

No. 1,528. Vol. XXXV.

FRIDAY, JULY 5th, 1940.

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## THE SILENCE.

We publish this week the terms of the Order, under which the ringing of church bells is banned by the Minister of Home Security, except under the instructions of a competent military or police authority. They will be read with interest, and to some extent with wonder as to the extent to which the Order will serve the purpose for which it has been created. That the restriction has been imposed in the interests of national security no one will question, but many people are beginning to ask themselves why, if one bell is to be rung to notify the presence of a raiding enemy, the full peal cannot be used to call folk to church on Sunday. No one quarrels with the decision of the authorities, but it would be interesting to know the reason for this. It may be that the difference between ringing the single bell and ringing a peal of bells was not fully realised when the decision was taken. Obviously no one with a practical knowledge of bells was consulted before the plans were settled, and it would seem that when the hon. secretary of the Central Council got into touch with the Ministry of Home Security the matter had gone too far for modification. We have received numerous letters asking if it is not possible for something to be done to get the Order revised, but, much as we may dislike it and whatever our views as to its real usefulness, we do not think the time is opportune to make representations on the subject. The moment is too serious, the demands upon the department too great to waste energies upon a matter of this sort. The Order was drafted with the best intentions, and it must stand, with all the disappointment it brings to ringers, until the time arrives that the safety of our country and our freedom is assured. When that time comes, even though the war may not be entirely ended, we can return to the bells, and they will be rung with all the greater pride and joy.

In the meantime there is a duty imposed upon ringers to see that the upkeep of the bells is not neglected. It is impossible at this juncture, of course, to say how long church bells will remain in this enforced silence, but all the while they have to continue unringed there will be a tendency, we are afraid, to neglect them. Everyone knows how quickly neglected machinery can become dilapidated machinery, and so it is with bells. All too frequently ringers find that indifference leads to neglect of the valuable instruments placed in their charge; and if this can happen in normal times, how much more likely is it to occur in a period when ringers are debarred from using the bells? It is essential, therefore, that full care should be taken of them in their inactivity; indeed, it is the duty of the responsible ringer in each tower to see

(Continued on page 314.)

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that periodical attention is given to all the details laid down for the preservation of the bells and their fittings, if they are to be ready for use when the proper time arrives. Because the bells are not rung, it does not mean that the frame does not need attention, or that the bearings should not be kept lubricated. With all machinery which it is desired to preserve, 'maintenance' work goes on whether it is in use or idle, and bells must be treated for this purpose as pieces of machinery. Valuable advice upon what should be done to maintain bells in effective repair is contained in an article immediately following, supplied, for the benefit of our readers, by the head of the Whitechapel Foundry. If these instructions are faithfully carried out there will be no fear of the state of the bells deteriorating during their compulsory idleness, an idleness which, the more one contemplates it, the less useful it appears. Despite the idleness of the bells, however, there should be no idleness on the part of the steeplekeeper in safeguarding the future of the bells.

## THE CARE OF CHURCH BELLS.

WHAT TO DO DURING THE BAN.

By A. A. HUGHES.

It is just as important that church bells should now receive the same regular attention that they ought to have had when in full use.

In a very large number of towers one sees printed cards of instruction hanging in the ringing chamber, and these instructions ought practically all to be carried out regularly, even though the bells are not in use. The most important items are:—

**Frames.**—The regular testing of all bolts in the fittings, framework and supporting beams, and this is of particular importance in cases where the bell frame, beams and headstocks are of timber.

**Gun-metal bearings.**—See that they are well charged with a suitable lubricant, such as a mixture of tallow and castor oil.

**Ball bearings.**—These will run for a number of years before re-charging becomes necessary, but in cases of doubt, err on the right side and see that they are filled, **BUT ONLY WITH A BALL-BEARING GREASE.**

**Ball-bearing pulleys.**—See that the grease caps are charged and that sufficient is forced into the ball races in order to obviate any risk of rust.

**Plain-bearing pulleys.**—See that the spindles are well greased.

**Clapper joints.**—Where greasers are fitted, see that they are charged and screwed up. In the case of the old 'bawdrick' type, see that the leather liners are thickly greased. It will be necessary to remove the clappers for this purpose, but **ALWAYS** replace spring washers, cotter pins or wire fastenings if you do not wish to run the risk of a clapper falling out.

**All ironwork.**—Do not wait until it is corroded with rust before having it painted. Steel and wrought iron require much more frequent painting than cast iron.

**Tightening headstock bolts.**—It ought by now to be well known that these bolts or straps should be screwed up methodically. All should be tightened evenly, i.e., each nut should be given half a turn at a time until all are tight. Where lock nuts are fitted, the lock nut must be loosened before the lower one is tightened. The lock nuts should then be screwed down tight, the under nuts being held with another spanner to ensure a perfect lock.

**Clapper-staple centre bolts** are frequently fitted with a castle nut and cotter pin. The cotter pin must first be removed, and replaced after the tightening.

**Belfry.**—Have the floor cleaned up periodically, especially between the bottom timbers and the walls.

**Additional attention advisable at all times.**—Give your belfry a 'spring clean' once a year, i.e., clean down the framework and fittings, and do not allow grease from the bearings to accumulate on the soundbow of the bells. An annual 'wire-brush up' will prevent bells from corroding.

There are some towers which get all the above attentions, and I am afraid that, if they were faithfully applied to all towers, bell hangers would wonder what had become of repair work.

## CALL CHANGES.

### THEY SERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE.

In themselves call changes are not very desirable things. To the change ringer they are monotonous and boring to the last degree, both to ring and to listen to, and he will not easily consent to practise them save from a sense of duty and for the sake of other people.

It would, however, be a mistake to deny that they have their uses. It is incorrect to say that the outside public notices any particular difference between change ringing and call changes, provided the quality of the striking is equal. And it is absurd to say that call change ringing produces bad striking. It may be accompanied, and often is, by bad striking, but so is change ringing. The late Mr. Law James' opinions were almost always interesting, but he said many things which will not bear any serious proof, and those that knew him best would not perhaps put judgment in the matter of striking as his strongest feature.

From the point of view of the outside listener and judging bells as instruments used in the service of the Church, we may say definitely that good call changes are better than bad or indifferent change ringing. Few even of those who most dislike ringing the stuff will deny that. Which is better for their immediate purposes—the record of Bow Bells which the B.B.C. used until recently or the change ringing that some bands served up on the wireless?

If the object of ringing was solely to sound the bells for the outside public, it is safe to say that in the majority of towers call changes would be preferable to method ringing. To us of the Exercise ringing has other reasons and inducements, and those reasons and inducements are better met by indifferently struck change ringing than by first-class 'stoney.' But indifferently struck change ringing falls a long way short of satisfying the competent ringer. He wants good striking and, if he is wise, he will realise that he can use stoney in his endeavour to set a higher standard of striking for his method ringing.

### THE CAUSES OF BAD STRIKING.

For what are the causes of bad striking? They are many and as a rule they are easily definable.

First of all, of course, there is the fact that in the case of beginners, and especially of a band of beginners, skill and efficiency are only won by degrees through practice and after failure. How long a band must go on being more or less of a nuisance to the outside public before they can ring so that people like to hear them instead of uttering curses not loud but deep, depends on the band, on the instructor, and perhaps on the tolerance of the public. There must be such a period when all the band are learners, but it can be shortened to a minimum if the instructor and the learners go the right way to work.

