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FRIDAY, AUGUST 9th, 1935.

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transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO WILLIAM PYE

As our readers are aware, there is a proposal on foot to provide a memorial to the late Mr. William Pye, in his own sphere the greatest ringer of all time. William Pye was a national figure, and it is fitting that his memorial should be national in character. No man ever lived who did more to raise the national standard of our art; no man in this generation stood out so conspicuously for all round capacity. Those who knew him best admired his abilities most, but hundreds who had not met him must have set the standard of ringing values by his performances. And now that he has gone from us there is a growing realisation of all that he meant to ringing. It is not our intention, however, to add here to the tributes which have been paid to William Pye, the ringer, since he passed on, except to emphasise that in his ringing life William Pye was an outstanding national character. Although he was Master of the Middlesex Association, he was equally ready to share in the fortunes of any association in whose area he might be ringing, and there are few societies to-day who have not, at some time in the past, had their peal records enhanced by his contributions to their performances. Therefore, we say, it is only right and fitting that his memorial, when it is set up, should be a national one.

In the past ringers have been ever ready to honour the men who by outstanding ability and energy have helped conspicuously to foster the art of ringing and promote its welfare. We imagine they will be equally willing to support the appeal soon to be made for the memorial to William Pye. Fifty years ago the ringers of England put into the parish church of Ilkley a stained glass window to the memory of Jasper Snowdon; some twenty-five years since a chancel screen to commemorate the life of the Rev. F. E. Robinson was erected in Drayton Church. Later the Exercise added two bells at St. Ebbe's Church, Oxford, as a fitting memorial to James William Washbrook. More recently the ringers of England have provided a memorial chapel and additional bells at Tewkesbury Abbey as a perpetual recognition of the work done by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies; added bells at Surfleet as a memorial to the Rev. Henry Law James, and, only last year, joined in the effort of enlarging the chapel at St. Anne's College, Reading, to perpetuate the memory of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn. William Pye, in his own particular way, was as great a national figure as any of these, and the suggestion to augment the bells in his own parish church is a form of memorial that should appeal to everyone. A joint committee of the Middlesex and Essex Associations have the matter in

(Continued on page 502.)

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hand; those who will desire to be associated with the
scheme must be legion and we imagine there should be
very little difficulty in raising the £250 which it is estimated
will be required.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 5, 1935, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 37½ cwt.

EDWARD J. BRER Treble	CHARLES CLARKE 7
ALBERT G. WARNES 2	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 8
MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS ... 3	CHAS. A. CATCHPOLE ... 9
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 10
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 5	*GEORGE BAILEY 11
GEORGE H. FLEMING 6	WILLIAM CLOVER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung on the fifth anniversary
of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Cross.

TEN BELL PEALS.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN H. LENTON Treble	*WILLIAM H. JOHNSON ... 6
ARTHUR WALKER 2	HARRY C. WALTERS 7
HAROLD DYSON 3	THOMAS HOLDER 8
HORACE FOX 4	CHARLES BROWN 9
FRED NEWTON 5	ALBERT T. STRANGWARD ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters.

WISBECH, CAMBS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 5, 1935, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JOHN HOLMAN Treble	FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 6
MRS. R. RICHARDSON 2	JOHN WALDEN 7
CHARLES T. COLES 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN 8
ALBERT WALKER 4	ROBERT RICHARDSON ... 9
GEORGE R. PYE 5	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal on the ten bells. First peal of Surprise Royal in the
county.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 30, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HENRY GOLDING Treble	*HORACE L. WAITE 5
HERBERT GATES 2	*WILLIAM J. RANDALL ... 6
FRANCIS TOMPKINS 3	JOHN WALDEN 7
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 4	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Treble Bob and first attempt. Specially arranged
for Mr. J. Walden, of Lincoln.

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LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 30, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*WILLIAM BAWDRY Treble	GEORGE LEE 5
ALBERT J. L. NAUNTON 2	RICHARD W. R. COATES 6
RICHARD J. WOODLEY 3	ALBERT COLEMAN 7
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 4	FRANCIS W. NAUNTON Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by FRANCIS W. NAUNTON.
* First peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 31, 1935, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

COLIN HARRISON Treble	JOHN GRUNDY 5
ERNEST MORRIS 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 6
JOHN SADDINGTON 3	HAROLD G. JENNEY 7
ERNEST W. PYE 4	LESLIE STEVENS Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by FREDERICK H. DEXTER.

Rung to oblige Mr. E. W. Pye, who was on a visit from Leytonstone.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

LIONAL H. PAGE Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
*HENRY J. TUCKER 2	TOWER R. TAYLOR 6
FREDERICK A. BURNETT 3	JOSIAH D. HARRIS 7
*FREDERICK W. STEMP 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT Tenor

Composed by W. WILSON. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Norwich as conductor. A wedding compliment to Miss A. M. Eager, of St. Thomas' Cathedral, and Cecil L. Guy, of St. Mary's, Portsea, who were married the same day.

BENHILTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Half-a-Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE RAYNER Treble	EDWARD ENTICKNAP 5
*HARRY SMERDON 2	ERNEST MORRIS 6
†FRANK RANDALL 3	FREDERICK G. WOODIES 7
†CANON G. H. RIDOUT 4	RAYMOND FOREMAN Tenor

Composed by the REV. CANON G. H. RIDOUT, M.A., of Johannesburg. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS, F.R. HIST. S.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal of Grandsire Triples. A birthday and wedding anniversary peal for the 5th ringer. The composition is now rung for the first time. Specially arranged for the composer, who is on a visit to this country, and also for the conductor, who hails from Leicester.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

GORDON W. CHECKETTS Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT 6
GEORGE PORNELL 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS 7
GEORGE E. LARGE 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by JOS. W. PARKER. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

GARISBROOKE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 5, 1935, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

SIDNEY MOODY Treble	FRANK TAYLOR 5
FREDERICK A. BURNETT 2	CECIL L. GUY 6
FREDERICK W. STEMP 3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT 7
FRANK W. BENNETT 4	ALBERT R. WARD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HIGH ONGAR, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

SAM LAW Treble	CHARLES SAMMS 4
WILLIAM WEDLOCK 2	FREDERICK SEYMOUR 5
LEONARD CAMP 3	HENRY CAMP Tenor

Conducted by W. WEDLOCK.

COLNE ENGAINE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne.)

On Wednesday, July 31, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Carlisle, Chester, Canterbury, Beverley, York, London and Cambridge. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

REGINALD SIMMONS Treble	GEORGE R. TOWNS 4
MISS HILDA SNOWDEN 2	FRANK CLAYDON 5
ALEC M. GENERY 3	ALBERT L. DIXEY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. TOWNS.

This is the first peal of Surprise Minor in seven different methods by all the band, and also the first of its kind on the bells. Great credit is due to the conductor, who is only 18 years of age, and called the peal from a non-observation bell.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 1, 1935, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CROSS, HOLYWELL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Collegio Single, Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

*GEORGE HORWOOD Treble	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 4
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS 2	*FRANCIS E. MAY 5
*FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS 3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS E. TAYLOR.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal on the bells. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Reginald George Partridge and Miss Ruby Hayes, which took place at High Wycombe Church on the above date.

DEEPIING ST. JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, viz.: (1) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose and Bourn; (2) York and Durham; (3) London and Wells; (4) Ipswich; (5) Primrose; (6) Cambridge; (7) Durham. Tenor 19½ cwt.

MRS. PHYLISS HUMPHREY Treble	THOMAS A. COOPER 4
HORACE M. DAY 2	*ERNEST C. S. TURNER 5
WILLIAM H. WALDRON 3	THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in ten Surprise Minor methods.

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**SILKSTONE, NEAR BARNESLEY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At THE PARISH CHURCH.*

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 changes of Cambridge Surprise, College Treble, Wragby Delight, London Scholars', College Exercise, College Pleasure and Killamarsh. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

GEORGE LORD Treble	FRANK ATKINSON 4
WILLIAM GREEN 2	ARTHUR PANTHER 5
ARTHUR GILL 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by D. SMITH.

Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. Stenton, of South Anston, near Sheffield, with the best wishes of the band.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, August 3, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

*HARRY JOYCE Treble	*HENRY W. SHADRACK 4
†MISS ANNE E. WALDOCK ... 2	FRED CHALK 5
ALFRED SOUTH 3	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by H. J. MANSFIELD.

* First peal in three methods. † First peal of Minor and first lady to ring a peal on the bells. Rung as a farewell to the Rector (Canon Macdonald) on his retirement.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

*On Monday, July 22, 1935, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
At THE MAIL COACH, FARRINGTON ROAD.*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIE ROUGHTON 1-2	HERBERT LANGDON 5-6
CEALLIS F. WINNEY 3-4	*WARREN STURGIS 7-8

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY. Umpire: THOMAS BENNY.

* First peal. Every lead in this peal was ticked off by the umpire.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, SOCIETY.

INTERESTING VISIT TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

For their annual 'pilgrimage,' the ringers of St. Margaret's, Westminster, paid a visit to Cambridgeshire. Calling at Barkway in Hertfordshire en route, the Vicar very cordially welcomed the party and stayed while the first touch, Stedman Triples, was rung. A course of Superlative and Cambridge followed. At St. John the Baptist's, Royston, a course of Cambridge, a touch of Grandsire Triples and a touch of Spliced Surprise Major were rung, the latter being the first on the bells. John Ward, the local captain, and Robert King met the company here, the former piloting them in his car to the Rose, Melbourn, where dinner was served. After this very necessary interlude, a start was made for Soham, Cambridgeshire, and during the rather long and circuitous route to this ten-bell tower, several items of interest were pointed out, the two outstanding being a distant view of Ely Cathedral across the fields, and the other an ordinary country roadside pond. Here, it was learned, nearly 40 years ago a certain member of the company, who is a distinguished and well-known London ringer, presumably through the ebullition of youth, was precipitated into the pond, and had it not been for the timely arrival of the brother of the Vicar of Soham, we might have been one short for 'spliced' at Royston. Soham bells are quite nice, but want some handling. After a touch of Stedman Caters, however, quite a good course of Cambridge Royal was rung. The Rev. B. F. Sheppard, who was visiting the district, took part in three leads of Treble Ten with the visitors. The Vicar and his wife had arranged for refreshments in the Vicarage garden, and very lavishly did they receive and entertain their visitors. Such was their hospitality in fact, that the visit to Bourn, the fourth and last tower, was over an hour late. Here, on a very fine peal by Taylor, a touch of Double Norwich and a course of London Surprise were rung. Back to Melbourn for tea, a look round John Ward's Mill, which was extremely interesting, and time demanded our return home. Our best thanks are offered to the incumbents and towerkeepers, especially to Mr. John Ward and to the delightful people at Soham Vicarage, thanks are accorded for another very happy outing.

