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**CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

The time is soon coming when the territorial associations will begin to hold their annual meetings, and among the important business at those meetings will be the election of representatives on the Central Council. Most of the societies, probably all of them, have already representatives who were elected for the triennial period just passed, but no meeting of the Council could be held during the time, and to put things into proper order it is necessary to hold elections as if these were normal times. To some extent these elections will be bound to be rather of the nature of formalities, but it is essential that the members should not forget that the Central Council representatives are among the most important of their officials, and should take every precaution that the right persons are chosen.

Of the value and usefulness of the Council to the Exercise generally it is not now necessary to say anything. It has fifty years' life and work behind it, and by what it has been, and what it has done, it must be judged. But there are one or two points which perhaps are worth a little consideration. One is, What is the exact relationship between a representative member and the association he represents? Does he go to the Council to speak and vote as he thinks best? or is he there to record the decision which the members of his association have already decided on?

No doubt the instances in which the issue is as clear cut as this are very rare; but they may occur, and there is a tendency among some ringers to favour the plan of giving instructions to their representatives to vote this way or that way on some given question. Up to a point this is natural and beneficial, but it can easily become harmful.

The member goes to the Council meeting to represent a particular society, and therefore he is in duty bound to pay attention to the views of his constituents, but to represent a society is not the only object for which a member goes to the Council meeting, nor is it the most important. He goes to help to form a body of men who can discuss, think out, and decide the various problems which arise in bellringing. The idea of the Council is that it shall bring together the best and most capable men in the Exercise, men who in their own sphere can speak with authority and knowledge, and whose collective opinions will ensure the assent and respect of all reasonable persons.

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Each member represents a society, but the Council, as a whole, must do more than represent the sum of all the societies. It must represent the Exercise as a whole, and every member must consider himself responsible, not merely to his own society, but to all the ringers in the country and as equally concerned in their well being. He must approach any debated question on which he is not an authority with an open mind, and give his vote in accordance with the arguments put forward and the general good of the Exercise.

To send a man to the Council meeting with strict and unalterable instructions as to how he must vote is to defeat the ends for which the Council was formed. To debate and argue about questions which have already been decided at the annual meetings of associations is to turn the proceedings into an absurdity. It is right and proper that associations should discuss any question which may come before the Council; it is a good thing to pass resolutions on those questions, and to give the representative the fullest information of the views and wishes of the members; and it is proper for the representative to pay every attention to those views. But to the end he must remain unfettered, and when he comes to give his vote he must do so, not as the representative of some particular society, but as a member of the body which is concerned with the welfare of the whole Exercise.

The men especially valuable on the Council are the men of broad and independent minds who can see all sides of a question and judge between them; men who can pay attention to the opinions of others but do not let themselves be tyrannised by them; men who can command the confidence and respect of their fellows. The Council also needs men who are authorities on all the different and varied things which come in contact with bellringing, and fortunately it has never lacked such. Technical and professional skill are first-class qualifications for membership of the Central Council, but they are not more so than character.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

### LEICESTER.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 27, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

PETER J. STANFORTH... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... 6
JILL POOLE ... .. 2	ARTHUR DEBENHAM ... 7
*DENNIS DODSON ... .. 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 8
BURLEY MORRIS ... .. 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 9
HERBERT W. PERKINS 5	HAROLD J. POOLE ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES. Conducted by G. S. MORRIS.

\* First ten bell peal. First in the method as conductor.

### WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*MARGARET D. TELFORD... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN WORTH ... .. 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 2	ALAN J. BROWN ... .. 7
DAVID VINCENT ... .. 3	FREDERICK R. WILLIAMS 8
†THOMAS W. HESKETH... 4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE ... .. 9
JOSEPH RIDYARD ... .. 5	CECIL AUSTIN ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by P. W. CAVE.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

### HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

#### A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.

ALBERT E. WHITING ... <i>Treble</i>	*GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 5
*MRS. C. W. PIPE ... .. 2	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 6
LESLIE G. BRET ... .. 3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... .. 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 4	*CECIL W. PIPE ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by MRS. C. W. PIPE.

\* First peal in the method.

### STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.

#### THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 8040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th the observation). Tenor 8½ cwt.

*MISS NANCY DAVIS ... <i>Treble</i>	†W. BERTRAM KYNASTON 5
†CHARLES J. GARDNER ... 2	WILLIAM A. T. CARTER 6
F. JOHN DANIELL ... 3	A. GEORGE WELLS ... 7
CHARLES J. HATHAWAY 4	*HENRY AUSTIN ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by W. B. KYNASTON.

\* First peal. † 50th peal together.

### WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCs.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

#### A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM H. HUNTER ... <i>Treble</i>	F. GEORGE BRADLEY ... 5
HARRY HARDACRE ... .. 2	LAWRENCE WALMSLEY ... 6
JOHN JACKSON ... .. 3	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... 7
WILLIAM TAYLOR ... .. 4	E. ROGER MARTIN ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL. Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

### HILGAY, NORFOLK.

#### THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

#### A PEAL OF DOUBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

*ERNEST H. MASTIN ... <i>Treble</i>	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... 5
*WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 2	*WILLIAM BUCKENHAM ... 6
*REV. JOHN P. PELLOE... 3	PHILIP A. CORBY ... .. 7
*RONALD H. BULLEN ... 4	*CLAUDE COUSINS ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Arranged and Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

\* First peal in the method.

### ALDERSHOT, HANTS.

#### THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

#### A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

*FRANK C. W. KNIGHT... <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE L. GROVER ... 5
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 2	WILLIAM H. VIGGARS ... 6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON... 3	ERNEST J. MUNDAY ... 7
GEORGE UPSHALL ... .. 4	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

\* First peal of Major.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

### BUNWELL, NORFOLK.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

#### A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.  
Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

F. CHARLES GOODMAN... <i>Treble</i>	†WILFRED G. SAUNDERS 4
*JOHN R. SMITH ... .. 2	GEORGE SAUER ... .. 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 3	HENRY TOOKE ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal in seven methods.



**HANDBELL PEALS.**

COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 28, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At 117, WIDDINGTON ROAD,

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

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERNEST STONE ... ..	1-2	FRANK W. PERRENS ... ..	5-6
FRANK E. PERVIN ... ..	3-4	*THOMAS SHEPHERD ... ..	7-8

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.

\* First peal on handbells and first peal of Bob Major.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Fri., Feb. 2, 1945, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes.

At SPRINGFIELD ST. MARY,

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

Tenor size 15 in C.

* ROSEMARY HOOD ... ..	1-2	BETTY SPICE ... ..	5-6
JOHN E. SPICE ... ..	3-4	ALAN WHITE ... ..	7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by BETTY SPICE.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sat., Feb. 3, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At NEW COLLEGE,

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

Tenor size 15 in C.

* JULIA M. PRESTON ... ..	1-2	JOHN E. SPICE ... ..	5-6
BETTY SPICE ... ..	3-4	ALAN WHITE ... ..	7-8

Composed by H. J. HOWLETT. Conducted by ALAN WHITE.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sun., Feb. 4, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At NEW COLLEGE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

* JEAN A. SOUTHERST ... ..	1-2	* MARGARET L. TITT ... ..	5-6
BETTY SPICE ... ..	3-4	JOHN E. SPICE ... ..	7-8
† ALAN WHITE ... ..		9-10	

Composed by E. GUISE. Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

\* First peal of Caters. † First peal in the method in hand. The first peal of Caters for the society.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**

MEETING AT PUDSEY.

A meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Pudsey on January 27th. Tea was provided by the local company.

The business meeting was held in the Pudsey Conservative Club. Mr. Senior presided and members were present from Armley, Batley, Bradford Cathedral, Calverley, Drighlington, Guiseley, Harrogate, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Pudsey, Queensbury, Rothwell, Sherburn, Shipley and Woodlesford, in addition to friends from Halifax, Handsworth and Selby.

