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THE ANALYSIS.

On another page we print the Analysis for nineteen hundred and forty-one. That year will be remembered in ringing history as the first during a millennium in which throughout the land no church bells called worshippers to divine service, and the first for two centuries in which no tower bell peal was rung. In such a year there is little for a peal analysis to concern itself with.

There would have been nothing at all if it were not that ringers in increasing numbers turned their attention to handbell ringing, and, by so doing, not only gained some compensation for the enforced silence of the belfries, but helped in no small degree to keep alive interest in the art of change ringing and the spirit of the Exercise. To-day we are reaping the benefit of what was then done, but the full harvest will not be garnered until more normal times bring back the ringers who are now scattered far and wide, some in this land but remote from where they have any opportunities of practising ringing, and many abroad in the service of king and country.

Handbell ringing is a branch of the ringers' art which has always appealed to some men. It has a musical and intellectual interest which is peculiarly its own. It is free from many of the restrictions which hamper tower-bell ringing, for its devotees can choose their own bands and their own times of meeting without much regard to other people. And though it cannot in itself claim to serve any public or Church interests, it is of great value in raising the standards and increasing the skill of tower-bell ringers, and so should be encouraged not merely for its own sake, but for the general good of the Exercise.

The practice and ambition of by far the greater number of those who ring handbells do not extend beyond courses and short touches in the simpler methods. Peal ringing is not for them but, as in tower-bell ringing, it is the peal ringers who set the standards. What they do benefits in the long run the whole body of ringers, and therefore has a value beyond the mere piling up of peals by individuals. We turn, therefore, to the Analysis as an indicator of the well-being of the Exercise. -

The record for the year 1941 was quite satisfactory. The number of peals rung was far beyond that of a normal year (this perhaps might have been expected), and the quality of the performance was well maintained. There was no spectacular performance like the Spliced Surprise Major peals by the Bushey band of a few years before, and no lengths beyond the ordinary five thousand.

(Continued on page 14.)

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The most outstanding records were the peals in new Plain Major methods by four men who met at Bushey by invitation of Mr. C. W. Woolley. This band had mastered the technique of handbell ringing to the extent that they were able to ring new and unpractised methods on handbells with the same facility that first-class bands nowadays show on tower bells. There was a time, not so long ago, when it was thought a wonderful thing if a band, or even an individual ringer, could ring a peal in a method without much practice. The improvement is perhaps not so much because men are better ringers than they used to be, but to a different and better way of approaching the tasks.

Equally meritorious, though on a lower plane, were the many peals of Minor and Doubles and Bob Major rung by men who turned their attention to handbell ringing for the first time.

Nineteen hundred and forty-one was a record year for handbell peals. It was to be surpassed by its successor, and the two together will probably prove to be the period in which handbell peal ringing reached its highest point during a very large stretch of years.

HANDBELL PEALS.

COVENTRY.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, December 30, 1943, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT 31, GEORGE ELIOT ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 512 CHANGES;

ERNEST STONE	1-2	FRANK E. PERVIN	5-6
FRANK W. PERRENS	3-4	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE	7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16 in B.

MRS. J. THOMAS	1-2	MRS. G. W. FLETCHER	5-6
ALFRED H. PULLING	3-4	JOHN THOMAS	7-8

GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 9-10

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Witness: ALBERT J. WALLMAN.

RADLEY, BERKSHIRE.

THE UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, Jan. 7, 1944, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE SCHOOL HOUSE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

MISS MARIE R. CROSS (Reading)	1-2	REV. MALCOLM C. C. MELVILLE (Birmingham)	5-6
*MISS MARGARET L. TUTT (Oxford)	3-4	JOHN E. SPICE (Oxford)	7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE. (C.C.C. No. 136.)

* First peal of Major on an inside pair.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOIT'S ORIGINAL.

CHARLES HAZELDEN	1-2	JAMES R. MACKMAN	5-6
ALFRED H. PULLING	3-4	MRS. C. HAZELDEN	7-8

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 8040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).
Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

*Miss F. L. WRIGHT ... Treble	HAROLD SHUCK 5
J. WILLIAM SMITH 2	BERNARD LAWTON 6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 3	NORMAN G. LEECH 7
JOHN GOODMAN 4	JOHN LLOYD Tenor

Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung for the marriage of Miss Medge Price, daughter of Mr. T. E. Price, Rector's warden, to Flight-Sergt. J. K. Compton.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 8040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).
Tenor 14½ cwt.

FRANK OLLIER Treble	JOHN E. BROUGH 5
R. THOMAS HOLDING 2	GEORGE PACKER 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ... 7
HARRY PARKER 4	*STANLEY SUTTON Tenor

Conducted by R. D. LANGFORD.

* First peal on eight bells.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON Treble	FRANK TROTMAN 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	CHARLES MARSHALL 6
WILLIAM A. WOOD 3	LEONARD TREVOR 7
JAMES DRAYCOTT 4	*FREDERICK FORD Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES MARSHALL.

* First peal. Rung on the thirteenth anniversary of the conductor's wedding.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, Jan. 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

ROBERT SARSBY Treble	EDWARD DALINGWATER ... 5
EDGAR C. STACEY 2	HARRY BARNES 6
MILTON C. FOWLER 3	HAROLD WAGSTAFF 7
J. EDWARD CAWSEY 4	PERCY GLEDSTONE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY.

The conductor's 100th peal on eight bells. Rung after meeting short for Stedman Triples.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(THE LEICESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, Jan. 6, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

An arrangement by F. H. DEXTER. Tenor 10 cwt.

Mrs. H. J. POOLE ... Treble	SYDNEY CHENEY 5
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	†RICHARD GRANT 6
*JILL POOLE 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 7
†JOHN R. SMITH 4	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal on tower bells. † First peal. ‡ First peal in the method. Rung on the middle octave.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, 1944, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. (approx.)

WILLIAM WELLING ... Treble	*JOHN M. GAYFORD 5
NORMAN V. HARDING 2	A. JAMES GLASS 6
FRANK H. HICKS 3	WILLIAM HENLEY 7
C. ALFRED LEVETT 4	GEORGE GILBERT Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First peal of Bob Major. Mr. Welling has now completed the circle at Burnham.

