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**TWO LOSSES.**

We record to-day a brief summary of the careers of two men who, we regret, have quite recently passed from among us—two men whose services to the Exercise have been on completely different lines, but to both of whom much is due. James Hunt was the practical ringer who, through a long life, devoted much of his time to instructing others, and furthering the improvement of rings of bells by advice born of a lengthy experience, not only in the belfry but in a bell foundry. A. G. Driver's services to ringing were in a different category. He had never become a practical ringer but had devoted his talents to composition, particularly in the difficult field of method splicing. Through every generation, the Exercise has had the benefit of the brains of clever men in solving some of its problems, or expanding its knowledge, but with the possible exception of W. H. Thompson, whose exploration of Grandsire Triples nearly sixty years ago finally proved that a peal of Triples could not be obtained without the use of singles, no non-ringer has contributed so much to the advancement as Mr. Driver.

Attracted by the mathematical field offered by our art, Mr. Driver not only worked on the production of Surprise methods and peals on eight bells, but turned his attention to the complex problem of splicing Minor methods into true extents, and it was largely due to his efforts that the present record of a hundred or more methods was brought within the limits of seven true 720's. He was painstaking in all he did, and at one time was helping first one band and then another to raise the number of methods rung. Through it all he had but restricted opportunities for this kind of work, for his employment kept him from home often during very late hours. Figures, however, became a fascination with him, as they have become with many others, but comparatively few have turned them to so much advantage. The fact that he was never a practical ringer made his interest in the mathematics of ringing all the more remarkable, but it took possession of him to such an extent that it became his one and only hobby, if we except his experiments in the production of a ringing machine.

James Hunt, as we have said, served the Exercise in a totally different direction; indeed he served it in many ways, not least of which had been his constant readiness to instil the art of ringing into beginners. In Guildford, London, and afterwards in Somerset, Mr. Hunt spent much of his spare time in teaching. Particularly in Somerset he rendered great service to the Diocesan Association by acting for over twenty years as

(Continued on page 494.)



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Ringling Master of Taunton Deanery Branch. His practical experience gained in a London bell foundry, as well as his knowledge won at the end of a bell rope, made him invaluable as an adviser on bell restorations, and in this capacity he served on the Advisory Committee of the Bath and Wells Diocese and the Towers and Belfries Committee of the Central Council. There was something about James Hunt, which endeared him to all who knew him intimately. The Central Council meetings were the fresher for his genial presence and for his speeches. Not that everyone always agreed with all he said, but of the sincerity of the opinions which he expressed no one had the least doubt. He was a man without the slightest malice in thought or deed, and we have known him to be the first to congratulate an opponent who had beaten him on a vote after a debate. Men like James Hunt are the salt of the Exercise, they can ill be spared, but Time is inexorable; they pass across the stage and make their exits. We miss them and hope that the Fates will provide worthy successors —and yet wonder whence they are to come. Driver and Hunt, each has made a name which will always find a place in the history of ringing in the first half of the twentieth century. Each in his own sphere served the Exercise truly and well, and we mourn their deaths.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 11, 1941, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,  
At 35, ALBANY ROAD,

### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES!

HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... .. 1-2 | GEORGE H. CROSS ... .. 5-6  
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 3-4 | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Arranged as a birthday compliment to T. Groombridge, sen., who celebrated his 74th two days previously, and received the congratulations and good wishes of the band for 'more to follow.' H. A. Holden's first attempt 'in hand.'

### A QUARTER-PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I enclose a quarter-peal of Bob Major which may be of interest to some of the handbell bands now practising the method.

In constructing it I had simplicity rather than musical quality foremost in mind, but I think a glance will show it exhibits a little of both properties. There are five courses with 5.6 at home, one course in the tittums and the 2nd is only once above 4th's place at a course end.

I expect the figures have been obtained by others before now, but I should like to bring them to the notice of those who, like myself, are in the elementary stages of handbell ringing.

K. ARTHUR.

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**BELLS AS LUXURIES.**

RINGERS MUST BE PREPARED.

*To the Editor*

Dear Sir,—Mr. Bunce has certainly made a point that bells are luxuries. Any sensible person will agree that they are not a necessity, or organs either, but why stop there when the same sensible person will also agree that churches, as we know them, are also a luxury.

Any doubt on this issue can soon be settled by a very brief run over the history of the Christian Church. Back kitchens, outhouses, barns or any shelter from the elements (and the eyes of would-be persecutors) served the purpose. It might also be found that the spirit of Christianity was then more virile than now, at least, no sensible person will fail to agree that the Church was *getting* a grip in those days despite highly organised opposition, whereas to-day, when Sunday opening of cinemas is under discussion, the big question is, 'Is the Church *losing* its grip?'

Now to carry our luxury argument a bit farther, we are agreed that bells are a luxury, so, I think we will also agree, are Pullman coaches and other modern railway innovations. The powers that be have taken these over for the duration, and while I am no business expert, I do think that I read at the time that railway shares jumped at the news.

It is just possible that this same attitude will be adopted to luxuries in the railway world, that the companies will be required to replace their luxuries themselves after they have been worn out or destroyed by enemy action, and that our usually astute investors have overlooked this point. Miss Eliza Doolittle alone can answer that question adequately.

I would, therefore, offer this point for consideration, whether bells are a luxury or not, they have been taken over (perhaps confiscated would be a better term) for 'the duration,' made a bona-fide military objective for enemy aircraft, all for the 'national good'! Therefore, the responsibility of restoration likewise lies with the nation at large and not with some impoverished parish that just happens to be unlucky.

One more word with Mr. Bunce if you can spare the space. 'There is no organised opposition outside his fancy.' I was always given to understand that it was the prerogative of the ostrich to bury his head in the sand. The history of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, may, of course, be excused on business grounds, but I have in the past known of deputations to the incumbent in country villages to stop peal ringing, and if a clique combine to stop peal ringing, what is this but organised opposition? This, however, is mild compared to the opposition one meets when a new peal is opened, especially in an expanding district where one meets a number of budding landowners on the basis of £30 down, balance as rent. I would like to ask an old colleague, I. Emery, if he remembers any incidents of St. Luke's, Bromley Common. Mr. Bunce would no doubt be enlightened could he be shown the local paper after the new bells were opened at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst (and these are a model job as far as outside interference is concerned). How is it that Dartford, which were noisy, enjoyed the monthly peal without any quibble up till about 10 years ago, yet now are restricted to mid-week peals, despite the fact that the locals doctored the louvres with real good effect, and no doubt others can multiply these instances by scores.

There is yet another aspect to consider. Bells are now in their second year of enforced silence, and when we do attempt to re-start is there no danger that these objectors, who have had their own sweet way for a period, will be any quieter than they were in pre-war days?

To sum up, all ringers have a duty, to keep the Exercise alive during these dark days, and to be prepared for a successful reopening when the boys return to the towers: therefore, do not ask, but demand, as any business concern would, that luxuries taken by the nation for the nation shall be replaced by the nation at large after the cessation of hostilities, and still further be prepared to meet the further hostilities of those who would rejoice to see the ban on ringing become a permanent institution.