The following were elected as members: Miss P. Barton, Clifford Benn, Gordon Benfield, Keith Brayshaw, Alan Chapman and Jack Gibson, all of Pudsey; J. Briggs, Bradford; W. Wheatley, Calverley; A. Betts, Liversedge; Miss M. Bradley and F. Thornton, of Sherburn; F. Brook and Fred Smith, of Guiseley; Miss H. Paver, Liversedge; and Brian Race, of Woodiesford.

The next meeting will be on February 24th, and probably at Liversedge.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION,**

MEETING AT AMPHILL.

Twenty-nine ringers were present at a meeting of the Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association, held at Ampthill on February 3rd. They were from Bromham, Bedford, Maulden, Biddenham, Kempston, Silsoe, Elstow, Leighton Buzzard, Dunstable, Woburn, Tempsford, Turvey and Westoning.

The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Plain Bob, Double Court Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Exercise, and Cambridge and Norwich Surprise Minor.

Tea at Nott's Cafe was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Miss E. Steel, at which Biddenham was selected for the next meeting on March 3rd. Messrs. R. West and H. L. Harlow were elected to represent the Bedford District on the General Committee. The collection for the Belfry Repair Fund amounted to 5s. 6d.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was held on January 27th in the Vestry Hall of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and was well attended.

Those present included the Master (Mr. G. H. Cross), the secretary (Mr. G. W. Steere), Mr. C. J. Matthews (Past Master), Mr. T. Bevan (senior steward), Messrs. A. H. Pulling, W. Ayre, T. Collins, G. and A. Radley, F. Blondell, Mrs. C. J. Matthews, Mrs. J. E. Davis and Mrs. F. Smith.

At the outset a gloom was cast over the proceedings when it became known that one of the oldest members and a trustee of the society had recently been admitted to hospital and could not be present.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. G. Gilbert, Mr. F. Hawthorn, Mr. J. E. Bailey and S. Sergt. R. C. Heazell.

The balance sheet was presented and adopted. It included an anonymous donation of £20 to the society's funds.

After some hesitation it was resolved to pay the usual affiliation fees to the Central Council, otherwise the society would be in no position to take part in any discussion which might arise in the running and management of 'The Ringing World.'

Four new members were elected, viz., Mr. G. L. Grover, of Clanton, Mr. R. J. C. Hagley, Guildford, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, Southampton, and Mr. William Viggers, of Aldershot.

All the officers were re-elected except the auditors, and here Mr. A. H. Pulling and Mr. W. Ayre took office in place of Mr. F. G. Symonds, deceased, and Mr. A. J. W. Hughes, now serving with the Forces.

Greetings were received from Mr. George Williams, Mrs. Diserens, Miss Hilda Snowden, Mr. T. H. Francis and Mr. A. J. W. Hughes.

Mention was made by the secretary that Mr. William Keeble's peal books had been passed to the society for safe keeping.

A motion brought forward by Mr. R. H. Dove that rule 3 be deleted met with no support. It was argued that the beauty of these old societies lay in the fact that they had these old traditions, and that it would benefit no one if they were altered now. In any case, no action could be taken unless corresponding action were taken by the Ancient Society of College Youths at the same time.

Various methods up to Stedman Cinques were rung on the church bells.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

MEETING AT FARNHAM.

About forty ringers and friends from ten towers were present at Farnham on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild on January 27th. Among those present were Mr. C. E. Smith (Ringing Master, Guildford District) and Mr. J. Corbett (Guild treasurer).

Service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. G. N. Selby-Lowndes. Mr. Macklin presided at the organ. Tea in the Church School was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Rector.

It was resolved to send a letter to the late Rector, Canon E. M. Girling, thanking him for his past interest in the local ringers and their work, and wishing him success in his new parish.

The officers elected for the coming year were: Ringing Master, Mr. R. Hasted; auditor, Mr. F. C. W. Knight; secretary, Mr. C. W. Denyer, assisted by Miss E. Southby and Mr. W. Viggers; additional members on the Executive Committee, Messrs. T. Upshall, F. Nye and W. A. Dollimore.

The balance sheet showed an increase in balance of £1 7s. 6d. over the previous year. Five peals had been rung during the year, all of Stedman Triples and all conducted by Mr. A. H. Pulling; four were rung at Farnham and one at Aldershot.

New ringing members elected included the Misses O. D. G. Wade and A. M. Retanau and Mr. W. Sheffield, of Bentley, Mrs. Pepler and Master K. Williamson (Ash), Mr. Williamson (Aldershot). Mr. and Mrs. Knight, of Farnham, were elected honorary members.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**

MEETING AT ALVERSTOKE.

The annual meeting of the Southampton District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Bishopstoke on January 13th and was attended by about 40 members, among whom were the Master, Mr. G. Williams, and the general secretary, Mr. F. Rogers. The Rector, the Rev. H. Cooper-Anderson, conducted the service and the address was given by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, district chairman.

Nine new ringing members were elected. The report and balance sheet were adopted. The district officers were re-elected, and the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead was appointed on the executive committee.

It was decided to hold district meetings at Lockerley in April, Fawley in June, Sherfield English on August Bank Holiday, Mottisfont and Romsey in September, and the annual meeting at Southampton in January.

A discussion took place on combined Saturday practices, and it was decided to continue them during 1945.

During the afternoon and evening various methods ranging up to Surprise were practised.



**THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.**

(Continued from page 37.)

New London Court. Richmond Bob.

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24163857	24163857
42618375	42618375
46281357	46281357
64823175	64823175
68432715	68432715
86347251	86347251
<hr/>	
68374521	68374521
86735412	86735412
87653142	87653142
78561324	78561324
75816342	75816342
57183624	57183624
51738264	51738264
15372846	15372846
<hr/>	
13527486	15738264
31254768	51372846
32145678	53127486
23416587	35214768
24361578	32541786
42635187	23457168
46253817	24375618

Another adaptation of the regular Court Shunt is what may be called the London Court Shunt, because it is found in that method. The general law which produces it is this: If the bell next in front of the treble in Coursing Order makes a place, crosses the treble's path, makes any internal place away from the treble and directly it next crosses the treble's path makes a third place, then those two bells will change positions in Coursing Order and the lead-end (provided there is no other operation within the lead) will be 3527486. Again, it does not matter whether the places are made at backstroke or handstroke so far as the effect on the Coursing Order is concerned; but consideration of symmetry and the avoidance of more than two consecutive blows in one position, very much restrict the use of this shunt. In its simplest form it produces the method called in the Central Council Collection New London Court. This is a simple method. The bell, in Eighths place at the lead-end, dodges in 1-2 down, 7-8 down, and 7-8 up; it is turned from behind and the front by the treble, makes Fifths place, Thirds place, and Fifths place; it dodges in 7-8 down, 7-8 up and 1-2 up; and when it gets to the back the course is completed. If Seconds place is made at the lead-end of New London Court the method will be Richmond Bob, a still better method and one fully worthy of being practised.

We must next see whether the London Court shunt can be used in conjunction with the other shunts already described. Obviously there cannot be much scope, because from Sixths place in the first half-lead until Sixths place in the second half-lead, the bells are out of natural Coursing Order, but some good methods can be produced.

The first is Cambridge Court. In it the regular backstroke Court Shunt, made in 3-4, is added to the London Court Shunt, giving an attractive and not difficult method. Several peals of it have already been rung, the first in

1922 on handbells by the Cambridge University Guild. Above the treble the work is the same as Double Norwich, and the music throughout is good.

Seconds place added to Cambridge Court at the lead-end gives Loughborough Bob, not nearly so good a method, because it has 5-pull dodging in 7-8 from the time the treble leaves the back until it returns there.

During the eighteenth century the original London Court Bob Major had a certain amount of popularity. It was an attempt to reproduce on eight bells what people at the time thought was the most important characteristic of Court Bob Minor—the single dodging of each bell before and after leading and lying except when the treble intervenes. The lead-ends are irregular and therefore the method is now considered as obsolete, but for the man who would understand the laws of method construction it is interesting and instructive.

