell for Prime was sounded, and at 'Agnus Dei' the second bell. At Lincoln the day-bell was rung by the chaplain who said the 'Morrow Mass,' and after this, before the service, a great bell rang for the morning peal (*peila*) in the south-west tower (St. Hugh's). Here the 'Lady Mass' was said about 7 or 8 a.m., preceded by tinkles (*tinnitus*). It seems that this may have been the 'Ave Bell' or Angelus. Folk were to say the 'Hail Mary' three times at each tolling of this bell, at 6 a.m., at noon, and at 6 p.m. The late Sir C. Anderson recorded that the six 'Lady Bells' in the great Rood Tower at Lincoln were chimed in the belfry on Lady Day to a chant which was probably:—

A ve Ma ri a : o ra pro no bis
1 3 1 2 4 : 1 5 1 5 6

After the office of Prime, 'Prime out of choir' rang out, and the choir adjourned in orderly procession to the Chapter House to receive instructions as to the morrow's services.

After this came the 'Chapter Mass,' the family devotion of the whole cathedral body. If there were to be a procession at the following service, 'High Mass,' the bell rang 'to procession,' and the service proceeded to the end of the epistle. During the singing of the 'Gradual' which followed this, it was the custom at Lincoln for a clerk in choir habit to go round with an invitation from the celebrant to the deacons and all inferior ministers, including the two bellringers present, to bid them dine with him that day. After this, and before the Gospel, two or three bells were rung in the western belfry.

At the end of this Eucharist followed the services of Tierce (if not said already) the Sext and Nones. Then came dinner, except on fast days. An hour or more before evensong the Dean (or Canon in course) went to wash his hands in the lavatory. This was the signal for the third bellringer (who also held the office of candlelighter) to ring the first of the five peals, just as for matins.

These five-peals (so called) were rung at Lincoln thus: i., various; ii., two small bells; iii., two large bells; v., large and small together. After evensong had been concluded, two great bells sounded to Compline, or on minor

festivals first one great bell for a while, and then a small one.

At Lincoln there were lenten readings (during Lent) in the evenings, for which the signal was the chiming of a little bell, and after a pause a great bell. Then, at sunset in summer, and some time after dark in winter, the Curfew was rung. It was tolled on a great bell in the choir belfry or rood tower at Lincoln, or upon great festivals on all the bells, the Canons sending their men and a supply of drink, by way of assisting the regular ringers. This done, the three ringers-in-chief, who also held the respective offices of lay-sacrist, watchman and candlelighter, had to search the cathedral before locking it up to see all was right and well. After this, forty tolls or strokes on 'Our Lady's Bells' in the belfry, and they retired to their supper of bread and beer in a wooden structure by the north-east aisle. Then the lay-sacrist and candlelighters took their well-earned rest: but the night watchman had to keep awake, and it was suggested by the cathedral statutes that if he had skill enough he might call the hours of the night upon a flute until his duty ceased with waking the other two ringers that they might ring for the next day's (midnight) matins. Such is a rough sketch of the ringing of one day at a cathedral church.

It is recognised that every church should have at least one bell, and there are very few cases in England where this is not the case. The churches of Gunton, Norfolk, Steene, Northants, and Westley Waterless, Cambs, were reported to be without bells some years ago, and Frinton, Essex, was for a long time in like case. St. Enodoc, near Padstow, in Cornwall, which was only disinterred from the sand within the last century, has only a ship's bell. In Pembrokeshire, some of the smaller churches are without bells, as at Boulston and Ford.

In our rubrics and canons there are few directions as to the use of church bells. In the Prayer Book they are only mentioned in the rubric at the beginning of the book, which states: 'And the Curate that ministereth in any Parish Church or Chapel . . . shall cause a Bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before he begin [morning and evening prayer] that the people may come to hear God's Word and to pray with him.' There are several allusions in the canons of 1603. The 15th canon directs the litany to be said on Wednesday and Friday, and that warning shall be 'given to the people by the tolling of a bell.' The 67th orders the Passing Bell, and a peal at funerals, in these words: 'And when anyone is passing out of this life, a bell shall be tolled, and the minister shall not be slack to do his duty. And after the party's death, if it so fall out, there shall be rung no more than one short peal, and one other before the burial, and one other after the burial.'

The 38th canon forbids the superstitious ringing on unlawful festivals and other occasions; and similarly the 111th warns against 'untimely ringing.'

(To be continued.)

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT ROTHWELL.

A meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was held at Rothwell on September 29th and was attended by over 30 members from Armley, Batley, Burley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell and Woodlesford. Mr. Senior presided at the business meeting, at which one new member, Mrs. Dolphin, was elected. Several methods were rung before and after tea. The next meeting will be held at Liversedge on October 27th.

