



No. 1,761. Vol. XXXIX

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, 1944.

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
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CHRISTMAS.

In three days' time it will be Christmas Day, the sixth since the war began. Five years is a short time in the history of a nation, and is not a very long time in the life of a man; but the importance of years is not to be measured by their number, and the period we are passing through will certainly rank as one of the most vital, perhaps even the most vital, in modern history. Vast changes are taking place, and for good or for evil men's outlook on life, their hopes, and ambitions, and thoughts, and ideals, are being completely altered.

That the streets and buildings of our great cities will be different is patent to all. There are few important towns in which there are not desert spaces left by enemy bombing, and men are looking forward confidently to nobler buildings and statelier streets, to the removal of slums and the provision of better housing. That the social conditions under which we live will be different is just as certain; great schemes for improvements in employment, and health, and education, are being worked out, and some at least of them will come to fruition. Among all classes there is the longing and the hope that England will be a better place after the war than it was before.

Everyone should be thankful for this hope, and should do everything to fulfil it; but there is a very great danger of people forgetting that improvements in building, and housing, and education, and employment, will by themselves do little or nothing to make England an ideal country. The mere stopping of the war will not bring peace to the world, and in this country, however successful are the schemes for turning the vast war industry into peace time production, men will not easily settle down to a peaceful, useful, and contented life.

Most men think that, though material and social conditions have altered so much, they themselves are just the same as they always were, and will be able to take their places in peace time society exactly as they used to do. They are mistaken. More than five years of war have raised hopes and fostered ambitions which will not be realised, or, if realised, will be so by other men's loss. It cannot be good for us to read daily of the devastation of German towns and cities by fire and explosive, and to feel (as we do feel) satisfaction that it is so. The longer the war continues the more the average decent minded Englishman is hardening into a state of mind and feeling which will make it impossible for

(Continued on page 522.)

him to be not merely generous (for that can scarcely be expected), but even just to his beaten enemy. People are saying that whatever happens to the Germans will be no more than they deserve. It may be so. We are not particularly concerned about them. What we are concerned about is the effect on the character of our own people. The men who nourish a feeling of hatred for the enemy abroad can quite easily acquire a feeling of hatred for their opponents at home. That the end of the war with Germany may be followed by bitter strife at home is not so unlikely as it seems. We have as warnings what happened after the last war and what is happening now in Belgium and Greece.

What must be the remedy? The country is putting its hopes in careful planning and the resources of science, but careful planning and the resources of science have made this war the horrible and destructive thing it is. Only one thing can save the present civilisation and that is the recognition of the great moral truths which have come to us especially in the Christian religion. The issue is really whether men can find some way of living together on terms of co-operation and mutual regard; or whether they will go on with increasing violence tearing each other to pieces until all that makes life worth while for decent people is destroyed.

The hope for this country lies in the full recognition of the spirit which finds its expression and its justification in Christmas and what Christmas implies. The bells which will ring during the coming week-end will send out a message of hope and comfort, and convey a solemn warning which we feel sure will not fall on entirely inattentive ears.

The Editor wishes all readers of 'The Ringing World' a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

TEN BELL PEAL.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., Dec. 16, 1944, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 28½ cwt. in D flat.

DANIEL T. MATKIN ... Treble	JAMES F. HARVEY ... 6
ERNEST W. BEADSMOORE 2	RONALD H. DOVE ... 7
*RICHARD J. B. HADDEN 3	JOHN PINFOLD ... 8
FRANK E. HAYNES ... 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... 9
WILLIAM C. DOWDING... 5	HENRY H. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.
* First peal on ten bells. Rung to the memory of four Burton ringers, John Austin, John H. Swinfield, John Jaggard and Maurice Swinfield.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 9, 1944, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ... Treble	VERNEY BAIRSTOW ... 5
WILLIAM BARTON ... 2	ALBERT PICKLES ... 6
CLIFFORD ELLISON ... 3	WILLIAM AMBLER ... 7
CAPT. J. L. WRIGHT, R.E. 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM ... Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM BARTON. Conducted by SAM LONGBOTTOM.

LLANDUDNO, CAERNARVONSHIRE.
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Dec. 9, 1944, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOHN FLOOD ... Treble	HENRY RUMENS ... 5
*KATHLEEN RUFFELL ... 2	HENRY LAWRENCE ... 6
LESLIE BARRY ... 3	ARTHUR PEGLER ... 7
*MARJORIE JONES ... 4	*HARRY GEESON... Tenor

Conducted by L. BARRY.

* First peal.

NORBURY, HAZEL GROVE, OSHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 9, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES FERNLEY ... Treble	WILLIAM FERNLEY ... 5
*MISS PAT. FLETCHER ... 2	JAMES A. MILNER ... 6
†E. DENNIS POOLE ... 3	PETER LAFILIN ... 7
DAVID GOSLING ... 4	TOM WILDE ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JAMES FERNLEY.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Major inside.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 12, 1944, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*I. ARTHUR GARNER ... Treble	GIRLING, RIGBY ... 5
†JAMES R. SIMPSON ... 2	WILLIAM E. SIMPSON ... 6
‡BLANCHE WINFIELD ... 3	WILLIAM DAWSON ... 7
*CHARLES W. TOWERS... 4	CHARLES GEARY ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WILLIAM DAWSON.

* First peal of Major. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Major inside.

LISS, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 16, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

EDWARD R. COLES ... Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR ... 5
ERNEST J. MUNDAY ... 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 6
ALBERT HARMAN ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS... 7
CHARLES E. BASSETT ... 4	C. ERNEST SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

First peal in the method on the bells.

GORING-ON-THAMES, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 16, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th the observation). Tenor 8 cwt. 21 lb.

MRS. A. DISERENS ... Treble	BERNARD C. CASTLE ... 5
REGINALD W. REX ... 2	ALBERT DISERENS ... 6
*MISS JEAN V. STACEY... 3	THOMAS N. LANAGHAN 7
ARTHUR WIGGINS ... 4	EDWARD G. FOSTER ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS N. LANAGHAN.

* First peal. First peal as conductor and first tower bell peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

REDBOURN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 7, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 2,160 (No. 143 C.C.C.) and four 720's 28, 29, 27, 26 (C.C.C.).

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*WILLIAM C. HUGHES ... Treble	*E. J. ALBAN KENDALL ... 4
*F. STEDMAN POOLE ... 2	*HERBERT GATES ... 5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD ... 3	WALTER AYRE ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor.

**BENFIELDSDIE, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Dec. 9, 1944, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob, and one 720 each St. Clement's Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

*FENTON ARMSTRONG	Treble	STEPHEN THOMPSON, JUN.	4
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB...	2	JACK LISHMAN	5
ERNEST CAIRNS	3	STEPHEN THOMPSON	Tenor

Conducted by STEPHEN THOMPSON.