Cambridge Court. London Court (original).

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24135678	24163857
42316587	42618375
24361578	24681357
42635187	42863175
46253817	48236715
64528371	84327651
<hr/>	
46582731	48372561
64857213	84735216
68475123	87453126
86741532	78541362
68714523	87514326
86175432	78153462
81674523	71835642
18765432	17386524
<hr/>	
17856342	13768542
71583624	31675824
75186342	36157284
57813624	63512748
75831642	36521784
57386124	63257148
53768214	62375418
35672841	26734581
<hr/>	
53627481	62743851

In each lead there is a London Court Shunt made as shown above; and in addition there is another London Court Shunt made in reverse. It is begun in the second half of a lead and completed in the first half of the next lead. It consists of Thirds, Sixths and Thirds.

In the ordinary London Court Shunt the bells are out of natural Coursing Order at the half-lead-end, but regain it at the lead-end. If the reverse shunt only is made, the bells are in their natural Coursing Order at the half-lead-end, but out of it at the full lead-end. When both shunts are made, the natural Coursing Order is regained at neither the half nor the full lead-end. Yet the same process is going on, and, throughout, the treble is changing positions in coursing order with the bell next in front of it, until it has completed its cyclical journey through all the working bells. Bob Major lead-ends do not appear, but the law of which they are the expression is just as operative.

(To be continued.)



**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.****PRESENTATION TO MR. G. PRESTON.**

At a special meeting of the Christchurch District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, at Christchurch on February 3rd, Mr. George Preston was presented with a cheque and a book containing the names of the subscribers, to mark the completion of 40 years' service as hon. secretary of the district.

Canon Gay, the Vicar of Christchurch, presided, and 50 members were present. In making the presentation, Mr. George Williams, the Master of the Guild, said that Mr. Preston had trained and maintained a change ringing band at the Priory for 57 years, during which time there had been eight bells in the steeple, then ten, and now twelve. Mr. Preston, returning thanks, said he felt he had merely tried to do his duty as he saw it, and as it was laid down in the rules of the Guild.

There was ringing on the bells of the Priory Church during the afternoon and evening in the standard methods on all numbers, and in one touch of Stedman Triples five members of the Guild took part whose combined ages totalled 400 years. They were Mr. George Williams 87, Mr. Charles Forfit 82, Mr. Eli Waters 79, Mr. Robert Hinton 78, and Mr. George Preston 75.

**PETERBOROUGH DIÖCESAN GUILD.****MEETING AT FINEDON.**

Fifty-three members and friends were present at the annual meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, held at Finedon on January 20th. The Vicar, Canon R. E. Ford, conducted the service, and the Rev. R. Flex, president of the branch, took the chair at the business meeting.

Mr. Arthur Bigley, the secretary, reported that the meetings had been well attended, the average being 50. A good year's progress was marred by the loss of the branch president (the Rev. J. H. Marlow) and three ringing members, Messrs. B. Partridge (Wilby), W. Willis (Earls Barton) and H. Fowler (Castle Asby).

Two new honorary and 24 ringing members had been elected. There were 153 ringing members, 12 honorary and four hon. life members on the branch books, with 42 members serving with the Forces.

The accounts showed a credit balance of £12s. 4d.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Stanwick. The officers were re-elected for the ensuing year. Mr. E. W. Johnson (Earls Barton) has served as auditor for over 20 years.

Four choirboys from Irthlingborough and Messrs. G. Roome and D. West, of Bozeat, were elected ringing members.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT BISHOPSGATE.**

About twenty-four ringers attended a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association, held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, in the City of London, on February 3rd.

Mr. C. W. Roberts occupied the chair at the business meeting, at which tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. James E. Davis, for many years steeplekeeper and leader at St. Botolph's. The provisional elections of Messrs. J. Fernley and B. F. Sims were confirmed, and Mr. L. E. Last, of Woodford Green, was elected a ringing member. It was announced that the district annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, March 10th. The ringing included methods of Triples and Major from rounds to Spiced Surprise.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT BRAINTREE.**

The annual meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association, held at Braintree on February 3rd, was attended by 25 ringers from nine parishes. Service was conducted by the Rev. H. S. Brook and the address was given by the Rev. A. M. Hay. Miss H. G. Snowden was at the organ.

At the business meeting Mr. L. W. Wiffen was elected District Master in the place of Mr. H. W. Smith, who was thanked for his past services, and the district secretary, Miss H. G. Snowden, and the committee representatives were re-elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Haistead. Miss Snowden reported that during the past year meetings had been held at Bocking, Dunmow and Black Notley, with an average attendance of 21, and ten new members had been elected. Several methods were rung, including Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT EPSOM.**

The annual meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association was held at Christ Church, Epsom, on February 3rd and about 60 members and friends attended. There was ringing at Christ Church in the afternoon, but St. Martin's bells were not available during the evening. Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Hugh McMullan, and was followed by tea and business in the Parish Hall. Eleven new members were elected, and all the district officers were re-elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kingston on Easter Monday if possible.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

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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.  
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The increasing circulation of 'The Ringing World' has now exhausted the extra supply of paper recently allowed us, and new orders for delivery by post can only be accepted subject to vacancies occurring in the present list of subscribers, either from death or some other cause. Orders sent to Mr. George W. Fletcher will be dealt with in strict rotation as quickly as opportunity offers.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to 'The Ringing World.'

Members of the Society of College Youths should note that there will be no ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, after the meeting to-morrow.

Mr. Caleb Fenn has completed 50 years' service as a member of the band at St. Margaret's, Barking, Essex.

#### RINGERS IN FRANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wish to thank you for the kindness you have shown me in publishing my letter asking for the loan of a set of handbells. You will be pleased to hear that I have received two offers, and have been able to arrange for the transport of the bells.

One of your readers has also offered to send me on a copy of 'The Ringing World' each week, and this will keep our ringing circle in touch with things at home.

W. EDGAR CLARKE, Chaplain, R.A.F.

R.A.F. Chaplain's Office, SHAEF (Main) Air, SHAEF-F.P.O.,  
c/o B.L.A.

#### SERVICE TOUCHES.

##### LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

1,248				1,248					
23456	M	B	W	R	23456	M	B	W	R
45236	—	—	—	—	35264	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—	56234	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—	42635	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—	—
1,280				1,280					
23456	M	B	W	R	23456	M	B	W	R
35264	—	—	—	—	64352	—	—	—	—
35642	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
65243	—	—	—	—	52643	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—	64523	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	42635	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—	—

#### ST MARY'S, BROOMFIELD.

Some time since, the Church of St. Mary, Broomfield, near Chelmsford, was badly damaged by enemy action and the bells remained silent until January 25th, when they were rung after being rehung in ball bearings by the local ringers under the leadership of Mr. R. Parker. Among other touches, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung by R. Parker 1, A. Simmonds 2, E. Runter 3, E. Clark 4, H. Bradley 5, H. Devenish (conductor) 6.



## OLD BIRMINGHAM RINGERS.

BY JOHN DAY.  
(Written in the year 1895.)  
CHARLES THURSTANS.

When about ten years old I had a boy companion named Thurstans, and through him came to know his father, who was Charles Thurstans, brother to Thomas. In after years I learned that he was a good ringer and also a skilful musician. He took part in several peals, rang the ninth in the peal of 6,600 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's in 1820 and a few after that. In a few years later, about 1825 or 1826, after a peal or an attempt for a peal at All Saints', Worcester, his hands were very much galled, and, showing them to his brother, he said, 'Tom, I will never touch a bell rope again as long as I live'; and he kept his word.

He became somewhat eminent as a musician, and was the first man in Birmingham to play the 'oplicleide, then considered the best brass instrument. He was in the orchestral band at the first festival held in the Birmingham Town Hall in 1834, and I have also heard him spoken of as a double bass player.

He was a rather stout well-built man, about 5ft. 7in. high, respectable, and long in the employ of Messrs. Elkington and Co., the silversmiths of world-wide reputation. He died in about 1847 or 1848, and I should think was about fifty years of age, or a little more.