G. M. K.

FOR BEGINNERS.

DON'T 'STAY PUT.'

One of the things that is rather difficult to understand is how a band which is fairly competent in the ringing of, say, Bob Minor, is content to go on ringing it and making little or no attempt to get any further. Some there are who seem to think that the next stage to Plain Bob is Treble Bob or some elaborate Surprise method, and the feeling that from a plain method to this sort of thing is too big a step for them, saps their aspiration, and they just 'stay put' as far as their method ringing is concerned.

This is a totally wrong notion to get into one's head. The simpler Treble Bob methods have no real difficulties for a ringer who has really learned to ring Bob Minor properly, but it is not necessary to go even this far to get variety and a new interest. There are a number of six-bell methods in which the treble has a plain hunt and which, if practised, form an excellent introduction to an exploration of the 'great beyond,' which lies before the ringer blessed with average intelligence and a desire to learn.

For instance, there are the variations of Bob Minor itself, Reverse Bob and Double Bob. They will be found a useful stepping stone to other things and with just enough of difference to make them of more than passing interest.

Reverse Bob gets its name from the fact that instead of 2nd's place being made over the treble when it leads, 5th's place is made under the treble when lies its whole pull behind. Thus the work is reversed; and if you are in the habit of ringing by the treble; that is finding your dodging place by the position in which you pass the treble as the latter hunts down, you will have to find your dodging place by the position in which you pass the treble as it hunts up.

For example, after you have made your whole pull behind, which is 6th's, and you pass the treble in 6-5, you make 5th's and turn the treble from behind; or if you have passed the treble in 5-4, you dodge in 3-4 down, and so forth.

If you adopt the other plan of fixing your dodging place by the number of bells you meet before you meet the treble, you can still do so, only remembering that everything is the other way round. What you have to look for is the number of bells you meet before the treble as you hunt down (and not as you hunt up). If in Bob Minor you met two bells before the treble when hunting up, you dodge in 5-6 up. In Reverse Bob, if you meet two bells before the treble when hunting down, you dodge in 2-1 down. In other words, take as many bells after passing the treble as you took before it and then dodge.

Double Bob is a combination of Bob and Reverse Bob; that is to say, 2nd's place is made when the treble leads its whole pull, and 5th's is made when the treble lies its whole pull behind. This causes dodging to take place twice in each lead instead of once. You must fix your dodging places by the position in which you pass the treble both going up and down. In hunting up,

Pass treble in 1-2 make 2nd's and lead.

Pass treble in 2-3 dodge 3-4 up.

Pass treble in 3-4 dodge 5-6 up.

Pass treble in 4-5 dodge 5-6 down.

Pass treble in 5-6 dodge 3-4 down.

That's Bob Minor, isn't it? Then treat the passing of the treble as you hunt down in the same way. In hunting down,

Pass treble in 1-2 from the back (i.e. 6-5) make 5th's and lie.

Pass treble in 2-3 from the back (i.e. 5-4) dodge 3-4 down.

Pass treble in 3-4 from the back (i.e. 4-3) dodge 1-2 down.

Pass treble in 4-5 from the back (i.e. 3-2) dodge 1-2 up.

Pass treble in 5-6 from the back (i.e. 2-1) dodge 3-4 up.

Of course, the work does not come in this order. You get a piece out of each table in turn; that is, you alternate the ups with the downs. Perhaps it will help you if I give you the figures of a lead of each. Then I would advise you to write out the whole course and draw a continuous line through the figure representing one bell and see if you can learn the methods by this diagram system, which I may tell you is the way in which all the 'brass hats' of the Exercise learn those wonderful methods which leave us poor beginners gasping in wonderment as to how they do it.

Well, here are the three methods side by side:—

Plain Bob.	Reverse Bob.	Double Bob.
123456	123456	123456
214365	214365	214365
241635	241635	241635
426153	426153	426153
462513	462513	462513
645231	645231	645231
654321	645231	645231
563412	645231	645231
536142	654123	654123
351624	561432	561432
315264	516342	516342
132546	152624	152624
132644	132644	156342

MAKING A MESS OF IT.

WHAT CAME OF GETTING INTO THE WRONG TRAIN.

Surfleet, of many happy memories, was the scene of another gathering last week-end, when a company, got together by Mr. Churchwarden Richardson, was to have attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques on the lightest ring of twelve in the world. We say 'was,' because they didn't. The ringers were coming from the four corners of the universe (more or less): Birmingham, Derby, Woking, London, Sheffield, Lincoln and elsewhere. This last term includes Hemel Hempstead, which, perhaps, had better be mentioned, otherwise this report would be incomplete, like that of a celebrated society wedding from which the bride's mamma, in her glamorous description to a society paper, omitted all mention of the bridegroom. When, having described the bride and the bridesmaids and their dresses, her own lavish get-up and, to a lesser degree, the dresses of some of the more prominent guests, she was asked, not quite in these words, but in effect, 'What about him?' she casually replied that the reporter could say 'he was also present.'

Thanks, we are told, to the 'also present,' the peal at Surfleet was not attempted—and he doesn't deny it. Some of the wiser ones of the party arrived on the scene overnight—it may have been to make sure of their beds, because there is no surfeit of beds in Surfleet on such occasions, unless one is prepared to sleep on one of the broad racks in the forcing shed—and goodness knows what might happen then, if Rupert started firing up the stoves. But, whatever the reason, the Birmingham and Woking contingents—the latter rather the worse for wear after the journey—landed safely on Friday.

BRASS HATS MISSING.

Little by little the rest drifted in on Saturday, and at two o'clock a deputation, including the Mayor and 'Corporation' of Surfleet (without cocked hat, which he appears to have left behind in Melbourne) was dispatched to Spalding to meet the 'real brass hats,' who were travelling from King's Cross. The train drew up at Spalding, the Mayor and Corporation of Surfleet was ready to read his address of welcome—but the distinguished visitors failed to put in an appearance. It was rather an indignity to inflict upon his worship and those who had accompanied the deputation, but there was nothing for it but to wait until the next train arrived an hour later.

Meanwhile, in a train that was speeding from Peterborough northward, a railwayman and a schoolmaster had realised the full intensity of the tragedy. The 'Coles' blazed up, the 'Ayre' went blue. It was all to no purpose. They had got into the wrong end of the train—and it was labelled 'Leeds.' Would it stop before they got to Yorkshire?—that was the question. Fortunately for them the train stopped at Grantham. After consulting some complicated time tables and some not very well informed officials, they sent a telegram to Surfleet to say they would arrive at Spalding at 4.6 'if possible.' The 'if possible' was dependent on making the connection at Peterborough—they did not make it. They got on to the platform as the Spalding train disappeared at the other end! More fiery Coles, more blue Ayre.

At Surfleet the telegram was duly delivered. A messenger was despatched hot foot—or hot tyred—to Spalding to inform the waiting deputation, and together the municipal procession returned to Surfleet.

Promptly at 4.6 the Mayor and Corporation was back at Spalding Station, but there were no brass hats ejected from the train. The deputation waited, and the address of welcome was redrafted. Time passed and the watchers at Surfleet, where flags were flying in honour of the expected visit, began to get fidgety. Had the Mayor and Corporation also been lost. A search party was sent out. No, his worship was still at Spalding Station. What had happened at Peterborough was, of course, still unknown, and the search party was left to do the waiting while the Mayor and Corporation went back to Surfleet to refresh himself with tea.

By this time all chance of a peal of Cinques was out of the question—others had to get home that night—but there might be time for a quick peal of Caters. But as the fateful minutes slipped past, even this possibility receded, for the search party themselves had failed to return.

MAYOR PRESENTS REVISED ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

So once again the Mayor and his deputation went to Spalding Station, found the missing search party and sent them back with the metaphorical flea in their ear. At length a dilatory train disgorged a pair of very repentant figures, not looking a bit like real brass hats, and the Mayor and Corporation had difficulty in recognising them as they tried to escape by the back door of the railway station. The revised address of welcome presented to them on the way from

(Continued in next column.)

PETERBOROUGH GUILD'S LOSSES.

A quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held at Great Doddington. Ringers were present from Wellingborough, Finedon, Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers, Wollaston, Easton Maudit, Yardley Hastings, Earls Barton, Raunds, Brayfield and Overstone, together with the local band. The Guild service was held in church, conducted by the Rev. R. H. Robinson, D.D., Rector of Wilby. Mr. Edwards, also of Wilby, kindly assisted at the organ.

Before commencing the service, Dr. Robinson made reference to the deaths, since the last meeting, of three members, the Rev. W. R. Finch (late Vicar of Great Doddington), the Rev. F. T. B. Westlake (late Vicar of Easton Maudit) and Mr. J. Packwood (late of Wellingborough), and a moment in silent thought was observed. The short address that followed was much appreciated, and was based on the words, 'Wist ye not, that I must be about my Father's business.' He appealed to the ringers not just to look on ringing as their one and only work, but to take a wider view and work in fellowship with the other branches of church life, giving thanks and glory to God.

