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'BARTON BELLS'

THERE have been many histories written of church bells, but few have so captured the spirit of the people as the work of Mr. W. O. Varah concerning the two rings of bells at St. Peter's and St. Mary's, Barton-upon-Humber. His book has three appeals. To local people it is a human document giving a straightforward account in non-technical language of the place of the bells in daily life extended over the centuries; to the antiquarian there is embodied in the volume much research into churchwardens' accounts and other sources, together with valuable connecting data which could only be supplied by practical knowledge of ringing; and finally to ringers themselves it is a story of past endeavour and love of bells and also a practical method of contributing towards the Restoration Fund for the present bells, as any profit from the book will go to this object.

St. Peter's, Barton, tower was built in the 11th century and St. Mary's a century later. Three of the bells have the crest of Henry Oldfield, bellfounder, of Nottingham, about 1596. The first Henry Oldfield was living in 1558, while the second, probably a son, joined in the business with Robert Quernbie some time before 1593. Lincolnshire had seven bellfounders in days gone by, at Boston, Brigg, Grantham, Lincoln, Stamford, Barrow-on-Humber and Barton-on-Humber. The two last named were managed by the Harrison family. Between 1789 and 1833 between 70 and 80 bells in Lincolnshire were cast at Barton, and those outside the county include the tenor of Newcastle Cathedral.

An interesting chapter is told of events in 1640-41, when the 'Great Bell' of St. Mary's fell down 'the well in the bell chamber' and the 'Second Bell' appears to have been cracked at the same time which necessitated it being recast. This recasting took place at Lincoln, probably by George Oldfield, of Nottingham. The bell was transported by ox-wagon, the two churchwardens accompanying the wagon, the journey of 33 miles taking two days. The cost of recasting was £9 4s., a price which many a Parochial Church Council would envy to-day, being based on 15s. a hundredweight, plus two guineas for three stones of extra bell metal used in the process. The workmen were paid a shilling for the actual labour in casting, and a further shilling was paid for help to pull the bell out of the pit in which it was recast.

Typical of Middle Age usage of bells was the Barley Bell at Barton, which was maintained until 1860. The Parish Clerk was paid twopence yearly for every ox-gang of land in the parish, and in return had to ring one of the bells of St. Peter's for an hour every evening on a working day from the time of leading home the first load of barley until Shrove Tuesday. The object was to notify the time to the workers in the fields when they had not the sun to go by.

Both world wars resulted in the enrichment of Barton bells. In memory of 164 Barton men who gave their lives in the first World War the ring of six at St. Peter's was augmented to eight by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and the first peal of Plain Bob Major was rung on the bells on November 12th, 1921, nearly 11 months after dedication. St. Mary's bells, hitherto a ring of four, were augmented to eight in August, 1947, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The third bell was in memory of the late Canon W. E. Varah, Vicar of Barton-on-Humber from 1914 to 1945, and was the gift of his family, and the other three in honour of the Barton men and women who fell in the second World War. The inscription on the treble reads:—

'To their unchanging memory
To ring the changes
Through the changing times.'

Mr. Varah concludes his story with the report of the dedication service: 'As the service ended the bells rang out, the belfry rocked with their clanging, and the sweet tones sped out over the roof tops, over the marshy farmlands, out over the fields and silent wolds, to where dwellers in the loneliest cottages on the farthest border of the old parish listened in wonder.' 'Barton Bells' can be obtained from W. O. Varah, 29, Butts, Barton-upon-Humber, Lincs, price 3s. 6d.

TEN BELL PEAL

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... Treble	CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 6
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE ... 2	*ROY FAITHFULL ... 7
PEGGY G. KITCHEN ... 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 8
GEORGE PULLINGER ... 4	HERBERT G. ANDREWS ... 9
HERBERT J. ELDEED ... 5	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... Tenor

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
* First peal of Stedman Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

TRING, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

ROBERT W. METCALFE ... Treble	WILFRID H. J. HOOTON ... 5
*BRENDA FELS ... 2	HARRY C. JONES ... 6
†MARION PIPER ... 3	ROLAND BIGGS ... 7
CHRISTOPHER BADRICK ... 4	WALTER LEE ... Tenor

Composed by GEO. WILLIAMS. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.
* First peal of Major on tower bells. † First tower-bell peal and first peal of Bob Major. 200th peal as conductor.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Five-part. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*ERNEST MORRIS ... Treble	†HARRY M. PAYNE ... 5
MISS JEAN M. WARD ... 2	JOHN BRAMLEY ... 6
ERNEST F. PAYNE ... 3	GORDON A. OLLIFFE ... 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 4	S. ANTHONY JESSON ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN BRAMLEY.

* 1,100th peal. † First peal. First as conductor.

RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Davies' Transposition. Tenor 15 cwt.

CLEMENT GLENN ... Treble	FREDERICK G. HOOPER ... 5
PATRICK PRESTON ... 2	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 6
ALBERT H. WARD ... 3	WALTER NICHOLS ... 7
WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN. ... 4	ARTHUR E. HOODLESS ... Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

First peal in the method on the bells. A compliment to the Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Wilson, on his preferment to the bishopric of Wakefield.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5161 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in F.

*JAMES BRENT ... Treble	CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 5
†ALFRED H. PULLING ... 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 6
PEGGY G. KITCHEN ... 3	ERIC T. LEE ... 7
HERBERT J. ELDEED ... 4	T. MARK WHITE ... Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
* First in the method. † 1,450th peal. To commemorate the 60th anniversary of the long peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major rung at the above church. Also a birthday peal for the ringer of the fifth.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

*DAVID G. YEO ... Treble	HERBERT W. KNIGHT ... 5
FREDERICK SAVAGE ... 2	*ERNEST SHEARN ... 6
EDWIN H. NASH ... 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 7
†GEORGE PRESCOTT ... 4	VICTOR SAVAGE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

* First in the method. † First of Triples.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Washbrook's. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH Treble	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON ... 5
JOHN E. S. MORETON ... 2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 6
FRANK E. PERVIN ... 3	J. W. FRANK TROTMAN ... 7
ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... 4	JOHN E. LLOYD ... Tenor

Conducted by J. W. FRANK TROTMAN.

A birthday compliment to Mr. L. H. Dillam, churchwarden.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Washbrook's. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

JOSEPH HENRY W. WHITE Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 5
MRS. A. H. BEAMISH ... 2	*JOHN J. MORRIS ... 6
HECTOR A. KNIGHTS ... 3	J. W. FRANK TROTMAN ... 7
T. EDWARD HARROLD ... 4	†WALTER BEEBE ... Tenor

Conducted by J. W. FRANK TROTMAN.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

HEADCORN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 28, 1949, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Taylor's Six-part. Tenor 24 cwt.

*REV. M. G. BRYANT ... Treble	†WILLIAM C. MARSHALL ... 5
†ROBERT W. BELSEY ... 2	FREDERICK S. MACEY ... 6
HARRY BAKER ... 3	GEORGE W. GRANT ... 7
MARK W. MARSHALL ... 4	*RONALD SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. MACEY.

* First peal. † First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal by a resident incumbent on these bells. A silver wedding compliment to the conductor and Mrs. F. S. Macey.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Feb. 28, 1949, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

HARRY W. HOWARD ... Treble HAROLD WORRALL ... 5 |

MISS ELIZABETH MORTON ... 2	GEORGE H. RANGLES ... 6
MISS NORAH M. BIBBY ... 3	HARRY PARKER ... 7
DAVID SMITH ... 4	CECIL RADDON ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON. Conducted by HARRY PARKER.
A birthday compliment to Messrs. H. W. Howard and Kenneth Parker. Tenor 16½ cwt.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Fri., Mar. 4, 1949, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, WOOD GREEN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE E. FEARN ... Treble	WALTER ALLMAN ... 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... 6
ARTHUR D. COOK ... 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 7
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 4	JOHN WORTH ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

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OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Mar. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS ... Treble	EDWIN G. MOORE ... 5
NORA HONEY ... 2	BERNARD S. NICHOLS ... 6
ALAN R. PINK ... 3	CHARLES COLES ... 7
PHILIP M. J. GRAY ... 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN.

