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FRIDAY, MARCH 1st, 1940.

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## AN INSPIRATION.

The Exercise has suffered heavy losses by death during recent weeks, and the toll that has been taken has included men who have had a prominent standing in the ringing world. Men like Charles Howard, Challis Winney, John Cheesman, Harry Barton, Albert Warnes, among others, have each in their way played a notable part in ringing in their day, and have left it the better for their association with it. They have gone, as other outstanding figures before them have gone, but it is well to pause for a moment at their passing and remember that they have made a contribution to the art, each in his own particular way, which imperceptibly, perhaps, but nevertheless surely has had an influence for good, and has helped at least to raise the standard of ringing or the status of ringers in the circles in which they have moved.

This is no occasion for invidious comparisons, but it may be well to think for a moment of what ringing in Essex owes to Charles Howard. His interest, his enthusiasm and his work set many a ring of bells going again or saved them from ultimate decay and silence. His efforts in large measure raised the Essex Association to the level it reached in the later years of his Mastership; his example was a pattern by which others could measure their motives as church bellringers, for he was prompted always by the highest conceptions of duty. Or think for a moment of Challis Winney, a master ringer, whose skill was directed in a different channel, but whose influence among those who rang with him was to make them better strikers and more careful ringers. He, too, had a high notion of his duty to the Church, of which he was a devout and humble son. It would be possible, in like manner, to go through all the list of those we have mentioned and extol their virtues, but these two must suffice.

While we mourn their death, we should also keep before us the example which they set. Those who are left to do the work which these men did, in their several ways, must be filled with the same enthusiasm and spirit of endeavour if the art is to maintain its standard. Too many ringers in these days are prone to sit down and let others do the work; to leave the running of associations to willing horses; but retain the right to grumble when things do not go to their satisfaction. They expect to take part in peals but leave others to make the arrangements; they complain if they go to meetings and do not get all the ringing they want. Above all, they do nothing to help in keeping up the supply of ringers, which is all-essential if the art is to be preserved in the future. Their aim is to get all they can out of ringing, and put as little

(Continued on page 98.)

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into it as possible. Men such as we have referred to are, on the contrary, ready to put all they can into ringing, either in work or in talents. It is only in this way that the fullest satisfaction can be obtained from it. The friends of all the well-known men who have so recently passed on will retain happy memories; but their example will, we hope, be an inspiration to a far wider circle, a circle that should enclose those on the outermost fringe of the Exercise. These men strove to leave ringing a little better than they found it. If, in the end, the same can be said of us who remain, our part in the Exercise will not have been played in vain.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*In Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5022 CHANGES;**

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

*LEO EVANS ... .. 2	† WILLIAM J. CHESTER ... 6
WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... .. 2	WALTER LAGO ... .. 7
*THOMAS PRICE ... .. 3	G. LEONARD HEWITT ... 8
E. DENNIS POOLE ... .. 4	EDWARD V. RODENBURST... 9
ROBERT EVANS ... .. 5	† ALASTAIR C. MACLEAN ... Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by E. V. RODENBURST.

\* First peal on ten. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal (age 15). Arranged and rung as a wedding compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. T. Eland, and Mrs. Eland.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

WASHBROOK'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

STEPHEN L. PARRY ... .. 2	IVAN KAY ... .. 5
JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. 2	JOHN H. C. MASSEY ... .. 6
SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... 3	HAROLD HAMER ... .. 7
*THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... 4	DENNIS HOLLIS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. HAMER.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Audrey Hamer, daughter of the conductor, and also to Mr. S. H. Dearden.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

CHARLES H. MOORE ... .. 2	F. NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 5
*CEDRIC CURSON ... .. 2	*GEORGE SAYER ... .. 6
REV. A. G. G. THURLOW... 3	HENRY TOOKE ... .. 7
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Surprise. The first peal on the bells since recasting and rehangng almost a year ago.

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A History of the Society

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WOKING, SURREY.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;  
Tenor 18½ cwt.

REGINALD W. DARVILL ... Treble	*WALTER HUNT ... .. 5
ARTHUR HUBBLE ... .. 2	ERIC B. HARTLEY ... .. 6
WILLIAM PERRY ... .. 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... .. 7
HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 4	ALBERT E. NORTH ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.  
\* First peal of Kent Treble Bob.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

CLUTTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-ne Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

*JAMES RIGGS ... .. Treble	*JOHN HILLMAN ... .. 4
KENNETH FORD ... .. 2	HAROLD E. BLACKER... .. 5
HERBERT J. BABER ... .. 3	HENRY PARSONS... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

\* First peal. Rung to mark the completion of 21 years' membership of the association by the conductor.

KNUTSFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOCELYN B. GARDINER ... Treble	ALAN J. BROWN ... .. 4
*JOHN ANTHONY BEAUMONT 2	FRANK REYNOLDS ... .. 5
†JOHN HASSELL ... .. 3	C. KENNETH LEWIS ... Tenor

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

\* First peal in four methods. † 25th peal. Rung for the wedding of Mr. N. Hough, a member of the local band, to Miss M. Shaw.

WHITNEY-ON-WYE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 240's of Morris' and 30 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 9 cwt.

*FREDERICK H. BENNETT ... Treble	ALBERT E. JONES... .. 3
LESLIE EVANS ... .. 2	TREVOR JONES ... .. 4
DAVID H. BENNETT ... .. Tenor	

Conducted by D. H. BENNETT.

\* First peal, aged 13 years.

A RESULT OF UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Guildford Diocesan Guild cannot claim the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Hershaw on January 13th last, as one member of the band has never been a member of the Guild and three others failed to renew their membership in 1939.

G. L. GROVER, Hon. Sec.

MR. W. A. CAVE'S BEREAVEMENT.

The sympathy of his many friends in the Exercise will go out to Mr. W. A. Cave, of Bristol, in the bereavement he has sustained by the death of his wife, Mrs. Kate Cave, who passed away unexpectedly on February 21st at the age of 65 years.

Although Mrs. Cave had not been really well for a long time, her death was unexpected. Only on the preceding Saturday she journeyed to Christchurch, Hants, to attend the funeral of Mr. Cave's foreman.

