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AN EXPERT COMMITTEE WANTED?

The letter which we publish in this issue from the Rev. E. S. Powell, upon the subject of providing a register of compositions—with which matter we dealt on this page last week—raises a question of considerable importance, and one to which we think the Central Council would do well to devote their attention. In advocating this register of compositions we had not overlooked the difficulty which the Rev. E. S. Powell points out; indeed, there are several difficulties surrounding the problem which will have to be surmounted if the register is to be of practical value. But the particular point which the Vicar of Holbeton raises need not, we think, interfere with putting the project in hand. Whether a particular set of course ends is or is not a variation of some previously obtained peal is a question which can be settled after the collection has been made, if it cannot be settled before.

The most important step seems to us to be getting together the peals which have already been composed, and before their identity with their original author has been lost. Whether any two of them are the same peal or variations of each other can be decided, and the claim to originality awarded to the first author afterwards. On the other hand, of course, the work of collecting the peals and deciding rival claims could go on concurrently, if a definition of what constitutes originality or variations can be decided upon, but to wait until a ruling on this latter point is satisfactorily settled might postpone indefinitely the big task of forming the register. What we have been anxious to emphasise is that the longer the task is delayed the more difficult it will become.

There is, however, in Mr. Powell's letter a suggestion upon which the Council might well act. They ought to set up an expert committee to define what is an original composition, and what constitutes a variation. Such a committee *could* be formed, and the recommendation of that committee, or a majority thereof, should be accepted by the Council, and they should recognise no other. There are other technical questions which have been and still are matters of great divergence of opinion. These, also, ought to be the subject of consideration by an expert committee of the Council, and if the committee was one to command the confidence of the Exercise, we believe their report would be loyally accepted by ringers at large, the majority of whom admit their ignorance on these subjects, but would be prepared to accept the considered views of a competent committee. We should, doubtless, always have a 'minority movement' among us, but a good deal might be done to influence the opinion of the 'rank and file' if the

(Continued on page 562.)

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Council would set up a kind of judicial body to whom these subjects could be referred. The Committee must, of course, be men of knowledge, and it could be strengthened by going outside the Council for some of its members; one important point would be to have a committee in which the Exercise as well as the Council had confidence.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

ALBERT C. V. GASSON Treble	CHARLES V. HOARE 7
ARTHUR J. NEALE 2	GEORGE A. CARD 8
FRANK SMITH 3	LEONARD H. BAYBET 9
JOHN D. MATTHEWS 4	CECIL J. MATTHEWS 10
JOHN SPARROW 5	WILLIAM BOTTRILL 11
THOMAS NEWMAN 6	THOMAS BEVAN Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by J. D. MATTHEWS.

TEN BELL PEALS.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 26, 1925, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR PRINCE Treble	ARTHUR K. HARRISON 6
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS 2	JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON 7
MRS. R. J. WILKINS 3	CHARLES W. BELL 8
REV. R. H. WHITFORD 4	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 9
JESSE FRANCIS 5	ERNEST BISHOP Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

The above peal is Mr. Edgar Guise's No. 2 composition, and is now rung for the first time. Mr. Joseph W. Pemberton was elected a member of the Guild.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

*ALBERT FLEET Treble	†CLIFFORD ROLLINGS 6
*AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 2	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 7
EDMUND J. HOBBS 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW 8
†MISS EVELYN STEEL 4	†WILLIAM STAPLETON 9
WILLIAM A. JAMES 5	†HORACE H. SMITH Tenor

Composed by FRED H. DEXTER. Conducted by ARTHUR E. SHARMAN

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Treble Ten. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Nicholls, daughter of the genial foreman of this tower.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

GABRIEL LINDOFF Treble	GEORGE WILSON 5
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 2	JAMES G. RUMSEY 6
ERNEST S. BAILEY 3	JAMES M. BAILEY 7
GEORGE BAILEY 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Arranged for Mr. A. E. Austin, of Cambridge, who was elected a life member of the above Guild previous to starting; also for Mr. G. Lindoff, who was spending a holiday in his native town. By ringing the treble to the above peal he completed the octave in the tower where he learned to ring.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 21, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY Treble	FREDERICK CULLOM, JUN. ... 5
EDWIN BARNETT 2	HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... 6
ISAAC C. SHADE 3	C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M. 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	GEORGE H. DAYNES Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6120 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER Treble	JOHN J. LAMB 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	GEORGE M. KILBY 6
CECIL V. EBBERSON 3	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 7
MISS RUBY HAWKSWORTH ... 4	HARRY KILBY Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 26, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... Treble	C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M. 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	GEORGE MORRAD 6
EDWARD J. BEER 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	EDWARD HADLOW Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

A birthday peal for Messrs. Beer and Hadlow.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 26, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F.

FRED BOWDEN Treble	CHARLES N. BURDOCK ... 5
HARRY MULLARD 2	GEORGE W. STEERE 6
JOHN H. B. HESSE 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON, JUN. 7
JOHN P. McDERMOTT ... 4	ALFRED H. POLLING Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* First peal and first attempt.

BATH, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 27, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

WALTER WATTS Treble	THEODORE GRANT 5
GEORGE TEMPLE 2	THOMAS F. HING 6
HENRY W. BROWN 3	RICHARD J. COUSINS ... 7
FREDERICK C. RICH 4	WILLIAM H. HOBBS Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD J. COUSINS.

† First peal.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On Saturday, August 8th, at St. Mary-the-Virgin's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 46 mins.: G. Jordan 1, H. W. Watts 2, T. Jordan 3, W. Prior 4, T. J. Watts 5, R. D. Buttress 6, W. Watts (conductor) 7, J. Prior 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

CROSTWICK, KESWICK.—On Sunday, August 9th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Hartley 1, H. Hogarth 2, F. Barnes 3, D. Usher 4, T. Wilson 5, W. Hogg 6, T. Hogarth (conductor) 7, F. Grisdale 8.—On August 10th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: D. Usher 1, F. Hogarth 2, F. Barnes 3, H. Hogarth 4, F. Grisdale 5, W. Hogg 6, T. Hogarth (conductor) 7, H. Just 8.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 27, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lb.

* EDWARD F. GOBEY Treble	JOHN FLOWER 5
CHARLES DRAPER 2	JAMES F. GEORGE 6
J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 3	HENRY HARRISON 7
WILLIAM THORNLEY 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.

* First peal and second attempt, aged 13. He is believed to be the youngest ringer to ring a peal on tower bells for this association.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, August 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S No. 1.

Tenor 14 cwt.

SIDNEY F. PALMER Treble	RALPH S. LONG 5
J. HENRY BOWER 2	HENRY NAYLOR 6
COLIN HARRISON 3	JOHN THORPE 7
FRANCIS WARD 4	* HENRY HURST Tenor

Conducted by JOHN THORPE.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman Triples. First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor. Quickest peal of Triples on the bells.

BANGOR, CARNARVONSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

J. F. WILLIAMS Treble	T. JONES 5
A. J. HUGHES 2	A. E. PEGLER 6
W. SEAR 3	W. T. PEGLER 7
J. H. MIDWINTER 4	J. LANGFORD JONES Tenor

Conducted by W. T. PEGLER.

Arranged for Mr. W. Sear, who is a Bletchley ringer.

ANSTHEY, NEAR LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... Treble	* HARRY BAXTER 5
MISS KITTY MOORE 2	ROBERT G. BLACK 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 3	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 7
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal in the method. Ringers of the 2nd, 5th and 6th are from the Kettering branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild; 4th from Peterborough.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. NEVARD Treble	JAMES FLEETY 5
WALTER ARNOLD 2	WILLIAM ELLIOTT 6
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS 7
FRANK CLAYDON 4	HAROLD W. CLARK Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Elliott. Owing to a traffic breakdown the composer was unable to arrive in time to stand in, to the regret of all the band. He, however, heard the last 2½ hours of the peal.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*EDWARD J. JENNER Treble	GEORGE EDWARDS 5
LEONARD MANNERING 2	JOHN S. MORTON 6
JAMES HEASEMAN 3	LOUIS HEAD 7
†EDWARD COLLISON 4	WILLIAM J. DAY Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST BRETT Treble	CECIL V. EBBERSON 5
EDWIN F. PIKE 2	JOHN T. KENTISH 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	WILLIAM PYE 7
JAMES E. DAVIS 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

HARRY TURNER Treble	GRAHAM LINDRIDGE 5
WILLIAM DODLEY 2	ERNEST FURBANK 6
ALBERT RAINBIRD 3	HENRY T. WILSON 7
STANLEY W. BAYBUT 4	WILLIAM LEGGETT Tenor

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th. Mr. Lindridge's first peal for about 15 years. First peal of Triples as conductor and the quickest peal on the bells.

WYRANDISBURY, BUCKS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM WELLING Treble	WILLIAM H. HOLLIER 5
FREDERICK GOODFELLOW 2	JOSEPH HERBERT 6
THOMAS R. BUTLER 3	JAMES E. COOPER 7
*ARTHUR H. FULWELL 4	CHARLES H. KIPPEN Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK ROBINSON.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPEN.

* First peal of Treble Bob. T. R. Butler hails from Ellesmere, Salop.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

DENVER, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford and four of Kent.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. in A Flat.

ERNEST A. BULLOCK Treble	ARTHUR WIGMORE 4
*FRANK N. GOLDEN 2	JAMES H. RAPER 5
ALFRED BACON 3	WALTER N. ASHBY Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. RAPER.

* First peal. Arranged for Mr. Golden, of Northampton, Norfolk.