First peal in the method, on the bells and by all the band except the conductor. Rung on the 60th anniversary of the 13,440 in this method, which took place at Warnham, Sussex. Tenor 4-3-17.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 3, 1949, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

LAURENCE GREENHOW ... Treble	THOS. EDWARD HARROLD ... 5
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 2	FRANK K. MEASURES ... 6
SHIRLEY BURTON ... 3	ALFRED BALLARD ... 7
*HERRICK B. BOWLEY ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS.

First peal in the method. Complimentary peal to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Root on the birth of a son, Andrew William. Tenor 14 cwt.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 4, 1949, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5280 CHANCES;

WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Treble	HENRY TOOKE ... 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... 2	ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS ... 6
GEORGE SAYER ... 3	CHARLES H. MOORE ... 7
ARTHUR G. BASON ... 4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN. First peal in the method by all and on the bells. Longest length in the method by the Association. A wedding compliment to Mr. Eric G. Bennett, of Garboldisham. Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

WILLIAM DIXON ... Treble	*HARRY WILD ... 5
HARRY DAVISON ... 2	DONALD R. MARSHALL ... 6
*VERNON BOTTOMLEY ... 3	FREDERICK SEAGER ... 7
EDWARD JENKINS ... 4	ALFRED SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

First peal in the method. Tenor 16½ cwt.

KINGHAM, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

CATHARINE M. TRIST ... Treble	DAVID GALLOP ... 5
*RUTH M. K. HOW ... 2	*RODNEY B. MEADOWS ... 6
M. JILLIAN BRIERLEY ... 3	PETER W. B. SEMMENS ... 7
KATHLEEN HIGGINS ... 4	MICHAEL E. H. BARROW ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by M. E. H. BARROW. First peal on tower bells. First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

MILTON C. FOWLER ... Treble	J. EDWARD CAWSE ... 5
J. MARTIN THORLEY ... 2	ERNEST A. THORPE ... 6
ARTHUR FIRTH ... 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 7
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... 4	HARRY MORGAN ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE. A farewell peal to J. M. Thorley on his call-up for the R.A.F.

WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

*ALBERT E. TURNER ... Treble	*HARRY PURCHASE ... 5
C. HENRY FLOYD ... 2	ARTHUR H. REED ... 6
*STANLEY N. BRISTOWE ... 3	*H. GEORGE SPARKES ... 7
CLAUDE TARR ... 4	WILLIAM G. GIGG ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. S. POWELL. Conducted by WM. G. GIGG. First peal of Major. First peal 'inside.' Tenor 20 cwt.

RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

JACK MUSSEL ... Treble	JOHN HARTLESS ... 5
*MISS JEAN M. BROWN ... 2	COLIN W. REED ... 6
WILLIAM C. CHUTE ... 3	DAVID REED ... 7
*BRIAN R. TILLER ... 4	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by WM. E. CHEATER. First peal on eight bells. First peal of Plain Bob Major. First peal of Plain Bob. Rung as a tribute to the memory of the composer.

SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 20 cwt.
REGINALD SCOTT ... Treble	ARTHUR DIXON ... 5
*MISS EVELYN WRIGHT ... 2	ARTHUR MACKEARS ... 6
FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 3	JOHN CRAGG ... 7
*WALTER WESTON ... 4	*DOUGLAS WRAY ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR MACKEARS. First peal of Grandsire. First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to R. Scott.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ... Treble	HENRY G. KEELEY ... 5
HERBERT A. MITCHELL ... 2	STAFFORD GREEN ... 6
CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL ... 3	G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 7
FREDERICK PRECEY ... 4	ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

PERRY BAR, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

MISS J. HOULDSWORTH ... Treble	T. MARK WHITE ... 5
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 2	PHILIP M. GRAY ... 6
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... 3	WALTER ALLMAN ... 7
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 4	JOHN WORTH ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

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

ROLAND BIGGS ... Treble	*ANN SMITH ... 5
*JOHN KAPE ... 2	*ANTHONY E. COX ... 6
PERCY NEWTON ... 3	DAVID COX ... 7
DOREEN COKER ... 4	WALTER LEE ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WALTER LEE. First peal of Double Norwich. First peal of Double Norwich 'inside.' First of Double Norwich as conductor.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Heywood's Transposition.	Tenor 20 cwt.
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS ... Treble	HARRY PYE ... 5
HARRY F. HOLDING ... 2	GEORGE A. PACKER ... 6
JOHN W. BEST ... 3	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ... 7
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... 4	EDWARD J. BOFFEY ... Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD D. LANGFORD.

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

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

EDWARD BARKER ... Treble	G. WILLIAM MORRIS ... 5
FRANK BLONDELL ... 2	ERNEST H. MASTIN ... 6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 3	CLAUDE COUSINS ... 7
WALLACE COUSINS ... 4	TONY PRICE ... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Tues., Feb. 22, 1949, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 15 callings. On the light six. Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM J. LEACH ... Treble	BARNABAS G. KEY ... 4
GEORGE L. RODEN ... 2	GORDON HARRISON ... 5
SIDNEY H. JONES ... 3	EDWARD J. WHITE ... Tenor

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

First peal of Stedman Doubles by all except the conductor. First of Stedman Doubles for the Guild. A compliment to Mr. W. H. Marriott on completing 21 years as churchwarden at St. Paul's.

STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Spliced Plain Bob, Single Court Bob, Oxford Bob, 720 Single Court Bob, 720 Spliced Oxford Bob and Single Court Bob, 1,440 each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

EDWARD COX ... Treble	PERCY D. BALDOCK ... 4
JOHN H. BLUFF ... 2	ROBERT H. KNIGHT ... 5
GEORGE SLAUGHTER ... 3	JAMES BLUFF ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

EXHALL, COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb.

*MISS LOLA CALLOW ... Treble	MISS M. D. REEVES ... 4
ROY D. HAYNE ... 2	W. BRIAN ELLENDER ... 5
DOUGLAS E. ELLENDER ... 3	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS W. SHEPPARD.

* First peal of Minor. Birthday compliment to ringer of the 5th and his twin brother John.

BICKENHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents, called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*JOHN H. JONES ... Treble	ARTHUR D. COOK ... 4
MISS MURIEL REAY ... 2	HENRY H. FEARN ... 5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 3	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

* First peal. Rung without bobs.

BROUGHTON ASTLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different callings. Tenor 18 cwt. 7 lb.

CECIL E. CARR ... Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD ... 4
*J. ANTHONY FLINT ... 2	FRANK K. MEASURES ... 5
*WILLIAM R. DEURY ... 3	ALFRED BALLARD ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First of Treble Bob on the bells.

BARTON-UPON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

JOHN F. HOODLESS ... Treble	JAMES CHAPMAN ... 4
JOSEPH BROUGHTON ... 2	ARTHUR W. HOODLESS ... 5
*DAVID GODDARD ... 3	WALTER GODDARD ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER GODDARD.

* First peal.

EASTON MAUDIT, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt.

DICK EDMUNDS ... Treble	ALAN E. PARTRIDGE ... 3
JOSHUA J. PARTRIDGE ... 2	HARRY PETTITT ... 4
HARRY WOODING ... Tenor	

Conducted by JOSHUA J. PARTRIDGE.

A golden wedding compliment to Edwin (Ned) Jones, a ringer at the above church for 55 years and sexton for 35 years, and Mrs. Jones.

SHIPBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Plain Bob.

*EDNA M. SILLS ... Treble	ERNEST J. LADD ... 4
DORIS E. COLGATE ... 2	JOHN O. WELLER ... 5
†REGINALD L. SILLS ... 3	ROBERT COLLINS ... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT COLLINS.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.' Tenor 11½ cwt.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford, Capel and Sandal Treble Bob and two extents each of London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*MRS. WINIFRED PENNY Treble	ERIC SIMPSON ... 4
ARTHUR HIBBERT ... 2	GEORGE ASHMORE ... 5
SYDNEY HOUGH, JUN. ... 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... Tenor

* First peal. Conducted by JAMES A. MILNER.

SEAL CHART, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. S. B. MARCHANT Treble	†SYDNEY S. KING ... 4
*SIDNEY A. WHITE ... 2	ANTHONY V. KEMP ... 5
ARTHUR WENBAN ... 3	JACK T. MEDHURST ... Tenor

Conducted by ANTHONY V. KEMP.

* First peal of Doubles. † First 'inside' of method. First peal as conductor.