GORING-ON-THAMES, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, 1944, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 8 cwt. 21 lb. in A.

*Miss MARGARET L. TUTT Treble	JOHN E. SPICE 5
*Miss VALHALLA HILL 2	REV. M. C. C. MELVILLE 6
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... 3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... 7
WILLIAM C. PORTER ... 4	WALTER F. JUDGE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

SIX BELL PEALS.

APSLEY END, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOE HEBBS Treble	†AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 4
*ERNEST J. A. KENDALL ... 2	HERBERT GATES 5
†WILLIAM C. HUGHES ... 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in five methods. ‡ 100th peal. A birthday compliment to the wife of the ringer of the 2nd.

MAULDEN, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 8040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.

HENRY LAWRENCE ... Treble	REGINALD HOUGHTON ... 4
*RONALD J. SHARPE ... 2	*ANDREW C. SINFIELD ... 5
C. HENRY HARDING ... 3	LEWIS H. BYWATER ... Tenor

Conducted by L. H. BYWATER.

* 25th peal together. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the Rev. J. A. M. Rogers, Vicar of Maulden, who died on December 29th.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, two of Kent Treble Bob Minor and three of Plain Bob Minor. Tenor 5½ cwt.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	ROBERT GUY 4
JOHN LUNHAM 2	GEORGE SKELLAN 5
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM H. DEACON ... Tenor

Conducted by W. H. DEACON.

KEWSTOKE.—On Saturday, January 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Reason (Churchill) 1, L. Pullin (Yatton) 2, J. Weadon (Woole) 3, E. Fisher (Congresbury) 4, E. J. Avery (Churchill) 5, G. Prescott (Kewstoke) (conductor) 6. First 720 of Kent by all the band and on the bells.

HANDLING A BELL.

(Continued from page 5.)

The rate at which a bell sounds is determined by the length of the arc in which it moves, and the ringers' art consists in controlling the swing so that the bell may speak at the exact moment required. This is true of large and medium-sized bells without qualification, but in the case of small bells, especially when they are trebles to rings of eight, ten or twelve, the necessary rate is so slow that the bell must swing in a full circle and often in more than a circle.

Directly a bell has completed the circle it moves beyond the balance, and gravity comes into operation on the other side. A certain amount of this is necessary to enable the bell to be held up the required time, but every ounce of gravity exerted on the bell over the balance has to be counteracted by the ringer, and if he allows the bell to go far over the balance at each pull, he will have to use a good deal of energy in addition to that required for the normal swing of the bell. In fact, it is undoubtedly true that in ringing a small bell which goes well more energy is usually expended in bringing the bell back over the balance than in actually driving it through its downward and upward swings. This is the reason why the comparatively heavy trebles of old-style rings of twelve are for most ringers tiring to ring to a peal.

An important point, therefore, in correct handling is that a bell should never be allowed to go over the balance more than is just necessary to get the delay needed for a slow rate of striking.

When the bell is at the balance or just close to it the amount of gravity which is tending to make the bell swing is very small, and consequently this is the point where the ringer can exert his own energy with the greatest effect. It is here that he must have complete control. A bell, even a heavy bell, just on the balance can be held stationary, not merely by one hand, but by the finger and thumb of one hand. The ringer should so handle his bell that, when it reaches the balance, he can, with the least amount of energy, hold it, or start it again on its downward swing, or set it.

In teaching a beginner one very important thing is to make him able to 'feel' the bell at handstroke. He should be taught so to catch the sally that he can hold the bell as near to the balance as possible, and to hold it for an indefinite time with the smallest amount of weight on his arms. The instructor (who has the tail end) should vary slightly the amount of pulling he does, though never more than would naturally be done in change ringing.

Until a beginner has gained this amount of control at handstroke he should never be allowed to try to ring with both handstroke and backstroke, and certainly never allowed to attempt a bell in open rounds. When the beginners show a tendency to bump the stay it is a sure sign that their teaching is faulty. A broken stay is a greater disgrace to the instructor than it is to the learner.

Before ringing a bell, whatever its weight, the ringer should bring it to the balance and hold it there. He is then ready to apply at the proper time just the right amount of energy as is needed for the opening rounds; and at every subsequent pull he must feel the bell when it is at the same position before he sends it on its downward swing. These things, of course, are not done con-

sciously and deliberately each time by the competent ringer. They become automatic and instinctive. Often they are not acquired by taking thought, but as the result of practice and experience. But however the competent ringer acquires them, he must possess them, and good teaching consists of giving the learner from the very start those qualifications which otherwise he would only gain slowly and with repeated failures, or not at all.

The pull, then, by which the ringer sends the bell on its downward swing should start at the time when gravity is exercising the minimum amount of energy on the movement of the bell. In the case of small bells this is when the bell is at or near the balance. (With heavier bells as rung in changes, it is further from the balance, but the effect is the same.) This is the time when the energy exerted by the ringer has the greatest effect, and this is the time he should use it, for the opportunity, passes quickly. He should therefore apply at once the amount of force required. Not jerkily, or suddenly, but smoothly. Almost as soon as he has begun to pull (at any rate very shortly after) he can begin to relax his grip and lessen his pull. Thus he will get the maximum amount of result from his labour with the minimum amount of fatigue.

When his hands have done their work he should not remove them at once from the sally, although he is no longer gripping it, and when he does remove them he should keep them close together and drop them as low as is convenient and natural, raising them as the rope coils round the wheel and the tail end comes into position for the backstroke pull.

This dropping of the hands after the handstroke pull may seem quite an unnecessary action, for they at the time have no definite job to perform; they have done their handstroke work and are waiting for the backstroke work. Some men indeed do not lower their hands below their waists. There are, however, good reasons why the hands should be fully dropped. It looks better and more graceful. It is the natural thing to do, which most likely is why the majority of good ringers do it. And there is another and more subtle reason, which is that it aids and forms a part of that rhythm of mind and body which finds its expression in good striking.