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.

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

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

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

KENT ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—Annual, Tonbridge, Saturday, Oct. 13th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45, Carlton Cafe.

KENT ASSN.—Canterbury District.—Annual, Canterbury, Saturday, Oct. 13th, 2.30. Service, St. Dunstan's, 4.15. St. Stephen's bells also.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Banstead, Saturday, Oct. 13th, 3 o'clock. Service 4.45. Tea 5.30.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Eastern District.—Pontefract, Saturday, Oct. 13th. St. Giles' bells (10) 3.30 p.m., All Saints' bells (8) 2 p.m. Service in St. Giles' 4.30. Tea in Church Hall, Ropergate, 5 p.m.—H. S. Morley.

SHROPSHIRE ASSN.—Wem (8), Saturday, Oct. 13th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 4 p.m.—E. D. Poole.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—South and West District.—Heston, Oct. 13th, 2 p.m. Tea and business in Church Room 5 p.m.—J. E. Lewis Cockey.

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Dartington (6), Saturday, Oct. 13th, 2.15 p.m. Totnes bells (8) 6.30 p.m. Tea at Clark's Temperance Hotel, Totnes, 5 p.m. Meeting afterwards.—A. L. Benhett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh (phone 3121).

HERTS ASSN.—Great Gaddesden, Oct. 13th.—W. Ayre.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Cavendish (6), Oct. 13th, 3 o'clock. Tea and business, Guest House, 1s. 3d. Pentlow (5) in evening. Bus and train from Sudbury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Northern District.—Oct. 13th, St. George's, Jesmond, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Bring food. Tea provided.—V. Stoker (Miss), Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Cowden (6), Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Gearing, High Street, Cowden.—C. A. Bassett.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Glaston Deanery.—Street (8), Saturday, Oct. 20th. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30 p.m., Star Restaurant. Notify by Tuesday, 16th.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dovecotes, Street, Somerset.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Hinchley District.—Thurlaston, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea and meeting 5.15; bring food.—W. A. Wood.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Earls Barton, Saturday, Oct. 20th. Names early to A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough.

ESSEX ASSN.—South-Eastern District.—Little Waltham, Oct. 20th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting after. Numbers by Oct. 17th.—H. W. Shadrack, 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

BEDFORD ASSN.—Luton District.—Totternhoe (6), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided if possible.—D. E. Lidbetter.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Practice, Broadclyst, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Tea 1s. 6d.—Fredk. C. Smale.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN.—St. Mellons (not Nash), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Meeting to follow.—F. J. Hannington.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Loughborough District.—Stanford-on-Soar, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea at 5 p.m. Bring food.—A. E. Rowley.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Wrangle, Oct. 20th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at Vicarage 5 p.m. Names by Monday, Oct. 15th. Bring sugar.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Southern Division.—Practice, Shoreham, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Oct. 17th to Mrs. E. L. Hairs, The Oaks, Theobalds Road, Burgess Hill.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Leicester District.—Countesthorpe (6), Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Tea (opposite church) 5 p.m. Names by Oct. 18th to H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Fylde Branch.—Kirkham (8) Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—J. H. Foster.

OXFORD GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Hinton Waldrist (6), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Names by Oct. 17th.—R. F. J. Gilling, Fernham, Faringdon.

ELY ASSN.—Wisbech Branch.—Watlington (6), Saturday, Oct. 20th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. (provided).—W. Buckingham.

HEREFORD GUILD.—Kington District.—Kington (6), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea and business 5.30. Names by Oct. 16th to J. Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Derby District.—Alfreton, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Oct. 17th to T. D. Hopson, 2, Grange Street, Alfreton.—Wm. Lancaster.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Taunton Branch.—Trull, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. A. Walker.

CHESTER GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Nantwich (8), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names by Oct. 16th to Mr. Rich. D. Langford, 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

HERTFORD ASSN.—St. Albans District.—Harpenden, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Tea at Blue Swallow Cafe 5 p.m. Names to R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Manchester Branch.—Ashton St. Peter's, Saturday, Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Business. No tea.—Frank Reynolds, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Horbling (6), Saturday, Oct. 20th, 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea at the Plough. Names by Oct. 17th to Mr. C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Sleaford.

