



No. 1,647. Vol. XXXVII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16th, 1942.

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

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**SPORT AND CHURCH WORK.**

When, a short while since, we said that for the great majority of ringers it is natural and right that ringing as a sport should come before ringing as church work, we fully expected to receive some protests, and we realised that a certain amount of explanation would be due to our readers. The question is one which has been raised, in one form or another, several times lately, and it calls for some clear thinking and plain speaking. We will try to put the matter as simply and as clearly as possible.

The first great truth is this. The bells in our steeples are there to minister to the glory of God and the service of His Church. No use of them can be justified which does not ultimately serve those ends.

The second great truth is that change ringing is a sport; a first class and most fascinating sport, and one which is second to no other sport. Change ringing was invented as a sport, has lived through the centuries as a sport, and, except as a sport, has no chance of survival. Any reader who prefers it can substitute the word 'recreation' for the word 'sport,' but it is better to use the term which expresses the reality in the directest and starkest manner.

The third truth is that the furtherance of the glory of God, and the service of the Church will best be served by ringers continuing to do, what as a body they always have done—treating and enjoying change ringing, as a sport.

This is not a contradiction, nor a paradox, nor the sacrificing of higher ideals to lower. It is an expression of a profound and important truth. It is one of the conditions under which God gives gifts to men, that the gift must be loved and followed for its own sake, before it can be made worthy to be used in His service. The musician, whether he be composer, organist, or singer, who would add to the beauty of divine worship, must first love music for the sake of music and enjoy its practice for itself. Nor must he ever lose the love of music for the sake of music. What would a choirmaster think of the man who came to him and said, 'I have no interest in music as music, but I do wish to serve the Church, and I am quite willing to come and sing in your choir'? Yet this, we are told by a correspondent on another page, is the way the great majority of ringers look on their ringing. We do not believe it. If it ever became the general opinion, the result would be a plentiful supply of prigs and a great dearth of good ringers.

(Continued on page 466.)

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The Exercise is unique in several ways, and notably in this, that it has a sport or recreation which can supply to the limits all the interests and all the relaxation from the dull worries of life which is the proper use of a recreation; it can be a mental and intellectual stimulus, and, unlike any other sport, it can be brought as a gift to the service of the Church. It takes a place here, humble perhaps but still definite, alongside the great activities of the human mind, music and painting, sculpture and architecture.

This is a great privilege and it entails great responsibilities, but we are not now considering them. The point is that only those men who love and follow change ringing for its own sake can ever be sufficiently good ringers to make what they do really worthy of the service of the Church. That is a truth which finds ample confirmation in the experience of most of us. Change ringing can be, and should be, church work, but it must first be a sport, and it must not cease to be a sport.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

COVENTRY.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

*On Sunday, October 4, 1942, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,*

AT 117, WIDDRINGTON ROAD,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5087 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

FRANK E. PERVIN ... .. 1-2	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... .. 5-6
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 3-4	ALFRED BALLARD... .. 7-8
FRANK K. MEASURES ... .. 9-10	

Composed by J. GROVES.

Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.

Witness—E. Stone.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT TONBRIDGE.

At the annual meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association, held at Tonbridge on October 10th, members were present from Leigh, Penshurst, Tunbridge Wells, East Peckham, Sevenoaks, Sundridge, Shipbourne and the local band, with Mr. T. E. Sone, Paddock Wood.

The association service was conducted in church by the Rev. F. Child, who gave a very interesting address. Tea was served at the Carlton Cafe, and the business meeting followed with Mr. F. White in the chair.

The accounts for the year were presented by the secretary, Mr. T. Saunders, and showed a balance in hand of £5. On the proposition of Mr. B. Collison, seconded by Mr. A. Ford, the officers were all re-elected, except that Miss B. Richardson, of Sundridge, took the place of Mr. J. Medhurst, who wished to retire owing to Home Guard duties. Tunbridge Wells was selected for the next meeting, to take place on the second Saturday in December.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist and chairman brought the meeting to a close. Handbells were made good use of both before and after the meeting.

## STAFFORD ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY.

MEETING AT CANNOCK.

The autumn meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Cannock on Saturday, October 3rd, and though the attendance was a small one, those present had a pleasant afternoon. Corpl. N. Elliott, R.A.F., of Crawley, was a welcome visitor. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. W. Walker, of Walsall; C. Wallater, Willenhall; H. Griffiths and W. Lawley, St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; and F. Colclough, Bilston.

Handbells were made good use of up to the service, at which the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Foster) delivered a helpful address. Cups of tea were provided by the Vicar in the Parish Hall, and afterwards he generously handed round some cigars, much to the surprise and delight of the recipients.

Further handbell ringing took place, in which two members of the local band had their first attempt to ring a pair to Grandsire Triples.

The next meeting was provisionally fixed to take place at Tettenhall in the spring.

**IMPERIAL PLACE MAJOR.**

Sept. 12th was the 140th anniversary of the first peal of Imperial Place Major, which was rung by the Society of Cumberland Youths at St. Mary's, Islington.

- 12345678
- 21354768
- 23157486
- 32517846
- 35271864
- 57382614
- 75836241
- 78563421
- 87654312
- 86745132
- 68471532
- 64817523
- 46187253
- 41682735
- 14628375

14263857

The peal was composed and conducted by William Shipway, who tells us that the method was matured and brought forward by him in the year 1800. It was a rather ingenious attempt to introduce a new system into ringing which should be as distinctive and as simple as Plain Bob and Treble Bob.

All the bells plain hunt and there is never any dodging, but as each bell hunting down meets the treble it makes a place—either at hand-stroke or at back-stroke as the case may be. And directly a bell, hunting up, has passed the treble, it makes a place. Below the treble all the work is ordinary forward plain hunting, above the treble it is backward plain hunting.

The method has one serious and fatal defect; the bell that the treble turns from the back, and the bell that turns the treble from the back, has each to strike three consecutive blows behind. This is a breach of the recognised rule, and it has the effect (which is perhaps worse still) that the tenors strike 8-7 at back-stroke.

Shipway and the Cumberlands had already rung on February 17th, 1801, at Hackney, a peal of Triples, and as the peal book states 'the Society to commemorate the Union of Great Britain and Ireland entitled it Cumberland Imperial Place Triples.' Later on, in November, 1802, they rang at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, a peal of Place Caters.

