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THE MUSIC OF CHANGE RINGING.

The musical effect of change ringing is based largely—for many people entirely—on rhythm. Rhythm is one of the most important things in life but, like other similar things, such as beauty, symmetry, proportion, and the like, though it is easily recognised it defies description. Most men have some natural appreciation of it, but in common with other good things it must be cultivated if anything like its true value is to be realised. It is not music and not necessarily musical, though music cannot do without it. It is the quality which gives life to music and all other sounds such as words and poetry. It can make sounds attractive that in themselves are harsh and unpleasing, and it is the supreme quality which change ringers, so far as they value the effect of their art, should cultivate.

There used to be a saying among the best of the old ringers which showed that they did understand and value what rhythm means, though most of them probably had never heard the word, or, if they had, never understood what it means. They talked about the bells 'settling down to a beat,' and it is hardly possible to describe better really good ringing. Men whose instinct was not nearly so sound sometimes talked about 'clockwork striking,' and in doing so showed that they did not know what first-class ringing is, or, if they did, did not recognise its nature. For rhythm is not strict regularity: in almost everything it is the negation of strict regularity. Regularity there must be in ringing, but strict, unrelieved regularity is lifeless in changes as it is in music and almost everything else.

It is not possible to explain by words what rhythmic ringing is or how to produce it. That knowledge can come to a man only if he cultivates what natural sense of rhythm he possesses, if he tries to understand its value, and if he follows the best examples that are set before him. We make no apology for bringing this matter before the Exercise, because we firmly believe that for several reasons the standards of ringing in some things are much lower than they need be. The absorbingly fascinating art of method ringing, the great increase in methods, the rapidity with which beginners are pushed on, and the supposed superiority of Surprise methods—these and other things have insensibly set up false standards, so that the majority of ringers think it a finer thing to take part in a moderate peal or touch of a com-

(Continued on page 50.)

plex method than in a superlatively excellent peal in a simpler one. It would be absurd to underrate ringing in the higher methods and all that it means, but that is only one branch of the art of change ringing, and, by itself, by no means the most important. It is only by paying careful attention to the style in which these more complex methods are rung that they become really worth while. It is no doubt nice for a man to be able to boast that he has rung peals of London and Bristol, but if discerning critics are of the opinion that the man cannot ring rounds or stoney really well, he has not gained so sound a reputation as he hoped for.

Change ringing is an art which calls for the exercise of almost all the faculties a man possesses, and the use of one cannot be cultivated at the expense of another without serious loss. The tendency at present is for a man to concentrate almost entirely on what his eyes tell him and to ignore or slur over what he hears. But the competent ringer is he in whom eyes, ears, arms and body work together in complete unison and in obedience to what is passing through his brain.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 24, 1946, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

ERNEST RAWSON Treble	HERBERT W. PERKINS 7
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	RUPERT RICHARDSON 8
ALFRED BALLARD 3	SYDNEY O. CHENEY 9
JILL POOLE 4	ERNEST MORRIS 10
SHIRLEY BERTON 5	G. STEDMAN MURKIN 11
JOSIAH MORRIS 6	ARTHUR DEBENHAM Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by JILL POOLE.
First peal as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BREWOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

DANIEL T. MATKIN ... Treble	HENRY H. FEARN 5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 6
JOHN PINFOLD 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION 7
HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 4	*GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
* 250th peal.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES ... Treble	WILLIAM WENBAN 5
*JOHN R. MAYNE 2	CECIL C. MAYNE 6
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE ... 3	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7
STEPHEN HOARE 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
* First peal in the method.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, January 19, 1946 in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*LEONARD W. ROGERS ... Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS 5
†CHARLES A. BASSETT ... 2	JAMES G. POWELL 6
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 3	ARTHUR J. HART 7
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 4	ALBERT RELFE Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal. † First peal of Major inside.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1946, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*GEORGE DARBYSHIRE ... Treble	WILLIAM PERKINS 5
EDWARD ST. PLE 2	CHARLES H. PAGE 6
WILLIAM CARNWELL ... 3	JOHN G. CARTLIDGE 7
*THOMAS HAWRY 4	ARTHUR W. HALL Tenor

Composed by F. H. P. O. Conducted by G. CAITING.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 20, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*WILLIAM S. MAY ... Treble	SYDNEY M. BAILEY 5
RICHARD DIXON 2	FREDERICK SOUTER 6
GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN ... 3	†FRANK B. LUFKIN 7
*JOHN E. FOWLER 4	CHARLES R. CHAMBERS ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal in the method. † 100th peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, January 21, 1946 in Three Hours and Two Minutes

AT THE R.C. CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... Treble	LEONARD TUFFEAY 5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 3	HENRY H. FEARN 7
HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by G. BAKER. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

First in the method by the Guild and by all.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 21, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 7½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. COLEY ... Treble	JAMES E. BAILEY 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 2	HARRY HOFFERD 6
E. WIN A. BARNETT ... 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 7
PHILIP A. CORBY 4	GEORGE H. CROSS Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 24, 1946 in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRED DUNKERLEY ... Treble	ISAAC GARTSIDE 5
*GERALD DARR 2	ALBERT FORD 6
†MARY WALSHAW 3	HERBERT LUDKIN 7
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 4	*BURLEY WALSHAW Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT LUDKIN.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

**THROWLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday January 24 1946 in three hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

*THOMAS R. MOGG Treble	WILLIAM A. OILFIELD 5
MRS. T. CULLINGWORTH 2	†HENRY G. KVELEY 6
PERCY PAGE 3	†HILFRED S. WICKENS 7
†FREDERICK G. HUCKSTEPP 4	MARK S. LANCEFIELD Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

HUNGERFORD, BERKSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JAMES F. SMITH Treble	FREDERICK W. HALL 5
FRANK TUFFBY 2	*T. ARTHUR PALMER 6
WILLIAM A. T. CARTER 3	SIDNEY G. GRANT 7
JOSEPH S. WEEKS 4	WILLIAM G. MORTIMER Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY G. GRANT.

* First peal of Triples.

SHALFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946 in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. ROBINSON Treble	LRSLE C. W. HUNTER 5
ALBERT LAMBKIN 2	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT 6
ALFRED H. PULLING 3	CLARRNCE H. DOBBIE 7
HAROLD A. MAY 4	KENNETH A. GIRDLER Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

LISS, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

in Saturday, January 26, 1946 in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST J. MUNDAY Treble	WILLIAM T. BRESON 5
ERNEST E. WHITMORE 2	ALBERT HAPMAN 6
*TOM PAGE 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
TOWER R. TAYLOR 4	C. ERNEST SMITH Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

* First peal in the method.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5064 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN A. BARNETT Treble	*JAMES E. BAILEY 5
*EDWIN BARNETT 2	*VYRIL BRETT-SMITH 6
*HENRY G. KVELEY 3	*HARRY HOWD 7
*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 4	*FREDERICK J. COLLUM Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method; and by the association.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26 1946 in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANK VAPEY Treble	JOHN E. SPICE 5
GEORGE HENKETH 2	DAVID VINCENT 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON 3	EDWIN C. BIRRETT 7
ARTHUR LINTOTT 4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

First peal in the method as conductor.

**OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, January 26, 1946 in three hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*JAMES W. WILLIAMS Treble	*FRANK LITTLEFAIR 5
FRED LONGWORTH 2	ALBERT MORLEY 6
C. W. BLAKY 3	A. TOMLINSON 7
*A. V. WILLIAMS 4	JAMES BARNES Tenor

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

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT Treble	SIDNEY T. HOLT 5
*DENIS R. MORRIS 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
CLIFFORD SKDMORE 3	*REGINALD WOODYATT 7
*GEORGE E. LARGE 4	GEORGE AMBER Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal in the method.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BARROWBY, LINCS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 19, 1946, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*CICIL H. JALLANES Treble	I. WILLIAM KIRTON 4
ARTHUR W. WARD 2	H. REGINALD WOODS 5
JOHN F. PROCTOR 3	GEORGE W. CREASEY Tenor

Conducted by G. W. CREASEY.

* First peal of Minor.

KERESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946 in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*LOUIS R. CALLOW Treble	HAROLD FOLWELL 3
*L. MICHAEL CALLOW 2	ALBERT E. BRISTOW 4
WILLIAM A. STOTE Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM A. STOTE.

* First peal.

BENFIELDSDIE, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946 in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's: (1) Norwich Surprise; (2) Cambridge Surprise; (3) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (4) St. Clement's and Double Oxford; (5) Double Court; (6) Double Bob and Oxford Bob; (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JACK LISHMAN Treble	STANLEY PRODD 4
JOHN A. BROWN 2	STEPHEN THOMPSON 5
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB 3	DENIS A. BAYLES Tenor

Conducted by D. A. BAYLES.

NEATH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB AND GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TEVOR THOMAS Treble	HARRY BOYCE 4
CYRIL JOSEPH 2	GWYN I. LEWIS 5
THOMAS SCOTT 3	*EDMUND ROWLANDS Tenor

Conducted by H. BOYCE.

* First peal.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday January 26, 1946, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

E. B. James' Arrangement.		Tenor 14 cwt.	
HARRIS C. JONES	Treble	ROLAND BIGGS	4
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	2	WALTER LEE	5
WILLIAM C. HUGHES	3	WALTER AYRE	Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 10, 1946 in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

RONALD SUCKLING	1-2	JOHN THOMAS	5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS	3-4	REV. P. J. BOULSOVER	7-8

Arranged by I. J. ATTWATER. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Monday, January 21, 1946, in One Hour and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT 12, PARK STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

*R. F. B. SPEED	1-2	K. S. B. CROFT	3-4
*S. E. DARMON			5-6

Conducted by S. E. DARMON.

* First peal on handbells. First peal as conductor.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 24, 1946 in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

ERIC A. DENCH	1-2	MRS. I. THOMAS	5-6
ALBERT M. TYLER	3-4	JOHN THOMAS	7-8

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9-10

Composed by E. GUISE. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

QUARTER PEALS.

CURRY RIVEL.—On Sunday, January 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Maile 1, T. Locke (conductor) 2, R. Beale 3, F. Dabinett 4, S. Dabinett 5, H. Perry 6, J. Stevens 7, E. Stevens 8.

SHEFFIELD.—On January 19th at St. Marie's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Harry Bower 1, Ernest Thorpe 2, John Thorpe (conductor) 3, Herbert O. Chaddock 4, Hezekiah Thorpe 5, Haydn Thorpe 6, Norman Chaddock 7, Francis Ward 8.

ST. ALBANS.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Peter's, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: T. J. Southam 1, C. F. Sayer 2, G. E. Debenham 3, W. J. Southam 4, A. Dale 5, B. C. Johnson 6, H. V. Frost 7, G. W. Debenham (conductor) 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. E. E. Davis, J. Bennett, C. T. Coles, J. E. Chilcott, G. A. Parsons, W. H. Hewett (conductor), F. C. W. Knight, H. Belcher.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, January 20th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. P. Cook 1, E. A. Jurd 2, J. O. Neville 3, S. E. Cook 4, W. Tate 5, H. A. Nobes 6, J. H. Hunt (conductor) 7, C. Philpotts 8.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,344 Cambridge Surprise Major: F. J. Lambert, sen. 1, E. Bromley 2, F. Bromley 3, R. T. Lambert 4, W. Gorringe 5, R. E. Lambert 6, S. H. Green, A. W. Durham (conductor) 8.

STOURBRIDGE.—On January 20th, 1,280 Bob Major: G. C. Cookson 1, R. Lees 2, Miss F. L. Wright 3, A. Whatmore 4, F. V. Nicholls 5, A. L. Dunn 6, F. W. Gibbs 7, J. W. Smith (conductor) 8.

CROYDON.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Peter's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Hayward 1, Miss V. Potter 2, Miss E. George 3, J. Perrot 4, W. A. Hughes 5, F. Jones 6, H. W. Simmons (conductor) 7, H. W. Barnard 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. Bavin 1, Sgt. F. L. Harris 2, R. Smith 3, G. E. Crisp 4, A. W. T. Ginn 5, F. G. Gleaves 6, M. Ginn 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8.

STROUD, GLOS.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. C. Thain 1, G. Latham 2, T. Pritchard 3, B. Latham 4, R. J. Thain 5, T. C. Witts (conductor) 6, W. Dean 7, C. Cannon 8.

WOODCHESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,257 St. Dunstan's Doubles: W. Brunt 1, A. McTiffin 2, S. C. Thain 3, F. Garland 4, R. J. Thain (conductor) 5, A. Howell 6.