After tea, which was served by the local ringers' wives, in the adjoining Church Hall, a short business meeting was presided over by one of the two churchwardens present, Mr. H. G. Robinson.

Yardley Hastings was chosen for the next meeting, and one honorary, one ringing and one out-county members were elected. Votes of thanks were passed to all concerned for the arrangements, the enjoyable service, tea, etc.

After a little handbell ringing, the light five tower bells were again set going until all were satisfied.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.—At Christ Church on Sunday, July 28th, a 720 Kent Treble Bob with tenor covering: J. Rothwell 1, J. Lunnum 2, C. Bradley 3, J. Taylor 4, T. Rothwell 5, J. Brown (conductor) 6, J. Marsh 7. Specially arranged for the ringer of the 3rd, on a visit from Beverley Minster, and rung after meeting short for Stedman.

(Continued from previous column.)

Spalding to Surfleet cannot, we regret to say, be printed in our columns. Suffice it they have promised never to do it again—if ever they do get another official invitation to Surfleet.

This contretemps was not the first in connection with the peal. The member of the party who arrived the worse for wear on Friday was no better on Saturday, and a good part of the morning had been spent in finding a substitute for him. On Sunday his condition was such that his host had to undertake a 230 miles' car drive to get him home again, where a doctor is keeping him in bed.

When the host reached home on Sunday night, he found the three menfolk he had left behind engaged in bowls. Mr. Pye admits that he is the worst player in England, but he beat Mr. Walker and Mr. Ayre, who, he says, can't play at all. In fact, he could have beaten them even more easily if the woods (yes, Bob, woods, not balls) had only run straight. Probably the next competition played at Glyn Garth, on one of these 'annual' occasions, will be marbles.

The host, who had taken Mr. Coles with him on his long run, just to keep him awake by a discussion on the relative importance of Leeds and Leeds, and the conflicting merits of Grantham and Spalding as the stepping off place for Surfleet, also took back with him from Woking a couple of passengers who were to drive home a stranded car, belonging to the worse-for-wear member. These young men left Surfleet at 10 p.m. on a 130 miles run south. All went well until 2 a.m., when the petrol feed pipe broke—which made another mess of things, seeing that there was no available garage within four miles.

But brighter times dawned with Monday. The second peal of the visit was to be Cambridge Royal on the ten bells at Wisbech, Cambs, and, with the real brass hats safely 'in hand,' so to speak, everyone answered the roll call, and a very good peal, the first of Surprise Royal in Cambridgeshire, was rung.

The railwayman, having to be at his office next day, would not trust to the train to get him home. He went by car. The schoolmaster, having a month's holiday in front of him, was left to get home as best he could, but the last news of him was that he was wandering round North Lincolnshire looking for a train to take him to Grantham. But that is only hearsay.

The Mayor and Corporation of Surfleet has got back to work again, the decorations have been taken down, and for a week or two, at any rate, the tide of affairs in the little Lincolnshire village is likely to flow undisturbed.

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DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. PRESIDENT'S PRACTICAL ADVICE.

A fine afternoon, a musical ring of eight with a 17 cwt. tenor, a good tea and an attendance of nearly 30 all contributed to make the summer meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association at Whitley Bay on Saturday week a very successful one.

After tea, in the Parish Room, in thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, etc., the president (Councillor Arthur Payne, of Gateshead) said that St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, had happy memories for him, as it was there that he began his ringing career, in 1912. In conversation with the verger of the time, he had expressed a wish to become a ringer, and that worthy gentleman not only invited him to come to the next practice, but called at his home and brought him along! Councillor Payne urged the members to do likewise, to talk more about their art, and to persuade others to become ringers.

In concluding, the now somewhat portly president said that the belfry stairs must have contracted considerably since he first ascended them!

The bells were kept going until a late hour in touches of Cambridge Minor, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob Major, etc.

BRIGHT YOUNG PEOPLE'S BRANCH. LIVELY DOINGS AT CHENIES.

A lively party of 'Bright Young Things' met at Chenies to further the art of change ringing, but where were the ladies to meet these handsome young stream-lined experts? Three of the 'evergreens' brought their own, but did not share them. The frog-hunter was soon recognised (oh, Ellesborough!), also Freddy (always in a hurry). Two 'Wings' were 'passing through,' and a crowd of others who came from over the border, but did not wear their 'old school tie.'

A surprise item was the arrival of a bag of handbells, thoughtfully brought by Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Watford. Neither Reginald Dixon or Teddy Brown being present, we had to fall back on some of the evergreens, but where was W. L. G.? The 'Old Hackney' harmonies in the 'Blue Bells of Scotland' wanted the 'top four' to put a finish on it. There was a large and appreciative audience all round the tea gardens.

Two of the 'Rochester Roughs' rolled up after tea and took the 'prize' home. Tom turned up, but he was just too late for a bit of cake for the poor old cockatoo.

Methods were rung to suit all, including Kent and Oxford Spliced (modern). The spliced Cambridge and London came to grief through the conductor doing some laminating. Fortunately for him there were no Co(a)les of fire for his head, or (h)Ealing balm to donkilate his hair. (Don't Taunt 'em.) A 'not too bad' run down brought the meeting to a close, but who was responsible for taking the speed merchant nearly into Amersham, so that he had about ten miles downhill, on a fixed wheel?

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT ENTERTAINED AT LITTLEBOURNE.

Favoured with a fine afternoon, and amid very pretty surroundings, a very happy by-meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Littlebourne on Saturday, June 1st, by the kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Manley). The bells were ringing soon after 3 o'clock, and before the service a representative gathering of the district had arrived, including visitors from Canterbury Cathedral and St. Alphege, Deal, Goodnestone, Sturry, Throwley, Whitstable, Wickhambreau, Ashford, Brabourne, Swindon and the local tower.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, who gave a most interesting address. He was at one time a keen bellringer, and is an honorary member of the association. Mr. J. P. Cobbold, the local secretary, presided at the organ, and the service was fully choral. Mr. Masters (Throwley) read the lesson.

After the service the ringers adjourned to the Vicarage, where a magnificent tea had been provided by the Rev. C. A. Manley. Forty members sat down and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In replying to a speech of thanks to the Vicar, Mrs. and Miss Manley, by Mr. Masters, the Vicar paid a very warm tribute to his own band of bellringers at Littlebourne. 'They were,' he said, 'undoubtedly one of the most loyal bands in the county. Many of them were also members of the church choir, and other branches of the church's activities.' It would be an interesting point, he thought, to know actually how many ringers in the district were, or had been, members of church choirs, as, judging by the singing at the service, he thought the percentage must be high.

Subsequently a pleasant half an hour was spent in the beautiful grounds of the Vicarage, where several touches in various methods were rung on the handbells.

The methods rung on the tower bells included Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and London Surprise.

Before the bells were finally lowered, 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung by R. H. Maile 1. S. Finn 2, E. Bankes 3, W. Savage 4, A. P. Cannon (conductor) 5, S. Walker 6.

The next meeting of the district will be held at St. Peter's, Broadstairs, on Saturday, July 6th.

SPICED SURPRISE IN SIX METHODS.

A CLEVER NEW COMPOSITION BY MR. E. C. S. TURNER.

A 5,216 Spliced Surprise Major, as arranged for the following six methods: Ealing, London, Rutland, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative. The peal was composed by Ernest C. S. Turner.

23456	M	W	R	Methods
56234	2	—	—	E (R), B, S, R (L)
32465	—	—	—	E (L), S (C), L
64523	—	—	—	L, S (C), E (L)
54326	—	—	—	R (L), S, E
23645	—	—	—	R (L), C (S), E
34562	—	2	—	R, C (S), B, R (L)
46325	2	2	—	E, B, C (S), B, E
25463	2	—	—	R (L), B, C (S), R
64352	—	—	—	E, C (S), R (L)
53246	—	—	—	E, C (S), E
42635	—	—	—	R (L), C (S), E
23564	—	2	—	R, C (S), B, R (L)
36245	2	2	—	E, B, C (S), B, E
45362	2	—	—	R (L), B, C (S), R
63254	—	—	—	E, C (S), R (L)
52436	—	—	—	E, S (C), E
34625	—	—	—	R (L), S (C), E
42563	—	2	—	R, S (C), B, R (L)
26435	2	2	—	E, B, S (C), B, E
35264	2	—	—	R (L), B, S (C), R
62453	—	—	—	E, S (C), R (L)
56423	—	—	—	E, S, R (L)
24365	—	—	—	E (L), S (C), L
56342	—	—	—	L, C (S), E (L)
43265	—	—	—	E (L), C (S), L
62534	—	—	—	L, C (S), E (L)
42356	—	2	—	R (L), S, B, E (R)
34256	—	—	—	E (R), S (C), E (R)
35642	2	—	—	E (R), B, S, R (L)
46253	—	—	—	R (L), S, L
65324	—	2	—	L, C (S), B, L
52643	2	2	—	L (R), B, C (S), B, L (R)
43526	2	—	—	L, B, C (S), L
25634	—	—	—	L, S, R (L)
36452	—	—	—	R (L), S, L
66243	—	2	—	L, C (S), B, L
54632	2	2	—	L (R), B, C (S), B, L (R)
32546	2	—	—	L, B, C (S), L
45623	—	—	—	L, S, R (L)
26354	—	—	—	R (L), S, L
65432	—	2	—	L, C (S), B, L
53624	2	2	—	L (R), B, C (S), B, L (R)
24536	2	—	—	L, B, C (S), L
63542	—	—	—	L, S, R (L)
23456	—	2	—	R (L), S, B, E (R)

B—Bristol; C—Cambridge; E—Ealing; L—London; R—Rutland; S—Superlative.

First rung by the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on July 27th, 1935, conducted by the composer. Any method shown in brackets is an alternative and may be used in the place of the method which precedes it.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FIRST MEETING AT FEBMARSH.