It may seem very far fetched and fantastic to see in the regular up and down movement of the ringers' hands when they are not pulling any connection with the way the bells are struck; but it is not really so. Ultimately good striking depends on the sense and feeling of rhythm which the ringer possesses, and really good striking is only possible when the whole man, mind and body alike, is for the time being dominated by that rhythm. A smooth, regular and rhythmic pull obviously is necessary for good striking and, strange though it may seem, the action of the hands and arms after they have pulled does affect the pull itself.

There is a well-known and much-talked-of example of a similar thing in golf. One might think that once a man has struck a golf ball, what he does with his club cannot have any effect on the flight of the ball, yet the importance of the follow-through (which is the after-movement of the club) is acknowledged and stressed by all authorities. If ringing was performed on the same competitive lines as golf or rowing, as much attention would be paid to what now seem trivial points of bell handling as is done to not dissimilar things in those sports.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.

MEETING AT WINCHESTER.

The annual meeting of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Winchester on January 1st. Service was in the Cathedral and an address was given by the Archdeacon of Winchester, the Ven. H. R. Burrows.

Tea was at Dumper's Restaurant and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Rev. Norman C. Woods, chairman of the district. He was supported by the Archdeacon of Winchester, Mr. W. C. Goodchild (hon. secretary and treasurer), the Rev. S. M. Watson (Rector of St. Maurice's), the Rev. J. H. Dobbs (Vicar of Kings Somborne), Mr. George Williams (Master of the Guild), Mr. Wilfred Andrews (captain of the Cathedral ringers) and between 30 and 40 ringing members.

The secretary reported that £15 had been invested in National Savings Certificates. Thirty-nine honorary and 63 ringing members had paid their subscriptions, and the accounts showed a balance of £19 14s. 11d. after expenses had been met and the percentage paid to the general treasurer. The accounts were approved by a vote proposed by Mr. Andrews and seconded by Mr. Newnham.

The Chairman, who is now Vicar of St. John's, Notting Hill, London, expressed a wish to retire and suggested the name of the Archdeacon. Canon Burrows was proposed by Mr. Andrews, seconded by Mr. Goodchild, and unanimously elected.

Mr. Goodchild, the district secretary, said that for personal reasons he wished to resign. He had given notice at the last annual meeting, and though he did not wish to let the Guild down and was taking the step with reluctance, he had not altered his decision. On the proposal of Mr. Lampard, seconded by Mr. H. Newnham, a sub-committee, consisting of the chairman, Mr. Wilfred Andrews and Mr. Goodchild, was formed to make a new appointment.

On the proposition of Mr. Lampard, seconded by Mr. Sanders, the district representatives, Mr. Wilfred Andrews and Mr. H. Newnham, and the district auditor, Mr. G. Smith, were re-elected.

Four ringing members from the Cathedral, five from Winchester College, and one from St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church were elected.

The secretary expressed the thanks of the Guild to the Dean and Chapter, to the Archdeacon, to the Rev. Watson, Rector of St. Maurice's, and to the Rev. N. C. Woods for presiding.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.—On December 31st. 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: A. W. Roberts 1, W. A. Stote (conductor) 2, J. W. T. Taylor (first in the method) 3, J. W. Taylor 4, C. H. Aylett 5, G. Gardner 6.—On Sunday, January 2nd. 720 Kent Treble Bob: J. W. Taylor 1, A. W. Roberts (first in the method) 2, H. G. Summers 3, B. Stone 4, J. W. T. Taylor 5, W. A. Stote (conductor) 6.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Barnsley on January 8th and was attended by members from Bushey, Darfield, Eastwood, Hoylandswaine, Felkirk, Penistone, Sandal, Silkstone, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sprotborough, Wath, Wentworth and St. Marie's, Sheffield. Minor, Triples and Major methods were rung during the afternoon and evening.

The president, Mr. C. Brookes, took the chair at the business meeting at the Royal Hotel. An apology for absence was received from Canon W. E. Wilkinson, the hon. president.

The balance sheet, which showed a profit of £2 5s. 8d., was passed on the motion of Mr. Briggs, seconded by Mr. Lewis. The hon. secretary's report for the year was adopted.

All the officers were re-elected and were warmly thanked for their past services.

It was decided to hold the society's shield contest again this year. The next meeting will be at Crofton on February 12th. The Rector was thanked for the use of the bells.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION,

MEETING AT CHURCHILL.

The annual meeting of the Axbridge Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Churchill on December 18th, and ringers were present from Portsmouth Cathedral, Wrington, Badgworth, Woole, Shipham, Nailsea, Congresbury, Banwell, Kewstoke and the local belfry.

Service was conducted by the Vicar, and the tea and business meeting were in the Methodist Schoolroom. In the absence through illness of the president, the Vicar took the chair.

Seven new members were elected from Kewstoke, five from Rowberrow, five from Burnham-on-Sea, and five from Churchill.

The balance showed a credit of just over £7.

The Rev. L. T. Powys David, of Bleadon, was elected president, Mr. G. Prescott, of Kewstoke, Ringing Master, and Mr. E. J. Avery, of Churchill, hon. local secretary and committee member.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Weston-super-Mare, and a practice meeting at Rowberrow.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar, to Mr. F. Williams, who played the organ, and to the trustees of the Methodist Schoolroom.

The methods rung during the day were Grandsire, Plain Bob, St. Simon and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Double Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Double Court, Reverse College, Little Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

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LOUGHBOROUGH

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The official journal of the Central Council of
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'The Ringing World.'

Miss Snowdon has asked us to say that the stocks of 'Diagrams
of Standard Methods' are now sold out. New ones are being printed
and delivery is promised for February 1st. Any orders sent her will
be dispatched as soon after that date as possible. It will be necessary
to increase the price of the book to 4s. (2s. for letterpress and 2s.
for diagrams).

Miss Jill Poole, of Leicester, who had already distinguished herself
by ringing peals of Stedman Cinques on handbells, at the age of 13,
has now accomplished her first tower-bell peal. We offer her our
congratulations and look forward to further achievements in change
ringing.