DENHOLME, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Windle 1, T. Candling 2, H. Oglesby 3, L. Rawnsley 4, F. Dalby 5, L. Thompson 6, V. Bairstow (conductor) 7, A. Bairstow 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

SALFORD PRIORS.**DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS.**

The ring of eight bells at Salford Priors, which has been recast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, was dedicated on January 18th by the Bishop of Coventry.

Immediately after the dedication the bells were raised by the local ringers, and at the close of the service touches in various methods were rung by members of the Coventry Diocesan Guild from Allesley, Chivers Coton, Keresley, Leamington, Nuneaton, Stoke Coventry, Stratford-on-Avon and Warwick.

The original peal was installed in the church in 1735, and when, in 1836, it was proposed to increase the peal to one of eight bells, the churchwarden of that day recorded the fact that a letter had been received from Stratford-on-Avon Church to say that if Salford Priors (then a village of some 400) was going to have eight bells, then Stratford would increase its peal to ten bells.

Regular ringing ceased about fifty years ago, when the bells became unsafe, and though a few years before the 1914-18 war, and at intervals since, it was suggested they should be recast and made safe for ringing, nothing was done until May of last year. The ringers' society was re-formed, and agreed to raise the cost of recasting one bell; and a few days later it was decided to have the bells recast at a cost of £1,250, £500 being allocated from the church maintenance fund.

The sixth, one of the original bells of 1735, has been retained on its old cannons and stock and will be kept in the church as an example of bell founding of the eighteenth century. It was made by Richard Sanders. The new bell which takes its place has been named the Peace Bell, and is inscribed with the names of seven men from the parish who lost their lives in the war.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT HIGHAM FERRERS.**

The annual meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, held at Higham Ferrers on January 19th, was attended by members from Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Finedon, Great Doddington, Wilby, Mears Ashby, Irchester, Ecton, Bozeat, Easton Maudit, Earls Barton, Stanwick, Rushden, Raunds, Rothwell, Burton Latimer, Warkton, Weston Favell, Brafeld and the local belfry. Service in church was conducted by the Vicar, and the collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £1 11s.

After the service, more than 70 ringers and friends had tea in the Church Rooms, and at the business meeting the Rev. S. F. W. Powell (Vicar of Bozeat) presided in the absence of the branch president (the Rev. W. R. Flex).

The secretary, Mr. A. Bigley, reported that meetings during the year had been well attended, with an average of 58. Thirteen new ringing members had been elected. Against this, he was sorry to record the death of four members. The branch register now showed 152 ringing members, four hon. life and 12 hon. members, 68 of whom were free, either by serving in the Forces or by reaching the age of 65.

After paying £6 6s. subscriptions and £5 1s. 9d. collections to the general secretary for Guild funds, a surplus of 12s. 6d. remained.

The officers appointed were: President, the Rev. W. R. Flex; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. Bigley (Irthlingborough); Central Committee, Messrs. F. Barber and A. E. Plowman; Branch Committee, Messrs. A. Tyler, C. Payne and A. Boddington; Branch Ringing Master, Mr. J. R. Main; auditor, Mr. E. W. Johnson; branch organist, Mr. E. J. Holloway. Sixteen new members were elected.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wollaston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT WOOLWICH.**

A meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association, held at Woolwich on January 19th, was attended by upwards of sixty members and friends from Beckenham, Bromley, Chislehurst, Crayford, Dartford, Eltham, Erith, Greenwich, Lewisham, Sidcup, Woolwich, Balham, Brasted, Camberwell, Croydon and Walthamstow. Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. R. Thompson, who gave an address.

The tea and business meeting were in the Rectory Room, the Rector presiding. Twenty-one new members were elected and the election of another was ratified. Eltham was chosen as place of next meeting, to be held on April 27th.

A tribute was paid to the memory of the late Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge, formerly Vicar of Leatherhead and some time Vicar of Christ Church, Erith, and a valuable friend to the Lewisham District. The ringing consisted of rounds and all the standard methods.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT NORWICH.**

At the annual meeting of the North Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association, held at St. John-de-Sepuchre, Norwich, on January 19th, 38 members attended from Attleborough, Buxton, Diss, Fornoct St. Peter, Gorleston, Hethersett, Haddiscoe, Muibarton, Norwich, Northrepps, New Buckenham, Norton, Scottow, Swaffham, Wroxham, Wymondham, Yaxham, Great Yarmouth and Yaxley.

Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. J. P. Wallis, and tea was served by the Sisters at Ber House. At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. E. W. Blyth was in the chair. The officers were elected as follows: The Rev. E. W. Blyth, chairman; Mr. H. Tooke, secretary; committee, Messrs. G. Bailey, W. C. Duffield, G. Mayers, P. C. Goodman and the Rev. G. W. Wilson. On the Standing Committee, Mr. R. W. Curson and the Rev. G. W. Wilson. Six new members were elected.

The methods rung included Minor, Triples and Major up to Surprise. The next meeting will be at Northrepps on May 25th.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT ST. ALBANS.**

About 40 ringers and friends from Abbots Langley, Bromham, Ewell, Hampstead, Hatfield, Harpenden, Leverstock Green, Leicester, Luton, Maulden, North Mymms, Silsoe, St. Albans (Cathedral and St. Peter's), Toddington, Tunstall, Turvey and Wembley Park were present at the annual meeting of the St. Albans District of the Hertford County Association, held in St. Albans on January 19th. St. Peter's bells were rung in the afternoon, the methods ranging from rounds to Cambridge Royal, and a service at the church was conducted by the Rev. K. C. Davis, of St. Francis', Ewell.

Tea was at the Sundial Cafe, and at the business meeting which followed four ringing and two non-resident members were elected. St. Albans was again chosen for the next annual meeting.

The secretary's report and balance sheet were adopted, and the following officers were elected: R. Darvill, secretary; H. V. Frost, deputy secretary; A. Day, Ringing Master; Messrs. Darvill, Frost, Day, A. Lawrence and A. W. Coles, committee.

A proposal to redivide the association to even up the size of districts (which at present have from nine to 33 towers) was raised by the secretary, but it was agreed that changes were fraught with snags and should be opposed. At the same time, a suggestion that the association should join with that in Bedford to form a St. Albans Diocesan Association was unanimously considered desirable and will be taken further.