The ideal band of ringers is not a collection of individuals, but a unit, and really good striking is only produced when all the band, hands and ears and minds are working as one in perfect unison. It is the whole that matters, not the individual. Twelve first-class ringers who can ring Stedman Cinques gathered together from here and there will not make as good a band as twelve average Stedman Cinques ringers who are accustomed to ring as a band Sunday by Sunday. You can pick eight good oarsmen and put them into a boat, but they will not win the race unless the individuals are trained into a crew. There was a famous and popular woman novelist of a past generation who gave in one of her books a most thrilling description of a university boat race. Her hero rowed for (if we remember rightly) Oxford, and Oxford won. The crew put up a magnificent fight. All rowed fast, but none so fast as the hero did! You can imagine what a shout of delight went up when this passage was read for the first time.

There have been some ringers, and we fear there still are, who think they can stand out as the leading man in the band in the same way that this hero did.

### TRAINING THE INDIVIDUAL.

Now, before you can make eight good ringers into a first-class band you must have the individuals to work on, and the whole won't be first class unless the individuals are properly trained. Before the beginner is trained as the member of a whole he must be trained as an individual. Before his ears and hands and mind can work in unison with the ears and hands and minds of the other ringers they must be in unison with each other. A really competent ringer does not look with his eyes to see which rope to follow and then wait to hear with his ears whether the bell strikes in the right place. All his faculties work together at the same time. He knows when he pulls his rope exactly where his bell is going to strike. If we wanted to indulge in paradoxes we should say that he hears with his eyes as well as his ears, and sees with his ears as well as his hands.

Before a man can reach that stage of proficiency he must be trained or, better still—far better still—he must train himself. And what hinders his progress?

First of all some men have no sense of rhythm or very little, and in all it is present in varying degrees. If you have no sense of rhythm you will never be able to strike well except by accident, but if you have it in only a little degree you can develop it, but you can only do so by taking pains. That is what so few people do. They imagine that ringing a method consists of going through a course, or a touch, or a peal of it without missing a dodge or forgetting to make a place, and they look on good striking as a quality, very desirable no doubt, which will come by itself, somehow, if only you don't bother about it.

Actually, however, good striking is the most important thing in method ringing. To ring the method properly you must put your bell *exactly* in (say) sixth's place, not just somewhere between the bells in fifth's and seventh's. Any average person with opportunities for practice can ring Cambridge Surprise or Stedman Triples, but it takes a first-class trained man to strike Kent Treble Bob as it should and can be struck.

And what hinders a man from being a first-class trained ringer? Chiefly the fact that neither he nor his instructor goes the right way to work. They don't put first things first. They put them second and often enough not anywhere.

The first thing, the first essential, is that the man should be master of his bell. That, you will say, is a platitude or a truism, but is it? There are multitudes of ringers who ring peals and yet have never mastered the art of ringing a bell. They can pull it all right and put it somewhere in its place, but they never get to that stage where they and the bell are one. Put them on to an odd struck bell and you will soon find it out; whereas the man who really is master of a bell rings an odd struck bell just as he would any other bell and puts it dead true in its right place, hardly noticing that the bell is odd struck.

The second hindrance to progress is that beginners try to get on too fast, or are pushed on too fast by their instructors. They attempt to ring rounds before they can handle a bell, and to ring changes before they can ring rounds. When their full attention is taken up with catching the sally, how can they listen to the bell? When they are fully occupied in finding out which rope they should pull after, how can they tell where their bell is striking? And when the time comes that they can find their way fairly well among the ropes they take their striking for granted and usually would be hurt and offended if someone told them it could be vastly improved.

### WHERE CALL CHANGES HELP.

Here is where call changes can be very useful. The beginner, who has learnt to ring rounds properly, has only learnt how to strike his bell over one other bell and at one regular pull. Call change ringing will vary the bells he is striking over, and it will vary the pull he has to make, holding up now and cutting down now; but the alterations he is called upon to make are made at so slow a rate that he has time to see the effect of each as he does it and to know whether he is doing it ill or well. His attention is not taken up by the mental effort required by method ringing, and as each change is rung several times he can judge whether he is putting his bell where he should put it, and alter his pull accordingly, not slide from one bad blow to another bad blow.

Striking, they tell us, is not so good as it used to be. No, it never was. Perhaps some even of the marvellous striking of the old West Country round ringers was really a fable. But it is certain that there was a time when popularity of ringing to the ringer as well as to the outsider depended on good striking, where now it depends for the ringer on method ringing. There was a lot of abuse about the old prize ringing, and no one would wish to see it back again even if it were possible, but in one thing at least those old ringers did put first things first.

A letter on East Anglian ringing will be found on page 318.

### YOUNG RINGER'S REMARKABLE ESCAPE.

#### FLIGHT THROUGH SWARM OF ENEMY PLANES.

Flight-Sergt. William Henry Jennings, a Wyke Regis ringer and son of Mr. C. H. Jennings, hon. secretary of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, is safely back in this country after an exciting adventure in France. He was serving in an R.A.F. squadron in the Rheims sector, and there was no news of him from the time the big German push started. They came under a rain of bombs and machine-gun fire and when life became very unhealthy at their aerodrome they went back to another station.

At one time Flight-Sergt. Jennings and other men in his squadron were billeted in a farmhouse, the occupants of which were advised to leave. These people gathered up their personal belongings and were put into the biggest farm waggon. Five minutes after they had left the farmhouse it was reduced to a smouldering heap of ruins.

In a letter home Flight-Sergt. Jennings wrote: 'I haven't got out of my breeks for three days and three nights. We had been bombed out of two 'dromes. When the farm people I was billeted with left we were left in charge of the cows. Unfortunately the house was knocked down, but I managed to save my old kit bag.'

He told pitiful tales of the plight of French refugees, many of whom were victims of Nazi fury. 'I picked up one poor woman who was struck down, to give her a drink, and did what I could for her, but she died in my arms.'

