



No. 1,596. Vol. XXXVI.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24th, 1941.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 3d.

**GILLETT  
&  
JOHNSTON Ltd.  
CROYDON**

Founders of the  
**HEAVIEST BELLS**  
Cast in England  
and Carillons of the  
**BRITISH EMPIRE**

in

**CANADA  
S. AFRICA  
NEW ZEALAND**



Telephone  
Thornton Heath 3221-2-3 and 3120

**PRESERVATION OF MSS.**

The statement that the manuscript work of the late Mr. A. G. Driver is saved for future reference is gratifying news, for there is, we gather, much useful matter among the papers which, in days to come, may be turned to advantage for the benefit of change ringing. The importance of preserving anything of value in this direction cannot be overstressed, and in this connection it need hardly be pointed out the risk of losing manuscripts is even greater than that of losing printed books. The latter have a chance of survival, even in the hands of those who do not know their real value, but manuscripts are more than likely to go into the fire, or the waste-paper basket when a clearing-up takes place, after the death of the owner for instance. They are treated as just so many 'old bits of paper' that have been hoarded up and now need to be disposed of and disposed of quickly. In this way, doubtless, many a manuscript which might have proved a valuable contribution to ringing knowledge has gone up in flames or been thrown out as rubbish.

Not every ringer, of course, has manuscripts worth preserving; indeed, the number of those who have anything of real value must be comparatively few, while even among those who possess something which may be a contribution to knowledge, probably only a small portion of their MSS. is worth preserving. Nevertheless, the fact remains that there are here and there manuscripts which it would be in the interests of the art to save from destruction. In years to come they would be cherished, if not for the use which could be made of them, at least for the light they would shed on the development of ringing in these days. What, for instance, would we not give now for some of the original manuscripts of Stedman or Holt, Reeves or Shipway? We know how valuable and interesting, from the historical angle, is Annable's notebook, which is in the British Museum, and how important are the Osborn MSS., which are also in safe keeping there. The latter are perhaps the best and most valuable collection of ringing papers which we have, and it is upon them largely that we have to rely for the early history of the Exercise. There are, too, some other important MSS. similarly preserved, such as the manuscript books of the Scholars of Cheapside, dating from the early seventeenth century, of the Union Scholars and the Eastern Scholars, as well as of the College Youths, and the rules of that now obscure society, the Esquire Youths, which were discovered by Mr. J. A. Trollope written in the back of a book evidently borrowed, to put it mildly, from the library of King Charles II. These are some few instances of manuscripts saved from destruction in the past which,

(Continued on page 506.)



# WM. POTTS & SONS LTD.

(ESTABLISHED 1833).

## CATHEDRAL, CHURCH AND TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS

Makers of many of the largest and most important Clocks  
in the World.

CLOCKS REPAIRED AND DIALS RESTORED.

## 'THE GUILDFORD CLOCK WORKS,'

Bankfield Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

And at 9, Adelphi Chambers, Shakespeare St.,  
Newcastle-on-Tyne,

and 96, Carver Street, Moorhead, Sheffield.

## THE RINGER'S BADGE,

Supplied as Stud for Buttonhole,  
Brooch or Pendant

With name of your Association engraved  
—as Illustration.

got. HALL MARKED GOLD .. 45/-  
HALL MARKED SILVER .. 7/6  
GILT OR WHITE METAL .. 4/-

Names or Presentation Inscriptions can  
be engraved on the reverse side at a  
small extra charge.



Exact size

**GEO. STACEY, JEWELLER AND  
ENGRAVER,  
6, PARK ST., NINEHEAD, SOMERSET**

## METHOD SPLICING

*The Newest and Most Interesting  
Development of Change Ringing*

Study this latest phase of the Art  
and learn how to practise it.

The System is fully explained in  
'METHOD SPLICING,' price 1/3 (post free)  
from 'The Ringing World' Office,  
LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING.

ESTABLISHED 1780

## JOHN NICOLL,

*Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer,*

**64, LEWISHAM PARK, LONDON, S.W.13**

Late of BERMONDSEY and PECKHAM.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Insti-  
tute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peter-  
borough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's,  
Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

in their several ways, have helped to build up a picture of the Exercise in other centuries and to indicate the growth of the art in days now long since past.

In the same way the original work of writers in these later years may prove of considerable importance in time to come, not particularly in the near future, perhaps, although in the case of Mr. Driver's MSS. there may prove to be something of immediate value. But fifty or a hundred years hence, some of the products of to-day may prove a useful indication to the ringers of future generations of the standards reached in the first half of the twentieth century. In addition to general manuscripts, what are also, of course, of value are the individual peal records of ringers. These, in days to come, will be full of historic interest, not because of the particular ringers' performances, excellent as they may be, but because they may be linked up with others and together show the trend and expansion of the art, from the practical aspect, just as the other documents will indicate the development of the scientific side. What matters at the moment, therefore, is that those who know of the existence of such MSS. and documents should take steps to see that they are preserved by bringing home their importance to the existing owners, or to those who may have the handling of them when the present owners are gone. This is one way in which the records of our times may be safeguarded for the benefit of those who will follow.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 12, 1941, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;**

MRS. J. THOMAS ... .. 1-2 | \*ISAAC J. ATTEWATER ... .. 5-6  
JOHN THOMAS ... .. 3-4 | †HAROLD HOWSON ... .. 7-8

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

\* First peal of Kent 'in hand.' † First peal of Treble Bob Major.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 18, 1941, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

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

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

\*R. W. HAYWARD ... .. 1-2 | W. H. LLOYD ... .. 5-6  
\*A. H. REED ... .. 3-4 | \*W. G. GIGG ... .. 7-8

Conducted by W. H. LLOYD.

\* First peal 'in hand.' Rung to the memory of James Hunt, who was always present to guide and help at the practices.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 18, 1941, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE RECTORY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

GEORGE W. MASSEY ... .. 1-2 | EDGAR R. RAPLEY ... .. 3-4  
\*CECIL R. LONGHURST ... .. 5-6

Conducted by E. R. RAPLEY.

Witness—Rev. Cecil J. Wood.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Edwin A. Barnett.

## BELL ROPES

MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.  
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT  
CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.

Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. Phone 203.

**DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM**



## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 497.)

### DEBATES ABOUT MANY MATTERS.

In the early years the Council used to debate matters affecting ringers and ringing without passing any resolution or attempting to reach any definite decision. The idea was to ventilate opinion and give the Exercise the benefit of the experience of leading men. It was quite a good plan, though there were seldom any very striking speeches made, and the debates did not create anything like the amount of interest as was taken in those subjects



THE LATE REV. C. W. O. JENKYN.  
Many Years Librarian of the Council.

which in some quarters were supposed to be the monopoly of the faddists and the bores. Among the subjects discussed were such as the best way to teach learners, the need for more than one conductor in a band, steeple-keepers, truth in peal ringing and the like.

Sunday peal ringing was also debated, and as nineteenth century sabbatarian ideas were still strong, there were members who desired the Council to condemn the practice. It was discussed at London in 1897, at Bristol in 1898, and again at Worcester, but opinion was very much divided, and no formal resolution was passed. On one occasion the Council shirked the issue by passing to the 'previous question.'

