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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AND AFFILIATED BODIES

By ALAN R. PINK

THE writer of the leading article entitled 'End of a Chapter,' published in 'The Ringing World' on June 13th, 1952, stated that all affiliated guilds and associations are pledged to abide by the decisions of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. This being so, and remembering that most guilds and associations are now affiliated to the Central Council, it behoves us to pause awhile and consider the general position of the Council in ringing circles to-day and how it has made use of these weighty powers.

In an organised society possession of such absolute powers would imply certain duties, namely, that all decisions should be clear and understandable to those ringers upon whom they are binding, and that they should be free from equivocation and capable of enforcement. It is essential for the well-being of the Central Council that its affiliated members should have confidence in it and its ability to legislate. The recent meeting at Lincoln may have shaken some of this confidence, particularly when one remembers the confusion arising from the way two particular items on the agenda were dealt with, namely, the report of the Peals Analysis Committee and the Oxford Guild motion, whereby a decision to delete certain peals from the committee's report was later reversed by the acceptance of the Oxford Guild motion. Had the two items been reversed on the agenda there would have been no need for the Peals Analysis Committee to have sought the direction of the Council in regard to the deleted peals; acceptance of the Oxford Guild motion would have supplied the answer.

What of the question of enforcement? Let us consider the ringing structure at greater length. Each guild or association in membership with the Central Council is entitled to send one representative per 150 members, and although these representatives are without doubt well loved and trusted by their members it cannot be contended that they are always the most suitable people for voting upon the technical matters which appear before the Council in this age. Moreover, by reason of time lag between the printing of the Council's agenda and the annual meetings of associations, it is often impossible for the representatives to go armed with the opinion of those members they represent. The result must be that the representative votes according to his own judgment, whether he understands his subject

or not. This in the mass can have serious results. More and more the tendency is to pass the technical questions to a committee of such experts as are available to the Council, **but the whole Council has eventually to vote upon the committee's subsequent recommendation.** One suspects that many decisions are, therefore, really made by small committees. It should be remembered that the Central Council can never at any time have all the expert opinion at its disposal, and, therefore, it is unlikely that decisions made on technical subjects will meet with unqualified approval everywhere.

Let us next consider how the information is disseminated by the Central Council. There are three methods open to it—(a) by publication in 'The Ringing World,' (b) by publication in book form, and (c) by relying upon the affiliated associations as a propaganda machine. Each has serious faults. 'The Ringing World' is an excellent medium for those ringers who think fit to purchase it, but there are many ringers who do not see the publication and, therefore, cannot be said to have received due notice of the Council's intentions. The publication of rules and decisions in book form is likely to be an expensive matter, and the Council is not in a position to force ringers to buy such a publication. Moreover, such a publication is not at the moment available, being in the course of revision and reprinting. One wonders whether it would ever be possible to make these rules and decisions available in sufficient numbers so that every ringer supposed to be bound by them could have a copy free. Only by such means could the Council claim that every ringer should be cognisant of its decisions. It sounds like a task for the affiliated associations to tackle. The third method, that of relying on the affiliated associations as a propaganda machine, is defective in that no association could expect to hold a meeting where every member could be present.

The weight of evidence so far tends to show that the Central Council is in some ways an imperfect machine and is not, in fact, in a position to impose its will upon thousands of ringers who have never heard of it, or are only dimly aware of it despite the fact that they owe allegiance to an affiliated association. Yet the Council has done a vast amount of good work and will do much more if that work is kept in its proper perspective. It is worth while quoting the objects of the Council as they were accepted at the very first meeting held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn, on Tuesday, April 8th, 1890:—

To provide a body representative of the united interests of the various societies of church bell ringers that shall:—

(1) Use its best endeavours to guard the rights and generally promote the welfare of the Exercise.

(2) Maintain the position of ringing as a branch of church work.

(3) Encourage and assist the development of the art in its scientific, practical and historical branches.

(4) Arbitrate—so far as may be deemed advisable—in such matters of dispute or perplexity as shall be submitted to its judgment.

It was evidently not then the intention of the Central Council that its rules and decisions should be binding on all associations in membership, and there was no suggestion of this in the 14 rules of the Council which followed hard on the objects.