WEDDING AT PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL.

On Saturday, January 1st, at Portsmouth Cathedral, the wedding
was solemnised of Lieut. David Deuchar and Miss Marian Davies,
daughter of Lt.-Comdr. J. D. R. Davies and granddaughter of the
Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who was at one time secretary of the Central
Council and one of the foremost members of the Exercise of his
generation.

The service was conducted by the Provost, the Very Rev. E. N.
Porter Goff, and by the Rev. G. L. Deuchar, father of the bridegroom.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a gown of
silver brocade, with veil and train in old Limerick lace. She was
attended by four bridesmaids.

A reception was held at the Queen's Hotel, Southsea. Canon G. F.
Coleridge, a lifelong friend of the bride's grandfather, was among the
guests. The honeymoon is being spent in Devon. The bride is serving
in the R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth.

Before the ceremony 504 Grandsire Triples was rung and afterwards
a quarter-peal composed by C. D. P. Davies. The ringers taking part
were D. Harris 1, F. A. Burnett 2, L. Page 3, H. Nobes 4, W. Tate 5,
L. P. Cook 6, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 7, W. Scaife 8.

THE BEST RING OF BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—You have appealed to ringers to use your columns for dis-
cussion. Well, a few months ago Mr. F. E. Sharpe, of Launton, asked
for opinions on which were the best toned bells (Simpson and ordinary)
in each particular county. Strange as it may seem, he never got a
single reply, yet this is a subject on which most ringers do express
themselves.

How often does one hear the expression, 'Poor lot of pots,' and I
once heard a well-known ringer describe a ring which had been
Simpson tuned as 'like a jazz band.' Now Mr. Sharpe is a writer
and is evidently after material for another book, so we, as ringers,
ought to help him if we can.

I live in Lancashire and the county contains good toned bells in
great abundance. One can mention Ashton-under-Lyne (12), Oldham,
Worsley, Manchester Town Hall and Cathedral, Wigan and Preston.
I do not claim to be an expert and am open for correction, but in
my humble opinion St. John's, Whittle-le-Woods, are the best of the
Simpson tuned bells in the county, and St. James', Poolstock, the
best of the ordinary tuning.

No offence is meant to any other tower and there is plenty more
I could have mentioned.

'LANCASTRIAN.'

ANALYSIS OF HANDBELL PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1941

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bellringers.

Table with columns for Association, Number of Conductors, and various peal types (Cinquers, Royal, Caters, Major, Triples, Minor, Doubles). Rows list associations like An. Soc. College Yths., Bath and Wells Dio., etc., with counts for each peal type.

The continuance of the ban on church bellringing during the whole of the year has restricted ringing to handbells, with the result that a record number has been scored, the total during the period being 143. The following table gives the totals for 1939, 1940 and 1941.

Summary table showing totals for 1939, 1940, and 1941 across categories: Cinques, Royal, Caters, Major, Triples, Minor, Doubles.

Table showing 'Peals rung in each month were:-' with monthly counts from January to December.

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Footnotes to the peals rung during the year indicate 18 ringers rang their first peal, 44 rang their first peal on handbells, while those who rang their first peal in a different method or in a method on a different number of bells was 91. Ringers conducting their first peals numbered 15, while 6 are recorded as conducting a fresh number of bells or a different method. Two peals were arranged for men in the Forces, 22 for birthdays, 3 for wedding anniversaries, 3 for memorials and one for a royal visit. One ringer rang his 50th and another his 200th handbell peal. Two others rang their 100th and 400th peal respectively and another completed his 100th peal as conductor.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

A NEW RING OF TEN BELLS.

Before the year 1927 there were five bells at Claines, a village three miles north of Worcester. The treble was by W. Huntbach, 1686, the second by Warner, 1886, third, fourth and tenor by R. Oldfield, 1623. The ring was then increased to eight, the old treble being recast and the others retuned by Taylors at the expense of Mr. E. P. Thomas, a local gentleman.

The first peals of Lincolnshire, Pudsey, Rutland and Whitbourne Surprise Major for the Worcestershire Association were rung on the bells.

Mr. Thomas was anxious to have a local band to ring for Sunday service and this was accomplished after hard work by Mr. J. J. Jefferies, of Worcester Cathedral, and others. In 1932 a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by an entirely local band.

Mr. Thomas' mother died in 1939, and as a memorial to her he added two more bells to the ring. The work was completed in 1940 by Messrs. Taylor, and the dedication had to be carried out without any ringing. The first peal on the full ring, one of Grandsire Caters, was rung on December 27th and was reported in our last issue. The band included eight of the local ringers.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, DARLINGTON.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I observe from a letter appearing in your issue of December 17th that Mr. L. Venus is under the impression that the weight of the old tenor at St. Cuthbert's, Darlington, prior to recasting, was 18 cwt. 14 lb. This is not correct. The weight of the old tenor cast by G. Mears and Co. was 16 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb., as appearing in the records of the original founders and given to me some time ago by their successors. The weight of 18 cwt. 14 lb. is that of the new tenor as recast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd.

G. W. PARK.

23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

'ANTI-CLOCKWISE.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was interesting to note from your recent article that Lambeth bells were formerly hung the wrong way round (certain pedants might contend that either way can be the right way).

I have often wondered whether this practice of hanging bells in anti-clockwise order is attributable mainly to any particular bell-hanger or the influence of any particular ringer or group of ringers, or whether at any period it was the usual custom to hang bells only in this way. Perhaps this system of bell-hanging is in some way associated with the development of the left-hand rule of the road.

There seem to be quite a number of anti-clockwise rings in Kent, and it would be interesting to know if the proportion of such rings is higher in the hop county than elsewhere.