Through Mr. Cave's long and active association with ringing—he has been both hon. secretary and Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, as well as a member of the Central Council for many years—Mrs. Cave was well known to ringers all over England.

In Bristol, with her husband, she took a prominent part in the formation of the Society of St. Thomas' Associates, which is responsible for many of the social activities in connection with St. Thomas' Church (City).

The funeral took place on Monday at the Church of the Holy Nativity, Knowle.

In addition to the widower, a son (Mr. P. W. Cave, of Liverpool) and daughter are left in bereavement.

LEICESTER RINGER'S DEATH.

PASSING OF W. WILLSON, JUN.

It is with the deepest regret we record the passing of Mr. William Willson, jun. (nephew of Mr. William Willson, sen.), of St. John-the-Divine, Leicester, which occurred on Thursday, February 15th, at the comparatively early age of 54. He was not so well known to younger ringers, as for many years he had been unable, through physical disability, to take any active part in the Exercise, but he retained the liveliest interest in the art. It is only a few months ago that, hearing St. John's bells ringing a peal, he came and listened for over an hour to it, although suffering greatly from chronic asthma. Later he congratulated the writer on a well-struck peal.

Mr. Willson joined the Midland Counties Association in 1902, and was what might aptly be described as a 'natural born' ringer. He not only rang his bell well, but was most keen on good striking. Never did he attempt a new method without first being absolutely certain he knew it properly. No slipshod 'getting through it' would do for him; he would rather stand aside than make bad ringing. Whatever he essayed, it could be certain, would be of the very best. He took part altogether in 49 peals for the M.C.A.

Some 25 years ago he broke a blood vessel and ever since that time had been a great sufferer. He had been in various sanatoriums and hospitals for long periods, but was always a most cheerful and lovable companion, rejoicing in a good joke and hearty laugh. Nevertheless, his end came suddenly. He had only taken to bed for three days before his death. He leaves a widow and two daughters to mourn their loss.

The funeral service was held in St. John's Church, conducted by the Vicar, and the interment took place at Welford Road Cemetery. As a last token of respect, a slow course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by A. Cattell 1-2, E. Morris 3-4, S. Harrison 5-6, J. Morris 7-8. A floral tribute was sent by his fellow-ringers of St. John-the-Divine, and in the evening the bells were rung half-muffled to Stedman and Grandsire Caters in his memory. E. M.

The bells in cadence sweet  
Pour muffled music down,  
A Ringer's Requiem they beat,  
Their dirge a message oft repeat,  
'After the cross, the crown.'

Good-bye, life's tale is told,  
We loved thee well, and sigh,  
Heart of a thousand, heart of gold,  
Tender as a woman's, true yet bold,  
And now—a last good-bye.

W. W.

A MEMORIAL TOUCH.

At Waltham St. Lawrence on February 18th, 720 Norwich Surprise Minor in memory of the Rev. F. D. Browne, an honorary member of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and an old Vicar of the parish, who died on Saturday, February 10th: S. Darvill 1, R. Darvill 2, J. Cooper, sen. 3, V. Darvill 4, J. Darvill 5, T. Tilley (conductor) 6.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MEETING AT HEADINGLEY.

The February meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at St. Michael's, Headingley, on February 24th. The start of the ringing was delayed by a wedding until 3 p.m., but after that the bells were kept going in a variety of methods till 6 p.m., when the business meeting was held.

Mr. W. H. Senior presided and members were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Drighlington, Elland, Headingley (St. Chad's), Leeds Parish Church, Rothwell, Sherburn, Shipley, Tadcaster and the local company.

On the suggestion of the chairman, it was decided that the secretary should send the best wishes of the society to the president, who is now serving as a chaplain with His Majesty's Navy.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the local company for making arrangements to allow full use of the bells up to the time of the black-out was proposed by Mr. L. W. G. Morris and seconded by Mr. H. L. Jones. Mr. P. J. Johnson acknowledged the thanks, but regretted the Summer Time Act had not come into force to allow them an extra hour of ringing. The next meeting is due to be held at Armley on March 30th.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT PENWORTHAM.

Last Saturday at Penwortham an attempt was made for a peal of Treble Bob to commemorate the 80th birthday of Mr. J. R. Taylor, a member of the local band since 1883, but in the ninth course the treble rope broke. Another attempt will be made in the near future.

Mr. Taylor afterwards entertained the ringers to tea along with his children and grandchildren. Replying to the toast of his health, the old gentleman was in reminiscent mood and mentioned the fact that he rang his first 720 in 1877. He has set an example in attendance and punctuality for service ringing, and served on the committee of the Lancashire Association for many years. The ringers of the Preston Branch take this opportunity of offering their congratulations.

**PROOF.****COMPOSING IN PLAIN METHODS.**

No method on seven bells and upwards is of any particular value unless it has at least one true peal of not less than 5,000 changes. A possible exception might be a method which, although of no value by itself, can be used in conjunction with others in spliced compositions; but even in spliced peals people will prefer to ring methods which can be rung separately to peals.

Whether a method can produce a true peal or not depends mainly on two things. One is the nature of the rows; that is, the order in which the odd and even changes come. The other is the form and symmetry of the leads.

From these two we know the following:—

1. Any symmetrical method on the Plain Principle, on any number of bells, with one hunt, is not liable to internal falseness which does not show at the lead end, and such methods will produce the full extent of the rows. Further, if the course ends are true, then all the rows produced from those course ends by the method without bobs or singles, will be true also.

2. Any symmetrical method on the Treble Bob Principle on 6, 10, 14 or any other number of bells in the same progression, provided that in every section the two rows in which the treble occupies the same position are of opposite nature, is not liable to internal falseness which does not show at the lead end; and such methods will produce the full extent of the rows. Further, if the course ends are true, then all the rows produced from them by the method without bobs will be true also.

3. Symmetrical methods on the Treble Bob Principle on 8, 12, 16, or any other number of bells in the same progression, are very liable to internal falseness; only a fraction of them will give true peals; and none will produce the full extent of the rows.