A most successful meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place at Febmarsh on Saturday, July 27th, between 40 and 50 ringers being present from 14 parishes. Ringing was engaged in during the afternoon and evening until 9 p.m., a break being made for a short service in the Parish Church at 4.30. This was choral and was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. T. D. S. Bayley), who, in his address, gave the association a warm welcome to the parish and expressed the hope that they would experience an enjoyable time.

Following the service, an excellent tea was partaken of at the Hut, through the kind invitation of Mrs. Dickinson, O.B.E., and the Rector, the latter presiding. Valuable assistance was also given by Mrs. R. Potter and Mrs. G. Trendell.

At the business meeting three probationers, all of Febmarsh, were elected.

Coggeshall and Greenstead Green were put forward as the venue for the next meeting, and, on a vote being taken, it was decided to meet at Greenstead Green on September 14th.

The District Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, his excellent address and presiding at the tea; also to the organist and choir and Mrs. Dickinson and the ladies who assisted at the tea.—The Rector and organist responded.

The bells at this church were recently augmented to six and the tower became affiliated to the association. The Rector and Mrs. Dickinson became hon. members. As far as records show, this was the first association meeting to be held in this parish, and would certainly rank with the best.

OVER THE DOWNS.

YOUNG BILL DESCRIBES AN EVENING IN RURAL BERKSHIRE.

One day last week, Stella, Old Tom and Young Bill were bowling along the Bath Road when they overtook Stan, Charlie and Sydney (Oliver), who were making the pace hot to reach Lambourne by 6 p.m. This was accomplished within a few minutes of 6 o'clock, after stopping a few minutes to look down on the quiet churchyard and beautiful old village of East Garston, where the 'Master' lies amidst the country he loved so well.

Arriving at Lambourne, the cars were 'parked in' by young Cyril, who had run over from Ilsley, bringing Buffer and Marnie, whilst in the churchyard were Edgar and Old Harry. Just as we were about to mount the steps of the belfry a tremendous noise, such as a traction engine would make, was heard, and E. J. T. in his 'Rolls,' together with Reg, rolled up in time to make the party complete to start the ringing.

The fine old peal at Lambourne were soon going to Stedman Triples, and then George from East Garston showed us how the tenor should be rung behind Grandsire. Before proceeding to Aldbourne we thought it good missionary work to show the locals that the tenor was not so bad as she is painted, so Old Tom turned her in to a very fair course of Double Norwich.

Thanks, everyone at Lambourne. The party moved off to Aldbourne in regimental style, the 'Rolls' leading, not, however, before a quick visit had been made to purchase postage stamps. Then a beautiful run over the downs to Aldbourne, the view of this village from the hill outside being one of the glories of the down land, and so to the home of famous bellfounders.

Here the bells were rung to Stedman, Grandsire and quite a decent course of Cambridge, the party being reinforced by Charlie from Swindon, who, unfortunately, couldn't stay to buy too many stamps, as his last bus left 20 minutes after the bells were lowered. Here, also, a touch of Grandsire was rung with three of the local ringers, who much appreciated the chance of method ringing. At 9.30 p.m. the party started for their various homes, the 'Rolls' and the Austin taking a wrong turning at the half-way house at Kintbury. It was just after 10 p.m. before the right road was found again, but it was agreed by all that the evening had been well worth while, and all felt better men and women for an all too short visit to the glorious downlands.

W. H.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Sunday, August 4th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): F. A. Mitchell 1, R. J. Goodship 2, J. Burles 3, G. R. Ambrose 4, G. Morrad 5, R. A. Munn 6, F. M. Mitchell (conductor) 7, F. J. Seabright 8. Specially arranged for the ringer of the second, from Harrow Weald, Middlesex.

LEYTON RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, July 27th, nearly 20 members and friends of the Leyton Society held their annual outing. Soon after midday the party left Leyton en route for Bishop's Stortford.

A stop was made at Harlow Common to pick up Mr. Cordell, and at Sawbridgeworth for Mr. Rochester. At Bishop's Stortford they were met by Mr. Springfield, of the local band, and ringing on this fine peal of ten bells was enjoyed. Stansted Church, situated in most picturesque surroundings, was next visited, and here they were met by Mr. Watts, Mr. Cavill and other members of the local band. With their help touches of Grandsire Stedman and Double Norwich were rung. After an hour's ringing the party returned to Harlow Common, where a splendid tea awaited them at the White Horse. In the evening the bells of Harlow Common were placed at their disposal, and some good ringing was indulged in.

Throughout the day, although the ringing was not in the higher methods, the striking was quite good. Through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' the society thank the incumbents of the respective churches for allowing them the use of the bells; Mr. White, of Bishop's Stortford, Mr. Watts, of Stansted, Mr. Cordell, of Harlow Common (who acted as guide), and especially Mr. George Dent, of Harlow Common, who was responsible for the arrangements for tea and bells.

THE SURPRISE MAJOR COLLECTION,

FALSE COURSE ENDS FULLY DEALT WITH.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The new book on the Surprise Major methods is now finished, and no material additions or alterations will be made. The group of five false course ends given in last week's issue is referred to. They will allow 30 true courses, but there seems to be no means by which a sufficient number of them can be joined together to make a true peal. However, a peal is given in the book for certain methods with these false course ends.

The method in this week's 'Ringing World' appears to be pretty hopeless under ordinary circumstances. There are 18 groups of five false course ends which will allow of 30 true courses, but only one is of any practical value. To talk about any formula explaining anything is, ipso facto, to talk nonsense. There seems no reason why we should take any notice of anonymous statements or why we should submit to be cross-examined by persons, not members of the Central Council, whose object is to demonstrate how much more they know about the matter than we do.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

There are probably many of our readers who are waiting 'to see what it's like' before ordering their copy of 'The Great Adventure.' When they have seen what it is like they will, we are sure, be anxious to possess a copy—but it may be too late; the spare copies, very limited in number, may be sold. Do not risk disappointment, therefore. Send your order at once, with a remittance of 2s., to 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

The tour was unique; the book is unique in ringing literature, and it will be found of great interest as well as providing an historical record of the adventure. There are 144 pages and 43 photographs.

A reunion of the Australian tourists is to take place in London on the anniversary of their sailing—Saturday, September 14th. After ringing together at St. Clement Danes Church (the Australian Church in London), where they hope to attempt a peal, they will dine together at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden Lane, Strand. Mr. Rupert Richardson will then exhibit his cinema pictures of the tour.

All ringers will be welcome at this gathering. Dinner tickets are 4s. each, and application should be made not later than Saturday, September 7th, to Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking. If sufficient applications are received, an effort will be made to get the use of another peal of bells for visitors.

Congratulations to Mr. John Hobden, one of the young ringers at Banstead, Surrey, who has passed his examination for his B.A. degree, with honours, at London University. He started ringing at Banstead about three years ago, and has since rung peals of Grandairs, Bob Major, Stedman and Double Norwich.

A fortnight ago a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus was lost at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark, after 3½ hours' ringing. But that was not the worst of it. One of the band had come from Birmingham. He had to walk home three miles from New Street Station after three o'clock in the morning! It's a long way at that hour after you've lost a peal that you travelled more than 200 miles to ring.

Mr. Warren Sturgis, of Groton, Mass., U.S.A., who rang his first peal with a band of College Youths on July 22nd, had previously rung only two quarter-peals 'in hand.' The first some five or six years ago, and the second on the day before the peal, both with the same band.

Messrs. John Taylor and Co. last week removed the heavy ring of six bells of Hoar Cross Church, Staffs. This is one of the heaviest rings of six in the country, the tenor weighing 30 cwt. (approx.), and the peal is to be hung with modern fittings in a new framework, also tuned and partly recast. This church, with its beautiful central tower, is one of Bodley's masterpieces and is most charmingly situated.

THE PROOF OF TREBLE BOB.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Baker's letter of August 2nd, showing the proof of a method, is too good an example to be missed of the striking contrast between the older method of proof, as used by him, and that offered to the Methods Committee in my 'open letter' recently.

Mr. Baker has printed 16 false lead heads, and must have discarded eight more—24 in all—from the 24 rows he thought necessary to prove (the remaining eight rows of the lead being unnecessary, due to symmetry in the sections).

With the newer system, eight rows are redundant by symmetry; twelve are judged to be clean *at sight*; the system discards half of the remaining twelve, leaving three pairs to be proved, the results then coming half by 'work' and half by formula in the shape of tables. Three transpositions out of 24, just one-eighth of this part of the work entailed.

In passing, I must confess that I see no real use, to the majority of readers, of baldly quoting the false course ends, as done by Mr. Baker and everyone else (so far as I remember) who publishes a method. If they mean anything at all as they stand, to the prover of peals, well and good—I have something *else* yet to learn. If they need amplifying, in the shape of lead locations, before a peal can properly be proved, why not amplify? For instance, if Mr. Baker's course end 24365 affects the 'out' and 'wrong' leads of the peal only, and no other leads, why not say so? In the newer system this comes automatically. **'MINORMANIA.'**

5,000 TREBLE BOB ROYAL

BY NOLAN GOLDEN

23456 M W H

54326	2	2
53246	1	2
36245	1	2
32465	1	2
64235	2	2
45236	1	2
36524	1	2
35264	1	2
32654	1	2
23456	2	2

The first peal of Treble Bob Royal to be published containing tenors together, 4-5-6 only in 6th's; the extent of 4-5-6 in 5-6, and the 6th the extent home.

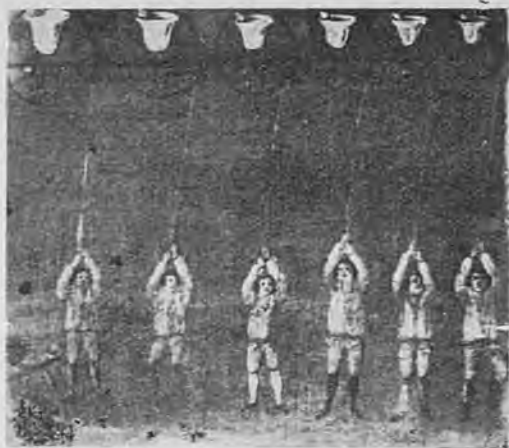
ECTON BELFRY AND RINGERS OF LONG AGO

AN UNIQUE RECORD.