T. GROOMBRIDGE, Jun.

**THE DUTY OF THE GOVERNMENT.**

Dear Sir,—Apart from the opinion as to bells (in peace time) being luxuries or not, the fact is that at the present time they are instruments of war under the jurisdiction of the Government for the sole use of the armed forces, the Home Guard. Our church bells were commandeered or forcibly loaned to the Government for the specific purpose of notifying the Home Guard in the event of air invasion. Being commandeered by the Government for use of the armed forces of the Crown as an alarm (not to the public, but the Home Guard) therefore they become a charge on the Government for upkeep, preservation and ultimate return in good condition to the Church authorities, or alternatively, if damaged or destroyed, should be replaced in equal condition as they were prior to being taken over, or adequate compensation should be paid to replace them by bells of equal weight, size and number as before.

This question of compensation also applies to church bell towers and frames with their fittings and other contents, as these are the structures in which these instruments, loaned temporarily to the Government, are fixed or housed.

FREDERICK E. PITMAN.

40, Tweedy Road, Bromley, Kent.

(Continued in next column.)

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

A VISIT TO MR. W. KEEBLE.

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association was held at Braintree on Saturday last, when only a very disappointing number of members attended. The visitors included Mr. A. Everitt and Mr. J. Ward.

A service in church was conducted by the Rev. H. Brook, with Mr. T. T. Chapman at the organ. As so few members were present it was decided to dispense with the business meeting, and the company indulged in handbell ringing, while others enjoyed a social chat. It was decided to hold the next meeting (which will be the annual district meeting) at Bocking early in January.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen, Mr. R. Suckling and Miss H. G. Snowden went to Colchester last Sunday to see Mr. W. Keeble at Severalls, and took some handbells with them. By permission of the medical superintendent (Dr. A. Duncan), they were able to ring a 720 of Bob Major: R. Suckling 1-2, W. Keeble (conductor) 3-4, L. W. Wiffen 5-6, Miss H. G. Snowden 7-8.

Mr. Keeble at once settled into his stride in the way all know him and displayed great ability as a conductor. That 'grand old man,' Mr. W. Nevard, was there and took part in a course of Bob Major, and Mr. W. Burgess, who is also a patient, joined in the gathering.

**HARRY FLANDERS.**

WHAT HAPPENED TO A PEAL.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was much interested in 'E. B.'s' account of the incident related by the late Mr. King of his meeting with the late Harry Flanders. I had the privilege of knowing both these gentlemen and rang many times with Harry Flanders when living in the South almost forty years ago.

I recall an occasion when I was privileged to take part in an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Greenwich which Harry was to conduct. He had not called a peal before. Included in the band were the late Isaac G. Shade and F. W. Thornton, and the composition was a well-known three-part, the figures of which several of the band knew. All went well for three hours and twenty minutes, and it looked as though success was a foregone conclusion. However, when we got to the two bobs W. in the last course three were called and made and the peal never came round. This was a big disappointment to Harry Flanders, and to my knowledge, although he rang a great many more peals, he never called one.

'E. B.' says Harry Flanders was a typical Cockney, with which description I agree. Whenever I hear Sid Walker on the wireless I always think of Harry Flanders.

GEORGE R. NEWTON.

Liverpool.

**THE LATE MR. H. J. TUCKER'S PEALS.**

The following is a list of the late Mr. H. J. Tucker's peals: Kent T.B. Maximus 1, Stedman Cinques 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 7 (conducted 3), Oxford Treble Bob Royal 1, Plain Bob Royal 4 (1), Grandsire Caters 15 (14), Grandsire Triples 50 (36), Stedman Caters 15 (1), Stedman Triples 28, Grandsire Major (6,384) 1 (1), Oxford Bob Triples 6 (6), Darlaston Bob Triples 3 (3), Bob Major 18 (13), Kent Treble Bob Major 28 (14), Oxford Treble Bob Major 6 (3), Double Norwich Court 27 (4), Cambridge Surprise Major 10, New Cambridge Surprise 3, Superlative Surprise Major 27 (7), New Cumberland Surprise 2, Canterbury Pleasre Major 1 (1), Duffield Major 1, London Surprise Major 3, seven Surprise Minor methods 1, seven methods on six bells 1 (1), total 260 (conducted 108).

**LUXURIES AND NECESSITIES.**

(Continued from previous column.)

Dear Sir,—Some of your correspondents, and perhaps Mr. Bunce among them, seem to think you can divide all thing into necessities and luxuries, and what does not belong to one class must belong to the other. But that is not so. There are many things, perhaps most things which are not necessities, but which certainly are not luxuries. I could drink beer out of an empty salmon tin, and tea out of a jam jar. To that extent glasses and tea cups are not necessities, but I refuse to admit that they are luxuries. Empire tobacco can hardly be called a necessity, but I will go to the stake before I will admit that is a luxury—twice already I have had to leave off writing this letter to light the beastly stuff.

So with church bells. Quite a lot of churches and people manage to get through this world, and a few will even go to heaven without their aid: but for many more, and especially for ringers, they really are a part of their ordinary life to the extent that they do contribute something vital. Much more can this be said of the general life of the people and the Church than of the individual. We must not admit that church bells are luxuries even if we admit they are not bare necessities.

I call luxuries such things as Rolls-Royce motor-cars, champagne, Havana cigars, Spiced Surprise, deer forests, onions, and bread (crusty) and Cheddar cheese after a peal. I could do without all or any of these things, though no doubt it would be a privation.

F. H. SMITH.



## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 485.)

### SOME EARLY ACTIVITIES.

When the early critics of the Central Council asked the question, What good will it do? they had for the most part in their minds (unconsciously, no doubt) the idea, What good will it do me and my band immediately, and in terms that I can understand and appreciate? For them 'good' meant things like more and easier peal ringing or better financial conditions. They did not understand or value the abstruse parts of the science of change ringing, and if they had been told that future generations of ringers would benefit by investigating and discussing such things they would probably have asked what future generations had done for them that they should bother about their good. It was quite natural, therefore, that these people should look with contempt on much of the work of the Council. As one of them sarcastically observed, 'What use are Bob Major lead-ends when a rope breaks in a peal attempt?' And another asked, in what he probably would have called trenchant language, 'Who but a fool would waste his time o'er the pedantic bores who make the annual meetings of the Central Council a dumping ground for their theoretical fads and an exhaust valve for their superfluous oratory?'

To-day we are reaping no little benefit from the 'theoretical fads' of those same 'pedantic bores,' or rather we were before the war put a temporary stop to practical ringing.

But it must not be supposed that, because theoretical questions formed an important part of the discussions in the early meetings that the Council did not interest itself in simpler matters, or try to devise means of improving the lot of the ordinary average ringers. For that neither the wish nor the effort was wanting. The difficulty was that people expected, or said they expected, the Council to do things which the Council could not do, and for which it was not founded.