4. Any symmetrical method on the Plain Principle with two hunts, on 7, 11, 15 or any other number of bells in the same progression, is not liable to internal falseness, so long as the succession of the nature of the rows is not altered; and all such methods will produce the extent of the rows provided in-course singles are used.

5. Symmetrical methods on the Plain Principle on 9, 13, 17, or any other number in the same progression, are very liable to internal falseness.

All this depends on the axiom, that if you add equals to unequals the wholes are unequal; or, in other words, that if you take two things which are unlike and treat them in the same manner the results can never be the same. But if you take two things which are unlike and treat them, one in one manner and one in another, you may easily get the same result.

(a) 12345678	(b) 14362748
21436587	41637284
24135678	46132748
42316587	64317284
24361578	46371248

Suppose (a) and (b) are any two different rows, and from each of them you write out a lead of Double Norwich. In each case you get the second row by transposing all four pairs of bells, and it is obvious that, since (a) and (b) are different, the two second rows must be different also. Similarly the third row of one must be different from the third row of the other. And so on.

Now, the treble never occupies the same position twice in the first half lead of any method on the Plain Principle, and it follows, therefore, that if the lead heads are different all the rows in the first half leads must be different also. But in the second half lead the treble, hunting down, does occupy the same positions as it does in the first half lead, hunting up; and, therefore, in many methods repetition can occur between rows in the first half of one lead and the second half of another. This is where symmetry acts as a safeguard.

For in a symmetrical method the rows in the second half leads, counting backwards, are produced in the same manner as are the rows in the first half leads, counting forwards.

(a) 12345678	65271348
(c) 21436587	56217384
24135678	65123748
42316587	(e) 61527384
24361578	(d) 16253748

As (c) is produced from (a), so is (e) from (d), and the rest of the rows similarly in due order. Therefore, by the argument we have just used, if the lead heads and ends of any touch or peal of Double Norwich or any other symmetrical plain method are different, there can be no internal falseness.

A similar argument will easily show that if two course-ends (that is, two rows with both the treble and the tenor at home) are different, then all the lead ends in the two courses produced from them will be different.

One proviso must be mentioned, which is that any lead head can also be a lead end. So far you could have repetition, but it would mean that the two courses false against each other were actually the same course, one being written out forwards and the other backwards.

So long as the tenors are kept together in any composition this cannot occur, but when the tenors are parted it is necessary to prove hand strokes as well as back strokes.

There are 720 rows in a Major method with the treble and tenor at home. Half of these are the possible course ends of the method. The other half come as hand stroke rows. With the tenors together there are 120 possible course ends.

If we write out the 360 possible course ends, we know that from each of them the method will produce 112 changes, and that no row which occurs in one of these courses can possibly occur in another. The courses are 'mutually exclusive.' That means that when we are composing in a symmetrical Major method we need not bother about any individual rows or even any individual lead ends. All we need concern ourselves about is what courses we use; and so long as we do not use the same part of any course twice our composition will be true.

Here a little explanation is needed to avoid confusion. The word 'course' is sometimes used, as we used it just now, for the block of rows which a method will naturally produce without bobs and singles from any particular course end. In actual ringing the only course of that sort we ever come across is the plain course, and in the belfry by a 'course' we mean the changes which occur between one course end and another, and almost always that will include bobs or singles.

To make a distinction, we usually speak of the first sort of course as a 'natural' course, or as a P. Block.

It gets its latter name from the fact that it is a block produced by all plain leads, in contradistinction to a B. Block which is produced by all bobbed leads.

The course end of a natural course is called the natural course end, and this is used as the signature of the whole course.

For instance, suppose we ring a touch of Bob Major in which the first course is called W.M.R. We start in the plain course, and therefore we say that, up to the Wrong, we ring the course 23456. From the Wrong to the Middle we ring the course 52436, and 15243678 is the row which actually would come up if we ran on to the course end without making any bobs or singles. From the Middle to the Home we ring the course 42635. The bob R. brings up the actual course end 64235, which is the natural course end, not of the leads we have been ringing, but of the leads of the course which is yet to come.

In some ways it would have been better if the course ends had been treated as course beginnings and had been put in front of the calling instead of after it. But there are usually good reasons for the traditional way of doing this sort of thing, and in any case it is too late to try and alter it now.

Here is an example of the way a touch of Bob Major can be composed and proved by means of natural course ends:—

Wrong.	Middle.	Home	W.	M.	R.
52436	42635	64235	—	—	—
64235	24536	52436	—	—	—
35426	35426	35426	—	—	—
23456	23456	23456	—	—	—

(Continued in next column.)

**A DIAMOND JUBILEE.**

**RINGER AT KING'S NORTON FOR 60 YEARS.**

His many friends will heartily congratulate Mr. J. Betterton, of King's Norton, Birmingham, on attaining his diamond jubilee of ringing at the Parish Church.

Mr. Betterton started ringing as a boy on March 2nd, 1880, and has served in King's Norton tower under five vicars. At one time he rang the curfew and helped to chime for the Sunday services. For many years he has tolled the 'Passing Bell.'

In 1902 Mr. Betterton became a member of the King's Norton Guild, formed by the late Mr. W. S. Pritchett and his brothers. Since then he has assisted in ringing many peals in various methods, those of which he has kept a record being Stedman Caters 2, Grandsire Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 2, Grandsire Triples 1, on handbells 1. His quarter-peals include Grandsire Triples 31, Grandsire Caters 1, Stedman Caters 1, Stedman Triples 20, Treble Bob Major 14, Plain Bob Major 22, and one touch of half a peal of Bob Major.

This is rather a remarkable achievement, as Mr. Betterton is very deaf. It is hoped that he may enjoy many more years of ringing.

**GOLDHANGER RINGERS CELEBRATE LONG SERVICE.**

At St. Peter's Church, Goldhanger, Essex, on February 19th, a date touch of 1,940 changes, consisting of 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, 360 College Exercise, 120 Plain Bob and 20 Grandsire Doubles, was rung by W. A. Appleton (longest touch) 1, B. C. Mann 2, J. D. Buckingham (conductor) 3, W. J. White 4, H. R. Appleton 5, A. Appleton 6. It was rung to commemorate 40 years as service ringers at this church by A. Appleton, C. J. Mann and the conductor. Unfortunately, owing to indisposition, C. J. Mann was unable to ring, but his place was taken by his son-in-law, W. J. White. The ringers of the treble and fifth are the sons of Arthur Appleton, and B. C. Mann the son of C. J. Mann.