In 1904, at York, William Snowdon moved that, 'while the Council did not desire to encourage single-handed peals on handbells, it offered no objection when they were rung under special circumstances.' This led to an expression of strong opinion from Heywood. He said he did not think they should be encouraged. He had himself done single-handed ringing in teaching a young

band, although he was not sure that it was a good mode of instructing. The reason why he did not like it was because you could fumble on after a breakdown. That could not easily be done double handed or in the tower. Single-handed handbell peals were miserable performances. The Council, however, decided to give them as many points as tower bell peals.

At the same meeting F. E. Robinson moved a resolution declaring that 'in the opinion of the Council it is desirable that promising ringers should be given the opportunity of learning how to conduct.'



THE LATE MR. ROBERT STOREY, OF NEWCASTLE,  
An Active Member Forty Years Ago.

It was a somewhat platitudinous motion, and the object (which was really Heywood's) was rather to have something round which opinion could be expressed, than to lay down any novel or startling proposition. It seemed there was a feeling that there was a good deal of selfishness among older men, who kept the conducting to themselves and did not allow younger men a chance.

C. D. P. Davies said a great change had taken place during thirty years. There had been a time when there never was more than one conductor in a tower. Conducting was a sort of masonic secret which only occasionally leaked out, and young men had to thrust through obstacles in order to make any progress. But such a thing had come to an end, and it was then rare to find a company with only one conductor. When he was conducting he was thankful to have someone taking part who could give assistance in the case of a late call, and so perhaps save the peal.

Robinson said it was desirable to have more than one conductor, but as to how many it was desirable to have



in a peal, that was another matter. He considered there should be only one. When he went into a strange tower and was asked to call, he consented to do so if other people kept quiet. That was very characteristic of Robinson.

William Wakley said he always felt more certain of a peal when he was calling with half a dozen men in the band equally as capable as himself. He would like to see every member in a band capable of calling a touch. Calling peals was another matter, but the comrades of a young man who had shown he was sufficiently advanced would not hesitate to start for a peal under his conductorship.

E. W. Carpenter came perhaps nearest reality when he said that if an attempt was made to teach the whole band conducting, the work would not be so well done as if it were confined to one or two. There was a danger of reducing it to a low level. It was better to select those with talent and to make the most of them.

It was not a debate which threw much light on the matter, but the subject was worth discussing.

'Is too much stress laid upon peal ringing by ringers of the present day?' was a question the Council was asked to consider by H. J. Elsee at the Exeter meeting in 1907. It was a matter on which people could say a great deal, but not very much that was definite. All agreed that service ringing had the first claims on ringers, and A. T. King said that if the bells were not rung for divine service they ought not to be rung at all. Most ringers to-day will agree, and carry out the idea in practice, but it was an opinion that an earlier generation did not share. H. T. Ellacombe strongly objected to ringing on Sundays, and held that the proper thing to do was to chime for services and keep ringing for festivities, celebrations, weddings and sport. That was the traditional English custom everywhere except in the North.

Heywood agreed with Elsee that too much stress was laid upon peal ringing, yet he had himself for a few years been one of the most active peal ringers in the country. He complained of the way in which many so-called peals were rung. Some, he said, were undoubtedly so badly struck that those who rang in them ought to be thoroughly ashamed to call the performance a peal. What justification he had for so sweeping a charge I do not know, though, of course, he was doing good by calling attention to the need for good striking.

Good striking was debated at Cambridge in 1908. The item on the agenda invited the Council 'to discuss the question whether the present fashion of ringing a large variety of methods is responsible for decreased attention to accurate striking and, if so, whether any steps can be taken to encourage greater pride in this respect.'

Herbert A. Cockey was entrusted with the opening of the debate, but Heywood was really responsible for the matter being brought forward. He said he had done so because a large majority of peals were badly struck. People overlooked the fact that perfect striking was perfect pleasure in ringing. He was afraid that a great deal of the old pride in having good striking had died out, whether it was in advanced methods or not. He attached great importance to good striking, just as many of the old ringers of the past day did, who were very severe on bad striking. There was not then much chance for the beginner if he did not quickly show signs of progress in the art of striking.

Charles Henry Hattersley did not consider the striking then was as good as it had been formerly. Good striking was of far more importance than the number of methods. Bad striking had not only a bad effect on the general public, but it led to dishonesty. Some of the peals recorded were a fraud on the Exercise. He quoted with approval what the president had said at Exeter: 'If many who took part in peals would have the honesty inside the tower that they had when outside listening to other ringers there would be a great improvement and not so many unworthy peals recorded.'

C. W. O. Jenkyn said one cause of bad striking was that the same man did not always ring the same bell. Where that was done the striking usually was better. This was rather a startling opinion coming from such a source.

George F. Attree did not agree that striking generally was worse than it had been, pointing out quite fairly that there were then fifty bands where in the older times there had been but one. Several members expressed the opinion that the advanced methods could not be rung unless they were well struck which, of course, is a complete fallacy, though many people still hold it.

In the end a resolution was passed declaring 'that the Council desires to call the attention of the associations generally, and of conductors in particular, to the desirability of encouraging the greatest possible accuracy in striking.'

Anything to encourage good striking was, of course, well worth while, and not only the Council but everybody connected with the Exercise should lose no opportunity of stressing the point, but one rather wonders whether the striking in old times was generally so very excellent. Some of it was certainly, and there was a greater tendency among the leading bands to be stern and even savage with the beginner who failed to come up to their standard. But there was a lot of bad ringing, too, in places. There was more stoney rung, which can be struck fairly decently by inexperienced men, and not so many bands trying to ring changes before they had learnt to ring rounds. But taking the country as a whole, the average striking of change ringers is probably as good as it ever has been, perhaps better. Not that there is no room for improvement.

## HATING THE GERMANS.

### A DANGEROUS STIMULATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am reported in your issue of October 10th as saying at a meeting of St. Martin's Guild that 'we all hated the Germans like poison and the more we killed the better we liked it.'

I need only say that I spoke of the danger of giving way to such feelings and deriving our stimulation from them.

Edgbaston.

(Canon) STUART BLOFFELD.

## DEATH OF MR. JESSE J. MOSS.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Jesse J. Moss, of Bolsover, who passed away in his sleep during Sunday night, October 12th, without any previous illness. He had taken part in handbell ringing with some of the Bolsover band in the belfry of the Parish Church the same evening.

Mr. Moss, who was a farmer, was a native of Thornham in Suffolk, where probably he learnt to ring. Thirty-six years ago he went to Bolsover and helped a very progressive band in many ways. He was regular in his attendance at service ringing and on practice nights. Mr. Moss rang about 200 peals, including many in about nine different Surprise methods. When he rang his 100th peal he had scored peals with 100 ringers.

He was laid to rest in the Parish Churchyard on Thursday, the 16th, after lying in his beloved belfry during Wednesday and Thursday. He was borne to his last resting place by his brother ringers, and many others attended from Treeton, Chesterfield, Staveley and Eckington. He was 57 years of age.



**FELKIRK D.F.M. RINGER MISSING.**

Sergt. John Copley, R.A.F., a Falkirk ringer, has been reported missing. He belonged to the Stirling Bomber Squadron and had taken part in a great number of raids over enemy territory. He was awarded the D.F.M. on December 15th, 1939, for his skill and bravery as a rear gunner during a raid on enemy ships off Heligoland on December 3rd, 1939. A peal of Minor was rung at Falkirk on January 1st, 1940, in honour of this award.