One of the things it attempted to do was to persuade the railway companies to grant cheap travelling tickets to ringers. Every effort was made, but in the end more harm was done than good, for it led to the withdrawal of the privilege by the one or two companies which had already granted it.

In those days there were many railway companies in England, and each had its own regulations. Nearly all of them granted cheap tickets to any body or organisation which would guarantee a certain number of travellers, the usual stipulation being that at least eight should travel together.

The Kent County Association had got very good terms from the London, Chatham and Dover and the South-Eastern Companies, and the Sussex County Association from the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway. A member of these associations who was going to a ringing meeting was given a return ticket for the price of a fare and a quarter if he presented a paper at the ticket office showing that he was a member and stating where he was going. Other companies, such as the Great Western and the Midland, refused to do more than allow the usual pleasure party tickets to eight people.

The matter was brought before the Council by Herbert A. Cockey at the Oxford meeting in 1893, and a committee, consisting of R. S. Storey, Joseph Griffin and Cockey, was appointed.

Next year, at London, Cockey reported that what was wanted had not yet been obtained, but the intention was to collect information as to the number of members of each association and the number of meetings, and put the whole before the authorities of the Railway Clearing House. It was intended to ask for return tickets at single fares to those who could produce their receipt and show that they were travelling in connection with the association to which they belonged. Fishing clubs were granted these privileges, and the committee saw no reason why the same should not be granted to ringers.

The railway companies, of course, looked at the matter from a purely business point of view. They had no intention of doing anything for the benefit of ringers, and would only grant the concession if it led to so many more ringers travelling as would more than cover the difference in the price of the tickets. Return journeys at single fares they flatly refused to consider. The committee, however, stuck to their job, and they promoted petitions from the various associations to the different railway companies. In all, sixty-three petitions, with 6,817 names, were sent to nine companies. That from the Oxford Diocesan Association to the Great Western Railway measured about nine yards long.

The companies, however, refused the concession. The Great Eastern Railway remarked that if they went on granting reduced fares, the time would come when no traveller would pay his full fare. Those companies which had already granted cheap rates to ringers withdrew the concession, so as to fall into line with the other companies.

The Council failed in this attempt, but it had shown that it did seek the good of average ringers. In later years the matter was settled in another way, for the railways have learnt that it pays them to give to the general public the concessions then sought by ringers, and cheap day return tickets are almost universal.

Many men thought that the Council ought to adopt a scheme for the formation of a general benevolent fund for ringers, or form itself into a General Ringers' Benefit Society, and behind the thought was a very real and pressing need. In those days there was no National Insurance scheme for all, worked and guaranteed by the Government, and the spectre of sickness and unemployment was never far from the minds of members of the working class, especially of those who had wives and children dependent on them. It hung like a dark shadow over the lives of many of them, and there were thousands who were—

Like one, that on a lonesome road  
Doth walk in fear and dread,  
And having once turn'd round, walks on  
And turns no more his head;  
Because he knows a frightful fiend  
Doth close behind him tread.

Anything that could remove or mitigate so gnawing and so widespread an anxiety would be a blessing indeed.

The idea that ringers should help their less fortunate comrades was not a new one. It was largely implicit in the constitution of the old societies, and some of them were active in that way. The Norwich Scholars in the early eighteenth century were organised as a 'purse club' or benefit society, and continued so very successfully for a century and a half, on the same lines as were many other benefit clubs in various sections of contemporary society.

But these activities were limited in their scope. They only benefited a few, and outside were the mass of the ringers. When the new ideas began to spread and the Exercise began to be looked on as one body, it was a natural and an admirable thought that something should be done for ringers as a whole. It was natural, too, that the good to be reaped appeared more clearly to some people than the difficulties to be overcome.

This is well illustrated by a scheme which was put forward in 1906 in the columns of 'The Bell News.' The writer assumed that there were 20,000 ringers, and if each paid only one penny a year there would be £83 annually for distribution if needed, and since no one was to benefit at the outset, it would be possible to form a reserve fund of nearly £100 to start with.

It sounded grand, but does anyone believe that it would be possible to run a benevolent fund on such lines? Eighty-three pounds would not go very far in relieving the distress among 20,000 people; and far more dissatisfaction would have been caused among those whose wants were not satisfied than gratification among those whose needs were very partially met. Nor would the cheerful assumption of the writer that the Council could carry on the administration efficiently and cheaply be at all likely to be realised.

The Council had not been so negligent in the matter as the writer professed to believe. Heywood had fully considered that side of the question before he proposed its foundation. He came of a family of bankers, and he knew what financial difficulties would be encountered. Indeed, anyone else must have known who stopped for a minute to think the matter over. When a benefit society was confined to a few people who met together

regularly, the administration and supervision could be carried out by voluntary workers and at little cost, but if it were extended to the whole country the cost of collection would absorb the whole of the revenue; and supervision, which would be necessary to prevent fraud, would be impossible. Even the great national benefit societies like the Oddfellows and the Foresters worked through local and semi-independent lodges.

So before Heywood launched his scheme he got the representative gathering of ringers at the Henry Johnson dinner at Birmingham to pass a resolution declaring that 'this meeting is of opinion that the advantages attending the establishment of a General Ringers' Benefit Society would not be great enough to outweigh the immense difficulty of collecting and administering the funds in a satisfactory manner.'

For that reason the question was not brought forward at the earliest meetings of the Council. It was, however, discussed at London in 1894, and at Sheffield in 1895. Nobody seemed to wish to speak against any proposal, but nobody thought any scheme was practicable, and nothing was or could be done.

In 1906 at Exeter the question of the establishment of a labour bureau for the benefit of members of the Exercise was debated. The difficulties as well as the advantages were stressed, and R. A. Daniell, who was a solicitor in practice in Bucklersbury in the City of London, offered to receive at his office the names of either employers wanting employes or of ringers wanting employment, and to bring suitable persons into touch with each other. At the next meeting he reported that he had received half a dozen applications for employment, but not one for an employe. So the scheme died a natural and expected death.

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### BELFRY GOSSIP.

We regret to say that Mr. Gabriel Lindoff is now in Dublin Hospital in a very weak condition following a short illness. Mr. Lindoff, who is 72 years of age, has been hon. secretary of the Irish Association of Change Ringers for over 43 years.

We have received an airgraph letter from Sergt. John Freeman, of Lincoln, who is serving with the Forces in the Middle East. His ringing friends will be glad to know that when this letter was written he was 'keeping pretty fit up to the time of going to press,' and had 'no complaints,' except that there was no ringing. He was then on detachment away from the unit living under canvas in what might be described as a desert camp.

Mr. Isaac Emery, who has now been in hospital for nearly three months, underwent a further operation last Saturday. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

The wedding of Q.M.S. Harold Rogers and Miss Olive Ashbrook, reported in our issue of October 3rd, took place at Isleworth, not at Halesworth as the report seemed to suggest.