Shipway was rather proud of the method, and in his book gives the single, reverse and double variations on all numbers from four to twelve, but the Exercise did not take kindly to it, and so far as we know no other peal of it has been rung. It would be rather interesting if one of our clever present-day handbell bands were to ring a touch (not a peal) of it (preferably the double variation) and tell us what they think of it.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

**MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.**

The Rector of St. Francis Xavier, Liverpool, entertained members of the Lancashire Association to tea on Saturday, October 10th, and extended to them a cordial welcome. He was unable to stay to the meeting, which was presided over by Mr. T. R. Butler. Apologies were received from the Rev. D. P. Roberts and Mr. H. Hancock, who were unable to attend, and a vote of thanks was passed to Father Dukes and his brother clergy for their hospitality and kindness.

The new Rector of Liverpool, the Rev. R. A. Reeves, having expressed a desire to meet the members at an early date, it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Nicholas' on October 24th.

**THE UNIVERSITY SOCIETIES' JOINT PEALS**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. R. D. St. J. Smith's letter, the ruling of the Central Council on the matter is quite clear—'It is desirable, when a band of ringers belonging to more than one association meet to ring a peal, that they should decide beforehand to which association such peal shall be credited, and that for the future no peal shall be published under the name of more than one association.'

This rule was passed in 1893 and has generally been observed in the Exercise. 'A MEMBER.'

**THE SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I feel sure had no mention been made of the forthcoming two hundredth anniversary nothing whatever would have been heard about the word Royal. As it was, Mr. 'X' came along and told the society they would do well to drop it, at the same time telling us it had been in existence for 50 years or so. I replied that if that was the case the Cumberlands would do well to carry on with it for another 50.

Now in last week's 'Ringing World' a Mr. 'Y.Z.' comes along and tells me I seem to have overlooked the real objection to this word Royal, he himself saying 'if there is any objection at all.' I agree with him. I don't see any myself. I don't know what they had on their minds 50 years ago, as I am a present-day member of nearly 40 years' membership, but I do know there has been but very little said about it during this time. Surely if there had been any regrettable use of the word some high authority would have had something to say long before this.

Well, Mr. 'Y.Z.', I expect most of us know that the word Royal is a privilege used by the King, but, 'Y.Z.', you tell us the Cumberlands have not offended in this matter, as they do not call themselves a Royal society, but the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths which is in order. Then why worry? I must say that I am most grateful to you for this latter piece of information.

In conclusion, as I seem to have read between the lines of both Mr. 'X's' and 'Y.Z.'s' letters a tone of friendliness, I am extending the same to both from myself.

G. RADLEY.

18, Maurs Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon.

**DEATH OF MR. CHARLES PAINTER.**

The death is announced of Mr. C. Painter, of Ringmer, Sussex, who passed away at the age of 71 after a short illness and operation.

Born at Warbleton, he came to Ringmer at the age of 13, working with his father as a blacksmith and later carrying on the business himself. Mr. Painter taught himself to handle a bell, later becoming captain, and at the time of his death secretary to the local band. For more than 50 years he was a ringer, and had rung peals at many of the churches in Sussex, his first being at Ringmer in 1888. During the time the Rev. C. D. P. Davies was curate at Ringmer Mr. Painter worked with him in the interests of ringing in the district. Besides these activities, he was at one time organist and choirmaster.

The funeral took place on September 17th, the Rev. Jeremy Victor officiating. Mr. Painter's eight children, all of whom are married, were the chief mourners. The coffin was followed by four of the Ringmer ringers, Messrs. A. Carpenter, G. S. Wiggins, J. Geall and E. Geall, others on active service being unable to attend.

**DEATH OF MR. JOHN BUTLER.**

The death is announced of Mr. John Butler, who passed away on September 20th at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Stanley, Royston Road, Bideford.

Mr. Butler, who was 91 years of age, was one of the oldest members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, and held the office of Master in 1907. He was a native of Halse, Somerset, and began to ring when he was about 12 years old. His first peal was on October 20th, 1894, at Llandaff Cathedral. He rang in the first peal on the old eight at St. Woolos', Newport, on November 12th, 1895, conducted by Mr. R. T. Hibbert, and since then had taken part in several peals of Triples and Caters.

Mr. Butler was a faithful member of the St. Woolos' band and was regular at practices and Sunday evening service ringing.

**A BASINGSTOKE REUNION.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—On Sunday, October 4th, four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths spent a pleasant hour together, viz., Grenadier Guardsman F. Munday, Pilot Officer R. Kingham (just returned from South Africa), Pte. C. J. Munday, R.A.O.C., and Sergt.-Major W. Hibbert, H.G. An adjournment was made to the residence of Mr. W. Hibbert, where with the assistance of Miss Joyce Cottrell several touches of Stedman Caters were rung on handbells, and time passed very pleasantly but too quickly in talk and joke, and what we are going to do in the future when we get out of these uniforms is without doubt a very big programme. Flight-Sergt. Nash (now in Kenya) and Corpl. E. Gower, R.E., were by no means forgotten, and we all hope the time will soon come when we shall all meet at least once a week to keep things going.

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## FABIAN STEDMAN AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES.

(Being part of the third chapter of J. A. Trollope's unpublished 'History of London Ringing.')

It was during the seventeenth century, and especially during the second half of it, that the art of change ringing was developed and given those characteristics which it has never since lost. The process was a slow and gradual one and many men in many places took part in it, but among them all only one was fortunate enough to be remembered by succeeding generations of ringers. That was Fabian Stedman, and his fate has been, not merely to be recognised as one of the earliest and most important composers, but to be treated as if he, in his own person, comprised the sum total of all the men who, through the century, had built up and developed the art and science. He has been called the earliest ringer of any account, the Father of Change Ringing, and the real inventor of the art.

The impression made by the man on his contemporaries must have been a profound one for such a thing to be possible, but the real truth is that, while Stedman was a great ringer and thoroughly deserved to be remembered for what he did, he was in no sense the inventor of change ringing, and among the composers of the second generation his position is not so much one of outstanding pre-eminence as of primacy among a select number of men who were very little inferior to himself.

Very few details of Fabian Stedman's life and career have been preserved. In the generation after his death the Norwich Scholars thought 'he was Master of a College in the University and a learned Mathematician.' When Osborn was writing an account of seventeenth century ringing as it was known in his time, he took some trouble to find out what he could about Stedman, but, beyond the general tradition that among ringers in his day he had no superior, he could discover nothing. A few facts have since come to light, and it is now possible to put together something of a story, but the 'Campanalogia,' impersonal though it be, is the best means for judging what manner of man he was.