ADDINGTON MAGNA, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES WARD Treble	JOHN R. MAIN 4
ARTHUR BELLAMY 2	JAMES HUDSON 5
FRANCIS BALL 3	ANDERSON Y. TYLER Tenor

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

First peal of Minor as conductor.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5030 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*MISS M. RINGROSE Treble	WILLIAM E. RINGROSE 4
THOMAS G. DEAL 2	ARTHUR F. PUTLAND 5
HARRY BLEE 3	*ERIC B. ROUSE Tenor

Conducted by A. F. PUTLAND.

* First peal. First peal of Grandsire Doubles by the whole band. The ringers of the second and tenor were elected members of the association prior to the peal.

WESTON-BEGGARD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 16, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 16 six-scores each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and 10 of Grandsire. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*W. WARREN Treble	T. TAYSON 3
A. J. TAYLOR 2	W. TAYLOR 4
G. TAYSON 3	G. TAYSON Tenor

Conducted by G. TAYSON.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEAL.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, August 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5010 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 18 in G.

*HOBART E. SMITH 1-2	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5-6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3-4	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 7-8
FREDERICK J. TILLET 9-10	

Composed by the late SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Umpire: CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE.

* First peal in the method on handbells. First peal of Stedman Caterers on handbells in Ipswich by a local band. The composition is on Page 90 of Snowden's 'Stedman.'

SURFLEET, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 17, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

GEORGE LADD Treble	WALTER AYRE 6
MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
WILLIAM H. HEWETT 3	WILLIAM WOOD 8
*MRS. RUPERT RICHARDSON 4	FRED WILFORD 9
RUPERT RICHARDSON 5	REV. H. L. JAMES Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. HEWETT

* First peal in the method.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Minutes.

ON THE LAWN AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

MRS. F. I. HAIRS ...	1-2	FRANK I. HAIRS ...	5-6
ROBERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	WALTER AYRE ...	7-8

WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 9-10

Composed and Conducted by W. AYRE.

Umpire: MRS. R. RICHARDSON.

* First peal of Royal 'in hand' as conductor.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, August 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes.

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ...	1-2	FRANK I. HAIRS ...	5-6
ROBERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	WALTER AYRE ...	7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by R. RICHARDSON.

Umpire: WM. H. HEWETT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.

ON THE LAWN AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 18 in G.

FRANK I. HAIRS ...	1-2	WALTER AYRE ...	5-6
ROBERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	WILLIAM H. HEWETT ...	7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

Umpires: MRS. R. RICHARDSON and MRS. F. I. HAIRS.

* 150th peal.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 23, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

ON THE LAWN AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ...	1-2	FRANK I. HAIRS ...	5-6
ROBERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	WALTER AYRE ...	7-8

WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 9-10

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

Umpire: MRS. R. RICHARDSON.

* First peal of Treble Ten 'in hand,' and first peal of Treble Ten as conductor. First peal of Kent Royal 'in hand' by the Guild.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 24, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ...	1-2	FRANK I. HAIRS ...	5-6
ROBERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	WALTER AYRE ...	7-8

WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 9-10

Composed and Conducted by W. AYRE.

Umpire: MRS. R. RICHARDSON.

SURFLEET, LINGS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, August 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

ON THE LAWN AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 13 in E.

MRS. F. I. HAIRS ...	1-2	FRANK I. HAIRS ...	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	3-4	MRS. RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal on handbells, also first peal of Major by two married couples.

THE SURFLEET 'ANNUAL.'

A HOLIDAY AND SOME RECORDS.

Glorious weather on Saturday, August 15th, hailed the arrival, at Surfleet, first of the 'luggage fiend' and later of the 'cockneys,' accompanied by 'Old Bill' and his 'penny-in-the-slot' trunk.

After ringing on Sunday morning, which included a course of Cambridge Royal, the rest of the day was given over to leisure, during which 'mine host' gave 'Old Bill' his list of duties for the week.

Monday morning was spent by the visitors in 'digging themselves in,' whilst Rupert attended to business. In the afternoon a peal of Bob Major was attempted in the meadow, with Rupert in command, but 'too many cooks spoil the broth.' At 6 p.m. 'go' was called for Cambridge Royal on that 'second-to-none' peal of ten at the Church of St. Lawrence, with 'Old Bill' at the helm. Three hours and a half of good ringing, and the bells ran home, much to the delight of the Rev. and the rest of the band, more especially Rupert, as it was Mrs. Rupert's first peal of Cambridge Royal, also the first peal of Cambridge Royal in which two married couples had taken part.

Tuesday, being market day at Spalding, ringing was left alone until evening, when Cambridge Major was attempted at Fulney; but, for some unaccountable reason, came to a sudden stop after 2 hours and 40 minutes' ringing, the band being sadly disappointed, although two of the ringers were afterwards closely inspecting their hands for some reason or other. The air of Surfleet, having taken a strong hold of one particular member of the party, weird noises were heard issuing from his bedroom about midnight, but the ill-effects had worked off by next morning.

After breakfast on Wednesday, a start was made for Bob Royal, and a good peal was brought round just in time for dinner, during which one ungrateful member passed rude remarks about not being used to retiring to the mat. A cricket match was played in the afternoon at the Reservoir, which resulted in the Ladies beating the Gentlemen and one of the gentlemen having to resort to aquatic feats to recover the ball.

The weather still treating us with great kindness, a visit was paid to Skegness on Thursday, where a most enjoyable day was spent, the male portion having their 'annual.' Some amusement was caused at dinner time by 'Old Bill' trying to digest a specially prepared Surfleet sandwich! The exertions of the day again proved too much for 'this particular member,' and night time arrived with more noise and vigorous 'flag' waving in the corridor.

Friday was commenced with 'many happy returns of the day' to Rupert, and to celebrate his birthday a peal of Bob Major was rung, conducted by the particular one in question. An impromptu birthday party followed, during which Rupert received the good wishes of everyone present.

The 'luggage fiend,' being one peal short of 150, it was decided to ring a peal of Bob Major on Saturday. Mrs. 1-2, having a desire to see other people work, very kindly umpired, and carried out her duties equally as well as 'Old Bill' on the previous day.

Sunday, August 23rd, must be put down as a red letter day in the history of the 'Surfleet Annuals,' for on that day a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung, this being the first peal of Treble Bob Royal rung on one of these very enjoyable occasions.

All good things come to an end, and Monday morning arrived all too soon, and with it the hour of departure. The weather, having taken a turn for the worse, mine host had a busy hour before breakfast, but as the rain continued to patter down, time was found to squeeze in another peal of Bob Royal. After dinner the fatal hour was close at hand, and tracks were made to Spalding Station, the 'luggage fiend' taxing Rupert's car to its utmost, which necessitated 'Old Bill' being left until last (a position he usually chooses for himself). The 5.40 train from Spalding, being rather late, however, he was able to join it, together with his 'penny-in-the-slot' trunk (which certainly looked better for its stay at Glyn Garth). The departure of the train brought to an end one of the most enjoyable 'annuals' the writer can remember. Although the ringing week officially ended on Monday, the tit-bit of 1925 arrived on Friday, when the remnants of the party had the pleasure of taking part in the hostess's first peal 'in hand,' a good peal of Bob Major being rung in 2 hr. 18 mins.

This little account cannot be brought to a close without mentioning the cause of the success of these functions—the unlimited kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, for which the party all join in one big, hearty 'thank you.'

WEDDING BELLS.

On August 29th, at All Saints' Church, Leighton Buzzard, 168 each of Grand sire and Stedman Triples and 240 Bob Major, J. Arnold, W. Bodsworth, A. Butcher, A. Seabrook, F. Dodman, F. Buttrum, W. Gates, W. Jeffs and F. Vickers taking part. These touches were rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Connie Nicholls, daughter of Mr. J. Nicholls, foreman of All Saints'. It was also the anniversary of the wedding of Mrs. Brownworth, one of All Saints' ringers. Later in the day the Beds Association rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE OLD NORWICH CONTROVERSY.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Thomas Melchior was in no wise backward in accepting the challenge thrown down by Edward Crane. No doubt this was but the formal declaration of war. Hostilities had already begun. Melchior was not the man to sit still and see another usurp his position as the leading ringer of Norwich. He, too, had a tower at his command and a number of good ringers who supported him. All he had to do was to compose a peal of Stedman Triples and ring it before the Coslany men got theirs. The old peal ringing band had, roughly, split into two equal halves, due very likely to the fact that it had been made up out of the best men of the two towers. Thomas Barrett, who had taken part in both the 1718 and 1719 peals of Triples, and also the 10080 of Treble Bob, followed Melchior. So did John Webster, who rang in the 1719 peal and the Treble Bob. So did William Palmer, who rang in the 1718 peal. Another was John Gardiner, the son most likely of the Thomas Gardiner who had taken part in the 1715 peal of Bob Triples and also the long peal of Treble Bob—unless my copy has a misprint and they are the same person. On the other hand, Crane had his father and a couple of the Treble Bob band, Richard Barnham and John Harvey. So as far as experience went the opponents were pretty equal. But the sixth at Mancroft was going bad, and it was doubtful if anyone could ring her to a peal; while Coslany bells were in excellent condition, as the ringing of the 10,080 proves.

To-day we can see one pretty obvious reason why neither could ring the first peal of Stedman Triples, and that is the difficulty amounting to almost an impossibility of getting a true composition. But both composers, who knew a great deal that John Garthorn had taught them about Grandsire Triples, were blissfully ignorant of the pitfalls of Stedman composition. We need not wonder at that. It was not till 1768, after several false peals had been rung, that Christopher Wells, of the London Youths, discovered that Treble Bob can run false internally without showing at the lead ends; and not till 1780 was the full extent of this falseness found out. Nay, the band who rang the first peal of Waterloo Reverse Bob in 1912 had reason enough to know that a composer in quite modern times can get tripped up in much a similar fashion.