On October 14th, 1854, the Birmingham men, with Henry Johnson as composer and conductor, rang 7,020 changes of Stedman Caters at Aston. It was not the longest length that had been rung in the method; but it was probably the longest true length, though the ringers did not know it, and though it was beaten a month or two later.

The history of Stedman Cater peals is a rather curious one. In 1805 the Cumberlands rang 6,129 changes at St. Leonard's, Shore-ditch, composed and conducted by George Gross. This remained the longest length for nearly forty years, for it was not until 1842 that it was beaten by 8,105, which was rung at Painswick, composed and conducted by William Estcourt. This peal was found to be false, and an 8,081 of Grandsire Caters rung on the same day at the neighbouring town of Stroud was also false.

Meanwhile in 1844 the Cumberlands had rung 7,025 at Poplar, not as a record length, but as containing the full 60 courses (between singles) with the big bells in the tittums.

In its particular quality this was beaten in 1845 by John Cox and the College Youths, who rang 6,701 at Bermondsey with the 60 course ends and no singles. Then in 1854 came the Aston peal mentioned above, and in the same year 7,023 by the Cumberlands at St. Clement Danes'.

The Birmingham men in 1859 settled the matter for 25 years by ringing 10,047 changes at Aston.

The Birmingham Amalgamated Society rang on October 16th, 1883, on handbells, 10,176 Grandsire Major, composed and conducted by John Carter. It remained the record length in hand until 1894, when Mr. C. E. Borrett called 11,200 Bob Major at Norwich.

On October 17th, 1726, the College Youths rang the first peal at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. It was Grandsire Caters and evidently the founders had not yet succeeded in casting two satisfactory trebles.

Fifty years ago to-day six peals were rung. Two were Grandsire Triples, one Bob Major, one Kent Treble Bob Major, one Stedman Caters, and one in four Minor methods.

### A DEVON CHANTRY TOWER.

INFORMATION SOUGHT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Serving in H.M. Forces has brought me from my home in Kent to 'Sunny Devon,' and in my travels through this county I have seen some picturesque and interesting towers and churches. There is one, however, situated in Slapton, which seems to me a little bit out of the ordinary, and I cannot find any sound evidence of what the tower was in actual fact. Since Mr. Barnett's query with regard to St. Michael's Mount brought out something of interest to ringers, I send my poser on in hope that something more of interest about Slapton tower may appear in your columns.

The remains of this old tower stand in the village, which is about midway between Dartmouth and Kingsbridge, and as far as I can gather from inhabitants it is part of the remains of a college or college church. It is described as the Chantry Tower and is still fairly intact, with the stonework in a good state of preservation.

Only the coping at the top of the tower has crumbled and the upper third of the spiral staircase. The latter has been replaced by iron ladders. It can also be seen that two floors at one time existed above what might have been the 'nave,' and it is this factor that prompts me to write to you.

I wonder if any readers can give any details of the original building and any characteristics relating to this tower. I am sure that whatever comes out will be of interest not only to Devon ringers, but also to 'tourists,' as no doubt many have passed through this corner of Devon.

I receive 'The Ringing World' every week through the generosity of a ringing friend at home, and although my movements amongst ringers are, of course, very few, I am glad to keep in touch with ringing generally through the medium of the paper. I have found it very interesting of late, and I hope to continue to do so. I take this opportunity of wishing you and 'The Ringing World' a safe and sound journey through the present trouble to a happy conclusion.

R. G. RAYFIELD.

Greenhithe, Kent.



## DEATH OF MR. JAMES HUNT. INTERESTING RINGING CAREER.

### Famous Handbell Performances.

His many friends throughout the country will learn with surprise and deep regret of the death of Mr. James Hunt, of Taunton. He passed away last week after an unfortunate accident. For some little time he had suffered from a weak heart, and on his doctor's advice had remained in bed. Then, on Monday week, he got up about 11 p.m., put on some clothes and went out, to be knocked down by a motor-car. He was taken to hospital with head injuries and succumbed during the night of Thursday. He was 70 years of age, having been born at Tiverton, Devon, on May 29th, 1871, and during his long ringing career had rendered yeoman service to the art in many directions.

He began ringing at St. Mary's, Taunton. Later, when living in Guildford, he became leader of the band at S. Nicolas' Church and was one of the handbell company which 30 years ago made ringing history in the Surrey town. Always an enthusiast, Mr. Hunt joined with Charles Willshire, Alfred Pulling and others in building up the band which went on to ring double-handed peals by the score. His first peal in hand was in April, 1909. It was Grand-sire Triples and A. H. Pulling's first handbell peal as conductor. Eventually new double-handed record lengths were rung which still remain unbeaten.

Before doing this, however, they had made another record, of which James Hunt, we are told, was the instigator. In October, 1911, Messrs. Pulling, Willshire, Blondell, Smither and Hunt set out to ring a peal of Stedman Caters every evening for a week—and they rang them all, in a different place, on a different set of handbells and with a different composition each night. They did not make two bites at any one of the peals, until the last, when, presumably for want of practice, or maybe some other reason, they had to have more than one try at the going off course. Later in the same year peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques were rung all in one week.

In 1912 it was decided to attempt a record length of Stedman Caters, and the outcome was first a peal of 14,031, rung on June 1st, and on August 31st a peal of 19,738. As we have recently recalled, this latter was an attempt for 22,222, but owing to a late start the peal was curtailed shortly before midnight. The band that rang these two peals comprised Arthur Shepherd, Alfred Pulling, William Shepherd, James Hunt and Frank Blondell. At one time Mr. Hunt rang 61 handbell peals in succession without a tower bell peal intervening. Altogether he rang 158 peals on handbells.

After living in Guildford for many years Mr. Hunt removed to London, where for a time he was employed by Messrs. Warner and Sons at the Spitalfields Bell Foundry. He rang peals with the Royal Cumberland Youths and on one or two occasions took part in a peal rung by a foundry band.

Eventually Mr. Hunt returned to Taunton and became associated with St. James' tower, where he was instrumental in building up an excellent band. For 21 years he was Ringing Master of the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, and during all this time he did his utmost to cultivate change ringing and to encourage young conductors. As an example of what he achieved it may be mentioned that between 1919 and 1939 thirty-seven peals were rung at St. James', Taunton, by Deanery men. Ten conducted peals, each conductor having, curiously, called some method he had never called before, while 73 ringers rang something they had never rung before. That is a mark of the progress made by Mr. Hunt's help and encouragement.

When he retired from the office of Deanery Ringing Master Mr. Hunt was presented with a silver bell in stand by the members in appreciation of his long and devoted service.

Among the many interesting peals in which Mr. Hunt took part were the first peal of Stedman Caters by a resident band of the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, a 'grandfather's' peal of Stedman Caters by members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, the first peals of

(Continued in next column.)



THE LATE  
MR. JAMES HUNT.