CRANFORD, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 120's of Grandsire and four 120's of Plain Bob, each called differently and repeated twice, with five changes of method. Tenor 7 cwt.

*VICTORIA JAQUEST ... Treble	E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 4
R. MARY DAVIES ... 2	†PETER J. WOODGYER ... 5
†BARBARA THRUSH ... 3	*DEREK FOWLES ... Tenor

Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal in two methods.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 6 six-scores of April Day, 15 six-scores of Plain Bob, 15 six-scores of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 6 six-scores of Grandsire.

*J. WARD ... Treble	ROLAND LEWIS ... 4
C. WILLIAM NUTT ... 2	FREDERICK MERRICK ... 5
H. KITCHENER HILL ... 3	ERNEST PRICE ... Tenor

Conducted by C. WILLIAM NUTT.

* First peal. Rung on back six. Tenor 11 cwt.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

FREDERICK S. SLATFORD Treble	DONALD E. LEE ... 4
*HERBERT J. HUNT ... 2	LAWRENCE E. HITCHINS ... 5
RON J. HARDING ... 3	PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING Tenor

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING.

* First peal in method 'inside.'

BRUSHFORD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS M. S. CHURCHILL Treble	RAYMOND WINTER ... 3
HARRY COMMINS ... 2	†FRANK BRANCHFLOWER ... 4
CLAUDE TARR ... Tenor	

Conducted by CLAUDE TARR.

* First peal. † First peal on five bells.

(More Peals of page 133)

ABINGDON, BERKS.—On March 6th at the Church of St. Nicholas, 1,260 Stedman Doubles (ten callings): Miss A. Carter 1, Miss J. Hammond 2, A. E. Lock (cond.) 3, P. N. Bond 4, A. Treadgold 5, Miss J. Dicks 6. First quarter of Stedman Doubles by all.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—At St. Peter's Church on March 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Harrison 1, A. Taylor 2, J. B. Robinson 3, R. H. Wimpenny 4, A. Roberts 5, J. T. Walmsley 6, D. Ogden (cond.) 7, R. Edwards 8. First of Triples for 1, 3 and 7.

BENWELL, NORTHUMBERLAND.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Miller (first quarter) 1, Miss K. Stathard 2, A. Wallace 3, C. S. Dixon 4, J. Carse (cond.) 5, R. Barrow 6.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—At St. Paul's on Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Foster 1, N. Brain 2, L. Chamberlain 3, H. Harrison 4, B. G. Key 5, W. J. Leach 6, G. L. Roden (cond.) 7, G. Harrison 8.

COUNTERTHORPE, LEICS.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Wilson 1, B. S. Chapman (aged 14, first quarter 'inside') 2, B. Hubbard 3, L. E. Chapman 4, N. Moyes (cond.) 5, R. T. E. Hubbard 6. For the silver wedding anniversary of W. Wilson.

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—On March 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. J. Woodward (first quarter) 1, W. Kilsby 2, W. J. Bailey 3, W. C. Moore 4, A. A. Chown 5, S. Ruddlesden 6, P. Abbott (first as cond.) 7, H. E. Abbot 8.

DINDER, SOMERSET.—On March 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Hill 1, R. Thorne 2, E. Hill 3, P. Hull 4, P. Keevil (first as cond., age 17) 5, R. Smith 6.

DITCHEAT, SOMERSET.—On March 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Higgins 1, W. Higdon 2, H. C. Lintern 3, T. Tucker (first quarter 'inside') 4, J. Lintern (cond.) 5, A. Lintern 6.

FRANT, SUSSEX.—On March 5th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss F. Wood 1, C. Pilbeam (first of Minor) 2, A. Relfe 3, L. W. Giles 4, M. S. Cloke 5, C. A. Bassett (cond.) 6.

QUARTER PEALS

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.—On March 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Whitby 1, W. Aley 2, L. Cordell 3, B. Burton 4, W. Wheeler 5, E. Rochester 6, S. Clark (cond.) 7, G. Blake 8. Bells half-muffled in memoriam Ben Coping, a member of the local company.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' on March 6th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. R. G. Spicer 1, J. W. C. Blythe 2, C. J. Young 3, C. H. J. Gravette 4, H. S. Peacock 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On March 6th at All Saints' Church, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: E. Dodds 1, Sheila E. Harris 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 3, Eileen D. Farrell (first of Surprise) 4, N. Hollingworth (cond.) 5, S. Croft 6, D. J. Charnley 7, R. W. Rogers 8. To celebrate the birth of a son on March 5th to Mrs. F. Hopgood, a member of the band.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On March 1st, at St. Mary's, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Whiterod 1, J. Papworth 2, P. Elliott 3, J. Elliott (cond.) 4, C. Burton 5, A. R. Elliott 6. First quarter for 3 and 6. A birthday compliment to P. Elliott.

KIRKBYMOORSIDE, N. YORKS.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Leete 1, F. Bishop 2, E. Hutson (cond.) 3, J. Dalton 4, A. Rutter 5, F. Ricketts 6. First quarter 1 and 5, first in method by all the band, first quarter on the bells.

LICHFIELD, STAFFS.—At the Cathedral on March 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: June Brindley (14) 1, P. Beresford 2, Joan Beresford 3, J. B. Webb 4, F. A. Sedgewick 5, W. J. Cope 6, G. E. Oliver (cond.) 7, J. Newell 8. First quarter for 1 and 8.

LLANSTEPHAN, CARMS.—At St. Stephen's on March 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. D. J. Curtis 1, C. C. Jones 2, T. Mavhook 3, D. H. Davies 4, Tom Owen 5, W. L. Williams 6, D. J. Curtis (cond.) 7, L. T. Curtis 8.

PIDDINGTON, NORTHANTS.—On Feb. 28th, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford Bob, 360 St. Clement's, 180 Plain Bob): R. C. Noon 1, P. Jones 2, B. O. Soden 3, S. M. Ruddlesden 4, G. Care 5, E. Nobles (cond.) 6. First in five methods for 4 and 6.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On March 6th. at St. Mary's, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Mrs. C. Woodgate 1, C. H. Godfrey 2, W. S. May 3, J. Belcham 4, W. Percy 5, F. B. Lufkin 6, R. W. Croucher (first as cond. on ten bells) 7, F. May 8, P. Sadler 9, G. Frost 10. First of Grandsire Caters by 1 and 2.

QUEENSBOROUGH, KENT.—On Feb. 26th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: F. Pack 1, S. Rayfield 2, H. Manual 3, S. Wood (first quarter) 4, Miss E. Wyles 5, W. S. Palin (cond.) 6. All first in method.

SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.—On Feb. 27th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: P. Williams 1, K. Haslam 2, Ed. Large 3, H. J. Turner 4, H. W. Haslam 5, J. Pinfold 6, N. J. Goodman 7, Wm. B. Cartwright (cond.) 8. First quarter in method by 1, 2 and 5.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKS.—On March 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: N. Eaton 1, K. Smith 2, H. Dickens, jun. 3, H. Dickens, sen. 4, W. G. Anker (cond.) 5, E. Thompson 6. Rung half-muffled in respect of T. Bloore, a ringer of this church.

WALSOKEN, NORFOLK.—On Feb. 24th, 1,260 Bob Minor: R. Spencer 1, R. G. Russell 2, G. Bayliss 3, F. C. Wigmore 4, G. F. Mason (cond.) 5, M. R. Reed 6. First quarter by 2 and 3, and first on the bells.

WEST MALLING, KENT.—On March 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Baker 1, Miss E. Sils 2, P. Wright (cond.) 3, Miss V. Wallis 4, R. Sils 5, C. Mills 6, F. Wright 7, D. Saul 8.

WOBURN, BEDS.—On Feb. 23rd, 1,248 London Surprise Major: H. H. Smith 1, A. C. Sinfeld 2, E. J. Hobbs 3, R. J. Sharp 4, H. Burton 5, H. D. Harris (first in method as cond.) 6, A. Rushton 7, C. E. Jeffries 8. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER.

Quarterly subscribers are reminded that their subscriptions become due at the end of the month, and a remittance of 4s. 3d. should be sent to Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, without delay.

By air mail from Hobart, Tasmania, Mr. A. R. Wilson informs us that a good peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung on February 21st on the bells of St. David's Cathedral for the visit of Mr. Anthony Eden. The members afterwards adjourned to Hadley's Hotel opposite the Cathedral and drank the health of Britain's war-time Foreign Minister.