COVENTRY GUILD.—Southam (8), Oct. 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., Craven Arms Hotel. Names by Oct. 17th.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. Phone Nuneaton 3296.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—Bournemouth, St. John's, Surrey Road, October 20th, 2.30. Tea, St. Peter's Hall, 5.30. Names by Oct. 17th. St. Peter's bells 6.30 p.m.—J. M. Turner, 55, Harland Road, Bournemouth.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — St. Michael's, Cornhill, Tuesday, Oct. 23rd, 7 p.m. Business meeting, Bell Foundry, E.1, Nov. 3rd, 3 p.m. Proposed alteration of rules and nomination of officers. 308th Anniversary Luncheon, Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1.30 p.m., at Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Tickets 5s. 6d. — A. B. Peck, Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN. — Ilchester Branch. — Norton-sub-Harndon, Saturday, Oct. 27th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. — F. Farrant, Martock.

KENT ASSN. — Maidstone District. — Annual, Wrotham, Saturday, Oct. 27th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business. Names to C. H. Sone, Linton, Maidstone.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN. — Cary Branch. — West Lydford (6), Saturday, Oct. 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Ditchat (8) after meeting. — H. C. Lintern.

KENT ASSN. — Lewisham District. — Dartford, Saturday, Oct. 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Names for tea to Mr. R. A. Jenkins, 76, Brent Lane, Dartford, by Oct. 23rd. — A. G. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere.

GUILDFORD GUILD. — Farnham District. — Seale (6), Saturday, Oct. 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in Jubilee Room. Names by Oct. 24th to E. Gardner, Ivy House, The Sands, near Farnham. — W. Viggers.

NORWICH ASSN. — North Norfolk Branch. — Hethersett (8), Saturday, Oct. 27th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m., at King's Head. Names by Oct. 24th. — H. Tooke, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

ESSEX ASSN. — Northern Division. — Sible Hedingham, Oct. 27th. Service 4 p.m. Tea. Names by Oct. 24th. Castle Hedingham during evening. — Hilda G. Snowden, 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

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BIRTH.

DARVILL. — Oct. 6th, at Oster House Hospital, St. Albans, to Kathleen, wife of Reginald W. Darvill, a son, Stephen Peter.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Penzance Branch of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at Helston on September 29th. There were about seventy ringers present from Gulval, Crowan, Ludgvan, St. Keverne, Phillack, Cury, Tuckingmill, Redruth, Camborne, Towednack, St. Breock and Dartmouth. The service was conducted by the branch secretary (the Rev. A. S. Roberts), and the Vicar of Helston, the Rev. A. D. Moon, gave the address. Miss Eileen Symons (branch chairman) presided over the business meeting, at which Ludgvan was chosen for the next meeting.

NEW DIOCESAN GUILD.

At a meeting held at St. Peter's, Carmarthen, on September 29th, it was decided to form a guild of the ringers of the diocese with the title of The St. David's Diocesan Guild of Bellringers. The Cathedral at St. David's is situated in a very inaccessible place, and although there is a ring of eight there it is not very suitable as a ringing centre. A quarter-peat of Grandsire Triples was, however, rung there on the following Sunday by the Tenby band and Mr. A. P. Cannon.

QUARTER PEALS.

TWINEHAM. — On September 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Packham, sen. 1, R. Simpson 2, Stella Wickens 3, C. Wickens (conductor) 4, C. Longhurst 5.

BRAMLEY, HANTS. — On September 23rd, 1,320 Bob Minor: F. Huggins 1, Miss J. Baby 2, Miss O. Osler 3, C. Urwin 4, W. Clift (conductor) 5, C. Herridge 6.

AVENING, GLOS. — On September 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Newman 1, S. C. Thain 2, C. Edmunds 3, R. J. Thain 4, G. Latham (conductor) 5, A. Hayes 6.

SOLIHULL. — On September 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Leeson 1, C. Dale 2, H. Bragg 3, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 4, H. Shepherd 5, F. S. Price 6, J. Bragg 7, V. W. Rigg 8.

DONCASTER. — On September 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. Stacey 1, E. Dalingwater 2, F. L. Harris 3, W. E. Critchley (conductor) 4, R. Thompson 5, J. McCluskey 6, H. Wagstaffe 7, J. Dawe 8.

BURTON HASTINGS, NUNEATON. — On Sunday, September 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Noon 1, Mrs. P. Billington 2, J. E. Moreton 3, F. Trotman (conductor) 4, L. Trevor 5.

BARWELL, LEICS. — On Sunday, September 23rd, 1,264 Bob Major: L. Kirkland 1, H. Knight 2, G. Charlton 3, W. Newton 4, W. Reynolds 5, F. Deacon 6, R. Belton (conductor) 7, K. Deacon 8.