## A KENT VETERAN.

### FIFTY YEARS AS CAPTAIN, AT ONE TOWER. Mr. Philip Hodgkin's Record.

Mr. Philip Hodgkin, of Headcorn, has a record of which any ringer might be proud.

Born at Aldington, the home of the late Mr. Charles Slingsby, on April 11th, 1865, he started his ringing career at the tower in that village in June, 1877, at the age of 14, and was soon ringing 720's of Minor. He was present at the foundation meeting of the Kent County Association, held in the Chapter House at Canterbury on June 18th, 1880, and is now one of the two surviving foundation members, Mr. E. S. Ruck, of Willesborough, being the other.

Mr. Hodgkin removed to Headcorn in 1891 and immediately started to teach change ringing to the company at that tower. He was appointed captain of the band, a position he still holds, and has thus completed half a century's work in that office.

Mr. Hodgkin has rung 65 peals in all, on eight and ten bells. One outstanding peal was that of Bob Major at Tenterden on April 8th, 1912, in three hours and fifteen minutes, when he rang the tenor of 30½ cwt., this being the first time the tenor had been 'turned in' to a peal. At this time the bells were not going too well, and many ringers, including the late Mr. William Pye, had attempted the task, but without success. Mr. Hodgkin is proud to recall the performance, more especially as he walked nine miles from his home to ring, and then had to walk the same distance back after the peal.

In those days this journeying of long distances on foot was taken in the ordinary course of events, and to digress from the subject of this article for a moment it may be mentioned that another Kent stalwart once went to London to ring a peal on a Saturday evening, lost the last train and walked home, a distance of 22 miles. He had breakfast and walked about another six miles to take his usual place at Sunday morning ringing at Gillingham. Gabriel Lindoff and William Haigh will perhaps remember this feat of the late Charles Waterman.

But to return to Mr. Hodgkin, it is worthy to record that up to the present he has not yet had to resort to artificial aid—in the way of 'specs'—to read 'The Ringing World' regularly every week, nor when he is writing. He has been a vegetarian all his life, and in this respect the writer remembers an amusing remark passed on one occasion when arranging the dinner at the annual meeting of the association. He asked the caterer to provide a meal for a life-long vegetarian. On seeing Mr. Hodgkin, the man remarked, 'How-ever has he grown up to such a fine man on grub like this?'

Mr. Hodgkin still enjoys good health and does a 'bit of work' as he terms it. He is looking for peace to come so that he can take his usual place in the belfry where he has so faithfully served.

Well done, Philip! May you long be spared to serve the association of which you are justly proud, and hearty congratulations on completing the half-century as captain at Headcorn. F. M. M.

## DEATH OF A BEENHAM RINGER.

It is with great regret that we record the death of a Beenham ringer, Mr. Edward W. Richardson, who passed away very suddenly at his work on Friday, October 3rd, at the age of 57.

He had been a ringer for over forty years and rang regularly for the Sunday services at Beenham. He attended many meetings in the district and had rung in many peals. He spent 22 years of his life in the Navy.

He was buried at Beenham on Wednesday, the Rev. W. Hunt conducting the service. The coffin was led out of the church by members of the Newbury Branch of the Royal Naval Old Comrades' Association, with banner and bugler, who sounded the Last Post and Reveille at the graveside.

(Continued from previous column.)

Double Norwich Major and of seven Surprise Minor methods for the Bath and Wells Association, the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major by a resident band west of Bristol, and the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major by a band resident in Somerset. Altogether he had rung something over 550 peals.

James Hunt took a good deal of interest in matters connected with the theoretic side of ringing, and although he had no pretensions to be a composer of the first rank, he produced several peals, especially of Double Norwich, which had distinct merits. We recently published one of them. Their merits were such as would be appreciated by the practical peal ringer. Mr. Hunt also had usually definite and decided opinions on the controversial questions of composition which came before the Central Council, and most of the members, while not always agreeing with what he said, always listened to him gladly and with interest and respect.

Mr. Hunt was elected in 1920 to represent the Bath and Wells Association on the Central Council, which made use of his practical experience in connection with bell hanging by appointing him one of the members of the Towers and Belfries Committee. His knowledge in this direction was also taken advantage of in his own diocese, where he served on the Diocesan Advisory Committee. Thus Mr. Hunt, whose enthusiasm for ringing was unsurpassed, gave his talents ungrudgingly for the benefit of the art, and he served his church as a sidesman and a member of the Parochial Church Council for many years.



## THE LATE MR. A. G. DRIVER.

COMPOSER BUT NOT A RINGER.

### A Gifted Investigator.

Mr. A. G. Driver, whose death was briefly referred to in our last issue, was an almost unique example of a composer who was not a ringer. He was born at Lewisham 52 years ago and was educated at St. Dunstan's College, Catford, where he won a scholarship at an early age.

On September 28th he complained of feeling unwell, and, despite medical aid, passed away in the early hours of the next day from cerebral hæmorrhage.

Mr. Driver's interest in bells began in his youth, not as a ringer, but as an antiquarian, and he spent much of his time in copying inscriptions and taking rubbings. His introduction to ringing was in 1915, when a new peal of bells was dedicated at Christ Church, Erith. The late Mr. E. Barnett, sen., who was endeavouring to instruct a band there, made one or two attempts to teach him to handle a bell, but without success. The theoretical side of ringing, however, fascinated him, and for the remainder of his life this was almost his only hobby. Unfortunately, circumstances prevented him from devoting very much time to it. He was a tram driver and he often said that it was not until the early hours of the morning that he could settle down to uninterrupted work. His output was, therefore, not what more favourable conditions would have allowed, but what he did do was enough to ensure that his name will live.

It was in Minor ringing that his chief interest lay, and he supplied much of the material for the bands under Mr. Albert Relfe, at Lamberhurst, Kent, for the Spliced Surprise Minor record, and those under Messrs. Vernon Taylor, in Lincolnshire, and C. K. Lewis, in Cheshire, who included in peals numbers of methods formerly thought impossible. 'The Ringing World' of September 11th, 1936, speaking of one of these, in which Mr. Driver had increased an extent from ten to twelve methods, said, "The bare announcement of it is 'Arranged by A. G. Driver,' and to Mr. Driver are due several other of these extents which contain a large number of methods. Many people may reasonably ask, 'Who is Mr. A. G. Driver?'" His name never appears in peal reports: in the past when he has entered into print on any question relating to methods, he has done so under a nom-de-plume ("The Mad Hatter"). Thus he has never sought the limelight, but the work which he has done has put six-bell ringing on an entirely different footing. . . . Mr. Driver's genius has carried Minor Splicing far beyond the bounds of anything that was conceived possible a few years ago. In him we have a rare phenomenon: almost a non-ringer who has carried a branch of composition far beyond anything that expert ringers have done. It is, we imagine, the fascination of figures and a mathematical mind which are responsible for all the work he has done in the interest of ringers. . . . Mr. Driver's work deserves to rank with anything done by great composers of the past.