Whether either Melchior or Crane had any experience of composition in any other method than Grandsire Triples and the old Plain Changes as given by Stedman and J. D. and C. M. is very doubtful. No name is given in the record of the long peal of Treble Bob as to the composer, so presumably it was not a local man, though, as the conductor's name also is not given, we are not quite sure. Well, Melchior managed to get over the difficulties of composition as he saw them, and the next thing was to ring it. Here luck was with him. A little more than a month after Crane's challenge, on Saturday, October 31st, 1731, the 'Norwich Gazette' had the following:—

'NOTWITHSTANDING the Pretensions of several Ingenious Ringers in this City and elsewhere who would bear the World in Hand that they have composed that most intricate peal of STEDMAN'S TRIPLES; this is therefore to satisfy all Lovers of that ingenious Art that Thomas Melchior has composed it to Truth with Two Doubles, being the first that ever was composed all perfect Stedman consisting of 5040 changes; And was rung by him and 7 more on Monday, the 25th of October, 1731, at St. Peter's of Mancroft in Norwich in 3 hours and 40 minutes; and never a Bell out of Course, nor changes alike; by us whose names are here subscribed, viz:—

'Thomas Melchior treble; Thomas Blofield 2nd; Wm. Palmer 3rd; Thomas Ather 4th; John Gardiner 5th; John Forster 6th; Christopher Booty 7th; William Porter tenor.

'NOTE.—If any of the Curious be desirous they may see the Peal at John Forster's at the sign of the Eight Bells in St. Peter's of Mancroft aforesaid and satisfy themselves without laying any wager.'

The first round of the fight was clearly Melchior's. In due course a board was put up in Mancroft tower to record this peal. It reads as follows:—

'On the 25th of October, 1731, here was rung that Mysterious Peal called Stedman's Tripples; the discovery thereof has been the Study of several Ingenious Ringers though to no effect, until this intricate Peal, which differs from all other Methods of tripples, as being every bell a like course was perfectly discovered by Tho. Melchior, who first compleatid the Peal of Perfect Stedman Triples with only two Doubles and no alteration. The extent being 5040 changes, was compleatly rung by us in 3 hours and 40 minutes, on which occasion Willm. Scott in his remarks upon the ringing this Peal did elegantly sing, viz:—

As for the sweet and pleasant Treble she

By Melchior well was rung that bell, and called the bobs so free;

Blofield the 2nd; Palmer the 3rd did ring;

Ather rung 4th, and was not loath, but made her for to sing;

Gardener the 5th did sway; Foster the 6th did play
The 7th round Chris. Booty bound and made her to obey;
The tenor fine and neat, brave Porter so compleat
Did ring her out and turned about that Cymbal loud and great.'

This was the third peal board put up in St. Peter's tower, and all three are similar in size and style of lettering. They have been restored in recent years, and are quite legible. As they record the first peal rung in any method, the first ever rung of Grandsire Triples, and the first of Stedman Triples, it will be hard to find another three in any tower approaching them in historical interest.

Not every peal was recorded by a board. Indeed, for a hundred and fifty years, every board put up in Norwich with, I think, only two exceptions, recorded a peal which was believed to be either the first or the longest rung anywhere in the particular method. The two exceptions are the first peal at Mancroft on the present twelve and the peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, to which Thomas Hurry rang the tenor, and which I referred to some time ago in these notes.

We can never be quite sure how many peals were rung in these old days. Some probably are lost for ever, but there is just a chance that notice of others may be found in the files of the old newspapers. It would be a good thing if some enthusiast would search through the 'Norwich Gazette,' and see if there are any references to the 1715 and 1718 peals; if our present incomplete account of the 1719 peal can be supplemented; if any record of a peal supposed to have been rung at Aylsham about the same time can be found; and if there are any further references to this Stedman controversy beyond what I shall reproduce. I commend this task to our Norwich friends, and especially to Mr. George Burton.

The poetically inclined will enjoy the way in which Mr. William Scott 'did elegantly sing.' This effusion is the first of quite a number of similar efforts, which from time to time have been inflicted on the Exercise. The best we can say of it is that it is no worse than the others, but that is not saying much. I should think that a peal of Stedman Triples or for that matter anything connected with change ringing, is about as unsuitable a subject for poetical treatment as you can find. One or two of the really great poets could make fine poetry by stringing together a list of sonorous names, but not John Milton himself could make anything of Ather and Foster and Chris. Booty. One other example of Mr. Scott's elegant muse has come down to us, but of that later.

The time the peal took to ring was remarkable. Three hours and forty minutes for a peal of Triples, with a 23 cwt. tenor (for that was the weight of the old bell at Mancroft), seems almost too slow to be possible. We should have thought there was a mistake in the printing, but that we have a double corroboration, the peal board and a further letter. The Coslany men, indeed, did say that the time was only three hours and a half, but they also said that the peal was 180 changes short, both of which things Melchior indignantly denied. So, allowing for any small error of calculation, we can take the time as pretty well correct. It shows that the bells were going none too well, and that the sixth especially was going very badly indeed.

It would be rather interesting to discuss why some bells go so much quicker than others. Ringers are used to saying that old-fashioned, long-waisted bells, well hung out with big wheels, always go slowly, and though one would have thought that these things would have had just the opposite effect, there does seem some reason for this opinion. Certainly a big belfry and wide circle of ropes nearly always mean slow ringing, and so does a long draught of rope. The early peals at Mancroft were rung on the present floor, which is a long way from the bells. At some time or other, either when the twelve were put in or (which is more likely) when the old eight were made ten, an additional floor was put in just below the spring of the tower arch. This was taken away when, with other improvements, the lower arch and belfry were opened to the church in the eighties of the last century. The times that the other peals on the old bells took to ring are as follows:—1715, 3 hrs. 18 minutes; 1718, 3 hrs. 30 minutes; 1719, 3 hrs. 6 minutes; the peal of Court Bob Royal in 1769 took 3 hrs. 29 minutes; and the 12,603 Grandsire Caters in 1737 8 hrs. 15 minutes, which is 3 hrs. and 18 minutes for a 5040. These times vary very considerably, but the Stedman is much the slowest of the lot.

SPARE NUMBERS.

Mr. Wm. Lawrence, of 24, Wimborne Gardens, West Ealing, W., has the following spare numbers of 'The Ringing World' and 'The Bell News,' which he is willing to present to those who may desire to have them for completing volumes, if they are applied for within a month:—

'The Ringing World': 1912, 74 and 85; 1913, 111, 129 and 137; 1914, 146, 157, 165, 166, 168, 175, 176 and 180.

'The Bell News': 1899, 880 and 887. 1908, 1,370, 1,373, 1,387, 1,399, 1,392. 1909, 1,403, 1,405, 1,410, 1,412, 1,428, 1,434, 1,444, 1,448, 1,910, 1,452, 1,454, 1,460, 1,470, 1,477, 1,479, 1,480, 1,495, 1,496, 1,911, 1,505, 1,509, 1,511. 1913, 1,065, 1,647, 1,648, 1,655, 1,667. 1914, 1,661, 1,665, 1,679.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

A very successful quarterly meeting of the Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Mangotsfield on Saturday last, members from 15 towers attending, including Mr. A. Tout, of Milverton, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Deal, of London. The Vicar (Rev. F. R. H. Crews), being away on holiday, the Rev. Francis Wright, of Reading, took the service, which was fully choral, and gave a very interesting address, in the course of which he gave the association (on behalf of the Vicar) a very hearty welcome.—Tea was served at the Crown Hotel, 37 members being present.—The business meeting followed, with Mr. J. Gould in the chair.—Mrs. G. Trow and Mrs. R. Seager were elected associate members, and the elections at the monthly meeting were ratified, viz., Rev. S. R. Worters, of Brislington, honorary member, and three performing members; also Mr. J. W. Pemberton, of Birmingham, as life member.

Britton was the place fixed for the September meeting, and Stoke Bishop and Westbury for October.

Mr. C. H. Jennings proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Francis Wright for his interesting address, and to the organist and choir for their assistance, which had provided one of the brightest services which the branch has had.

A vote of welcome was also extended to Mr. A. Tout and Mr. and Mrs. Deal.—The Rev. F. Wright, in replying, said it was a very great pleasure to him to be with the association that afternoon, and he hoped they would give him a call if in Reading.

The tower was again visited, and a good practice obtained in Grandsire, Stedman and Cambridge Surprise.

STAFFS VILLAGES VISITED.

The Bucknall and Norton ringers, on August Bank Holiday, paid a combined visit to Keele, Staffs, where there is a splendid little ring of six bells, and were successful in ringing 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, and Duke of York Minor: C. S. Ryles 1, F. Triner 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, D. Preston 4, W. P. Deane 5, J. Walley 6. Conducted by J. E. Wheeldon, F. Triner and W. P. Deane, respectively.

On Saturday, August 8th, the Kingsley and Norton ringers visited the beautiful moorland village of Horion, Staffs, where they rang 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Duke of York; also touches of Violet, Kent and Oxford, the following taking part: C. S. Ryles, A. W. Hall, H. Berrisford, J. E. Wheeldon, J. Walley, H. Carnwell, E. Edwards, and A. Edwards.