The peal unfortunately almost completely upset the annual meeting of the Royal Empire Society being held in the hotel. It was a case of conflict in the one cause, as the object of the Society and that of Mr. Eden is to direct attention to need for loyalty to the British Commonwealth. Mr. Wilson's brother is incidentally treasurer of the Royal Empire Society.

The bells of All Saints', Castle Cary, Somerset, are being rehung on modern frames.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild annual meeting has been fixed for July 23rd.

Powick, with tenor 23½ cwt., is the heaviest six in Worcestershire. See peal 'columns'.

Mr. Harold V. Frost has rung Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

Mrs. M. Ditmas, who rang a peal 'in hand' at Bournemouth, is better known to the Exercise as Miss Monica Richardson.

Terms for the Adelphi Hotel, York, are 30s. per day inclusive for Whitsuntide and not as published in 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. Brian D. Threlfall, who was to have stood in a Cambridge University Guild peal at Mildenhall, Suffolk, was taken suddenly ill and had to be rushed into hospital. Latest report indicates that he hopes to be about by Easter.

Would conductors of Kent County Association peals please note that the correct address of the peal secretary is P. A. Corby, 83, Hurstbourne Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23. Mr. Corby's address is wrongly given at one place in the latest K.C.A. report.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Complaints have reached us of the system of electric reproduction in place of church bells at St. John's, Torquay. 'The volume employed, the many distortions and abruptness in start and finish have produced a cacophony very distressing to near neighbours. No one else would be permitted to make so much noise without the most vehement protests and possible action on the part of the authorities,' writes Mr. J. Hammond.

The Vicar of Chippenham, the Rev. P. Snow, is appealing for £2,000 to rebuild the tower and a spire and to rehang the eight bells.

Two new trebles were dedicated by the Bishop of Dover on March 17th at St. Nicholas', Hannington, as a war memorial.

In connection with the Bishop of London's Mission from May 7th to May 22nd, a request has been made for the full co-operation of ringers in ringing church bells.

Will the person who took the wrong hat (black felt) from the Oxford Diocesan Guild General Committee meeting at Reading please communicate with the owner, the Rev. E. C. S. Lowman, Bray Vicarage, Maidenhead.

Another member of the Diserens family of Reading has entered the list of ringers. R. F. Diserens, aged 12, rang his first quarter of Grandsire Triples from the treble at St. Mary's, Reading, on March 13th.

Mr. Albert Walker writes to correct an error in our report of the Johnson dinner. He is not the retiring Master. He was elected Master in January, 1949, in succession to Cdr. A. Paddon Smith, who had held the office for two years, 1947 and 1948. Mr. Walker was first elected Master in 1944 and served in that post in 1945 and 1946, when he would not allow his name to go forward.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Living Record

Dear Sir,—Several of your correspondents who have written about the reporting of peals seem quite satisfied with the present style, and ask why a change is necessary. Well, are we to regard 'The Ringing World' as a *newspaper*—a live record of current happenings—or merely as a chronicle of past events? Surely peals are *news*? Would we tolerate any other newspaper which got so far behind? Imagine our own daily having got no further than the Hammersmith by-election and the last Test Match but one! Would we then suggest that we should hold fewer by-elections, Test Matches, etc., to enable the Press to keep pace? What an idea!

Mr. Rogers speaks of the thrill he got as a schoolboy when he received a certificate of merit for doing something more than the average scholar. But when he has rung an ordinary peal (and the great majority are in this class—I am not talking about 22 Spliced Surprise, or anything like that) does he really imagine he has done something more than the average ringer? One has only to look at the peal columns to see that by ringing a peal, one has done *no more* than the average ringer; in fact, one has done what hundreds of other average ringers are doing every week. The size and style of the report has nothing to do with the difficulty or magnitude of the achievement. To try and pretend, by printing the reports in large type, that we have done something very difficult or very out of the ordinary is really rather a foolish form of self-deception. Last year, on an average, just over fifty peals were rung *each week*.

I am not trying to run down peal ringing. To my mind it forms the best part of a very fine hobby. But we must not deceive ourselves into thinking that, by ringing a peal—or even a hundred peals—we have done something akin to winning an event at the Olympic Games or the chess championship of the world.

Mr. Rogers wishes to be spared the 'new look.' I am not advocating any new look, but rather that we abandon the far too generous fashion of the last century, and cut our coat according to the cloth. Would Mr. Rogers want to go back to the fashion of erecting enormous peal boards? Do such boards enhance the value of any performance they record in the slightest degree? Yet this practice was common when the present style of reporting was evolved.

C. W. WOOLLEY.

METHOD CRITICISMS ANSWERABLE

Dear Sir,—To all those expressing kind appreciation of the recent articles on Method Structure (with London extension), and to all others interested in progress based upon the truth of these things, may I be permitted, as an *interim* reply to criticisms being raised, to say that there are complete answers or refutations, largely derivable from C.C. publications. And may I recall that the major issue is as to principles of method structure, extension being one of its narrower fields.—Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Fountains Park, Netley Abbey.

Good Striking

Sir,—The paragraph on striking in 'Change ringing on handbells' (page 5) is incorrect, in my opinion, and reveals muddled thinking.

A statement that the blows in a pair of rows should be evenly spaced is followed by the paradoxical suggestion that the last bell at handstroke should lag and the last bell at backstroke should clip, in order to improve the leading. How this can result in evenly spaced blows is not explained; nor is it made clear why a ringer capable of making such fine distinctions in timing should not be equally capable of leading correctly without their aid.



Members of the Goscote Society who rang a peal of Doubles at Kirby Bellars, Leicestershire, on February 26th in honour of the 86th birthday of the Society's oldest member, Mr. Charles Littlewood, who attended the first meeting at Syston in May, 1832. The birthday of Mrs. Wheeler, for 37 years verger at the church, was also commemorated by the peal.

Names from left to right are: Seated, Mr. G. T. H. Walker (secretary), Mr. Charles Littlewood, Mrs. Wheeler and Mr. H. T. Bonshor (conductor); standing, Messrs. C. E. Cooper, Rowland Barrow and J. H. Cook.

The passage continues: 'On no account should it (i.e., the last bell) hold off or drag at backstroke; doing this reduces the handstroke interval and destroys rhythm.'

Even if this instruction were correct, the reason given for it would be wrong. The open handstroke occupies time specifically allowed for it, not time robbed from the preceding backstroke.

But the instruction itself is wrong. Good striking, as I understand it, involves a *ralentando* effect at the end of backstroke rows to enhance the cadence produced by the last few bells. Thus, the last bell at backstroke should lag slightly; with advantage, the last bell but one may also lag, though to a lesser degree.

The book under consideration bears neither the author's name nor any statement disclaiming responsibility by the Central Council for the instructions it contains. Unless these instructions have the unanimous approval of the Council (which is unlikely), the way in which they have been put before the Exercise is misleading. An explanation of the status of the book should apparently be given by those responsible for its production.—Yours sincerely,

MAURICE HODGSON.

52, Bayewater Road, London, W.2.

Dedication

A NEW RING OF TEN FOR SOMERSET.

What is considered by many knowledgeable people to be the finest tower in Somerset, at Evercreech, now houses a fine modern ring of ten, by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and on March 12th the bells were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells. The church was filled for the service and the clergy present were Canon J. M. Alcock, Bishop's Chaplain, the Revs. W. J. Bennett (Vicar), J. Wright (North Barrow), E. Ogden (Milton Clevedon), W. Pyke (North Cadbury) and J. F. Holt (Batcombe). After the dedication, the Bishop gave an address, taking as his text Ephesians 4, i. He particularly stressed the inseparability of the ringer's work in the tower with churchmanship.

As the congregation left the church the bells were rung by a representative band to four well-struck courses of Grand-sire Caters, and as they made their way to a bountiful tea, prepared by the ladies of the parish, visiting ringers were able to appreciate the magnificent tone and balance of the ring.

The tower was open for the rest of the evening, and touches of Grand-sire and Stedman Caters, mostly well struck, filled in the time till nine o'clock. A crowded belfry made ringing somewhat difficult, so that only the simpler methods were attempted, a good course of Cambridge Major finishing the ringing for the day. Ringers from Bristol, Trowbridge and Westbury, as well as ringers from most parts of Somerset, were present during the day, and Mr. John P. Fidler represented the founders.