### JAMES JARVIS.

James Jarvis (old Jemmy), like the brothers Thurstans, was one of the 1820 band which made Birmingham famous. He was a very good all round ringer, but generally at the heavy end. Usually agreeable and pleasant in manner, and ready to make one in a peal at almost any time, or to assist a young hand if he showed any ability, he could also be very sarcastic and had a ready wit which he used freely as occasion offered. When the ringing was not to his mind he would say some very sharp things. In his younger days he had rung a lot of Bob Major, but I never remember his taking part even in a touch of it. If asked to do so, he would shrug up his shoulders in a peculiar way he had and say that he had rung enough of that slapdash years ago.

My recollection of Jarvis commences with his visit to St. Philip's to assist Chattel and his young band in their first peal of Stedman Caters, after which he was a pretty frequent visitor, taking part in several of their earlier peals.

In the year 1843 he was asked to ring St. Martin's tenor in the peal of Treble Bob Maximus rung in that year, Mr. Hopkins promising him the sum of ten shillings as an inducement. When the band met in the belfry for the attempt, Jarvis pulled the bell off a time or two, gave a low whistle, and said at once that he could not manage it. He, therefore, rang the eleventh, J. R. Sharman ringing the tenor.

### J. R. SHARMAN.

This J. R. Sharman was a tailor by trade who used to visit Birmingham occasionally, and we never knew when he was coming or when he would go away. He was said to be a good workman as a coat hand and could generally find employment. He stood over 6ft. high and it was known to only a few that he was a deserter from the guards, hence his sudden appearance and disappearance, and the abbreviation of his name. For years he was in constant dread of being taken alive. He was always welcome, as he was a good ringer, a well-conducted man, and very interesting in his conversation, few men having such a large experience as he had of the belfries and ringers throughout England.

Now when James declined to ring the tenor, Sharman, who had just come into the town in the nick of time to make up the band, expressed his willingness to try, although I think he had never tried it in before. He did try and the peal was accomplished. After the bells were lowered, Mr. Johnson, noticing how very much exhausted Sharman looked, spoke to him and then it came out that he had passed the day without food, being hard up. Jarvis had his half-sovereign all the same as though he had rung the tenor, and possibly was not very pleased at the tailor doing what he declined to attempt. Later on, when Sharman's ringing of the tenor was being talked about, he (Jarvis) said, 'Oh, ah! he rang the bell certainly, but I did not think much of it.' Johnson, being present, retorted in this wise: 'Well, Jemmy, he rang the tenor quite as well as you did the eleventh, and did not get ten shillings for doing it.' As may be imagined, Jarvis did not at all relish this sally of Johnson's, which was sometimes repeated quite loud enough for him to hear.

There are several peals in the records of the St. Martin's Youths in which Sharman took part besides this one. I remember being with him at Aston in 1849, but after that date appear to have lost sight of him. I was at Worcester several times between 1870 and 1874, and on one occasion heard he was in the workhouse infirmary in that city, paralysed and helpless, and there I suppose he died about that date, somewhere about 65 years of age.

Going back to Jarvis—it is probable that he took part in more peals than any other member of the old St. Martin's Youths. He rang the ninth in my first peal in 1844, and then on till 1849. About June or July of the latter year some wag (we never ascertained who) caused the publication in 'Bell's Life' of a long account of his ringing career and death. Jarvis took this very much to heart, because just then he was really beginning to break up and seemed to know it. I was just beginning to learn to call and asked him to

make one in my first peal of Grandsire Triples, and although he was very unwell at the time, he consented. The peal was rung on Sunday, July 29th, 1849, Jarvis ringing the third, and I believe this was his last peal.

In the year 1851, the members of the St. Martin's Youths formed a sort of club to provide funds to take them to the Great Exhibition of that year, and Jarvis was a member. But when the time arrived, he was too unwell and gave his money to a substitute. He suffered from a kind of asthma peculiar to men of his trade, and died rather suddenly in December, 1851, about 63 or 64 years of age. He was a stout built man, 5ft. 7in. to 5ft. 8in. high. He was a brass caster by trade and held a confidential post for many years in the employ of Messrs. Pemberton and Sons, of Livery Street. He was always respectable and excellent company, but rather too fond of satire. It was said of him that, as a ringer, he had never made a figure in his life. Usually a very safe ringer, he was at times a little forgetful, and if he did happen to be lost, would give a low peculiar whistle. Then, if not picked up at once, he would say, 'There'll be something the matter presently. I can see it coming.' Those of us who knew him were well aware what it meant, but it was very seldom that anything of the kind occurred.

At Whitsuntide, 1842, Messrs. J. Hopkins, T. Day, H. Johnson, Chattel and Jarvis paid a visit to Cheltenham and a peal of Stedman Caters was attempted with five of the Cheltenham men standing in. After some excellent ringing the peal was lost. W. Estcourt, sen., of Painwick, was there to hear the ringing and gave the visitors an invitation to that place. Hopkins, Jarvis and Chattel accepted, and on the next day another peal was attempted on the famous Painwick bells, Estcourt conducting, and the ringing being very bad. After struggling on for nearly three hours, much to the chagrin of Estcourt, the peal was lost. For many a day this attempt and Estcourt's anxiety in watching the clock was a stock joke for Jarvis.

### JOHN JAMES, SENIOR

Though not one of the men who made the St. Martin's Youths famous, James was one of the old ones, as we called them. He was a man rather under the middle height, and though spare in habit, had good square shoulders. He was a cabinet brass founder by trade, and a man generally respected for his straightforward conduct and honesty of purpose. After the death of Thomas Hall, he could doubtless have had the appointment as steeplekeeper at St. Martin's, but for several years he looked after the bells without fee or reward, so that Hall's widow might have the benefit. At her death in 1850 he was appointed to the post, and they could not have had a better man, for he was most earnest and careful in his work, and soon won the confidence of the clergy and churchwardens, so that he had other duties connected with the church entrusted to him.

Mr. Hopkins was particularly fond of him, as he could always depend on anything connected with the bells which was entrusted to James. He was a good sound ringer, and took part in each of the peals at St. Martin's in 1848-9 and many others. After the death of Mr. R. Roberts, James had the care of Aston bells for some years, i.e., from 1842 to 1850, after which they soon began to fail. Mr. Johnson, as well as my uncle, thought a lot of John James, and he was a particular chum of Jarvis.

He rang in his last peal at the opening of the eight bells at Shenstone in July, 1865, being then in very poor health. He died in November, 1866, and I think nearly every ringer in Birmingham attended the funeral at Aston Church. Though not quite so enthusiastic in the art as Chattel, I suppose he did more work in teaching young ringers than any man in Birmingham, Chattel excepted. He also conducted one or more peals of Grandsire Triples.

He was remarkable as being very few of his words, and when small talk was going on in the belfry, usually gave us a gentle reminder, 'We come here to ring, not to talk.' On one occasion, a good muster being present, someone began fussing about what the touch should be, and, turning to James, asked him, 'What can we ring, James?' 'The bells to be sure,' said John. He was about 70 years of age at the time of his death.

(To be continued.)

## WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. MEETING AT BEDWORTH.

Upwards of fifty members attended a meeting of the Warwickshire Guild, held at Bedworth on January 20th. After service, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F. N. Didsbury, tea was in the schoolroom, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Master, Mr. F. E. Pervin, took the chair.

It was decided to hold no meetings during February and March, but the annual meeting will take place at Rugby in April.

Five new members were elected from Meriden, Messrs. Warming-ton, L. Callow and M. Callow, Jackson and Sakne, and Mr. J. Smith from Bedworth. The election of Mr. B. Ellender previous to a peal was ratified.

Mr. Stote gave notice of a motion for the annual meeting that the rota of annual meeting be rescinded in order to make the Guild more mobile.

Mr. Pervin repeated the notices of a motion made at the previous meeting that the Guild's title be altered to read 'The Warwickshire Guild for the Diocese of Coventry,' and also the division of the Guild into districts as formerly.



## THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

I do not think it can seriously be maintained that the Oxford Society can 'compare favourably with the College Youths and the Cumberland Youths,' in the sense that the speaker at the recent luncheon obviously intended the words. It was a different kind of society to the others, and lacked the peculiar characteristics which distinguish them. It may possibly be comparable, on a much smaller scale, to the Norwich Scholars and the St. Martin's Youths of Birmingham, but the origins of those bodies are far too obscure to venture on any definite opinion.

Oxford was one of the very earliest places in which changes were rung. Soon after the opening of the seventeenth century change ringing was being developed there, and during two centuries before that there were many ringers and much ringing in the city. That much is certain, but any detailed information is completely lacking. We are entitled to infer that Oxford Treble Bob Minor and one or two other six-bell methods originated in the city. That would be in the reign of Charles the Second; certainly not so early as 1637, as stated. The 'first peals of Oxford Treble Bob Major' were not rung in Oxford as stated—there is no reason to suppose that so much as a plain course was rung there. The method, so far as eight bells are concerned, was developed in the eighteenth century in London, where it was usually called Union Bob. Richard Duckworth was an Oxford University man and had a high reputation as a skilful ringer. His book, 'The Tintinnalogia,' is still one of the best written text books on ringing we possess, though it was out of date soon after it was published. Duckworth's date is not so early as 1630, and as much of his life was spent as a country parson, it cannot be said where he did most of his ringing. The Oxford Society has no claims on him, nor on Anthony Wood, who is almost the only other Oxford ringer of the seventeenth century we know by name.

### TWO KINDS OF RINGERS.

In Oxford (and in other places too) there were two distinct kinds of ringers. There were university men, who practised ringing as a purely secular and athletic sport, and there were townsmen, who did the very considerable amount of paid ringing there was, and, no doubt, also at times amused themselves in the belfry. These two classes did not as a rule mix with one another, and among neither are there any signs or likelihood of a formal ringing society such as were the College Youths and a few others in London and elsewhere.

There was no need for such a society in Oxford. The intimate college life was sufficient to bring the university men together, and the paid ringing was sufficient to keep the bands of townsmen together.

What distinguished the Society of College Youths and a few others from the majority of companies in the country was that they were formally organised as social clubs with strict rules and ritual. They were not concerned with either service ringing or paid ringing. That was left to scroof bands, who were far commoner throughout the land, and for obvious reasons were not organised on the same lines as the others.

The visit of the College Youths to Oxford in 1733 and their unsuccessful attempts for peals are the first definite things we know about ringing in Oxford. The important result was that interest in change ringing was stirred up in the city, and the local men, stimulated by a wager, attempted to do what the Londoners had failed (through no fault of their own) to accomplish. These local men were all townsmen and were not connected with the University except that one or two of them were employed in colleges. Three or four peals of Grandsire Caters were rung, and on the doings of the ringers a flood of light is shed by the entries in Thomas Hearne's diary. One thing is pretty clear—there was no Oxford Society at that time. There was no more peal ringing until nearly the end of the century.

### THE LONDON SOCIETIES.

Of all existing societies there are only two which can claim an unbroken corporate existence going back to the eighteenth century. The Society of Cumberland Youths was founded on a definite date in 1747, with definite rules and organisation. Its records are complete from the beginning, and there is no weak link in its chain of continuity. The Society of College Youths has had a longer existence, and has preserved its continuity nearly as well. There is, however, one rather weak link, the details of which may be read in my history of the society. No other society has had anything like so long and continuous a corporate life as these two, and the claims sometimes made for other companies will not bear investigation.

On the other hand, it is equally true that in many towers there has been for centuries an unbroken succession of ringers who may fairly be said to have belonged to the tower. In that sense there are dozens and perhaps scores of local bands who can claim an antiquity which puts even that of the College Youths in the shade. It is the same sort of long drawn out continuity that is enjoyed by a cathedral choir like the one at Canterbury which may claim to go back to the time of St. Augustine. Such a continuity we may grant the Oxford men; hardly any other.

I do not think it is probable that anything essential will be added to the account of the Oxford ringers I gave in 'The Ringing World' in 1940, though there are always the hope and the possibility that something fresh may turn up. It is not likely that anything can be learnt from C. W. Lukis and his writings. He was by no means

strong on the history of ringing, for little or nothing was known about it in his time, though Edward Osborn had just completed his splendid collection of original and transcribed manuscripts, which is the most important source of all our present-day knowledge. Lukis does not say that 'he had seen the records of the Oxford Society from the year 1700 to 1827.' What he does say is that Oxford 'in the last century had a corps of gallant youths who took intense delight in the science of ringing. I have a record of a series of their musical exploits ranging over the space of one hundred and twenty years with the name of every man who took part.' From what he goes on to say it is clear he was referring to the entries in Hearne's diary and the later peal boards. It is certain he had no information which is not well known to-day.

In olden times, when printed books were rarer and more expensive than they afterwards became, it was quite usual for ringers to keep manuscript books, in which they entered various items relating to their own band or to the Exercise at large. There is one in the British Museum, folio size and heavily bound in leather. It contains particulars of a number of peals by different companies in different parts of the country. The discovery of such a book might throw light on the history of Oxford ringing. In one of the College Youths' manuscripts there is a rather vague allusion to some such book having existed at Oxford in the eighteenth century. All traces of it, however, seem to have been lost long since. J. A. TROLLOPE.

### A DOUBTFUL CLAIM.

Sir,—As Professor Joad would say, 'It all depends what you mean by prominent.' Could Mr. Frederick Sharpe, who is reported in 'The Ringing World' of February 2nd as saying, 'Most of the prominent men in the Exercise learned to ring in their undergraduate days at Oxford,' tell us exactly on what he bases that truly remarkable statement? 'ONE WHO IS NEITHER.'

[Mr. Sharpe writes that he was not correctly reported.—The Editor.]

### BELLS AND THE FROST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—The underwritten is quoted from 'The Watford Observer' of recent date. It is new to me, and it would be interesting to know if there is anything in it.

M. HIBBERT.  
'Abbots Langley Church Bells. To avoid the risk of cracking owing to the frost, the bells of the Parish Church were not rung on Sunday. It is interesting to recall that the second bell was cracked in the great frost of 1890-91, and the 5th in 1912. These bells are on the outside of the frame and nearest the louvres, and subject to icy winds.'

### DEATH OF MR. ALFRED LAWRENCE.

The death is announced of Mr. Alfred Lawrence, of Swindon, at the age of 89 years. He began his ringing career at Christ Church, Swindon, when a lad of 13, and remained an active member of the band until just over a year ago, when he ceased ringing owing to his inability to climb the tower steps. Throughout that period he was regular and punctual in his attendance and was a very safe ringer. He had rung over 100 peals, his last being in April, 1937. The funeral was at Christ Church on January 27th. The bells were rung half-muffled before and after the interment, and the ringers present were Messrs. H. W. Bishop, W. A. Bullock, W. A. Carter, F. J. Daniell, W. W. T. Daniell, C. J. Gardner, C. J. Hathaway, W. B. Kynaston, S. Palmer, G. W. Townsend, T. Townsend and H. W. L. Wells.

### CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT CHEADLE.

The annual meeting of the Stockport and Bowdon Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Cheadle on January 27th and was attended by 32 members. The Vicar conducted the service and afterwards entertained the ringers to tea in the Church Hall.

Mr. Wolstencroft took the chair at the business meeting, at which five new members were elected. All the officers were reappointed, except that Mr. J. Milner took the place of Mr. Barnes on the General Committee. Poynton was selected as the place of the next meeting, to be held on April 7th. An airgraph was read from Capt. E. F. M. Sansom expressing his best wishes to the members. Among the visitors were Miss M. Telford, of Oxford, and Mr. Tomsett, of Ebbw Vale.