Sergt. Copley joined the R.A.F. before the war as a mechanic and later became a rear gunner and instructor, after which he became flight engineer. He was a member of the Felkirk Parish Church company of ringers and a member of the Barnsley District Society and the Yorkshire Association.

Hopes are still held that news may come in the near future that he has been spared and is alive and well.

**ALBION TREBLE BOB.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—We do not usually call a false peal a variation of a true peal, why, then, call a false method a variation of a true method? A better plan would be to call X Variation Albion Treble Bob Spoiled.

I have always looked on Albion Treble Bob as a single method, but we were told in last week's 'Ringing World' that it is a 'perfectly double method.'

It is nearly seventeen years since I first disclosed the fact that Round Blocks and Transpositions exist in methods, principles, and systems; and five years since in peal compositions also.

GEORGE BAKER.

Brighton.

[It was wrong, of course, to call Albion a perfectly double method. It is double only so far as the interior of the lead is concerned.—Editor, 'The Ringing World.']

**A DUBLIN QUARTER-PEAL.**

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) was rung in 49 minutes on the bells of St. George's Parish Church, Dublin, before the evening harvest thanksgiving service on Sunday, October 5th: Arthur Worrell 1, Fred E. Dukes (conductor) 2, Miss Ada C. Dukes 3, William E. Hall 4, Mrs. Fred E. Dukes 5, Ernest Davidson 6, William McGregor 7, Mathew Doolan 8. The ringers of the treble and fifth scored their first quarter-peal, which was rung on the front five bells, with 7.6.8 covering.

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

**ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Northern Branch of the Worcester and Districts Association was held at Clent on Saturday, September 20th, when 61 members and friends were present. The tower bells were available for silent practice from 3 p.m., and were kept fully occupied with Grandsire Triplet, Stedman Triplet, Bob Major, Bristol, London and Cambridge Surprise, and Spliced Surprise.

At the business meeting after tea, the officers were re-elected en bloc, viz., Mr. John Lloyd, Master; Mr. B. C. Ashford, secretary; and Messrs. William Short, John Bass and Charles Woodberry, Central Committee representatives. Mr. George Smith, of Cheltenham, was elected a performing member, and a vote of thanks to Miss F. Thatcher, of the local band, and her helpers for serving the tea brought the proceedings to a close, when some of the members made tracks for the tower, while others indulged in handbell ringing.

Later an adjournment was made to a place well known to visiting ringers for a social evening, which, as usual, included change ringing and tune playing on the handbells, interspersed with refreshments and many reminiscences.

Members were present from Bilston, Birmingham, Brierley Hill, Bromsgrove, Cheltenham, Clent, Coalbrookdale, Coventry, Cradley, Dudley, Kidderminster, Stourbridge, Upton-on-Severn, Wollaston and Wolverley.

**VERGERS OR VIRGERS?**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am afraid the London Virgers' Guild (and Mr. Morris) are more pedantic than accurate. It is true that 'verge' and 'verger' come originally from the Latin 'virga,' but—they come by way of the French word 'verge,' the change from 'i' to 'o' taking place in Merovingian Latin a thousand or more years ago. (One of many similar examples is 'verdant' through the French 'verdoyant' from Latin 'viridans').

So that, in fact, 'verge' and 'verger' are the original English spellings: 'virge' and 'virger' only appeared many years later, and according to the Oxford English Dictionary are merely 'obsolete variants.'

H. T. WISDOM.

43, Hampstead Road, Brighton.

Mr. Ernest Morris writes: 'Virger' is not the *old* way of spelling like 'rynger' or 'vyrger,' but it is the correct Latin way. But 'verger' is also O.K.

**John Taylor & Co.**

**LOUGHBOROUGH**

.....

**THE**

**LEADING BELL FOUNDERS**

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED 1570

## MEARS & STAINBANK

AT

34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD  
LONDON  
E.1

Telephone BISHopsgate 2599

Founders of the new ring  
of twelve for  
Liverpool Cathedral  
Tenor 82 cwt.

HANDBELLS, BELL ROPES,  
MUFFLES,  
Etc.

### BELFRY GOSSIP.

The ringers who rang the handbell peal at West Grinstead on Saturday would like to thank the Rev. and Mrs. Wood for their kindness in inviting them to ring at the Rectory, for the interest they took in the ringing, and for the refreshments they provided afterwards.

The N.U.T.S. will doubtless be interested to know that Mr. R. A. Reed, of Eastleigh, a member of North Stoneham band, is shortly to be married to Miss Alice M. Scott. The wedding will take place at Bishopstoke on November 1st.

The Bromley Youths rang the first John peal, one of Grandsire Triples, at SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley, on October 15th, 1828.

Thomas Tolladay died on October 18th, 1843, and a muffled peal for him was rung at St. Clement Danes' in the following January.

The College Youths rang 6,000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch on October 19th, 1766. The composition probably was false.

On Monday, October 20th, 1794, the Society of Cumberland Youths rang on the old ring of bells at St. Giles', Camberwell, John Reeves' peal of Oxford Treble Bob, containing 6,720 changes and with the 120 course ends. George Gross conducted, and Shipway, who was in the band, says it was the first time a peal of Treble Bob containing the 120 course ends had been rung, but there is good reason to think that the College Youths had already rung the same peal at Kensington.

The first and only peal of Stedman Royal was rung at Aston Parish Church by the St. Martin's Youths of Birmingham on October 21st, 1876. It was composed and conducted by Henry Johnson. The figures of the method were given in a recent issue of 'The Ringing World.'

Charles Henry Hattersley died on October 21st, 1915.

On October 21st, 1891, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Saffron Walden, the first by the ancient Saffron Walden Society since 1817. Four members of the famous Pitstow family took part as well as John F. Penning, well known as a composer of Grandsire Triples.

The veterans' peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Olave's, Hart Street, on October 21st, 1933. The total age of the band was 612 years. Four members, Messrs. H. W. Smith, E. H. Brundle, F. E. Dawe and James George, happily, are still alive.

On the same date in 1911 the first peal by eight brothers was rung by the Bailey family at Leiston.

On Sunday, October 23rd, 1791, James Bartlett with a band of the College Youths mostly belonging to St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, rang Holt's Original at St. Giles' in-the-Fields. Bartlett was for long supposed to be the first man to call the peal and ring at the same time, but the feat had already been performed three or four times, including a performance at St. Giles', Norwich, exactly 39 years before. The College Youths rang the peal non-conducted for the first time on the anniversary in 1884.

The first peal of Little Albion Treble Bob Major was rung at Pulford in Cheshire on October 24th, 1913; and on the same date in 1934 the Australian tourists rang at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, the first peal of Bob Royal outside the British Isles.

The first peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on October 25th, 1731, and on the same date in 1790 the Birmingham men rang at St. Philip's in that town the first peal of Stedman Caters outside London.

The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal was rung at All Saints', Wakefield, on October 26th, 1822. The composition was true.

On the same date in 1837 the St. James' Society rang 7,325 changes of Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; and in 1867 the Liverside band rang 6,240 changes of Cumberland Exercise Major.

Fifty years ago to-day four peals were rung. Two were Grandsire Triples, one Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and one Kent Treble Bob Major. One of the peals of Grandsire was by the Society of Cumberland Youths at the Curfew Tower, Windsor Castle. George Newson called Holt's Original, Arthur Jacob rang the tenor, and Mr. W. H. Fussell rang the fifth.