BY THE REV. J. MAURICE TURNER, B.D., MOULTON.

In the belfry of Ecton Church, Northamptonshire, the parish of which was the birthplace of the father of the celebrated Benjamin Franklin, is a unique oil painting on the wall. It is dated 1736 and depicts the six ringers of those days. With great difficulty I was able to get a photograph of it in that darkened chamber. The picture throws light on the dress of those days. The ringers are wearing knee breeches, stockings and buckled shoes. Open-necked shirts seem to have been the fashion, and one ringer has his frilled, wears white stockings and has keys on his fob.

There is an inscription above the painting which identifies the ringers. The inevitable beer jug can be seen, also the clay pipes and the tobacco pouch on the old-fashioned stool which may be seen in the belfry to-day. Evidently there were no pegs, as the ringers have 'hung' their clothes on the floor.



ECTON RINGERS NEARLY 200 YEARS AGO.

The inscription records the heights of the ringers as well as the names as follows:

- Treble.—Thomas Cox, 5ft. 6in.
 2.—Thomas Collins, 5ft. 6½in.
 3.—John Childes, 5ft. 9½in.
 4.—John Langly, 5ft. 6in.
 5.—Willm. Smith, 5ft. 7½in.
 Tenor.—John Jelley, 5ft. 8in.

Above the names are the words, 'April 21st, 1756. We the under written Ring the First Six Bell peal 720 upon 6 Bells of this Parish.'

This historic peal no doubt is connected with the story of another tablet, dated 1721, giving the names of five ringers, viz.: 'John Mallard, William Langdell, Joseph Morris, Francis Chambers, Thomas Morris. Ringers 1721.'

All you that come Thro this place
 Thare names may read But not Disface.'

Evidently there were only five bells in 1721. Records state that the present treble was added in 1749, so it took them seven years to get this peal.

All honour to these old Ecton ringers. What hours they must have spent learning hand stroke and back stroke, to raise and fall the bells, controlling them, gauging the pull so as not to break the stay or cause the bell to come over before its time, learning to follow the right rope to avoid a clash, as well as an intensive study of the method they were to ring, which possibly was Plain Bob.

How proud they would feel on April 21st, 1756, when their strenuous efforts were crowned with success. We can imagine the well-earned rest on the old-fashioned stools, the lengthy pull at the beer jug, the solemn puffs at the churchwarden pipes and the momentous decision that a beautiful oil painting in the belfry must record the marvellous feat for all time.

BELLS' ANNIVERSARY.

At Sulgrave, Northants, on Sunday, July 28th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Minor, but was lost in the second 720. The occasion was the eighth anniversary of the dedication of the bells: A. Bearman 1, M. Saunders 2, M. Smith (conductor) 3, J. Mardell 4, W. Branson 5, O. Hinton 6. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor by A. Bearman 1, M. Saunders 2, W. Branson 3, A. Humphrey 4, J. Mardell 5, C. Hinton (conductor) 6. This is the first quarter-peal of Minor on the bells and the first by treble, 2nd, 3rd and 4th ringers.

MR. E. BARNETT'S 400 PEALS.

Mr. Edwin Barnett, who has just rung his 400th peal, has made up his list with a great variety of methods.

Maximus:—	
Cambridge Surprise	3
Kent Treble Bob	4
Plain Bob	2
Little Bob	1
Canterbury Pleasure	1
Cinques:—	
Stedman	17
Royal:—	
Cambridge Surprise	5
Double Norwich	1
Duffield	1
Forward	2
Kent Treble Bob	6
Granta Treble Bob	2
Plain Bob	2
Caters:—	
Stedman	14
Grandsire	1
Spiced Methods:—	
Cambridge and Superlative	1
London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative	1
Kent and Oxford Treble Bob	2
Double Norwich and Double Oxford	1
Double Norwich and Plain Bob	1
Double Oxford and Plain Bob	1
Bob Major and Canterbury Pleasure	1
Bob Major and Stedman Triples	1
Major:—	
Bristol Surprise	3
London	15
New Cumberland	3
Norfolk	3
Yorkshire	1
Cambridge	42
New Cambridge	1
Superlative	17
Double Norwich	78
'Real' Double Norwich	5
Double Oxford	7
Kent Treble Bob	25
Oxford Treble Bob	2
Granta Treble Bob	1
Plain Bob	26
Reverse Bob	1
Double Bob	1
Canterbury Pleasure	2
Crayford College	1
Little Bob	1
Little Canterbury	1
Crayford Little Bob	1
Erith Little Bob	1
Northfleet Little Bob	1
Triples:—	
Grandsire	26
Stedman	57
Erin	1
Union	4
Plain Bob	1
Canterbury Pleasure	1
Total ... 400	

Twelve of the above peals were also conducted, viz., one each of Grandsire and Union Triples, two each of Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich, and six of Stedman Triples. One peal of Cambridge, one of Superlative, and one of Double Norwich were rung non-conducted. Five peals of Bob Major, one of Bob Royal, and the peal of Grandsire Caters were rung on handbells. One hundred and fifty-eight peals were rung at Crayford. One peal of Stedman Cinques was rung by six fathers and their six sons. In 18, three generations of the family took part.

ALDERTON BELLS REHUNG.

The ring of five bells at Alderton in the Towcester Branch of the Peterborough Guild have been rehung in a new frame, and the ropes, which before rehanging were in order 31245, now fall in a proper circle.

The work has been done by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in their usually excellent manner. The work was dedicated by the Bishop of Peterborough on August 3rd, when ringers from neighbouring towers attended and tried out the bells. The Alderton ringers have now a good peal of bells, after waiting for several years, and their keenness should soon result in their advancement in the art.

CHANGE RINGING IN POETRY.

BY J. A. TROLLOPE.

To one of some small literary taste, few things are more pitiable than the efforts of those misguided persons who try to make poetry out of bell ringing. There always have been such persons. Years before the Sixes were invented some man was scribbling doggerel on the lime-washed walls of a belfry; and when at long last our Art dies out some ancient will be found, white haired and broken in body, trying to set down in verse the glories of the change ringing he had known and loved. And between there are many, many others. For the writing of verse is a disease which, like influenza or the measles, goes through the land, striking here and there without distinction of person or place. The learned and cultured are just as likely to be affected as the poor and ignorant, but fortunately recovery is usually rapid and complete.

Not all or many are attacked. I never heard that Mr. William Pye was writing an epic on heavy bell ringing, or Mr. Pitman a lyric on spliced peals; but making verses came as natural to Mr. William Willson as quoting Latin or drinking (in the pages of 'The Ringing World') mild and bitter. Even I have written verse, and (heaven forgive me!) got it into print. I remember the time when two wretched beings carried on, in what they supposed to be poetry, a correspondence in the 'Bell News' over some dispute about the authorship of peals; for allowing which thing, no doubt, the editor of that journal is at present spending a few extra days in purgatory.

The aggregate output of these poets must be pretty large, if one were at the pains of collecting it. I knew of a man who was engaged in preparing an anthology, but whether he was including poems generally relating to bells, or only those relating to ringing I forget. If the latter, I fear it would be poor stuff. The poetry about ringing varies very much in quality, the highest being doggerel, and the lowest 'tripe'; with but one or two exceptions to prove the rule. Perhaps the best of all was the verses that Martin Routh wrote on the death of Jasper Snowdon. Simple, direct and unaffected, their appearance was perfectly timed, and they expressed the whole feeling of the Exercise. But they were only incidentally connected with ringing and would have been just as effective if Snowdon had been a writer on any other subject.

Of poems that deal exclusively with change ringing the best is William Woty's 'Campanalogia,' and the very worst, without any shadow of doubt, Wm. Laughton's account of the Rambling Ringers. Laughton's lines are almost unbelievably bad, far worse than the modernised extracts printed by Mr. Daniell and Mr. Morris would lead us to suppose. I turn to the 'poem' and the very first lines that catch my eye are the following:—

At Spittle feilds we met again
And punctily Came ev-ry man
And Rang five hundred of bob major
But indeed twas not without hard labour.

and a little later:—

We met again at Brother Ned-s
And had for supper two noble leggs
Of Weather Mutton fresh Cut up
And both with pickled herring stuff'd,
An od sort of dish it is tis true.

They are quite good and fair samples of Laughton's rhyme and scansion. And when I think of what he might have told us about the London ringers of Annable's

time and what, in fact, he did tell us, I feel (as a would-be historian) a personal grievance against him.

William Woty's effusion is a different sort of thing. It is not poetry, but at any rate it is good rhetoric; for Woty had some pretensions to be a minor poet and published three or four poems on various subjects. He calls this a poem in praise of Ringing, by the author of the Shrubs of Parnassus, and dedicated it to the Society of College Youths and to all ringers in general. There is a finely printed and bound copy in the King's Library at Bloomsbury, and it is interesting to notice that the original price was one shilling. Dr. Raven reprinted it in his Bells of England, and so no doubt it is familiar to many of my readers. Here is a sample, in which the writer traces the evolution of the complete ringer. After saying that

'First the Youths try one single bell to sound.'

he goes on

In order due to Rounds they next proceed,
And each attunes numerical in turn.
Adepts in this, on three bells they assay
Their infant skill. Complete in this they try
Their strength on four, and musically bold,
Full four and twenty changes they repeat:
Next, as in practice gradual they advance
Ascending unto five they ring a peal
Of Grandsires, pleasing to a tuneful soul.
On they proceed to six. . . .