* First peal.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 13, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON	Treble	JOSIAH MORRIS	4
WILLIAM A. WOOD	2	ERNEST MORRIS	5
EDGAR O. CHAMBERLAIN	3	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS	Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

DARLINGTON.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 16, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 10 methods, viz., Bourne, Cambridge, Surfleet and Beverley, Chester and Munden, York, Durham, Wells and London.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

WILLIAM OLIVER	Treble	GEORGE W. PARK	4
ROBERT T. SIMPSON	2	W. NORMAN PARK	5
RICHARD BUSBY	3	ROLAND PARK	Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

Rung for the 70th birthday of the ringer of the treble.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 5, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5184 CHANGES;

ERIC A. DENCH	1-2	JOHN THOMAS	5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS	3-4	ALBERT J. WALLMAN	7-8

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9-10

Arranged and Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

First Little Bob in hand by all.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 10, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5005 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	ALBERT J. WALLMAN	5-6
JOHN THOMAS	3-4	ERIC A. DENCH	7-8

MRS. J. THOMAS ... 9-10

Composed by JAMES GEORGE.

Conducted by J. THOMAS.

Umpire: C. W. Roberts.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 15, 1944, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT NEW COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.	Tenor size 15 in C.
*MARGARET D. TELFORD	1-2 JOHN E. SPICE
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3-4 †FRANCES M. MARTIN

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SHARNFORD, LEICESTER.—On Thursday, November 30th, 1,284 Bob Minor: Eric Wood (first quarter-peal) 1, Percy Ison 2, Miss Madge Grocock 3, Frank Trotman (conductor) 4, Harry Wood 5, James Wood 6. Rung half-muffled.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.—On Friday, December 1st, 720 Bob Minor: Miss S. Earle (first 720) 1, Miss M. J. Saddington (first inside) 2, M. Norton 3, J. Saddington 4, H. Turner 5, B. J. Saddington (conductor) 6.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Sunday, December 3rd, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: D. Cox (first attempt) 1, A. R. Blaby 2, Miss A. Look 3, J. Stone (first quarter of Triples) 4, A. G. Janes 5, A. Newton 6, P. Newton (conductor) 7, V. Evans 8.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.—On Sunday, December 3rd, 720 Bob Minor: J. Nicholls 1, R. Butcher 2, W. Botsford 3, V. Conquest 4, J. Arnold 5, Miss D. Lidbetter (conductor) 6, J. Conquest 7. First 720 as conductor.

STAVERTON, NORTHANTS.—On December 3rd, 720 Bob Minor: Miss N. Jackson 1, Miss P. Jackson (first 720 inside) 2, Miss M. Clarke 3, Mrs. E. S. Powell 4, Rev. E. S. Powell 5, D. C. Birkinshaw (first 720 as conductor) 6.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On Sunday, December 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. J. Crawley-Bovey 1, C. Butcher 2, Mrs. F. A. Penn 3, W. R. Baxter 4, F. A. Penn 5, E. Parker 6, G. H. Harding (conductor) 7, S. Francis 8.

PAISLEY.—On Sunday, December 3rd, at St. James', 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: *Ian Peacock 1, *Alex Scott 2, *Mrs. W. H. Caldwell 3, P. O. F. J. Cheal (conductor) 4, *R. Clark 5, N. Sharp 6. *First quarter-peal.

CIRENCESTER.—On Sunday, December 3rd, at the Parish Church, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: *R. J. Wallis 1, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 2, A. W. Baldwin 3, A. Law 4, S. R. Hicks 5, A. Painter 6, W. H. Hayward 7, *R. K. Wallis 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, December 4th, at St. Ambrose's, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: *R. Porter 1, D. G. Clift (conductor) 2, *A. V. Bennett 3, *J. M. Stallard 4, E. F. Hancock 5, C. Glenn 6, G. Olliver 7, D. J. Marsh 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On December 5th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: *Miss T. Waldron 1, Mrs. G. Savill 2, *G. C. Tarr 3, H. Hodgetts 4, *Miss P. Holmes 5, *L. R. Tarr 6, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 7, *J. Cleaver 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

POULTON-LE-FYLDE, LANCASHIRE.—On Wednesday, December 6th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: *R. E. Smith 1, Cpl. W. Perkins, R.A.F. 2, Sgt. J. R. Wilson, R.A.F. 3, R. H. Dove 4, Sgt. W. Procter, R.A.F. 5, J. H. Foster (conductor) 6, A. Tomlinson 7, *R. Taylor 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—On Thursday, December 7th, 1,344 Stedman Triples: F. Stacey 1, F. A. Smith 2, J. F. Smallwood 3, P. Parslow 4, H. G. Cashmore 5, E. Jennings 6, M. Hibbert (conductor) 7, J. E. Rootes 8. Rung on the 80th birthday of Mr. F. A. Smith, a member of the local band for nearly 50 years.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor: Miss D. Wacey 1, R. Wood 2, W. T. Prior 3, E. Garbett 4, H. M. White 5, F. Bird (conductor) 6, T. Ward 7.

BRAMLEY, SURREY.—On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Grand-sire Doubles: Miss Paula Watkin 1, Miss Mary Davy 2, Peter Viney 3, J. Mott 4, J. Hyde (conductor) 5, C. M. Martin 6.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor: R. J. Lancefield (first 720) 1, J. W. Ireland 2, P. Page 3, M. Lancefield 4, W. J. Lancefield 5, Sgt. A. J. Lancefield (conductor) 6.

WHIMPLE, DEVON.—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: Miss E. Lomas 1, Mrs. A. Holway 2, Miss Q. Pring 3, J. Salway 4, G. Retter (conductor) 5, A. Holway 6. First quarter as conductor.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,260 Grand-sire Triples: Mrs. H. D. Jennings 1, G. H. Harding 2, Mrs. F. A. Penn 3, C. Butcher 4, W. R. Baxter 5, E. Parker (conductor) 6, F. A. Penn 7, S. Francis 8.

SPRINGFIELD.—On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor: J. Shadrack (first 720) 1, Miss A. White 2, E. J. Runter (conductor) 3, A. Bradley 4, H. Shadrack 5, H. Devenish 6.

BEXLEY.—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: *Betty Frost 1, Herbert E. Audsley 2, *Audrey Holden 3, James E. Bailey 4, Norman Summerhayes 5, Harry Hovard 6, Alan G. Hall (conductor) 7, Dennis L. Hall 8. First quarter of Stedman as conductor. *First quarter of Stedman Triples.

WESTON, BATH.—On Wednesday, November 15th, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: Mrs. D. M. Bennett 1, Miss A. M. Bennett 2, A. V. Bennett 3, J. M. Stallard (first quarter inside) 4, W. R. Rawlings 5, S. Woodburn (conductor) 6.