### PHILIP HODGKIN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The account by F.M.M. of Mr. Philip Hodgkin's record was very interesting, especially to myself, who have known him all my ringing life.

Unless I am very much mistaken (and I do not think I am), after the peal of Bob Major mentioned was published as the first peal of Major on the bells at Tenterden, a record of one rung there in 1771 by James Barham was found and published in 'The Ringing World.'

In fairness to the late Mr. W. Pye, it should have been stated that when he rang the bell it was hung in roller bearings, and when, after ringing it for two hours to Superlative, he gave up, it was found that three out of four rollers were crushed.

E. BARNETT.

### TENTERDEN TENOR.

Dear Sir,—The reason why the late Mr. William Pye did not ring Tenterden tenor was just bad luck. She was then hung with roller bearings, the rollers broke and that caused the failure.

R. D.



## THE LATE MR. JAMES HUNT. FUNERAL AT TAUNTON. His Peal Record.

Mr. James Hunt, of Taunton, whose death was reported in our last issue, was buried on Wednesday, October 15th, the coffin having rested overnight in the belfry of St. James' Church.

The funeral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Walter Green, and Mr. Philpott was at the organ. The hymns sung were 'Jesu, lover of my soul' and 'Abide with me,' and as the cortege left the church the organist played the Dead March. The service was largely attended, and many of deceased's friends also gathered at St. Mary's Cemetery, where the burial took place.

The family mourners were Sergt. C. J. Hunt, R.A. (son) and Miss V. Hunt (daughter), Mr. and Mrs. T. Hunt (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Clarke (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr. S. Clarke (brother-in-law) and Mrs. L. Snow (niece).

Ringers from many parts of the Taunton Deanery were present and also representatives of the Diocesan Association, including Mr. T. Taffender (London) and Mr. D. G. Taylor (Ilminster).

Messrs. W. Gigg, S. Jarman, F. Morris, W. Priddle and J. Roy, St. James' ringers, and H. Churchill, Trull, acted as bearers, and after the coffin had been lowered into the grave a course of Grand-sire Triples was rung on Mr. Hunt's own handbells, those on which the record peal of Stedman Caters was rung: R. W. Hayward (Wilton) 1-2, A. H. Reed (St. James') 3-4, A. H. Lloyd (St. Mary's) 5-6, and W. Gigg (St. James') 7-8.

It will be remembered that Mr. Hunt died in Taunton Hospital after having been knocked down by a motor-car. He had been in bed, by the doctor's orders, since October 2nd, but on the night of October 6th got up, put on his coat and trousers over his pyjamas, and went out into the street. When taken to hospital it was found that he had sustained bruises on the scalp and forehead, but the skull was not fractured.

A verdict of 'Death from natural causes' was returned at the inquest, the post-mortem examination having revealed that death was due to a leakage of blood from the aorta and cerebral hæmorrhage, both caused by degeneration of the heart muscle, and a clot of blood from the heart extending to the lungs.

The Coroner stated that even if the accident had not occurred Mr. Hunt would have died within two hours.

Among those who sent wreaths were the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association; St. James' Guild, Taunton; bellringing friends at Ashbrittle; the ringers of Trull; his ringing boys; St. James' Parochial Church Council; and the children of Bishop's Hull School (where Mr. Hunt did duty every day in giving them safe conduct across the road).

Mr. Hunt's peals, which numbered 554 and were rung for 18 associations, were as follow:—

	Tower bells Rung Conducted	Handbells Rung Conducted
Grandsire Doubles	3	2
Stedman Doubles	2	1
Bob Minor	5	3
Two to seven methods	9	5
Combined Kent and Oxford Minor	1	1
Cambridge Surprise Minor	1	1
Seven Surprise Minor Methods	1	1
Grandsire Triples	57	24
Stedman Triples	97	6
Bob Triples	1	1
Bob Major	42	19
Kent Treble Bob Major	20	3
Oxford Treble Bob Major	2	2
Combined Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major	1	1
Double Norwich	38	9
Norfolk Surprise	1	2
Superlative Surprise	32	2
Cambridge Surprise	9	1
New Cambridge Surprise	1	1
Bristol Surprise	7	1
London Surprise	2	
Grandsire Caters	13	5
Stedman Caters	34	5
Bob Royal	2	1
Kent Treble Bob Royal	5	2
Cambridge Surprise Royal	1	
Stedman, Cinques	9	12
	396	94
		158
		2

Total rung 554; conducted 96.

### OLD COLLEAGUE'S APPRECIATION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I should like to express my appreciation of my late friend James Hunt, whose death all who knew him will greatly deplore. Forty years ago there were two men, Charles Willshire, now in (Continued in next column.)

## RINGING IN NORTH HAMPSHIRE. BASINGSTOKE'S BRIGHT SPOT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have, unfortunately, only lately had the September 19th copy of 'The Ringing World' in my possession, but better late than never. I would like to support Mr. C. W. Munday in his defence of the northern districts of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

I challenge your statement that 'in the territory farther removed from the sea enthusiasm has long been less marked,' for it is indeed a fallacy. To the contrary, I suggest that enthusiasm in the Basingstoke District was, at the outbreak of war, at a much higher level than any other district. My reason for saying this is that I am, I believe, the only 'outsider,' apart from, perhaps, Mr. L. A. Tremear, who knows to the full what efforts the young ringers of that district are putting forth for the advancement of campanology. They are mostly young men, of an average age of about 22, and, apart from attending every meeting within their range, they cycle everywhere, because, as Mr. Munday says, travelling facilities are bad.

They also attempt peals at every opportunity. In 1939 I started to keep a record of all peals lost, and it opened my eyes to the real activity of these ringers. Every time I met Mr. Munday or one of his fellow ringers I was handed a list of lost peals. It must be remembered that they have no G. Williams or F. W. Rogers to encourage them and guide them through their first peals, as we, in the south, have had! A peal of Bob Major by the Basingstoke band is, I feel, of far greater value than a peal of London by the North Stoneham or Portsmouth band, both to the ringers and the Exercise. I remember inviting Mr. F. A. Munday, of Basingstoke, to stand in a peal of Cambridge Major at Romsey in 1939. He rang it with scarcely a trip and told me afterwards that he had rung only one course ever before and had never made a bob! They are all as keen as that, but their keenness is not generally recognised—because they do not have peals published every other week or so.

I hope I have made it clear that the 'indifference' and 'lack of interest' in that district are purely mythical, and that, with so many young and enthusiastic ringers in our Guild, the spirit of ringing cannot be dead, and it will be we young ones who will raise the flag after the war.

R. A. REED.

### FEW ACTIVE CENTRES.

This testimony by Mr. Reed to the activity of the Basingstoke band is heartening, but, splendid as has been the enthusiasm of this young band, may we quote the old adage to point out that 'one swallow does not make a summer'? The Basingstoke band are a great asset to the Diocesan Guild and will, we hope, become more so in the future, but we referred in our article generally to the large area of North Hampshire. Draw a line across the county, say, from Romsey in the west to Petersfield in the east, and, with the exception of Basingstoke and just one or two other scattered places, where has there been any real enthusiasm shown in recent years? It is a good thing for the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild that there are these one or two bright spots, otherwise the outlook might be poor indeed, but, speaking generally, we still feel our comment was justified.—Editor, 'Ringing World.'

## THE LATE MR. JAMES HUNT.

(Continued from previous column.)