(Continued from previous column.)

In pricking this, all we want to know is the course ends which are respectively produced by bobs at W., M. and R. Whenever we make a call we transpose the previous natural course end by the course end produced by a bob at Wrong, Middle or Home (whichever it happens to be) and enter the result in the appropriate column. If the same natural course end does not appear twice in the same column the composition is true.

# John Taylor & Co.

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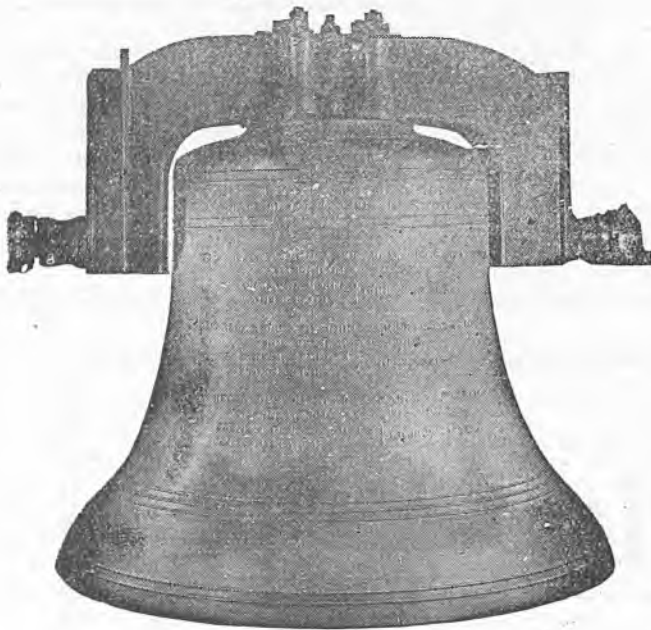
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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Summer time came in on Sunday morning. One of the Ealing ringers was careful to put his watch on an hour overnight, but he was still an hour late for ringing in the morning. Then he remembered that, just before going to bed, after a pleasant Saturday night out, he had had a feeling that he had made a mistake and had put his watch forward twice, so, before going to sleep, he put it back an hour. It was the night out that did it.

It is anticipated that the forthcoming rationing of meat will hit at least one Lincolnshire ringer (who is also a special constable) very badly near the place where his waist line should be. We understand he is petitioning the Ministry of Food to amend the scheme so that meat is rationed by weight instead of value—the weight, that is, of the ration book holder.

With reference to the silent peal on handbells at Dagenham, the umpire writes: The band started 'whole pull and go' and rang three whole pulls at finish. The ringing was excellent and not a word was spoken throughout the peal. I was very pleased to be umpire for such a performance. Afterwards several courses of Plain Bob were rung. This, I believe, is the next method to be attempted by the band.

As it was not possible to arrange a peal to celebrate the birthdays of Messrs. H. R. Newton, R. T. Hibbert, S. E. Andrews and A. B. Peck, which all fall within four days of each other, a two-course touch of Cambridge Royal was rung at St. Clement Danes on Saturday by W. H. Pasmore, Mrs. R. F. Deal, H. Hoskins, H. Langdon, G. N. Price, H. G. Miles, C. W. Roberts (conductor), T. Langdon, R. F. Deal and A. B. Peck.

Maurice F. R. Hibbert had one of his rare birthdays yesterday. We hope he made the most of it. He was born on February 29th, 1888.

An early and rather interesting peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the front eight bells at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on February 24th, 1736. It was 'prickt and call'd' by John Denmead. The figures have not survived, but many things point to it being the old bob and single peal which is printed in the 'Clavis,' the composer of which is usually said to be unknown.

The year 1777 was a very memorable one in the history of the art and many notable peals were rung. Among them was one of 10,080 changes of Grandsire Caters on February 25th at St. Margaret's, Leicester. This was rung in competition with the Nottingham ringers, who on March 3rd in the next year scored 10,260 changes in the same method.

On February 27th, 1829, died John Briant, of Hertford, bellringer and bellfounder and, by all accounts, a very worthy citizen.

Edwin Horrex, a leading College Youth of a bygone generation, whom many still remember as a lovable old man, was born on Feb. 28th, 1838.

## THE LATE MR. ALBERT G. WARNES.

AN APPRECIATION.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It was with extreme regret that I recently received the sad news of the passing of my old friend Albert G. Warnes, and I am grateful to the correspondent who contributed the article regarding his funeral, etc.

I note that mention is made of the Oxford Eight In on the back eight at Mancroft, rung on November 20th, 1890, but Albert Warnes did not take part in it. His first peal was Grandsire Triples on those bells on September 17th, 1889, in which he rang the third. It was the first peal of Grandsire Triples in Norwich for 67 years, the previous one having been at St. Andrew's in 1822.

Foreman, as he was generally known to the Norwich Scholars, was a very good conductor, and had he been given the necessary encouragement as a youngster would have been even better. He had conducted peals on all numbers from five to twelve, with the exception of Cinques.

He was a fine striker at whichever end he rang and for his weight, I should say he never weighed more than ten stone. He was a good man at the back end.

Besides the long peal of Double Norwich at Saxlingham, he also took part in a 7,040 Kent Treble Bob at St. Andrew's, Hingham, on January 21st, 1897.

An unassuming man, he was ever ready to assist youngsters, and amongst those who passed through his hands were my friends, Edward P., William C. and James F. Duffield.

For many years he held a band together at Intwood and he rang regularly on this peal of five for both the morning and afternoon services.

He took part in many of my first peals in various methods and also conducted my first peals of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major. He conducted my first peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, which was the first on 12 by four of the Bailey brothers, and I am indebted to him for calling some of my earlier compositions of Double Norwich.

Albert Warnes was a member of the Norwich Scholars, the Norwich Diocesan Association and the Lancashire Association. For the latter association he called at least one peal of Stedman Triples. May he rest in peace.