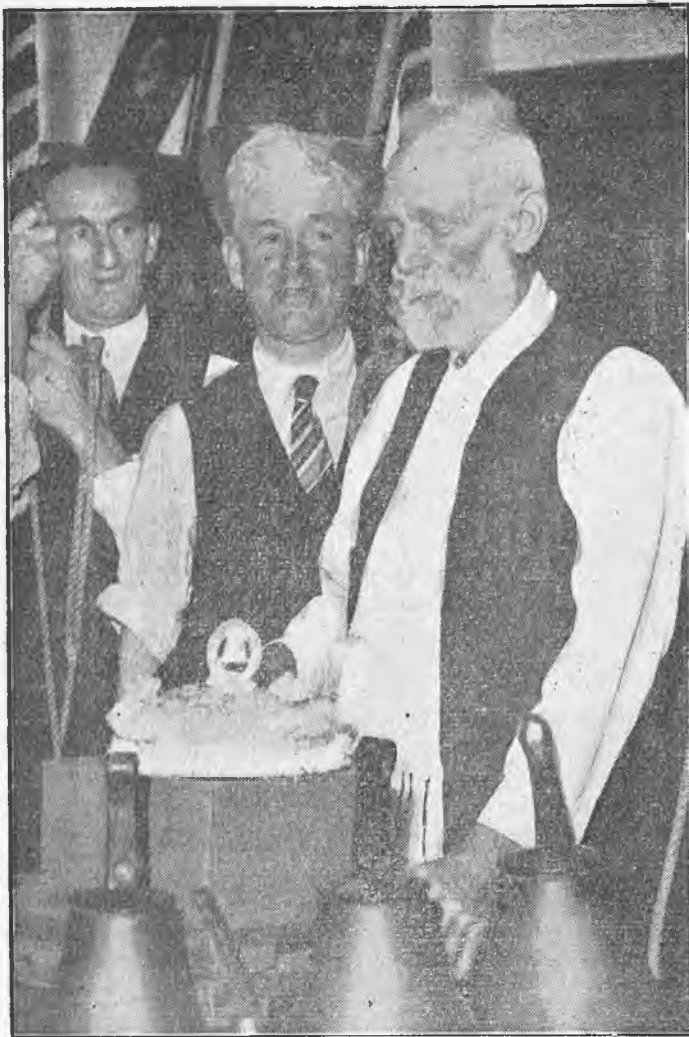
'How we came out of that inferno alive I don't know. It was just sheer good luck that three of us managed to get a British machine and jumped into it in our shirt sleeves. There was a swarm of German machines around us, but we managed to shake them off and flew back to England. None of us had had any sleep for a week. It was almost as bad as in the winter, when we had to sleep under our machines in the snow.'

**HODNET, SHROPSHIRE.**—On Thursday, June 13th, on the occasion of a wedding, 1,200 Doubles (240 Reverse Canterbury, 240 Plain Bob, 720 Grandire): T. Gregory 1, F. Leech 2, W. Lycett 3, E. Gregory 4, E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 5, C. Hayes 6. Longest touch in three methods for all except ringers of 3rd and 5th.

## AN AUSTRALIAN PIONEER.

### MEMORIAL TO JOHN M. GUEST.

Mr. J. M. Guest, to whom a memorial has been placed in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, according to information received by Mr. W. T. Elson, was one of the pioneers of ringing in Australia. He was a native of Stafford, and migrated to Melbourne from New Zealand in 1882. He associated himself with the ringers at St. James' Cathedral, where there was then a peal of six bells. Mr. Guest agitated for the



JOHN MOTTRAM GUEST.

In St. Paul's Cathedral Belfry, Melbourne, on his 88th birthday.

addition of two trebles; the ringers themselves started the subscription list and eventually the new bells were added in 1885.

But a peal has never been rung on these bells, which, as six, were erected in 1853. St. James' Cathedral then stood in Little Collins Street. When the new Cathedral of St. Paul was completed, St. James' was taken down and removed to another site, to serve as a Parish Church. In its re-erection the strength of the tower suffered and it has never since been possible, for fear of accident, to ring the bells. When the English visitors were there in 1934 they found them 'clocked.'

Even the first arrival of the bells in 1853, while the Cathedral stood on its original site, created a problem. The bells had been cast by Mears (the tenor being 13 cwt. 17 lb.) and shipped to Melbourne, where a local firm was given the order to hang them. But at the point where the bells were to be erected the tower is octagonal in shape, and, from their inexperience, the local contractors found themselves in considerable difficulty.

Then one day there appeared upon the scene Charles Craing, a ringer from England. But for his help probably the bells would never have been hung for ringing at all, and there is no knowing when or how the job would have been finished. Even with Craing's help, it was only a crude job. In the end a three-decker frame was built, nearly all of wood, but with the fifth in an iron frame, and in places the tower had to be cut away to allow the bells to swing.

It was at this tower that John Mottram Guest first became acquainted with the ringers of Melbourne, few in numbers, but keen, although they knew very little about change ringing. Guest's advent gave a great stimulus to their activities; he became their leader and inspired the addition to the bells.

At his own house he taught them change ringing on handbells, called their first touches, including the first of over a thousand changes in September, 1883, and their first date touch in 1884.

With the coming of the new Cathedral of St. Paul, a ring of twelve bells, and an additional semi-tone to make a light eight, was opened on November 15th, 1889, and Mr. Guest was made leader of the ringers, an office he held for something over forty years, and relinquished only three years before his death, which took place in 1933 at the advanced age of 89.

Mr. Guest's efforts kept the band at St. Paul's together despite the great difficulties that attend the task in the distant places of the world. He kept the company going with the few men on the spot and the occasional arrivals from England. Guest did not visit Sydney with the band that rang the first peal in Australia in 1890, neither did he take part in the visit to Hobart, Tasmania, in the same year (December 29th and 31st), when two peals of Grandsire Triples were rung.

But while the other members of the Victorian Society were away on this excursion, Guest got a band together in Melbourne and called Holt's Ten-Part on the front eight at St. Paul's Cathedral. This was on January 1st, 1891. It proves, at any rate, that at that time Melbourne was well off for ringers and not entirely devoid of conductors, for four peals were rung by the Victorian Society within twelve months and they were called by four different men.

The only other peal in which Guest took part, of which we can find a record, was one of Grandsire Triples in 1925, when, at the age of 81, he rang the sixth of the back eight at the Cathedral.

John Mottram Guest died in 1933 after a ringing career which extended over nearly 70 years.

When the English ringers were in Melbourne and made their three attempts for a peal at St. Paul's, one attempt came to grief partly because some outsiders found their way up into the ringing chamber. Mr. William Fussell said afterwards, 'I'll bet old John Guest had some way of preventing this sort of thing when they went for peals in his day.' So he searched in the black cavity behind the door at the bottom of the spiral stone stairway that leads to the ringing chamber. And, sure enough, in the darkest corner he found a rusty iron bar that exactly fitted between the door and the face of one of the steps and effectually secured the entrance, to which there were duplicate keys. It was one of the things that helped to ensure the success which attended the efforts of the band who, on Armistice Day, 1934, rang the first twelve-bell peal outside the British Isles.

### PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—To all members and friends of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild I would like you to give this message.

Owing to the Home Office Order, I am sorry I have decided to cancel the proposed and arranged meeting, which was to have been held at Easton Maudit on July 13th.

If it is possible I shall try to arrange a meeting at a convenient centre, where we could get together for a while, and maybe use handbells in place of tower bells.

We have enjoyed some happy gatherings together and we must not lose touch with one another through the stoppage of service ringing, etc. Please write to me if you have any ideas, and don't forget the Guild still exists and needs your continued interest until we can unite to offer our thanks and praise once again.

30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough. A. BIGLEY, Branch Sec.

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**THE LATE MR. M. A. NOBLE.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your article in last Friday's issue of 'The Ringing World' awakened many memories of M. A. Noble's first visit to England, and the following may be of interest. Mr. Noble had not been in England long when a letter appeared in 'Bell News' under the signature of W. Shanton, of Melbourne, stating that Noble was a ringer and suggesting that some ringing might be arranged for him. I immediately wrote to him at the County Ground, Bristol, and gave a programme available for any Sunday preceding a London cricket engagement; it was to meet him at his hotel, visit St. Paul's in the afternoon, visit my place for tea, and go to Fulham in the evening.

We met, and at St. Paul's the secretary said, 'I have written to you at the Oval.' Noble said, 'I shall not get that until to-morrow. I am sorry I cannot make any arrangements.'