And so on until

'Catons with tenor behind on nine they ring,
On ten Bobs-royal; from eleven Cinques
Accompanied with tenor, forth they pour.
And the Bob Maximus results from twelve.'

Of course, it is not poetry, and I was not surprised to find a contemporary critic making fun of the attempt to turn Bobs-royal and Grandsires and the rest into poetry. But what a world of difference between this and Laughton!

Woty also wrote the Ode to be Sung at the Feast of the College Youths, which surely ought to be rendered to its proper tune, 'The Early Horn,' when two years hence the tercentenary of the society is celebrated. Dr. Raven says that Woty wrote under the pen name of I. Copywell, but there is nothing about that, so far as I could see, in the printed book.

Woty was friendly with some of the great literary persons of his time and among the subscribers to another of his poems appear the names of Dr. Johnson, Mr. Reynolds (not yet Sir Joshua), Mr. Boswell, Mr. Garrick, and Mr. Dodd—the last the unfortunate clergyman who was hung for forgery.

No other poem on ringing ranks with Woty's 'Campanalogia,' but more interesting to us are Robert Roan's lines on the presentation of Grandsire Bob to the College Youths. Roan was a better composer than he was a poet and he hampered himself by trying to write thirty-three lines all ending with the same rhyme, and except in three instances, not using the final word twice. As Dr. Johnson said of the dog standing on his hind legs, it was not well done, but the wonder is that it was done at all.

I should liked to have given some of the ridiculously bad lines I have come across from time to time, but space fails me. I must not, however, close without some mention of Mr. William Scott, who did elegantly sing about the first peal of Stedman Triples. He wrote doggerel, but it was good doggerel.

'As for the sweet and pleasant Treble, she
By Melchior well was rung that bell and
Call'd the Bobs so free.'

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE PERSONNEL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THE TYPE OF MEN WANTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I thank you for your admirable article in last week's 'Ringing World.' I should just like to say that I quite realise that some of the leading peal ringers have been, and would be, of little use to the Central Council. I was not suggesting that this type of ringer was the kind to elect—far from it.

I think there should be a happy medium. The ideal representative, in my opinion, should have the following qualifications: First and foremost an active and competent ringer, if possible, an instructor. Secondly, if I may use your own words, have courage and the ability to express his thoughts. At the moment, judging by reports, only about one-quarter of the members ever say anything at all (if as much as that). Generally the same members every year, too! Thirdly, a good organiser, who can discuss each year at the meetings what he has done for his association to improve it. This would give suggestions to all members. I don't think that quibbling about whether certain Surprise methods are really Treble Bob ones will advance the Exercise nearly so much as a general discussion for all members as to how many ringers they have in their respective associations who are interested, etc. Judging from conditions I have noticed in different parts of the country, the most important work to be done is missionary work. There are still too many towers not in union with their association, often because they have been shown no interest by anyone. In my own association—the Kent County—we have 218 towers, and of these only 114 are in union. Again, over 20 of these towers in union cannot muster enough ringers to ring all the bells. There is considerable need for organised and intensive instruction, financed by the association—not only in mine, but in many others.

I have several constructive ideas on the subject, and should be pleased to discuss them with anyone, either by letter or 'viva voce.'

A. PATRICK CANNON.

Deal, Kent.

A WONDERFUL WEEK.

A COACHING-RINGING TOUR IN THE WEST.

Nothing appears to be wanting, except fine weather, to assure a most wonderful week for those who are taking part in the series of tours in the West of England promoted by Bristol United Ringing Guilds, and which begins on Monday. Complete arrangements have been made by the committee, of which Mr. Edgar Guise is the energetic hon. secretary, and the party of 30 who are joining forces are promised a most enjoyable and interesting time.

The headquarters for the week are at the Assize Courts Hotel, Bristol. Here are brief outlines of the daily itinerary:—

Monday, depart 8.30 a.m., ringing at Marshfield, Wootton Bassett, Highworth, Northleach, Burton-on-the-Water, Stow-on-the-Wold. Dinner at Swindon, tea at Stow, returning through Cheltenham and Gloucester.

Tuesday, depart 10 a.m., ringing at Kelston, Bradford, Devizes, Bishop's Cannings, Lacock (where Abbey will also be open), Keynsham and St. Stephen's, Bristol. Dinner at Devizes.

Wednesday, depart 10 a.m., ringing at Chew Magna, Chew Stoke, Compton Martin, Ubley, Blagdon, Wrington, Congresbury, Yatton and Clevedon, with lunch at Blagdon and tea at Yatton.

Thursday, depart 8 a.m., visiting Taunton, Exeter and Buckfastleigh, reaching Bristol at 9 p.m. Ringing and dinner at Buckfastleigh, tea at Exeter.

Friday, depart 10 a.m., visit Wills' Tobacco Factory and Fry's Chocolate Works. Evening social at Assize Courts Hotel.

Saturday, depart 9 a.m., ringing at Churchill, Banwell, Wells Cathedral, Shepton Mallet, Wanstrow, Frome and Tisbury; lunch at Cheddar, tea at Frome.

The party includes Mr. and Mrs. E. Burnett (Penrith), Mr. Arrow-smith and Mr. G. W. Biddulph (Stoke-on-Trent), Mr. G. Clark (Doncaster), Mr. D. Cooper (Croydon), Mr. F. W. Corney (South Woodford), Mr. J. A. Dart (London), Mr. G. Dent (Harlow), Miss E. Foulk (Duffield), Miss D. E. Fletcher, Miss K. Fletcher (Beaconsfield), Mr. T. R. Griffiths (Gresford), Mr. H. D. Harris (Woburn), Mr. W. G. Hiscott (Plymouth), Mr. E. Hudson (Sharrow, Yorks), Mr. H. Knight (Cleve), Mr. and Mrs. A. King (Luton), Mr. E. F. Poppy (Eye), Mr. B. W. Pettitt (Heddingham), Mr. W. C. Rhodes and Mr. J. L. Stokes (Birmingham), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Shaker (Manchester), Mr. J. H. Swinfield (Burton), Mrs. and Miss Thompson (Nottingham), Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Woodley (Plymouth). Two members of the B.U.R.G. accompany the party each day.

It was in 1932 that the first experiment of this kind was made, and it says much for the pleasurable nature of this form of holiday that no fewer than 17 of that company are going again this year.

(Continued from previous column.)

And again

'Near to this place John Webster fell,
Beloved by all who knew him well,
The most ingenious noted ringer
St. Giles sixth bell around did bring her.'

That is the sort of jingle that sticks in the memory when far better stuff is forgotten as soon as it is read.

RINGS OF BELL IN DEVON.

HOW THEY HAVE INCREASED.

More Change Ringers Wanted.

Some remarkable details of the increase that has taken place in rings of church bells in Devon were given by Mr. A. W. Searle, of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, in a paper read before the Exeter Diocesan Architectural and Archaeological Society. In 1553 there were 1,588 bells in the county; in 1865, 2,139; in 1900, 2,393; and now about 2,700. Rings of eight had increased during the past 70 years from 19 to 78 (including one on Lundy Island); and sixes from 137 to 242, but rings of five had decreased from 122 to 52; fours from 64 to 20; and threes from 96 to 56. The decreases were explained by conversion of four and five bell rings to sixes or eights. Seventy years ago Devon had only one ring of 10 bells—Exeter Cathedral—but now it had four—St. Sidwell's (Exeter), St. Andrew's and Charles (Plymouth) and Cullompton. Exeter Cathedral's ten had been increased to twelve, and Buckfast Abbey also had a corresponding number. The former had an additional half-tone, known by the curious name of Pongamouth, while Buckfast Abbey ring, when rehung, would have two half-tones and there would be a Bourdon bell of 7½ tons. The half-tone bells gave scope for a great number of combinations, and in this respect Worcester Cathedral, with three such bells and a ring of 12, held pride of place. Exeter had for a long time the heaviest ring and, perhaps, also the lightest ring in the Cathedral's ten and St. Petrock's six, with tenors of about three tons and six cwt. respectively. But at present Exeter Cathedral, even with its ring increased to 12, was second in aggregate weight to St. Paul's (London), while Lye, Worcestershire, where there are eight bells with tenor of 3½ cwt., had the lightest ring in the country. The lightest ring now in Devon was at Loxore, with a tenor of 5 cwt. for six bells. Exeter Cathedral tenor (Grandisson), at 72 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb., was the heaviest in the world for ringing purposes, but that did not entitle the ring of 12 to be styled the heaviest also. And from a ringing point of view Grandisson was a doubtful asset because of its demands on man power.

BELFRY REFORM.

The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, some time Rector of Glastonbury St. George, who during 1864-5, when midway between 70 and 80 years of age, examined the bells in all church towers in Devon except two (which he also visited but could not obtain access to), recorded 439 out of an aggregate of 481 towers as having rings of three or more bells. Four hundred years ago there were 434 such towers and at present 454; the others had single or two bells. Mr. Ellacombe described 233 towers as having bells in bad order and belfries that were dirty, 98 as good and clean, 62 as having good going bells but dirty belfries, and 25 as having bells in bad state but clean belfries. The wave of church restoration that had prevailed since Mr. Ellacombe's time had very properly included bells, and coincident with this there had been belfry reform. Beer for ringers was a frequent item in churchwardens' accounts quoted by Mr. Ellacombe and others, and had given rise to belief that ringers were toppers, but they were, probably, more temperate than other folk in similar station, for the simple reason that drunken conditions would be dangerous when ringing.

Mr. Searle said he had visited about 325 towers in Devon—is this a record as regards one county?—for ringing purposes and propaganda during the last 50 years. Nowhere had he seen any signs of drinking in belfries; the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, the Devon Association of Ringers and kindred bodies would not tolerate it in any shape or form. There were some places—and unexpected ones, too—where improvements could be effected in belfries, and if clergy generally would peep in now and then, especially those belfries away from the floor level of churches, the ringers might be induced to always keep things spick and span. But, on the whole, there was not much of which there could be serious complaint, and most belfries, upstairs as well as downstairs, were a credit to the users. Many belfries, including the Cathedral, had been excellently equipped, but none in Devon could rival Bridport, which when Mr. Searle visited it possessed toilet requisites. Perhaps the Dorset town's superiority could be attributed to the fact that one of the ringers was some time Mayor.