GEORGE H. CROSS.

**CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.****ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.**

The first change ringing at St. Saviour's of which we have any account was on November 18th, 1684, when the College Youths are said to have rung on the largest six bells, three 720's, one each of Oxford Treble Bob, College Single and Oxford Bob. At the time it was the longest length which had been rung anywhere.

Changes on seven bells had only recently been introduced, and Major ringing was still a thing of the future. When Richard Duckworth wrote the 'Tintinnologia' in 1667, he said that the longest length which, up to then, had been performed on eight bells was 1,680. He does not tell us exactly what the method was, though he does tell us the composition. It may have been Plain Changes, in which one pair of bells changed at a time, or it may have been a form of what we now call Bob Triples. It was more usual to ring five or six bell methods, with two or three bells as covers.

As the tenor at St. Saviour's then weighed 49 cwt., it must have taken a large number of men to ring the three 720's—three or four to the tenor, two or three to the seventh, and probably most of the other bells were rung double handed. It is not unlikely, too, that the ringing was in whole pulls.

The record of this ringing and of the peal of Triples said to have been rung at St. Sepulchre's, in January, 1690, is preserved in a manuscript, which forms the front page of one of the peal books belonging to the Ancient Society of College Youths. It has been quoted many times and forms the basis of the historical account given in the society's handbook, but as it stands it is very inaccurate and has little authority.

In its present form it is the work of some unknown man who, shortly before the middle of the last century, attempted to write a history of the College Youths, and in doing so copied material from various sources, occasionally adding comments of his own. In doing it, he incorporated almost verbally an account which, in 1796, George Scarsbrook had transcribed from the 'Oxford Ringers' Register.'

The original of this seems to have disappeared long ago, but it is possible to recover the extract and to be certain that it was written in the year 1738.

That, of course, is a long time after the events it records took place, and so it cannot be accepted as a contemporary authority, but it evidently was compiled by someone who had taken a good deal of care to trace the traditions of the College Youths. As is usual in such cases where he treats with the earlier events, he is vaguer and more inaccurate, but when he comes to events not much earlier than his own time he can be relied upon. For this reason I am strongly inclined to accept as genuine not only the account of the three 720's at St. Saviour's, but also the peal of Bob Triples at St. Sepulchre's in 1690.

It is interesting to notice that this Oxford manuscript said that the College Youths first rang Stedman's Principle at St. Benet's, Cambridge, on March 30th, 1671. This is a much more likely date than that which, following Shipway, writers have usually given. If it is correct, then the College Youths could not have rung the method at any church on College Hill, for all the bells at St.

Michael's, Paternoster Royal and St. Martin's, Vintry, had by that time perished in the Great Fire.

The reader may perhaps wonder why the account of the early College Youths should have come through Oxford, and why the society did not preserve its own traditions. The explanation is, I think, that about 1720 there was a distinct change in the character of the society, and, from being a body composed of well-to-do men of good social standing, it became a company of young and enthusiastic ringers, mostly of the lower middle class. There was no break in continuity, but there easily may have been a break in tradition.

The only peal rung on the old octave at St. Saviour's was one of Bob Triples by the College Youths, on December 19th, 1730. Annable called from the sixth, John Cundell rang the seventh, and John Trenell had two men to help him at the tenor.

The composition, Annable's Six-part, is one of the most important and characteristic compositions in change ringing. It has been rung many times, but since Bob Triples is not practised nowadays, it has fallen into disuse. There are, however, some seven-bell methods, free from the defects of Bob Triples, which one day may be rung, and then the value of Annable's peal will again be recognised. The changes on the six working bells at the lead ends form a regular 720 of Single Court Bob Minor, and it was actually from this 720 that Annable got his composition.

Between Annable and Cundell there evidently was a good deal of jealousy and rivalry. Cundell had ambitions as a conductor, but Annable always expected to call when he was peal ringing. So, when a month after the peal at Southwark, practically the same company went to St. Mary-le-Bow and repeated the performance with Cundell as conductor, Annable was left out of the band, Trenell took his place at the sixth, the others stood as they had done at St. Saviour's, and four others were brought in to help ring the two big bells.

The new ring of twelve at Southwark was opened on August 2nd, 1735. No doubt, the College Youths hoped to ring the first peal on them, but actually it was scored by the Eastern Scholars, who, on November 28th, rang 6,012 changes of Grandsire Caters.

Philemon Mainwaring, who was always ready for a big heavy-bell peal, rang the eleventh and called the bobs. For the tenor, three men were needed.

One of them was Theodore Eccleston, a wealthy young man twenty years of age, who was passionately fond of change ringing, and gave more than one ring of bells to different churches.

He came of a Quaker family. His grandfather (also named Theodore) was a city merchant, who had large interests and acquaintances in the American colonies, a man of weight and substance, and greatly honoured and trusted. His son John had five children, four of them daughters and one son, the younger Theodore. When he died, his property was equally divided between his widow and children. The widow had a brother, Henry Harwood, another wealthy city merchant, who purchased an estate in Suffolk, received a grant of arms from the Herald's College, and became a country gentleman. From him Theodore Eccleston inherited a life interest in Crowfield Hall and several estates in Suffolk and Norfolk.

(Continued on next page.)

## CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

(Continued from previous page.)

Crowfield Parish Church has no tower, but, at Coddendam, Eccleston installed a ring of eight with a tenor 16½ cwt., cast at Whitechapel by Thomas Lester; and at Stonham Aspal a ring of ten by the same founder. To ring these bells he got together a good band and induced several prominent ringers from Norwich and London to settle in the district.

Eccleston had a house at Mortlake, where he lived for a good part of his time. He gave two trebles to the parish church, apparently to replace two which had recently been supplied by Robert Catlin and were not satisfactory. Those two Eccleston gave to Fulham to make up the ring of ten there. They did not agree with Rudhall's fine octave, and the vestry, after having obtained Eccleston's consent, had them recast. The hanging was paid for by William Skelton, who, as the Bishop's registrar, had issued the faculty for the erection of Southwark bells.