While at St. Paul's he saw Great Paul and the library, the view of the nave, etc., from the cross gallery, and also the 12 bells in motion and the ringing—but, as a six-bell ringer, he did not take part, and he did not at any time meet the College Youths officially.

We went on to Fulham in the evening for a quarter of Major. The fifth rope broke, so that was that! I do not think he did any ringing in London beyond that, nor in any of his subsequent visits.

I managed much the same programme for Ernest Behan when he first came over, and I called his first peal (Grandsire Caters). By the way, I had a letter from him this week. He has been many months in hospital with a smashed ankle and is (or was on April 27th) just getting about on crutches. He wished to be very kindly remembered to the tourists, whom he held in high regard. He tells me a tablet has been put up in Melbourne Cathedral in memory of J. M. Guest.

WILLIAM T. ELSON.

59, Purser's Cross Road, S.W.6.

**IN NOTTINGHAM.**

Dear Sir,—When M. A. Noble was over in England (I think in 1903-04), after a match at Trent Bridge he came up to St. Peter's belfry, Nottingham, and rang some Bob Minor with us, and very well, too. Afterwards we adjourned to his hotel, where we had some hand-bell ringing, etc. (don't forget the etc.). I forget if H. R. Cobbin was present or not, but if not then I am the only survivor of the ringers present that evening.

W. E. WHITE.

Cotgrave.

**DAVENTRY RINGERS' WEDDING.**

A wedding of considerable interest to the Daventry Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild took place on June 29th at Willoughby Parish Church, Warwickshire, between Mr. George Hancock and Miss Nancy Hall. Mr. Hancock is one of the best known and most popular members of the branch, to which Miss Hall, as a ringer, is a comparative newcomer. Both are ringers and members of the choir at their Parish Church.

The service, which was fully choral, was taken by the Rev. E. D. Rennison, Vicar of Willoughby. The bride was attended by three bridesmaids, and Mr. Fred Hancock acted as best man. A reception was held at the Village Hall, at which many relations and friends were present. A telegram of good wishes was received from the South Midland Branch of the Ladies' Guild, of which the bride is a member, and among the many presents was one from the Daventry Branch, consisting of cutlery and a case of fruit spoons and forks. Needless to say, it was a great disappointment to all concerned that the church bells could not be rung for the occasion, but a six-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung on handbells at the reception by Mr. Fred Hancock 1-2, Rev. E. S. Powell 3-4, Mrs. E. S. Powell 5-6.

Mr. and Mrs. Hancock will continue to live in Willoughby, and the hearty good wishes of all their friends go with them into the future.

**DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR E. MORGAN.****EX-MASTER OF THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Arthur E. Morgan, of Newport, Monmouthshire, which occurred on June 25th after a long illness. At the funeral, which took place on Saturday last at Newport Cemetery, the Rev. C. G. R. Lewis, the treasurer of the association, officiated, and the hon. secretary, Mr. J. W. Jones, was also present.

Mr. Morgan, who learnt to handle a bell at All Saints', Newport, rang his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on November 1st, 1905, and his first peal of Grandsire Triples on November 22nd, 1906. Stedman Triples was his favourite method, of which he made a great study. He was a very good conductor and was more than usually clever in correcting mistakes at the earliest possible moment.

He conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples on All Saints' bells, which was the first peal for all excepting the ringer of the treble, J. W. Jones, and the ringer of the 6th, C. R. Lilley. He rang altogether about 25 peals, including each of the four standard methods. For several years he was most regular, ringing for the morning and evening services. He was Master of the association in 1909.

**John Taylor & Co.****LOUGHBOROUGH.**

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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of reign of  
Elizabeth).

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Rupert Richardson asks us to add Glyn Garth to the list of places where ringers serving in the Forces will be welcome at any time.

Two Aldershot ringers, Messrs. Jack Bragg and Tom Denyer, are safely back in England after evacuation from France.

The Rev. Ivor J. Richards has returned safely to this country after his experiences with the troops in France. He will be remembered as a keen ringer and Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association in 1937.

The many friends made some years ago in different parts of the country by the late Mr. Arthur E. Morgan, of All Saints', Newport, will regret to hear of his passing away.

The first peal of Grandsire Cinques ever rung on handbells was accomplished on July 2nd, 1886, at Birmingham, by the now defunct Birmingham Amalgamated Society. John Carter conducted from 3-4 and Mr. Tom Miller rang 5-6.

The Cumberlands rang the first peal (one of Grandsire Caters) at All Saints', Poplar, on July 3rd, 1823.

To-day is the sixteenth anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Cinques at Exeter Cathedral. It was rung by the St. Martin's, Birmingham, band, Mr. Albert Walker conducted and there were two to the tenor.

The Norwich Scholars rang the first peal of Double Oxford Bob Major (6,000 changes) at St. Giles', Norwich, on July 6th, 1832.

One hundred and eighty-nine years ago next Sunday John Holt called his Original for the first time.

## MR. JAMES GEORGE.

### SERIOUS SUDDEN ILLNESS.

We regret to say that Mr. James George is seriously ill at 49, Anson Road, Wolverton, Bucks. He left Birmingham to visit old friends at Wolverton on June 19th, but three hours after his arrival he had a sudden seizure and he has lost the use of his left leg. He has, of course, been confined to bed ever since and is suffering much pain. Happily he is in the care of capable hands and his hosts of friends throughout the country, while sympathising with him deeply in his illness, will hope to hear of a speedy improvement in his condition. Mr. George is 86 years of age.

## RAMPTON BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—July 1st marked the date two years ago when we launched our appeal for £471 for our five bells. We have paid off £361 and have £6 12s. balance for our fifth bell, which will now have to be our peace effort.

May I remind all ringers of our 2,000 bell books then sent out and ask the prayers and sympathy of all ringers as we battle on to pay off the remaining £110 at present owing.

The hostilities, together with the refusal to allow the recasting of one bell, increased our expenses by well over £100 and were together the direct cause of our being unable to complete the peal by September last. Any donations may be sent to me direct.

Rampton Rectory, Cambridge.

THOMAS L. HAVERS.

## EAST ANGLIAN RINGING.

### WHAT CALL CHANGES HAVE DONE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Since when, may I ask, has the use of call changes been condemned in the greater part of the country, and since when has the ringing in East Anglia been inferior to anywhere else, because of the use of call changes?

The Rev. Herbert Drake is obviously after starting another of his nonsensical arguments, as he did about rows and changes some time ago.

Unfortunately, what he has to say is not borne out by facts. He would be very wide of the mark to say East Anglian ringing is below standard, either in quality or in striking; in fact, if the results which have been achieved in East Anglia are the results of starting on call changes, then Mr. Drake has got his argument the wrong way round.

As far as striking is concerned, I always remember the Helmingham ringers visiting our tower on one of their outings when a wedding was in progress, with the organ playing. The organ blower is in the ringing chamber and it is almost impossible to hear the bells when the organ is going. The course of London which the Helmingham men were ringing as bride and groom left the church was, to say the least, awful, but in the middle of it the organist finished and the difference in the striking was astounding. In a couple of changes it changed from poor to almost perfect, and it was obvious those East Anglian ringers knew the meaning of good striking.

As far as the musical effect of call changes is concerned, I think anyone would sooner hear good call changes, however monotonous they may be, rather than hear Stedman rung with Mr. Drake or anyone else a couple of sixes behind with their work.