OXFORD.—At New College on Sunday, November 26th, 1,287 Stedman Caters: Miss V. V. H. Hill 1, E. A. Barnett 2, Miss M. D. Telford 3, Miss B. Spice 4, W. C. Porter 5, H. Badder 6, W. F. Judge 7, V. J. F. Bennett 8, J. E. Spice (conductor) 9, N. Allnatt 10.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Saturday, December 9th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. F. Sheraton 1, J. A. Brown 2, J. Anderson 3, R. L. Patterson 4, F. Ainsley 5, D. A. Bayles (conductor) 6.

LAVENHAM.—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,264 Bob Major: M. T. Symonds (conductor) 1, S. Smith 2, A. F. Turner 3, W. Jarvis 4, F. Boreham 5, L. Oford 6, F. G. Mortlock 7, L. Pryke 8.

THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.

(Continued from page 513.)

When we add Plain Bob, Reverse Bob and Double Bob to Double Norwich Court Bob, we get three new methods. Of them Double Oxford Bob is the best known. It consists of Double Norwich with Sevenths place added when the treble is lying behind, and Seconds place when the treble is leading. On six bells the method is one of the oldest and most useful we have. It was extended to Major by Shipway, and since then has generally been looked upon in the Exercise, not as a standard method, but as one which any band might choose to ring. The Norwich men rang the first peal of it (a 6,000) in 1832, but it was little practised until the close of the nineteenth century, when the band at Duffield, under Arthur Heywood, rang several peals, some of them of long length. Since then occasional peals have been rung at intervals throughout the country.

The plain course of the method contains exactly the same rows as the plain course of Double Norwich, and so has the material for the best kind of music; and all the place making and dodging of Double Norwich are there too. But the method cannot be said to be of the first rank, either in music or practical ringing. The two bells left on the front by the treble dodge together until it returns, and, similarly, the two bells left behind by the treble dodge together until it returns. This means that a bell must do a five-pull dodge in 1-2 down and then (after making Seconds place at a plain lead) do another five-pull dodge in 1-2 up. A corresponding thing happens behind. In 3-4 and 5-6, in addition to the Court places, there is three-pull dodging. And so the work and movement tend to be slow. Indeed, a bell only goes from front to back and back to front once in a course.

The general experience of ringers is that five-pull dodging is too long and tends to become monotonous to eye and ear. This is the great blemish in Superlative, which otherwise is as good a method as can be wished for in its class. There it is varied by double dodging, but in Double Oxford there is no relief from it.

It may be said that we get five-pull dodging in Double Norwich whenever a bob is made, and that no one then thinks of objecting to it as monotonous, either to listen to or to perform. That is true, but because it is at a bob the ringer naturally looks on it and treats it, not as a five-pull dodge, but as a single extra dodge, which follows a double dodge, and is itself followed by another double dodge. You may say it comes to exactly the same thing, but it makes all the difference.

Double Oxford is quite good enough a method to ring to an occasional peal, and so long as it has the charm of novelty is not without attractions. It is well adapted to composition and a large number of excellent peals have been produced. One advantage it has in peal ringing. Since the bells move so slowly and two men work together for such a long time, a slip by one of them is almost sure to be corrected by the other, and whatever mistake a man makes it is never likely to put him very far from the place he should be, nor will it upset more than perhaps a couple of other men. The slowness of movement also makes the conductor's job easier, and generally speaking we may say that Double Oxford is, for a competent band, quite an easy method to score a peal of.

Plain Bob added to Double Norwich gives Hereward Bob. Here the work above the treble is Double Oxford and below the treble is Double Norwich. There is less monotony than in the former method, for a bell goes behind twice in a course and so separates the five-pull dodges.

Reverse Bob added to Double Norwich gives Pershore Bob. In it the work above the treble is Double Norwich and below the treble is Double Oxford. Much of what applies to Hereward applies equally to Pershore.

Both these methods can be rung without difficulty and without study by a band who know Double Norwich thoroughly, and without having any claims to become standard methods, they are worthy of practice occasionally. Peals of both of them have been rung.

We have now got fifteen methods, all of them constructed by either Seconds or Sevenths place, or one of the two Court Shunts, or a combination of them. None of these methods is a bad one, all of them are, in fact, quite suitable for peal ringing, and six of them stand out as among the best methods change ringing has to offer. They are Plain Bob, Double Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, Winchester Bob, Marlborough Bob and Edmonton Bob. When the plan on which the last four are constructed is applied to ten and twelve bells, a number of methods of Royal and Maximus can be had far superior to the Surprise methods after which so many ringers hanker.

The work in all the fifteen methods is at backstroke and will present no difficulties to a skilled and competent band. We said that so far as the effect on the Coursing Order and the lead end is concerned, it does not matter where the Court Shunt is made or whether it is at backstroke or handstroke; but if it is at handstroke the result may be that a bell will lead or lie behind for four consecutive blows. We might get the following:—

12345678
21435687
24163857
42613587
46231857
42638175
46283715
64827351

In theory that is quite as soundly constructed as Double Norwich, but in practice four consecutive blows in any one position are only allowed at a bob or single. This does not make the shunt useless, for we can combine it with Double Norwich and the result will give us Double Coslany Court, which has features not found in the Plain Methods hitherto familiar to the Exercise. The work is not difficult to commit to memory, but to ring a peal will require a skilled band who have their wits about them.

The bell which turns the treble has first a Full Work on the front. This consists of alternately leading a whole pull and striking one blow in Seconds until the treble returns to the front. The whole pulls and the single blows are alternately at backstroke and handstroke. After being turned from the lead by the treble, the bell makes the Court places—Fourths and Thirds—round the treble, and then, instead of following that bell up behind, strikes a single blow on the lead, a single blow in Fourths, another single blow on the lead and a single blow in Sixths. It then makes handstroke places

in Fifths and Fourths, passing the treble between them. A single blow in Thirds is followed by a single blow behind, a single blow in Fifths, and another single blow behind. Then come the Court places in 5-6 (Sixths and Fifths) and after turning the treble from behind the bell does the Full Work Behind which is similar to the Full Work in Front. The rest of the work is the same as that already done, but in reverse order.

Except for the two Full Works the bells move quickly, and the hunting is sometimes backwards and sometimes forwards. There is in the plain course no dodging in the ordinarily accepted sense. What the bells do is to dodge in 1-4 and 5-8.

The bob may be made in Sixths place (as was the case when the method was first practised), or in Fourths place (as was the case when Mr. Ernest Turner called the first peal of it at Twickenham in 1939). The Fourths place bob is what is called (not very happily) a 'lengthening lead' bob. Peals of Bristol Surprise, or Treble Bob, will serve, but they must be doubled by singles which are made by the bells in 2-3 lying still in addition to the bob making on the other five bells.

In Double Coslany the natural Coursing Order is kept as well as in Double Norwich the music can hardly fail to be good, but the absence of dodging in 7-8 prevents the method from ranking among the most musical.

From the point of view of method construction Double Coslany is interesting, for it is the foundation on which Bristol Surprise is directly built.