According to tradition, Fabian Stedman was born in Cambridge, and though up to the present his name has not been found in any of the parish registers, it well may have been so. The name, though not very common, is not particularly rare. From its etymology (it means a farmer) we should expect it to be much more common in country districts, in older times, than in the larger towns, and we should expect it to be borne by many people who were not related in blood. A Walter Stedman was living at Haslingfield, a village about five miles from Cambridge, before 1563, as in that year the bishop's court granted letters of administration of his estate, and it appears that his family were living in the same place down to the time of Fabian.

On April 14th, 1629, John Stedman married at Holy Trinity Church in Cambridge, Mabel Middleton. John was a townsman of some position and in 1649 he served in the office of churchwarden. There is nothing to connect him with Fabian, but he quite well may have been the latter's father.

Fabian Stedman is usually said to have been born in 1631, and it was in 1931 that the tercentenary of his birth was celebrated. The date depends entirely on the statement made to Shipway by John Alfred Parnell, but

Parnell wrote nearly two hundred years after the event at a time when probably less was known about the history of the Exercise than at any period since the beginning of ringing, and though probably there was some truth in the tradition, the dates are unreliable. Stedman, he said, was born in 1631; he met the College Youths in the summer of 1657, when they were on a visit to Cambridge, and presented them with his 'Principle'; and he published the 'Campanalogia' in 1669.

Now two of these dates are demonstrably wrong. The 'Campanalogia' was published in 1677, and the 'Tintinnalogia' in 1668. Stedman's 'Principle' could not have been composed so early as 1657, as it does not appear in the 'Tintinnalogia,' and most certainly belongs to a later stage in the development of ringing.

Two of the dates being wrong, a good deal of doubt is thrown on the third, and when we take into consideration all the known facts of Stedman's life, we shall come to the conclusion that he was born about 1640 or 1641. Some day, perhaps, the record of his birth will be found in some parish register, and then we shall have the key to several problems of seventeenth century ringing which at present remain obscure.

Whoever Stedman's father was, or whatever was the date of his birth, he quite evidently came of a middle class family, and he received a good education—good, that is, for one not intended for one of the learned professions. After leaving school he was apprenticed to a printer. If he remained in Cambridge it must have been to John Field, at the time printer to the University, who was also Printer to the Parliament of England, and 'One of his Highness's (i.e., Cromwell's) Printers.' But in those days printing was a monopoly of the Stationers' Company, the only printers allowed outside London being those at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and so it is likely that Stedman was sent up to town to be apprenticed, and it may be to W. Godbid in Saint Dunstan's Churchyard in Fleet Street, the man who afterwards printed both the 'Tintinnalogia' and the 'Campanalogia.'

Whether Stedman had learnt to ring as a boy at Cambridge we do not know, but in London he practised the art, and while still an apprentice he joined the Scholars of Cheapside. That company had lost most of its old dignity and importance, and was now on the point of dissolution. In its last year, 1662, Stedman filled the office of treasurer. It was an office which did not exist in the early days of the society, and its holder was a sort of junior steward whose duty probably was to collect steepleage and such like dues.

When the society broke up, John Jenkins, the musical composer, who had been one of the wardens, joined the College Youths, but Fabian Stedman, who, of course, was then a much less important person, had to wait for two years before he was admitted to that exclusive body. That he was admitted at all is proof that already he was beginning to be known as a skilful ringer, and also as a desirable man personally.

In the College Youths' name book he is described as of Cambridge. The present list is a copy made about 1750, and how far it is an exact copy of the original manuscript cannot be said. In some cases titles have been given to members' names which they did not bear when they joined the society, and in this case the word Cambridge may have been a later addition.

However, some time after his seven years' apprentice-

ship was up, but probably not until after 1664, Stedman returned to Cambridge. The occasion may have been the plague of 1665, which devastated London and caused all who could to leave the stricken city. Stedman never forgot that he was a member of the premier ringing society; he kept in touch with his old associates; and twelve years later, when he was writing the 'Campanalogia,' he seems to have looked on himself not as a Cambridge ringer, but as a London ringer who happened to be living in Cambridge. The peals Samuel Scattergood and others composed were 'Cambridge peals,' but the peals Fabian Stedman composed were 'London peals,' though they were worked out not many yards from the banks of the Cam.

On their side the College Youths, though for the most part they were greatly his superiors socially, regarded him with affection and esteem; and there is little wonder that he longed to be back among them, and took the first opportunity that offered itself.

From the earliest times Cambridge had been a home of change ringing. It shares with Oxford and London the distinction of being the places at which we know the art was developed, and the men who invented and first practised it were probably to be found among the students at the two Universities and the Inns of Court. Compared with Oxford, Cambridge never had many bells. Great St. Mary's for long had been the principal church, and the place where most of the ringing was done. In 1478 the present building was begun on the site of an older church, and finished in 1519; but the tower was not completed until 1608. In 1595 there were four bells, which were increased to five in 1611, and to eight in 1667, the year in which the 'Tintinnalogia' was written. Holy Trinity had four pre-Reformation bells,

St. Andrew's had five, St. Edward-the-Confessor's were made six in 1669, and St. Benedict's had a mixed lot which were increased from five to six in 1663.

St. Benet's is the church which traditionally is most associated with Fabian Stedman. It was there that, according to Parnell, the College Youths first rang the Principle, and the tale is likely enough except for the date. It would have been easy for the figures to have got somewhat mixed in the course of a century and a half, and perhaps the true explanation of the matter is that the Principle was rung in 1675, not in 1657. An older authority than Parnell gives the date as March 30th, 1671. Either 1675 or 1671 is much more likely to be correct than 1657, and cannot be far from the truth.

It was at St. Benet's that the memorial to Stedman was erected in 1931, but we should probably be wrong if we supposed that as a ringer he was more connected with that tower than any other in the town. It was contrary to the custom of the time for any band to confine themselves to one belfry if there were others within easy reach. At Cambridge no doubt there were town ringers who did the paid ringing at all five towers, and there were University ringers, who rang entirely for sport, and among them Stedman, a member of the Society of College Youths, would find a ready welcome.

