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THE BEST METHOD FOR TEACHING.

Some weeks ago we asked the question, Which is the best method to use when teaching beginners? We did not attempt to answer the question and, as it is one which generally interests ringers, it may be worth while to return to it.

All questions of this sort have, of course, to be decided largely by local and temporary considerations, by the quality of the beginners, by the weight of the bells, by the traditions of the belfry, by the capacity and preferences of the instructor, and so forth. But that does not mean that there are not general principles which should be understood.

In the first place beginners should not be taught to ring any method, whether Plain Bob, or Grandsire, or another, as an end in itself, even if the ambition and the capacity of the band reach no higher than Plain Bob or Grandsire. The aim should be to make the beginners into ringers.

Now to be a good ringer a man must make full use of all his faculties, and he must so use them that they work in harmony, one helping and supporting the others. Ringing calls for the exercise of arms, and eyes and ears; all should play their part, and not one should be neglected for the sake of paying greater attention to another.

Yet that is what is almost always done, and we fear the usual methods of teaching encourage it.

Method ringing is primarily a matter of sight. It is by watching the sallies and the arms of the other ringers that a man finds his way, whether it be a simple or a complex way, among the bells; and therefore it is not unnatural that a teacher will concentrate on getting his pupil to use his eyes properly. But that by itself is not enough. Altogether apart from good striking, the ears have a function to perform in ringing, and the training of the use of the ears from the very start is just as important as the training of the use of the eyes.

How can it best be done? It is, and always has been, the complaint of the beginner that he cannot hear his own bell among the others. As Jasper Snowdon said, 'he doubtless feels that, as his attention is taken up in finding out what rope he has next to follow, he can scarcely be expected to wait and listen to the blow resulting from his previous effort.' Usually he is told that if he has patience it will all come right.

That, we feel sure, is not quite the right way to go to work. Patience he must have, and all will in the end come right. But the difficulties of seeing and hearing

(Continued on page 362.)

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should be tackled together and solved together, and the problem is how to do it.

Perhaps the best and the easiest solution lies in using the smallest possible number of bells. It will make rope-sight easier, and (perhaps even more important) it will make correct hearing easier. And now let us remember that correct hearing does not mean merely that the beginner must hear his own bell and know whether it is struck in the right place. It means that he must hear all the bells, one equally with another and his own as one of the lot.

We believe that this can be done quite easily, certainly with the best sort of beginners, if they are taught to listen carefully to the bells when others are ringing, and if, when they are ringing themselves, the right method is used.

But what is the right method? Not Grandsire Triples. Not Bob Major. Not Grandsire Doubles on six bells. Bob Minor, perhaps, but, best of all, Bob Doubles without a cover.

Many competent ringers will not agree, and we respect their opinion. The reasons for our preference (which is based on personal experience) are these. Though the presence of a covering tenor may seem to aid the ear in grasping the rhythm of the bells, it really attracts too much attention to itself and induces the ear to slur over the sound of the other bells. And we prefer Plain Bob Doubles to Grandsire Doubles because on backstroke work, and not on handstroke work, nearly the whole of change ringing is based.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT LOUGHTON.

A district meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association, held at Loughton on Saturday, August 7th, was attended by 64 members from Chelmsford, Dagenham, Liverpool, London (Bishopsgate), Woodford, Wanstead, Brentwood, Erith, Cheshunt, Walthamstow, Leytonstone, Broomfield, S. Weald, Ealing, Romford, Ipswich, Springfield, Waltham Abbey, Hornchurch, Barking, Willesden, Stepney, West Ham, and the local band.

Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. M. N. Lake, after which an excellent tea was served in the Church Hall. The business meeting followed, with the Rev. M. N. Lake in the chair. The Master, Mr. J. Chalk, extended a welcome to those present, to Mr. Trollope, the editor of 'The Ringing World,' to Mr. T. Coles, of the Middlesex County Association, and to Mr. J. Rann, of the local band. He hoped it would not be the last occasion they would visit the association. Those present were then asked to stand in silence for a few minutes in memory of an old member, Mr. R. J. Maynard, of St. Mary's, Walthamstow, who had been buried earlier in the day. He was 86 years of age.

Eleven new members were elected. The next meeting will be held at Stanford-le-Hope on September 11th.

At the last meeting it had been suggested that the secretary should send a circular letter to all towers in the district asking for details of Sunday service ringing, practice ringing, and the present strength of the band, so that a summary could be compiled. This, the secretary reported, had been done, and a number had been received, but a few more had yet to be returned.

The Chairman asked Mr. Trollope if he would address the meeting on the future of ringing and 'The Ringing World.' Mr. Trollope dealt with the present arrangement of 'The Ringing World,' and then spoke about the future of ringing. He stressed the need for the ringers and the Church to work together.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks, moved by Mr. T. Coles, to the Rector for conducting the service, to the organist, to the local band, and especially to the ladies for a most excellent tea.

During the service a collection made for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £1 10s 1d.

The bells were kept going until 8 o'clock and several different methods were rung.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WIMBORNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 14, 1943, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

*MEYRICK M. MARTIN ... Treble	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 4
†MRS. G. WARHAM 2	HAROLD WHITE 5
MISS PEGGY MARSE 3	LIONEL H. PINK Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD WHITE.

* First peal. † First peal on an inside bell.

CRANFORD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 15, 1943, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob,
Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... Treble	GEORGE M. KILBY 4
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER 5
JOHN THOMAS 3	WILLIAM H. COLES Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. COLES.

First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 9, 1943, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes.

IN ST. PETER'S HALL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor size II in G.

MISS JESSIE CHICK 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 5-6
MRS. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY 3-4	MISS MARY E. DAVIS 7-8

Conducted by MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY.

FELKIRK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, August 12, 1943, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

IN THE RINGING CHAMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

DANIEL SMITH 1-2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 5-6
HAROLD CHANT 3-4	RAYMOND FORD 7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by HAROLD CHANT.

TRIPLE TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Chichester might have been added to the list of cathedrals with three towers, beside the detached bell tower, which was mentioned among the instances a few weeks ago.

By the way, why do many call a bell tower a campanile? Surely the English name will do, and probably many who know nothing of Italian read the word as three syllables instead of four.
W. C. B.

CHIMING HYMN TUNES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I recently had the occasion to select suitable tunes for a six-bell tower in the country and it may be of interest to the would-be chimer, that the following tunes were selected:—53, Quam Dilecta; 65, Hyfrydol; 91, Narenza; 94, St. Sylvester; 111, St. Philip; 181, Æterna Christi munera; 212, Dolomine chant; 235, St. Guron; 243, Newland; 246, Martyn; 449, Lux Perpetua; 530, Langdon's chant; 539, Narraghmore; 583, Lux Benigna; 592, St. Perpetua; 597, St. Lo; 604, Wesley; 620, Eudoxia; 625, Peacefield; 654, Tres Magidi Gentibus; 766, Voller Wunder.