OXFORD GUILD ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I suggest through the medium of the 'Ringing World' that the best way to settle the controversy re the venue of the festival is to change the date to August Bank Holiday, when, I am sure, a much more representative attendance would be the result. A large majority of the members are not men of leisure. The holding of the meeting on a Saturday morning debars a large number from attending, consequent on their having to remain at business or lose time, which, added to their day's expenses, makes the cost of attendance prohibitive.—Yours truly,

R. R. LEWIS.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.

A combined ringing practice for the Sonning Deanery Branch was held at Arborfield, on Saturday, August 8th. There were 16 members present, from Twyford, Wokingham, Binfield, Hurst, Waltham St. Lawrence, and Arborfield. The Guild secretary (Mr. T. Hibbert) and his son, Mr. W. Hibbert, looked in during the evening, their help being very welcome. The following methods were practised: Grand-sire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor.—The foreman ringer, Mr. Emblen, said that one of the Arborfield ringers had only missed Sunday Service ringing twice during a period of seven years, a record to be proud of.

RINGERS' SOCIAL AT BOLTON.

On Saturday week about sixty members, wives and friends of the Bolton and neighbouring branches of the Lancashire Association, availed themselves of the invitation of the Bolton Borough Police, who had placed the whole of their athletic ground at their guests' disposal.

During the afternoon and evening the men indulged in games of bowls, and the women folk in tennis until darkness approached, when an adjournment was made to the pavilion. Here, a 'free and easy concert' was held, handbells, songs and dancing bringing the time for departure all too soon.

This invitation has now developed into an annual affair, and is looked forward to by many members, it having created a friendly rivalry between towers as to which possesses the best bowlers, and, for some weeks previous, one can hear challenges thrown out, and they are settled in a right royal fashion.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Bolton Borough Police for their kind invitation.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

There is always a certain amount of interest to the ringer concerned in completing the 'circle of the tower.' Mr. Gabriel Lindoff has now rung every bell at Leiston, in Suffolk, his native town, to a peal. When one remembers that Mr. Lindoff has been domiciled in Dublin for more than a quarter of a century, this achievement is somewhat remarkable.

'Following in father's footsteps' may be said of Edward F. Gobey, of Ilkeston, who last week rang his first peal. He is only 13 years of age.

The actual works of the ancient Wells Cathedral clock, to which we referred last week, are, we learn, in South Kensington Museum.

On Sunday, September 6th, 1807, a peal of 6140 Bobb Major Royal was rung at Coventry in 4 hrs. 23 mins. At St. George's Church, Southwark, on September 9th, 1750, John Holt rang in a peal of Bob Triples. This he conducted and probably composed.

'Ye Crowfield Society of Ringers' rang a 'compleat peal of Five thousand and forty of Gathrine's Triples, being the first true peal that ever was pricked with two Doubles only,' on September 10th 1741.

Theodore Ecclestone, the squire of Crowfield, gave the peal of eight bells to Coddensham, as well as the ten to Stonham Aspal. He rang the treble in the peal above referred to.

RAILWAY TRAVELLING FACILITIES.

'GREAT PUSH' NOW WANTED.

The application made to the Great Western Divisional Superintendent at Bristol by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association for railway travelling facilities for ringers at reduced fares has elicited a request for further information, and secretaries of associations throughout the country are urged at once to write to the honorary secretary of the Central Council (Mr. E. A. Young, 155, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.), giving the approximate number of their members.

Mr. Edgar Guise (hon. secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association) writes:—

'I have received a letter from the Divisional Superintendent of the Railway, in which he states that consideration has been given to my application, but he now desires to receive a similar application from the Central Council. I have communicated with Mr. Young, the hon. secretary, and I think it would be a good plan for all general secretaries of associations to forward him (Mr. Young) at once the approximate membership number. This is asked for.

To ensure success now it is up to every ringer to interest himself in the matter. It now wants the "Great Push."

WASHBROOK MEMORIAL FUND.

Further subscriptions: North Wales Association, £1; Ancient Society of College Youths, £5; Peterborough Diocesan Guild, £3 1s.; Oxford Society of Changeringers, £5 5s.; Bicester Branch, Oxford Diocesan Guild, £3; North Berks Branch, Oxford Diocesan Guild, £4; Swansea and Brecon Guild, £1 15s. 9d.; Archdeaconry of Stafford Association, £2 12s.; Chester Diocesan Guild, £5 5s.; Winchester Diocesan Guild, £5 5s.; Arklow, Co. Wicklow, Changeringers, £2; Ashton-under-Lyne Society, 10s.

Towers: Freeland, 4s. 6d.; St. Giles, Reading, 10s.; Shiplake, £1; Stevenston, 6s.; West Wycombe, 7s. 6d.; Penny Stratford, 8s.; Brightwaltham, 10s.; All Saints, Boyne Hill, 5s.; East Hagbourne, 10s. 6d.; St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 12s.; Bicester, 8s.; Drayton, St. Leonards, 2s. 6d.; Chalgrove, 7s. 6d.; Benson, 8s.; Chipping Norton, 5s.; Wantage, 18s.; Christ Church, Tunstall, £1 1s.

Private Subscriptions: E. Humphrey, 4s.; E. Turnbull, 3s. 6d.; W. Mead, 5s.; G. Martin, 2s. 6d.; H. Tucker, 10s.; H. Lawton, £1 1s.; W. Cobb, 2s.; J. Jaggard, 2s. 6d.; Miss K. Willers, 2s.; Rev. Maitland Kelly, £1.

Collection at Christ Church Cathedral at Oxford Guild Festival, £3 12s. 2d.

Proceeds from sale of a peal of handbells (per Miss V. Robinson), £5.

Total amount received, £193 8s. 4d.

Mr. J. Nicoll has promised to supply the new ropes free of charge.

The work has been commenced, and it is hoped that all those who have promised subscriptions will send them as soon as possible. In the previous list the name of 'A. F. Martin Stevens' should have been 'A. F. Martin Stewart.'

Contributions should be sent to Mr. A. J. Wright, 40, Hamilton Road, Reading.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The secretaries of the various affiliated Guilds will please receive per post this week the 'Card of Instructions,' with the honorary secretary's compliments.

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

A PEAL WITHDRAWN.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Temple Church, Bristol, recorded in our issue of July 31st, has been withdrawn by the conductor.

MULTI-METHOD PEALS.

HINTS ON 'SPLICING' AND RINGING MINOR METHODS.

By JOHN P. FIDLER. FOURTH ARTICLE.

College Exercise is the basis of the next group to be dealt with. It is an old favourite, and appears in many peals of Minor. We, therefore, call this group of methods, 'The College Exercise Group.' Put briefly, the combinations are as follows:—

Work above Treble, Work above Treble,
Or that of Bells passing Or that of Bells passing Resultant Method.
'up.' 'down.'

College Exercise.	Kingston.	Norbury.
College Exercise.	London Scholars'.	College Exercise.
College Exercise.	Sandall.	Duke of Norfolk.
College Exercise.	Overton.	Trowel.
College Exercise.	Morning Star.	Morning Star.

These will be found amongst the Treble Bob methods, and I will deal first with the method from which the group takes its name, No. 8, page 8, of the 'Collection.' London Scholars' Pleasure supplies the necessary work, and I think it will now be seen why a strong point is made of mastering thoroughly the four methods of the Oxford group before attempting the other groups. If the figures of the lead are examined, we find a new feature introduced, viz., second's place above the treble, this being the chief difference, and a little thought must be spent upon it. London Scholars' work in the middle is done both when treble is in front as well as behind, and the bells passing her 3-4 and 4-5 up, triple dodge in 5-6, i.e., as at a bob lead of Oxford.

Those unacquainted with the method are advised to analyse the work of passing treble up, which is as follows:—

Pass Treble 1-2 up. Make 2nd's place and snap again.
Pass Treble 2-3 up. 4th's, dodge 3-4, 3rd's and up.
Pass Treble 3-4 up. Triple dodge 5-6 up.
Pass Treble 4-5 up. Triple dodge 5-6 down.
Pass Treble 5-6 up. 3rd's, dodge 3-4; 4th's and in.

The work of the bells at a bob is exactly the same as that in a bob lead of Oxford. The bell passing Treble 5-6 up, after dodging 5-6 down, makes 3rd's, 4th's, 3rd's, and up again. Those passing 2-3 and 1-2 up, respectively make 4th's and return to lead, and, as already stated, the 3-4 and 4-5 bells, triple dodge in 5-6. These two latter positions remaining as at a plain lead, it is when the observation bell is in one of them that a call is made. To call the extent with tenor as observation, the terms, Wrong, Home, Wrong (twice repeated) may be used, but tenor behind without the 5th is much more easy to remember.

Once the ground work has been mastered, little or no difficulty should be experienced in ringing the other three methods. Norbury (No. 19, page 12), as stated in the combination table, has Kingston work down, Duke of Norfolk (No. 3, page 8) has Sandal work down, and Trowel, No. 25 (figures herewith), has Overton work down.

TROWEL.

1 2 3 4 5 6

2 1 4 3 6 5

1 2 4 3 5 6

2 1 3 4 6 5

2 3 1 6 4 5

3 2 6 1 5 4

3 2 1 6 4 5

2 3 6 1 5 4

2 6 3 5 1 4

6 2 3 5 4 1

2 6 5 3 1 4

2 6 3 5 4 1

6 2 5 3 4 1

6 2 5 3 1 4

6 5 2 1 3 4

5 6 1 2 4 3

5 6 2 1 3 4

6 5 1 2 4 3

6 1 5 4 2 3

1 6 4 5 2 3

6 1 4 5 2 3

1 6 5 4 2 3

1 6 4 5 2 3

Bob 1 5 6 4 2 3

These four methods will splice lead for lead, and the odd method which splices only course for course is Morning Star (No. 6, page 9), and notes should be made of the work down.

MORNING STAR.

Work of Bells passing Treble down.

1-2. Lead, 2nd's, lead, dodge off (1-2 up), 4th's, lead and out.

2-3. Lead, 4th's, dodge on (1-2 down), stay in slow.