The Cathedral bells were rung in the evening to various methods, including Stedman Cinques, Bob Maximus and London Surprise Major.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT TWICKENHAM.**

A meeting of the South and West District of Middlesex County Association was held at Twickenham on January 19th, at which 20 members and friends were present from Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Ewell, Fulham, Hershman, Heston, Hillingdon (St. John's), Hounslow, Twickenham and Willesden. Among those present was Mr. Wilfred G. Wilson, assistant secretary and Central Council representative, who has returned to civil life after some years' service in Africa, Italy and Greece.

The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Preb. W. P. Cole Sheane, president of the association. Tea in the Church Room was presided over by the president.

Mention was made of the death of Mr. George Gutteridge, of Iver Heath, and it was announced that Mr. F. W. Goodfellow, at one time hon. secretary and for years intimately associated with the ringing first at Ealing and then at Hillingdon, had moved to Leeds. Mr. V. Chilcott was elected a member.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT BEBINGTON.**

The annual meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Bebington on January 19th. Service was taken by the curate, the Rev. Sutton, owing to the illness of the Rector. Tea was served in the Schoolroom. About forty ringers were present, Mr. J. Cooke being in the chair. The officers were re-elected. A letter was read from the general secretary, the Rev. E. Pearson, about the welcome of the Guild to returning members. This would be decided at the general committee meeting.

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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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'No matter how quickly men may learn methods, no
matter what their abilities as ringers, composers, or con-
ductors, and no matter how satisfactory to themselves
their ringing may be, it will never give the same satisfac-
tion outside the walls of the tower as will the produc-
tion of accurately struck changes in the most simple
method.'—Jasper Snowdon.

The total number of peals rung last year was 1,304, not 1,422 as
stated in last week's issue.

The Grandsire Triples at Prittlewell on January 20th was the 100th
peal on the bells.

SERVICE TOUCHES.

BOB MINOR.

	720		720
	23456	-	23456
S	32564 1		42356 5
	32645 1		S 24563 1
	32456 1		24635 1
	25643 2		43562 2
	25436 1		43625 1
S	52364 1		43256 1
	35264 5		S 34562 1

Each four times repeated.

JOSEPH J. PARKER.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

	1,280				1,280			
23456	B	W	R		23456	B	W	R
52436	—	—	—		52436	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—		23564	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—		23645	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—		42635	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—		42356	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—		34256	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—		23456	—	—	—

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

	1,280				1,280			
23456	B	M	W	R	23456	B	M	W
23564	—	—	—	—	35264	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—	42563	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	64523	—	—	—
42563	—	—	—	—	42635	—	—	—
64523	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—

A PROBLEM IN COMPOSITION.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In your leader of the current issue you state, referring to Spliced Surprise, that it was 'generally assumed' that it was a condition that one full natural course of each method must be included in the composition, and there seems to be an underlying suggestion that the composition of mine to which you refer is 'not quite the thing' because it does not conform to the 'generally assumed' condition.

Now, I do not think that any such general assumption ever existed. When composers turned their attention to this problem it was obvious to them that a complete natural course must contain all the work on all the bells and that the inclusion of such a course was the easiest way out.

If a natural course of each of the four methods could be found leaving sufficient material free to complete the peal, the conditions could be satisfied in 28 leads and the peal completed with anything which was available.

But, for the purposes of practical ringing, the inclusion of a full natural course is a definite blemish, unless it can be inserted in more than one piece. One just does not want to ring seven consecutive leads of a method in a spliced peal.

In my composition there are two full natural courses, London and Bristol. The London is inserted in two pieces, five leads being consecutive, and the Bristol in one piece. In my opinion those two courses are the weak spots in the composition. I used them because I could not see a way of satisfying the conditions otherwise, and if I could have dispensed with them I would have done so.

I think that it would be possible to include London without using a full course, indeed, without using more than one lead of any one course, but it would hardly reduce the chances of including any appreciable amount of Bristol.

I do not know whether it is possible to produce a peal including a full natural course of each method. I never have investigated the possibilities, but if I myself did produce one I should rate it as inferior to the one I have already produced, and if one were obtained with no full natural courses at all I should deem it a better peal.

H. G. CASHMORE.

24, Muriel Avenue, Watford.

[Our article dealt with problems in composition only, and considerations of practical ringing did not enter into the matter, nor was there any underlying suggestion that Mr. Cashmore's peal is 'not quite the thing'—The Editor.]

THE MUSIC OF CHANGE RINGING.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I have always got a certain amount of pleasure by listening to what I consider musical changes, the course ends, Queens and Tittums, etc., which come up occasionally if the method or touch allows. Much depends on the conductor, because 4, 5 and 6 in 6th place are definitely more musical than 2 or 3 in 6th.

The orthodox way of calling Stedman Triples by 7th observation in 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 12-13 robs the method of some of the best music. All the 3 pull dodges should, if possible, be made by 4, 5 and 7, and this can be done by a little pricking out and practice by the conductor. We have had some very musical touches of this kind published in 'The Ringing World.' An easy touch of 240 changes can be had by calling the 3rd, make bob in Quick and Slow alternatively: 216 by calling the 6th, 2 bobs in 6-7 down, 7-8, and 2 bobs in 6-7 up, repeated, or 216 changes, 7th observation, 2 bobs wrong, 3-4 and 2 bobs Home repeated. In conclusion, the scale is the foundation of music. Therefore, rounds, well struck, is music.

A. BIGLEY.

30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LADIES IN THE BELFRY.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With regard to the comments of Mr. F. E. Haynes concerning ladies in the belfry, I feel that it is time someone rolled up her sleeves in defence of the fair sex.

Perhaps he will tell us in what way the ladies have crossed his path. Was it a disappointment in love? In any case it would not be fair to condemn all the male ringers by the idiosyncrasies of a few of them.

JILL POOLE.

Leicester.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In the report of the Winchester District annual meeting in 'The Ringing World' it is stated that no less than 100 full members paid their subscriptions, together with 18 members in the Services, whose subscriptions had been waived, which brought the total to 118, the highest it had ever reached. In the year 1936 we had members from 16 towers in the Winchester District, totalling 125, and 112 paid £11 4s., together with 92 honorary members, who paid £23 10s.

G. NOICE.

6, Cathedral View, Winchester.

RINGING IN AUSTRALIA.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I have just received my copy of 'The Ringing World' for December 7th and am interested to read Mr. Alan Pink's letter regarding a plan for our colonies and concerning Australia in particular.

Before proceeding to my present station in May last year I had a short stay in Sydney, and in company with Marine 'Ted' Connock (who, I believe, has now returned home) I rang in all the Sydney towers and enjoyed the overwhelming hospitality of the ringers.