The above numbers and tunes were taken out of the Irish Church Hymnal, and for this reason words are not given, as in some cases they carry different tunes in Hymns A. and M.

FRED E. DUKES.

11, St. George's Villas, Inchicore, Dublin.

TOWER HUNTING.

A WEEK-END CYCLE TRIP.

During the August week-end the Bedfordshire contingent of the N.U.T.S. enjoyed a ringing trip by cycle round some Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire towers. On Saturday, at Campton, where the company met, Mr. Lawrence was waiting, and the five light bells (tenor about 9 cwt.) were soon raised by peal and touches all round enjoyed. The tower is at the west end of the south aisle and the bells are rung from the ground floor, but the go is all that can be desired.

Meppershall came next, another five with a 12 cwt. tenor rung from the chancel floor. Before ringing the choir seats have to be lifted back to make standing room. This peal is rather fine in tone and the time limit was slightly extended in consequence. Tea came next, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence in their charming cottage. After tea a fine set of handbells was produced and several touches rung and hymn tunes were played.

A good run to Gravenhurst followed, where the tone of the five bells was not so good and a little time was gained; then to Silsoe, nearly three miles down hill and a grand ride. At Silsoe there is a handy little ring of five with an 8 cwt. tenor. At Flitton there are six pretty bells, with the tenor about 8 cwt., rung from the ground floor. This brought Saturday's ringing to a close.

Monday found the company, after a journey of 20 miles, at Simpson in Bucks. The ringing chamber here is reached by climbing a wooden ladder which passes a few feet right over the pulpit to gain the very small central tower. Drayton Parslow came next, where there is a handy ring of six with a 9 cwt. tenor. The foundry of Chandler cast many bells here during the 17th and 18th centuries. Another nice little six awaited the company at Mursley, and these were made good use of. A delightful run through waving fields of corn reached Great Horwood, where a fine-toned six with a 17 cwt. tenor was found. The 'go' is not all that can be desired and the 'circle' exists only in imagination. The Rector, the Rev. G. Davies, welcomed the company and provided refreshments in the Village Hall. Padbury, the next tower, contains a ring of six with the tenor about 12 cwt. and very nice to ring. Buckingham was reached rather late, but Mr. Townsend, the captain of the tower, was waiting to greet the party and conduct the members to the spacious ringing chamber. Here is a noble ring of eight with a 27 cwt. tenor. At Passenham the only five of the day was found, a pleasing ring with a 17 cwt. tenor which go well. At Calverton, close by, a peal of six were soon going, and these we liked very much. Old Wolverton church has six bells which hang in a massive tower. They behaved very well and some good touches were obtained. Well over a hundred miles had been covered during the week-end. Miss Vela Tysoe was one of the party and, although only 15 years of age, has 'collected' her 58th tower.

THE GOLDSMITH MEMORIAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—'North Country Ringer' voices an opinion on the erection of memorials to ringers, which is shared by many. There are only a few men whose achievements in the world of ringing merit anything in the nature of a national memorial, and in most cases the provision of an additional bell or bells is a very suitable memorial to a ringer whose activities have been chiefly local.

When considering the memorials to some of the giants of the past I feel sure I am not alone in thinking there is something unsatisfactory about many of them.

The passing of J. S. Goldsmith brought to my mind that feeling of dissatisfaction with memorials to the leading ringers who had gone before, and I sincerely hope that whatever memorial is decided upon it will be something worthy of the man to whom ringing owes so much.

If it is to be the provision of bells, nothing short of a complete job, in which the ringing Exercise bears the whole cost, should be attempted. To be part of a scheme will, in my opinion, reduce the dignity of the memorial and it should be left well alone.

The future of 'The Ringing World' is a matter upon which many of us are awaiting news with interest, and I know I am not alone in saying that no finer memorial to the late John S. Goldsmith could be visualised than to ensure the continuity and expansion of this journal.

If the scheme which is being prepared to ensure the future of this paper could be launched as a memorial scheme to its founder, every active ringer could join in, feeling that not only was the late Editor's memory being preserved, but it would be of inestimable value to the Exercise.

One thing is certain—no time must be lost. Decisions must be made and a scheme launched while memory is green. Every week and month of delay reduces the chances of bringing to fruition any scheme worthy of the memory of John S. Goldsmith.
J. E. BAILEY.

20, Swaisland Road, Dartford.

GREAT BADDOW.—On Sunday, August 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Geo. Green (conductor) 1, Gunner P. Green, R.A., 2, R. Trift 3, H. Allen 4, D. A. F. Symonds 5, E. Clark 6, Dr. Spencer Phillips 7, Frank Payne 8.

THE TUNING OF BELLS.

(Continued from page 353.)

SOME ILLUSIONS.

To the pure scientists the strike-note is a somewhat mysterious tone, separate from and different to the five normal tones of the bell. It is an unexplained phenomenon which may not be real, but only an aural illusion. The modern expert tuner gets over the difficulty in a very practical and efficient manner. As a result of the way in which he tunes his bell, the strike-note is brought into unison with the fundamental (the middle octave of the five normal tones), and therefore it does not matter to him in the least how the strike-note is produced, whether it is the same tone as the fundamental, or whether there are two tones of the same pitch. He understands the fundamental and the part of the bell which produces it, and he can safely leave the other (if there be another) to take its chance.

The outside hearer deals with the strike note in an entirely different but equally effective manner. To him it is the only tone of the bell which matters; indeed, normally it is the only one he is conscious of or listens to. What it is and how it is produced, and whether there are other tones in the bell are questions which do not concern or interest him, and of which usually he is completely ignorant.

It is worth while just to notice these two points of view and their difference. To the expert, what matters is the tones the bell actually produces. He sees to it that they leave the bell in perfect harmony, and he has full faith that they will have the desired effect on the ears and brains of those who hear them. But that is not his business. On the other hand the hearer does not trouble in the least about what happens in the bell. What concerns him is what happens in his own ear and brain.

We must make quite clear that the 'hearer' we are referring to is the man with a normally good musical ear, who hears a bell in the ordinary way but is not consciously and deliberately trying to analyse it or distinguish its quality or various tones. We exclude the men who have made a study of this subject and are always more or less expecting to hear overtones. They only complicate the matter, for they are not experts like the tuners, nor unbiassed witnesses like the ordinary listener.