3-4. Dodge on, dodge off.

4-5 and 5-6, 3rd's and up.

The same rule for splicing the methods applies as that previously given.

Morning Star may be found a stumblingblock, particularly when introduced into a peal, and, as in Baintree, the 3-4 down bell helps to keep things straight in front, but for all that, let it be a case of 'every tub on its own bottom.' Do not rely on someone else keeping you straight, the other man has enough to do in carrying his own rope.

Practice nights will now be found to be fully occupied, the all-important hour passes very quickly, and it will be found necessary to turn service ringing into practices. No opportunity must be lost of getting a pull, and every man in the band must put his shoulder to the wheel if a multi-method peal is to be accomplished. The

question of how to accommodate probationers may present itself. If too much of the practice night is taken up with the new methods, the learner is at a disadvantage, and may, if he has to sit in the ringing room most of his time, lose interest. It will, therefore, be advisable to arrange extra practices for his welfare, and get him as soon as possible on to the Oxford group. When he has reached that stage it will be possible for him to join in with the rest when the earlier methods are being 'brushed up.'

A PEAL IN SIXTEEN METHODS.

From experience it has been found, that, after concentrating on a new group, no small amount of confusion exists on ringing methods learned a month or so beforehand. One man may be ringing Woodbine, and another wants to ring Oxford. Of course it simply cannot be done. How, then, can we overcome this difficulty? Presuming the fifteen methods already described are thoroughly mastered, and the details of the next group are to hand, on the practice night devote the whole of the time to the new methods, and, on the following Sunday, ring plain courses, changing method frequently. This will bring out the weak points, which should be noted and ultimately strengthened. Moreover, the practice of Plain Courses, enables the band to get smart in breaking off into another 720. A very strong point must be made of always finishing an extent clean, and picking up smartly the next one. Your own experience will by this time have taught you that unless the ringing is good, success cannot be hoped for.

Efforts may now be directed to ringing a spliced peal. Formerly, to ring a peal of Minor in more than seven methods, necessitated ringing over seven 720's, or introducing 360's, and to ring fourteen of the latter was no mean performance, only possible by hard and constant practice. At that time, the sphere of Minor methods had not been fully explored; fortunately we are much better placed, and are now in a position to ring fifteen methods in seven true extents; in fact, we can go one better and have sixteen by introducing Kent Treble Bob.

For the first 'spliced' peal, I suggest the following arrangement:—

1. Trowel and Morning Star.
2. Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury.
3. Grove Delight and Baintree.
4. Neasden and Wragby.
5. Wragby and College Bob IV.
6. Overton and Sandall.
7. London Scholars' Pleasure, Oxford and Kingston.

There may be some who object to Wragby being included in two extents, if it were not, seven spliced extents could not, as far as we have gone, be obtained. Already mention has been made of the introduction of Kent, thus giving sixteen methods, with subsequent alterations to the suggested peal. Numbers 1 to 3 remain as given, add to No. 4, College Bob IV., No. 6 becomes No. 5, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston comprise the 6th, whilst 720 of Oxford and Kent complete it.

'SPICED' 720 OXFORD AND KENT.

2 3 4 6 5 Oxford

1	3 2 6 4 5	Kent
2	2 3 5 6 4	Oxford
3	5 2 4 3 6	Oxford
4	2 5 6 4 3	Kent
5	6 2 3 5 4	Kent
6	3 6 4 2 5	Kent
7	6 3 5 4 2	Oxford
8	5 6 2 3 4	Oxford
9	2 5 4 6 3	Oxford
10	4 2 3 5 6	Oxford

Twice repeated.

The splicing of Oxford and Kent is only possible by paying attention to the leads. Bobs are not required to produce the extent, but a little explanation is necessary. With the figures given, the name of method opposite each lead end denotes the method which produces that lead end.

Commence by ringing Oxford, the first lead end being produced by Kent. When treble is dodging 3-4 down, change over to Kent, thus allowing Kent places to be made in lieu of Oxford. There being only the one lead of Kent, change back when treble again dodges 3-4 down. Oxford is rung for two leads, change again for three, then again for four (or until the part end comes up), and repeat the whole twice. A little study and practice will soon make this clear. The leads of each can easily be memorised—1 of Kent, 2 of Oxford, 3 of Kent, 4 of Oxford.

Previous articles have appeared in our issues of August 14th, 21st, and 28th.

DOUBLE NORWICH.

WHICH WAS FIRST RUNG—MAJOR OR ROYAL?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—Which was rung first—Norwich Court Major or Royal? I was much surprised last evening when I was informed that a peal of Norwich Court Bob Major was rung in Norwich in 1741. Maybe my informant will supply details some time in the near future.

—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE H. CROSE.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Monday, August 3rd, the St. Sidwell's Society, Exeter, which was established in 1875, held their jubilee outing to North Devon. A party of 13 travelled by coach via South Molton, the lovely Bray Valley, Brayford and Blackmoor Gate to Combe Martin, which was reached at noon. Here, at dinner at the Castle Hotel, they were joined by Mr. A. H. Hayward, the secretary of the local branch of the Guild, who had kindly arranged for ringing at the Parish Church. Ascending the lofty tower and raising the bells in peal, which are a nice ring of eight with a tenor of 10 cwt. in F, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung; also some ringing with members of the local band. A delightful ride of five miles along the coast brought the party to Ilfracombe, where SS. Philip and James' tower was visited, with its recently augmented ring of eight, tenor 12½ cwt. Here more touches of Grandsire and Stedman, and some Kent Treble Bob were rung, an hour being pleasantly spent. As soon as the bells had been lowered, the bulky frame of the popular Rector and President of the society (Rev. H. Lanyon Owen) filled the doorway, he having come down by train. Then, after an hour's stroll round the Capstone and promenade among swarms of holiday visitors, the party gathered at Holloway's Restaurant for tea, at which the Rector presided. He expressed the pleasure he felt in being with them, and thanked the ringers for their services.—Mr. Richardson, in replying, referred to the good spirit of unity that existed among the members.—The journey home was made via Barnstaple, where a short stop was made, and the 'last lap' (Messrs. Carter and Bartlett) at the Fox and Hounds, Eggesford. Here the handbells were brought out, and a course of Grandsire rung in hand by Messrs. Howe, Richardson, Belts and Shepherd, and some 'tapping' by Mr. Belts; then the Rector obliged with some well rendered songs. Thus enlivened, all reached home in a pleasant mood. The members desire to thank the respective Vicars, Messrs. Hayward and Dadds for facilities at Combe Martin and Ilfracombe, and Mr. E. Shepherd for the general arrangements, all of which combined to make the day a memorable one in the annals of the 'Grecian' ringers.

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

On Monday, August 3rd, St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol, held their annual outing. Starting at 7 a.m., Swindon was reached at 9.30, where Mr. Gardner welcomed the party on their arrival at the Parish Church. A well-struck course of Cambridge Royal and touches of Stedman Caters were rung, after which the visitors proceeded to Oxford, arriving at 12.30, to find dinner awaiting them at Messrs. Weeks' Cafe. After luncheon a move was made to Christ Church Cathedral, where Stedman Cinques and Caters were rung. The ringing, however, was of the holiday order, owing, doubtless, to the long journey. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in visiting the different colleges, river and other interesting places.

At 5.30 the homeward journey was begun, a call being made at the most interesting and quaint old tower of Appleton. Here touches of Stedman Caters and Cambridge Major were rung. The journey was then resumed, and, with just a short stop at Swindon, the destination was reached at midnight, after a most enjoyable day.

Through these columns the Guild wish to thank Mr. Hibbert and those other gentlemen who contributed to the enjoyment of the party.

ESSEX RINGERS IN WEST SUFFOLK.

On Sunday, August 16th, three members of the Essex County Association paid a visit to West Suffolk for a short ringing tour. Starting from Great Bentley, by car, a call was made at Ipswich to pick up two members of the St. Clement's, Ipswich, company. Leaving Ipswich at 8.15, a run was made via Stowmarket to Pakenham, where permission for ringing had been readily granted. Here some well-struck 120's of Grandsire Doubles were brought round for morning service, a member of the Ingham company taking part. The next stop was Ixworth, where, after service, a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung: Percy Almond (Great Bentley) 1, Fredk. J. Long (Ipswich) 2, Fredk. Rowell (Ipswich) 3, Ernest Eady (Thorpe-le-Soken) 4, Wm. Durrant (Ixworth) 5, W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley, conductor) 6. After dinner a move was made to Great Barton, near Bury St. Edmunds, where, for afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung: P. Almond 1, W. J. Nevard 2, P. J. Long 3, E. Eady 4, F. Rowell (conductor) 5, H. W. Foulger (Great Barton) 6. A short run soon brought the party to Ingham, where some Grandsire Doubles were rung. On the way back to Ipswich a call was made at Bramford, where, with the help of a visitor, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was brought round for evening service: P. Almond 1, F. Rowell 2, W. J. Nevard 3, E. Eady 4, Fredk. Kinsey (Kesgrave, Suffolk) 5, F. J. Long (conductor) 6. Ipswich was reached at 6.30, where the party broke up, and the Essex members were left to continue their journey home.

A KENTISH EXCURSION.