SAVING ANCIENT BELLS.

Devon still had many ancient bells, but considerable numbers had been melted down. The Diocesan Architectural and Archaeological Society could be very helpful in preserving old specimens. It might be argued that some castings were so bad that they could not be tuned to fit into a proper ring. But they might be none the less worth keeping. Wolborough's (Newton Abbot) example might be followed. There, near the chancel of the church, were specimens of two ancient castings and in the tower a fine modern ring of eight bells. In many places, especially urban areas, where counter attractions prevailed, there was a shortage of ringers, and the recruiting of new members for change ringing was particularly urgent. An objection was often made that ringing seemed hard work, but with average knack and good going bells the exercise was not very exhausting—three hours of it would take less out of individual strength than one and a half hours of football. Once adopted, ringing usually proved fascinating both physically and mentally.

Photographs of bells, rings and carillons, kindly provided by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, and Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, added to the interest of the paper.

(Continued on next page.)

A CLERICAL RINGING WEEK. ENJOYABLE VISIT TO BERKSHIRE.

It all happened many weeks ago, but there were certain happenings during those days when, defying superstition, a party of thirteen (eleven parsons and two wives) met at Wantage, Berks, for a ringing week, that makes it still worth while putting on record, despite the fact that the Central Council, more ponderous if not more important, held a meeting the report of which has temporarily crowded out the record of this pleasant week.

[For the unavoidable delay that has occurred in publication the Editor of 'The Ringing World' apologises.]

The party included the Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Benson (Quatford), the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell (Staverton), the Revs. C. Carew Cox (Lyons Regis), E. V. Cox (Brampford Speke), F. L. Edwards (Kington Magna), R. P. Farrow (Stoney Stanton), H. S. T. Richardson (Hereford), B. F. Sheppard (Cambridge), A. G. G. Thurlow (Wokingham), W. M. K. Warren (Binegar) and C. Elliot Wigg (High Wycombe). The majority of the party met on Monday.

The start was made at East Ilsley, a pretty village on the Berkshire Downs, where a quarter-peal of Bob Major was brought round after attempts for Stedman had failed. The Rev. A. and Mrs. Ogle kindly gave tea, and after a talk with Mr. W. Hibbert, who had kindly had the bells ready for us, we made our way to the Bear Hotel, Wantage, our headquarters.

On Tuesday morning a start was made for Bob Major at St. Stephen's, Clansfield, Oxon; after an hour's good ringing, a rope, apparently mended with string, broke. We then adjourned to Bampton, where the Vicar met us, and rang Stedman and Bob Major on this fine ring of eight (tenor 25 cwt.). This church has a grand central tower and spire, and many interesting objects inside, including an Easter Sepulchre, ancient stone reredos, and some old brasses. After lunch at the White Horse, we decided to try again at Clansfield, where a miscall put a stop to things after 2½ hours' ringing. The conductor said the yawns of one ringer sent him to sleep, also that. . . .!

Sadder and wiser, we went to Faringdon, where tea was very welcome, while sleet and hail fell outside. After a few touches at the Parish Church, where the Rev. A. J. de D. Denne and some of the local band rang with us, we visited West Hendred, an interesting little church, with many 14th century tiles on the floor. Mr. H. J. Balcombe had kindly arranged an evening practice for us here on this handy ring of six (they weren't so handy after we had finished with them).

MAKING THE PARSONS PUNCTUAL.

Hitherto, arrangements seemed at times to be a little unpunctual, but there was to be no more of this, for on Wednesday the Rev. E. V. Cox arrived.

He had arranged the whole week, but a fall on Jubilee Day prevented his arriving before. This, to our disappointment, meant no peal attempts for him, but he made up the deficiency in other ways. His great points (among others) are efficiency and punctuality, and the rest of the week went like a Cook's tour: 'Now, gentlemen, we have exactly 45 minutes to ring here, eight minutes to get to Soandso, and I have allowed you 40 minutes for lunch there, so please get the bells up quickly. . . .'

On Wednesday the first clerical peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, at East Hagbourne, where, in addition to the fine ring of eight, there is a curious stone sanctus bell cot, complete with original bell, on the top of the tower. The Vicar met us here, also the Rev. F. S. H. Marle, of Deane, Hants, who rang a course with us. After lunch at Wallingford, we visited the Priory Church of Dorchester (Oxon), by far the most interesting church we saw, where Stedman and Grandsire were rung. An interview with a Press representative followed; we really tried to get the details right in the paper for once, and actually succeeded, more or less—but still, I should like to hear Cambridge 'Major' rung on the six at St. Nicholas', Abingdon; also, as the names of the 'side' who rang at Hagbourne were so correctly given, it might have made things more complete to give the names of the opposing side.

Benson was the next stopping place, where Cambridge and Stedman were rung. The Vicar and his wife very kindly gave us tea; and afterwards we returned to Wallingford, where Grandsire and Stedman were rung, the Rector (the Rev. H. P. Bowen) taking the tenor for Stedman. At Brightwell (Berks), Cambridge and Grandsire were rung on the ring of six; and Dean Inge's house was inspected—discreetly, from a distance.

VILLAGE INVADED.

The day ended with a ring at Ardington, kindly arranged by Mr. Balcombe. The Vicar, the Rev. F. R. Standfast, appeared not a little astonished at seeing his lovely little village invaded by a crowd of parsons, as he had not been interviewed about our ringing; but he most kindly allowed us to go ahead; and touches of Kent and Cambridge were rung on the six bells, together with raising and falling in peal (which we always attempted when practicable).

On Thursday we met at Drayton for a peal attempt. As the band was composed of four Cambridge and four Oxford men, we decided to go for Cambridge, and, if this failed, to try Oxford; as neither would work, we had to be content with touches and courses of Cambridge, Kent, Superlative, etc.

Lunch was taken at the Lion, Abingdon, after which we rang Double Court and Bob Minor at St. Nicholas' Church, which adjoins the Abbey gateway (Abingdon was once one of the greatest abbeys in England). Next time we go there we will borrow two of the ten bells at St. Helen's and try Cambridge Major. Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Helen's, a fine ring of ten (we must remember not to set big bells at backstroke in future!). Some fine early roof paintings have just been restored in this church. Bidding good-bye to Mr. Lock, who had kindly had the bells ready for us, we made for Stevenage, where the Vicar (the Rev. A. Robinson) met us, and rang Cambridge, etc., on the six bells there. Double Stedman may sound all right when rung properly; we are going to try and learn it for next year! At Harwell we were met by Mr. R. G. Rice, and after tea we rang Double Norwich, etc., on the fine ring of eight, recently rehung by Taylor. This most interesting church appears to have had a central tower originally. Practice night at Wantage was the last item. Here we rang Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire with the local men. E. G. B., who arrived late, was appropriately 'paid out' by being asked by an innocent local if Grandsire was the only method he could ring! Afterwards the four representatives of the Cambridge University Guild rang Bob Major and Grandsire on handbells.

'WHEN MEN WERE MEN.'

On Friday, Grandsire Caters at Appleton went west after 55 minutes owing to a miscall. Touches of Stedman and Double Norwich and Kent Major were then rung. After a talk with George Holifield (who also rang with us), we had lunch at the Thatched Tavern, and then paid a visit to Fred White's workshop, where we inspected a fine new oak bell frame for Kedington Church, Suffolk. The time table was rather upset at Hinton Waldrist (six bells), owing to an accident on the road, but we put in about 15 minutes here, ringing Cambridge and Grandsire, and talking to the Rector (the Rev. H. A. Keates). Buckland was next visited, where Cambridge and Stedman were rung on a fine peal of eight. This is an interesting church, with a central tower and two Norman doorways. The last church visited was Stanford-in-the-Vale; here we had tea with the Vicar and his wife (Canon Farmer and Mrs. Farmer). The Rev. A. J. de D. Denne again joined us here, and we rang Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob on the ring of six. The iron ring on the floor had, we were told, a curious use. Before the bells were equipped with stays, the only way of keeping the bells up, after ringing, was by tying the ropes tightly down to this ring. Ah, those were the days when men were men, and when ropes didn't shrink in wet weather. Can't you imagine Old Uncle Tom Cobley telling his grandchildren how he remembered the time when the 'owd tenor' went over, and dragged the floor up after her, so they couldn't ring for Guy Fawkes night!

We also heard that Stanford-in-the-Vale tenor got changed over with Buckland tenor, when both were being rehung once. But, of course, both tenors were so good it didn't really matter.

And so the ringing week came to an end. We can only say it was most enjoyable, and we must not allow 24 years to elapse again before having another. Our gratitude is due to all the incumbents who allowed us the use of their bells; to those, and their wives, who invited us to tea; to Messrs. R. G. Rice and H. J. Balcombe for their help; to all the steeplekeepers, foremen and ringers who helped us; to the Bear Hotel, Wantage, for providing breakfast and dinner at odd hours; and, most of all, to the Rev. E. V. Cox for his wonderful organisation, to which the success of the week was due.

A. G. G. THURLOW.

ESSEX RINGERS IN KENT.

All Saints' Society, Maldon, Essex, had a tour into Kent for their annual outing, accompanied by their wives and friends. Starting from Maldon at 7.30, they crossed the Thames at Tilbury by ferry to Gravesend. They were welcomed at the church by the Vicar and the steeplekeeper (Mr. Hadlow), and the bells were soon going in Stedman and Bob Major. At Rochester they were received by Messrs. Easter and Rayner. After the long journey up to the ringing chamber, a course of Caters and some Bob Major were brought round, which were much enjoyed. Lunch was partaken of at Maidstone, and they then went on to Tunbridge Wells, where they were met by Mr. Latter at St. Peter's Church, and some ringing in various methods was enjoyed. A look round the town was followed by tea at the Cadogan Cafe before going on to Tonbridge, where further ringing took place. Home was eventually reached at 11.15 after a most enjoyable day's tour through the Kentish scenery, which was much admired. The ringers wish to thank all the incumbents for the use of the bells and the steeplekeepers for meeting them and helping to make the tour an enjoyable one.