Canada, and James Hunt, who were really the means through which we others in Guildford had our enthusiasm stirred and from whom we received so much assistance. Jim Hunt did all the arranging and a favourite visitor was the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, who came to the towers round this neighbourhood. Then we started handbell ringing, and I think it was the practice we put in while travelling in trains that developed the quick ringing. Jim used to say as we started, 'Now we have so long, so shove them along and see how much we can ring.' When we used to go straight from work and had no bells, we had to use our thumbs. We often laughed and wondered what other passengers thought of us.

My own tower of Holy Trinity succeeded in getting a Surprise band together, and Jim Hunt, who was leader at S. Nicolas', was big enough always to meet us outside the tower to congratulate the band on all our first peals. I may add that he was always in the next peal in the method.

It was always his wish to ring the 'four fives,' 'four sevens,' 'four eights' and 'four nines' of Stedman Caters, but all this did not materialise, as he moved to London. As you have recorded, we rang the 14 thousand, and after that it was the 'five twos' we wanted to ring. It was only bad luck in one of the band being kept at work on the railway that the peal was not rung.

To see and hear Jim Hunt ring 7-8 was a treat. He had a flair for that pair once they were turned into the handstroke position, and he swung them along as if they were tower bells.

The older members of the Winchester Guild will recollect those two enthusiasts, Charles Willshire and James Hunt, and the annual meetings at Winchester or the meetings of our own district were always interesting when they were present. All will admit that their ideas were always of progress.

While memory lasts Jim Hunt will always be remembered by

A. H. PULLING.



## BELLS AS "LUXURIES." "THEY BELONG TO ENGLAND."

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. F. H. Smith is pleased to be witty, but he does not add anything to the discussion, and I need not waste any time trying to reply to his letter.

Mr. T. Groombridge and Mr. F. E. Pitman talk more sense, but I think both of them are largely wrong.

The question is: Should parishes treat bells as 'necessities' and insure them against enemy action? or should they treat them as 'luxuries' and trust to good fortune? Diocesan authorities seem in most cases to recommend the second course, and I think they are right.

Of course, where there is plenty of money it is the proper thing to insure everything to the full, but there are not many parishes where they have not a great difficulty to make ends meet, and usually if the money is to be found for insurances, something else must go short. After all, considering the number of bells there are in the country, the number that have been damaged or destroyed is small, and though we must expect further raids when Hitler thinks he has got a freer hand in Russia, the number is not likely to be so very large. In many of the cases where the bells do suffer we can confidently expect that the same spirit and the same generosity that supplied the bells in the first instance will in due time replace them, though there are a lot of other things that will have to come first.

But Mr. Pitman and Mr. Groombridge say that the Government have confiscated the bells and turned them into military objects; and, therefore, if they are damaged or destroyed, the Government should replace them with others equal in size and quality.

I think that is a wrong way of looking at the matter. The Government have not confiscated or even commandeered the bells. They have reserved the use of them to act as warnings in the case of invasion, and they have a perfect right to do so. The bells are not private property. In a sense they do not belong to the local church authorities except as trustees. They certainly do not belong to us ringers. They belong to England, and if England has need of them in her hour of danger, she has every right to use them, asking no man's leave. One of the reasons for which some of them were originally put up was to sound the alarm in time of danger. We ringers must not complain if our personal wishes and conveniences have to stand by in the national interests, and much as we regret the ban we do not complain. What we do point out is that bells are not in the least likely to fulfil the purpose the Government intend. With our experience we know that they would be largely ineffectual. It is a pity the military authorities did not realise that before they imposed the ban, but in fairness there are one or two things to remember. We know now, though we did not at the time, how very serious was the danger of invasion in June, 1940, after the collapse of France and the loss of all the equipment of our expeditionary force. We know something of the effort that had to be made to prepare the country for defence. And we need not wonder that the authorities turned to the only means of giving an alarm that lay to their hands—the ancient one of church bells. Probably they thought it might not be a good one, but there was nothing else. They were not, I imagine, thinking of towns and places where news would spread faster than men could get up into the steeples, but the remoter country districts where air borne invaders might be expected to be dropped. I doubt if, now, they attach much importance to the warning by church bells.

When the war is over every effort should be made, and no doubt will be made, to replace damage done by enemy action, but church bells have no particular claim to priority because they have been set apart to act as warnings. We hear a lot of talk about military objectives, but much of it is meaningless. The Government order has not increased in the slightest the risk of bells being damaged. We may be perfectly sure that not one German bomb has ever been dropped with the actual intention of damaging a church tower and its bells because they are military objectives. In totalitarian war every thing and every civilian, man, woman or child, is a military objective, if the Germans think they can get their way by bombing them. They are not at war with the English army and air force only, they are at war with England and the English people.

I did not say that there is no opposition to church bells. I was contradicting the assertion made by a correspondent in your paper that there is an organised body of persons with influence in Government circles and high places who are trying and intend to try to prohibit or curtail the general use of church bells. Opposition to some bells there is, always has been and probably always will be; but the opposition is always local and temporary. A man often objects to ringing from a tower close to his house and sometimes he objects very loudly indeed. But when that is stopped he does not care twopenny what happens in the next village. Often enough when he is on holiday and hears bells in different circumstances he is quite charmed with them.

Very often he is quite a reasonable person, for some bells, hung as some bells are hung, and rung as some ringers ring, can easily be without much stretch of imagination a nuisance to the people who live near. Generally speaking in residential neighbourhoods bells are out of place unless their sound is properly regulated, and the ringing is good and at the proper times.

Church bells have not yet lost their appeal to the ordinary Englishman.  
LESLIE W. BUNCE.

## THE "QUISLINGS" OF THE EXERCISE.

DANGERS OF CARELESS TALK.

Sir,—Mr. Leslie W. Bunce says he fails to see what point there is in any of the remarks contained in my previous letters, to which I would ask—Does he want to see? It is no exaggeration to say that some people see no point in anything except what they write themselves, and Leslie W. Bunce strikes me as being one among these, as his remarks also about the Rev. A. A. Liney go to prove. Would anything or anyone convince your correspondent? I doubt it!

A careful survey of his last letter scarcely reveals two sentences which go together, and I imagine some of your readers must have had a good laugh from certain passages. For instance, he says, 'You can get all the musical accompaniment you need with smaller and less costly organs than are usually found in churches, though everyone would prefer the luxury of the full instrument,' and he goes on to say, 'And the same with bells.' Perhaps Mr. Bunce will tell the Exercise how to get all the campanological methods it needs on three bells which he advocates putting in village churches and one bell for town churches, or even how to play all the hymn tunes one requires to get on the same numbers (even if stationary hung, and I am no advocate of this type of bell)? Whether with wheels and ropes or hung 'dead,' I am afraid the majority of people would soon get 'fed up' with hearing 'Three blind mice,' or a monotonous ding, ding, ding, for very long at a stretch. It is not (as commonsense tells us) a question of preferring the 'luxury' or full instrument as the fact that you must have it to get all the musical accompaniment you need. The only alternative is to lay down our 'arms,' so to speak, and refuse to see the expansion of our art to newly-built churches or those reconstructed in blitzed areas altogether.