The ringers of St. Peter's Church, Tunbridge Wells, held their annual outing on August Bank Holiday, in accordance with their usual custom. Leaving Tunbridge Wells at 8 a.m., accompanied by their wives and sisters and Mr. T. Groombridge, in a comfortable motor charabanc, the first stop was at Lamberhurst, where they were joined, after a little delay, by Messrs. R. B., R. T. and F. J. Lambert, jun., from Horsmonden. The first tower for ringing was Hawkhurst, where two excellent courses of Superlative, followed by three courses of Double Norwich, were rung, followed by a short touch of Grandsire for the weaker brethren.—The next stop was at Benenden, where Mr. W. H. Lambert was waiting to welcome the party. Here two courses of Cambridge were tried, but a shift course brought up 432 in place of rounds. A similar fate befel four courses of Stedman, but two courses were brought round successfully, and the bells lowered in peal. The road was then taken for Tenterden, where the grand peal were soon raised and set going to two good courses of Superlative. A touch of Norwich came to grief, and so did a touch of Stedman, through the omission of a bob. The ringing here closed with a good course of Cambridge. After an excellent lunch the party proceeded to Biddenden, where Oxford Treble Bob and Grandsire were rung, but the visitors were agreed that the peal would be improved if the two trebles were in tune with the other bells. Headcorn next engaged the party's attention, and here they were met by Mr. Hodgkin. The first touch (Superlative) came to an untimely end, but amends were made by two courses of Cambridge, 168 Grandsire Triples and a course of Double Norwich, after which the bells were rung down and a move made for Leeds, where tea waited. After this the party adjourned to the tower, and tried conclusions with this celebrated peal of ten. Here it was obvious that ten was not one, but two too many for the ringers; but, after several attempts, a course of Stedman Caters was induced to come round. The last part of call was Linton, where Mr. T. Sone had everything in readiness. A course of Superlative came round in good style, and 'go' was called for Cambridge, but this came 'unstuck' about the fifth lead. Two courses of Stedman brought the day's ringing to a close, and, after a pretty run through Marden, Horsmonden and Breckley, the party reached Tunbridge Wells again at 9.45, after a very pleasant and enjoyable day. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar of St. Peter's and the Church Council, by whose generosity the outing was made possible, and Mr. Groombridge, in a neat speech, voiced the appreciation of the visitors. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. W. Latter, the Ringing Captain, and the thanks of all are due to him for his excellent 'staff-work,' and also to the various incumbents and steeple-keepers for their courteous and friendly welcome.

STOURBRIDGE RINGERS' TRIP.

The annual outing of the ringers of St. Thomas's Church was held on Saturday, July 26th, when Ledbury was visited, the outward journey being via Worcester, Malvern and Colwall. At Colwall a short stay was made, and a few touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of the village church. Ledbury was reached in time for tea, and a visit was paid to the tower of Ledbury Church, and various touches were rung on the bells. At 8 o'clock the homeward journey was commenced, the route being through British Camp, Malvern and Worcester. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and churchwardens, for making the outing possible, and to Mr. A. J. Skelding for the excellent arrangements he had made for the comfort of the party. Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar of Colwall and the Rector of Ledbury, for allowing the use of the bells, and an old friend (Mr. W. Harford, of Colwall, late of Stourbridge).

PONTYPRIDD RINGERS CROSS THE CHANNEL.

The ringers of St. Catherine's Church, Pontypridd, had their annual outing on August 4th, when they visited Weston-super-Mare. Travelling by train to Cardiff Docks, they crossed by steamer to Weston, which was reached at 11 o'clock, after having a calm trip. Visiting St. John the Baptist's Church, they had an hour and a half's ringing of Grandsire Triples. They were met by Mr. Blackmore, the captain of the ringers, who gave them a hearty welcome. After dinner the party boarded a bus, and made for the famous old church of St. Nicholas at Uphill. There they found Mr. Masters, one of the local ringers, awaiting them, and soon had the ring of six bells going in Grandsire Doubles. Though the bells are very old, the 'go' is excellent. After staying about an hour and a half the party returned to Weston for tea. Still anxious for more ringing, they took for a point as near as possible to another old church, St. Paul's, Kewstoke, with its nice ring of six. Grandsire Doubles were rung, and the only regret the ringers had was that they were not able to stay very long, and a sharp walk back was necessary to meet the homeward bound boat. The visitors spent a happy and enjoyable day, arriving back in Pontypridd at 10.30 p.m., after an outing which will be long remembered. Best thanks were accorded the Vicars and ringers of all towers for giving permission to use the bells. The ringers also desire to thank their own Vicar and churchwardens for giving them such an excellent outing.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**ROCHESTER DISTRICT.**

The quarterly meeting of the Rochester district was held at Rainham on Saturday, August 8th, and was well attended. The bells were going in various methods from 3 till 5 o'clock, when the association service was held, conducted by the Rev. W. A. R. Ball, a full choir being in attendance, with Lieut. W. A. Cooke, a local ringer, presiding at the organ. The Vicar gave a straight and inspiring address, likening ringers unto guides, and urged them to be 'good guides,' not only by their ringing, guiding people to church, but to go with them in their worship of God.—A collection at the close for the benevolent fund realised 13s. 9d.

Tea followed in the Church Hall, to which 49 sat down.

The business meeting was held after tea, the Vicar presiding, supported by the Rev. L. G. Barnett, of Milton Regis; Messrs. J. Coomber and J. A. Springate (churchwardens), Messrs. Haigh and Spice (district representatives), Mr. F. M. Mitchell (district secretary), and Mr. and Mrs. Hazleden, of Guildford.

The Chairman welcomed the association to Rainham, and said he was sorry he had not time to prepare a proper address for them, as he had only the day previous returned from his holiday, mountaineering in Switzerland. (Some of the ringers wondered what a 'prepared address' would be like.)

Mr. W. J. Beer, of Gravesend, was elected as an honorary life member, three non-resident life members, and 15 practising members were also elected. Milton Regis (Sittingbourne) tower was brought into union with the association.

Gravesend was unanimously chosen as the place for the annual district meeting, to be held on Saturday, October 31st.

The District Secretary reported on the action he had taken regarding the clashing of dates with other district meetings, and read the resolution passed at their meeting on February 25th, 1922, and the correspondence he had received on the subject.

Mr. W. Haigh (district representative) moved that the resolution, as passed on the date mentioned, be adhered to, as the number of visitors at these meetings from other districts did not merit any alteration.—This was seconded by Mr. W. A. Cooke, and carried unanimously.

Mr. W. Spice proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his excellent address, for the use of the bells, and for presiding over the meeting, also to the organist and choir, to the churchwardens for their attendance, and to the ladies who had assisted at tea.—The District Secretary, in seconding, also extended a hearty welcome to the Rev. L. G. Barnett and the Vicar and ringers of Milton Regis, and to the association.—The Rev. W. A. R. Ball, Mr. J. Coomber and the Rev. Barnett responded.

The tower was again visited, and ringing in various methods indulged in until 9 o'clock, when the bells were rung down in peal, on a very successful meeting. Sixteen towers were represented, and methods up to Superlative were rung. It is hoped members will look up London Surprise for the meeting at Gravesend in October.

LEWISHAM DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at SS. Peter and Paul's, Shoreham, on Saturday, July 25th. The bells were raised at 3 p.m., and were kept going during the afternoon to various methods. Service was held at 5 p.m., and an interesting address, on the history of the church, was given by the Vicar (the Rev. H. D. Madge). Tea was supplied to the members in the Church Room.

The business meeting followed, Mr. W. J. Jeffries taking the chair. Two new members were elected, and the elections of two others, previous to peals, were ratified.

St. John's, Deptford, was chosen as the place of the next (annual) meeting.

Mr. H. E. Audsley discussed the association rule, No. 15, with the object of eliminating the clause restricting the number of elections previous to peals to two. After some discussion, it was agreed to put this matter on the agenda for the annual district meeting.

A collection on behalf of one of the local ringers realised 7s. 7d., and this was paid over by the secretary.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the organist for his services, and to the ladies who helped with the tea.

This concluded the meeting, and owing to an open-air theatrical performance a short distance from the church making further ringing impossible, the members dispersed.

HORNSEY BELLS' 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the hanging of the bells at St. Mary's, Hornsey, was celebrated on Monday, when 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by H. Blee 1, T. G. Deal 2, H. A. Barnett 3, J. G. Nash 4, A. Putland 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Glastonbury Deanery Branch was held on Saturday, August 22nd, at Dinder. Members were present from Glastonbury, Croscombe, Pilton, West Pennard, Wells, Ilminster, Douling and Shepton Mallet, together with the local ringers, while visitors in Mr. J. W. Pemberton (Birmingham) and Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon) were also present. Ringing commenced about 3 o'clock, and service was conducted by the Rev. M. Y. McClean (Rector of Dinden), the association's special form being used. The Rector also gave a suitable address. The company afterwards adjourned to the Village Hut, where they were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Somerville, and upwards of 40 members sat down to a substantial meal.—The Rev. L. S. Lewis moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Somerville for their kindness, and also for their kind invitation to look over the beautiful gardens.—Mr. Somerville responded.

The business meeting was then held, the Rev. L. S. Lewis (President of the branch) presiding.—Three new members were elected, and Street was chosen as the place of next meeting.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for use of the bells, and the Rev. McClean, in responding, invited the members to visit the Rectory garden.—Votes of thanks were accorded to the visitors, the ladies who had so kindly waited at tea, and the local ringers.

The President congratulated the Rev. E. S. C. Lock (West Pennard) on his appointment to the office of Master of the Association, and the Rev. E. S. C. Lock suitably responded.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. F. D. Rickards) announced that the beautiful peal of six bells at Croscombe were open to the members, and in the evening several took advantage of the opportunity to have a pull. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the local band, especially Mr. J. Drew, who had done so much to make a success of the meeting.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Winchester District was held at Cheriton on Saturday, August 29th. The peal of six bells was kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob, Kent, Oxford and Cambridge Surprise Minor, and tea was held on the lawn at a village inn. A short meeting followed, at which Mr. G. Williams (Master of the Guild) was in the chair. Those present included Mr. G. Pullinger (General Secretary), Mr. F. W. Rogers (Portsmouth District Secretary), and members from North Stonham and Winchester, Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon) and Mr. and Mrs. Carter (Goring, Oxfordshire).—On the motion of the District Secretary (Mr. W. T. Tucker), seconded by the Master, a vote of thanks was passed to the Rector (Rev. H. Brownlow) for the use of the bells at Cheriton and Titchborne, after which both peals of six were kept going during the morning.