The first lead end of the plain course of Double Coslany is 4263857. If we make Seconds place instead of Eighths the bells will run round; and so they will if Sevenths is made instead of Firsts when the treble is lying behind. We can make both Seconds and Sevenths,

and that will give us Double Mancroft Bob. The rows of the plain course are the same in Mancroft as in Coslany, but the work differs very considerably. Mancroft will be found to be a method which will tax the skill of any band; much more so than the majority of the Surprise Major methods that have been rung. A peal of it has not yet been accomplished.

Double Coslany Court. Double Mancroft Bob.

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24135678	24135678
42315768	42315768
24351786	24351786
23457168	23457168
32547618	32547618
23456781	23456781

24365871	32547681
42638517	23456718
24368157	32546178
23461875	35241687
32416857	53214678
23146587	35124768
21345678	31527486
12436587	13254768

14263857	13527486
41628375	31254768
46123857	32157486
64213587	23517846
46231578	32571864
42635187	35278146
24365817	53728416

(To be continued.)

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.
Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.
Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

All communications for this journal should be addressed
to:—

The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

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The White House,
Caister-on-Sea,
Norfolk.

TO SECRETARIES OF ASSOCIATIONS.

All Notices and small advertisements must be prepaid.
Remittances must be sent with advertisement to the
Editor.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt, and dwelt among
us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only
begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Widespread sympathy will be felt among ringers with the Rev.
Herbert Drake, of Ufford, who has recently lost his wife by death.

BELLS IN MONTREAL.

A LETTER FROM JAMES G. A. PRIOR.

Mr. Alfred B. Peck recently received a letter from Mr. James
G. A. Prior, some of which will be read with interest by ringers
generally. Mr. Prior writes:—

'In a Montreal paper the other day I read of a Mr. A. H. Burgess,
who had been ringing the bells at St. George's Church there for 30
years and who had a peal of 5,040 changes ready for peace celebra-
tions. Although I had an idea there were no ringable bells in
Montreal, I decided to look the gentleman up. I found his name in
the local directory, and you may be interested to know that he is listed
as a campanologist! I eventually met him and found that he was a
ringer at Bath Abbey many years ago. He is quite an old man and
wanted to know if "The Bell News" was still being published!
He'd never heard of "The Ringing World" and was very delighted
when I produced a few copies. There are, of course, no ringable
bells in the city. He performs on a chime of ten, but so far I
haven't heard them. Anyway it was nice to have met a ringer. I
suppose I shan't get another pull till I get back home again, and you
can imagine how I look forward to that. The last ringing I did was
at Manchester Town Hall for the liberation of Paris. I'd much sooner
have rung with you at the Cathedral. I've a theory why ringing
hasn't caught on much in Canada. It is that they don't get the
right sort of beer here. I wonder if that is the reason. I've tried
the stuff a couple of times, but that was quite enough, and I now
look forward to a draught Bass at the Three Lords.'

THE LIBERTY BELL.

The following statement appeared in 'The Sunday Times' of December 17th:—

'As a gesture of friendship between the English-speaking peoples, an offer has been made from this country to recast free of charge the famous Liberty Bell of Philadelphia, which rang to celebrate the Declaration of Independence in 1776, but which has been silent for more than 100 years.

'The bell was made in London in the 1750's by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, whose offer to recast it has been made through Major W. Tudor Pole, of the Big Ben Council, to the Mayor of Philadelphia at Independence Hall, where it now hangs, and where the Declaration was adopted.

'The idea of the bell was first conceived by the Assembly of the colony of Pennsylvania, of which Benjamin Franklin was a very active member, and they gave a contract for a 2,000lb. bell to Thomas Lester, of Whitechapel. It was shipped in 1752, cracked soon after being hung, was recast in Philadelphia, but cracked a second time in 1835, since when it has been silent. A committee of the American Welding Society is at present studying the problem of restoring the voice of Liberty Bell.

'Round the base of the bell is the famous inscription: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof," and the offer includes faithful reproduction of this and of all other details. The recasting of Big Ben in the middle of last century was carried out by the same Whitechapel firm. Should the offer be accepted, it may well happen that the bell will be loaded and unloaded at the London foundry by the same oak jib crane that was used for it in 1752, for, after 192 years' service, it is still in use.'

THE EFFECT OF A RULE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Gilbert, in a postscript to his letter this week, refers to your leader of December 8th, which urges that a ringer's loyalty is due to his own band and to his own friends. These sentiments I cordially endorse.

Then Mr. Gilbert says, 'Let us keep our rule. . . . Once a Cumberland always a Cumberland,' which prompts me to ask the question, 'Does keeping the rule always retain the member?' The answer is, quite definitely, in the negative, despite the call of "your leading article and Mr. Gilbert for loyalty. Actually, the rule referred to, so far as the Cumberlands are concerned, loses members.

Unlike Mr. Gilbert, I cannot claim to be a rank Cumberland (that adjective has too many offensive meanings for my liking), but I can claim membership from 1910, since which time I have seen many fellow members forfeit their membership through joining another certain society, which in many cases they no doubt felt they had every right to do. The result for the Cumberlands was the loss of members.

It might be said that the rule is a two-way affair, and that the losses and gains balance matters, but is this so? My observations during recent years lead me to say, without expressing any opinion as to why it should be so, that the 'desertions' are almost all in one direction, and in my opinion it is highly desirable that the rule should be abolished.

Not being a member of the other society, I cannot make any appeal in that direction, but I do most strongly think that it would be in the interests of the Society of Cumberland Youths if that body took the initiative in this matter, and got rid of such a 'rank' rule. In these days, when ringers can be members of nearly all the associations affiliated to the Central Council without question, is it reasonable that such a rule should be enforced through joining one particular society? It would be more logical if it were made to apply similarly to all societies, but that would, of course, lead to disaster.

C. T. COLLES.

Highams Park, E.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT EALING.**

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association, held at St. Mary's, Ealing, on November 25th, was attended by 30 members and friends from Ealing (St. Mary's, St. Stephen's and Christ Church), Harmondsworth, Hillingdon (St. John's), Hounslow, Isleworth, Northampton, Pinner, Raynes Park, Streatham (St. Leonard's), Uxbridge and Westminster (St. Margaret's). The methods rung included Grandire and Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Court Bob and Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and London Surprise Major.

Letters were read from Mr. H. C. Andrews, on service in the Mediterranean, and from Mr. J. E. Churchill, of St. Mary's, now recovering from illness. Miss Marjorie Turner, of St. Margaret's, Uxbridge, was elected a member.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At the annual meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths the following officers were re-elected: Ernest G. Fenn, Master; Alfred B. Peck, secretary; Albert A. Hughes, treasurer; Jack A. Waugh, senior steward; George W. Cecil, junior steward; Henry R. Newton and Henry G. Miles, trustees.

PEAL RINGING IN WAR TIME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have rung a few peals since the lifting of the ban, and the reasons put forward against peal ringing have left me undisturbed—quite the opposite in fact. Do these people believe that peal ringing excludes one from having either thought or consideration for their fellow citizens? What a melancholy state these anti-pealers must be in!