I am aware that there are 'Quislings' in everything, and those members of the Exercise who favour this system I am afraid I can refer to them in no better terms. Mr. Groombridge rightly says 'All ringers have a duty to keep the Exercise alive during these dark days,' to which I would add 'and to act as missionaries to the newly-constructed areas in the post-war years,' but many Smiths, Parkinsons and Bunces will do neither. Careless talk which is likely to give secrets to the 'enemy' is a typical description of these three individuals' letters. To talk about 'what must be done is to hope that after the war some generous person will come forward and find the money to replace them' is sheer careless talk and just the kind of remark to put some church councils off from insuring their bells against war damage. And to talk of three bells being sufficient for village churches and one bell for town churches is just as careless and a remark which any loyal campanologist ought to be wholly ashamed of.

There are two things which the Christian Church stands for—spiritual administration and the social uplifting of the people; and anything which goes to further either one or both of these things must be a necessity and certainly not a luxury. Thirty years ago bells might have been looked upon as luxuries more than to-day, for in those times people needed nothing to remind them of the prayers of the Church—they worshipped as a matter of duty. Any one thing which to-day can bring to the minds of the people the thought of the Church and all it stands for is surely serving a spiritual purpose: better still if it can entice them inside, as the fascination of campanology does—and no single bell or ring of three, Mr. Bunce, can do this! I like Mr. Groombridge's retaliatory remark, 'if a clique combine to stop ringing, what is this but organised opposition?' It should give Mr. Bunce something to think about, but I don't suppose even that would convince him. Finally, here is something which Mr. Bunce cannot deny. He says trumpets were never used in the service of the Church. Either he made the remark in ignorance, or he is not very conversant with his Bible, for in several places mention is made of trumpets for calling the people to solemn assembly—for instance, Joel, chapter ii, verse 15: 'Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly.' Again in Numbers, chapter x, verses 1-2: 'And the Lord spake unto Moses saying—Make thee two trumpets of silver, of a whole piece shalt thou make them, that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly.' If Mr. Bunce and others of his type want to see the financial side of the Church righted, I suggest they bear in mind the words of Dr. Berry which I spoke of in one of my previous letters—that where things are right internally a great work is still being done despite all the difficulties: that the watchword of many of our present-day Church leaders has been 'Go!' rather than 'Come.' I personally believe there to be as much religion in minds of men and women to-day as ever. But that flower of religion needs the right soil and atmosphere in which to grow and flourish.

'ANTI-SILENT.'

### EFFORTS TO STOP BELLS.

Dear Sir,—I was astonished to read a ringer's letter patronising the idea that bells are 'luxuries.' Surely no ringer with a genuine love of bells and bellringing can hold such views, or, if he does, would be foolish enough to express them for all to read.

While I am inclined to agree that there is no *organised* opposition to bells, to say there are only half a score of people who have any intention of trying to stop the bells is sheer nonsense. I can quote several instances where definite efforts were made to stop the bells being rung in various places, and no doubt there are many ringers with much wider experience than myself who can quote very many more cases.

(Continued on next page.)



**THE LATE MR. A. G. DRIVER.****AN APPRECIATION.**

Mr. Alan R. Pink, of Oxford, who is now serving in the Royal Navy, writes expressing his great regret at the lamented death of Mr. A. G. Driver. He says: As you know, I ranked him among my greatest friends and benefactors in the Exercise, and I feel that, although I am not in a position to collate all the evidence of his genius, I must pay tribute to his memory by giving you a short summary of how his influence has touched me. In this way, and perhaps with others doing the same, we can arrive at some idea of his contribution to the art.

I have been in correspondence with him over a period of years, and I value it so highly that I have kept it all, and indexed it for future reference. It includes, I am certain, ideas of his which are not generally known, among them a full exposition of his system of proof, which is much simpler and shorter than that recently published in 'The Ringing World.' There are also many methods not rung, compositions, and ideas for developing methods. If considered necessary, I would lend it to a responsible person, in order that the Exercise should benefit permanently, but I should want it all back, as it was given to me through our friendship.

In our series of successes at Windsor we have him largely to thank for his help and advice. I find that I called a peal of Spiced Double Oxford, Plain Bob and Double Norwich, 5,008 changes, of his arrangement at Warfield, and the first peal of Belvedere Surprise Major at Staines. This was his method, as was also the composition. The footnote to the peal is typical of the man when it says that he did not wish to claim it as his own. I remember this peal as being one of the best I ever rang, and we rang it at the first attempt without practice. If it were possible we would ring it again, half-muffled, to his memory.

I have called several of his compositions of Ashted Surprise. Another outstanding achievement was the peal of Spiced Painswick, Yorkshire, Superlative and Cambridge at Old Windsor, the only one rung. This plan of splicing in separate leads was his. Cranbourne Surprise Major was worked out by him and also the composition.

His exploits in the splicing of Minor methods are better known to others, and I will leave that to those who have rung them. He was in his lifetime a man of modesty, who never wished for the limelight, but I feel that now he is gone the least we can do is to make the Exercise aware of the magnitude of their loss.

**BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.****SMALL MEETING, BUT GOOD PRACTICE.**

The October meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Monk Bretton on the 11th instant, when members attended from Eastwood, Felkirk, Wath and the local company. The Church Hall was placed at the disposal of the ringers during the afternoon and evening, and handbells were made good use of. A splendid tea was very much appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

At the business meeting the Vicar (the Rev. G. Hodgshon) presided, and was elected an honorary member of the society.

The Vicar said how pleased he was to meet the ringers once more. The best thanks of the society were given to the Vicar for the use of the hall and for all he had done in connection with the meeting, and to the ladies for providing the tea.

Further handbell ringing followed in Minor, Triples and Major methods. Although the attendance was rather small, some very good ringing was enjoyed.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wath-on-Deerne on Saturday, November 8th.

**BELLS AS 'LUXURIES.'**

(Continued from previous page.)

If we accept the fact that there are such people about, surely it is up to us to do all we can to see that they do not get away with the 'luxury' story as a means of preventing bells from being replaced. After all, the bulk of the public are 'neutral' when it comes to bells and bells in existence they take for granted.

A few agitators, talking about money wasted on 'luxuries,' would almost certainly rouse some of the 'neutral' public to support them.

I hope no one will start saying I am being chased by the now famous 'bogey,' because I am not a bit frightened that the anti-bell agitators will get their own way, but let us never patronise any idea which is against bells or bellringing.

J. E. BAILEY.

**WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.****ANNUAL REPORT.**

War time conditions made impossible the issue of the usual report of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and instead what is termed an unofficial pamphlet has been circulated to the members by the Master (Mr. George Williams) and the hon. general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers).

In his introductory remarks Mr. Williams says: At their annual meeting at Winchester on Saturday, September 6th, the Guild decided not to print an annual report for 1940 owing to war conditions. Hence this small pamphlet is issued (unofficially) by myself, with the whole-hearted support of our hon. treasurer and hon. general secretary. My reason for so doing was that, having the first fifty years' reports bound up in two volumes, and the remaining years to 1939 intact, to make sure of getting some kind of 1940 record; this was my only alternative of keeping a record of the Guild's continuity.

On getting an estimate as to costs of an eight-page pamphlet, I found little difference as to cost up to 200 copies. Therefore I hope to have enough to go round so that each affiliated tower can receive a copy, hoping my action will be appreciated not only by those who were at the annual meeting, but by the much larger number who were unable to attend.