The annual meeting will be held at Romsey on November 7th, notice of which will be given in the 'Ringing World.'

DEVON GUILD.**VETERAN EX-PRESIDENT'S LONG JOURNEY.**

The Rev. Maitland Kelly (ex-President of the Devon Guild), despite his more than eighty years, travelled over a hundred miles to attend a meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch at Dartmouth on August 15th. The Rev. T. G. Watt (Vicar of Dittisham) was also present, and ringers attended from Buckfastleigh, Cockington, Collaton, Sowton, Stoke Gabriel, Torquay and Paignton. A short service was held in St. Saviour's Church, conducted by the Vicar, Rev. F. H. A. Simpson, who gave a very interesting address on 'Our Bells.'

At the subsequent business meeting, Mr. F. J. Laxton presided, and Teignmouth was chosen as the next place of meeting. Three new hon. members and one associate member were elected.

The Rev. Maitland Kelly said he had watched the Mid-Devon branch with interest, and he was glad to see new members elected and other towers coming in. It was a very difficult task to learn change ringing, but they should bear in mind the motto of the Guild—'Perseverantia omnia vincit' ('Perseverance conquers all things'). He urged them all to stick to that motto, and congratulated them on the number of quarter-peals they had rung. It was very interesting, because in nearly every quarter one noticed it was the first quarter for one of the members, and first conducted by one of the band. It showed that the spade work of the branch was on a sound principle.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. M. Kelly. He was sure all the members were delighted to have their ex-president with them that day. Although over 80 years of age, he took a very great interest in the work of the Guild.

The branch wishes to thank the Vicar for the service and use of the bells, also Mr. Middleton, the local captain, for his assistance.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.—On August 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: T. Arnold 1, T. Masters 2, T. Holloway (conductor) 3, C. Blake 4, F. Brown 5, W. Hart 6. All are Westbury ringers, and this was the first quarter-peal by all.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.—On Sunday, August 30th, for evening-song, 1008 Stedman Triples, in 37 mins.: C. Drake 1, F. Hutton 2, C. Ellison 3, H. Pearce 4, A. Pickles 5, E. Whiteley 6, W. Ambler (conductor) 7, W. Hamer 8. Longest length in the method by all the band.

IPSWICH.—On Sunday evening, August 30th, at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, 528 Cambridge Surprise Maximus: W. F. Tillet 1, * John D. Matthews 2, C. J. Sedgley 3, H. E. Smith 4, * John Sparrow 5, Arthur J. Neale 6, H. C. Gillingham 7, H. R. Roper 8, C. A. Catchpole 9, W. P. Garrett 10, G. E. Symonds 11, F. J. Tillet 12. * First course of Cambridge twelve.

HENBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, 1260 changes (10 six scores, each called differently): Mrs. J. Gould 1, E. Collier 2, J. Gould (conductor) 3, H. Bagley 4, J. Martin 5, F. Fisher tenor. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1st, 2nd and 4th.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, August 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: H. V. Sear 1, H. Sear (conductor) 2, W. Mead 3, A. Crasc 4, F. Whitehead 5, F. Stenton 6, W. Sear 7, A. W. Sear 8.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—On Sunday, August 30th, for evening service, a touch each of Grandsire Stedman and Double Norwich, those taking part being: G. G. Lindoff, G. Lindoff, W. Schofield, W. Button, W. Chalk, W. Keeble, H. Evers, F. Bumpstead, R. Stannard and G. Rashbrooke.

STAMFORD HILL.—On Sunday, August 23rd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins.: T. C. Ringrose 1, Miss M. R. Ringrose 2, E. Hibble 3, J. G. Nash 4, F. E. Ringrose 5, A. Putland (conductor) 6.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—On Sunday, August 16th for morning service there was rung 840 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. F. Seagar 1, T. B. Kendal 2, H. Haigh 3, F. Seagar 4, H. Stott 5, F. Kilshaw 6, E. H. Simpson (conductor) 7, H. Foster 8. Also three courses, with A. Trotter taking part. For evening service, touches of Double Norwich and Stedman Triples.

FRITTFENDEN, KENT.—On Sunday morning, August 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): C. H. Sone 1, Mrs. H. Baker 2, H. Baker 3, S. Driver 4, J. Downing 5, B. Baker 6, L. Head (conductor) 7, C. Baker 8.

WHITBY, YORKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, August 9th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: Miss Nora Grassby 1, A. E. Oxley (conductor) 2, G. White (first quarter on an inside bell) 3, A. V. Coates 4, J. Bray 5, W. A. Breckon 6, G. H. Corner 7, R. Hansell (first quarter-peal) 8. Ringers of treble and 5th hail from Burton-on-Stather, Lincs.

SOUTH CERNEY, GLOS.—On Sunday, August 9th, for morning service, at All Hallows' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Carter 1, W. C. Cuss (conductor) 2, A. H. Painter 3, Rev. A. M. Coode 4, H. Gassor 5, J. Gealer 6.

A DEVON PEAL RESTORED.

HAWKCHURCH BELLS RUNG AGAIN AFTER 25 YEARS' NEGLECT.

The rural parish of Hawkchurch was en fete on Monday, August 24th, the occasion being the dedication of a new treble bell and the formal opening of the augmented and recently rehung bells. It is some 25 years since the old five were last rung, and 17 years since they were chimed. Tower and bells alike had fallen into decay, and for years were in a dangerous condition.

Recently, through the generosity of a resident, the tower was restored, and a further generous donor came forward and offered not only to restore the old peal of five, but to add an additional bell.

The restoration of the bells has been of a thorough character. The old bells were sent to the Whitechapel Foundry, where they were tuned, quarter turned, and fitted in a new iron frame. The new treble is a bell of the same character, and all make a melodious peal.

The bells, having been erected, the Bishop of Sherborne (Suffragan Bishop of Salisbury) dedicated the new work on the date mentioned.

Although the parish is in Devon, it is in the Diocese of Salisbury, so it was only fitting that the Diocesan Guild should be invited to officially open them.

Notices to the neighbouring affiliated towers brought together a large number of members, while other associations represented were Devon, Bath and Wells, Essex, Sussex and College Youths and Cumberlands. The following rang rounds immediately after the dedication prayer, followed by 240 Grandsire Doubles at the conclusion of the service: T. Hervey Beams, Rev. C. C. Cox, F. Brooks, F. Bugler, Rev. F. Ll. Edwards and W. Woodward.

From then, until late in the evening, the bells were kept merrily going by the many ringers present, in call changes, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor. So many were present that only one 720 was attempted, the following band ringing a well-struck extent Kent Treble Bob: W. D. Smith 1, T. Hervey Beams 2, the Rev. C. C. Cox 3, A. G. Belts 4, W. Miller (conductor) 5, A. A. Hughes 6.

'THAT NEEDED REGISTER.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—Every member of the Exercise will sympathise with the purpose of your leading article on this subject. But it needs to be remembered that the question is not as simple as it looks. Where the figures of two compositions are identical an untrue claim to originality is easily adjusted, but more often than not this is not what actually occurs. The real difficulty comes when a difference of opinion arises as to whether the alteration is a mere variation or amounts to an independent production. Most of your readers will remember controversies in the past, when opposite conclusions were upheld with considerable warmth.

On one notable occasion Mr. G. Lindoff engaged in a vigorous campaign with four other leading composers, which was carried on for several months. When brought down to its essential elements the problem boiled down to the apparently simple question, whether the introduction of one bob entitled a new composition to be regarded as original. No conceivable collection of peals would assist in the solution of a difference of this kind. And, as I have said, these are the points, and others like them, in which a solution is most urgently needed.

How are we to reach it? Perhaps the first and most important step is to recognise that the standard of originality is not a fixed quantity, but is always inevitably rising. In making this statement I have not in view the obvious fact that every new discovery makes it more difficult for others to obtain an original peal, but there is the equally cogent point that our knowledge of the principles of composition is constantly advancing, and we know far more about the nature of variations than our predecessors of only a short time ago. An example of this is the simple 'reversal,' of which, I believe, Jasper Snowden was the first to explain the essential characteristics.

Would it be possible for some of our leading composers to agree upon a few leading principles governing originality at the present stage of knowledge? No production falling short of this standard to be recognised. I confess, however, that I am by no means confident either of the agreement of the expert composers, or of the general acceptance of their conclusions, assuming they are fortunate enough to reach any. But I am firmly convinced that something of this kind is a necessary preliminary to the production of such a register as you propose, if that register is to be of practical value in avoiding disputes.

Lest I be accused of merely destructive criticism, I will venture on one positive suggestion. Let it be known to every young composer that to claim to have obtained an original 5040 in any plain even method in courses of normal length is to-day practically equivalent to saying he could sweep the Atlantic dry with Mrs. Partington's broom. If that be taken to heart an appreciable reduction will take place in the number of unjustified claims.—Yours faithfully,

E. S. POWELL.

P.S.—What ought a conductor to do in the following circumstances? For a particular purpose he wants to call a composition with certain characteristics. He has not in his possession a peal with these qualities, and strings together from old material a peal and calls it. As a guarantee of truth he is expected to state the composer's name when the peal is published. He knows perfectly well it is not strictly his, and under no circumstances does he intend to publish the figures. Probably many of the instances you have in mind in your leading article come within this category. Would it not be well to have a convention to cover them, such as 'Arranged by A. B. C.' instead of the usual 'composed'?