Why condemn only peal ringing and not other forms of recreation? (Peal ringing to me is a recreation, both of mind and body.) Take, for instance, almost any club in the Football League whose ground is usually situated in a densely populated area. On the day of a match many thousands of people come and go to the ground over a period of three to four hours (including the match). No noise here! Of course there is, and plenty of it; but the relaxation and recreation provided by the game is well deserved. Or take what has been going on here in Oxford (as in many other towns and cities) for six months of this year, a huge fun fair within a stone's throw of the city centre, continuous (except Sundays) from 2 p.m. till 10 p.m. Noise again, but amusement for thousands of kiddies and adults alike. Would the anti-pealers have these things suppressed?

Now let us examine the amount of peal ringing that is taking place in these times. Looking through an old directory, I find given 3,430 rings of from five to twelve bells in Great Britain. As probably none of us can state with authority how many of these rings have either been damaged or destroyed, let us assume there are now 2,000 rings in pealable condition. The average total of peals rung per week is roughly ten. This gives one peal per week for every 200 rings of bells. Not enough to wake the baby!

Anticipating someone saying, 'Yes, but peals are rung more often in some towers than in others,' my reply to this would be (to state my own activity) that, since the ban was lifted, I have rung 27 peals under the auspices of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, ten of these having been rung in ten towers, ten in five towers and seven in one tower. In addition to the above, one other peal has been rung at one of these towers. The tower where I have rung the seven peals is at my native village, Kidlington. The church here is ideally situated for peal ringing, being almost entirely surrounded by fields. There has never been a complaint here, the bells being much appreciated, as is shown by the villagers' welcome.

W. F. JUDGE.

54, Templar Road, Oxford.

RIVALRY AND EXCLUSIVENESS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—From your leading article this week I quote 'There is no reason to discourage in the Exercise the spirit of rivalry or even (beyond a point) exclusiveness.' It is interesting to ponder upon the point beyond which it will be unwise to encourage exclusiveness.

Presumably the rule of the College Youths and the Cumberlands is to be considered a type of exclusiveness. There are also the various societies and groups which have an exclusiveness by virtue of their members all having achieved some particular distinction in the annals of ringing or all having held offices of a ringing organisation.

All of these forms of exclusiveness are connected with the art of change ringing and all ringers have some opportunity of becoming a member of the various groups if he chooses to exert himself with that end in view.

There are, however, groups of ringers within the Exercise which enjoys an exclusiveness based upon things which have nothing to do with ringing and which are quite outside the reach of almost the whole of the rest of the Exercise.

It can be argued that they do much good in their way, but the fact still remains that from a ringing point of view any exclusiveness in the Exercise must be a jealously guarded privilege to which all can aspire by applying themselves diligently to the furtherance of the art.

If the idea of forming exclusive bodies by various ringing members of industrial and commercial organisations becomes widespread, one can visualise the Central Council meetings becoming like a Trades Union Congress.

This is, perhaps, an exaggeration, but the point raised in your leader certainly leaves room for reflection as to where exclusiveness in the Exercise must stop.

J. E. BAILEY.

Dartford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT BATTLE.**

A meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Battle on December 2nd, when 18 members and friends were present from Eastbourne, Heathfield, Bexhill, Hastings (All Saints' and Christ Church, Blacklands) and the local tower. Service was conducted by the Dean, the Very Rev. W. W. Youard, and tea was at Newberry's Cafe.

At the business meeting in the belfry, the churchwarden, Mr. W. C. Allwork, presided. One new member, Mr. Verdun, of Bexhill, was elected, and the next meeting (the annual divisional) will be at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, in February. A vote of thanks to the Dean was proposed by Mr. W. H. Joiner.

WILLIAM CHATTEL.

BY JOHN DAY.

Written in the year 1895.

(To the majority of present-day ringers William Chattel is not even a name, but a century ago he was one of the most active of the Birmingham men. It was not by any means a good period in the history of the Exercise, but the story of it can be read with both interest and profit, for our present conditions are the direct result of what happened then. John Day's account is written in a simple and straightforward style, which throws a lot of light on the ringers of the time, their strength and weaknesses, successes and failures and the difficulties with which they had to contend.)

This remarkable man, writes John Day, was a native of Irthlingborough, Northants, where his father and (I think) his grandfather also were ringers. His father was a farm labourer, a notable shepherd, and the son as a lad worked on the land, driving the plough, etc., but he did not like farm work, and so tried shoemaking, and not liking that either, afterwards tried baking. I do not know when he first began this business, but while quite a young man he got to Leicester.

He had learned to ring on the six bells at home, and soon got among the Leicester men (of whom he was always very fond of talking), but did not make much practical progress in the art, since, being a journeyman, he had not much opportunity.

However, he was always trying to obtain information, and while at Leicester, by the aid of a travelling bookseller, obtained a copy of the old 'Clavis,' and during his night work found time to figure out Reeves' peal of 5,040 Grandsire Caters, every change, in pen and ink. By this means he obtained a knowledge of the working and construction of a peal as well as of the calling.

A LONG TRAMP.

Early in 1833 he left Leicester and had a long tramp, visiting among other places London, Exeter, Salisbury and Bristol, whence he came on to Worcester, Bromsgrove, and finally Birmingham.

He must have been getting into a sorry plight, for as he came through Bromsgrove they were ringing for the 29th of May, but onwards he had to plod, because both his boot soles had become detached and were tied on his feet by pieces of string, and he could not show himself among the ringers in that state as he doubtless otherwise would have done.

Arriving in Birmingham the same day, Wednesday, May 29th, 1833, he probably got a situation the next day with a Mr. Perks, a flour dealer and baker in Charlotte Street. On being told he could not enter on his duties until the following Monday, Chattel said it did not matter. 'I'll take a walk as far as Leicester,' and he did so, turning up again at the appointed time. Mr. Perks was an invalid, who died in the following October, and as Chattel had attended well to the business, he stayed on with the widow.

I do not know how he got his first introduction to the Birmingham ringers, but probably by a visit to Elijah Roberts' beerhouse in Jamaica Row, because Roberts' wonderful peals on handbells about that time were the talk of the country.

Every morning Chattel had to take hot cakes round to his masters' customers, and as I have many a time heard it related, on a Sunday morning, having sold his cakes, he made his way to St. Martin's belfry, and, putting down his basket, was ready for action. I should perhaps say that at that time Sunday morning practice was a regular thing, and continued to be so for many years after. (It was not service ringing.—Editor.)

Now on this particular Sunday morning when they had raised the bells (the front eight) they could not ring because there was no bob-caller present. 'I can call eighteen-score of Grandsire Minor,' said the baker, rather surprising the Birmingham men. However, the eighteen-score was rung, and from that time the baker began to be somebody.

A DOUBTFUL PEAL.