Theodore Eccleston also gave two bells to Winchester Cathedral, but what connection he had with that city does not appear.

The man who rang the seventh to the Caters at Southwark was Francis Popham. In the name book he is described as an esquire, which in those days was a real rank, only given to those who were entitled to it. That enables us to identify him as a member of an old Somerset family, of whom the most famous was Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and from whom Francis was the fifth in descent. The latter, who married the daughter of Matthew Hutton, Archbishop of Canterbury, died in 1780.

The Eastern Scholars intended to ring a peal of Cinques at Southwark, and on January 25th, 1736, they scored a half-peal, 2,560 changes; but before they had accomplished the full performance, one of the quarrels which were so frequent in these old companies split the band into two parties, neither strong enough by itself to ring a peal of Cinques.

Meanwhile, the College Youths had rung the first peal on the twelve. The method was Grandsire Cinques; it was rung on December 15th, 1735, and the number of changes, 8,008, was not only the greatest which had been rung at the time on twelve bells, but it remained the record length in the method until recent years.

Annable conducted from the ninth, Cundell rang the tenth and Matthew East the eleventh. East had called the first peal of Cinques ever rung, and this was his last peal. He had been Master of the Society of College Youths in the previous year.

### SUFFOLK GUILD.

#### WOODBIDGE DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Woodbridge District of the Suffolk Guild was held at Woodbridge on Saturday, February 24th, when over 20 ringers were present from parishes including Ipswich (St. Mary-le-Tower and St. Matthew's), Baldock (Herts), Lowestoft, Newmarket, Helmingham, Earl Stonham, Framlingham, Ufford, Marlesford, Grundisburgh and the local company. The bells were kept going throughout the afternoon and ringing reached a high standard, the methods ranging from rounds to an exceptionally well-struck course of London Surprise Major. During the afternoon a new member was elected to the Guild and a very successful meeting terminated at about 5.30.

As this was the first district meeting arranged since 'activities' recommenced, it is hoped it will be followed by others in order to maintain the interest in these difficult times.

## A COUNTRY MEETING.

### THE VILLAGE POLICEMAN INTERFERES.

We are always glad to give space to interesting reports of ringers' meetings. Sometimes, of course, they have to be sub-edited and condensed. But the report given below is too entertaining to be submitted to either process.

Dear Sur,—Us had a meetin' down in our village the other week and as I ain't seen nothin' about it in our Ringin' World I thought I'd best send yer a few lines. 'Twas sometime afore us could get permission for to ring. Parson was willin', but, he ses, 'you arsk Wilkins about it.' Wilkins is our village p'liceman. And Wilkins ain't at all friendly to me—I think I know why, but that's nothin' to do with this. I told Wilkins us wanted to have a meeting and ring the bells in the afternoon and evenin'.

'No feer,' says Wilkins, 'no feer yer can't ring bells in this village these days. If yer do, I shall stop yer if I want to.'

When I told parson he saw Wilkins hisself and told Wilkins to arsk his sarjent. So Wilkins arsked his sarjent and he sed he'd find out. I dunno who he arsked. It may have been Mr. Chamberlen, but anyhow Wilkins comes one day and tells parson us could ring. He sed he'd mixed up his orders a bit. He was certain about the black out, but he want so sure about the noises. He knew us couldn't ring bells in the streets, or play whistlepipes, but anyhow churchbells was alright so long as it was all dun afore dark or anyhow so long as we didn't show no lights an' was ready to stop if there was a air raid. So parson says us could go ahead and have our meetin'.

Well, us advertized it in the Ringin' World an' us got a good turn up when the time come. Bill Trimmis, our district secretary, an' Bob Hawkins come over on their bikes from Little Squashinham, Tom and Jim Harris come along from Nether Dishton, there was three young chaps from Bashem and some others from round about as well as most of our fellers—I should think about twenty of us all told.

Well, us raised the bells in peel an' a good rise it was to, 'cept one of the Bashem chaps as thought he could rise the tenger was of'ner at lead than he was behind. But, of course, us didn't take no notice of he, 'cept to shout at him. T'other five made a real pretty rise.

Then us rung changes, includin' the plane 10 an' the long 20 and then when 'em rang six scores I rung tenger, an' yer ought to ha' herd how fine 'em sounded. Makes all the difference how tenger is rang.

Parson he conducted service for us; and lor' 'ow us sung, and parson he give us a good sermon. Strait from the shoulder I called it. O' course, it made sum of us think that us don't go to church as of'en like as us ort, but then us expecs to get a jab in the ribs now an' agen when us 'as a ringers service. Howsomever, he means well, an' I may as well tell yer here that parson be a good sort. Afore this war he never sed us nay when us wanted the bells for a peal, an' that's how I judge a parson.

Then us went down to the Dun Cow for tea, an' right well did George do us. George, he's the landlord. He always feeds yer well, does George. Why, bless yer when us has our club feast us eats so much that George ses it nearly busts him. An' that's how us feels when us have finished. But George don't mind, he ses it's an advertisement and he keeps his customers for the rest of the year at the Dun Cow.

There ain't much I can tell yer about the business meetin' us held. There ain't much business doin' at meetin's anyway. But Tom Harris he's always a grumbler an' he will have his grumble. It pleases him and don't hurt we. This time he brought up an' ole trouble. Tom wants we to have a ringin' master in our district; in fact, he wants to be ringin' master; but just because he wants to be, us won't have no ringin' master. Now if he proposed Bob Hawkins or me things might be different. But us couldn't abear to have Tom Harris as master. His face would put yer off yer ringin' if he was callin', an' anyhow we don't want him.

It was decided, I ought to tell yer, that us should have a outin' in the summer, but I dunno how many will go, 'cause it's got to be a outin' on bikes, like the Nuts do, only ours'll be for half a day. However, there's time to settle about that later on, an' it all depends on Hitler, for maybe the young chaps will be in the Army by then. Ifsobe, I don't think there'll be any outin' 'cept as far as the Dun Cow, perhaps.