All his work, however, was not concerned with Minor ringing. He was the first to produce a system of splicing Kent and Oxford Treble Bob at the lead ends, and thus rendering the previous unsatisfactory systems of interchanging Kent and Oxford places entirely obsolete. The first peal on this plan was rung at Willesden in July, 1935, and one differing only slightly at Crayford a month later. For Mr. Alan Pink's band he supplied a number of methods and more compositions, and for him also a peal of Spliced Painswick, Pudsey, Yorkshire and Superlative Surprise in seven lead courses. For a band in Leicestershire he produced a peal of Spliced Surprise in seven methods, also in seven lead courses—one lead of every method in each course. It is not unreasonable to suppose, therefore, that had he been able to devote the necessary time to the task he could have made valuable contributions to the current problems of Surprise Major Splicing which are occupying the attention of many other leading composers of to-day.

He was most unselfish, and the writer remembers with gratitude the interest and help given by Mr. Driver to his son when the latter first became interested in composition as a boy. It was with equal gratitude, therefore, that he learned from Mrs. Driver that her husband had expressed the wish that 'little Teddy' should have his manuscripts.

Apart from composition, Mr. Driver had one other ringing interest and that was in ringing machines. During a long period of unemployment after the last war he had designed one, but family and financial reasons prevented him from ever constructing it, but a number of his ideas found expression in one of Mr. G. F. Wodehouse's later machines after the two had corresponded as a result of Mr. Driver having received Mr. Wodehouse's booklet describing his own first machine. Later Mr. Driver was appointed by the Central Council as one of the demonstrators of the Carter Ringing Machine.

One thing more must be said; it is sad that the foregoing has had to be Mr. Driver's obituary, for it had long been the writer's intention to try and persuade him to write his ringing life—a difficult job, for no one disliked publicity more than he did—or alternatively to supply the material for me to try and do so.

Nothing now remains but to take leave of a quiet, clever, unassuming man, whose passing leaves us all the poorer, and to express the deepest sympathy with the bereaved.

E. B.

## ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

EDWIN BARNETT BECOMES A MEMBER.

The meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths on Saturday last was again well supported and two new members were elected, Edwin Barnett, of Crayford, and Ivor C. N. Bell, of Swindon, the latter being a ratification of his election previous to ringing a peal of Bob Major at Swindon on October 3rd.

The provincial members present were the Rev. L. Edwards, Kington Magna; B. P. Morris, Kettering; H. V. Young, Leatherhead; H. Casimore and E. Jennings, Watford; and F. G. Cole, Cheltenham.

Sympathy was expressed with Mr. E. Murrell, one of the society's staunchest supporters, in his indisposition, and all present hoped that he would soon be able to get about again.

Mr. G. M. Kilby's collection of reports of notable peals rung by famous bands during the last 40 years caused much interest among the older members.

The Treasurer stated that he had booked Slater's Restaurant, Basinghall Street, for the commemoration luncheon on November 8th at 1.30 p.m.

One of the branches of H.M. Forces is generally represented at the College Youths' meetings, and last week it was L.-Corpl. Frank Shorter, who was cordially welcomed. Greetings were received from Mr. T. Myers, of Plymouth, who is now back in civilian life.

The Master thanked the members for their continued support and closed the business meeting until October 25th.

Refreshments and handbell ringing then followed, ringing by members from Watford and Beddington being much appreciated.

## BELLS AS DEODANDS.

AN ANCIENT LAW.

The legend referred to by the writer in 'All the Year Round,' and which was mentioned in the article on the College Youths in our last issue, is not so improbable nor so wild as he supposed. He said he had heard 'awful whispers' of a victim 'caught by the neck and hung by his bell,' and that 'the government claimed, but without success, the manslaughtering bell.'

That at some time and in some place in the course of the ages a ringer has been killed by his rope catching round his neck is not unlikely nor improbable; neither need any particulars beyond a vague tradition have survived. And if such a thing happened it is almost certain that the question of the confiscation of the bell and the rope did arise.

It was the law and the custom of England throughout the ages that if the death of any man or woman was caused by a personal chattel, then that chattel must be considered as devoted to the service of God, and must be taken over by the authorities and sold for the benefit of the poor. Anything so confiscated was called a deodand.

In the course of time quite a complicated amount of law grew up about deodands. For instance, if a man was killed by a horse and cart, whether both of them, and under what conditions, were liable to forfeiture. The usual thing was that the chattel was redeemed by the owner by paying a fine fixed by the coroner's jury, and in course of time the amount of the fine became a nominal one, generally not more than a few pence. In the old elaborate indictments when a man was charged with murder, the value of the weapon with which he did the deed was always stated.

Only those things could be deodands which were 'chattels,' that is personal movable property. If a tree was blown down and killed a man, that was not a deodand; in law it was reckoned as an 'act of God.' A pinnacle falling from a church tower would not be a deodand.

We can easily see that if a bell did cause a man's death a nice point of law would arise. Was a bell a 'chattel' and therefore a deodand? And we can easily see what the answer of the coroner's jury would be; for it is not likely that the question ever went beyond them. They would be parishioners and ratepayers, and therefore the owners of the bell. They would not have much difficulty in deciding that a church bell is not in law a 'chattel.'

Deodands were abolished little more than one hundred years ago.

**TOWERS WITHOUT BELLS.**—The love of bells is still so universal in this country that if after admiring a church tower of goodly proportions, fair design, and which carries its glorious spire tapering heavenwards, we are told it contains no bells, a feeling of disappointment is mixed with our admiration, and we are tempted to exclaim, 'How sad that a case so magnificent is without its music!—that a structure so grand and imposing is without the usual means of proclaiming the passing events of human life by means of its iron-tongued melody.'—Thomas North.

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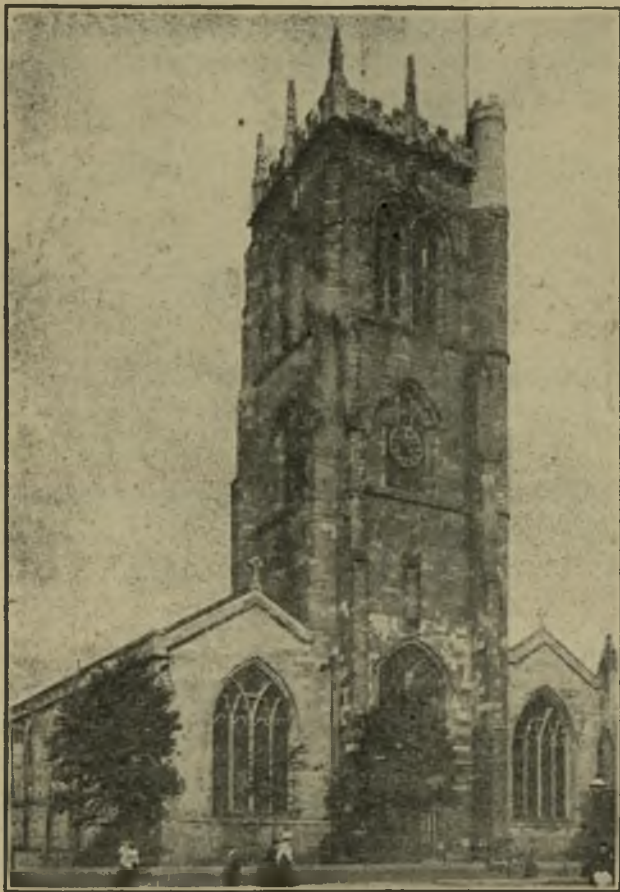