This being an unofficial report, I make no comment on the year's activities, beyond regrets at there being no official reports for 1940, and an appeal to all members of the various towers to support the Guild under most trying circumstances (no ringing, meetings, etc.) by co-operating locally for silent tower or handbell ringing if possible. With these few remarks I have the hon. general secretary's approval for his name to be associated in the usual way.—George Williams, Master; Fredk. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec.

A list of the affiliated towers is given with the tower secretaries, and the reports of the seven peals rung by the association in the early months of 1940. These consisted of 2 Cambridge Surprise Major, 1 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1 Bob Major, 2 Bob Minor, and 1 in three Minor methods.

Concerning these performances the Recorder of Peals writes: Little comment is needed on the seven peals rung during the first five months of 1940, before the ban on open ringing was imposed; but a glance at the statistics will show that, although the peals were few and far between—due, presumably, to transport and other war-time difficulties—they were most encouraging, with a good variety of methods, and that the majority of the participants are resident members of the Guild. The young band from St. Michael's, Basingstoke, played a very prominent part, being responsible for three of the peals. This band, however, like most others, has now lost some of its members to H.M. Forces and other necessary war work, but we must all try to keep touch with the intricacies of our art, as far as possible, in order to be ready for the ultimate peals of victory.—Reginald A. Reed.

Home Forces, July, 1941.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.****USEFUL MEETING AT ILMINSTER.**

A meeting was held at Ilminster on Saturday, October 11th, when ringers came from Taunton (St. Mary's, St. James' and Wilton towers), also from Yeovil, Drayton, Martock, Lyme Regis (including the ringing Vicar, the Rev. C. Carew Cox) and Ilminster. The tower bells were kept going, silently, of course, to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Cambridge Surprise and Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich Major until about five o'clock when a move was made to the communal kitchen (a war-time institution where evacuee children have their meals while their foster parents are at work) to consume the eatables the ringers had been asked to bring with them owing to rationing difficulties. They were, however, supplied with cups of tea gratis. The tea arrangements were in the hands of the Misses Wigzell and Taylor.

Mr. T. H. Taffender, of London, now living in the neighbourhood, was really the moving spirit in getting the meeting arranged, so the local captain (Mr. D. G. Taylor) installed him as ringing master for the occasion, a post which, with his long experience as Master of the London County Association, he carried out exceedingly well.

Though there was no business to transact, various ringers got on their 'hind legs' and did a bit of talking. The Vicar, the Rev. G. Hickman, welcomed the visitors and expressed his appreciation of the good work done by the association in the cause of ringing.

A sad note was struck when it was announced that Mr. James Hunt, the well-known Taunton ringer, had passed away the day before as a result of being involved in a motor accident on the previous Monday. The meeting stood in silence for a moment as a mark of respect to his memory.

**G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM**  
**TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.**  
**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS**  
**OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.**



## THE STANDARD METHODS.

(Continued from page 503.)

### GLOUCESTER AND NEW GLOUCESTER SURPRISE.

In their nature and uses in method construction, Oxford Places are very similar to Kent Places. Sometimes the two sets are interchangeable, and this is useful in forming variations, but there are definite limitations to so doing. A good example of the use of these places is given by Gloucester Surprise.

Gloucester S.	New Gloucester S.
12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
12435678	12346578
21346587	21436587
23145678	24135678
32416587	42316587
23146857	24136857
32418675	42318675
23481657	24381657
32846175	42836175
32481657	42381657
23846175	24836175
32486715	42386715
23847651	24837651
32846715	42836715
23487651	24387651
24378561	23478561
42735816	32745816
24738561	23748561
42375816	32475816
24735186	23745186
42371568	32471568
42735186	32745186
24371568	23471568
42317586	32417586
24135768	23145768
42315678	32415678
24136587	23146587
21435678	21345678
12346587	12435687
21345678	21346578
12436587	12436587
14263857	14263857

Gloucester, which was first published by Mr. E. Bankes James in 1897, was one of the earliest attempts to produce a new Surprise method on sound lines and, indeed, except for Bulwer's New Cumberland, it was the first of the modern Major methods. It was designed to give all those qualities which men like Sir Arthur Heywood had decided were necessary for a good and musical method, and to a very large extent it fulfilled its author's intentions.

Perhaps the principal quality aimed at was double dodging in front and behind on bells in their natural coursing order. Heywood had laid it down that double dodging is the finest movement in change ringing, and

there is much to be said for that opinion, which finds confirmation in Double Norwich Major and Stedman Triples and Caters. But in method construction it is a general rule that we cannot have one good quality without paying for it by the loss of other good qualities; and in methods on the Treble Bob Principle a rather excessive price has usually to be paid for double dodging. Single dodging is natural to the principle, and three-pull and five-pull dodging; but to get double dodging the natural coursing order of the bells in the interior of the lead usually has to be very much broken.

Gloucester, however, strikes as good a compromise between the rival tendencies as is possible, and though it cannot be ranked with the best of the Surprise methods comes well up in the second class.

The construction of the method is rather a complicated one, but is easily understandable with a little trouble and thought. By 'construction' we mean the different shunts or Q Sets which break and regain the natural coursing order.

The method has in each lead three distinct shunts or operations which affect the position of the treble in coursing order and produce the lead-end.

The first is the Court Shunt made at the first and second cross-sections, in which the bell next in front of the treble makes fourths and thirds round it, with the result that the two bells change positions in coursing order. This shunt by itself would produce the lead-end 3527486.

The second is a slow work, similar to the slow work of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, but made by three bells. The three bells immediately behind the treble in coursing order are retained on the front until it returns, when they take up the positions in coursing order in front of the treble. This shunt by itself would produce the lead-end 8674523.

The third is the Court Shunt in the second half-lead complementary to that in the first half-lead.

3527486, transposed by 8674523, transposed by 3527486, gives 4263857, which is the actual lead-end of the method.

All the rest of the work in the method consists of operations on some of the working bells which break their coursing order and regain it within the lead. Of these operations the simplest and most easily understandable is the Oxford places in 3-4 in the first section.

The work these places do is obvious. It is simply to prevent repetition of rows in the first section. Last week we saw that the Kent places in Albion serve a like purpose; but there is this difference that, whereas Kent places break and regain natural coursing order within the section, Oxford places leave the two bells reversed in coursing order, and it is necessary to make another pair of them, later in the lead, to restore it. In Gloucester, as in Oxford Treble Bob, this is done in the last section. The natural coursing order is regained, but for nearly the whole lead 3,4, are doing each other's work.

In the fourth and fifth sections of Gloucester we get two bells making places side by side. These look like Oxford places, but really they are not so; they are caused by the three-bell slow work.

Gloucester Surprise has many good qualities, but it also has serious defects. The lead-end is the same as Kent Treble Bob, the false course-ends are the same, and a fourth's place bob with lengthening lead can be used.

(Continued on next page.)



**NOTICES.**

**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.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**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. Come along and make this a good meeting. There is a good train and bus service.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

**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. 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.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Brierley Hill (D.V.), Saturday, October 25th. Tower bells 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Social evening, handbells, etc., to follow.—Bernard C. Ashford, 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge, Worcs.