Mr. Pink hits the nail right on the head when he says that the crying need in Australia is for capable conductors. At St. Mark's, Darling Point, Sydney, and in the suburbs of Parramatta and Terrumurra I was surprised to find keen bands of youngsters of both sexes eager to make progress, but with no one capable of leading them. Never before have I regretted so much my own inability to conduct. The books on change ringing which I brought out with me were much in demand, and copies of 'The Ringing World' were eagerly read and passed round.

The suggested scheme for helping ringing in Australia consisting of immigration and professionalism is not, in my opinion, by any means impracticable. To my mind, professionalism would have more chance of success than immigration. It may be possible to find capable teachers and conductors prepared to settle in Melbourne, Sydney and Hobart, but jobs in these already overcrowded cities are hard to come by. Our Australian colleagues would be very glad to assist in this respect, but, even so, I am doubtful if jobs sufficiently attractive to induce the right men to settle would be forthcoming. Australia badly needs immigrants, but she wants them to assist in opening up and developing the country and not add to the burden of the towns, where housing and accommodation is a problem possibly even more acute than back home.

An alternative to immigration and professionalism is a scheme whereby Australians could be sent to England for tuition. This would be no more expensive than sending our men to Australia, and may perhaps ultimately produce the best results. The ambition of many of the Sydney ringers is an English ringing tour. A scheme for a combined tour and course of instruction would not only enable our colleagues out here to realise their ambition, but, what is more important, enable them to gain the knowledge and experience so badly needed.

The final sentence in Mr. Pink's letter, 'What are we going to do about it?' is a challenge that cannot be ignored. The war-time visits of English ringers have resulted in interest and enthusiasm out here reaching a high pitch. Is there not a danger that with their departure interest may tend to wane unless the lack of knowledge is remedied?

Mr. Pink's scheme has no doubt provoked a deal of thought and I trust that action will soon follow. So far as Australia is concerned, the time for putting ringing firmly on its feet will never be more opportune than at present. The foundations exist in the form of peals of bells and ringers to man them, but the framework badly needs cementing with the practical help that can only be given by the ringers of Eng'and.

W. F. J. COPE, Lieut., R.N.V.R.

H.M.A.S. 'Melville,' Darwin.

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

January 27th, 1727. The College Youths rang St. Dunstan's Triples at St. Dunstan's-in-the-West, Fleet Street.

1925. A peal of Spliced Erin and Stedman Caters at Newcastle.

1926. A peal of Spliced Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples at Bridgend.

January 28th, 1911. The College Youths rang at St. Michael's, Cornhill, the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus in London.

January 29th, 1885. John Cox died. 1886, Henry Haley died.

1921. At Chesterfield, the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal.

1927. At Bolton, the record peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 11,232 changes.

January 30th, 1780. The London Youths rang at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major. The composition was false.

January 31st, 1900. At Kidderminster, a peal of Shipway Major.

February 1st, 1756. Benjamin Annable died.

1832. Kent Treble Bob Caters at Birmingham.

February 2nd, 1765. At Leeds in Kent, James Barham's band rang Morning Pleasure Ten-in.

SACRING BELLS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I have been much interested in reading Mr. Morris' account of chimes of little bells on wheels. Though familiar with them in Spain, I do not recall ever reading before that they were to be found in English churches. They were in use in Seville Cathedral when I was last there. As far as I remember, there was one each side of the choir, and I think that they were rung at other points in the choral services besides the consecration. The ringing there is done by choristers.

F. LI. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

INSCRIPTIONS WITH A SMILE.

By JOHN P. FIDLER.

When John L'Estrange wrote 'The Church Bells of Norfolk' he states on page 21: 'After 1660, with scarcely an exception, the bell inscriptions no longer excite interest. Where they do not simply record the founder's name and date (in themselves inoffensive) they degenerate into irreverent and doggerel rhyme.'

Of these doggerel rhyme inscriptions there are many, and they are to be found in all parts of the country, but whether they are irreverent or not is a matter of opinion. Take a 1750 inscription:—

Come rais us well and ring us right
Then all that hear will take delight.

An invocation, occasionally varied, which is fairly common; it tells us that ringers of old, like those of to-day, had to be reminded that striking was all important.

Many inscriptions became stereotyped and do not arouse much interest; as soon as one has read the first line, the reader knows the rest, but when the bell-hunter comes across one like the following, he sits up and takes notice:—

'We trebles came by small consent
Our birth we hope will give content
Twins from the tenor our lost old dad
Some we make merry and some make sad.'

This is to be found at Banham, Norfolk.

Amongst journalists it is said that if a dog bites a man, that is not news; but if a man bites a dog it is news—so what about old Dad at Banham having twins? That ought to have reached the headlines long ago.

Certainly this inscription raises a smile, but does it not tell us a lot too? We note that the old tenor was broken up to make two additional bells, a scheme approved by a small majority. Those who have served on bell committees can visualise what happened at the meeting to decide the Banham scheme.

Inscriptions such as this you do not find repeated time and time again with dull monotony. They certainly have more meat in them than

'Our voices shall with joyful sound
Make hills and valleys echo round,'

which was used by many founders. Some of their voices have anything but a joyful sound and many hang far from hills and valleys. Such an inscription found its way to the Bull Ring, Birmingham—far from hills and valleys.

Frequently I have wondered who decided upon inscriptions, both common and uncommon. I have long suspected that some founders took a 'take it or leave it' attitude and patrons had to accept what they put on.

John L'Estrange says: 'Bell founders, however, do not encourage the placing of inscriptions upon church bells; a charge of fourpence is made for each letter, and I know one case in which the founder declined to cast a bell with the inscription required unless the parishioners pledged themselves either to take it, whether in tune or not with the other bells, or pay for its recasting, if necessary.' Well, well, imagine a founder taking up the same attitude to-day; also, can you imagine any of our modern founders putting on:—

'To much against us may be said

To speak for ourselves we are not afraid,'
or like Joe Smith, of Egbaston, who placed the following on a bell at Barford, Warwickshire:—

'By misinformation made was I its
the Founders loss—Pray think on he.'

I wonder what went wrong here. It would appear he had the bad end of a bargain and let everyone know it. There is no record of the churchwardens' reactions on seeing this inscription; perhaps it was a 'cash before delivery' contract, so he had the last laugh and they had left on their hands the permanent reminder of a bit of good business. I do not suppose we shall ever know the reason for such an inscription.