Stedman still practised the profession of a printer, and therefore must have been employed by John Field, for the University press was the only one in the town. He is said to have been Parish Clerk at St. Benet's, but the statement has no further authority than a passage in C. H. Cooper's 'Memorials of Cambridge,' published in 1880, and seems to be no more than a muddled reference to Ellacombe's writings.

(To be continued.)

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### BELFRY GOSSIP.

The second peal of London Surprise Major ever accomplished was rung at Woolwich on October 11th, 1849.

The first clerical ten-bell peal, one of Stedman Caters, was rung by ten parsons at St. Mary's, Warwick, on October 11th, 1910. C. D. P. Davies conducted.

William Pye called the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major by the Middlesex Association in the four standard methods at Willesden on October 11th, 1927.

George Partrick called Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples with a band of Cumberland Youths at Shoreditch on October 12th, 1754. This is usually said to be the first time the composition was rung, but that perhaps is doubtful.

Bertram Prewett was born on October 12th, 1878.

The first peal of Rutland Surprise Major was rung at Bolsover on October 13th, 1923, by the Midland Counties Association, conducted by John Flint.

William Hudson, of Sheffield, whose name is so well known in connection with peals of Stedman Triples, was born on October 14th, 1791. He died on October 24th, 1851.

The first peal of Marlborough Bob Major was rung at Willesden on October 14th, 1924. It is one of the very best plain Major methods possible.

John Martin, of Leicester, a composer of peals of Grandsire Caters, died on October 16th, 1799.

On the same date in 1883, John Carter called, at Birmingham, 10,176 changes of Grandsire Major on handbells. It was the longest length then rung in hand and was beaten by 11,200 changes of Bob Major rung at Norwich in 1894, conducted by Mr. Charles E. Borrett.

The first peal of Original Triples was rung at Bushey, Herts, on October 16th, 1926.

The College Youths rang 10,188 changes of Grandsire Caters at West Ham on October 17th, 1762, and on the same date in 1938 the first peal of Gippeswyck Surprise Major was rung at Helmingham.

Fifty years ago yesterday seven peals were rung. They were Bob Triples 1, Stedman Triples 3, Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 1, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 1.

The Stedman Caters was on the now destroyed ring of ten at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, and was the first in the method in Devonshire.

### COVENTRY CATHEDRAL.

THE PEAL BOARDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The facts about the Coventry Cathedral peal boards are as follows. There are six peal boards hung on the interior walls of the tower. During the fire which destroyed the nave and choir in November, 1940, four of these peal boards were scorched and blistered by the extreme heat, but the inscriptions remained legible. Two were badly charred by a fire from burning curtains near them and the writing was obliterated. Under the open tower the boards are safe from the weather and have not deteriorated in the slightest: it is probably as good a place as any for them.

It is true that in the confusion which has followed the raid the tower was the only dry place in which to store the bags of cement being used for the repair of the crypt chapel—our only surviving place of worship, and that some bags accidentally got laid against the bottom of the two boards whose writing was obliterated. No further harm was done even to these.

The peal boards will continue to receive the care that we take of all our treasures, and if we think that they will fare better stored elsewhere, which is doubtful, we shall remove them.

Would it not have been better if Mr. Hunt, instead of publicly making extraordinary accusations against the Cathedral authorities, had first expressed his concern privately to me? It would have been more in keeping with the courtesy which I have always received from my friends, the bellringers.

R. T. HOWARD, Provost of Coventry.

October 6th, 1942.

### THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

There was an interesting innovation at the meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths last Saturday. Mr. James E. Davis had had the clappers removed from the bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, and members had the opportunity, both before and after the meeting at the bell foundry, of finding out how much they remembered of the art of change ringing. Courses of London, Cambridge and Double Norwich were rung.

The members present at Whitechapel were the Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn), secretary (Mr. A. B. Peck), treasurer (Mr. A. A. Hughes), Messrs. R. F. Deal, E. Hartley, H. Hoskins, G. M. Kilby, C. C. Mayne, C. M. Meyer, H. G. Miles, W. H. Pasmore, G. N. Price, R. Stannard, J. A. Trollope and H. W. Kirton, of Writtle, Essex.

Welcome visitors were Messrs. G. W. Steere (hon. secretary, Royal Cumberland Youths), C. T. Cotes (general secretary, Middlesex Association), E. Smith (Leytonstone), A. J. Pitman (Bromley) and Mrs. J. E. Davis and Mrs. A. J. Pitman. An apology for absence was received from Mr. E. A. Young, who was engaged on business at St. Clement Danes'.

**THE LATE WILLIAM J. NEVARD.****A FINE RINGING CAREER.**

Through the courtesy of Mr. Leslie Wright we are enabled to give some particulars of the ringing career of the late W. J. Nevard, who, as reported in our columns, passed away on August 29th at the age of 86.

William J. Nevard was born at Langham on February 8th, 1856. As a young man he lived at Great Horkesley and worked for several firms in his trade as an agricultural engineer. In 1880 he started in business for himself at Great Bentley as a threshing machine proprietor, and lived there until 1941, when his house was destroyed by fire. Afterwards until his death he lived at Thorington with his daughter, Mrs. Evans.

He rang his first 720, one of Bob Minor, at Great Bentley, on January 11th, 1882, and his first peal at Long Melford on his 29th birthday, February 7th, 1885. The method was Bob Major and it was rung for the Society of Cumberland Youths.

When he went to Great Bentley there were five bells in the steeple in very bad order. He rehung them himself, and largely through his exertions a treble was added. On August 2nd, 1890, there were rung on the bells two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, two of Kent, one of Court Bob and one of Plain Bob, besides various touches. In 1898 when the ring was increased to the full octave Mr. Nevard helped the late Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, to do the work.

Other peals he rehung were Lawford, All Saints', Colchester, and Thorington.

In 1938 Great Bentley bells were tuned and rehung with all new fittings at Mr. Nevard's expense. It is a matter for regret that he was not able to ring a peal on them afterwards.

In his prime Mr. Nevard was a very powerful man and was never afraid of tackling a bad going bell. In 1888 he rang the tenor to the first peal on Coggeshall bells, one of Kent Treble Bob Major. The local men had made a bet of £5 to £1 that no man could turn the bell in to a five-thousand, but Nevard did it, though he owned it wanted some doing. At the finish he had 17 blisters on one hand and 16 on the other.