CLEWER, BERKS. — On September 19th, 1,260 Minor, being 360 St. Clement's, 360 Single Oxford, 360 Reverse Canterbury and 180 Plain Bob: H. A. Posnett 1, R. C. Noon 2, W. Welling 3, F. H. Hicks 4, A. J. Glass 5, G. Gilbert (conductor) 6.

BURNHAM, BUCKS. — On Sunday, September 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Vida Simpson 1, Valerie Crouch 2, Mary Pemberton 3, H. Worsfold 4, Freda Murkitt 5, Joyce Hearn 6, R. C. Noon (conductor) 7, Jean M. Broomfield 8.

HALESOWEN. — On September 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Timmins 1, G. H. Williams 2, J. H. Cox (conductor) 3, A. Greenhall 4, W. H. Webb 5, J. Eaton 6, T. Greenhall 7, A. H. Harris 8.

BISHOP'S CLEEVE. — On September 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Peter E. Baker 1, Charles Rouse 2, Michael B. Clifford (conductor) 3, Leslie E. Aston 4, Wilfred G. Foley 5, Ernest Richings 6.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCS. — On September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Muriel Willetts 1, F. Lawrence 2, E. Maund 3, C. Camm (conductor) 4, H. Willetts 5, H. Price 6, A. Griffin 7, H. Bishop 8.

HOLLOWAY. — On September 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Hawkins 1, R. Charge 2, T. Bevan 3, R. Begrie 4, E. Pratchett 5, G. Charge 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, A. Warren 8. — On September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Charge 1, E. Prior 2, R. Newman 3, E. Pratchett 4, R. Begrie 5, G. Charge 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, A. Joyce 8.

OODSALL, STAFFS. — On September 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. G. Richards 1, S. Griffiths 2, T. Reynolds 3, H. Richards 4, H. Richards 5, T. Adey 6, A. D. Collins (conductor) 7, J. Turner 8. With 4.6.8 covering.

LEYTONSTONE. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: F. Newman, F. W. Housden, A. W. Brighton, Mrs. F. W. Housden, A. Prior, J. Phillips, G. Dawson, E. D. Smith (conductor).

MAIDS MORETON, BUCKS. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. W. Vickers 1, F. Townsend 2, H. Jones 3, E. Nicholls 4, F. Vickers (conductor) 5, H. Stopp 6.

PORTSMOUTH. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. H. Hunt 1, L. P. Cook 2, W. A. Theobald 3, R. E. Turner 4, J. D. Harris 5, E. A. Jurd 6, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 7, H. A. Nobes 8.

STROUD, GLOS. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. C. Thain 1, G. Latham 2, S. T. Price 3, T. C. Witts (conductor) 4, T. Pritchard 5, R. J. Thain 6, W. Dean 7, R. Sharpe 8.

BATH. — On September 30th, at St. Michael's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. J. T. Shellock 1, A. E. Baverstock 2, W. J. Prescott 3, Mrs. D. Evans 4, T. F. King 5, H. Andrews 6, G. Hawkins (conductor) 7, H. Merrett 8.

CROYDON. — On Sunday, September 2nd, at St. John's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. O. Collins 1, E. Razzell 2, C. Potheary 3, R. Davies 4, F. E. Mitchell 5, G. H. Humphries 6, F. E. Collins (conductor) 7, D. Cooper 8. — On Sunday, October 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Watts 1, E. Razzell 2, C. Parks 3, R. Davies (conductor) 4, F. E. Mitchell 5, H. G. Pratt 6, G. H. Humphries 7, D. Cooper 8.

ST. DAVIDS, SOUTH WALES. — On Sunday, September 30th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Thomas 1, I. Jenkins 2, J. Evans 3, K. Johns 4, T. Griffiths 5, Cpl. T. Yeomans 6, Sgt. A. P. Cannon (conductor) 7, H. Jenkins 8.

ASHFORD, KENT. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples, half-muffled: Mrs. T. Oullingworth 1, Percy Page 2, T. Cullingworth 3, Mark Lancefield 4, W. A. Oldfield 5, H. G. Keeley 6, C. W. Everett (conductor) 7, Dan Godden 8.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKS. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Wilks 1, D. O. Wilks (conductor) 2, J. Honey 3, F. Messenger 4, W. Cudd 5, J. Wilks 6.

LECHLADE, GLOS. — On Sunday, September 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Pudwell 1, L. Cuss 2, W. C. Cuss (conductor) 3, E. Telling 4, G. J. Winter 5, A. J. King 6. Also 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Pudwell 1, T. Lappington 2, G. J. Winter (conductor) 3, A. J. King 4, P. Kirby 5, W. Sparkes 6.

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