We believe we are correct in saying that when an ordinary person hears a bell the effect on him is that of a single recognisable note which seems immediately to drop an octave. The scientists tell us that he hears first of all the mysterious strike-note which decays rapidly and is then succeeded by the normal tones of the bells and especially by the one which they call the fundamental and the founders call the hum-note. (The scientists use the word 'fundamental' in a different sense to the founders.) Now if this be so, the ordinary listener hears in old-style bells two notes in a widely inharmonic interval. He should (we imagine), if he has a good musical ear, experience an unpleasant jar, but so far as we are aware he never does. We never heard that musical ears find any fault in this respect in such bells as the old tenor at Bow or the present tenors in many an old peal.

Here is another unsolved difficulty in this question of tuning, and will it seem to fantastic if we carry the scientists' idea a little further and suggest that every-

thing the ordinary listener hears is something of an 'aural illusion'? If the strike-note may be 'formed in the ear' and not in the bell itself; if 'the pitch which the ear assigns is often not the pitch of any normal tone of the bell,' is it not possible that what the listener hears, including the apparent dropping of an octave, is not one or more actual tones of the bells but the effect they all have on the brain of the hearer? Many people have noticed a rather curious phenomenon when they have been standing on a railway platform and a fast train passes. The engine emits a loud, high-pitched whistle which seems as the train passes to drop an octave. It does not, of course, drop an octave. It is only an aural illusion. Can it be that something of the same sort happens when one ordinarily hears a bell? It would be very nice to think it was so, because then the question of the old-style and new-style tuning would be so much easier to understand for the non-technical and non-expert bell lover. Such a theory cannot, of course, be brought to any test, for directly a man carefully tries to ascertain what he does hear, the illusion (if there is an illusion) is broken.

It seems pretty certain, however, that the old tuners did hear, and the ordinary listener does still hear, something different from what modern trained ears hear and the tuning fork reveals. We believe it is a fact (but we are open to correction) that the old tuners finally judged a bell, not by the note they heard when they were actually working on the bell, but by the note heard at a little distance; for instance, in the next room. Between the two there might be an appreciable difference.

If that be so, we can easily see why an old-style ring of bells, when taken to the foundry and struck round, so often sounds badly out of tune. We can easily see, too, why the old tuners, with all their care and in spite of their keen musical ears, so often left bells which fail to reach the modern standards. That they were right to tune their bells so that, when hung in the steeple, they satisfied ordinary musical ears, can hardly be doubted.

It is worth noticing that some people, when they are judging and criticising a bell, do not trust the effect it normally has on their ears. They rely on the tuning fork as a test, or, if that is not available, on a very careful and minute aural analysis of the overtones. Canon Simpson affords an example of this. He praised Great Paul, but he gives the impression that he admired it, not so much because it has a fine tone, but because two of its overtones are perfect octaves. He thought the hum-note was also an octave, but his instruments did not enable him to be sure. If he had been sure it is pretty certain he would have admired the bell still more. In the same way there are people who judge a bell not by the way it normally sounds to them, but by whether they know its overtones are correct or not.

The question is, Which is the more important for a bell or a ring of bells—to be in tune or to sound in tune? Which is the final test, the tuning fork or the human ear?

As we have already pointed out, modern tuning solves the difficulty by removing any discrepancy between the two tests. But when we are judging old-style bells it is a real and important one.

In some respects the tuning fork is far more sensitive than the human ear, but in other respects the human ear is far more sensitive than any tuning fork. The fork

can respond to variations of pitch almost of a single vibration. Only the more musical ears have any very keen sense of pitch. On the other hand, while the fork takes little or no note of the quality of sound, the human ear can distinguish the minutest differences in an infinity of sounds. A man may be almost insensible to variations of musical pitch, and yet able to pick out unerringly the voice of his friend, his cough, or even his step. There is a reason for this. When the human ear was being developed and trained in primeval times it did not matter much what note it was the man heard. It mattered a lot whether it was the wind rustling the forest trees or the stealthy approach of some tiger through the grass.

And so it happens that many men are fully conscious of the differences in the quality of the tone of bells who have no great sense of whether they are strictly in tune or not.

It must also be remembered that, though the tones of a bell reach the ear as physical phenomena and the effect is passed on to the brain by a physical process, when it gets there it is subject to all sorts of complex influences, and the effect may be quite different from what a scientific analysis of bell tones might suggest.

Everybody knows it is so with the eye. When we see anything we do not see it as a photograph records it. Some features are ignored; some are slurred over; some are brought into prominence. And what are called optical illusions are the commonplace of every-day life. For the lines of a building to look upright it does not necessarily mean they must be upright; indeed, sometimes they must be the other way. There is a rather curious instance of this which, because it will interest our

readers, we will refer to, although it is a digression from our present subject. In the old days the steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow always looked as if it leaned a little out over Cheapside. So much so that people said and wrote in books that it did lean so many inches out of the perpendicular. To-day you can walk along Cheapside and the steeple still stands, but solitary. And it is bolt upright. The difference is so marked that people are now saying that the explosion of the bombs which destroyed the surrounding houses forced the tower back to its original perpendicular position.

That, of course, is absurd. What has happened is that the slightly receding lines of neighbouring houses have disappeared and an optical illusion has vanished.

Here is a parable. If the eye can be subject to illusions of this sort, why not the ear also?

(To be continued.)

LONG SERVICE REWARDED.

On August 1st, Mr. Jonathan Owens and his five grandsons rang the bells of Bronllys, Breconshire, for service. The ages were: Treble, 22 years; 2nd, 13 years; 3rd, 11 years; 4th, 15 years; 5th, 22 years; tenor, 80 years.

Mr. Owens, who has been verger for over 40 years, reached his 80th birthday on August 3rd, and several touches of Grandsire and call changes, conducted by Mr. D. H. Bennett, were rung in honour and Mr. Owens was presented with a pipe and tobacco and cash, subscribed by the ringers and the P.C.C.

Mr. Owens' father was verger before him, and between them they have given over 100 years' service to the church.

DONINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Saturday, August 7th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: F. Bennett, sen., 1, J. Pearson 2, G. Short 3, P. Markham 4, A. H. Bennett 5, Sapper C. Wander, R.E., 6 (conductor).

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On August 15th, at the Church of All Saints, 720 Bob Minor: W. H. Pratt 1, F. Warrington (conductor) 2, L. Fisher (first 720) 3, C. Young 4, M. Gunn, R.A.F., 5, J. Perkins 6.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Grandsire Triples rung at Bournemouth on August 9th was Miss Mary Davis' first attempt for an eight bell peal. She celebrated her thirteenth birthday last Tuesday.