This account cannot finish without a tribute to Henry J. Sanger, whose vision, determination and hard work initiated and brought to a successful conclusion this seemingly hopeless task.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:—

Treble.—*Laudate Dominum.* The gift of Douglas Bown Martin, in memory of the Bown family, 1948. *Gratia.*

2nd.—In memoriam Nellie Harding, and loved ones gone before. The gift of Mrs. S. White, of Horsehill.

3rd.—*Laus Deo.* Recast by gift of the Vicar and churchwardens.

4th.—*Gratiae Deo.* Recast. By gift of the Mothers' Union.

5th.—In memory of Roy Belfield, and others of this parish who made the supreme sacrifice, 1939-1945. Recast by gift of Mr. and Mrs. R. Gulliver.

6th.—The Parishioners' Bell. Recast by their gifts. W. J. Bennett, Vicar, P. Allen and O. J. Woodborne, Churchwardens.

7th.—Recast. By gift of ringers of this tower and the West Country. H. J. Sanger, Captain.

8th.—*Cantate Deo.* Recast. By the gift of Southwood and Pecking Mill.

9th.—*Tempore Satus et Messis Domino Laus.* The gift of the farmers of this parish.

Tenor.—Recast. To the memory of J. Purnell Luff, died August 25th, 1945.

Weight of tenor, 21 cwt. 17 lb.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Jones 1, Joan Yearsley 2, Francis Edgar 3, Janet Mattinson 4, W. Hardy 5, P. G. Parrott 6, D. N. Layton (cond.) 7, P. M. J. Gray 8.

Shropshire Association

MASTER REPROVED.

The first of the year's ordinary meetings was held at Wem on March 12th. Attendance was not high, but the gathering was most representative. After ringing in the afternoon the Vicar conducted a welcoming and enjoyable service. The time occupied in endeavouring to get the organ started exceeded the length of the service! After tea in Kynaston's Cafe a short business meeting was held, at which several members were elected.

The secretary was asked if he had received any apologies for absence, and on his replying in the negative, there ensued a spirited discussion based on the fact that several members of the Market Drayton band, with the Ringing Master (Mr. A. Pritchard), were engaged in a peal attempt at Market Drayton that afternoon.

Some most scathing remarks were passed on this point and it was decided to send this report to 'The Ringing World' and that the secretary should write to the Ringing Master a suitable letter in reproof.

TEA IN THE BELFRY

Dear Sir,—I strongly advise lady ringers not to take up the challenge of Mr. N. Chaddock to provide cups of tea in the belfry.

One thing leads to another, and a cup of tea would soon be a cup of tea and bun, and then tea, sandwich and bun, until eventually the only connection the ladies would have with the ringing would be to pass the refreshments through the belfry door.

I have had considerable experience of church organisations and have found that all too often a woman's part in the activities degenerates back to the sink, from which she had so hopelessly wished to escape.

In the case of extremely cold belfries a cure is better than temporary relief, and I suggest that the ringers should get together and pool their ideas and then make a determined attack on the offending draughts. If an expensive article, such as a screen or heavy curtain, is required, send a few words to the Parish Magazine describing the work of the ringers with a postscript on how badly they need a certain article. Such appeals are usually successful, or apply to the Church Council, either in writing or personally at a general meeting. Another way is to enlist the help of a popular church worker to raise the necessary money.

Throughout this country women in all social circles are taking an intelligent and active part in bellringing, and any suggestion that they are there for adornment, social atmosphere or tea making must be nipped in the bud.

E. DORICE KELLY, Hon. Sec.,
Northern District, Ladies' Guild.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET, BELLS

Dear Sir,—The bells of the Church of St. John, Wellington, are to be recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and were removed to the foundry about a month ago.

I am sure that all our friends in the Exercise will join with me in congratulating our Vicar, the Rev. Preb. J. H. D. Grinter, on his wise decision. The magnitude of his task may be judged by the fact that since his induction in 1933 he has reroofed the church, rearranged the whole of the interior, rebuilt the organ and renewed the heating system.

St. John's always had a call-change band until the ban on ringing was lifted, when a new band was trained by Mr. C. J. Stevens, and, thanks to his efforts, we were ringing Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob until it became necessary to dismantle the bells.

In view of the very heavy expenditure we have found it necessary to open a public subscription list, and if any ringers would feel disposed to make a small donation, it would be gratefully received by the Vicar.—Yours sincerely,
DOUGLAS M. BELLAMY.

Wellington, Somerset.

The East Grinstead Guild

The 22nd annual meeting was held at East Grinstead on March 12th, attended by a very representative gathering of some 45 members. The service was conducted by the president, Dr. G. Golding-Bird, with an address by the Rev. S. G. Blaikie, of Crawley Down.

There was a pleasant surprise awaiting the company on arrival at the Parish Hall, for in the centre of the tea table was an iced cake, the top of which was an exact replica, in design and colouring, of the Guild's badge.

Before the meeting members stood in silence as a tribute to the late Mr. Harry Coomber, a founder member. Ten new members were elected, and the balance sheet showed an increase of £2 0s. 10d., although the money in hand was down, owing to the purchase of more Guild badges.

The report stated that the Guild continued in a very healthy state. Five peals were rung, the high spot being the peal of Kent Treble Bob Major by eight of the officers for the 21st birthday. Miss Stella Wickens, of Twineham, was congratulated on becoming the first lady to conduct a Guild peal.

Elections resulted as follows: Chairman, E. J. Ladd; vice-chairman, A. Relfe; hon. auditor, A. L. Ryman; committee, A. Laffer, A. Lewry and B. Collinson; hon. treasurer, E. J. Oliver; hon. secretary, C. A. Bassett.

The meeting approved the purchase of a leather bound peal book and the erection of a board in East Grinstead tower to record the 21st birthday peal. It was also agreed that the Guild should revert to its old way of arranging meetings, the rota system having failed, owing to local conditions.

The summer outing was fixed for July 16th, the committee to arrange a trip into Surrey.

The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks, in particular to Dr. Golding-Bird for giving the tea and conducting the service and meeting, also to Miss Shepherd and her helpers. Mr. Walter Ladd received the congratulations of the Guild on his coming diamond wedding on March 12th.

On returning to the tower, Mr. E. J. Ladd ably catered for all tastes in ringing, himself turning in the tenor, to bring out the beauty of this fine octave, in a well-struck course of Cambridge Major. C. A. B.

RINGABLE!

The peal rung at East Farndon, Northants, has dispersed the rumour that 'the bells weren't ringable and were unsafe.' It is thought that someone locally spread the rumour because of the Church Council's refusal to put them in iron fittings. The frame is good yet for many years and the wood headstocks were renewed in 1897, when the late Alfred Bowell rehung the old four and added a treble. The tenor has since been rehung on ball bearings by Taylors (1937). The bells have been rung twice only since 1945. Not one of the band showed the least sign of fatigue at the finish of the peal, which was the first on the bells. An outpost in the Peterborough Diocese, the first meeting has yet to be held at East Farndon.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN GARRATT.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Garratt, of Sapcote, Leicestershire, at his home on March 9th.

Mr. Garratt, who was in his 84th year, joined the Midland Counties Association in 1890 and was made a life member in 1934. Although never a great peal ringer—he rang 11 peals in all—he was always a good Sunday service ringer.

The funeral took place at Sapcote on March 12th. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside by C. Brown 1-2, F. K. Measures 3-4, A. Ballard 5-6, G. A. Newton 7-8. The tower bells were rung half-muffled after the service. F. K. M.

66 Years a Ringer

A BRISTOL WORTHY.

A pleasant little ceremony took place in the ringing chamber of Stapleton Parish Church, Bristol, on March 14th, when an inscribed tobacco jar and pipe were presented to Mr. George Guy on his 78th birthday to mark his resignation as steeplekeeper.

He has been a regular ringer at Stapleton's six-bell tower for 66 years and has lately given up regular ringing only because of the difficulty of ascending the tower steps. He still chimes from the ground floor at alternate services and intends still to come up for a pull when he feels sound enough in wind (his limbs are sound).