I do not profess to be an expert instructor, but I know that in ringing you have to walk before you can run, and, judging by the results achieved in East Anglia, call changes is as good a way as any of achieving that.

J. E. BAILEY.

P.S.—Can someone enlighten me as to the real reason why East Anglian ringers do not like odd bell ringing?

## THE CHURCH BELLS BAN.

### TERMS OF THE ORDER.

The Order (No. 1042 of 1940), under which Sir John Anderson, Minister of Home Security, has prohibited the use of bells except for specific purposes, was published last week. It will be seen from the provisions printed below that it bans even the tolling of a bell for a funeral—a practice that has never before been interrupted in this country since bells were introduced a thousand years ago.

It will be observed, also, that the signal, whatever its purpose so far as the public are concerned, is only to be made in accordance with directions given by a commissioned officer of His Majesty's Forces or the chief officer of police for the area, to indicate that members of an enemy force are landing or attempting to land or have landed from the air.

What the public are to do or not to do when they hear the signal we still do not know. If it is to be of any use, the public should at once be informed, but it looks as if waiting for the instructions of a commissioned officer or the chief officer of police will, in any case, add to the delay which has already been pointed out as likely to occur.

We who are interested in bells want to see this alarm signal made effective, and if it is to be so, some further information is a matter of urgency.

The following are the terms of the Order:—

1. No person shall, in any area in Great Britain, sound any church bell or cause or permit any church bell to be sounded, except for the purpose of making a signal, in accordance with directions given by a commissioned officer of His Majesty's forces or the chief officer of police for the area, to indicate that members of an enemy force are landing or attempting to land or have landed from the air.

2. In this Order the expression 'church bell' includes the bell of any church, chapel or other place of public worship ordinarily used or intended for summoning persons to public worship or for any like purpose and any bell ordinarily used or intended for tolling at a cemetery.

3. This Order may be cited as the Control of Noise (Defence) Order, 1940.

## DEATH OF MR. THOMAS WEEKS.

### CAPTAIN OF SOUTHBROOM TOWER.

The death of Mr. Thomas Weeks, of Devizes, took place on Monday of last week, after only a few days' serious illness, although he had been in failing health for the last three months, and unable to ring at St. James' Church, Southbroom, for several Sundays (before the restrictions were placed on bellringing). He had been a ringer at St. James' for nearly 40 years, and was elected captain on the death of his father-in-law, Mr. H. Brownlee West, in 1932. He leaves a widow, who is an honorary member of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild, and two sons and a daughter. Both sons are ringers in the tower, the elder (Mr. A. T. Weeks) being also vice-chairman of the Devizes Branch of the Guild.

The late Mr. T. Weeks had only rung in a few peals, in his own tower, but was most conscientious in all he undertook, and had taught many young men to ring.

The funeral at Southbroom last Friday was attended by several of the Devizes ringers and others representing the Devizes Branch. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. Sidney Hillier.

## LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

### COMMITTEE MEET AT ARMLEY.

In place of the usual monthly meeting, the committee of the Leeds and District Society met at Armley last Saturday.

Handbells were brought into use while the members arrived from their various districts.

After the secretary had expressed his views with regard to war-time meetings, a general discussion took place on the policy of holding monthly meetings, and also what to introduce in place of tower-bell ringing.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Drighlington on Saturday, July 27th, at 6 p.m., to which all towers were asked to send a member to hear and debate the committee's recommendations.

It is hoped that a visit to Tong Hall will be included in the evening's proceedings. The village of Tong is reached by a short walk across fields from Drighlington and will be remembered by some as the home of the late Mr. George Bolland.

## HENRY DAINS AND M. A. NOBLE.

### MR. EDWIN BARNETT'S RECOLLECTIONS AND EXPERIENCES.

#### To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in three things in this week's 'Ringing World.' The late Mr. Henry Dains, the late M. A. Noble and the striking of church clocks.

The article on the late Henry Dains revived memories of, if not his last peal, his last but one. He rang, I believe, a peal of London at Edmonton about this time, but whether before or after I am unable to remember.

At any rate, it was at Southwark on September 7th, and I believe the year was 1912, that we met for a Cumberland peal of Stedman Cinques. Henry Dains was not in the band, but came along to hear the start. The late John W. Barker, of Bedford, did not show up, so after waiting Mr. Dains was roped in. He was very tottery and I remember my father and I speculating on his ability to 'stick it.' However, he did and rang well. He remarked afterwards that he always had an ambition to ring a peal there to complete the twelve-bell towers in London except St. Paul's. This peal was the late Mr. J. D. Matthews' first peal of Cinques as conductor.

One result of his research at the British Museum mentioned in your article and perhaps not generally known was the alteration in the title of the Cumberlands some perhaps 60 years ago. Until then they were the 'Society of Cumberland Youths,' but from some discovery he made there they were afterwards known as the Society of 'Royal' Cumberland Youths. This was told me by the late Mr. Edwin Gibbs, a most interesting man with a wonderful memory, for many years a ringer at St. Paul's, whom I used to visit on Sundays when he was bedridden in a nursing home here. In his early days he was a 'Cumberland' and he took part in the first peal in which the society used their new title.

With regard to Mr. M. A. Noble, we gain some knowledge of his ringing activities from a letter from the secretary of St. Mark's, Darling Point, ringers, which appeared in the 'Bell News' for February 21st, 1891, which gives an account of their doings for the previous nine months.

The writer, Mr. A. B. Joyner, commences by saying that in March, 1890, he taught M. A. Noble and J. Waterman to handle a bell, with the result that by August, 1891, they 'were able to ring Doubles well, even going so far as to ring six-scores of Grandire Doubles.' He goes on to say, 'On October 2nd we rang five six-scores of Grandire Doubles and for the first time two plain courses of Grandire Minor.' He gives the names of those taking part, M. A. Noble ringing the third. He then states 'they had an addition to their band in the person of Mr. W. Clements, from Devonshire, England, who had previously rung Grandire Triples.' Apparently their ambition was to ring a 720 of Grandire Minor, and the question arose who should conduct it, so he says, 'A. Macartney was chosen for the purpose and he succeeded by assiduous study in proving his ability to do the work.' They made two unsuccessful attempts on December 10th, again on Christmas Day, and again on Boxing morning. They were, however, determined to start the new year well, as they rang it after the midnight service, starting at 12.25 a.m. and finishing at 12.54 a.m. The band was J. Waterman 1, T. Joiner 2, M. A. Noble 3, A. B. Joyner 4, A. Macartney (conductor) 5, W. Clements 6. This band must have made good progress to be ringing Treble Bob at the time of Mr. Cullum's visit three years afterwards. No doubt he was of great assistance, as at that time Mr. Cullum was almost as prominent in the Exercise as a conductor as his son is to-day.

The point 'Sexton' raises regarding the striking of public clocks has been a prominent one in my mind since the outbreak of war. During the last one positions were reversed, public clocks were not allowed to strike, but you could ring to your heart's content (in daylight).

When the order came that ringing must cease I stopped our church clock from striking. That the striking of a public clock would be of assistance to anyone I personally proved two years ago.

I was spending a holiday in Hampshire, 10 miles from Portsmouth. The last two not being on a bus route, one had to walk. I have the greatest difficulty in seeing my way in the dark, and, thinking it would be moonlight for my walk home, I attended Portsea practice, but there was no moon as I expected. It was a straight road to my destination, but I got off it. After wandering about for nearly two hours trying to find it and wondering what on earth I should do, as there was no one about to help me, the village church clock struck midnight and from this I was able to get my bearings.