The first peal of Cambridge Maximus was rung by the Norwich Diocesan Association at Ipswich on August 15th, 1908. James Motts conducted, and the band was made up by local men with one or two from London, including William and George R. Pye and Bertram Prewett.

On the same date in 1925 the Midland Counties Association rang the first peal of Pudsey Surprise Royal on the light ring of ten at the Loughborough bell foundry.

What was claimed as the first true peal of Cambridge Surprise Major in the North of England was rung at Keighley on August 18th, 1811. The composition was by Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, a famous composer, but it cannot have been true.

Thomas Thurstans, of Birmingham, whose name is so well known as the composer of Stedman Triples, died on August 16th, 1811. Thurstans rang the tenor at St. Martin's, Birmingham, in 1820 to the long peal of Kent Maximus.

On August 19th, 1765, a heavy ring of ten bells from the Whitechapel foundry was opened at York Minster by the Norwich Scholars.

The late Rev. A. T. Beeston called the first peal of Hereward Bob Major at Reddish on August 20th, 1914, and Mr. J. D. Johnson called the first peal of Pershore Bob Major at Pershore Abbey on August 20th, 1927.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS.

Will all readers kindly send their names and addresses to me? On a postcard, please, surname first, and in block capitals.

G. W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary.

45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM ITS PEAL BOOK AND RECORDS.

I am afraid I cannot tell Mr. Reeves definitely why certain early peals were not included in the St. Martin's records, but the most likely explanation is that when the company started its peal book they collected all the information they could find, but (as was inevitable in the circumstances) they missed a good deal. Some of the members, notably John Hopkins, continued the job and got together more records, mainly, no doubt, from private sources.

I have full details of twenty peals rung in Birmingham and district during the eighteenth century and not included in the peal book. Ten of them are definitely said to have been rung by the St. Martin's Company, and some of the others evidently were mainly, if not wholly, by St. Martin's ringers.

Some of these records are from John Hopkins' collection, which, I believe, is now lost. Ten of them are from the private peal book of William Martin, which disappeared long ago, but of which a transcript made about one hundred years ago is extant.

I cannot add anything about the early history of the St. Martin's Youths to what I wrote in 'The Ringing World' in June, 1940.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

A VISIT TO OXFORD.

On August Bank Holiday, some of the young enthusiasts who call themselves the N.U.T.S. spent a very enjoyable day in Oxford, where the arrangements made by Mr. J. E. Spice enabled them to ring at St. Thomas' (6), St. Ebbe's (8), St. Aldate's (6), Magdalen College (10), Merton College (8), New College (10), St. Mary Magdalen (6), Carfax (6), St. Martin's (8) and the Cathedral (12). During the day the following methods were rung: Grandsire Doubles, Triples, Caters and Cinques, Stedman Doubles, Triples and Caters, Plain Bob Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus, Kent Minor and Major, Cambridge Minor, Major and Royal.

The party consisted of E. Hartley, R. Spears and Mr. and Mrs. J. Botham (Willesden), Mr. and Mrs. Darvill (St. Albans), Miss E. Bedford (Uxbridge), the Rev. K. C. Davis (Swindon), W. Stote (Coventry), H. Bishop, C. Gardiner, W. Daniels, G. Wells, W. Court, J. Berry (Swindon), J. Spice, W. Lesse, W. Judge, N. Alnut, R. Post, Miss M. Cross (Oxford) and Pte. Keely (Lyme Regis).

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The 63rd annual general meeting of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers was held at Maidstone on August Bank Holiday, and was well attended. Among the visitors were Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davies, and soldiers stationed in the area.

The usual lunch could not be provided, and the ringing was confined to the morning and early afternoon, when the bells at All Saints' were in great demand. Other towers open for ringing were Aylesford, Leeds, Linton and West Malling.

The committee met at 11.30 and had a long sitting.

Service in the church was conducted by the Rev. A. O. Stanton, Vicar of Maidstone, and Mr. E. A. G. Allen, of Frindsbury, was at the organ.

The address by the Vicar was most encouraging and uplifting. He said there had been no parallel in history for the three years' silence of the bells. Usually, things were taken for granted, but it did not seem to be so with ringers. The old proverb says, 'Absence makes the heart grow fonder,' and nothing was truer than that in our ringing. 'Be ye also ready'—it was so with ringers. When the time came they were ready. They never despaired and now the bells were pealing out again. He congratulated them on their patience and readiness and thanked them.

A collection for the Benevolent Fund realised £1 15s. 9d.

TEA AND BUSINESS.

Ninety-six sat down to tea in the Old Palace, and this was followed by the business meeting, at which the Vicar presided.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. F. M. Mitchell) presented the annual report, which was adopted with thanks.

The balance sheets, presented by Mr. G. H. Cross (the hon. auditor) were adopted.

All the officers were re-elected, and Mr. J. Wheadon, of Dartford, was elected to the vacancy on the committee caused by the death of Mr. W. Haigh. The vacancy as trustee, through the death of Mr. W. J. Jeffries, was left in abeyance, pending a proposed alteration in the trusteeship of the association.

A long discussion took place over a resolution submitted by the Tonbridge District as follows:—

'That the Tonbridge District views with alarm the manner in which reports of meetings are curtailed in "The Ringing World"; the district has held meetings regularly during the whole of the ban and little, if any, notice has been taken of it.'

In submitting the resolution, Mr. Collison (Tonbridge Wells) said that all through the ban on ringing the district had met regularly and had tried to keep the interest alive in ringers and ringing. Various accounts of their meetings had been sent in to 'The Ringing World'; sometimes a very abbreviated account was inserted and sometimes nothing at all. He did not think that was encouraging to them to try and get more subscribers to their ringing paper.

In supporting, Mr. Luck, secretary of the Canterbury District, said that only last week a large Divisional Regimental Service was held in Canterbury Cathedral, and by special request of the Commander, a band of ringers attached to the division rang the twelve bells for the service. He had taken the trouble to climb to the ringing chamber and obtain all the ringers' names and home town, and sent them to 'The Ringing World,' feeling sure that it was an item of exceptional interest, and he was surprised to see only two or three lines in the Belfry Gossip recording the ringing and two pages of an article on Simpson Tuning.

The General Secretary explained to the members the reason why no six-bell ringing had been arranged.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Many members spoke on the resolution, all agreeing that no dictation could be made as to what was published, but thought that some of the articles appearing only appeal to the few. What they wanted was to create interest in ringing, to let members know what was going on, and to get new subscribers.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and the hon. secretary was directed to forward a copy of the same to all interested in the publication of 'The Ringing World.'

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a well-attended meeting.