Mr. Nevard travelled about a good deal in pursuit of ringing. He rang in every cathedral in England where the bells are ringable, and scored a peal in every county. On 22 occasions he took part in two peals in the same day, and once he rang three peals in a day.

His total number of peals was 460, made up of: Superlative Surprise Major 114, Cambridge 48, New Cambridge 3, London 34, Norfolk 1, Bristol 6, Oxford Treble Bob Major 25, Kent 42, Bob Major 19, Double Norwich Court Bob 72, Stedman Triples 33, Grand sire 11, Stedman Caters 11, Grand sire Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 6, Oxford 1, Bob Royal 1, Kent Treble Bob Maximus 1, Minor 29, and Doubles 1. He also rang one peal of Major on handbells.

His longest peal was 7,040 Kent Treble Bob Major at Walter Belchamp on June 27th, 1896. His other performances included peals in Scotland, Ireland and Wales, the first of London Surprise outside England, and the first of Superlative in Scotland. He rang in 811 towers.

Mr. Nevard was District Master of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association and churchwarden at Great Bentley for 50 years.

**THE SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**

When the new company was formed at Shoreditch on September 6th, 1747, by George Partrick, William Thornton, and sixteen others, it called itself the Society of Cumberland Youths and that remained its name for many years.

How soon the word 'Royal' was added is a little uncertain, but it was in use as early as 1881. It is said to have been adopted through the influence of a man named Thomas, who was strongly supported by Henry Dains. Both were prominent men in the society during the seventies and eighties of the last century. The addition was probably a sort of counterblast to the use of the word 'Ancient' by the rival society. At the time of Queen Victoria's first Jubilee, Thomas tried to obtain official recognition of the title, but it was refused. Some light might perhaps be thrown on these things by a search through the society's minute books, if they still exist.

Henry S. Thomas was a Battersea man who held an important position in the well-known publishing firm of Ward, Lock and Co. as head of the sales department. For many years he was in charge of the belfry at Battersea under Canon Erskine Clarke, the founder of 'Church Bells.' He had no great pretensions to be a ringer, but he took part in something over twenty peals of Grand sire Triples and Caters, one of them being the first 'Henry' peal, which was rung half-muffled at Battersea on the day Henry Haley was buried.

In Queen Victoria's time there was much laxity in the use of royal emblems and insignia by ordinary people. Many firms used the royal coat of arms, and the royal standard was flown by all and sundry side by side with the union jack and the red and white ensigns. Edward the Seventh was very sensitive about such matters, and when he came to the throne the regulations were much tightened up. The public were given to understand that the royal standard was his personal flag and must never be flown except when he was himself present: and in a similar way he did what he could to stop people using the word 'royal' without his permission.

**SPORT AND CHURCH WORK.****A PROTEST.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am surprised that up to now your leading article of September 25th has not provoked protest.

The body of the Exercise does not look upon ringing as a sport. The great majority of change ringers look upon ringing as an interesting art, their talent for which they devote to the service of their parish church and they have little further use for the art than that.

There are, of course, a number of ringers who do look upon ringing as a sport and I am not decrying them, as if one takes a broad view they are extremely useful to the art and to the body of the Exercise. The rank and file as a class, however, have little or no interest in change ringing merely as change ringing and would not pursue ringing as a mere secular hobby, which is perhaps a better description than sport.

G. L. GROVER.

East Clandon, near Guildford.

**PUTTING THE CLOCK BACK.**

Sir,—Writing is more difficult to me than ringing, so I have hoped that a more expert hand than mine would deal with your leading article of September 25th on 'Sport and Church Work.' I consider that the tone of that article puts the clock back 60 years. When in 1879 we, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, were fortunate in the appointment of a total abstinence Vicar, he found that the belfry was conducted on 'sporting' lines. I think the men received a small payment for ringing, which they 'melted' at the earliest open 'pub,' leaving the belfry as soon as they finished ringing. The Vicar dispensed with their services and gathered together a few young men from the Sunday School and congregation, who, with the excellent tuition of the late Mr. Francis Lees, soon could manage the six bells in various methods.

We ultimately by means of concerts and our own contributions purchased two trebles and went on to ring Stedman and other methods up to London Surprise. Had that belfry remained on the 'sporting' lines where would it have been to-day?

Surely the formation of all our diocesan ringing associations was with the distinct object of enforcing the fact that the belfry was as sacred a part of the church as the chancel or any part of the church and that the service performed in the belfry was a distinct introductory part of the service.

If you will refer to the reports of the various associations you will find their primary object was on the above lines.

The Bishop's address on the dedication of new bells most emphatically declares the sacredness of their purpose and the devotion necessary in those who ring them.

Although I have rung about 300 peals I would much rather prefer to see my belfry top in the quality and regularity of the Sunday ringing, and in the attendance of the ringers at the remainder of the service.

WILLIAM STORY.

2, Graingerville North, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 4.

**EXETER CATHEDRAL BELLS.****THE FIRST CHANGE RINGING.**

Last Sunday was the fiftieth anniversary of the first change ringing on the heavy ring at Exeter Cathedral. It was during a tour in Devon by a mixed band made up of famous ringers. The bells had not then been restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. and the go was very bad. The following is the account of the ringing taken from 'The Bell News'—

'The bells were raised, the front six in peal, ten or a dozen being required for the job, and a few rounds rung on the ten, when someone suggested a course of Caters, no such thing ever having been rung by any men, the bad go of the bells and the weight of metal, tenor 67 cwt., being supposed to militate against it.

'Though sixteen men are accustomed to ring the ten, the visitors stuck to nine changing bells single handed, allowing only four to the tenor. Marvellous to relate, the course was rung, and well rung too, as testified by those outside. On this historic occasion, the first touch ever brought round on the ten bells, we may be permitted to append the names of the gallant band: H. G. Fruin 1, J. W. Taylor 2, E. A. Pitstow 3, N. J. Pitstow 4, Rev. F. E. Robinson 5, W. W. Gifford 6, F. Shepherd 7, Rev. G. F. Coleridge 8, J. W. Washbrook 9, Rev. W. S. Willett, E. Shepherd, B. Mundy and J. W. Carnell 10.'

Of this band Canon Coleridge is the sole survivor.