### DEATH OF MR. W. POPLETT.

The death of Mr. William Poplett occurred at his home at Ewell, Surrey, on January 22nd, after a lengthy illness. He had not been able to ring for several years, for though he made one or two attempts to do so, he found the ascent to the belfry too great a strain. He started to ring at Ewell about 46 years ago and was very regular at service and practice ringing. He was 67 years old.

READING.—On January 21st at St. Mary's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Maxted 1, Mrs. A. Diserens 2, L. G. Reeves 3, W. Evans 4, A. Suetzer 5, J. S. Taylor 6, A. Diserens (conductor) 7, L. G. Taylor 8. Rung with the tenor half-muffled for P.O. W. Hayward, R.N., a member of the local band, killed on active service.



## TREBLE BOB MAJOR METHODS.

BY THE REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

It would be true to say that the majority of ringers are more concerned with the practical side of the art and are content to leave composition, proving of peals, etc., to the few who are, to some extent at least, mathematically minded. However, a greater knowledge of the theoretical side by the practical ringer would help him enormously in the ringing of his peals and would also open fresh fields to the Exercise by introducing new and interesting methods. Whereas, until relatively recently, the ringing of advanced methods was the accomplishment of the very few, we now find more and more ringers able to ring them.

As time goes on, the ringing of the standard Surprise methods will become a part of the ordinary ringer's repertory and the more advanced exponents will seek for new worlds to conquer. One path open to them is in the production and ringing of new methods, perhaps more complex than these standard ones, and although by that time it is to be hoped there will be a book giving a selection of new methods, many ringers will probably like to compose their own. This is not as difficult as it may seem, even if the rules of method construction (as laid down by the Central Council) are all obeyed, chiefly because there are hundreds, nay, thousands of possibilities. Of course, many of these methods will not produce a true peal (keeping the tenors together in the usual way), and so are hardly worth the time spent in writing them out. But there are ways of avoiding these, and the purpose of this article is to show how a ringable method can quite easily be produced.

### FALSE COURSE ENDS.

The one thing necessary on the part of those interested is that they should know how to find the false courses of a method. This is not difficult after a little practice, being merely an exercise in transposition, and has been thoroughly dealt with in standard books (see chapter 7, 'Surprise Methods,' in the Snowdon series). It is not necessary, therefore, to go into more detail here, except to say that if the method of finding these false courses is not known, there will be plenty of practice in this article for those who will take the trouble to learn the way of transposing.

The title of the article is 'Treble Bob Major Methods,' but the ideas involved can be applied to any number of bells, which will give plenty of scope to those who prefer a different number. For certain reasons (chiefly of symmetry), only place making at hand and back stroke will be included, but this, too, is not necessary, and the principles will be just as true with back and hand places, although this makes things a little more complicated in practice, introducing more chances of false courses (another reason why places made right are better than those made wrong). One other thing—the type of method evolved is not of first importance, and Surprises, Delights, Exercises or Treble Bob Methods (using the usual definition for these) result equally, with perhaps a preponderance of the first two. This is to the good, as it shows the essential similarity of these methods, and that the way of dividing them is really artificial. Also, it perhaps will bring the last three into the limelight a little more instead of the rather puzzling emphasis on Surprise and more Surprise.

Having said all this by way of introduction, we can now come to the actual composing of Treble Bob Major methods. There is no suggestion of any originality in this article—no doubt this is what all composers do after a little experience, but as far as the writer knows, it has not been written down for the benefit of others. Actually, the ideas came through an attempt to compose methods having Clear Proof Scale, and that should be borne in mind throughout, for it will explain why certain combinations of rows are rejected, and also will bring out the immense possibilities if the composer is content to retain them.

### THE STANDARD SURPRISE METHODS.

At first, methods with one or two false courses were allowed in the investigation, but these became so numerous that they were abandoned, and only those with Clear Proof Scale were considered. After tackling only a fraction of possibilities, 69 of these quickly resulted. Let us remember that the Standard Methods are not at all good in this respect—Cambridge having five false courses, London three and Superlative two. So from the start, methods capable of greater extent than any of these are easily obtainable.

First of all, the first lead of the method is regarded as being broken up into 8 groups of 4 rows each, i.e., rows with the treble in 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 8-7, 6-5, 4-3, and 2-1. In building up the method, we work both from the beginning and the end of the lead at the same time, i.e., with the first and last groups; then we consider the second and seventh groups, etc., until we meet in the middle. The reason for this is that by trial and error, false courses (tenors together) can be avoided as we go along, and these have to be looked for in the corresponding groups 1 and 8, 2 and 7, etc. Of course, it follows from this that we have to decide beforehand what our next lead head will be. This can be any one of the Plain Bob Major lead heads—it doesn't matter which. What it is important to remember is that if we find there are no false courses in groups one and eight for the lead end we chose, the same is true for any of the other lead ends too. Thus at a single blow, as it were, we can produce another six sets of methods by using the same plan with different lead ends. This again will become clearer as we go along.

Another thing to notice is that in the lead end, i.e., the last row of the last group (the row before the Bob Major lead head), there will

be one bell (neglecting the treble) in the same position as it started the lead, and the others will have changed places in pairs, e.g., take the lead head 15738264—the row before this (the lead end) will be 15372846 (supposing an extreme to have been made). In this, 3 is in its original position (in rounds), 2 and 5, 4 and 7, and 6 and 8 have changed places. This means that in working from the back, we have to make 3 follow the same path as in the first part of the lead, 5 do the same as 2, 7 the same as 4 and 8 as 6 and vice versa. Thus if we start with the rows:—

12345678  
21436587  
12346578  
21435687

then the last group can be immediately written down thus (using the lead end mentioned and working backwards):—

51732864  
15378246  
51738264  
15372846

It will be seen that 5 is following the same path as 2, 7 as 4, etc. This again will happen whatever the lead end. In fact, each bell will be 'home' in one of the seven lead ends, e.g., in 13254768 it is 8; in 17583624 it is 6, etc. And each bell will change with a different bell in each lead. Thus in the three lead ends given, 2 changes with 5, 3 and 7 respectively, etc.

Those who have taken the trouble to learn a little about proving a method will have found they must learn how to find the in and out of course changes of the rows. This is very simple in our case since we are starting with rounds, which is in course. We can thus compare easily with the previous row each time. If there are an even number of pairs of bells changing in any two consecutive rows, they will remain the same, i.e., out and out or in and in; if an odd number of pairs of bells change, they are opposite, i.e., in to out, and out to in. Thus rows 1 and 2 will both be 'in' (4 pairs change), 3 will be 'out' (3 pairs change from 2), and 4 will be 'out' also (4 pairs change). Similarly with the last group and working backwards. Remember, though, that all the Bob Major lead heads are 'in' course and so the lead ends, which are 3 changes different, will be 'out.' And so we get working backwards, out, out, in, in for the last four rows, i.e.:

	12345678 in	51732864 in
1st group	21436587 in	15378246 in
	12346578 out	51738264 out
	21435687 out	15372846 out
		15738264

(To be continued.)

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT SITTINGBOURNE.

Despite wintry weather, about forty members of the Rochester District of the Kent County Association were present at a meeting at Sittingbourne on January 27th. Four new members were elected. Mr. W. Spice, who was prevented by age and the weather from attending, sent a letter of encouragement. He also put forward the suggestion of adding two bells to Sittingbourne's eight to mark the victory over Germany and as a thankoffering for peace. Those present were very enthusiastic about the idea and expressed their approval and support if the project is favourably received by the church authorities. It was decided to hold the April meeting at Northfleet.

### DEATH OF IPSWICH RINGER.

News has been received of the death of Herbert W. S. Shemming, a member of the Ipswich St. Mary-le-Tower Society, who was a prisoner in the hands of the Japanese. A member of the Suffolk Territorials, he was sent to the East with them and taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore.

His duties on the L. and N.E. Railway prevented him from taking part in many peals, but his list includes several of Cambridge Surprise Maximus and Stedman Cinques, Pudsey Surprise and Little Albion Treble Bob Maximus, Stedman Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and several peals of Minor. As a member of the Society of Cumberland Youths he rang in a peal of Stedman Cinques at Shoreditch. He leaves a widow, and his father and brother Charles are well known in Ipswich ringing circles.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT MISTLEY.