The annual report was as follows:—

'Thank God! The ban on ringing that has existed for three years has been removed and ringing can be resumed as usual at all reasonable times. Now this is possible we must be careful in the way we resume our activities. People have got used to the bells being silent, and if ringing is overdone complaints may be made and a controversy started, as there are some who would be only too glad to raise objections. First and foremost we must concentrate on Sunday ringing, and would advise in populated districts that practices should be held, say, once a fortnight. Peel ringing should be left to very special occasions for the time being.

'Many difficulties will be encountered in getting bands to ring the bells owing to so many being away in H.M. Forces, and much hard work will have to be put in to encourage others to take up and teach them the Art, as we all know it takes months and years to make a ringer. We were getting good bands together after the ravages of the last war, and now have to start all over again. Let us not be discouraged, but go forward in the Service of God and be assured that our efforts will be rewarded.

'We are sorry indeed for those members who are being deprived of ringing at their own tower through enemy action, and would urge them to associate themselves with nearby towers who will be grateful of their help.

'During the ban some of the districts seem to have lost interest in the association, and we now appeal to them to renew their activities and revive the interest.

'MEETINGS have been held in the Tonbridge and Lewisham Districts, which, considering the ban on ringing, were well attended. Our thanks are extended to the incumbents of the towers visited and to those who offered hospitality to the members.

'MEMBERSHIP.—The number of subscribing members has fallen to 202 (to date). Now that activities can be resumed we are looking forward to these shortcomings being rectified.

'DEATHS.—Since our last meeting many of our old and trusted members, all of whom did yeoman service in their respective ways, have been called to "higher service" and the following 14 members have recorded between them 691 years of faithful service as follows:—Philip Hodgkin (Headcorn), Foundation Member, 63 years; W. Haigh (late Gillingham), 60 years; W. H. Andrews (Canterbury), 60 years; W. Latter (Tonbridge Wells), 58 years; W. Hunt (Rochester), 57 years; F. J. Ring (Swanscombe), 57 years; W. J. Jeffries (Deptford), 47 years; W. S. Lane (Swanscombe), 46 years; H. Seal (Penshurst), 46 years; W. E. Pitman (Canterbury), 45 years; F. Belsey (Chatham, enemy action), 41 years; C. R. Milway (Dover), 39 years; E. Trendall (Canterbury), 39 years; W. J. Wood (Queenborough), 32 years.

'We have also lost Major P. H. G. Powell-Cotton (Life Member), Messrs. F. Sharp (Marden), J. Aitken (Frindsbury), G. H. Simpson (Canterbury), A. C. Kay (Ashford), E. W. Powell (enemy action, Ashford), H. F. Humphrey (New Romney), W. Roots (Bethersden), killed in action, T. Tabrutt (Ashford), and Messrs. W. J. Nevard, C. R. Lilley, F. E. Dawe, T. Flint and A. Jones (killed in action), non-residents.

'To the relatives of all departed members we extend our sympathy.

'OFFICERS.—We regret to record the deaths of Mr. W. J. Jeffries, who has been a trustee of the association since that office was created, and Mr. W. Haigh, a serving member of the committee. Vacancies occur for these two posts.

'Changes in district representation have been made and we welcome Miss Brenda Richardson (Tonbridge), who has made history in being the first lady ringer to serve on this committee; Mr. W. J. Unwin (Canterbury) and Mr. J. E. Bailey (Lewisham).

'PEALS.—Twenty-eight peals were rung on handbells during the year as follows: Grandsire Doubles, 1; Minor, 3; Grandsire Triples, 4; Major, 16; Grandsire Caters, 1; Royal, 2; Maximus, 1. Of these Mr. J. E. Spice has conducted 16, and is to be congratulated on the remarkable progress he and his young colleagues have made in handbell ringing, having added three new first performances in "hand" for the association.

'FINANCE.—Four grants of £5 each have been made from the Benevolent Fund to deserving members during the year and, owing to the income not reaching this amount, the balance has decreased to £336 0s. 1d.

'No application has been made for assistance from the Belfry Repair Fund and the balance has increased to £172 10s. 4d.

'It will be noted that no allocation of funds has been made to the Belfry and Benevolent Funds, owing to prevailing conditions, and the balance in the General Fund has increased to £104 15s. 6d. This will enable us to meet the extra commitments which will have to be met this year.

'The total worth of the association has increased to £1,092 19s. 1d.'

FRED M. MITCHELL, Hon. Secretary.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM JONES.

OLD STONEY STANTON RINGER.

The death is announced of Mr. William Jones, of Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire, who passed away on July 21st.

Mr. Jones joined the Midland Counties Association in 1890, and for over 40 years was an active member of the local company. During most of that time he was the tower-keeper and leader. He was not a peal ringer, and only four peals appear in the Midland Counties Association records to his credit, but he was a good and regular Sunday service ringer.

The local society rang the bells muffled on July 24th, the day of his funeral at Stoney Stanton Cemetery, and at a meeting of the Hinckley district at Burbage reference was made to his death.

TRIPLE TOWERS.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 346.)

Ripon Cathedral also has two west towers and a central tower. Its erection occupied about three centuries, and consequently it displays all style of architecture, from the Norman apse through the Transitional transepts, to the Perpendicular work in the choir. It replaced an earlier building, the crypt of which still remains. Ripon grew up around an abbey founded in the 7th century, Wilfred, to whom the cathedral is dedicated, being the first abbot. Thomas Gent, in his 'History of Rippon' (1733), gives a copy of the inscription of five bells then hanging in the south-west tower. In the north-west tower was a large bell, 51in. diameter, said to have been brought from Fountain's Abbey.

In a cupola at the north-west angle of the central tower (St. Wilfred's steeple, as Gent calls it) was a bell 25in. in diameter. This was later broken up, and a fragment of it is still preserved in the vestry. The bells quoted by Gent were taken down in 1761 and recast by Lester and Pack into a ring of eight, and on a board in the ringing chamber were these rules:—

'Orders made and agreed upon the second day of February in the year of our Lord, 1764, by the Society of Ringers, and to be observed by strangers and others that enter the belfry.

'Every person refusing to keep his hat off after having been requested by any member to do so, shall forfeit sixpence.

'Every person making a bell sound with hat and spur on shall forfeit sixpence. Every pearson swearing, giving the lie, offering to lay wagers, guilty of any other abusive or indecent language, or behaving himself in any disorderly manner, shall forfeit one shilling.

'Every person guilty of malicious or unwarrantable practice of spoiling or besmearing the painting, or cutting or marking the wood, or plastering of this belfry, or otherwise obliterating or defacing any part thereof, shall forfeit two shillings and sixpence, and lastly, all the above forfeitures for every time such respective offence may be committed, shall be immediately paid to the President or Treasurer for the time being of the said Society, or in his absence to such member thereof here present then to be appointed to receive the same, and it is earnestly requested by the said Society that all persons here assembled would be very still and keep strict silence whilst they are ringing.'