His first 720 was scratched on the belfry stone-work 55 years ago and he still considers it a long enough length to ring. He has never rung a peal and says he offered up a silent prayer of thanks when his only attempt broke down. His devotion to the church and his care of the bells, clock and chiming apparatus remain an outstanding example to the younger ringers.

In reply to the good wishes of those present expressed by the tower captain, Mr. Walter Smith, Mr. Guy remarked that he thought prospects for ringing at Stapleton were now as bright as at any time in the past 60 years. With a Rector who expressed his appreciation of the work done, an assistant curate himself a ringer, and a young band of twelve ringers and learners there was nothing to stop them reaching the heights.

In reminiscent vein he recounted how, when as a boy of twelve he joined them, the ringers were reckoned a tough hard-drinking crew, but there was no doubting their keenness. On more than one occasion, for Christmas or Easter early Communion, some of them had to have a generous layer of frost brushed off them after sleeping all night in the churchyard, no doubt suitably 'fortified' at the adjoining hostelry.

An attempted quarter-peal came to grief, but Mr. Guy joined in some excellent Treble Bob and a course or two of Grandsire Minor, his favourite method. R. G. B.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

The Northern Division held a very encouraging meeting at Stisted on March 12th, when 45 members attended from 14 parishes, which, considering that Stisted is rather isolated from either bus or train, this attendance was most encouraging.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. Binnie), whose address was very bright, as was the singing led by the choir and organist.

At the meeting, which followed tea in the Institute, the District Master (Miss H. G. Snowden) presided. Eight probationer members, all from Stebbing, were elected, and Dunmow was chosen as the next place of meeting.

The question of teaching change ringing in various towers in the district, after the local band were taught to handle the bells, was discussed at length. It was finally agreed that a few volunteers would visit some of these towers.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and all for making the meeting successful were passed. Handbells were rung in various methods, and the tower bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.

Forty ringers attended the quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch at Rodbourne Cheney on March 12th, and good practice was had in eight different methods. The Vicar (the Rev. J. E. Hassett) conducted the Association form of service, and tea was provided by wives of the local ringers. It was proposed that meetings be held at Blunsdon, Castle Eaton and Bishopstone during the next three months.

BEOLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two 120s, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

MRS. L. J. BIRCH Treble	E. DUDLEY WILSON ... 4
VINCENT A. HEMMING ... 2	WILFRED R. JACKSON ... 5
FREDERICK W. JAMES ... 3	WILLIAM J. GETHIN ... Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

First peal by all the band except the conductor. Conductor's first peal of Grandsire Doubles and first of Doubles as conductor. First peal since restoration, 1948. Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

KIRBY BELLARS, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

AND THE GOSCOTE SOCIETY.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 240 Stedman, 960 April Day, 960 Plain Bob, 960 Canterbury, 1,920 Grandsire. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ROWLAND BARROW Treble	HAROLD T. BONSHOR ... 3
CHARLES EDW. COOPER ... 2	GEORGE T. H. WALKER 4
J. HARRY COOK Tenor	

Conducted by HAROLD T. BONSHOR.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. Wheeler (verger for 37 years) and Mr. Charles Littlewood, aged 86, the oldest ringer in this society.

RICKINGHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sun., Feb. 27, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 Kent Treble Bob and two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

RONALD FRANCIS Treble	*ALAN ROGERS ... 4
LESLIE FORSTER 2	ARTHUR COOK ... 5
CHARLES V. ORVES ... 3	*RICHARD E. MANTON ... Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD E. MANTON.

* First peal in four methods. First peal as conductor.

APSLEY END, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 28, 1949, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Norfolk Ipswich, Hull, Bourne, Primrose, Cambridge and Norwich Surprise. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*LESLIE S. BAINES Treble	AUGUSTINE V. GOOD ... 4
WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ... 2	HERBERT GATES ... 5
WALTER AYRE 3	*WILLIAM C. HUGHES ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in seven Surprise methods. A welcome home to H. P. Ayre and as an act of thanksgiving.

EAST FARNDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Mar. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 40 six-scores, ten callings, and 1,240 arrangement of Lindoff's.

CHARLES E. GILBY Treble	WILLIAM R. HAMMONS ... 3
PERCY AMOS 2	STANLEY M. RUDDLESSEN 4

ARTHUR MILLWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM R. HAMMONS.

First peal on the bells since made into five in 1897. Tenor 7½ cwt.

PELSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tues., Mar. 2, 1949, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 16 six-scores of Plain Bob, 6 April Day and 20 Grandsire.

WM. C. STACKHOUSE Treble	P. GEORGE GOLDER ... 4
HARRY CLARIDGE 2	JOSEPH GREGORY ... 5
*JEFFREY B. WEBB 3	ERIC CLARIDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by P. GEORGE GOLDER.

* First peal in three methods. First in three methods as conductor.

POWICK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Mar. 3, 1949, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 2,160's and one 720. Tenor 23½ cwt. in E flat.

ALLEN MORGAN Treble	GEORGE AMBLER ... 4
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	DENIS R. MORRIS ... 5
*WM. H. A. COMPTON ... 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal of Surprise Minor.

BICKER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Mar. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Cambridge Surprise, three of Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*BRYON PELL Treble	GEORGE R. DAWSON ... 4
†NORMAN B. FOVARGUE ... 2	CYRIL WANDER ... 5
†ROBERT HOWARD 3	JOHN P. MORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL WANDER.

* First peal in three methods. † First peal in three methods 'inside.' A welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. S. Ratcliffe.

KEMPSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 19½ cwt.

MISS M. WILLETT Treble	HAROLD WILLETT ... 4
FRANCIS J. CUBBERLEY ... 2	ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... 5
*GEORGE H. DERRINGTON 3	CHARLES J. CAMM ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY.

* First peal 'inside.' A welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. H. M. Glasgow.

MERROW, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1949, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb. in F.

*PAMELA A. WARREN Treble	JOHN A. ETHERINGTON ... 4
HAROLD A. MAY 2	GEORGE L. GROVER ... 5
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	ERIC T. LEE ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD A. MAY.

* First peal. First of Minor as conductor. A 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

HANDBELL PEALS

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Feb. 25, 1949, in 1 Hour and 51 Minutes,

AT 39A, HIGH STREET,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor size 15 in C.

MARION GRAIN 1-2	MAURICE J. THURMOTT ... 3-4
RONALD H. BULLEN 5-6	

Conducted by MAURICE J. THURMOTT.

WEST DIDSbury, MANCHESTER.

THE MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 26, 1949, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores.

*ERIC NIXON 1-2	RONALD AIREY ... 3-4
†MISS MOLLIE BROUGHTON 5-6	

Conducted by RONALD AIREY.

* First peal 'in hand.' † First peal.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Mar. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes,

IN ST. PETER'S HALL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

MRS. MONICA DITMAS ... 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... 5-6
WILLIAM G. YOUNG ... 3-4	FRED PRICE ... 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

BELFAST.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Mar. 2, 1949, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. THOMAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor size 11 in G.

A. ERNEST MCGRATH ... 1-2	FREDERICK E. DUKES ... 3-4
JOHN T. DUNWOODY ... 5-6	

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 2, 1949, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT 110, NOEL STREET,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 1-2	CLEMENT GLENN ... 5-6
MRS. C. GLENN ... 3-4	*PETER NIX ... 7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First peal of Major.

METHOD EXTENSION

A REPLY TO MR. YORK-BRAMBLE.

By W. TAYLOR.

(Continued from page 110)

I noticed in an early instalment (January 14th) that Mr. York-Bramble designates a bell lying behind as the treble leads or a bell leading a whole pull as the treble lies behind as an 'Extreme.' It may interest the modern generation to learn that adjoining places on the lead or behind were described by our ancestors as 'Extremes' because in such a case, e.g., 2nds when treble is leading the 2nds is moved its extreme distance from the normal lying a whole pull behind. I can't understand why Mr. York-Bramble desires to change this established and ancient custom unless indeed he desires to confuse us by indiscriminate use of terms.