Us finished the meetin' with votes of thanks to everybody—'cept Tom Harris, he's really a nasty bit of work is Tom Harris. They thanked me, of course, for arranging everything. Then us went back to the belfry an' started ringin' again; an' all went merry as the marriage bell, as the sayin' goes, for an hour, when up come Wilkins, the p'liceman, and shouts 'Stop, stop!' We all thought there was a air raid or at least that Hitler's airryplains was over droppin' leaflets—against church bell ringin', maybe.

'Stop, stop,' he says. So us stopped right at the last lead of Gransir Doubles.

'What's the matter?' says I, being forman of the tower an' havin' the right to speak as it were.

Why, says Wilkins, Sarjent's rung me on the telephone to say as Superintendent as had a letter that you can ring as long as yer like as long as yer don't show no lights.

I says, 'Wilkins,' I says, 'yer don't know manners. First of all yer shouldn't stop ringers when they be at their work and when yer comes into the belfry yer should take off yer 'at.'

(Continued in next column.)



**RINGS OF FIVE.**

A COMPARISON BETWEEN MINOR AND MAJOR SCALES.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Mr. Amos' query was probably much more interesting than he suspected. It abounds with points of interest and difficulty. I have watched, therefore, hoping to see replies from our founders and musicians, for they naturally are the more able to help us. The former in that they have had to deal with many such rings in the past, and the latter as instanced by your correspondent 'W. C. B.' from their knowledge of the history of music and its various scales, major and minor.

One cannot get it on a piano, but the true minor scale is said to be that of Nature herself (though the cuckoo sings in both scales). The scientist shows that the true diatonic major scale is evolved from the upper overtones or 'partials' of the sub-dominant (F producing C major). We commence at the 24th, and it is very interesting to observe that the oft-times maligned flat-seventh hum-note of the 'Old Standard' tuning lies exactly at the 25th, which I have only discovered in recent years (thus justifying Alderman Pritchett in his forecast in court, whilst trying to save Coventry bells).

With much of the essential evidence now lost, it is difficult to piece the tale together, but, as Mr. Trollope says, our own forefathers were prone to the minor scales. It was common to the Celts and Teutons. We do know, however, that it was those wonderful ancient Greeks, with their followers, the Persians and Arabs, who discovered and used the diatonic scales, both major and minor. The lost knowledge was rediscovered by us with the passing of the Dark Ages. Perhaps both Pilgrim and Crusader helped in bringing this about. From Italy, as a centre, the major mode slowly spread to the North and West during three centuries.

I have pointed out in my booklet, 'English Bells and their Tuning' (which is in the Council Library), that the 15th century saw the change take place with us. But as Art is a matter of taste, another 100 years would have seen rings of minor still being installed in the remoter areas.

It would appear that there are few of such rings left, so that Mr. Amos may deem himself fortunate. I know of none near London. (The five Smithfield bells by Bullisden, 1510, are major, but they are only a part, I am told, of a larger ring sequestered at the Reformation. And Stow says that there were 'six tunable bells' there in his time.)

Undoubtedly, as your two previous correspondents infer, it is a matter of one's ear and its training. Much may be acquired by listening to unaccompanied choral works and to string quartettes, when the true or 'just' scales may be heard and enjoyed. The ear often demands a tonic major, it depends on the balance of tone (a very difficult subject upon which I am unable to enter). If Mr. Amos feels like that, let him concentrate on the 3rd and call it 'Do' (in Sol-Fah), viz., Me-ra-DOH-te-la, for our ears are wonderfully capable of mysterious self-adjustments.

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

**TREBLE BOB COMPOSITION.***To the Editor.*

Sir,—In reference to the peal of Treble Bob in your issue of the 16th inst., this undoubtedly belongs to Mr. T. B. Worsley and I trust that the ringing secretary of the Lancashire Association will make the necessary correction in the peal book.

In October last Mr. Timbrell sent me four compositions all without 8 2's and asked me to find out what had been done in this class of peal. I immediately wrote to him that, speaking from memory, only T. B. Worsley had published peals on this plan, and suggested that he should write Mr. Worsley, who could give him the required information. It was only intended, by publication, to find out the truth. I am now informed that Mr. C. Charge published a one-part peal on this plan many years ago.

E. R. MARTIN.

86, Hartington Road, Preston.

**A COUNTRY MEETING.**

(Continued from previous page.)

'Yes, I be sorry I didn't take off the helmet,' he says, 'but I said I'd stop yer if I wanted to. And I've stopped yer.' An' he went off laughin' down the stairs.

When we'd done some more ringin' us dropped the bells in peal. 'Twas alright till we got half-way down, then—well, less said about the rest the better. But us enjoyed an hour at the Dun Cow, but us had to clear out at ten o'clock, 'cause Wilkins was waitin' outside. Howsomever us had a good meetin' (partic'lar at the Dun Cow), an' now summertime is come agin I spec us'll have a few more.

SAM SHANKBONE.

Poppletweazel.

P.S.—Please, Mr. Editor, put this in yer paper, but make it a bit ship-shape.

**NOTICES.**

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

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

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

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

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The 52nd annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 5 p.m. prompt; Vice-president Councillor A. Paddon Smith in the chair. Tickets will be issued to fully paid up ringing members at 2/- each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12), 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Aston Parish Church (12) 3 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Philip's Cathedral (10) 4 to 4.45 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral, 3 to 4.30 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