In Warwickshire we come across this gem of 1702 at Walsgrave:—

'Hearken do ye heare
Our clappers want beere.'

Of course, it is no use looking at this through modern eyes, and I don't suppose the total drinks were known then; in any case and whichever way you look at it, clappers do occasionally require a little lubricant.

In 1675, this appeared at St. John's, Coventry:—

'I ring at six to let men know
When to and from their work to go.'

There would be nothing amusing in this when that bell was hung, but now there are talks of forty-hour weeks it puts on a different aspect, and yet it does not seem many years since the knocker-up came round at 5 a.m., so that people could be at work by six. I wonder what the modern version of this inscription would be.

The old treble at Monks Kirby, Warwickshire, seems to have had a rough time of it, judging by the following:—

'My Noble Founders they have been so many,
Because not all I will not here name any.'

From this one would surmise it had been recast many times. On occasions when a bell has been recast, a somewhat boastful inscription creeps in, such as we get at Brailes, Warwickshire:—

4th: Ime not the bell I was but quite another,
Ime now as rite as merry George my brother.

Whilst Brother (or should it be sister) George flings this one at us:—

'He crack no more, now ring your fill;
Merry George I was and will be still.

Alas for poor old George. I am afraid it is many years ago since he was merry. The bells of Brailes are the heaviest six in Warwickshire, and have been unringable for quite a long time.

When compared with some of old and young Bilbie's inscriptions, the Brailes ones are tame. The Bilbie lines give some indication of the rivalry which existed between the bell founders of old, and they fairly throw their weight about. Strange to relate, this particular type of inscription is confined to Somerset, in which county the Bilbie foundry was situate.

An early effort was at Somerton (1714), when he had a smack at the bell founder Wroth and someone named Night, possibly a bellhanger.

'Frind Wroth and Night for all youre spite
Ould Ed Bilbie hath me rund.
Pull me round and heare me round,
Frind such work you never dun.'

Not much 'frindship' about that, and so far I have not found Wroth's reply to that. In one at Bruton he is not quite so personal and yet his boastfulness creeps in. Here it is:—

'Once Id a note that none could beare,
But Bilbie made me sweet and clear.'

At Chewstoke, where he had his foundry, he placed:—

'My sound is good well understood,
As plainly doth appare,
It twass owld Bilbie and his frinds
As caste me to be heare 1718.'

Certainly he had full confidence in his product when he set this on the mould.

Years pass, but the same style remains. In 1727 this appeared at Mark:—

'Come here, brother founders, and here you may see
What sort of workman young Bilbie may bee;
Hele challenge all Ingland for casting a bell,
Who will be the workman who will be but done well.'

As G.I. Joe would say, 'Well, what do you know about that?'

In 1728, young Bilbie again lets rip at Wroth, and a companion named Wright, and Yeovil tenor was the medium:—

'Alone let us sound out Ile keep my place,
No doubt you Wrath and Wright,
Pray speak the right, come see how I am run,
'Twas young Bilbie that cast me, suche work you
never done.'

At Publow, in the same year, he is a little milder:—

'I am a good bell and Bilbie cast me, which that a
good workman may com hear and see.'

In 1732, at Dunkerton, he has a jibe at Cockey, another West Country founder. Apparently Cockey had recast a bell which did not prove satisfactory, and Bilbie had to recast it again. He could not resist having a crack at the unfortunate founder, and so the bell bore this:—

'Before I was broke I was as good as any,
But when that Cokey casted I near was worth a penny.'

The following year Rudhall is brought into the picture, for what reason one can only guess, and this inscription went to Kilmersdon:—

'You Ruddle and Cockey and see
Which is the best workman of all us three.'

We have to wait twenty-five years before we find anyone treating Bilbie with a dose of his own medicine. In 1758, Evans, of Chepstow, had to recast a Bilbie bell, and inscribed the bell as follows:—

'Bilby and Boosh may see
What Evans and Nott have done by me.'

Boosh or Bush was a bellhanger and occasionally he gets a line, as at Cullompton:—

'Bilbie the founder, Bush the hanger,
Heathfield's the man that rings the tenor.'

As far as I can discover, the Rudhall family only once strayed from the straight and narrow path, and that was at Badgworth, in Gloucestershire, where the following appeared:—

'Badgworth ringers they were mad
Because Rigbie made me bad;
But Abel Rudhall, you may see,
Made me better than Rigbie.' 1742.

Most of the products of the Rudhall foundry bear simple inscriptions that are repeated over and over again. The number of towers and churches he has wished prosperity to are legion, and his tenors, whether used as passing bells or not, usually got this one:—

'I to the church the living call
And to the grave do summon all.'

Whenever I see, 'All ye that hear my mournful sound repent before ye lie in ground,' I cannot help wondering whether our forebears were a bad lot, or what? The clergy of to-day tell us the same but in different words. To use a common expression, we are going to the dogs, so we cannot be any better than they, and, are we any worse?

Another example of professional jealousy cropped up at Wickham Market, when Brend recast the second in 1651. He put on the following:—

'The monvment of Gray
Is past awaie,
In place of it doth stand
The name of John Brend.'

Dr. Raven, in his 'Church Bells of Suffolk,' after writing about John Brend and Thomas Draper, states, 'A little ring' was thus formed by the brothers-in-law, which kept out Miles Graye, of Colchester, from the north of the county, and led to a 'mighty pretty quarrel' at Wickham Market, the traces of which yet remain. Presumably he was referring to the inscription.

Thomas Gardiner, the last of the Sudbury founders, put on an original one at Edwardstone. According to Dr. Raven, Gardiner started after Thornton, his earliest date being 1709, when, like others of his craft, his first efforts were not fully appreciated. Edwardstone was the earliest scene of his labours, where he was entrusted with splicing in three Miles Graye's as third, fourth and fifth of a ring of six. No fault apparently was found with his treble, but a local genius, one William Culpeck, otherwise to fame unknown, disagreed with him about the note of the second, designated him as a 'want wit,' then no uncommon term of reproach, as we know from the 'Pilgrim's Progress,' and humbled him to cast on that bell these words, 'Tvned by Wm. Culpeck, 1710.' But a quarrel with a founder is like a quarrel with a newspaper editor, and Gardiner had his revenge of the last word on casting the tenor, which he inscribed:—

'About ty second Culpeck is wrett
Because the founder wanted wett;
Thair judgments were but bad at last,
Or elce this bell I never had cast.'