Some of your readers may care to express their reactions to anti-clockwise rings. I have heard some ringers contend that such rings are most awkward to ring on, others that they are no different from clockwise rings once a touch has been started. Personally, I have noticed very little difference in ringing one's own bell, but in calling peals I have found it more difficult to put people right, and one found oneself looking at the 7th instead of the treble at lead-ends. A friend who was taught in an anti-clockwise tower finds himself equally at home with either kind of ring, but I recall a peal attempt in a strange method in which there was a 'passenger' who could certainly have been 'nursed' through the peal on a normal ring of bells, but his missed dodges proved fatal in an anti-clockwise tower. I have also heard the somewhat far-fetched theory that it should be easier to ring London Surprise on anti-clockwise bells because the positions come up the opposite way from most methods.

Perhaps the towers with anti-clockwise rings of bells could form the basis for another of Mr. Morris' interesting series of articles.

Another matter I have found of interest is that the county of Kent should be so well endowed with bells. Are there any theories as to the reason for this? I wonder if a summary in tabulated form of the rings of five and upwards in each of the counties of the British Isles could be published in 'The Ringing World.'

'ADULESCENS.'

ST. MARY'S, WHITECHAPEL.

AND SOME OTHER BELL TOWERS.

Mr. Ernest Morris has not exaggerated the effect of Whitechapel bells on a visitor, but the widely held opinion that the trouble was caused by the Underground Railway is most certainly wrong. The railway does not run in a tunnel, but in what is really a shallow trench roofed over to form the street. The lines are well away from the foundations of the steeple, and any vibration caused by the trains has no effect on the adjoining buildings.

The trouble is really due to the construction of the steeple and to the fact that the architect, like all the other architects of his time, did not know what is needed in a bell tower, and probably never gave it a thought.

The church is a large one, the architect had to make the biggest show for the money available, and probably what he aimed at was a steeple which should dominate the main eastern exit from the City and force itself on the notice of the thousands who every day pass along Aldgate and the Whitechapel Road. In this he was successful, but the price had to be paid.

The steeple consists of a lofty red brick tower with a stone spire, the whole somewhere about 200ft. high. For its height the tower is a slender one and it is entirely unbuttressed. There are indeed what look like buttresses, but they are very slight, they do not extend for more than about a quarter of the height of the building, and they finish a long way below where the thrust of the bells comes on to the walls.

APPEARANCE VERSUS UTILITY.

To get the outside effect, and to increase the appearance of height, the steeple is placed in the ordinary position of a porch, between the north aisle and the street, and so gets no support whatever from the church.

Such a building is bound to be bad for a ringing peal of bells. It is very elastic, which means that the whole structure will vibrate at a definite rate under lateral pressure. As a building this elasticity is a good thing, and the tower would no doubt stand, not only any amount of wind pressure, but any amount of pressure a heavy ring of bells could exert.

What happens, however, is that when a bell is on the balance at the beginning or end of its swing, a very little lateral movement will affect it. Compared with the energy exerted by the swinging bells and the resistance of the tower it is trivial; but it is not trivial compared with the strength at the disposal of the ringer—very little of it will make ringing a difficult and sometimes an impossible task.

In more recent years a great deal more knowledge has been gained of the behaviour of buildings under different stresses. So far as bells are concerned, the investigations made some time back by Mr. Edwin H. Lewis have placed the matter on a scientific basis, and there is no reason now why architects, if they have to design a tower to carry a ringing peal, should not do it in an effective manner. Most of them, however, appear still to be ready to sacrifice any considerations of utility to outside appearance, and the present fashion of having straight lines rising direct from the ground does not lend itself easily to the construction of good bell towers. The best way out of the difficulty in the case of both of new and older towers is so to design the frames, and to hang the bells at such a level that the pressure exerted by the swinging bells is least liable to coincide with the natural vibration of the tower. Ringers themselves can often improve matters by ringing the bells at a particular rate.

The leading bell founders fortunately are now fully alive to these things, and will always advise that the bells should be rehung at a lower level when it is possible and will do good.

THORPE ST. ANDREW.

There are many other instances throughout the country where the conditions are the same as at Whitechapel and for the same reason. In London an even worse case is the church at Star Street, Paddington. The bells there have not been rung for many years, but before the last war one or two peals were rung on them by bands who went prepared for a tough job and were in no wise disappointed.

The very worst case I have ever come across is Thorpe St. Andrew next Norwich. The church is a modern one built about 1866, the tower and spire being added about 1880. The steeple is very similar to that at Whitechapel, though on a smaller scale, and stands in a similar position.

When the steeple was built, or soon after, a ring of eight bells was hung by Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, the tenor, if I remember

aright, being 14 cwt. It had all the firm's improvements such as a steel frame, spring clappers and the rest, and is of interest as the only ring of eight cast by the firm.

When the bells were first hung the architect, a man of the name of Pearce, did not wish them to be rung until the building had fully settled, which was not unreasonable. So the bells were silent for about ten years. Then there came to Thorpe a man who took an interest in bells. He got Earle Bulwer to move in the matter and a day was appointed on which the bells were to be rung by a band carefully selected from the Mancroft company.

It so happened that Mr. James E. Davis was then spending a holiday at Thurlton, a village about six miles north of Beccles, and a peal attempt was arranged at Loddon for him to call Holt's Original. Some of us Norwich boys—C. E. Borrett, A. W. Brighton, John and George Burton—and myself were in the band.

AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE.

We did not get the peal, and I and the two Burtons cycled back to Norwich. When we neared the city someone mentioned that he had heard that Thorpe bells were to be rung that evening, so we turned aside over Carrow bridge to listen. When we got there all the arrangements had been made. Bulwer and the parish authorities were present. The special band was ready and the bells raised. The architect was up in the bell chamber fixing up some contraptions, including glasses of water resting on the frame, by which he could observe whether there was any movement when the bells were rung.

For some reason (why, I don't know) I was one of the band which started the ringing. I rang the second. We pulled off and the bells struck one good clear round. The next thing was that I found my bell had stopped almost dead, and the other ropes were flying about wildly; while down the stairs came frantic shouts, 'Stop the bells! Stop the bells!! The whole place is coming down!'

It did not take long to stop the bells, and no one thought of any further ringing. What was really the trouble I never knew. I have heard it said that the thin brick walls began to buckle under the pressure of the bells. If that were so it would not have been long before the whole structure had collapsed.