Sixteen ringers from six towers were present at the annual meeting of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association, which was held at Mistley on January 27th in very inclement weather. Nine Minor methods, including Cambridge and York Surprise, were rung. Mr. C. J. Ellis was appointed District Master, Mr. L. Wright secretary, and Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Andrews members of the committee. Miss B. Hill was elected a non-resident member, Mrs. C. J. Ellinger an honorary member, and Mr. R. Mitchell a ringing member. Thorpe was selected as the place of the meeting in April.



**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.**

**HUNGERFORD, BERKS.**—On Saturday, December 30th, 720 Bob Minor: G. Harrison (first 720) 1, T. A. Palmer 2, F. W. Hale 3, J. F. Smith 4, J. S. Weeks 5, S. G. Grant 6.

**PUDSEY, YORKS.**—On Monday, January 15th, 720 Bob Minor: Patricia E. M. Barton 1, Gordon Benfield (first 720) 2, William Barton (conductor) 3, J. William Cordingley 4, S. Rowland Myers 5, John Amblor 6.

**PULBROUGH.**—On Monday, January 15th, 720 Bob Minor: A. V. Corden 1, L. Stilwell (conductor) 2, H. C. Greenfield 3, A. C. Greenfield 4, A. E. Holden 5, C. S. Greenfield 6.

**LAUNTON, OXFORDSHIRE.**—On Tuesday, January 16th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: F. Sharpe 1 and 2, H. Gregory 3, C. Stockley (conductor) 4, R. Castle 5, H. Austin 6. Rung half-muffled.

**ISLEWORTH.**—On January 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: \*Miss K. Brooks 1, \*Mrs. O. L. Rogers 2, F. D. Bishop 3, \*A. F. Thirst 4, G. W. Morris 5, \*H. W. Rogers (conductor) 6. \*First 720 of Cambridge Minor.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Smith 1, R. W. Loveridge (first quarter-peal inside) 2, W. Daniells 3, A. Crane 4, P. Sear 5, D. J. Meager, R.A.S.C. 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, H. Pearson 8.

**BISHOP AUCKLAND.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Smith 1, G. W. Peverell 2, S. Bryant 3, G. W. Hutchinson 4, Lieut. W. F. Moreton 5, R. B. Robinson (conductor) 6, H. Sanderson 7.

**BRIGHTON.**—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Nicholas', 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Tony Humphrey (first quarter-peal) 1, William J. Webb 2, Sidney Ridge 3, John Whitehead 4, Frank Bennett 5, George Adams 6, Henry Statham (conductor) 7, George Wickens 8.

**LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: M. A. Martin 1, Miss V. Maberley 2, D. King 3, L. H. Pink 4, H. F. White (conductor) 5, G. Wareham 6.

**OXHEY, HERTS.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 720 Bob Minor: Miss T. Waldron 1, Mrs. G. Savill 2, H. Hodgetts 3, G. C. Tarr 4, L. R. Tarr (conductor) 5, J. Cleaver 6, F. W. Brinklow 7. Also 720 Double Court Minor: Miss T. Waldron 1, \*G. C. Tarr 2, \*J. Cleaver 3, L. R. Tarr 4, H. Hodgetts 5, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 6. \*First 720 in the method.

**DAYBROOK, NOTTS.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: \*Mrs. R. Ward 1, \*P. Ball 2, T. Groombridge (conductor) 3. \*R. Ward 4, \*H. Paling 5, F. Salter 6, A. Barrett 7, R. Salter 8. \*First quarter-peal.

**ANSTNEY, NEAR LEICESTER.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Mary L. Disney 1, J. S. Iiffe 2, N. G. McCrum 3, P. J. Staniforth 4, R. F. Elkington (conductor) 5, Alban Disney 6. First 720 of Cambridge Minor by all.

**RUNCORN.**—On January 21st, 720 Bob Minor: D. Maddocks (first 720) 1, W. Allman 2, T. Mather 3, E. Hughes 4, R. Hamm 5, S. Booth (conductor) 6.

**TROWBRIDGE.**—On Sunday, January 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Jenkins 1, Gilbert H. Harding 2, Mrs. F. Penn 3, Charles Butcher 4, William H. Baxter 5, Ernest Parker (conductor) 6, Frank Penn 7, Sidney Francis 8.

**FREISTON, LINCS.**—On Friday, January 26th, 720 Single Court Minor: A. Pearson 1, A. Sharp 2, F. Dewey 3, W. Bradley 4, H. Harper (conductor) 5, E. Barnes 6.

**SWINDON.**—On January 27th, at Christ Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. J. Daniell 1, C. Hathaway 2, C. J. Gardner (conductor) 3, G. W. Townsend 4, W. Carter 5, H. W. Bishop 6, W. W. T. Daniell 7, T. Townsend 8. Rung half-muffled for Mr. Alfred Lawrence.

**LAVENHAM.**—On Saturday, January 27th, 1,284 Kent Treble Bob Major: \*B. Cornell 1, W. R. J. Poulson 2, W. Jarvis 3, S. H. Symonds 4, F. Boreham 5. \*L. Offord 6, M. T. Symonds (conductor) 7, L. Pryke 8. \*First quarter-peal of Kent.

**PAISLEY.**—On Sunday, January 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles. Nos. 6 and 7 covering: Sapper N. Sharpe, jun. (first quarter-peal) 1, A. Scott 2, Mrs. W. A. Caldwell 3, P.O. F. J. Cheal (conductor) 4, R. Clark 5, J. Porteous 6, N. Sharpe 7.

**CHEADLE, STAFFS.**—At the R.C. Church, on Saturday, January 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Andrew Thompson 1, Thomas Hawley 2, William Carnwell 3, Arthur W. Hall 4, John G. Cartledge 5, Edwin Cartledge 6, Charles H. Page (conductor) 7, Thomas C. Hall 8.

**EDMONTON.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,024 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. Thomas 1, Mrs. E. H. King 2, P. J. Coward 3, E. A. Dench 4, D. Langdon 5, V. Woodards 6, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 7, D. Smith 8; and 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: P. J. Coward 1, V. Woodards 2, Mrs. J. Thomas 3, E. A. Dench 4, D. Langdon 5, J. Thomas 6, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 7, D. Smith 8.

**WOODCHESTER, GLOS.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Howell 1, F. Garland 2, T. C. Witts 3, E. Risby 4, G. Latham (conductor) 5, R. J. Thain (first quarter-peal) 6.

**MAIDENHEAD.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Temple (first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples) 1, G. Martin 2, T. Goodchild 3, W. Walker 4, J. Bates 5, E. Pugh 6, J. Eldridge (conductor) 7, H. Baldwin 8.

**SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTER.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. L. Willars (conductor) 1, J. E. Clarke 2, G. Deacon 3, C. Marshall 4, S. Cox 5, D. Dalby 6, E. J. Jelley 7, A. Patrick 8.

**DAYBROOK, NOTTS.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Cawthorne 1, Mrs. R. A. Ward 2, H. Pailing 3, P. F. Ball 4, F. Bradwell 5, R. A. Ward 6, A. Barratt (conductor) 7, W. Perkins 8.

**DUDLEY.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters. Derek Knowles 1, Thomas Hemming 2, Clifford Skidmore 3, Arthur Hingley 4, Dennis Holden 5, Charles W. Cooper 6, Kenneth W. Knowles 7, Norman G. Leech (conductor) 8, John Lloyd 9, Joseph Hingley 10.

**BOLSOVER.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 720 Bob Minor: \*C. Wright 1, \*Miss B. Moss 2, S. Slaney 3, \*D. Cooper 4, J. Saxton 5, A. B. Cooper (first 720 as conductor) 6. \*First 720. — On Wednesday, January 31st, 720 Bob Minor: E. Moss (first 720) 1, Miss B. Moss 2, C. Wright 3, D. Cooper 4, J. Saxton 5, A. B. Cooper (conductor) 6.