(To be continued.)

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT GREAT BADDOW.

The annual meeting of the South-Eastern District of the Essex Association was held at Great Baddow on January 26th, at which members were present from Great Baddow, Broomfield, Boreham, Chelmsford, Danbury Galleywood, Maldon, Springfield, Little Waltham and Stock, with visitors from Brentwood, Bentley, Harwich, Colchester, Wanstead and Bardfield. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. Casson, who also presided at the tea and the business meeting. The hon. secretary reported that seven meetings had been held during 1945 with an average attendance of 35. 22 new members had been elected and a balance of £6 14s. 8d. handed to the general secretary. The collections for the year to the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £6 9s. 11d.

Mr. H. J. Mansfield was re-elected Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Shadrack as hon. secretary and Mr. G. Green and Mr. E. Runter as committee members. Five new members were elected, and it was agreed to hold the next meeting at Fryerning on March 16th.

TIME OF TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The following extremes for a tenor 25½ cwt. will take a bit of beating. The first mention of change ringing at the Parish Church, Ormskirk, Lancashire, is recorded on a tablet in the tower. On Shrove Tuesday, February 11th, 1777, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 62 minutes. On March 17th, 1896, a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5,040 changes, in 2 hours and 45 minutes, in which I rang the treble, then being in my 'teens.

Maghull, Liverpool.

S. FLINT.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.**

The Cambridge Branch of the Ely Diocesan Association held its annual meeting in Cambridge on January 19th. Ringers and friends were present from Cambridge, Chiddingfold, Croydon, Epsom, Fulbourn, Harston, Hershaw, Little Shelford, Sawston, Trumpington and Walton-on-Thames. Ringing during the afternoon at St. Andrew's the Great and St. Bene't's was followed by a service at St. Andrew's, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. O. D. Chamier.

Tea in St. Andrew's Parish Room was by invitation of the Vicar, who presided at the business meeting. The officers elected were: President, the Rev. P. O. D. Chamier; Ringing Master, Mr. E. G. Hibbins; district secretary, Mr. H. L. Martin; committee, Messrs. C. W. Cook, T. R. Dennis, F. Hurry, A. Hurst and P. Webb. The company then adjourned to St. Mary's the Great. It is hoped to hold the next meeting at Whittlesford. The methods rung ranged from Plain Bob Minor to Grandsire Caters on tower bells, and from Kent Treble Bob Minor to Bob Royal on handbells.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT HORLEY.**

The annual meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association was held at Horley on January 19th, when 34 members were present from the various towers in the district, together with ringers from the North-Western District. During the afternoon and evening a variety of methods were rung. The Vicar, the Rev. J. C. Laker, conducted the service and gave an address.

At the business meeting the Master, Mr. D. Kenneth C. Birt, was in the chair. The treasurer presented a very satisfactory balance sheet. In his report, the secretary stated that ringing throughout the district had been maintained during the year and the membership had increased by 22. The retiring officers who did not seek re-election were thanked for their services.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT WOKINGHAM.**

The annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Wokingham on January 19th. Service at St. Paul's was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. P. J. H. Scott, who gave an address. Tea followed at the Parish Rooms, after which the business meeting was held, presided over by Canon G. F. Coleridge, chairman of the branch, supported by the Rev. St. G. Edwards, Mr. W. J. Paice and the hon. secretary, Mr. B. C. Castle. The officers were all re-elected with the exception that Mr. W. H. J. Parker succeeds Mr. J. Moth as branch representative on the Guild Committee. It was decided to hold a half-yearly meeting in the summer and a combined practice each month. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening at St. Paul's and All Saints' Churches. About 65 ringers were present.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT MELTON MOWBRAY.**

A meeting of the Leicester Diocesan Guild was held at Melton Mowbray on January 19th to organise the Melton District. The following towers were represented: Asfordby, Buckminster, Croxton-Kerrial, Great Dalby, Harby, Hose, Long Clawson, Melton Mowbray, Somerby, Twyford, Wymondham and Waltham, and there were visitors from Anstey, Leicester, Loughborough and Syston.

At the business meeting after tea, the president, Mr. H. J. Poole, took the chair and explained the objects of the Guild. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. R. Mount; secretary, Mr. J. H. Cook; committee, Messrs. J. Fenton and A. J. Stimson. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Waltham-on-the-Wolds on Feb. 23rd. The methods rung ranged from rounds to Stedman and Grandsire Caters.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT MERTHYR TYDFIL.**

A meeting of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association was held at Merthyr on January 26th, at which about 40 members were present from Newport, Cardiff, Penarth, Caerphilly, Ebbw Vale, St. Mellons, Aberavon, Cowbridge, Whitchurch, Aberdare, Pentre, Pontypridd, Porthcawl and the local belfry. Touches in the four standard methods were rung. The service, conducted by the Rector, Canon T. M. Hughes, was followed by tea and business meeting, at which 21 new members and nine life members were elected. The next meeting will be the annual at Newport (St. Woolos') on Easter Monday.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH.**

The first of the North Dorset Branch five-bell by-meetings was held at Winterborne Whitechurch on January 26th. Unfortunately, it was a pouring wet afternoon and only seven ringers besides the local band were present. The Rev. G. H. Moule conducted the service and 14 ringers from Hazebury Bryan, Stoke Wake, Lytchett Matravers and the local tower sat down to tea. There was no business meeting. During the evening various Doubles methods were rung as well as Bob Minimus for the local learners. The local band hope soon to be able to have a sixth bell installed and are showing great enthusiasm in their efforts towards this end.

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.

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

KENT ASSN.—Leigh, Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Service 4 p.m. Tea, 4.30, at the Bat and Ball.

KENT ASSN.—Willesborough, Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Annual, St. Thomas', Newport, Saturday, Feb. 2nd, at 2.30 p.m.—A. M. Guy.

ESSEX ASSN.—Northern Division.—Annual, Bocking, Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Service 4.30.—Hilda G. Snowden.

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Hampstead Norris (6), Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.

SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.—Cresswell (8), Feb. 2nd, 3 p.m.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Annual, Grimsby, St. James', Saturday, Feb. 2nd, 2.30. Service 4.15. No tea. Cafés nearby. Business, Church House, 6 p.m.—H. I. Mingay.

HERTS ASSN.—Watford District.—Annual, Rickmansworth, Feb. 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.

SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Practice, Wednesday, Feb. 6th, 6.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Annual, Leatherhead, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea, 4.45, at the Duke's Head. Numbers to G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead, by Feb. 6th.

SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 6 p.m. Bells 3.30. Tea 5.15. Numbers by Feb. 4th.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—General meeting Feb. 9th, Nottingham. St. Mary's bells (10) 2.30 to 4.30. St. Peter's (10) after meeting. Committee 3 p.m., St. Peter's Vestry. Tea and business 4.30. Notify T Groombridge, 74, Dornoch Avenue, Sherwood, Nottingham, by Feb. 5th.—Ernest Morris, 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual, East Grinstead, Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Feb. 7th to Miss K. Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead.—C. A. Bassett.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN.—Annual general, Saturday, Feb. 9th, St. James', Clerkenwell, 2.30. Service 4.30. Business and handbell contest in Church Hall 6 p.m.—H. W. Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU. 3921.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Annual, St. James, Teignmouth (8), Saturday, Feb. 9th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business in Parish Hall, 5 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 5th.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh (phone 3121).

SUSSEX ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Annual, Christ Church, Eastbourne, Feb. 9th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 6 p.m. Notify by Feb. 4th.—John Downing, 128, Elphinstone Road, Hastings.

LANCS. ASSN.—Preston Branch.—Broughton, near Preston, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 2.30. Cups of tea provided.—Fred Rigby, 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LANCS. ASSN.—Rochdale Branch.—All Saints', Hamer, Saturday, Feb. 9th. Names for tea by Wednesday, to Mr. James Taylor, 96, Greenbank Road, Rochdale.—Ivan Kay.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Southern Division.—Practice, Hurst, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Notify J. Dearlove, Cloverdale, Colledge Lane, Hassocks, by Feb. 6th.—E. L. Hairs.

LANCS. ASSN.—Furness and Lake District.—Practice, St. James', Barrow-in-Furness (8), Saturday, Feb. 9th, 2.30 p.m.

LANCS. ASSN.—Liverpool Branch.—Prescot, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m.—G. R. Newton, 57, Amphill Road, Liverpool 17.

BARNESLEY SOCIETY.—Silkstone, Feb. 9th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Notify Mrs. Cooper, Ring o' Bells, Silkstone, near Barnsley, by Feb. 6th.—D. Smith.

LANCS. ASSN.—Blackburn Branch.—Church Kirk, Feb. 9th, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Business in tower 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, 133, Ormerod Street, Accrington.

ELY ASSN.—Wisbech Branch.—Elm (6), Saturday, Feb. 9th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (provided) 5 p.m.—W. Buckenham.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—St. Margaret's, Ipswich, Saturday, Feb. 9th, 2.15 p.m. Business meeting to elect new district secretary 4.30 p.m. Teashops near.—C. W. Pipe.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Biggleswade District.—Sandy (6), Saturday, Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at King Alfred's Chambers.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Parish Church, Northfield, Saturday, Feb. 9th.—T. H. Reeves.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Swindon Branch.—Stratton St. Margaret (8), Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Wilts.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual Saturday, Feb. 16th. Service at S. Nicolas', 4.30. Tea and business S. Nicolas' Parish Hall. Names by Feb. 11th to A. C. Hazelden, 109, Grange Road, Guildford.

LEICESTER GUILD.—Leicester District.—Wigston Magna, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names by Feb. 13th.—W. J. Root, 8, The Portway, Leicester.

KENT ASSN.—Canterbury District.—Throwley, Feb. 16th. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

NORWICH ASSN.—East Norfolk Branch.—Annual, Blofield (6), Saturday, Feb. 16th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by Feb. 12th to J. Harwood, 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—South and West District.—Annual, St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3.15 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. No tea. Committee 5.30 p.m. Business 6.15 p.m. Both in Vicarage Room.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, 1, Listoke Edgehill Road, Ealing, W.13 (Perival 5320).

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Burton and District.—Measham (8), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3.30 p.m. Cups of tea 4.45; bring food.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal.

ESSEX ASSN.—South Western Division.—Woodford, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting to follow. Names by Feb. 13th.—Mrs. J. H. Crampton, Hon. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead, E.11.

KENT ASSN.—Maidstone District.—Hollingbourne, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to C. H. Sone, Linton, Maidstone.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Johnson Dinner, Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, Saturday, March 2nd, 6 p.m. Tickets to fully-paid-up ringing members, 3s.; to other members and friends, 7s. 6d. Early application with remittance is necessary as number is strictly limited. St. Martin's (12), St. Philip's (10), and St. Chad's R.C. (8), from 3.30 to 5 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

KENT PEAL TOUR.—July 27th to August 4th, 1946. Similar arrangements to last year but different towers. Accommodation at Folkestone. Send applications with 10s. deposit and a stamped postcard to Frank C. W. Knight, 24, Walpole Road, Walthamstow, London, E.17, as soon as possible.

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.—Subscriptions for 1946 should be forwarded to H. G. Jenney, Hon. Sec., 23, Larch Street, Leicester.

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QUARTER PEALS.

SELY OAK.—On Sunday, January 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. D. Hartland 1, K. Haslam 2, Ed. Large 3, H. W. Haslam 4, William B. Cartwright 5, Ed. Holt 6, J. Pinfold (conductor) 7, J. S. Barker 8.

ROWLEY REGIS.—On January 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. L. Homer 1, E. Harrold 2, H. Dowell 3, G. H. Detheridge, sen. 4, E. Homer 5, A. Timmins 6, G. H. Detheridge, jun. (conductor) 7, C. Taberner 8.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On Tuesday, January 22nd, 1,260 Bob Minor: J. Ransome 1, H. W. Pratt 2, L. W. Fisher 3, C. Goodyer 4, F. Warrington (conductor) 5, W. Ransome 6.

ST. NEOTS, HUNTS.—On Friday, January 25th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. Bavin 1, F. L. Harris 2, F. G. Gleaves 3, G. E. Crisp 4, A. W. T. Ginn 5, R. Smith 6, M. Ginn 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.—On Sunday, January 27th, 1,392 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Bavin 1, A. W. T. Ginn 2, F. G. Gleaves 3, F. L. Harris 4, M. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

WOODCHESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, January 27th, 1,946 Grand-sire and St. Dunstan's Doubles: G. Latham (conductor) 1, A. McTiffin 2, S. C. Thain 3, E. Risbey 4, R. J. Thain 5, F. Garland 6.

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