Mr. J. Eyre Poppleton, in his 'Notes on the Bells of West Riding,' gives a copy of inscriptions of the 10 bells in the south-west tower. These hung in an iron frame. In 1933 the entire ring was recast by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and the tenor now weighs 23 cwt. 24 lb., and is in E flat. On Wednesday evening, March 1st, 1933, at the Loughborough Bell Foundry, a broadcast wireless talk on bells was given by Mr. E. Denison Taylor. During the proceedings, and to illustrate the art of change ringing, a perfectly struck bob-course of Grand-sire Triples was rung on the back eight of these new Ripon Cathedral bells, then in the foundry yard, by H. J. Poole 1-2, E. Morris 3-4, C. Harrison 5-6, H. Stubbs 7, J. P. Fidler tenor.

Southwell Minster or Cathedral dates mainly from the 12th century. It is a beautiful cruciform building, with

Norman nave and towers, and Early English choir. The chapter house is especially notable, and it retains some marvellous stone carvings. The central tower is 103ft. high, while the two western towers, which are crowned with square spirelets, reach a total height of 150ft. Bells are mentioned here at an early date, the gift of two being noted by Archbishop Kinsius of York, who died in 1060. Four hundred years later—in 1475—the first peal for matins is mentioned, while in 1478 we are told 'the clerks do not toll the curfew at 8 o'clock, but often after half-past or even later.' In 1481 the churchwardens do not diligently attend to the bells as they ought to do. In 1503, Edmund the clerk and others do not ring the bells for Matins and Vespers long enough, and a further complaint is registered in 1519. The Archbishop of York in his visitation in 1635 notes that 'the clock and chymes are very much neglected.' On November 5th, 1711, a violent thunderstorm did much damage to the cathedral; fire broke out in the south-west tower, and practically destroyed it, and spread to the roofs of the nave and transepts. Also the great central tower. The organ was destroyed and bells melted. In 1712 Thomas Clay, of Leicester, agreed to recast, renew and make good the bells thus damaged, but his work was not satisfactory. In 1721, Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, undertook to recast the ring, and of his work the 1, 3, 6, 7, 8 bells still remain. In 1819, the 4th and 5th were recast by T. Mears, and in 1849 the 2nd was recast by C. and G. Mears. The tenor is approximately 28 cwt. In 1897 two additional bells for the chimes were installed by J. Taylor and Co., but these are not hung for ringing.

The ringers' 'gallery' at Southwell is peculiar. The central tower is nearly 40ft. square, the gallery being 60ft. high and 28ft. square, with an opening in the centre 20ft. square. The ropes come down—two on each side—to the ringers' gallery wrong way round, i.e., anti-clockwise. Rising up before each ringer is a balcony, 4ft. of wood and 3½ft. of interlaced wire. The ropes fall 10ft. apart. At the back of the ringers a passage runs round the whole four sides of the tower. The approach to this curious gallery is via a spiral stairway in the transept up to the clerestory. Thence a walk across this clerestory to the central tower. A spiral leads to the top of the tower, if necessary, or step into the ringers' gallery, clockroom, bell chamber, and then to the top. Only one other such gallery exists in England, that at Merton College, Oxford, where the ringers stand in a similar manner, two on each side near the walls, and a 20ft. opening in the centre looking down on the tessellated floor far below. In spite of these difficulties, Southwell retains a good band of ringers, and full peals of 5,000 changes have been rung in Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise.

Lichfield is chiefly famous for its cathedral, built mainly in the 13th and 14th centuries, but largely restored in the 19th.

Features of this beautiful building are the west front, the chapter house, the lady chapel and the three spires. Of these the central one is 258ft. high, and the two west ones 198ft. An early record states that there was a bell tower at Lichfield, which was consumed by fire, together with the bells it contained, in 1315. No more records occur until the 15th century, when Dean Heywood gave the 'Jesus bell.' This bell was destroyed during the

Commonwealth wars. In 1670, Bishop Hacket contracted for 'six bells becoming a Cathedral.' In 1687 these bells had become 'bad and useless,' and so a scheme was launched to replace them with a ring of ten. This was carried out by Henry Bagley, and thus the present ring was provided, with a tenor of 30 cwt. The treble, 9th and tenor were later recast, treble by Thomas Rudhall 1764, 9th by Abel Rudhall 1758, tenor by Thomas Mears 1813. In the central steeple is a small bell known as the 'Goe bell.' It was soon after the tenor was recast that the first peal on the bells was rung, viz., 5,039 Grandsire Caters, on May 20th, 1815, by St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham, composed and called by Henry Cooper. Lichfield is also famous as the birthplace of Dr. Samuel Johnson (September 18th, 1709).

The only other English cathedral possessing three spires is that at Truro. This was begun in 1880, the old Parish Church of St. Mary forming the south aisle. The building is in the Early English style, designed by J. L. Pearson. The nave was completed in 1903, and by 1910 the western towers were finished. The central spire is 250ft. and west spires 200ft. high.

The ring of 10 bells, tenor 33 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in C sharp, was dedicated on June 21st, 1910, and hangs in the north-west tower, which was strengthened to take the bells. There are less louvres than in the south-west tower, and more masonry to give a good foundation for the bell frame. The bells are an entirely new ring, cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and were given by various donors. The legend from a canticle is inscribed on the first band of each bell; the name of the saint to which it is dedicated on the second; the date MCMIX and donor's name on the waist. In these cases a special motto is added. The canticle, 'Nunc Dimittis,' has been omitted, as it is hoped that some day a Bourdon bell will be placed in the King Edward, or south-west, tower, and it will be inscribed on this bell. The north-west tower is called the Queen Alexandra tower.

Actually Truro has four spires, the small tower, with its copper-covered spire on the south side, which is the west end of St. Mary's aisle, being part of the old Parish Church of St. Mary. In this tower are the clock and six bells. The hour bell, cast in 1770 by Pack and Chapman, weighs about 17 cwt., and is hung for ringing. The four chime bells were cast in 1904 by J. Taylor and Co. The other, cast in 1771 by Pack and Chapman, is unused. The first peal on the 10 bells was on December 26th, 1911, when a band from Plymouth rang Grandsire Caters. Since then several other peals of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Caters, Kent and Cambridge Royal have been rung.