Mr. Hopkins, who was always ready to help a young hand, and thought he saw a likely man for the heavy end, took notice of him, while Elijah Roberts soon discerned his merits and took him under hand. In a short time a peal of Grandsire Triples was arranged at St. Martin's, Roberts calling and Chattel rang the second, the go of which was so bad that, strong as he was, it was as much as he could do to get through the peal. 'Keep the second up,' said Roberts. 'That is if I can,' answered the baker.

In consequence of the above and a bit of sharp practice of Roberts in conducting, this peal was often talked about. There was more than one colt in it, and five shillings was to be spent at Roberts' house if they were successful. Now Johnson worked close by in Edgbaston Street and heard the ringing from start to finish. The fifth part end came up (I believe) the same as the second, but in the belfry this was only known to Roberts. When the men came out of the tower, Johnson asked Roberts what peal he had been ringing. 'Old Ben's' (Taylor's six-part), answered he. 'Oh!' said Johnson, 'I didn't know the second and fifth part-ends were alike!' 'Hold your noise,' said Roberts. 'They know nothing about it.' And so the money was spent, but it soon leaked out that no peal had been rung, while another was arranged for them and completed shortly after at Aston.

On July 6th, 1834, Chattel stood in his first peal of Grandsire Caters at Aston, a 6,282 conducted by Roberts, and muffled in memory of Joseph Powell. In August he first conducted a peal of Grandsire Caters, Johnson's 5,003, the first time it was rung, and in that year he also rang St. Philip's tenor through a peal of Treble Bob Royal, which he also conducted. On October 1st in the same year he stood for his first peal of Stedman Caters, but unfortunately it turned out false, being composed and conducted by Johnson.

HIS WORK AT ST. PHILIP'S.

The eventful part of Chattel's career had already commenced, because some time at the end of 1840, or early in 1841, Charles Bingham, who had been towerkeeper at St. Philip's for many years, died, and James Hines, the senior beadle, was appointed to the post. Now Hines knew nothing about bells or their management, and so had to look around for someone with the necessary knowledge.



ST. PHILIP'S, BIRMINGHAM.

Chattel, who was anxious to get the place under his own control, soon took advantage of the situation, and came to an arrangement with Hines, by which he was to attend to the chiming for the services of the church, and to find men when required to ring the bells. This arrangement, however, was not satisfactory to the other ringers, since by it he had agreed to give Hines a share (five per cent.) of all moneys earned in the belfry by them, and after ringing in celebration of the birth of the Prince of Wales (November 9th, 1841), an open rupture occurred, which ended in all the men crossing their names off the book; Chattel being secretary.

This put Chattel on his mettle, and gave him an opportunity of showing throughout his difficulties his iron will, his extreme patience (though at times he appeared to have none) and his remarkable ability.

There were few young ringers in Birmingham at that time, and the old ones could not have been anxious that there should be any, for they never gave them any encouragement. Still there were a few, and some five or six young men under the guidance of J. James, sen., used to practise on the first six at Aston, and had become able to ring Grandsire Doubles. Now James was one of the men who had left Chattel, so that the young men, of course, soon heard of the rupture, and when Chattel hung out a bait to catch them—free instruction and the membership of the new St. Philip's Society—it was rather eagerly taken. As a consequence he was in a very short time independent of his old associates and at open war with them. This, to use his own words, was what he gloried in.

It was only in the October previous to the split that Chattel, Johnson and several other ringers of their time had rung their first peal of Stedman, and he was so taken up by its many beauties that he rather surprised his young hands by telling them they would have to ring Stedman or nothing. I believe he never taught anyone Grandsire, nor rang it if he could help it.

(To be continued.)

CURIOUS TOWERS AND BELFRIES.

(Continued from page 518.)

At Newnham, Northants, the Church of St. Michael and All Angels has an embattled western tower with octagonal spire, containing six bells and a clock. The lower stage of the tower forms a unique porch to the church, and is open on three sides. This open-air porch at one time was the 'ringing chamber.' Needless to say, not much ringing could be done except under very favourable weather conditions. The locals did most of their ringing in a small chamber under the bells, using the bare ropes, but in this place the tenor-man was completely hidden by a clock case. The circle was also peculiar. The treble was in the middle with 2-3-4 along one side, and the tenor diagonally from the 2nd, with the 5th relative to the 4th. The back five bells are all by Hugh Watts, of Leicester, 1632-3, and the treble was added in 1660. The tenor is 14 cwt. These bells were rehung by J. Taylor and Co. in 1940, and the ringers now stand on the first floor of the tower. A new floor was fixed immediately below the bell frame, as well as a sound-deadening ceiling in the ringing room, so conditions for ringing are now ideal. The first peal on the bells was rung on July 8th of this year, conducted by George Care, of Brafield.

One of the most curious towers in England is that of All Saints', Maldon, Essex. It is the only triangular tower we have. The precise date of the building of this church is not recorded, but that it existed in 1180—the date of the foundation of Beeleigh Abbey—is practically certain, for a Charter of Richard I., December 7th, 1189, exists reciting and confirming 'certain grants to Beeleigh Abbey, including the Church of Blessed Peter in Maldon and the Church of All Saints in the same town.' It is worthy of note that Lawrence Washington, the great-great-grandfather of George Washington, first President of the United States, was buried in the churchyard here on January 21st, 1652. The west tower was built in the middle of the 13th century, and is very unusual and triangular, averaging 17ft. on each of its three sides. It is surmounted by a shingled hexagonal spire with small pyramidal roofs at the three angles. In the second stage in the north-east wall is a blocked doorway with round head, and of uncertain use. Internally, a number of 12th century stones are reset in the walls of this stage. A little turret projecting from the spire contains the original Sanctus bell inscribed 'Johannes Snayn et Ricardus Lynn me fecit.' In this curious tower there is a ring of eight, ingeniously arranged in an iron frame by A. Bowell, of Ipswich. The tenor is 13 cwt. in G, and the ringers ring from the ground floor, which is lower than the church floor level.

Of the old bells, the middle four bear this interesting 'verse':—

- 3: When three this steeple long did hold
- 4: They ware three emblems of a scold.
- 5: No mvsick then—bvt now shall see 1707
- 6: What pleasant mvsick—six will be—H.P. 1707.

As the 6th subtly indicates, they were cast by H. Pleasant. The 7th is by Pack and Chapman, 1770, and tenor by Thomas Mears, 1799.

Another well-known Essex tower is that at St. Mary Magdalen, Harlow Common. The tower forms the main entrance to the church, and as ringing is done from the ground floor, the congregation on entering church pass

through the circle of ropes. The eight bells here were dedicated October 31st, 1904, and are by J. Taylor and Co., the tenor being 12 cwt. 9 lb. An illustration of this tower is given in the Rev. F. E. Robinson's book, 'Among the Bells,' p. 540.