**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT LEICESTER.

**Mr. William Willson Honoured.**

On Saturday, October 4th, a special general meeting of the Midland Counties Association took place at St. Margaret's, Leicester. It was held in conjunction with the local quarterly meeting, and proved to be a great success, both from a ringing and social point of view. The front eight bells were rung clapperless to a variety of methods, starting off with a nice musical touch of Stedman Triples, called by Joe Fenton, jun., the 567's rolling up in silent majesty! A course of Cambridge Surprise only needed a 'Fidler' to bring it successfully round! During the afternoon a variety of touches and courses were rung more or less complete by ringers representing the following



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, LEICESTER.

towers: Ashby, Burton, Belgrave, Burbage, Broughton Astley, Croft, Derby, Chesterfield, Leicester, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, Overseal, and Handsworth, Birmingham.

The general meeting of the association was held in the choir vestry of the church, and in the absence of the president, the Rev. Canon R. F. Wilkinson, who sent a letter of apology and greetings, the vice-president, Mr. Colin Harrison, took the chair. He was supported by the hon. treasurer, Miss I. B. Thompson, and the general secretary, Mr. Ernest Morris.

In opening the meeting, Mr. Harrison explained that although it was decided at the last general annual meeting not to hold any general meetings until the next annual meeting, a position had arisen in connection with a vacancy in the trusteeship of the association's invested funds, which the hon. secretary and treasurer thought advisable to be filled by calling a special general meeting for the purpose at the earliest possible date.

Seven new ringing members were duly elected, and a matter of advertising in the 'Leicester Diocesan Calendar' was left to the secretary to deal with.

A letter from Mr. William Willson, one of the trustees of the association, was read, in which he stated that, owing to continued ill-health, he felt unable to carry on in the position and asked the association to accept his resignation. Mr. Willson sent his greetings and expression of goodwill for the association's continued prosperity in the days to come when things return to normal again.

(Continued in next column.)

**PECULIAR!**

BY THE EDITOR.

We shall have to be more careful in future. In printing, a fortnight ago, Mr. Ernest Morris' letter on the subject of 'Peculiars,' we turned an 'i' into an 'e' and made him a verger instead of a 'virger,' and we have been 'told off' accordingly, but in very kindly language.

Mr. Morris reminds us that he carries the 'virge' or staff of office and is a member of the London Virgers' Guild. Of course, we meant no slight upon Mr. Morris' ancient and honourable calling, but we shall have to tell the compilers of our office dictionary about it too, for they have, we find, ignored the ancient spelling and given us only 'verger,' defined as 'official in a church who shows persons to their seats; officer who bears staff before bishop.' Even the staff itself is spelt 'verge' in our dictionary—and it's an authentic one, too, emanating from a great seat of learning. We shall also have to tell our Vicar, for on our parish church notice board he or someone slipped up and spelt the multiple offices of his factotum thus, 'Parish clerk, verger, sexton and gravedigger.'

We can only assume that time in this, as in other things in a degenerate age, has wrought changes which are not for the better. For instance, quite casually the other day we came across this in some documents relating to the year 1570—it doesn't quite conform to the modern spelling—'Paid to the Ryngars the first date of ye change of the qvenes Rayne,' and in 1571, 'Ryngars at the qvens comyng at her first goyng in to bare feld ijs; second time when her bott came by xixd.'

So if we, in our innocence, misspelt the ancient 'virger,' may we be forgiven

**ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.**

REPLY TO MR. E. B. HARTLEY.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—My letter in reply to Mr. Hartley on the above subject was designed with two objects, and I am much gratified by the results.

The first object was to ascertain whether your correspondent held, or had held for any appreciable time, association office. The charge was passed by default, and I am not unsatisfied. Secondly, as a general challenge had been made against the organisation of war-time meetings, I gave a reply so far as it concerned by own association. I am no more qualified to give a general answer than your correspondent is to make a general accusation.

Now Mr. Hartley makes an amazing volte face by saying that his letter was addressed to those who do not hold meetings. So he was not criticising the secretaries who apologise for the shortcomings of their meetings, point out the difficulties of their arrangement and have the temerity to ask for subscriptions. Then why mention them?

Whether I answered his letter point by point is a matter of opinion. His last paragraph is just a matter of bad taste. A quotation from what appears to be a private letter written to him by 'a Brighton correspondent' would carry more weight if accompanied by the author's name, and dispel the unfortunate impression of an attempt at mischief making.

S. E. ARMSTRONG.

Brighton

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. William E. White, of Cotgrave (late hon. treasurer, senior trustee (although he had recently passed through a very severe and critical illness and had made a marvellous recovery), expressed a wish to carry on. It was, therefore, unanimously decided that Mr. John Oldham, of Loughborough (who is already a trustee of part of the association's funds), should be elected as joint trustee with Mr. W. E. White.

At the subsequent local meeting Mr. Willson was proposed an honorary life member of the association, and the secretary was asked to convey to him the members' thanks for his past great services to the association, and good wishes for better health than he had enjoyed of late.

Mr. Willson, who is now 73 years of age, has held various offices in the association, including those of hon. treasurer, vice-president and representative on the Central Council, as well as trustee.

A long discussion on a point in the president's letter with regard to the formation of diocesan guilds within the area of the association's activities closed the meeting.

The company then adjourned to the George Hotel for tea, which was followed by the local quarterly meeting, Mr. George Walker, of Syston, the district chairman, presiding. In the unavoidable absence of the district secretary (Mr. H. W. Perkins), the general secretary, Mr. Ernest Morris, read the minutes of the last two meetings, which had been successfully carried through in spite of the ban on ringing.

St. John's, Leicester, was chosen as the place for the district annual meeting, to be held in January at a date to be decided later.

This concluded the business, but there followed a social evening, which was enjoyed by all present. There was handbell ringing on a large number of bells performed by the 'Merry Optimists,' ably conducted by Police-Inspector H. J. Poole (Harold to most of his ringing friends, 'Pooley' to the R.S.M.). A conjuring performance was given by Mr. Len Styles (who, by the way, is a respected member of St. Margaret's choir), and various touches of change ringing were brought round on handbells and concluded a most successful 'double event.'

E. M.



## THE STANDARD METHODS.

### VARIATION.

(Continued from page 490.)

In quite a large number of Treble Bob and Surprise methods there are what are known as Kent places. These are made within a section and consist of two handstroke places made together followed immediately by two others on the same two bells. The most familiar example is in Kent Treble Bob, whence comes the name.