E. BARNETT.

## HANDBELL RINGING FOR CHURCH SERVICES.

#### To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The All Saints', Isleworth, band of ringers, which consists mainly of many young members (boys and girls), has resolved to keep itself together at all costs during this war period.

Since the enforced silence of the church bells, we have adopted the plan of ringing handbells, in the west end of the church, before the Sunday morning and evening services.

The church authorities are in full agreement, and the effort is greatly appreciated both by them and the congregation.

We are holding a regular handbell practice in the tower on Fridays at 7.30 p.m., to which visiting ringers will be welcome.

I have quoted the above, as it might be an idea which could be adopted by many other local bands.

O. L. A.

## RINGING IN BIRMINGHAM. IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In supporting the visit of the College Youths to Birmingham in the year 1786, William Jones had another motive besides an attempt to reunite the two companies. The 'Clavis,' on which he and John Reeves had been working for several years, was now nearly ready, and he was anxious to get as much support for it as possible. He could not hope to obtain methods and compositions from Birmingham, as he had done the year before from Norwich, but he could look for subscribers, and there he was successful. Several Birmingham men subscribed to the book, including John Cox, Thomas Hadley, Thomas Midlam, and Phineas Smith. There were also a Mr. Francis, a Mr. Parsons and a Mr. Slater, the last-named probably being the conductor at Walsall. Samuel Brook took as many as six copies, and James Dovey, Samuel Lawrence and James Nock, who by this time was living at Shrewsbury, were also among the subscribers. The book received a good deal of support from other towns in the Midlands, notably Shrewsbury and Wenlock.

A further result of the College Youths' visit was that Samuel Lawrence went to London for a while and lived at Chelsea. We can hardly doubt that his reason for so doing was to obtain greater opportunities for practising change ringing. He had heard the College Youths at St. Martin's, and he could see how much more skilful they were than the local band. His ambition was to be one of them, and he was successful in his ambition. Before he went up to London, he stood in four more peals with the St. Martin's Youths. On November 26th he rang the tenor and called 6,218 changes of Bob Major at Deritend, the next day 6,570 changes of Grandsire Caters were rung at St. Martin's, and a week after that 8,027 changes. Charles Shuter called both peals of Caters from the ninth, Lawrence rang the seventh, and the younger St. Martin's men made up the band. Two men were needed at the tenor in the six-thousand and three in the eight-thousand, which seems to show that Samuel Muggeridge had some justification for saying he could not complete the peal of Maximus single-handed.

Just before the close of the year the same men went to Warwick and rang the first peal on the ten bells there. The method was Grandsire Caters, and the bobs were called by John Mackenzie.

During the next six years no peals are known to have been rung at St. Martin's, but in 1787 Shuter rang the tenor and called two peals of Bob Major at St. Philip's, and John Mackenzie called one 6,074 at Aston.

On February 16th, 1789, an excellent performance was accomplished at Aston, where 14,224 changes of Bob Major were rung in 8 hours and 45 minutes. Charles Shuter called the peal from the tenor, and the band was made up of William Martin, William Brooke, John Mackenzie, John Haycock, John Black, William Cotton and William Bennett.

The band no doubt thought they had rung a record length, but actually it had been exceeded twice in previous years, once in 1739, when Philemon Mainwaring turned West Ham tenor in to 15,120 changes, and again, more recently, on January 4th, 1784, at Oldham, where 14,480 changes had been rung, composed and conducted by Thomas Kay. It is likely that the Birmingham men were influenced by the recently published 'Clavis,' and

did not believe that the West Ham peal had been accomplished, and it is possible that they knew nothing about the Oldham performance. There was, however, a tradition that they intended to ring 15,120 changes, but that Shuter found his task at the tenor rather more than he could manage, and so shortened the peal. This he could easily do, for, though it is said to have been his own composition, we may reasonably suppose he was calling an ordinary three-part 5,040, adding three bobs with the tenor in 5th's to each course. He could omit to part the tenors in the last four courses.

The peal is a rather striking confirmation of Jasper Snowden's theory that there is (or at any rate was) a tendency to ring long peals at a quicker rate than short ones. The time taken was 8 hours and 45 minutes, which is 27.09 changes a minute. A little more than a year before, Shuter had rung the tenor to a six-thousand, also of Bob Major, when the rate was 25.01 a minute. The rate was almost the same when other men were at the tenor. Lawrence rang the bell to a six-thousand of Treble Bob at 25.28, Miles to a five-thousand at 25.47, and Midlam to a five thousand of Bob Major at 25.50. When the fifteen thousand mark was passed on the bells, the rate was 26.90.

There had been a local company at Aston apparently from soon after the bells were opened in 1775, and towards the end of the century, under the leadership of Joshua Short, they became an active peal-ringing band. Short, who was born in 1765, was a farmer of Witton, a hamlet two or three miles to the north-east of Aston, and he must have been a very powerful and energetic man. One of the company was John Noonan, a shoemaker, who afterwards found his way up to London, where he joined the Junior Cumberlands Society and became a leading ringer, composer and conductor. Whether he rang any peals before he left Birmingham we do not know, for the records of almost all the performances by the Aston men have perished. We know they scored many of Bob Major, and on July 30th, 1792, one of Grandsire Major, 7,552 changes.

They determined to beat the long length the St. Martin's Youths had rung in their tower. They had rung 10,080 changes in 1788, and, after having a sort of rehearsal by ringing 10,192 in 1792, they started for a fifteen-thousand on October 1st in the following year. When they had rung fifteen thousand changes, Joshua Short, who was calling from the tenor, turned to William Hassall at the seventh, and asked him if he was willing to go on for a twenty-thousand; but Hassall's hands were getting sore, and he thought enough had been done, so the bells were brought round at 15,360 changes.

It was an excellent performance and remained the longest length in any method until 1868, when the College Youths rang 15,840 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major at Bethnal Green; and the longest length of Bob Major until June 3rd, 1933, when the Hertford County Association rang 18,144 changes at Bennington. Aston tenor weighed 21 cwt., Bethnal Green tenor weighs 14 cwt., and Bennington tenor weighs 13 cwt.

Meanwhile, Samuel Lawrence had returned to the Midlands from Chelsea. However great might have been the attraction of London ringing, he had family and financial interests in Shifnal that could not be neglected. During his association with the College Youths he had taken part in the first peal of Stedman Cinques, which was rung at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in 1788, and when



he returned home he introduced the method to his Birmingham friends with the result that on October 25th, 1790, the first peal of Stedman Caters outside London was rung at St. Philip's. Charles Shuter conducted from the treble, and the other ropes were taken by William Martin, Joseph Littlewood, William Bennett, William Cotton, Daniel Viesey, Alexander Saunders, Phineas Smith, Samuel Lawrence and Robert Farmer. The peal is said to have been rung at the first attempt.

What composition Shuter called, we do not know, but probably, though he is said to have composed it himself, it was a variation of one of the two in the 'Clavis,' the number of changes, 5,292, being easily obtained.

This was the beginning of the long association of the St. Martin's Youths with Stedman. The Norwich Scholars had first extended and practised the method, but its popularity among the more skilful bands during the nineteenth century and since was due to the London men in the first instance, and then, and in even greater degree, to the ringers and composers of Birmingham.