**BARKING, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,256 Bob Major: E. G. Fenn, C. E. Faulkner, Caleb Penn (conductor), Frank Newman, G. W. Faulkner, S. Holgate, J. Phillips, R. F. Deal.

**WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: \*J. Underwood 1, J. A. Walton 2, \*H. Garratt 3, H. Turner 4, \*J. Bowley 5, A. Underwood 6, W. Fern (conductor) 7, \*H. Myatt 8. \*First quarter-peal.

**NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.**—On January 28th, 720 Surfleet Surprise Minor: J. Ryles 1, W. Corfield 2, S. B. Bailey 3, W. Lawrence 2, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.

**BEXLEY.**—On Sunday, January 28th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: P. A. Corby 1, D. L. Hall 2, Mrs. J. E. Bailey 3, G. Large 4, A. G. Hall 5, Vernon Benning 6, A. G. Williams 7, James E. Bailey (conductor) 8.

**BROMHAM, BEDS.**—On Tuesday, January 30th, 840 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles: Marjorie Watson 1, Pat Gilbert 2, R. Brockett 3, R. Chapman 4, L. H. Bowler (conductor) 5.

**SOMERSHAM, HUNTS.**—On Wednesday, January 31st, 720 Bob Minor: J. Ransom 1, E. Wakeling 2, Rev. B. F. Sheppard 3, F. Warrington 4, C. Goodgear 5, E. Nobles (conductor) 6. Rung half-muffled for F. Frear.

**SWINDON.**—On February 1st, at St. Mark's, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Richards (first quarter-peal) 1, Miss N. Davies (first quarter-peal inside) 2, C. Hathaway 3, W. Carter 4, C. J. Gardiner (conductor) 5, S. Mills 6.

**HITCHAM, BUCKS.**—On February 2nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. H. Hicks 1, \*Jean Broomfield 2, \*Freda Murkitt 3, \*Mary Pemberton 4, Joyce Hearn (first inside) 5, G. Gilbert (conductor) 6. \*First 720 of Treble Bob.

**RAINHAM, KENT.**—On Sunday, February 4th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Master Eric Naylor 1, Mrs. Joan Barton 2, William Seager 3, P.O. Francis J. Cheal, R.N. 4, Charles Belsey 5, William J. Walker 6, George A. Naylor (conductor) 7, William Hollands 8. Rung with stationary treble and tenor covering.

**UNATTACHED MEMBERS.**

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I think there are three main reasons why a person becomes unattached. First, a ringer may be living in a very isolated district, he may be quite enthusiastic, but is too far from a peal of bells for him to be regularly attached to a tower.

Secondly, a person may not have sufficient interest in ringing to become attached to a tower. He just pays his subscription and turns up for a ring when the fit takes him.

Thirdly, a person is a very enthusiastic ringer. He turns up at meetings, combined practices and rings peals, but is definitely not wanted by the local band, who never bother about a practice, but content themselves by ringing, or rather pulling, the bells for Sunday service, and have no real interest in ringing except for the few shillings they receive for it.

I very much regret to say I have for many years been an unattached member through the latter reason, and it is surprising how often one meets an enthusiastic ringer who is unattached through the same reason.

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

**NOTICES** must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

**COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, Feb. 10th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**LINCOLN GUILD.**—Bassingham (6), Saturday, Feb. 10th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15.—Names to Kenneth W. Mayer, 4, Carline Road, Lincoln.

**LINCOLN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual, Spalding, Feb. 10th, 2 p.m. Service 3.30. Tea, British Restaurant 4.10. Business in church 5.10.—W. A. Richardson, Glenside, Pinchbeck.

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Guildford District.—Annual, Guildford, Saturday, Feb. 10th. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30, followed by tea and business. Cathedral bells 3 to 4, S. Nicolas' from 3.30 and after meeting.—A. C. Hazelden, 109, Grange Road, Guildford.

**HEREFORD GUILD.**—Hereford Branch.—Annual, St. Nicholas', Hereford, Feb. 10th. Service 4.30. Tea and business.—J. W. Downes, Hon. Sec.

**EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.**—Hartfield (6), Feb. 10th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

**DEVON GUILD.**—Mid-Devon Branch.—Annual, Woborough, Newton Abbot (8), Saturday, Feb. 10th, 2.30 p.m. Tea and business Thomas' Restaurant, Courtenay Street, 5 p.m.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh (phone 3121).

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**—Harborne (8), Saturday, Feb. 10th, 3.30 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

**NORWICH ASSN.**—North Norfolk Branch.—Annual, Wroxham, Saturday, Feb. 10th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. at Broad's Hotel.—H. Tooke, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

**ELY ASSN.**—Hunts District.—Annual, Brampton, Saturday, Feb. 10th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSN.**—Practice, Millom (6), Saturday, Feb. 10th., 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSN.**—St. Helens Parish Church (10), Saturday, Feb. 10th, 2.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

**EALING, ST. MARY'S.**—Practice, Feb. 15th, 7.30 p.m., and every Thursday.—A. Harding.

**KENT ASSN.**—Westerham, Saturday, Feb. 17th. Service 4 p.m. Tea at Wolfe Cafe, 4.30 p.m.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Twelve-bell practice, High Wycombe, Sat., Feb. 17th, 5.30 p.m.—R. T. Hibbert, Sec., A. D. Barker, Hon. Treas.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSN.**—Long Ashton, Saturday, Feb. 17th, 3 p.m. Refreshments available.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

**PETERBOROUGH GUILD.**—Kingsthorpe, Saturday, Feb. 17th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea provided.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.**—Nottingham and Derby Districts.—Ilkeston (8), Saturday, Feb. 17th, 2 p.m. Tea in School 5 p.m., 1s. Names to E. F. Gobey, 2, Shipstone Street, Ilkeston.—T. Groombridge and W. Lancaster, Hon. Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSN.**—Sacred Trinity, Salford, Saturday, Feb. 17th, 3 p.m.—Frank Reynolds, Branch Sec.

**HERTFORD ASSN.**—Hoddesdon, Saturday, Feb. 17th, 2.30 p.m. Service, 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 p.m. Names to G. Radley, 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

**CHESTER GUILD.**—Audlem (6), Saturday, Feb. 17th, 3 p.m. No tea.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

**PETERBOROUGH GUILD.**—Braunston (6), Saturday, Feb. 17th. Bring food and sugar.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.**—Whetstone (6), Feb. 17th, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting in schoolroom 5 p.m. Names to H. W. Perkins, Dis. Sec.

**SUSSEX ASSN.**—Eastern Division.—Annual, St. Mary's, Eastbourne, Sat., Feb., 17th, 2.30 p.m. Service 5.15. Tea 6 p.m. Names to John Downing, Hon. Sec., 2, Hughenden Road, Hastings.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.**—Croft, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 4 p.m. Sandwiches and meeting, Heathcote Arms, 7.30 p.m.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX ASSN.**—Heston, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Tea and business, Westbrook Hall, 5 p.m. Names to Mr. H. C. Chandler, 44, New Heston Road, Hounslow.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec. Per. 5320.

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSN.**—Old Hill, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN.**—Bridgend, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by business.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**—Henry Johnson Commemoration luncheon, Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, Saturday, Mar. 3rd, 1.30 p.m. Tickets to fully-paid-up ringing members, 2s. each; to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. Number is strictly limited.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

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**HITCHAM, BUCKS.**—On Saturday, February 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. E. Taylor 1, Jean Broomfield (first 720 in the method) 2, W. Welling 3, F. H. Hicks 4, N. V. Harding 5, G. Gilbert (conductor) 6.

**LECKHAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**—On Sunday, February 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: William Townsend 1, F. Pratt 2, Walter Yeend 3, John F. Ballinger 4, \*L. Aston 5, Walter C. Rose (conductor) 6, C. Richings 7, \*D. Newcombe 8. \* First quarter-peal. First as conductor.



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