The Church of St. Mary, Ashbury, Berks, is an ancient cruciform structure with massive embattled west tower with pinnacles. In 1906 the tower was underpinned and north-west buttresses rebuilt. There is a ring of six bells, tenor 14 cwt., and these hang in an old frame. All the bells swing east to west and, because of the unusual plan of the frame, the 'circle' of ropes falls somewhat awkwardly in two lines, 5.3.1.2.4.6. Although there is plenty of room in the tower, the bells occupy the space from the south wall to about the middle of the tower, leaving practically half the tower vacant. Formerly there were five bells by Henry Bagley III., of Chacombe, 1733, but subsequently the two largest were recast by W. and J. Taylor, of Oxford, 1845. A treble was added by Mears and Stainbank in 1873. There is also a Sanctus by James Wells dated 1800.

At Bidston, St. Oswald, Cheshire, is a ring of six, tenor approximately 9 cwt. Ringing here is very awkward because, although an ancient church, a modern organ has been installed, and its case juts into the ground floor ringing room, making the 'circle' a very awkward one. The 5th ringer has to come forward almost to the middle of the tower because of the back of the organ. Entrance to the ringing room is by the west door from outside.

The church of SS. Helena and Mary, Bourn, Cambs, picturesquely set on rising ground, is a spacious cruciform building in Transitional Norman, Early English and later styles. It has a west tower with stair turret, and contains eight bells, tenor 14½ cwt. in F. Of the old six bells by R. Taylor, 1807, three were recast in 1882, while in 1924 two more were added and all rehung by J. Taylor and Co. As ringing is done from the ground floor round the font, the ringers are enclosed on three sides. Arthur Mee's 'Cambridgeshire' thus describes it:—'Three steps lead into the tower where the ancient font, surrounded by eight coloured bell-ropes, is set in the middle of a floor of red and blue tiles forming a maze, of which a plan hangs on the wall. The maze is very rare, or perhaps unique in an English church, though familiar on the Continent.' Dousing, the Puritan iconoclast, visited this church and destroyed two angels and some brasses and crosses in the tower and chancel.

Butcombe, Somerset, church of St. Michael, has a ring of six bells, tenor 6 cwt. — the lightest in this county. Neighbouring villagers say of this small church, it was 'discovered when cutting the grass with a sychle.' It is a small building in the Perpendicular style and has an embattled tower on the south side. The tower forms part of the Lady Chapel and so is open to the church on the east and north sides. The ringers stand in full view of the congregation. The place where ringing is done is the nave, as it were, of the Lady Chapel, and chairs have to be moved before and after ringing takes place. The ropes are drawn up to the ceiling by a pulley. This part of the church is 15th century and was formerly served by the Augustinian Abbey of Bristol. The Arms of Abbot Nailhewt are to be seen in the east window of the chapel.

(To be continued.)

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Leicester Cathedral Society was held on December 11th, at which the Provost, the Very Rev. H. A. Jones, presided.

The resignation of Mr. Tom Taylor as steeplekeeper was accepted with regret. Mr. Taylor rang a peal of Stedman Triples on his 85th birthday in December, 1943, and on that occasion the ringers presented him with a cheque. Two months ago his health failed. Mr. C. F. Knight was elected steeplekeeper.

Mr. Harry Broughton, who had been hon. secretary of the society for 25 years, was compelled to resign owing to a serious illness some time ago. On behalf of the ringers, the Provost presented him with a specially carved mahogany tray. Two bells had been carved in the centre and the initials 'H.B.' inside them.

Mr. Broughton said he should still maintain complete interest in the Cathedral band, and that while he thought his peal ringing had ended, he hoped it would not be long before he could handle a bell again.

Mr. Harry G. Wayne was elected hon. secretary. Congratulations were given to Mr. John R. Smith. He has rung 18 peals and has not lost one. (The methods have appeared in 'The Ringing World'.) The Provost presented him on behalf of the ringers with a wallet bearing his initials.

Mr. Smith said his association with the Cathedral band—which he joined with no knowledge of change ringing after the ringing ban had been lifted—had been the means of his making many friends. He thanked the ringers for their help and friendliness. His home is in Norfolk and he has attended a course of instruction at Leicester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT SWINDON.**

Nearly 50 ringers attended the annual meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, held at Christ Church, Swindon, on December 9th, and methods ranging from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Royal were rung. At the business meeting the chairman (Mr. W. H. Trueman) referred to the opinions expressed in 'The Ringing World' on en bloc elections of officers and suggested individual nominations, but the members present thought otherwise, and the retiring officers were elected en bloc. The places suggested for the next three meetings were Wroughton, Stratton St. Margaret and Rodbourne Cheney. The towers in the branch were well represented, and visitors were from Ashford, Aldbourne, Bath, Bishops Cannings, Cheltenham, Colehill, Fairford, Oxford, Quenington, Reading, Shrivenham and Wootton Bassett.

DEATH OF MR. E. T. GRIFFIN.

The death is announced of Mr. E. T. Griffin, of Christchurch, Hants, which took place suddenly. Mr. Griffin learnt to ring in the London area and afterwards was a member of the Yeovil band and then of the Christchurch Priory band. He had rung more than 50 peals, which included Grandsire and Stedman on all numbers, Treble Bob Minor and Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major.

The funeral was at the Priory, Christchurch, on December 14th, and the interment at Highcliffe. The full local band rang the bells half-muffled before the service, and 574 Grandsire Caters were rung afterwards, the band including some members of other local towers.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**MEETING AT CHRISTCHURCH.**

The annual meeting of the Christchurch District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Christchurch on December 2nd. The Vicar, Canon Gay, conducted the service in the church and welcomed the ringers. Tea was served at the Warren Cafe, at which 57 members and friends were present. At the business meeting regret was expressed at Mr. George Preston's resignation of the secretaryship, an office he has filled for over forty years. Mr. George Williams voiced the appreciation, felt by all present, of Mr. Preston's services to the Guild.

Mr. A. V. Davis was elected chairman, Mr. W. E. Cheater Master and Mr. J. M. Turner secretary of the district, Mr. E. T. Griffin was re-elected representative on the Central Committee and Mr. A. N. Wooff auditor.

Thirteen new members were elected. Triples, Caters, Cinques and Major were rung during the evening.

WEDDING OF MR. W. LINTER.

The marriage of Mr. W. Linter, hon. treasurer of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild and chairman of the Portsmouth District, to Doris Ruth Northway, B.A., headmistress of Fareham Junior School, took place at SS. Peter and Paul's, Fareham, on December 9th. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. B. C. Daniell), and suitable music was played by the organist.

After the ceremony the bells were rung by members, and those present included the Master (Mr. G. Williams) and hon. general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers). Touches in the standard methods were rung, and the reception was held at the bride's home, after which the couple left for the New Forest.