The failure of the College Youths in 1786 had left the first peal of Treble Twelve at St. Martin's still to be rung. This was accomplished on April 8th, 1793, when Charles Shuter rang the tenor single handed and called 6,000 changes. The band were all regular members of the St. Martin's company, and they had no help from outside ringers such as James Dovey, Samuel Lawrence and Philip Heath, as was the case with the Plain Bob Maximus, the Stedman Caters, and others of their most notable performances.

It was Shuter's last peal and the last peal in the eighteenth century that the St. Martin's men rang as a company. In the following year some of the younger members, with one or two new men, rang 8,000 changes of Grandsire Major at St. John's, Deritend. Silas Fielding called the bobs, and the second was rung by Benjamin Pugh, who afterwards, during a long life, was one of the most prominent of the Birmingham ringers.

In 1798, John Miles reappeared as a conductor, and called a peal of Oxford Treble Bob at Aston, and in the very last year of the century we get the first notice of a man who afterwards earned a certain amount of fame as ringer, composer and conductor. Joseph Riley was a native of Burton-on-Trent, and an upholsterer by trade. He seems to have been of rather a roving disposition, and at different times lived in several different towns. In 1800, he was at Birmingham, and on March 2nd he called at Aston Holt's Original from the treble. In the following September he went with a band of the St. Martin's Youths to his native town and repeated the performance at the parish church of St. Modwen there.

Joseph Riley was thus the fifth man to call the Original and ring at the same time. William Dixon called it once or twice at Norwich in 1752; Charles Baron called it at Saffron Walden in 1753 and again in 1754; James Bartlett called it at St. Giles-in-the-Fields in 1791 and several times afterwards; and the elder George Gross called it at Watford in 1798. In Mr. Morris' History, John Bowtell is said to have called it at Cambridge in 1797, but that is a mistake. Bowtell never called a peal of any sort.

The great days of the St. Martin's Youths did not really dawn until the nineteenth century, but during the eighteenth they were steadily gaining the leading position in the Exercise they have held for so long and so continuously.

## MY FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES

BY A TOUGH VETERAN.

It was many years ago and things have altered a goodish bit since then. We lived down in the country and my old dad had brought me up to London for my first visit to town. In those days there were no railway trains, and as we couldn't afford an aeroplane, we came up by the waggon which used to deliver a load of straw every Saturday from our village to the Haymarket.

When we got down we went and had sausages and mash for breakfast at a coffee stall, and my father asked the man in charge the way to the Goose and Gridiron. 'Which Goose and Gridiron?' says the man. 'Didn't know there was more than one,' says my dad, 'but the one I mean is on the left-hand side of the street, and they've got a barmaid there with ginger hair what wears a pink blouse.' 'Oh, that one,' says the man, 'that's over Southwark way. A matter of five miles or so from here.' 'Five miles!' says my father. 'That's a goodish step for a young chap like this. I think, Jack,' he says to me, 'we'd better have a taxi.'

So we got a taxi and drove down the Strand and Fleet Street. Things have altered a goodish bit since those days. The houses were all made of wood and hung out over the street, with mappoles and things like that sticking out of them. And the men were going about in sedan chairs and the women in crinolines. It was my first visit to London and you can imagine how excited I was, especially when we passed over London Bridge and saw the great river full of Spanish galleons and triremes with dozens of seaplanes circling above and smart little motor boats darting here and there among larger craft.

The taxi put us down outside a comfortable looking pub on the Surrey side, and when we went into the four-ale bar, we saw a big man sitting in the corner with a pint of beer in front of him and a frown on his face, studying a paper.

My father walked across to him, and 'Morning, Ben,' he said. The man did not look up, but only grunted, so my father said again, 'Morning Ben. Morning, Mr. Annable.' With that the other raised his head and when he saw my dad he got on to his feet. 'Sorry, Tom,' he said. 'I didn't see who it was. I was in a bit of a maze.' 'What's up?' says my father. 'Make the potman switch off that wireless so we can hear ourselves speak,' says Mr. Annable, 'and I'll tell you.—It's like this. I've a peal on here this afternoon and that blasted fool of a Laughton's let me down again. He's been on the oil for a couple of days, and he's as drunk as an owl. So I'm one short. Two, in fact, for old Fabian Stedman's got the gout and he can't ring. Look here,' he says to my father, 'you'll have to stand in, Tom.' 'Don't mind if I do,' says my dad. 'Who have you got?' 'What sort of a band is it?' 'Oh, pretty fair,' says Mr. Annable. 'Middling. Let's see,' and he looked at his paper, 'I've got Bill Shipway, and John Garthorn and Jim Washbrook, and Harry Haley, and Jasper Snowdon, and Harry Johnson from Birmingham, and Albert Walker and Bill Pye and young Turner. Fairish. Might be worse. But I'm still one short.' 'What about Jack Holt?' says my father. 'Holt?' says Mr. Annable scornful like. 'Do you think I'm going to have that worm in my band? Not much! But,' says he, turning to me, 'what about this youngster.'

My father looked a bit dubious. 'Jack,' he says to me, 'do you think you could ring a peal of Stedman Cinques?' Now I had never rung any Stedman Cinques in those days and I was of a modest and unassuming nature. So I began to say that, though I fully appreciated the great honour which had been conferred on me, yet under the circumstances I thought—I got so far when Mr. Annable interrupted me. 'What's he talking about?' he asked my father. 'He says he thinks—' began my dad, when Mr. Annable interrupted again. 'Thinks!' he said. 'Look here, my lad,' and he took me by the shoulders and held me in front of him. 'Look here, my lad! When I was a boy, boys didn't think. They were told what they had to do and they *did* it. See?' 'Yes, sir,' said I, humble and modest like. 'When I tell you to ring Stedman Cinques, you'll ring Stedman Cinques. See?' says he. 'Yes, sir,' says I, still humble and modest. 'When I tell you to dodge in 8-9, you'll *dodge* in 8-9. See?' says he, and 'Yes, sir,' says I. 'And when I tell you to go in quick, you'll go in quick. *And* lively. See?' says he. 'Yes, sir,' says I once again. 'Well,' says he, 'that's that,' and he gently pushed me away. 'And now, Tom,' says he to my father, 'we've got a couple of hours before the others turn up. So we'll have a pint of mulled sack apiece.'

Oh, yes, we got the peal all right, and a very good peal it was.

## THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

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**PROOF.****MORE ABOUT FALSE COURSE ENDS.**

In every Treble Bob or Surprise Major method with the tenors together there are sixty full natural courses, and on the face of things there would seem to be no particular reason why any one of the sixty should be more liable to be false against the plain course than any other. But actually in those methods which are most suitable for practice in the steeple, the falseness against the plain course is almost entirely confined to seven courses.

As we pointed out in our article of June 7th, these seven fall into two groups, and in addition there are two other similar groups which, although not of equal practical value, should be examined with them.

A 32546	B 24365	B 24365
B 24365	F 32465	H 45236
C 53624	G 43265	I 32654
D 46253		J 63542
E 65432	B 24365	K 56423
	Y 54326	
	Z 64352	

These four groups of False Course Ends have several marked characteristics, all of which are very important in settling the question whether or no a true peal is possible in a particular method.