NOTICE.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A district meeting will be held at Hernhill, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Divine service at 4. Tea, at 1/3 per head, will be arranged for all those who notify me not later than Sept. 8th.—E. G. Buesden, Hon. Dist. Sec., 3, Hackington Place, Canterbury.

CARISBROOKE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Thursday, August 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1250 changes), in 47 mins.: W. Scott 1, W. Chambers (conductor) 2, Miss H. Fisher 3, Miss H. Mills 4, W. Johnson 5, S. Moody 6, W. Upton 7, J. Leal 8. A birthday compliment to W. Chambers. Miss Fisher and Miss Mills were on their annual visit to the Island.

NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Monday, August 10th, 240 each of Milton, Durham and London Surprise: C. S. Ryles 1, F. Triner 2, J. E. Wheelton (conductor) 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane 5, J. Walley 6.

NEWPORT, MON.—On Monday, August 10th, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. Morgan 1, T. Ford 2, F. Atwell 3, J. W. Jones 4, C. Greedy 5, J. Bullen 6, H. Howell (Bristol, conductor) 7, W. Ridout 8.

NOTICES.

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

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Eccleston, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. — Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. — Exeter Branch. — A meeting of the above will be held at Crediton, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. in the Church Institute, 1/- each. The following bells will be available from 2.30 p.m.: Crediton, Newton St. Cyres, Shobrooke, Sandford, and Upton Pyne. All ringers welcome. — J. C. Oke, Asst. Sec., 35, St. David's Hill, Exeter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. — A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Ringing from 3.15. The Vicar will entertain members to tea. St. Mary's tower will be opened in the evening. A hearty welcome to all. — W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Sunderland, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Meet at Bishopwearmouth Church at 2.30, where bands will be made up for Holy Trinity and St. Ignatius (all 8 bells). Tea at St. Ignatius' Institute, Burlington Road, at 5. — G. S. Taylor, Dist. Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT & OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill, on Sept. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30 p.m. — Colia Harrison, Hon. Sec. pro tem.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Basingstoke District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherwick, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30. — Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. Dist. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — A meeting of the above branch will be held at Hoddlesden on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. — J. Watson, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grappenhall Branch. — A meeting of the branch will be held at Lymm on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting at 4.30. — F. Bibby, Hon. Sec.

LLANFAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bedwellty on Saturday, Sept. 5th (bells 8). Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. — John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch. — A combined ringing practice will be held at Sonning, Saturday, Sept. 5th, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. — R. J. Darvill, Highcockett Lodge, Hare Hatch, near Twyford, Berks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Leicester District will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5th, at South Wigston (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., and business meeting after tea. Proposed new rules to be discussed. — H. J. Poole, 61, New Park Street, Leicester.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanstephan on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells (8) available 11.30 a.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. — J. Hammond, Branch Sec., Garthmor, Neath.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — The next meeting of this district will be held at Wethersfield on Saturday, Sept. 5th. The bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Ringers' service in the church at 4.15. Tea and meeting in the Parish Hall. As these bells have recently been retuned and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, they are well worth a visit, and it is hoped a goodly number of ringers will make an effort to attend. Bus leaves Braintree for Wethersfield at 2.30 p.m., and returns at 9 p.m. — W. H. Dyson, Sec., High Street, Braintree.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch. — A quarterly meeting is to be held at Cranborne, on Saturday, Sept. 5th, from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30; address by the Vicar, Rev. L. Addison. Tea (at 5 o'clock) at the Fleur-de-Lys. — C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec., Walton House, Bournemouth.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch. — The annual meeting of the members will be held at Kirkby-in-Furness on Sept. 5th, at 5 p.m. Bells (6) available all day. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30. — W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Godshill, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., business meeting afterward. — W. Upton, 10, Elm Grove, Newport, I.W.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District. — The next meeting of the district will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday, Sept. 5th (bells 8). Important business, meeting 5 o'clock. Will all members try to attend? — J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for September: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 6th, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 14th and the 28th, at 7.30. — A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

DEVON GUILD.—North-Eastern Branch. — Quarterly meeting at Oakford, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.45. Tea 5.15, 1/- each. — M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. — A meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. — William Horan, Branch Secretary, 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. — The annual district meeting will be held at Ashford, on Saturday, Sept. 12th, by kind invitation of the Vicar, Rev. H. W. Blackburne, D.S.O., M.C., M.A. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., tea and meeting to follow in the Parish Room. Members requiring tea please let me know by the 8th. — H. Parkes, Hon. District Sec., Mer-sham, Ashford.

OXFORD GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Shenley, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Service 3.30. Tea 4 p.m. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Sept. 8th, so that tea can be provided.—Walter Sear, Branch Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly practice will be held at Colston Bassett, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Will members please make their own arrangements for tea with Mrs. Green, Martin Arms, Colston Bassett, Notts? All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Francis, Liverpool, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells from 4.30 to 6.30. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bratton, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (6) ready at 3 o'clock. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting directly after tea. Edington bells (6) also available during the afternoon.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Waldron, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, at 5 p.m., meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Cobham, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dist. Sec., 'Hillcrest,' 15, Baillie Road, Guildford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Egham on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Followed by tea and business meeting.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Birstall on Saturday, Sept. 12th. The fine peal of 8 will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. onward. As this meeting is the jubilee of the foundation of the association, a special commemoration service will be held in the Parish Church at 4 p.m., when the preacher will be the Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, the president of the Lancashire Association. All members are urged to make a special effort to attend this thanksgiving service. All applications for tea tickets, for which a charge of 1s. 6d. per head will be made, must reach Mr. H. Peel, 2, Cross Street, Birstall, not later than first post, Tuesday, Sept. 8th. Members are reminded that all outstanding subscriptions should be paid without delay.—Percy J. Johnson, 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A special district meeting will be held at Harwich on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Tea will be provided, part expense, 1s. each, to all who notify to the secretary before Sept. 8th.—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Middleham, on Saturday, Sept. 12. Bells (8, tenor 18 cwt.) will be available for ringing all day. Tea will be provided at the Commercial Hotel at 4.30, members 1/6, non-members 2/-. It is hoped that members and friends will make a special effort to attend this meeting. Those intending to be at tea must notify the Secretary not later than Tuesday, Sept. 8th, or they will not be provided for.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Willesden on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all who require tea (1s. per head) please advise me by Sept. 9th?—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E. 17.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Warnham on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Royal Oak at 5 o'clock. Members attending please advise me not later than Sept. 9th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weston Favell, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15, tea at 5 o'clock. Will all those who require tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Sept. 8th?—T. Tebbutt, 53, Louise Road, Northampton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on Sept. 17th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 8th; Southwark Cathedral on the 15th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 20 (6 p.m.) and *22nd; *St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 24th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Hagley, on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.45 p.m. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Sept. 15th. A small charge will be made.—A. J. Skelding, Branch Sec., 7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The second general quarterly meeting will be held at Melton Mowbray, on Saturday, Sept. 26th. Bells (10) available from 2.30. Committee meeting in Cole's Hall (opposite church) 4 p.m. Meat tea (1/6 each) at Fox Hotel 5 p.m., followed by general meeting. All those intending to take tea must advise Mr. W. H. Bartram, 33, Rosebery Avenue, Melton Mowbray, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 23rd. It is hoped all members will endeavour to be present, as important business is to be discussed. A social evening (in tea room) can be arranged.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Hunsdon (Herts), on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due.—C. Beeston, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SNOWDON COMMEMORATION DINNER. — The annual commemoration dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and past officers of the Yorkshire Association, will be held at the Victory Hotel, Briggate, Leeds, on Saturday, Sept. 19th, when the chair will be taken by the President at 5.45 p.m. prompt. By the kind permission of the respective clergy, the following rings of bells will be at the disposal of visitors from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Parish Church (12), Headingley (8), Far Headingley (8), Christ Church, Upper Armley (8). All applications for tickets for the dinner (for which a charge of 5s. 6d. per head will be made) should be made not later than first post, Tuesday, Sept. 15th, to Percy J. Johnson, 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING.

A Grimsby District meeting was held at Burton-on-Stather on Saturday, August 15th, when members attended from Grimsby (St. Andrew's and St. James'), Bigby, Uisceby, Burrow-on-Humber and the lower tower, also from the Gainsborough District, including the Hon. Secretary (Mr. P. S. W. Butler) and friends from Hull. Bells were going early, and the Vicar (the Rev. C. Mylne) kindly conducted a service and gave an interesting address. Tea was partaken of in the Schoolroom, and enjoyed by 35 members and friends. The business meeting followed, the President (the Rev. H. T. Barry) presiding.—The re-election of one member took place, and a collection for the Grimsby and District Bell Fund amounted to 11s. 8d.

The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for the excellent address; to the organist for presiding at the organ, and to Mr. Godfrey and Mr. Bray for making the arrangements. — In reply, Mr. Bray said it was a pleasure to them all to have the Guild at Burton Stather. He was looking forward to the time when they would have eight bells instead of six.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the president for presiding.

Members then adjourned to the tower for more ringing, and some to the Burton Hills, which is a beauty spot of Lincolnshire, to view the surrounding country.

The methods rung were Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Stedman Doubles, Grandsire Doubles and Bob Doubles.

The next meeting is a combined one with Gainsborough District, and is to be held at Brigg on Saturday, September 12th.

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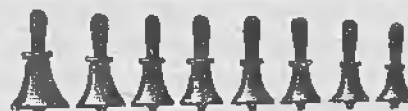
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