So it is that I am almost the only living person who can say he has rung at Thorpe St. Andrew's.
J. A. T.

MR. MORRIS' PEAL.

MR. COLES' RECOLLECTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was always a pleasure to attempt a peal with Mr. E. Morris, whose account in this week's 'Ringing World' of a peal in which he rang at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, some 20 years ago, brings back amusing memories. Whether successful or not, or whether he had a good going bell or otherwise, it was always the same to Ernest, you could rely on him to be cheerful. In this connection I note that in his letter he says he had the 'pleasure' of ringing the tenor to the peal under notice. It is said sometimes of people that they take their pleasures sadly, but I think that on this occasion the fact was that Ernest took his troubles lightly—at any rate when the peal was over.

No doubt my dear-old friend, the late Bill Pye, who was the last of the band to arrive in the belfry, was anxious that somebody was on the tenor box who would be likely to finish the job. My recollection is that a few weeks previously he had lost a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major whilst ringing that bell; it had simply fallen down on him. Be that as it may, he was quite satisfied at ringing elsewhere, and took the 7th, but if he had had any doubt he would have rung the tenor himself.

As regards Ernest's condition when we had finished, I think it only fair to say that I had advised him to take his waistcoat and collar off, but he had only smiled. When I reminded him that if he had taken my advice he would at least have had a decent collar to put on, he simply smiled again. We have since had many good laughs about that peal, and it is true that I often offered to arrange another at that tower for him. Perhaps it was fortunate for somebody that he never accepted, for I cannot imagine that Ernest would have tackled that tenor again.

Well, it is too late now, the tower stands as a skeleton, and the bells, which have caused many heartburnings and disappointments to ringers, have completely disappeared, and with them several very interesting boards recording peals rung in the earlier tower, when no doubt ringing the tenor would have been a real pleasure.

C. T. COLES.

G. & F. COPE & CO.
NOTTINGHAM
Tower Clock Manufacturers

Estimates submitted for New
Clocks, Chime Additions, Re-
pairs, or Repainting of Dials

CENTRAL TOWERS.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 8.)

Biddenham, near Bedford, St. James' Church has an embattled central tower with small spire and containing a ring of six bells, tenor 13 cwt. As early as 1521 one Isabella Low left a will and gave 'to the bellys iiijd.' In 1787, an entirely new ring of six bells was installed by William Emmerton, of Wootton, as the inscription of the fifth says, 'five old bells cast into six at the Expense of John Brooks.' In 1899 J. Taylor and Co. recast the tenor and rehung all in a new iron frame. In this church is a piece of very Early German tapestry dated 1549; this was cleaned in 1894 and is now in a fine state of preservation. Here a stairway is built outside the tower of some sixteen or so steps to a small platform, from which about six more steps through the wall of the tower brings one to the ringing chamber.

The Church of St. Giles, Bredon, Worcestershire, originally erected in the latter half of the 14th century, has a central tower with an exceedingly light and graceful spire, 160ft. high. It contains a heavy ring of five bells with a tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in D. The treble is by A. Rudhall, 1733, the 2nd, 3rd and 5th are dated 1624, by 'W. Witmore,' and 4th by Rudhall, 1706. In 1914 all the bells were taken down, sandblasted and tuned by J. Warner and Sons, who also rehung them in a new steel frame. Before being rehung, the fittings and framework were in such a bad condition that serious injury was done to the spire, so that extensive repairs became necessary. A curious feature of the restoration was that, after the bells were taken out and the work upon the fabric put in hand, the spire in the course of a severe thunderstorm was further damaged by lightning. The movement of the spire was so great before the rehunging of the bells that the tulipstone carrying the weather vane was shattered and crashed down into the church. To enter the ringing chamber, one goes via a spiral stairway to the roof, thence across the leads and up an iron ladder on the tower wall.

The city of Bath, in Somerset, presents one of the finest aspects of any in the United Kingdom. Its buildings of freestone or bathstone quarried in the neighbourhood are arranged in a series of natural crescents backed by hills. Its well sheltered position, scenic charm, and hot mineral springs have made it one of the most favoured health resorts. The Abbey Church of SS. Peter and Paul, dating from 1499, is a handsome specimen of Perpendicular work, known from the size and number of its windows as the 'Lantern of England.' It occupies the site of a seventh century convent, which was superseded by a Norman cathedral, begun in 1090 on the translation of the See of Wells to Bath, and completed 70 years later. The secondary cathedral of the diocese, it was restored by Sir G. G. Scott, 1899-1900, and contains the tombs of Beau Nash and the actor Quin.

The fine central tower, 160ft. high, is oblong, owing to the width of the transepts being less than the nave and choir. It contains a ring of ten bells, the back eight by Rudhall in 1700, and two trebles added 1774. The tenor, which is 34½ cwt., was recast by J. Warner and Sons in 1876. It has the curious couplet:—

All yov of Bath that heare mee sovnd,
Thank Lady Hopton's hvndred povnd.

Bath has long been connected with change ringing, although it did not in the old days produce a distinguished band of ringers. It became on September 29th, 1760, the birthplace of Shipway, the noted ringer and author on the subject, who tells us that he had rung as far as Treble Bob Royal before leaving Bath for London, and that the principal motive for his change of residence was that, 'although Bath had a respectable and able band of ringers, yet the art did not improve so rapidly as he wished.' As above stated, Rudhall installed a ring of eight in 1700 and two trebles in 1774, yet, according to a record there of 5,040 Grandsire Triples rung March 10th, 1834, 'this was the first and only known peal performed in this tower.' It would appear that Shipway's contemporaries contented themselves with touches.