The bells were restored and rehung, and the tenor recast in 1902. On October 6th in that year the first peal, one of Grand sire Caters, was rung on them. Mr. George Williams conducted from the treble, Canon Coleridge rang the 72 cwt. tenor with the help of Ferris Shepherd, and included in the band were Messrs. A. W. Brighton (4), C. R. Lilley (6) and R. T. Hibbert (9). Two men who were in the first touch, F. E. Robinson and W. W. Gifford, rang the fifth and eighth.

**EASTCOTE.**—On September 23rd, at Bell Haven, Acacia Avenue, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor: G. M. Kilby 1-2, Corpl. K. Arthur, R.A.F. (conductor) 3-4, Corpl. E. Coward, R.A.F. 5-6.

## RINGERS' JUGS AND PITCHERS.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 460.)

Perhaps the most interesting leather Jack belonging to ringers is the one at Stafford, and preserved in the church there. It is 19½ inches high and has a girth of 31 inches. Its capacity is 27 pints and it is inscribed (on handle):

'Edward Baret and Ralph Burton made mee 1750.'  
(under spout): 'Joseph Dickinson  
Rector N. Griffin  
P. Church Warden

Bell  
ringers  
'of the  
P. Church  
of the Blessed  
Virgin  
Mary

Ringers 1750.'

?Names illegible, but cut in the side quite clearly are the names of a subsequent set of ringers:—

'T. Wood  
W. Finlow  
T. Lithgo  
T. Kenderdine  
W. Tildersley  
J. Hubbard  
J. Goodwin  
T. Tildersley  
Ringers  
††††† 1798.'

In Norfolk and Suffolk we find a number of places still retain their old-time ringers' pitcher. An early example is that at Garboldisham, Norfolk, which dates from 1703 and holds 16 quarts. It is of brown glazed earthenware with two ears, and is supposed to have been made at Wattisfield. It is thus inscribed:—

'Come jolly boys and drink your fills.

Let me not empty long remain  
But if all out fill me again.

Leonard Tillot: Nath. Holt: Tho. Knock:  
Thos. Malowes: Jonas Calby: Thos. Wakefield:  
Isaac Cooper: John Taylor: John Tuffis:  
May 10th, 1703 . . . Joseph Hammond made me.'

A similar pitcher exists at Clare, Suffolk, which holds more than 17 quarts, and has two handles. It is 3 feet 3 inches round, and 18 inches deep. It bears—on a bell—'Campane Sonant Canore' and below 'Clare Ringers 1729.'

The Norwich ringers' pitcher originally had three handles, but now only has one. It holds 35 pints, and was presented to the parish of St. Peter Mancroft in 1749 by John Dersley, a wealthy potter, who was Sheriff of Norwich 1759, Mayor 1764, and who died July 24th, 1765. Later it was lost, but discovered in 1846 by Robert Fitch at a sale, and he presented it to St. Peter's ringers. Lost a second time, but refound, it is now preserved in the church. A quaint water-colour by Ninham showing St. Peter's Mancroft ringing chamber in the 18th century, with the ringers at the ropes, also includes this old pitcher, which is placed on the floor in the middle of the circle.

Another old Suffolk example is that at Ixworth, where the ringers' pot is of brown glazed ware and was formerly carried from house to house to receive whatever beer the liberal parishioners might feel disposed to give. This pot, long since disused, had neither lip nor spout, but was provided with a tap at the base to draw off the two gallons which it held. It was inscribed in rude letters:—

'Here you may see what  
I request of Hanst (honest) Gentlemen  
My Baly (belly) filled of the Best. . . I com  
But now and then . . . 1716.'

Another curious pitcher of this period is at Hadleigh. This one also is of brown glazed earthenware, and has two ears. Circular in shape, swelling out in the middle, it holds 16 quarts. It is inscribed in rudely indented letters without any regard to uniformity of size of letters or straightness of line. First word 'ME' or perhaps 'MEI' is in italics, others in Roman capitals:—

'Me. Thomas Windle: Isaac Bynn: John Mann: Adam Sage: George Bond: Thomas Goldsborough: Robert Smith: Henry West.'

There is no doubt these were the names of the ringers, Hadleigh having eight bells. Below are the lines:—

'If yov love me dve not lend me,  
Evse me often and keep me clenely,  
Evl me fvll, or not at all,  
If it be with strovng, and not with small.

HADLY.'

Under one handle is the date=17 T.G. 15=, under the other=17 R.O. 15. This jug was in the possession of Mr. Pettitt, of the Eight Bells Inn, Angel Street, who held it for the ringers, he being their leader. Another pitcher, similar in size and shape to this at Hadleigh, was preserved in the church tower at Hinderclay, inscribed:—

'By Samuel Moss, this pitcher was given to the Noble Society of Ringers at Hinderclay, in Suffolk, viz.: Tho. Sturgeon: Ed. Lock: John Haw: Ric. Rud-dock: and Ralf. Chapman: to which Society he once belonged, and left in the year 1702.

From London I was sent,  
As plainly doth appear:  
It was with this intent,  
To be filled with strong beer.

Pray remember the Pitcher when empty.'

Samuel Moss was elected a member of the Union Scholars, London, in 1716, Master 1718, Steward 1719, and may be the donor of this.

The well known Ringers' Pitcher of Beccles, still kept in the belfry, has three handles and bears the name of the potter:—'Samuel Strongfellow, Potter, 1827.' It holds six gallons less one pint and bears the quaint rhyme:—

1827.

'When I am filled with liquor strong,  
Each man drink once & then ding dong;  
Drink not to much to cloud your knobs.  
Lest you forget to make the bobbs.

A gift of  
John Pattman,  
Beccles.'

Great Yarmouth ringers preserve a large jug of Staffordshire pottery. It has one handle and a steadying nib  
(Continued on next page.)



**RINGERS' JUGS AND PITCHERS.**

(Continued from previous page.)

on front. It is hand-painted with floral decorations in colours and pictured either side. Capacity  $23\frac{1}{2}$  pints, 12 inches, diameter at middle  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, neck  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Inscribed:—

'Should you venture up the tower high  
To visit Ringers, know that they are dry:  
And if you be generous, kind and free,  
Give a trifle and remember me.

Yarmouth, May 2. 1808.'

In the belfry at Witchampton, Dorset, is preserved a large Ringers' Pitcher of yellow earthenware, roughly glazed inside, and about six inches down the outside. It is inscribed:—

'Witchampton  
+ Belfrey.'