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 12345678 | 12345678 |
| 21346587 | 21435687 |
| 12435678 | 12346578 |
| 21436587 | 21436587 |

Wherever these places are made they serve one purpose only, which is to prevent the repetition which would occur if all the bells did the normal Treble Bob hunting of the principle. They affect one section only, and when they have been made the bells are in the same positions as they would have been had they all hunted Treble Bob fashion and there been no place making at all.

It follows that in any section in any method whenever two bells dodge together Kent places may be substituted for the dodging without causing any alteration in the work of the method apart from the actual section, and so we get a simple form of variation by moving the position of the Kent places within the section.

We could if we wished ring Kent Treble Bob with the place-making in 5-6 instead of in 3-4, and there is no reason why we should not do so once in a while as a novelty.

The method which perhaps best illustrates the nature and use of Kent places is Albion Treble Bob.

In construction, Albion is one of the simplest of methods. We first write out a lead of Plain Bob and then turn it into a Treble Bob method by repeating every pair of rows thus:—

|          |
|----------|
| 12345678 |
| 21436587 |
| 12345678 |
| 21436587 |

Then to get rid of the falseness we make Kent places in 5-6 in the first two sections, and in 3-4 in the third and fourth sections.

Albion was first produced by Hugh Wright, of Leeds, and appeared in the 1845 edition of Hubbard's 'Campanalogia,' the author of that work declaring it to be 'the most even and regular of any Treble Bob method extant.' It is a perfectly double method, the natural coursing order is maintained throughout the lead practically unbroken, and there are no false course ends with the tenors together.

It would appear, therefore, to be one of the very best of methods, but, though it has been before the Exercise for so long and has been well spoken of by many, it has never become popular, and only a few peals of it have been rung.

The cause undoubtedly lies in the way the places are made. The handstroke thirds and fourths, or fourths and thirds, in Kent Treble Bob are not particularly objectionable because they come at comparatively long intervals; but in Albion we get sixths and fifths and fourths and thirds, on the way down, followed immediately by thirds and fourths and fifths and sixths on the way up. We never go from front to back or back to front without making at least one pair of Kent places, and four times

within a course we make two pairs. It is too much. It is difficult to see why it should be so, but undoubtedly a succession of backstroke places such as we get in Superlative or Cambridge, or even in the slow work of Kent Treble Bob, is nicer and more interesting to make than a succession of handstroke places as in Albion. Handstroke places to be interesting should come irregularly as in London, or be mixed with backstroke places as in Bristol.

| Albion T.B. | X a Variation. |
|-------------|----------------|
| 12345678    | 12345678       |
| 21435687    | 21346587       |
| 12346578    | 12435678       |
| 21436587    | 21436587       |
| 24163857    | 24163857       |
| 42613875    | 42613875       |
| 24168357    | 24168357       |
| 42618375    | 42618375       |
| 46281735    | 46281735       |
| 64287153    | 64287153       |
| 46821735    | 46821735       |
| 64827153    | 64827153       |
| 68472513    | 68472513       |
| 86475231    | 86742531       |
| 68742513    | 68475213       |
| 86745231    | 86745231       |
| 87654321    | 87654321       |
| 78653412    | 78564312       |
| 87564321    | 87653421       |
| 78563412    | 78563412       |
| 75836142    | 75836142       |
| 57831624    | 57831624       |
| 75386142    | 75386142       |
| 57381624    | 57381624       |
| 53718264    | 53718264       |
| 35178246    | 35178246       |
| 53712864    | 53712864       |
| 35172846    | 35172846       |
| 31527486    | 31527486       |
| 13257468    | 13524768       |
| 31524786    | 31257486       |
| 13254768    | 13254768       |
| 13527486    | 13527486       |

Several variations of Albion are obvious. In every section there must be one set of Kent places, but so far as getting rid of repetition is concerned, it does not much matter where, within the section, we make it. We should not choose 7-8, for that would turn the tenors up the wrong way, and we must not choose 1-2, for that would cause a bell to lead for three consecutive blows. There are many methods where in the fourth section Kent places may be made either in 1-2, 3-4, or 5-6.

We give one variation of Albion with the Kent places of the first section in 3-4 instead of in 5-6, and in the fourth section in 5-6 instead of in 3-4. Two other variations can be had—one above the treble as Albion, and

(Continued on next page.)



**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.**

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

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

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—All members and friends are invited to attend a ringing practice and meeting to be held at Friezland on Saturday, Oct. 18th. Tower bells, with ringing apparatus, will be available from 3 p.m. Don't miss this treat. Bus or train to Greenfield Station. — Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—A meeting will be held at Daventry, Saturday, Oct. 18th. Handbell ringing.—W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst, on Saturday, October 25th. Tower open for handbell ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 3.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. Canon R. S. Greaves) only for those who send their names to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst, not later than Tuesday, October 21st. Business includes election of officers.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Shipley on Saturday, October 25th. Bells (clappers removed) available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church. Business meeting in the tower.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on Saturday, October 25th. Tower open 3 p.m. Handbells and eight silent bells. Tea for those who notify Mr. E. J. Ladd, 4, William Street, Tunbridge Wells, by Tuesday, October 21st. Come along and make this a good meeting. There is a good train and bus service.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

**STANDARD METHODS.**

(Continued from previous page.)

below the treble as X; the other above the treble as X, and below the treble as Albion.

The forms of variation we described last week made no difference to the internal falseness of the method; the variations have the same false course ends as the originals. But that is not so with the variations produced by altering the positions of Kent places. When they are made in 3-4 in the first section of any method the two false course ends A32546 and D46253 are always produced; but when they are made in 5-6 there is (so far) a clear-proof scale.

Similarly, moving Kent places in the third or fourth sections may increase or diminish the number of false course ends.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at The Studios, Falconer Road, Bushey, on Saturday, October 25th. Handbells from 3 p.m. Tea 5.30. All welcome.—H. G. Cashmore, 24, Muriel Avenue, Watford.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Ewell on Saturday, October 25th. Handbells available in the tower from 3 p.m. and after meeting. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea (4.45) and business meeting. Names for tea to Mr. C. E. Read, 58, High Street, Ewell, by Wednesday, October 22nd. All ringers heartily welcome.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec.; G. W. Massey and A. T. Shelton, Dis. Secs.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—The next meeting will be held at the Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, on Saturday, October 25th, at 3 p.m.—The 304th anniversary luncheon will be held at Slater's Restaurant, Basinghall Street, E.C., on Saturday, November 8th, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 6s. 6d. Latest date for application Tuesday, November 4th.—A. B. Peck, Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.**—Any ringers who may be coming up next term are asked to communicate with J. E. Spice (Master) at New College, or W. L. B. Leese (secretary) at St. John's.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Isle of Wight District.—The secretary of this district is now Mrs. C. Guy, Merrie Meade, Watergate Road, Newport, Isle of Wight.

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