**ST. CLEMENT, TRURO.**—The bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Truro on Saturday, March 2nd, at 3 p.m. A ring of four rehung and the tenor recast by John Taylor and Co.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Pulham Market on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Rectory. Meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—Albert G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. until black-out. Meeting to be held after. Everybody welcome. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, E.1. (nearest station Stepney Green), on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. Handbells, etc., in the evening.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Weston Underwood on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea will be provided if possible. A good attendance desired.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern District.—There will be a practice at Springfield on Saturday, March 2nd, and at Great Baddow on March 9th at 3 p.m. All ringers are invited.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. A committee meeting will be held on the same day.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Practice at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, Idol Lane, City, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. Ringing at St. Clement Dane's, Strand, London, W.C.1, on Sunday, March 3rd, at 10 a.m.—O. L. Ashbrook, 17, Harvard Road, Isleworth.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery.—Practice meetings will be held at Banwell on March 2nd, from 7 to 8.45 p.m., and Churchill on March 30th, from 6.30 to 9 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Practice Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Steyning on Saturday, March 2nd. Ringing 2 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. at Green's Bakery, 1s. per head.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Earls Colne on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting at the Vicarage 5.30 p.m. It is hoped the members will make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**LEICESTER & DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETIES.**—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel (near Clock Tower) at 6.30 p.m. prompt, on March 9th. Ringing at St. Peter's, Belgrave (8 bells), 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and at St. John's (10 bells) from 4.30 p.m. till 5.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d each, must be obtained on or before March 6th.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—Next meeting March 9th at Brentford (St. Lawrence). Bells available from 2.30. Service at 5, followed by tea at Druce and Smith's. Christ Church, Ealing, bells available in the evening.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, W.13.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch (Newport Pagnell Deanery).—A meeting will be held at Sherington on Saturday, Mar. 9th. Service 3.30 p.m. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

**ST. BOTOLPH'S, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.**—On account of other meetings in London, the Saturday practices are suspended until March 9th.—James E. Davis, Towerkeeper, 118, Sarsfeld Road, Balham, S.W.12.

**BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Sandal, near Wakefield, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., in the Parochial Hall. Business meeting will be held in the tower at 6 p.m. Those requiring teas must notify Mr. W. Robinson, 49, Bowman Street, Agbrigg Road, Wakefield, not later than Wednesday, March 6th. All are welcome. A special meeting will also be held at Barnsley on Saturday, March 30th, for the installation of society's jug and case at social headquarters (Royal Hotel). Full particulars later.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at Great Yarmouth on Saturday, March 9th. Ringing from 3 to 6 p.m. Tea at Hill's Restaurant, King Street, at 6.15 p.m. Business meeting after tea. Owing to the conditions of the present times it is essential that those coming to tea should let me have names or numbers by first post on Thursday, March 7th. All ringers are welcome.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Kendal Parish Church on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (10) available at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Woodhouse hopes to demonstrate his ringing machine at this meeting. Tea will be arranged at 4.30 p.m. only for those who send notice to Mr. L. Townley, 3, Charles Street, Kendal, not later than March 4th. Meeting in the Vestry Room after tea.—N. M. Newby, Sec.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Henlow on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. Lewis Bywaters, 12, New Town, Henlow, Beds, not later than Wednesday, March 6th? Now, just for once, You out of the district LET'S KNOW. We expect You and I mean You.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy, Beds.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Tea at 5 p.m. (a card will be appreciated). On Swindon Corporation bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 9th, at Redbourn. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. usual arrangements, but tea can only be arranged for those who let me know by the previous Tuesday.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—Annual meeting will be held at Warnham, Saturday, March 9th. Tower open at 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea by Wednesday prior to meeting to Mr. W. Charman, Church Street, Warnham. Please help by sending a card.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A meeting will be held at Balcombe on Saturday, March 9th. The eight bells will be available at 2.30 p.m. Tea cards should be sent as promptly as possible to Mr. A. Laker, 4, Barnfield Cotts, Balcombe, Haywards Heath. We extend a cordial invitation to all ringers in Sussex and elsewhere.—C. A. Bassett, Assist. Sec.

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**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Dorset Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hazelbury Bryan, Stourminster Newton, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. Welcome to visitors.—Wm. Uphill, Hon. Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at Battle Axes Hotel. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by March 6th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Belper, on March 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Nottingham and Peak districts specially invited. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wotton Underwood on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn St., Winslow, Bucks.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.30. If possible, tea will be provided. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—A practice will be held at St. Mary-le-Bow on Saturday, March 9th, at 3 p.m. The next meeting will be held on March 12th at headquarters at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**DONCASTER PARISH CHURCH.**—The ring of eight bells, which has been recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated on March 10th at 3 p.m. by Archdeacon T. Sandford.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, March 16th, at 3.15 p.m. in the Chapter House, Christ Church.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

**DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tower blacked out. It is hoped to arrange a tea for those who send their names to F. A. Staveley, 151, Wentworth Road, Doncaster, not later than Wednesday, March 13th.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Croydon on Saturday, March 16th. Bells of St. John's available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at the Parish Hall, Silverdale Road, Croydon, 5.45. Meeting 6.30. Further ringing after the meeting. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. D. Cooper, 5, Harrisons Rise, Croydon, by Wednesday, March 13th.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—Meeting at Witley, on Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. It is essential that all requiring tea notify Mr. F. C. Hagley, 2, Wheeler Street, Witley, not later than Thursday, March 14th. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The 60th annual general meeting will be held (D.V.) at Maidstone, on Easter Monday, March 25th. Association service in church at 12 noon. Ringing at All Saints' before the service and after meeting until 6 p.m. If possible, a luncheon will be arranged. Particulars next week.—Fred M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, March 25th. Full details later. It is essential that all those requiring tea should notify me before Tuesday, March 19th.—Joseph D. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Easter Monday. Details will be advertised later, but in the meantime would those who require a cold lunch (price 2s.) please let Mr. J. Hunt or me know during the next ten days or so? The restaurants in Taunton, I am informed, are closed on that day.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A dark fawn raincoat was left behind at the annual meeting at Hunslet. Will owner please apply to Canon Marshall, St. Chad's Vicarage, Leeds, 6.

#### DEATH.

**CAVE.**—On February 21st, Kate, the dearly loved wife of William A. Cave, of Bristol, and mother of Percival and Dorothy.

#### PRESENTATION AT TOWCESTER.

On Sunday, February 18th, for evensong at Towcester Parish Church, a quarter-peat of Bob Doubles (1,260 changes) was rung by A. Johnson (conductor) 1, W. Sharp 2, A. Findull 3, L. Greenhow 4, V. Burt 5, W. Gardner 6.

This was rung to mark the marriages of the ringer of the fifth and of the conductor's son, which took place the previous day. On behalf of clergy and ringers, the tower captain, Mr. W. Sharp, presented to Mr. V. Burt a tangible proof of their esteem and offered their best wishes.

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