When the treble lies its whole pull behind (at the half-lead) the other bell making a place is called the pivot bell, because it reverses its path from here and finishes at the lead end (handstroke blow) in the same position it occupied at the previous lead head (back stroke blow). This is an essential condition for the production of Bob Major or coursing lead ends and heads. The pivot bell may make its place in any odd position counting from the lead, i.e., in 1sts or 3rds or 5ths or 7ths for Major. N.B.—The half-lead rows are not necessarily in coursing order, but they must be related to coursing order in certain definite ways. It is generally agreed that 1sts and 7ths of Major correspond to 1sts and 5ths of Minor respectively; neither 3rds nor 5ths of Major corresponds exactly to 3rds of Minor. Mr. York-Bramble appears to contend that 5ths of Major corresponds to 3rds of Minor because both are 4ths from behind. This is not necessarily true and, I think, fallacious.

It may reasonably be argued that at the half-lead rows, 5ths of Royal corresponds to 3rds of Minor, both are midway. In which case it could be contended that neither 3rds nor 7ths has a counterpart in Minor. Of course, this is not the complete argument, but I leave it at that for the present.

DEDICATION

SOMERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

The Bishop of Leicester dedicated on March 5th a new treble bell at Somerby Parish Church, Leicestershire. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. G. Sowerby) and the lesson read by Mr. H. J. Poole, president of the Leicester Diocesan Guild. The Bishop gave an address.

After the service a well-struck touch of Minor was rung by Josiah Morris (on the new treble), J. H. Cook 2, J. Oldham 3, G. T. H. Walker 4, Colin Harrison (cond.) 5, A. Fenton 6.

Following tea at the Memorial Institute, a programme of handbell ringing was given. Ringers from the following towers were represented: Leicester Cathedral, St. Margaret's (Leicester), St. John the Divine (Leicester), Syston, Loughborough, Ashby Folville, Twyford, Great Dalby, Kirby Bellars, Asfordby, Melton, Eaton and Hose. In the evening, touches of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman were rung.

It is interesting to note that in 1552 there were three bells and a sanctus bell; in 1767 a fourth was added; in 1806 the four were reduced to three, the three bells of 1552 were useless and sold and two bells put in their place; in 1813 a new bell for an old one; in 1891 the three bells were recast with additional metal into a ring of five.

Now the record is completed—the bells have been rebung and rearranged and the ring of six completed in the year 1948. The joy of having completed this history goes to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stimson, assisted by many helpers. The £250 necessary was raised in less than a year—a great achievement.

Mr. York-Bramble asks us to describe an internal place in the body of the lead as a 'Stat' (or places, I take it) and tells us that it always causes dodging. For the benefit of the ordinary ringer 'a Stat' is the equivalent of a bob made at the parting of the leads and has a corresponding effect on coursing order. I agree it may be desirable to have a special name for places in the body of the lead and that 'Stat' is as good as any. The Stat doesn't necessarily cause dodging, as I will demonstrate presently. Indeed, I think it is possible to ring upwards of 5,000 changes in Major without one complete dodge in the composition!

Adjoining places have the same effect as an Extreme (used in old sense). The bells making adjoining places exchange duties in the coursing order, e.g., the 3-4 places of Oxford Treble Bob when treble is in 1-2 (ought I to say AoAe?) change coursing order from 24687531 to 23687541, which is restored to 24687531 when the treble dodges in 1-2 down; meanwhile the line lead or slow hunt or, more correctly, the series of extremes with the 2nd, moves the treble progressively from 3124 to 3214 in coursing order, which in the absence of an Extreme (2nds place) when the treble leads produces the second lead head 14263857 (in Major) counting rounds as the first.

If the reader examines the following half-lead he will find that in spite of several Stats there is no dodging. The nearest approach to a dodge is caused by a Stedman whole turn on the lead.

12345678
21436587
24163857
42618375
24681735
24867153
42876513
2785631

When 8ths is used at the parting of the leads and Singles only used with the plain leads (678) lying, quite a long length can be rung without any dodging in the ordinary sense.

(To be continued)

5,088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

*By A. J. CORRIGAN.

M	B	W	R	23456	Last five courses
					twice repeated,
			2	34256	round at PL before
					last two bobs at R.
1	—	2		45623	4, 5, 6 extent in
1	—	1	2	54326	6ths, these three
1	—	2	2	53246	bells all double-
1	—	2	2	52436	bobbed at R. First
			2	35264	rung at Bitton,
					Dec. 11th, 1948.

A correspondent writes: This is a fairly good example of a three-part peal of Treble Bob, but it is rather spoilt by the fact that the first course in each part has a most unmusical course end. This composition has the very good quality of never having the 2nd dodging behind with the tenor. It is, of course, quite true when rung to Oxford, but when rung to this variation the 2nd does dodge behind with the tenor a few times in each part.

BARWELL RINGERS

At the annual meeting of the Barwell ringers, Mr. C. R. Belton and Mr. G. P. Garner were re-elected captain and vice-captain respectively. Mr. T. C. Belton succeeded Mr. A. A. Lucas as secretary, the Rev. J. D. Wakeling (curate) treasurer, and A. H. Hough and J. Armstrong joint towerkeepers.

The annual outing has been arranged to Cambridge on May 21st. Local ringers wishing to travel with Barwell ringers should contact Mr. T. C. Belton.

Mr. W. P. Whitehead was thanked by the Rector for his work among his ringers, by putting his ringing abilities at their disposal throughout the year. The Rev. J. D. Wakeling was elected a ringing member.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTH

TREVOR.—To Ethel Josephine, wife of Leonard Trevor, at the Manor Hospital, Manor Court Road, Nuneaton, on March 19th, 1949. a son (Martin Howard). 4988

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED.—One or two youths age 15 to 16 and young men age 20 to 21 willing to become bellhangers. Must be good mechanics with initiative. Ringers preferred but not essential. —Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., Bell Foundry, Croydon. 4947

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—HANDBELLS, two octaves (diatonic), in polished wooden cases. Retuned Mears 1947, tenor 20 in E. £25 inclusive.—Apply Box 4954, 'Ringing World,' Guildford. 4954

MISCELLANEOUS

ALL GOOD RINGERS KEEP RECORDS. Keep YOURS the 'Delight' way using specially-designed 'Delight' loose-leaf sheets and binder. Details and sample sheets from William Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot. 4887

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

PUBLICATIONS

The reprint of 'THE COLLECTION OF DOUBLES AND MINOR METHODS' will be welcomed by many who have shown interest in the recently published four-way Table of Minor Methods. This table is for use with the collection, which can now be obtained from the Librarian (3s. 3d. post free), Osmington School, Tring, Herts.

'CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.'

—The first official book on this subject. Price 2s. post free, from Hon. Librarian, Central Council, W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Hertfordshire.

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price. 3373

No better pen picture of early ringing societies has been published than J. Armiger Trollope's 'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' illustrated, 5s. 6d. post free.—'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

EVENT OF THE YEAR.—To-morrow night, MIDDLESEX Annual Supper and Social, Catholic Hall, Heston, 5.30. Tickets at door 9s. 6d. Excellent social programme. Drinks. Ringing 3 p.m. 4961

GRUNDISBURGH.—Dedication of two new trebles and retuned eight bells in new frame and fittings, March 26th, at 3 p.m. Subscribers and helpers specially invited to service and tea. All ringers welcome. Bus 210a will leave Old Cattle Market, Ipswich, 2.20 p.m. Those requiring tea and bus must notify Cecil W. Pipe, Grundisburgh, Woodbridge, Suffolk. 4904

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting, Duffield, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (10) 2.30. Bring food, cups of tea provided.—J. F. Wilkinson. 4927

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Saturday, March 26th, Chalfont St. Giles 3, St. Peter's 6.15. Names for tea Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 4930

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Hemingford Grey, Saturday, March 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea, Grey Hall Hotel, 4.15. Service 5.—S. Gilbert, Dis. Sec. 4938

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Tickhill, March 26th, 3 p.m. Tea available.—W. E. Critchley. 4976

DOWNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.—Dedication of recast bell at 11 a.m., Sunday, March 27th. Ringing before and after service. All welcome. 4980

HALIFAX DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting and contest at New Mill, Saturday, April 2nd. For teas notify N. Tinker, Eastfield, Mearhouse, New Mill, Huddersfield, by March 26th.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 4922

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Revival of annual dinner at Fleece Hotel, Cheltenham, Saturday, April 2nd, at 7 p.m. Tickets 7s. 6d. Bells available, Prestbury (8) 2.30, Cheltenham (12) 4.30.—Charles Rouse, Westdene, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury, Glos. 4939