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual committee meeting will be held at Hanley on Saturday, November 1st, at 3.30 p.m. A cup of tea will be provided, but members are requested to bring their own sandwiches. Will those attending kindly notify T. W. G. Jones, 46, Harley Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs? All towers are requested to send a representative.—Andrew Thompson, 63, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Donington on Saturday, November 1st. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea in the Dial Hall at 4.30 p.m. Will all those intending to come please let me know by Tuesday, October 28th?—W. A. Richardson, Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch.—A meeting will be held at Tilehurst on Saturday, November 1st. Tower open at 3 p.m. for handbells. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at old National Schools, 6 p.m., at 1s. per head. Please let me know by the 29th inst. how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, November 1st. Handbells ready 2.30 p.m. Time of meeting will be arranged to fit in with local requirements.

Nominations for officers for 1942 at this meeting. Subscriptions for 1941 are now overdue.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Linton on Saturday, November 8th. Handbells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4, followed by tea (by kind invitation of the Vicar) and business meeting. Please send your names in by Wednesday, November 5th.—C. H. Sone, Linton, Maidstone, Kent.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—W. H. Shuker, general secretary of the Lancashire Association, has removed to 36, Colwyn Avenue, Kingswood Estate, Fallowfield, Manchester.

**HANDBELLS WANTED.**

**WANTED.**—A set of 12 (or more) handbells (Mears for preference), in good condition.—Send particulars, including size, maker's name, etc., to J. S. Roberts, 134, Croft Road, Swindon, Wilts.

**STANDARD METHODS.**

(Continued from previous page.)

But few peals of Kent will run true to Gloucester; for the incidence of the falseness is different in the two methods. In Kent there is no liability to internal falseness in the Middle, Wrong and Home leads, but there is in Gloucester. That very much restricts composition and makes the use of a sixth's place bob almost a necessity. Can this defect be removed by some more or less simple variation?

The Oxford places in the first section could be made in 5-6 instead of in 3-4, but as that would result in the bells coming up behind out of their natural coursing order, it would ruin the musical qualities of the method.

Kent places instead of Oxford places in 3-4 would get rid of the liability to internal falseness in the Middle, Wrong and Home leads and make all peals of Kent Treble Bob with the tenors together available; but, unfortunately, since fourths must be made at the first cross-section, a bell would strike three consecutive blows in that position, and that, of course, is not allowed.

We have another alternative. In the first section we can make Kent places in 5-6 instead of Oxford places in 3-4. That will give a clear-proof scale for the first section and also for the fourth section where the worst of the trouble lay. The only section now liable to internal falseness is the third, where two bells, next each other in natural coursing order, make places side by side in 1-2. This gives the false course-end B24365; but otherwise the variation has a clear-proof scale.

This amended version was published by Mr. Bankes James and called by him New Gloucester. Perhaps it would have been better if it had been given a distinct name so long as its relationship to the original Gloucester was pointed out and acknowledged. That, however, is no great matter.

For the purposes of composition, New Gloucester is a great improvement on old Gloucester, but it is not so comfortable a method to ring. Our experience of it is confined to leads included in spliced peals, but we found, as did the whole band, the place making in 5-6 awkward and uncomfortable, though not particularly difficult.

The first peal of Gloucester was rung at St. Michael's, Gloucester, in 1897, with Mr. John Austin as conductor; the first peal of New Gloucester was rung at All Saints', Edmonton, in 1926, with Mr. James Parker as conductor.



# The Central Council Publications

TO BE OBTAINED POST FREE

from the

Rev. E. S. POWELL, Staverton Vicarage, Daventry

	s. d.
COLLECTION OF PEALS—Section II. (Plain Bob and Double Oxford Bob) ... ..	9
COLLECTION OF PEALS—Section III. (Double Norwich) ...	9
CORRIGENDA LEAFLET issued free with the above collections.	
COLLECTION OF TRIPLES METHODS ... ..	1 0
REPORT OF CONFERENCE WITH S.P.A.B. ... ..	6
CARD OF INSTRUCTIONS IN THE CARE AND USE OF BELLS ... ..	1 1/2
METHOD SHEETS.—Stedman and Grandsire Triples ... ..	3
Cambridge Surprise Major ... ..	2
Double Norwich and Cambridge Court ... ..	3
Bristol Surprise Major ... ..	2
HINTS TO INSTRUCTORS AND BEGINNERS ... ..	2
VARIATION AND TRANSPOSITION ... ..	1 0
COLLECTION OF DOUBLES AND MINOR METHODS (New Edition) ... ..	2 0

## The Jasper Snowdon Series

REVISED PRICES.

- 'BOPE-SIGHT,' 1s. 10d.; ninth edition; 150 pages; treats Plain Bob commencing on three bells.
- 'GRANDSIRE,' 2s. 10d.; second edition; 204 pages, commencing on five bells, complete with the Thompson Charts, etc.
- 'STANDARD METHODS,' ninth edition, 2s. 10d.
- 'STEDMAN,' 2s. 10d. An entirely new book by J. Armiger Trollope. Contains full instructions for ringing and conducting the method on 5 to 11 bells, with touches and peals, and proof and composition.
- 'TREBLE BOB,' 1s. 10d.; second edition; with appendix; 100 pages.
- 'SURPRISE METHODS,' 2s. 10d. A book by the late Rev. O. D. P. Davies, M.A., F.R.A.S. Contains a tabulated list of peals, 10 diagrams, 126 pages.

All post free, on receipt of postal order, from

Miss MARGARET E. SNOWDON  
Woodlands, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, Lancs

### PUBLICATIONS.

'GRANDSIRE DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, Simply Explained,' 9th thousand, 6½d. each, or 5s. 9d. dozen, post free. By I. Roe and M. Broome, Orchards, Wonerish, Surrey.

'BOB MINOR AND MAJOR, Simply Explained,' 2nd thousand. For Beginners on 6 bells. Same price and address as above.

'CAMBRIDGE MINOR AND MAJOR,' for those about to begin more advanced methods. 7½d. each, 6s. 9d. dozen, post free. From M. Broome, Orchards, Wonerish, Surrey.

## THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

Large selection of Compositions included.

Price:— Complete edition, to 8 bells, cloth, 120pp., 2/9 (6 copies for 15/-), 6 bell edition sewn, paper covers, 64pp., 1/2 (6 copies for 6/-).

Obtainable only post free from Rev. E. S. POWELL, Staverton Vicarage, near Daventry.

## 'THE WORLD'S BEST BELLROPE'S'

NOTED FOR EASY HANDLING AND NON STRETCHING  
Est. 1820 Tel. 2400

## JOHN PRITCHARD (ROPES) LTD. LOUGHBOROUGH

Order your Bell Ropes now, before prices increase, pre-war quality, and send us your old Bell Ropes for repairs whilst not in use.

Clock and Chiming Ropes  
Flexible Ends, Splicing and Repairs

RINGING MATS AND BELL MUFFLERS

## Suitable for Presentation or Wedding Gift

Correctly Modelled BELL INKSTAND (Road Design) in Solid Silver



Diameter	2½in.	2½in.	3½in.	3½in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.	5½in.
Price	12/6	22/6	28/6	33/6	42/-	52/6	67/6	78/6

The 5in. size is also made to hold 50 cigarettes.

Initials and Inscriptions Engraved at Moderate Charges

**T.E. RUSSELL** Jeweller and Optician  
WOKING  
Telephone 276

## SMITH of DERBY for Church and Turret Clocks Electric or Weight Driven

Makers of many famous clocks, including St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and throughout the world.

John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, Ltd.

Head Office and Works, Queen St., Derby  
Tel. No. DERBY 45589 Grams. CLOCKS, DERBY

Send for Booklet.

Estimates and Advice Free