WITLEY, SURREY.—On Friday, August 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *R. Cole 1, A. J. Bartlett (conductor) 2, F. Bowden 3, M. Smither 4, H. Mullard 5, F. C. Hagley 6, R. J. C. Hagley 7, *F. Woods 8. *First quarter-peal. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. A. Ashdown. Mr. Ashdown rang in the first peal on Witley bells in 1893. It was conducted by Mr. Frank Bennett, then of Guildford.

GOOD STRIKING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Some while ago, when the Editor of 'The Ringing World' called attention to and emphasised the vital importance of good striking, I was pleased, and entirely in agreement with him. From my school days I have been deeply interested in church bells and ringing, and have listened out to many peals in various localities, but my pleasure has often been discounted by indifferent and sometimes really bad striking.

This fault jars upon the ear of the man in the street and in the house too, and lowers the prestige of ringers as a body.

I am now residing at Stratford-upon-Avon, and am more than pleased to be able to record that the ringers at Holy Trinity Church—Shakespeare's resting place—under the leadership of V. B. Hunt, have realised the importance of really good striking. On Sunday evening, August 1st, they rang for service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, and from beginning to end not a bell was out of place or beat. In fact, it was the best struck touch of that length I have ever heard. The band also excel in that they preface and complete the ringing period with an excellent rise and fall, too often neglected in other towers, or even omitted.

And now a few words about another matter, namely, tune playing on church bells or carillons. I have heard these latter played upon, both on the Continent and also in our own country, but all have left a bad impression on me by reason of the fact that the bells cannot be damped at will, the result being a discordant jangle; in other words, there is a continuous clashing of notes, which, to a musical ear, is very distressing.

The organ note is sustained only so long as the relative key is depressed, and the piano note is damped down by pedal when required, in fact, the use of this pedal is of first importance in good playing.

I cannot see how this damping at will is to be accomplished with church bells at the moment, but as we are proud to have the predominant carillon makers of the world in this country, I think we can safely forecast that it will come.

For many years I played in public melodies and tunes on a fine set of handbells made for me by Tom Miller, and there the difficulty is overcome by damping the tone as and when required by replacing the bell mouth down on the padded portable table I use.

In conclusion, I wish to place on record my appreciation of the wonderful way in which our valued mouthpiece, 'The Ringing World,' is being conducted in spite of the many restrictions imposed by the war.

WILLIAM A. CLARK.

The Swan's Nest Hotel, Bridge End, Stratford-upon-Avon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WALKDEN.

A meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association was held on August 14th at St. Paul's, Walkden, at which the local branch towers were well represented, and there were visitors from Standish, Newhey, Worsley and Leatherhead, as well as Mr. J. Ridyard, the vice-president, from Southport.

The bells were going early and, with the exception of a short break for tea, full use was made of them until 8.30 p.m. There were some well struck touches, and learners made good use of the opportunity. Handbells were also in demand.

The Vicar, the Rev. H. Lawson, visited the town during the afternoon and welcomed the visitors. He also presided at the business meeting.

It was decided not to hold another meeting until October as the association's annual meeting is to be held in Bolton on September 25th.

Moving a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. John Potter for his hospitality, Mr. Peter Crook said they looked forward to visiting Walkden, where they were always assured of a hearty welcome, not only from the Vicar, but from the band, and especially from Mr. John Potter.

Mr. Crook also moved congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Potter and Mr. and Mrs. John Denner on their golden weddings. He hoped a peal would be rung and a peal board erected to record the occasion.

The Vicar said he hoped all four would enjoy many more years together. He also replied to the vote of thanks.

WILLESDEN. — On August 9th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Mrs. Lancaster 1, E. Lancaster 2, J. Botham 3, *R. Spears 4, Mrs. Botham 5, G. Kilby 6, E. Turner (conductor) 7, H. Kilby 8. *First quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise.

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OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.*

During the past academic year, the Oxford University Society has continued to flourish, amid conditions more difficult than before. Membership has been maintained at about the usual level; large numbers of recruits came at the beginning of the year, and by the end of it about 14 remained. The society has done a good deal of propaganda, in one way and another, during the past year. Various senior members of the university and others have been introduced to ringing by the enthusiasm of members, and until the removal of the ban the Oxford University Society continued to ring handbells for evensong at St. Mary's. Handbells were rung as part of the sound effects in a production of the mystery play, 'Everyman,' and in May the Master gave a talk on campanology, illustrated by handbells, to the Oxford Rotary Club.

Progress in handbell ringing has not been so marked as previously; fewer of the recruits showed any real aptitude in this direction, and although a dozen or so learnt to ring Bob Major, the level of handbell ringing has slightly declined. Nevertheless, some progress has been made with Stedman, and by dint of considerable practice a band was able to ring a course of Cambridge Surprise Major and a touch of Stedman Caters at the annual lunch.

Relatively few peal attempts have been made, illness and examinations being mainly responsible. Altogether 14 were rung—seven Bob Major, one Minor in three methods, and the following first performances for the society: Minor in seven methods, Grandsire Triples, Bob Royal, Kent Treble Bob Major, Reverse Bob Major and Double Bob Major.

When the ban was lifted, although the society had only two active members who had ever rung on open tower bells, most of the others had had considerable experience of handling a bell, and were able to take their place in the belfry and ring creditable rounds at once.

HEAVY RINGS OF FIVE.

In an airgraph from India, Mr. A. P. Cannon writes: As far as I know, the three heaviest fives are Kingsdon, Somerset (26 cwt.); Castle Ashby, Northants. (23 cwt.), and Ludham, Norfolk (22 cwt.). All these have had one peal on them. Peterborough Cathedral has five with a tenor of 30 cwt., but these have not been rung since before the last war. Other heavy rings of five on which peals have been rung are Yelminster, Dorset (19 cwt.); Long Clawson, Leicestershire (19 cwt.); Barrow, Suffolk (19 cwt.); Northill, Beds (20 cwt.); Blusham, Beds (20 cwt.); and Mancetter, Warwick (20 cwt.). Isleham, Cambs, are reported pretty heavy, but I have never been able to verify their weight, which was once passed on to me as 25 cwt.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BILLINGSHURST.—On Sunday, August 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: P. Wood 1, R. Wood, sen. 2, T. Adams 3, E. J. King 4, L. Stilwell (conductor) 5, C. Longhurst 6, W. Wicks 7, T. Newman 8.

HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, August 1st, 720 Bob Minor: N. Nunn 1, H. Backler 2, Mrs. L. Wright 3, J. W. Jennings (conductor) 4, Gunner N. Hough, R.A. 5, L. Wright 6.