1. One false course end, B, is common to all four groups, and the other false course ends in each group consist of one or two pairs of complementary false course ends. (See article of June 7th.) A and D, C and E, F and G, H and I, J and K, and Y and Z are complementary; if one of them appears in a method, the other automatically appears also.

2. Each of the groups is cyclical. If we start with B and transpose it by 42635, we get A. A transposed by 42635 gives C. Continuing the process, we get E, and then D. In all the five members of the group the bells are in the same coursing order. As F is produced from B, so is G from F, and B from G. Similarly, the two other groups are cyclical.

3. In every one of these false course ends, one bell and only one is in its home position. There are sixteen rows in which this quality can appear, and there are thirteen different false course ends in the four groups. The missing three are L 26543, O 25634 and 23456, each of which is complementary to itself and stands outside any group.

These sixteen false course ends are each in reciprocal relationship to 23456. For instance, as 32546 is to 23456, so is 23456 to 32546, and as a consequence the courses based on them are also in reciprocal relationship. If, for instance, the second lead of the course 24365 contains rows which are also included in the sixth lead of the plain course, then the second row of the plain course will contain rows which are also included in the sixth lead of the course 24365. The reciprocal relationship confines the liability to falseness to the two courses.

4. Each of the four groups is a cyclical group based on 24365. If alongside each we set down a similar cycli-

cal group based on 23456, we find one very important fact.

23456	B 24365
42635	A 32546
64523	C 53624
56342	E 65432
35264	D 46253

Suppose all the five courses ABCDE are false against the plain course. That means that for every full course we use in our peal there are five other courses which we are automatically debarred from using in full. But when we work out the false course ends of the above group we find that all share each other's false course ends. The five that are false against 23456 are the same five that are false against 42635, and each of the other three. So that, instead of considering that we have five courses false against every one we use, we may consider one block of five as false against another block of five.

There are twelve available rows with the 6th at home. Set these down in two columns, in one of which each row bears the same relationship to a row in the other columns, as 32546 does to 23456. Then transpose each of the twelve rows cyclically by 42635, and you will have the sixty course ends grouped into fives, any one group from one column being false against the corresponding group from the other column and against no other course.

A1 23456	A2 32546
42635	53624
64523	65432
56342	46253
35264	24365

B1 42356	B2 24536
C1 34256	C2 43526
D1 54326	D2 45236
E1 35426	E2 53246
F1 52436	F2 25346

When we are composing with full natural courses in a method which has the ABCDE false course ends, we may use all or any of the courses from one group, but not one from the alternative group. We may use B1, but not B2, or B2 but not B1; C1 but not C2, or C2 but not C1.

In a similar way, in methods which have the false course ends BFG we can set the sixty courses down in ten groups of true courses and ten groups of courses false against them.

In both the above instances it is possible to join together by bobs a sufficient number of courses from the true group to make a peal.

In methods which have the false course ends BHIJK, we can just as easily set down the sixty course ends in six true groups and six false groups, but, although we have thirty true courses to work with, they are such that a sufficient number cannot be joined together by bobs, and these methods are generally valueless.

We have never come across a method with BYZ false course ends, and in any case, although there are thirty true courses, it seems doubtful if a peal in full natural courses would be possible.

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**NOTICES.**

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6. NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

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

**LADIES' GUILD.**—The annual general meeting has been abandoned. Members are reminded that subscriptions became due on July 1st, and to save postage, members are asked to forward their subscriptions to the district secretaries without waiting to be written to.—Edith K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—It has been decided to hold a general committee meeting at Leicester on July 6th. Will all members of various district committees and local secretaries please meet at St. Margaret's Church at 3.30 p.m.? Agenda: To transact current business and discuss future plans.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The Rev. J. N. Mallinson, Rector of Speldhurst, intimates that he will be glad to meet members and friends at Speldhurst on Saturday, July 6th, and extends an invitation to the Rectory gardens. Divine service 4.30, followed by tea (George and Dragon, at 1s. 3d. per head), and business meeting to discuss future activities of the district. Please try and attend.—Alec. E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Members are invited to attend the dedication on Saturday, July 6th, at 5 p.m., of a peal board at St. Mary's Church, Great Baddow, recording a muffled peal rung in memory of the late Mr. C. H. Howard, formerly Master of the association. Handbells will be available during the afternoon.—L. J. Clark, Hon. Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, July 6th, at 6.30 p.m. Business meeting, handbell practice and social evening.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

**BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—A meeting will be held at Monk Bretton on Saturday, July 6th, when a peal board, recording two peals rung at this tower, will be dedicated by the Vicar. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at nominal fee at 5.15 p.m., followed by short business meeting and handbell ringing. A good attendance is hoped for as all are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The meeting arranged at Peckleton on July 6th is cancelled. Watch your 'Ringing World' for details of the next meeting.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseyway, Croft, Leicester.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual meeting arranged for to-morrow (July 6th) at Christchurch has been cancelled, owing to the national emergency regulations and the fact that many members are fully engaged on work of national importance. The question of the future holding of dis-

trict meetings is being left to the respective secretaries to decide, in the light of local considerations. If they can be arranged, it is hoped that handbell ringing will be encouraged in the place of the usual tower bells.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., G. Williams, Master.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Forest Branch.—The annual salmon supper of the South Forest Branch will be held at the Angel Hotel, Ruardean, on Saturday, July 13th. Particulars of price and tickets from William W. T. Scott, The Lawn, Ruardean, Glos.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The meeting arranged for Turners Hill on July 13th has been cancelled. The committee would like all members' views on future policy. Please drop me a card as soon as possible.—C. A. Bassett, Assist. Sec., 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst, Sussex.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 13th. Handbells from 3 o'clock until 4.30 and after tea. It is hoped to hold a short service, followed by the business meeting. An effort will be made to provide tea for those only who send notice to Mr. J. Robinson, 3, Rock Hill Road, Woolton, near Liverpool. Please turn up in good numbers. There will be plenty of handbells for all who wish to try their skill in this fascinating art.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Kettering Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Isham on Saturday, July 13th. Service 4.30 p.m. Handbells before and after. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by Tuesday, July 9th. Bring your own sugar.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Next meeting at headquarters on Tuesday, July 16th, at 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual festival will be held at Oxford (D.V.) on Saturday, July 20th. Service in Cathedral at 11.30 a.m. Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church dining hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets, 2s. each to members, 3s. each to non-members. It is earnestly requested that application for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should reach general secretary not later than Tuesday, July 16th, after which date the business will be in the hands of the caterers. Should the abnormal times in which we are living cause the dinner to be cancelled, all moneys sent will be refunded. A good attendance is hoped for, as business of importance will be before the meeting.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The meeting at Cheadle has been cancelled.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

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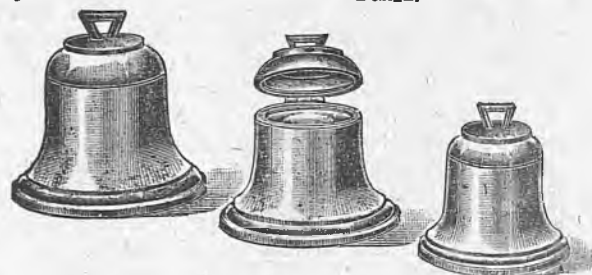
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Printed for the Proprietor by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Breams Buildings, London, E.C.4.