Parnell, of Sheffield, writing in 1817, says of the Society of Union Scholars of London: 'The original book of manuscripts' being a copy of peals rung by the Union Scholars was took to the City of Bath in Somersetshire at the Desolution of this Society, many years ago, by Mr. James Alban, one of the members and a schoolmaster at Bath for some years, and died at Bath City a few years ago. He rung the 2nd bell in the above peal July 7th, 1751 (Holt's Original at Westminster), and was the longest liver of any member, and gave him the title of Father of that once Society of Union Scholars of London. He was much pleased with good change ringing, and on his arrival at Bath City he joined the band of ringers at St. Peter's and St. Paul's Parochial Abbey Church. I rung Grandsire Caters with him on the ten bells at the Bath Abbey along with the Bath Society in 1791 on my first visit to London. This Mr. James Alban died a very old man at Bath City and was buried at the same place with ringing honours with the bells muffled and a short peal performed on them about the year, I think, 1797 or 1800. He left the Union Scholars' manuscript book to Mr. William Fry, by trade a plumber and glazier, also a Bath Abbey change ringer at the city of Bath, to preserve and hand down to posterity. I have perused it, and was much pleased, and hope it will not be destroyed so long as earthly time lasts on this globe. This Mr. James Alban (Union Scholar) was a small-boned little man, not quite so tall as Mr. William Booth, a Table Knife Cutter, and change ringer, Bailey Lane, town of Sheffield, Yorkshire.

Rainy, Wednesday, August 27th, 1817.

John Alfred Parnell.'

Bath Abbey bells go anti-clockwise, and the approach to the ringing chamber is by spiral stairway at the north-east corner of the building, thence by a walk on a duck-board along the roof of the chancel, and the chamber is entered by a door in the east wall of the central tower.

ALTRINCHAM, CHESHIRE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have been reading your weekly articles on 'Central Towers.' I am a ringer at St. Margaret's, Altrincham. Our tower is central, but we have not rung the bells, but only chimed them for a number of years, I think at least 45 years. Since the ringing of bells has restarted we have got a new band together and we have got consent from the bell founders and architect to ring them again. They stopped ringing them because the spire was found to be unsafe, but it was taken down in 1927.

We have a ring of ten bells, the tenor 27½ cwt. They were cast and installed by Taylors in 1854 at the time the church was built. I thought this might be of interest to yourself and other ringers.

HERBERT TURNER.

Sale, Cheshire.

ST. GILES', EDINBURGH.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In view of the correspondence regarding bells at St. Giles', Edinburgh, the following account of a visit to the tower may be of interest. It is from an autobiography of James Nasmyth, edited by Dr. Samuel Smiles. Nasmyth was born in Edinburgh in 1808 and spent his early years in the city.

'While sitting on the grassy slopes of the Calton Hill I would often hear the chimes sounding from the grand old tower of St. Giles'. The Cathedral lay on the other side of the valley, which divides the old town from the new. The sounds came over the murmur of the traffic in the streets below.

'The chime-bells were played every day from twelve till one—the old-fashioned dinner-hour of the citizens. The practice had been in existence for more than a hundred and fifty years. The pleasing effect of the merry airs, which came wafted to me by the warm summer breezes, made me long to see them as well as hear them.

'My father was always anxious to give pleasure to his children. Accordingly, he took me one day, as a special treat, to the top of the grand old tower to see the chimes played. As we passed up the tower, a strong vaulted room was pointed out to me, where the witches used to be imprisoned. I was told that the poor old women were often taken down from this dark vault to be burnt alive. Such terrible tales enveloped the tower with a horrible fascination to my young mind. What a fearful contrast to the merry sound of the chimes issuing from its roof on a bright summer day.

'On my way up to the top flat, where the chimes were played, I had to pass through the vault in which the great pendulum was slowly swinging in its ghostly-like tick-tack, tick-tack; while the great ancient clock was keeping time with its sudden and startling movement. The whole scene was almost as uncanny as the witches' cell underneath. There was also a wild rumbling thumping sound overhead. I soon discovered the cause of this, when I entered the flat where the musician was at work. He was seen in violent action, beating or hammering on the keys of a gigantic pianoforte-like apparatus. The instruments he used were two great leather-faced mallets, one of which he held in each hand. Each key was connected by iron rods with the chime-bells above. The frantic and mad-like movements of the musician, as he energetically rushed from one key to another, often widely apart, gave me the idea that the man was daft—especially as the noise of the mallets was such that I heard no music emitted from the chimes so far overhead. It was only when I had climbed up the stair of the tower to where the bells were hung that I understood the performance, and comprehended the beating of the chimes which gave me so much pleasure when I heard them at a distance.'

A small view of the tower is given, showing a number of bells apparently suspended on beams between the arches forming the lower stage of the 'Mural Crown.'

Nasmyth became famous as an engineer, and had many other interests in life. He is remembered for his invention of the steam hammer and other mechanical contrivances. The business founded by him is still carried on at Patricroft, near Manchester.

R. F. DEAL.

10, Kimberley Avenue, E.6.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

IPSWICH.—On Sunday, December 26th, at St. Matthew's, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: G. Biggs 1, A. E. Hardy 2, Miss E. Reeve 3, Gnr. R. Lester 4, F. E. Wiseman 5, C. H. Aldous (conductor) 6.

HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK.—On January 1st, 720 Bob Minor: J. W. Jennings 1, H. Backler 2, S. Twitchett 3, Gnr. N. Hough 4, L. Wright (conductor) 5, Peter Carter, R.A.F. (first 720 on an inside bell) 6.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.—On January 1st, 720 Bob Minor: Freda Murkett 1, Joyce Hearn (first 720 inside, age 14) 2, G. J. Berry (Hitcham) 3, John M. Gayford 4, C. A. Levett 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6.

CHALFONT ST. PETER.—On January 1st, midnight, 720 Bob Minor: R. Stone 1, G. Swift 2, F. Bolton 3, Mrs. F. King 4, A. Swan 5, E. Stevens (conductor) 6.