NORTON, STAFFS.—On Sunday, August 1st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 1, S. B. Bailey 2, W. C. Corfield 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, J. P. Ryles 5, J. Walley 6.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON.—On Sunday, August 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. J. Prince 1, W. Rawlings 2, H. Price 3, F. C. Lyne 4, W. Cockings 5, C. R. Steed 6, V. B. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8.

TRING.—On Saturday, August 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples: R. Ransome 1, D. Campbell 2, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 3, H. Bull 4, C. Badrick 5, Sergt. H. C. Jones 6, H. Heley 7, N. Brackley 8.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.—On August 1st for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Martin 1, Mrs. G. Wareham 2, Miss P. Marsh 3, L. H. Pink 4, H. White (conductor) 5, G. Wareham 6. First quarter-peal on the bells by a local band.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Thursday, August 5th, at St. Luke's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Lyddiard 1, P. J. Spice 2, Miss H. Qakshett 3, G. H. Kite 4, G. F. James 5, H. Marcon (Lincoln) 6, J. Lyddiard (conductor) 7, C. Cullen 8.—Also 1,264 Bob Major: C. Cullen (first quarter-peal of Major) 1, F. E. Pitman 2, Miss H. Oakshett 3, G. F. James 4, H. Marcon 5, J. Lyddiard 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, P. J. Spice 8. Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to the Vicar of St. Luke's, the Rev. Canon Hassard-Short who attained his 70th year on that date, and to commemorate his 20th year as Vicar.

PUTNEY.—At St. Mary's, on Sunday, August 15th, for evening service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 47 minutes: C. W. Ottley 1, A. Jones 2, C. E. Massell 3, N. G. Miles 4, W. Malins 5, W. T. Elson (composer and conductor) 6, W. T. Winter 7, F. W. Wicks 8.

WISTASTON.—On a recent Sunday, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor: F. Barnard 1, E. Clarke 2, Pte. A. Thomas, R.A.O.C 3, R. T. Holding 4, F. H. Crawley 5, A. Crawley (conductor) 6.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

By R.A.F. personnel for teaching and practice purposes. Octave, size 15 (approximately). Any condition if capable of renovation.—Offers to Nolan Golden (R.A.F.), Hook End, Checkendon, Reading.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 4d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 2/-.

For Notices other than of Meetings 6d. per line (minimum 2/6).

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. 3d. per quarter.

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

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Halesowen, Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., in Church School. Bells afterwards to 9 p.m. Also handbells.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., 9, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Surfleet on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells (12) 2 p.m. Service 3.15. Tea at Glyn Garth 4 p.m.—W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. Meeting at Padiham on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Joint meeting with the East Grinstead and District Guild at Rotherfield, Saturday, Aug. 21st.—John Downing, Acting Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Joint meeting with Sussex County Association at Rotherfield, August 21st. Service 4.30. Tea in Institute at 5 p.m.—C. A. Bassett and J. Downing, Hon. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Meeting at Melbourne Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring own food. Tea at nearby cafe.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION and WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Meeting at Earl Shilton on Saturday, August 21st. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. **MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Leicester District.—Meeting at Billesdon (6 bells) on Saturday, August 21st, 3 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Ringing meeting at Hadleigh, August 21st, during afternoon and evening.—H. B. Herbert, 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Winchester on Saturday, August 21st. Central committee 2.15. General meeting 3.15, followed by tea, all at Dumpers Restaurant, High Street. Service in Cathedral 5.15. St. Maurice's bells available 1.30 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 212, Chatsworth Avenue, Cosham, Hants.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Henlow, Saturday, August 21st, at 3 p.m. Tea if it can be arranged.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Scunthorpe, Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Service 4.30 p.m.—J. Bray, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery.—Meeting Milverton, Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—W. M. Lloyd, Branch Sec., 46, East Street, Taunton, Somerset.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Meeting at Wistaston (6 bells) on Saturday, August 21st. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at 4.30 p.m. (Bring sugar.)—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Extra meeting at Shifnal, Saturday, August 21st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. No tea arrangements.—E. D. Poole, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at the Bell Foundry, 34, Whitechapel Road, on Sat., Aug. 28th, 3 p.m. Service ringing at Stepney, Aug. 29th, 9.30 a.m.—A. P. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Old Windsor on Saturday, August 28th, 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Bring tea, if required.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Cheadle R.C. (8 bells) on Saturday, August 28th, from 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring own sandwiches.—Andrew Thompson, 63, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Ottershaw on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (6) at 5 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m., followed by short business meeting. Ringing after until 8.45 p.m.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Meeting at St. Paul's, Burton, on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (10) available at 4 p.m. Teas in advance at nearby cafe.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Maidwell on Saturday, August 28th. Cup of tea provided.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at East Ardsley on Saturday, August 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Cafe near church, but those bringing food can have tea mashed in Schoolroom. Business meeting in the tower 6.30 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—Quarterly meeting at Cotgrave, Saturday, August 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Names for tea to Mr. Walter White, Post Office, Cotgrave, by Wednesday, August 25th.—T. Groombridge, jun., 74, Dornoch Avenue, Sherwood, Nottingham.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Campsall on Saturday, Aug. 28th, at 3 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. H. Bradley, Station Gatehouse, Norton, near Doncaster, before August 22nd.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—Practice meeting at Congresbury on Saturday, Aug. 28th, at 6.30 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at St. James' Church, West Derby, on Saturday, August 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by the meeting. Cups of tea will be provided, but bring own food.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Amphthill Road, Liverpool 17.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Annual meeting at Leyland Parish Church on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (10) 2 p.m. Bring own food.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Peshurst, Saturday, August 28th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Let Mr. G. Edwards, Elliott's House, Peshurst, know by Tuesday, August 24th.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davenry Branch.—Meeting at Staverton (6 bells), Saturday, August 28th. Usual arrangements. Notify me for tea.—W. C. Moore, 5, William Terrace, Davenry, Northants.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual meeting, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Saturday, September 4th, at 5 p.m. Bells 4 p.m. and after meeting. Make own arrangements for tea.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South and West and North and East Districts.—Joint meeting at Ruislip, on Saturday, September 4th, at 3 p.m. Bring food, cups of tea may be provided in Church Room, Bury Street, followed by meeting, 5.30 p.m. Pinner bells (8) available 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Bus from Ruislip Church to Pinner every 20 minutes.—J. E. Lewis Cockey and T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Secs.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting at Rotherham on Saturday, September 4th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Tea in the Parish Church Hall, Moorgate, at 5 p.m. at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. Those requiring same must notify Mr. T. C. Ryder, 19, Middle Lane South, Rotherham, not later than Wednesday, September 1st. Business meeting to follow.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Clicheley on Saturday, September 4th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea by August 28th to P. H. Howson, Hon. Sec., 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

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