It was bought by the ringers themselves, and made at the Verwood Pottery about the year 1800. At Christmastime and on special occasions it was carried round to the farmers and others who might give, to be filled with beer or cider. Its capacity is six gallons (measured by the Rector May 1st, 1933), girth 51 inches, height 18 inches. At a meeting of the Vestry September 17th, 1879, the following minute was passed:—

'It was resolved that for the future the ringers of the bells of this church should be under the legal authority of the minister and churchwardens, and that hereafter no ringer should be appointed or discharged without consent of the above authority. It is also resolved that notice should be given to the whole body of ringers that their services will no longer be required.'

It was said that this dismissal was in connection with the filling of the pitcher at Harvest. The pitcher originally had a pouring handle and two carrying handles, and when one of the latter was broken off, a piece of rope was tied round the neck for carrying.

T. F. Thistleton Dyer, in 'Church Lore Gleanings, 1891,' p. 107, says Swansea Ringers' Jug had this couplet:—

'Come fill me with liquor sweet,  
For that is good when friends do meet;  
When I am full then, drink about,  
L ne'er will fail till all is out.'

It was said to be in Swansea Museum, but no trace can be found. I myself made exhaustive inquiries in 1931, but failed to find any other notice of the jug.

Kendal, Westmorland, once had a Ringers' Jug or Pitcher, but this is either broken or lost. A view of it is to be seen on the inn sign of the 'Ring o' Bells.' It is said that about the year 1820 the Rector often ascended the tower to look into the jug. If empty he would put 2s. or 2s. 6d. in it to replenish it. It was inscribed:—

'If you love me do not lend me,  
Euse me often and keep me clenly.  
Fill me often or not at all,  
If it be strong and not with small.'

The inn sign referred to shows the tower with ten ringers in shirt sleeves ringing the bells, several of which can be seen in the open louvre windows above. The jug appears on the floor of the ringers' room, with a small glass or tankard beside it.

(To be continued.)

**WRINGTON BELLS.**

By PREBENDARY A. J. HOOK, Rector of Wrington.

The tower of Wrington Church is the glory of the countryside, and its bells are known to ringers in all parts of England. We do not know how many bells were hung in the tower after it was completed somewhere about 1450, but a few years later, when the nave was finished, a sanctus bell was placed in a very lovely bell-cote on the gable. That bell is still there and is inscribed 'Sancta Maria.' In the 16th century there were apparently four bells in the tower. A fifth was added in 1611, when the churchwardens employed Roger Purdue to cast a new treble, which was to weigh 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. In 1621 Purdue recast the 4th for £8, and seven years later he recast the 3rd and 5th. In both cases the bells were to be cast within the parish, and great care was taken over the weights of the bells. Moreover, the churchwardens and any of the inhabitants were to be allowed to watch the proceedings, provided that they behaved themselves. This must have been trying for Purdue.

The churchwardens were constant in their care of their five bells, and during the 17th century spent a large proportion of their money in keeping them in order. For instance, in the years 1633-74, they bought 41 new ropes, supplied seven new wheels, four new stocks and seven new clappers, as well as mending the tenor clapper eight times.

In 1702 the tenor was taken to Gloucester, and recast by Abram Rudhall. Ten years later, some of the bells were taken to Chew Stoke to be recast by Bilbie. One of them was the old 3rd (the present 9th), which has not been recast since. In 1743 a new cage was made by John Bush and the bells rehung. In 1749, Bilbie contracted to make the old five bells into a peal of six. All the bells were taken to Chew Stoke, with the exception of the old 3rd, above mentioned, which was to be the 5th in the new peal. The tenor was not to weigh less than 'thirty-eight hundred.' As the five new bells were cast out of the old treble, 2nd, 4th and tenor, it would be interesting to know what was the weight of the old tenor.

The treble and tenor were recast by Messrs. Mears in 1845, and it is said that, when the bells were rehung, the last of the Bilbie family came over to hear whether the new bells were up to the Bilbie standard. Unfortunately, history does not record the remarks he made on that occasion.

The greatest change of all took place in 1911, when Messrs. Mears added four new trebles to the old peal of six. The old bells were not recast, but had their cannons removed, and were tuned. Two new steel bell-frames were supplied at the same time. The result is a magnificent peal of ten, which would have delighted Purdue, Rudhall and Bilbie. Up to the time of the enforced silence, there was a good band of ringers in Wrington, and we were always delighted to welcome the many ringers from all parts of the country who honoured us by their visits. The ringers here, and indeed in all this district, owe a very deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Herbert Knight, whose unflinching skill and tact and patience has kept the ringing very much alive, and the ringers happy; and to Major J. H. B. Hesse (to whom and to his sister we owe the recasting of the 5th when it was

(Continued on page 475.)

## THE USE OF SINGLES

### IN SEVEN-BELL METHODS.

(Continued from page 461.)

When we are composing an extent of Bob Major with the tenors together, our material consists of 120 natural courses, 60 of which are in-course and 60 out-of-course. When we are composing an extent of Bob Triples our material consists of the same 120 natural courses, but we are allowed to use only 60 of them. Which 60 we use is very largely a matter of choice, but is governed by one strict condition. If we use the plain course 234567 we may not use the natural course of 243657, and for every natural course we use we are debarred from using the one which bears to it the same relationship as 243657 does to 234567. For instance, if we use the natural course 642357, we may not use the natural course 624537; and conversely if we use the natural course 624537, we may not use the natural course 642357.

The reason for this is quite clear as soon as we examine the matter, for the courses 234567 and 243657 are really the same, except that the rows in one come in reverse order to the rows in the other.

The fact that we have an alternative form for every natural course we need to use considerably modifies the problems of obtaining true peals, and they are further modified by another fact.

We can, if we choose, select 60 natural courses from the available 120, and then join them together by bobs and singles arranged in Q Sets as we do in Bob Major, but we need not select 60 complete natural courses. We can often use only a part of a natural course and supply the missing part from the alternative natural course.

This is where these methods differ from Grandsire Triples. We cannot split up a B Block of Grandsire and have one lead of it in the direct form and the others in the reverse form; but we can split up a natural course of Bob Triples and have some leads of it in the direct form and the others in the reverse form.

So long as our peal of Bob Triples consists of sixty full natural courses, half of which are in-course and half out-of-course, we shall need the help of singles in exactly the same way as we do in Bob Major and what we cannot do in Bob Major we cannot do in Bob Triples. For instance, we cannot produce an extent of Bob Major (tenors together) in either four, six or ten equal parts with only two singles. Neither can we in Bob Triples with full natural courses.