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western District.—Quarterly meeting at Stanford-le-Hope, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea by Wednesday, March 30th.—F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch. 4936

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Meeting, Aston, April 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, Aston Tavern, 5 p.m. Notify G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 4941

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting, Goudhurst (8), April 2nd, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to R. A. Whitehead, Leigh, near Tonbridge, Kent, not later than March 31st. 4942

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Melksham (8), April 2nd, 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea by March 28th.—F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 4952

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Bushey Heath (8), Saturday, April 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—S. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford. 4951

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Hampton, Saturday, April 2nd. New ring of eight at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Names for tea by March 29th to W. J. Newman, Branch Sec., 10, Peewit Road, Hampton, Evesham. 4950

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Audley, Saturday, April 2nd. Names for tea to Mr. R. Rowley, Swanley, Nantwich Road, Audley Stoke-on-Trent.—W. Carnwell, Hon. Sec. 4949

DISS, NORFOLK.—All ringers welcomed, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells 2 p.m. Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Bennett. Names for tea by March 29th.—A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss. 4985

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting at Amptill, April 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—P. L. Gilbert. 4974

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Fulbourn, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. at Six Bells.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 4968

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—March (6) Saturday, April 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—C. Gimbert, Sutton, Ely. 4964

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City.—April 2nd, St. James', 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5, Montpelier Cafe, Marlborough Street. Notify by March 31st the Secretary. 4979

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch and Furness and Lake District Branch.—Joint meeting at Silverdale, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) available 2.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, March 30th, to W. Bolton, Kirkmead, Cove Road, Silverdale.—J. Skeats, N. M. Newby, Branch Secs. 4983

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ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Hilgay, April 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by March 29th.—J. E. Fox, Walpole Highway, Wisbech. 4953

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—Yate (6), April 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by March 28th to Miss D. M. Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall, Glos. 4960

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Holy Trinity, Burnley, April 2nd. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower at 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 4975

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Ansdell, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring own food.—J. H. Foster. 4981

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, April 2nd, St. Michael's, Aughton. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Meeting 6. Names for tea to Mr. R. Larkey, Smithy Lane, Aughton, by Wednesday, March 30th.—J. Burns. 4956

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting at Kilworth, April 2nd. Service 4.30. Tea, White Lion, 5.—L. W. Allen, High Street, Great Glenn. 4959

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Meeting, Netherseale (8), April 2nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea only for those who notify me by March 21st.—J. Cotton. 4984

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Interim meeting, Great Bircham, Saturday, April 2nd. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Early replies will help.—W. J. Eldred, 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn. 4957

OXFORD GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice at Warfield (8) on Saturday, April 2nd, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 4973

OXFORD GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting, Stanford-in-the-Vale, April 2nd. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by March 30th.—R. F. J. Gilling, Fernham, Faringdon. 4978

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Dallington (6), April 2nd. Bells 3.20 p.m. Names for tea Mr. E. Nobles, Hon. Sec., 48, Millway, Duston, Northants. 4966

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—Meeting at Naseby and Hazelbech, Saturday, April 2nd. Service and tea at Naseby, ringing at Hazelbech after tea. Names for tea before March 29th to F. Orland, High Street, Long Buckby. 4967

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Quarterly meeting at Eastwood, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells 3.30. Tea at Sun Inn 5.30. Names to Mr. J. Johnson, 29, Church Street, Eastwood, Notts, by Wednesday, March 30th, latest.—W. Thornley. 4970

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Ipswich District.—Meeting, Stratford St. Mary, April 2nd. Bells 2.30 to 4.45, 6 to 7. Tea 4.45. Names to Edward Ellenger, Hon. Dis. Sec., 108, St. John's Road, Ipswich. Tel. Ips 78926. 4986

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Rawmarsh, April 2nd, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. C. Wilson, 131, Wheatcroft Road, Rawmarsh, Rotherham. All welcome. 4977

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Meeting at Waltham-on-the-Wolds, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Names to Mr. C. Matthews, Waltham, by March 31st. 4990

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Crawley (8), April 2nd, 3. Names for tea by March 30th to G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 4991

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Northleach, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5. Service 6. Card for tea by March 28th.—W. H. Hayward, 1, Bowling Green Road, Cirencester, Glos. 4993

KENT ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly, St. Lawrence's, Ramsgate, Saturday, April 9th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea (2s.) to those who notify Mr. S. J. Gee, 22, Nethercourt Hill, Ramsgate, by Tuesday, April 5th.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 4972

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Cobham (6) on Saturday, April 9th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by Tuesday, April 5th, to B. W. May, Keithstone, Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne. 4959

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Staplehurst (8), April 9th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, Kent. 4963

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Meeting, Saxilby (6), April 9th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea for those who notify me by the Tuesday previous.—J. Freeman, Hon. Sec., 95, Sincil Bank, Lincoln. 4982

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davenport Branch.—Meeting, Norton and Whilton, April 9th. Service and meeting Norton, Whilton evening. Names for tea to Mr. H. Haynes, Whilton, Rugby, by April 1st.—F. W. Hancock, Hon. Sec. 4971

BUCKERELL, HONITON, DEVON.—Dedication of new treble and recast bells by Mears and Stainbank, Saturday, April 9th, at 3 p.m. Service by the Bishop of Crediton. Tea (2s.) by ticket only on application not later than April 4th to F. H. Parr, Butts, Buckerell, near Honiton. 4971

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Maidstone, Easter Monday. See 'R.W.', April 1st, for full particulars. Names for lunch (about 3s. 6d.) by April 6th.—G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne. 4935

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, April 18th, Norwich. Mancroft bells available 10 to 11.45 and 2.30 onwards, and the other city towers by arrangement. Standing Committee, Mancroft, 11.30. Service, Mancroft 12 noon; preacher, Rev. G. B. Chambers. Lunch 1, Samson and Hercules, followed by business meeting. Lunch 4s., plus 10 per cent. service. All names for lunch by Friday, April 8th, to General Secretary, Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. 4992

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Corporate Communion at Ditchat, April 24th, 8 a.m. Names for breakfast by 20th proximo.—H. C. Lintern, Alhampton, Ditchat. 4958

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District outing, June 25th. A further coach available providing it is filled by April 4th. Please send deposit. Cost without meals approximately 16s., with meals 25s.—A. F. Udall, School House, St. Luke's Street, Chelsea, S.W.3. 4987

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—On March 2nd at St. Michael's, 1,260 Grandshire Triples: Miss I. Pointer 1, J. Weaver 2, E. Austin 3, R. Flew 4, Miss E. Taylor 5, B. Garrett 6, S. Webb (cond.) 7, N. Grover 8. First quarter for 1 and 8.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—On March 6th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Turley 1, E. Bishop, jun. 2, R. Mitchell 3, F. Miles 4, F. Hammond 5, A. F. Lewry (first in method as cond.) 6, S. T. A. Russell 7, M. Hammond 8. First of Stedman 1, 4 and 8. Also 1,260 Grandshire Triples: M. Hammond (first on treble) 1, Miss J. Hill (first of Triples 'inside') 2, E. Bishop, jun. 3, R. Mitchell 4, A. F. Lewry (cond.) 5, F. Miles 6, S. T. A. Russell 7, F. Hammond 8.

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Caters: Grandsire 2 (1); Stedman 1; Erin 1. Royal: Kent Treble Bob 2; Plain Bob 2; Cambridge Surprise 1.

Maximus: Kent Treble Bob 1.

BAUGHURST, HANTS. — On March 7th, 1,260 Bob Doubles and Grandsire: Miss E. Knight 1, D. Farthing 2, Miss H. Cane 3, D. Cane 4, P. Knight (cond.) 5. As a compliment to P. Knight, who is joining the R.A.F.

SONNING, BERKS. — On March 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. A. Eele 1, L. Norcutt 2, Miss J. S. Cox 3, A. W. Burton 4, H. Smith 5, A. N. Willis 6, B. C. Castle (cond.) 7, L. Bune 8. First quarter by 3 and 6.

WADHURST, SUSSEX. — On March 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Pilbeam 1, Miss J. Hills (first 'inside') 2, Mrs. E. Bassett 3, C. A. Bassett 4, L. W. Giles (cond.) 5, J. T. Newick 6.

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