READING.—At St. Laurence's Church on January 2nd, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Miss J. Stacey 1, Miss P. Hart 2, T. Lanaghan 3, A. R. Poyntz 4, R. T. Hibbert 5, H. Smith 6, E. Humphrey 7, E. G. Foster 8. Also 1,259 Grand-sire Caters: Miss P. Hart 1, Mrs. Catherall 2, H. Smith 3, A. R. Poyntz 4, T. Lanaghan 5, R. Rex 6, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 7, C. Pullen 8, E. Humphrey 9, Mrs. Pat Lewington 10. Several 500's of Grand-sire and Stedman Triples and Caters have been rung for evensong on Sundays. Mrs. Lewington and E. Humphrey have shared in the conducting.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Sunday, January 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Doubles: W. Attwood 1, F. W. Brinklow 2, L. Tarr (first quarter-peal) 3, H. Hayes 4, J. Rosson (conductor) 5, E. Rosson 6. Four quarter-peals were rung by the new band during the Christmas festival.

DARLINGTON.—At St. Cuthbert's Church on Sunday evening, January 2nd, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: R. Rawlings 1, A. Coates 2, F. Linsley 3, A. West 4, R. Taylor 5, G. F. Newton (conductor and first attempt) 6, T. Hill 7, L. Venus 8.

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.**

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1, Jan. 15th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. Service ringing at Stepney, Jan. 16th, 9.30 a.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Annual district meeting at Fareham, Jan. 15th, 2 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Own arrangements for tea.—R. J. Stone, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, Penhale Road, Portsmouth.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Annual meeting at Biggleswade on Saturday, Jan. 15th, 3 p.m. Tea if it can be arranged.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy, Beds.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting at Hatfield, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Salisbury Guest House 5 p.m. Then more ringing.—R. W. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Warwick (10 bells), on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at the Porridge Pot Cafe 5 p.m., approximately 1s. 6d. Business in the Church Vestry after service.—D. E. Beamish, Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Annual district meeting at All Saints', Hertford (10 bells), on Saturday, Jan. 15th, at 2.30 p.m. Tower blacked out. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Meeting, Colemans Hatch (8), Jan. 15th. Postcards for tea to Miss Divall, Colemans Hatch P.O.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—Annual meeting, at Christchurch on Saturday, Jan. 15th, 2 p.m. Service in Priory Church at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m. in Warren Cafe. Business meeting to follow.—G. Preston, Christchurch.

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Meeting at Sidbury, Saturday, January 15th. Bells 2.30. Tea 5.—G. C. Woodley, Woolbrook, Sidmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—Annual district meeting at Great Baddow, Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Ringing 3 p.m. and after tea. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting afterwards. Names by Jan. 19th to Mr. G. Green, 3, Bell Street, Great Baddow, Chelmsford.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Annual meeting at Billingborough, Jan. 22nd. Bells (6) 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting at Foresters' Hall. Names for tea to Mr. B. Dalton, The Garage, Billingborough, Sleaford.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at Easthampstead, Saturday, January 22nd, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—B. C. Castle, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Poulton on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—J. H. Foster, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Whickham on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. and during evening. Bring own food. Cups of tea provided.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Meeting at Lower Heyford, Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify.—E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Monthly meeting at Luton, on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—Edwin A. Belson, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's Church, Northampton, Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells 3.30. Service 4.15. Committee meeting 3.45. Bring own food.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Stourbridge (8 bells), Jan. 22nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—Meeting at Rowberrow, Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells (6) 6.30 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—Annual meeting Saturday, Jan. 22nd, at St. Cuthbert's, Wells, 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea (1s.) and meeting, Wickenhams, after. Names early please.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dovecots, Street, Somerset.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John-the-Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Details next week.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Pudsey, Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. Tea only for those who send names to Mr. W. Barton, 9, Pembroke Road, Pudsey, near Leeds, by Jan. 27th. Business meeting in the Park Hotel, 6.30 p.m.—H. Loft-house, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Annual district meeting at Bocking, Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells (8) from 2 p.m. and during blackout. Service 4 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Irchester (8 bells) on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Service 4.30. Notify for tea.—A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Martock, Saturday, Jan. 29th. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Notify early for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Special general meeting Leicester, Jan. 29th, St. Margaret's bells (12) 2 p.m. Committee meet in choir vestry 3 p.m. Tea at Co-op, High Street, 5 p.m., only to those who notify me by the 26th. Further details next week.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Gainsborough District.—Annual meeting at All Saints', Gainsborough, on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service at 4 p.m. No tea arrangements; cafes in the town. Business meeting in the belfry at 6 p.m.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham, Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Numbers for tea to Mr. R. Hasted, 1, Victoria Villas, St. George's Road, Farnham, by Jan. 26th.—W. Viggers, for Hon. Sec.

BIRTHS.

CURSON.—On Jan. 2nd, 1944, in Drayton Hospital, Norwich, to Mabel (nee Robertson), wife of R. W. Curson, Hethersett, the gift of a son, Alan William.

WHITMORE.—On Dec. 29th, 1943, at 80c, High Street, Raunds, to Phyllis, wife of W. J. Whitmore, a daughter, Mavis.

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SET OF HANDBELLS, 10 or 12, in good condition.—R. H. Bullen, 39a, High Street, Ely, Cambs.

HADDENHAM, CAMBS.

A meeting held at Haddenham on January 1st was attended by ringers from St. Ives, Wilburton, Somersham, Ely and the local belfry. The methods rung were Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise, with rounds for beginners. Tea was provided by some of the local lady ringers. The next meeting was arranged to be held at Wilburton on February 12th.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday, December 26th, at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Harry Hurst 1, Tom Lee 2, Herbert O. Chaddock 3, Frank Brightmore 4, Jack Smithson 5, Robert Harrison 6, Sgt. N. Chaddock, R.E.M.E. (conductor) 7, Philip Lowe 8.

FARDISLAND HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, December 27th. 1,260 Doubles (300 Stedman and 960 Grandsire): *Frederick Harris 1. *Ronald Mewies 2. *John D. Rock 3. †Lawrence T. Mainwaring 4. Leslie Evans (conductor) 5. †E. Peter Rock 6. *First quarter-peal. † First in two methods. First on the bells by a Sunday service band. An attempt on Christmas Day came to grief after 1,210 changes owing to the breaking of a rope. All the band except the conductor are under 18 and began to ring during the ban.

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