Here is a very simply constructed six part peal.

	5040	
23456	M. W. R.	
64235	— — —	
26435	— — —	
42635	— — —	
56234	— — —	
25634	— — —	
62534	— — —	
45236	— — —	
24536	— — —	
52436	— — —	
43256	S — —	

Five times repeated, omitting last bob in second, fourth, and sixth parts.

To avoid misunderstanding it may be as well to point out that what is called the Middle in Bob Triples gives

the same natural course end as the Wrong in Bob Major, and what is called the Wrong gives the same natural course end as the Middle.

The peal is made up of sixty full natural courses, half of them in-course and half of them out-of-course, and the sixty are put together by Q Sets.

The basis of the composition is the twenty-four full natural courses with the sixth at home. They are produced in a very familiar way. First we have a Q Set formed by two bobs and two singles at the Middle made alternately.

	325476
B	235746
S	253476
	253746
B	235476
	325746
S	352476
	352746

The effect of this Q Set is to join together into one round block the following four complete natural courses, 52436, 32456, 53426 and 23456.

Two similar Q Sets will join 53246, 43256, 54236 and 34256 into another round block, and 54326, 24356, 52346 and 42356 into a third. A Q Set at R on 234 will join the three round blocks into one and give us the twenty-four courses with the sixth at home.

The thirty-six natural courses to complete the peal can be supplied by Q Sets at the W and R. They can easily be seen from the figures given above. What we want to point out is that the whole has been made possible by the three compound Q Sets (B.S.B.S.), each of which joins together an even number of natural courses. It is because there is no equivalent of this Q Set in Grandsire Triples that peals in that method are not possible in exactly similar parts with only two ordinary singles or only one ordinary single in each part.

## UNUSED BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will someone tell us if it is true that the tone of bells deteriorates through non-usage, as was stated in your last issue on the authority of a member of a firm of bell founders? There are many bells which have not been rung for many years for one reason or another. Are they spoiling? JOHN SHARPE.

## NEWS FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The bells of Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, B.C., were rung half-muffled for the morning and evening services on Sunday, August 30th, in honour of H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, who died on active service on Tuesday, the 25th.

On Sunday evening a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung and broadcast, the striking being exceptionally good. The quarter-peal was arranged and conducted by A. B. Lomas. Those taking part in the ringing were D. Bonniface, A. King, W. Sampson, A. Roberts, A. B. Lomas, E. Millard, E. W. Izard and E. Lake.

The people of Victoria have very pleasant memories of the Duke of Kent, who visited Victoria on more than one occasion.

Their Majesties, the King and Queen, when they visited Victoria in 1939, took particular interest in the bells, especially knowing that Her Majesty Queen Mary graciously consented to the tenor and 7th bell being named King George and Queen Mary. They also sent a message complimenting the ringers on their ringing during the royal visit.

We feel, here in Victoria, that we are very fortunate in being able to continue ringing bells, knowing that our fellow ringers in England are unable to do so during the present war restrictions.

E. W. IZARD.

980, Arundel Drive, Victoria, B.C.

**NOTICES.**

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

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

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

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

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

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held in the Church House, Rugby, on Saturday, Oct. 17th, at 6 p.m. Business meeting to be followed by handbell ringing. 1942 subscriptions due.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting at Liversedge on Saturday, Oct. 17th. Handbells from 3 p.m. in Millbridge Working Men's Club.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24th, at the Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, at 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Oct. 24th. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, Oct. 21st.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The last meeting of the year will be held at Measham on Saturday, Oct. 24th. Handbells and tower bells (silent) available at 3.30. Tea and meeting in church at 5 p.m. All members must take own eatables. Cups of tea provided. All ringers invited.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Liverpool, on Saturday, Oct. 24th. The Church Vestry will be open at 3 p.m. The new Rector (the Rev. R. Ambrose Reeves) extends a cordial welcome to all ringers. Handbells will be available and refreshments provided.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Woolwich on Saturday, Oct. 24th. The Rectory Room, Rectory Place, will be available for use of ringers from 3 p.m. till 8 p.m. Short service in St. Mary's Church at 4.45 p.m. If members let me know not later than Tuesday, Oct. 20th, I will try to arrange for tea.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting for practice, Netherton (D.V.), Saturday, Oct. 24th, 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Tea 5.30 p.m. Handbells and social evening at 'Bird.'—B. C. Ashford, Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on Oct. 24th. Silent ringing 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5.15 p.m. in St. Margaret's Church Rooms. All requiring tea must notify me by Oct. 22nd.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at the Studios, Falconer Road, Bushey, Saturday, Oct. 31st. Handbells 3.30. Tea 5.30.—H. G. Cashmore, 24, Muriel Avenue, Watford.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—A luncheon to commemorate the 305th anniversary will be held at Slater's Restaurant, Basinghall Street, E.C., on Saturday, Nov. 7th, at 1 p.m. Tickets 6s. 6d. each. Last day for receiving applications for tickets, Monday, Nov. 2nd.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barnett is now 42, Clay Lane, Bushey Heath, Herts.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. J. Frank Smallwood has removed to 19, Dorothy Crescent, Ombersley Road, Worcester.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The present address of Mr. F. W. Alleway is now Darbe House, 13, Southbourne Avenue, Birmingham 8.

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COPIES wanted of any hymns that have been written specially for ringers, other than the well known ones published in 'A Manual for Ringers.' Replies will be acknowledged, copies returned if requested and cost and postage forwarded.—Ernest Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon.

**WRINGTON BELLS.**

(Continued from page 473.)

cracked), who, whenever he could visit us, has always been a help and encouragement. Our anxiety, in common with other places, is how to secure recruits for the time when we shall be able to ring again.

The weights of the present peal are:—

Treble	7c.	1q.	0lb.	6	10c.	3q.	25lb.
2	7c.	3q.	4lb.	7	13c.	3q.	19lb.
3	8c.	1q.	6lb.	8	16c.	2q.	16lb.
4	8c.	3q.	0lb.	9	20c.	3q.	16lb.
5	10c.	2q.	9lb.	Tenor	36c.	2q.	23lb.

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Printed for the Proprietor by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Breams Buildings, London, E.C.4.