SERVICE TOUCHES.**GRANDSIRE CATERS.**

The notation of Grandsire Caters is not in a very satisfactory state. Although the three largest bells are usually kept together throughout a touch or peal, the relative positions of them at the course ends are almost invariably altered two or three times. Every call affects at least two of the large bells and every bob cuts out one lead from the work of a bell. Thus there is no fixed bell to act as an observation and no fixed calling positions, as there are in Bob Major, Double Norwich, Superlative and even Treble Bob.

Touches and peals usually consist of a 'going off' course, in which the big bells are put into the tittums and at the course end are in the position 978. They may remain in that order throughout the touch or peal until the end, when a 'homing' course is needed to bring the bells round at backstroke, or (more usually) at handstroke. Sometimes halfway or at some other interval there is a 'turning' course by which the large bells are put into the handstroke position. Occasionally the relative positions of the big bells is altered more frequently and at shorter intervals.

There is not much variety in the calling of the courses in the body of the touch or peal. For the most part it consists of four callings. One is a call which brings up the course end. Another is a call which brings up the lead previous to the course end. Another is three successive calls at the first three lead ends in the course. And the fourth is two successive calls at the second and third lead ends of the course.

When the bells are in the tittums the first of these is termed a 78, and the second an 89, because those pairs of bells are then dodging behind. At the third the ninth is called into the hunt followed by two successive bobs. At the fourth the eighth is called into the hunt and out the next lead. The last two callings used to be termed '9th in 3' and '8th in 2.' Some years ago, however, these terms were objected to, and an attempt was made to alter them to '9th in and 2' and '8th in and 1.' The change has caused some confusion and the conductor should make sure he knows what is meant. When the bells are in the handstroke, or some other position the notation must be adjusted accordingly.

1,259.

23456789

43627589	7th in and at 3
62453978	5th in and bobs at two consecutive following leads
35264	8th in and 1
23564	9th in and 2
52364	9th in and 2
32465	89
43265	9th in and 2
24365	9th in and 2
34562	89
54263	89
25463	9th in and 2
42563	9th in and 2

Rounds by calling the ninth in and out at 2.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.

A practice meeting of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on December 2nd, and was attended by ringers from Alverstoke, Gosport, Godalming, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Liss and Titchfield. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major. The next practice meeting will be held in this tower on January 6th.

DEATH OF A HUDDERSFIELD RINGER.

On Sunday, December 9th, the bells of Huddersfield Parish Church were muffled in memory of Tom Waites, who has been killed in action at the age of 31 years. He had been a ringer for about seven years and leaves a widow and two children. The band was John Womersley 1, Fred Richards 2, Tom Shaw 3, Andrew Blackburn 4, Harry Armitage (conductor) 5, Hubert Armitage 6, Donald Snowball 7, Brian Williams 8.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT CARSHALTON.**

A meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association was held at All Saints', Carshalton, on December 9th, at which about 50 members and friends were present. Carshalton bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and Beddington bells during the evening.

At the business meeting reference was made to the death of Mr. C. Road, of Ewell, who had been a member for over 50 years.

All the present officers and committee were nominated for re-election at the annual district meeting, which it was hoped would be held at Epsom on February 3rd.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

ST. MARY'S, PUTNEY. — Ringing on Christmas morning at 10 a.m.—W. T. Elson.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Practice at Stoke Poges, Tuesday, Dec. 26th, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Saturday, Dec. 30th, 3 p.m., Whitechapel Bell Foundry, E.1. Ringing at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, 4.30.—A. B. Peck.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch. — Annual meeting on Saturday, Dec. 30th. Bells (10) St. Stephen's, 2.45 p.m. Tea and meeting in St. Peter's Parish Rooms 4.45 p.m.—W. S. Emery, Hon. Sec., 34, Waverley Road, Bristol, 6.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Annual district meeting at St. Giles', Lincoln, Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells (8) 2.30 to 8.30. Service 4.30. Bring food and tea. Hot water provided in Parish Hall.—K. W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Carline Road, Lincoln.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Annual district meeting at Winchester, Saturday, Jan. 6th. Fuller announcement next week.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells (8) 2.30. Tea at cafes nearby.—G. G. Graham, Hon. Sec., 5, Pipworth Lane, Eckington, near Sheffield.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM. — Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 6th, at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Ringing at St. Martin's, 4.30 to 6 p.m. Business meeting at 6.15. — T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Branch. — Meeting at Withycombe Raleigh, Jan. 13th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 7th to Brian Pidgeon, Hon. Sec., East Budleigh.

FOR SALE.

Ellacombe's 'Church Bells of Somerset.' Published 1875. £2 2s. — P. Field, Stoke Wake, Blandford, Dorset.

GREETINGS.

To all friends, old and new, pealers, anti-pealers and particularly all young Sunday service ringers, from: George Gilbert, Hilda and Cecil Taylor, Clissold, Eastfield Road, Burnham, Bucks.

To all ringing friends at home and overseas we send hearty Christmas and New Year greetings.—Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson and Mrs. E. M. Wayman, Glyn Garth, Surfleet.

Christmas greetings to all my ringing friends.—Edgar R. Rapley, S.E.A.C.

Wishing all College Youths and ringing friends all we should wish ourselves for the coming season and the New Year.—Ernest G. Fenn, Master; Alfred B. Peck, Secretary; Albert A. Hughes, Treasurer.

Harry Hoskins, of Greenwich, offers best Christmas wishes and a peaceful New Year to all ringing friends at home and overseas.

Seasonal greetings and best wishes from Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Harris, Woburn, Bedfordshire.

Sincere greetings for Christmas and best wishes for a Victorious and Prosperous New Year.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank I. Hairs, The Oaks, Burgess Hill, Sussex.

Greetings and best wishes for Christmas and a peaceful New Year from Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Swann, 5, Heathlands Road, Sutton Coldfield.

Every good wish to ringers everywhere. May those victory peals come safely home, with our brothers and sisters now far absent, early in the New Year.—Nolan and Iris Golden, now back at 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich. Christmas, 1944.

To all ringing friends, a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year is the sincere wish of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pulling, Royal Grammar School, Guildford.

Hearty Christmas greetings and all good wishes for a New Year of peace and happiness to all ringing friends, from Mr. and Mrs. James E. Davis.

Christmas greetings to all ringers, from C. H. Webb, Coventry.

Christmas greetings to all ringing friends, from Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all ringing friends, from the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild (Southern District).—E. Stitch, Hon. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glamorgan.

LADIES GUILD.**MEETING AT BRISTOL.**

A meeting of the Western District of the Ladies' Guild was held in Bristol on Saturday, December 9th. The ringing at St. Philip's Church during the afternoon included Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Triples and rounds. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. J. Jarvis, who gave an address, and afterwards about 35 visitors, including 25 ladies, sat down to tea. At the business meeting five new members were elected, and it was agreed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Henbury.

HILLINGDON WEST.—On Sunday, December 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Blondell 1, E. B. Hartley 2, P. E. Jones 3, P. W. Goodfellow 4, W. S. Childs 5, W. Honer 6, F. Corke (conductor) 7, S. Humphreys 8.

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