(Continued from previous page.)

It was remarked during discussion that restorations were being continued in the county, and there was a general feeling that Devon, as regarded its rings and their condition, could challenge comparison with any other county. References were made to rings of bells at churches that had become redundant owing to transfer of population by housing schemes and from other causes. It was resolved that representations be made to governing authorities for ensuring the safety of the rings and their possible rehanging in other churches.

'DEVONIAN.'

WESTONIANS IN WILTSHIRE. AN ENJOYABLE EXCURSION.

The recent annual outing of the Weston-super-Mare Parish Church ringers gave them a long day's run into Wiltshire. At Bradford-on-Avon they were welcomed by Mr. T. Baker (captain of the local ringers), who took them over the Church of Holy Trinity, which dates back to the year 1100. The bells were put into motion by the sensiblers to the tune of Grandsire and Stedman Triples; this ring of eight bells, by the way, is one of the best toned peals in the country; the tenor weighs 32 cwt.

After enjoying an hour's 'pulling,' the party left for Trowbridge, where they did not forget to call on Mr. Sam Hector, captain of the team at the Parish Church. The next stop was Devizes, for luncheon, which was served by Mr. B. Taylor (Elm Hotel), after which a visit was made to St. John's Church, where Mr. Hillier kindly escorted the party around and later to the tower, which holds a fine peal of eight bells—timbre and tone excellent—with the tenor weighing 19 cwt. Again some merry touches were rung for upwards of half an hour.

Then on the road again, passing through beautiful country, with Salisbury away on the right and Marnagford to the left; more thatched houses being encountered than the party had seen for some time past; then through the pretty village of Pewsey and on until a fine panoramic view of Marlborough and its environs was obtained. Next came the most enjoyable part of the journey, viz., the ride through the Savernake Forest—in the shade for a change—with here and there picnic parties enjoying themselves in the cool and sequestered spots which abound on almost every sector of the roadway. Marlborough was reached at 5 p.m.; tea at the Knapton Cafe was followed by a 'look around,' and then off again through Calne and on to Chippenham, where a halt was called. Mr. Perry (secretary of the local branch) met the visitors at the Parish Church, but before entering the edifice, the writer noticed that the local Salvation Army Band was rendering various items of music near to the church, and was slightly worried as to what the ultimate effect would be when the bells burst forth! However, the metal was soon set on the move, and it was sincerely hoped no one was upset thereby; in any case, on emerging from the church it was observed that the band was still busy! At 8 p.m. the homeward journey commenced, the ride back in the cool of the evening, through the beautiful countryside, being much enjoyed. On reaching Bristol the company had supper at the Assize Court Hotel, followed by a smoking concert, the following artistes contributing to the programme: Messrs. Milton Jones, L. Tanner, A. Wilkinson, W. Thomas and several Bristol friends, Mr. H. Minifie being at the piano. Weston was reached at midnight, everyone having enjoyed the outing, thanks largely to the efficient manner in which the general arrangements were carried out by Mr W. Popham.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday, August 3rd, at St. Martin's Church, Gospel Oak, the wedding took place between Mr. William F. Harwin, a regular Sunday service ringer at this church, and Miss Queenie Shaw, of Kentish Town. Owing to the absence of the Vicar, the ceremony was performed by the Rev. E. F. Jackson. The bride was given in marriage by her brother. As the happy pair left the church a 720 Bob Minor was rung and the bells afterwards lowered in peal by F. Smith 1, F. Bonfield 2, J. Payton 3, W. J. Norton 4, E. Bonfield (conductor) 5, A. Bonfield 6.

LATE NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30. All ringers cordially invited to attend.—J. Porter, Hon. Branch Sec., 11, Chesham Bank, Bury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Shillington, Saturday, August 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on Aug. 29th, St. Magnus' on the 22nd, St. Michael's on the 13th, St. Andrew's on the 15th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newton, near Wisbech, on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome. — Edward Barker, Dis. Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — A ringing meeting will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, Aug. 10th, commencing at 3 p.m.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Edwinstowe on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells ready from 2 p.m. Please notify me if you require tea. All ringers welcome.—Robt. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec., c/o W. J. Bowman, East Markham, Newark.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The annual meeting of this branch will be held at Ransford Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business 7 p.m. Nominations of officers for the following year.—Wm. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec., 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. till 9 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. — H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 3 Nail Street, Milnrow.

LINSLADE, BUCKS.—The bells (8) will be reopened on Saturday, Aug. 10th, after rehanging by Mears and Stainbank. Service at 3, ringing after. All are welcome. Please send postcard. — F. Vickers, New Road, Linslade, Bucks.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting at Stapleford on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Followed by tea at the Magpie Café, price 1s. each. — K. Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —A meeting will be held at Ruislip on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea, in Fabb's Restaurant, at 5.30 p.m. Quarterly business meeting afterwards. A hearty welcome to all ringers and their friends.—F. W. Goodfellow, 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

HERTFORDSHIRE AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATIONS.—A joint meeting will be held at Northaw on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea, 1s., each, at 5.30. Please advise C. T. Coles, address below, by 14th inst. Bus 29 from Wood Green, or 134 from Victoria, to Potter's Bar Garage, thence by 205 to Northaw. Trains at 2 and 2.39 from King's Cross (L. & N.E.) to Cuffley, thence by bus 205 to Northaw. Buses from Potter's Bar Garage at 2.43 and hourly, also at 3.13. From Cuffley at 2.53 and hourly, also at 3.23, all to Northaw.—W. Nash, North Mimms; C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Margate on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Teas will be arranged only for those who notify Mr. Arthur A. Saxby, 117, Canterbury Road, Margate, of their intention to be present, on or before Thursday, Aug. 15th.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — A special joint meeting of the Maidstone and Tonbridge districts will be held at Marden on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Special short service, important nature, at 5 p.m. Special attention will be given to members desiring to ring Grandsire and Kent. Please notify Mr. F. Mitchell, Knowles, Howland Road, Marden, for tea, by Wednesday, Aug. 14th.—Alec Richardson, Hon. Sec., Tonbridge District.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (6, tenor 16½ cwt.) available during afternoon and evening. Tea has been arranged. Interesting church, fine bells, delightful surroundings, please come.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., The Cottage, Ansty, near Coventry.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. —A meeting will be held at Brown Edge on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tea will be provided for all who notify Mr. G. Hall, Brown Edge, Stoke-on-Trent, not later than Aug. 15th.—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Mossley, on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tower open for ringing 3 p.m. Unveiling of peal tablet and service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend, and a good muster is requested. Tea, 1s. each, to all who notify Mr. E. Gar-side, 57, Stamford Street, Mossley, not later than Wednesday, Aug. 14th.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

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ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Eastwell on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting of the Wirral branch will be held at Woodchurch (6 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea and meeting afterwards. Please let me know in good time if you intend to be present. — Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The six-bell ringing contest will take place at Clowne Church on Saturday, Aug. 17th, for the Society's Silver Cup. Draw at 2.30 p.m. Tower open after contest. Please notify Rev. J. Waugh, Rectory, Clowne, for tea (without fail). All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield 3.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bishopstone on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (8) available 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LADIES GUILD.—Central District. — A meeting of the above will be held at All Saints' Isleworth, on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea, 9d. per head, for those who advise me not later than Wednesday, Aug. 14th. All welcome.—M. L. Cross, 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Pleasley on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, at moderate charge. Please send names of those requiring tea to J. W. England, The Common, South Normanton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Audlem (6 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know by the 14th inst.? Ringing from 3 o'clock. — Rich. D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Beddington on Wednesday, Aug. 21st. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Tea, 5.30 p.m., at The Harvest Home. All are welcome. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. C. H. Kippin, 6, Courtney Road, Croydon, by Monday, Aug. 19th. — Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and D. Cooper, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District. — Meeting at Ewhurst on Saturday, Aug. 24th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30. Please send me numbers for tea by Aug. 17th and make an effort to attend this meeting, as it is hoped to revive interest at Ewhurst. —G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Measham on Saturday, Aug. 24th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for those who notify me by Wednesday, Aug. 21st. All ringers welcome. — Joseph Wm. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice. —The fourth annual dinner of the above association will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Baths Assembly

Rooms, Library Street, Wigan. Arrangements are now well in hand, and a full and interesting day is assured. Tickets 4s. each, and early application will save a lifetime of regrets. Tickets may be had from the following: Mr. A. Parker, 245, Gidlow Lane, Wigan; Mr. N. Brown, 11, Cygnet Street, Wigan; Mr. W. Farrimond, 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan. Please apply early. Fuller details later.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Det.-Sergt. Harold J. Poole, Hon. Sec. of the National Guild of Police Ringers, has changed his address and now resides at 'The Wayside,' Narborough Road, Leicester. Will members kindly note?

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—Set of 10 handbells; best offer.—T. W. Gilmour, 6, Ascroft Road, Aintree.

APARTMENTS.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Board residence, terms from 35s. inclusive; August 2 guineas; near sea front.—L. G. Tanner, 4, Hopkins Street ('Phone 348), Secretary, Axbridge Deanery.

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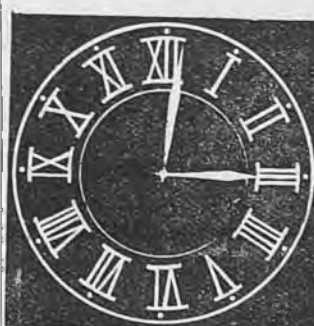
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