What, then, has gone wrong—if anything? There seems to be a fundamental question which every ringer belonging to an affiliated association is called upon to answer. Do I owe allegiance through my ringing to God or to an association which can bind me with rules spiritually unsound? It cannot be too strongly emphasised that all ringers are baptised Christians and servants of the Church of Christ. We are given the privileged duty of using hallowed instruments which sound forth the Christian message on all occasions, not merely on Sundays. Our duty as change ringers is to try to give of our best at all times by applying our skill in perfection of striking, by accepting nothing but truth, by striving always to further our calling by diligent practice and faithful attendance in our towers for service ringing. Our guilds and associations do their utmost to foster these ideals, and the ringers in membership generally take a pride in their associations.

Peals are rung under the auspices of one association or another and those peals conform to standards laid down by the Central Council. Therein lies the danger. Most of the rules governing peals are readily acceptable, but some have no spiritual significance, e.g., the acceptance of methods on six bells and above having only Plain Bob lead ends. Should not the Council in making decisions of this nature consider very carefully whether it has the right to tell any ringer what he shall or shall not ring in a peal? If a band of ringers wished to ring a peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major for a patronal festival, has any association or the Central Council the right to say that it would not accept the peal? To do so would be to deny the Christian principles underlying all ringing, principles which both Council (vide object 2) and association are pledged to uphold.

If this article has shown that the Central Council has not altogether grown up in accordance with its objects, wherein lies the remedy? It might be suggested that the Council should exist more in the nature of an advisory body, as its constitution provides, and that affiliated societies should be free to adopt such of the Council's decisions as were thought fit. In this way the power of government would pass to bodies able to enforce it, and in direct touch with the ringers concerned. This would result in a lack of uniformity in regard to methods rung as between one association and another, but this does not matter; it is the spirit in which the ringing is carried out which really matters.

[Editorial Note.—The views and conclusions expressed in this thought-provoking article must not be accepted as those of the Standing Committee of the Central Council or as being subscribed to by the majority of the Council.]

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE TOUR

All peals rung for the Yorkshire Association.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Mon., Aug. 11, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD.

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in F.

MRS. W. H. DOBBIE Treble	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 5
WALTER H. DOBBIE 2	GEORGE KENWARD 6
*COLIN J. CHAMPION 3	ERIC NAYLOR 7
ROGER LEIGH 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Double Norwich. First peal in the method on the new bells.

OTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Mon., Aug. 11, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in F.

BETTY M. VIDLER Treble	ERNEST G. ORLAND 5
BRIAN G. WARWICK 2	THOMAS E. SONE 6
WINIFRED M. BURTON 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 7
REGINALD E. LAMBERT 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS Tenor

Composed by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

The conductor's 100th peal on tower bells.

ILKLEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Mon., Aug. 11, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. in E.

GEORGE KENWARD Treble	*JOHN M. STALLARD 5
GORDON BENFIELD 2	KILBY R. HOLTOM 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	S. GEOFFREY WATERS 7
FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. 4	ERIC NAYLOR Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER.

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' The conductor's 75th peal.

SKIPTON, YORKSHIRE.

On Tues., Aug. 12, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 17 lb. in E flat.

BETTY M. VIDLER Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE 5
WINIFRED M. BURTON 2	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK 3	S. GEOFFREY WATERS 7
THOMAS E. SONE 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

RIPON, YORKSHIRE.

On Wed., Aug. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND WILFRED,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 24 lb. in E flat.

BRIAN G. WARWICK Treble	ERNEST G. ORLAND 6
WINIFRED M. BURTON 2	RONALD H. DOVE 7
A. PATRICK CANNON 3	WALTER H. DOBBIE 8
THOMAS E. SONE 4	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 9
CLIFFORD A. BARRON 5	S. GEOFFREY WATERS Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

The first peal of Plain Bob Royal on the bells.

BIRSTWICH, YORKSHIRE.

On Wed., Aug. 13, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. in G.

*JOHN M. STALLARD Treble	COLIN J. CHAMPION 5
FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	GEORGE KENWARD 7
ROGER LEIGH 4	ERIC NAYLOR Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal in the method on the bells.

COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.

On Thurs., Aug. 14, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. in B flat.

FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. .. Treble	*ERNEST G. ORLAND 5
WALTER H. DOBBIE 2	THOMAS E. SONE 6
REGINALD E. LAMBERT 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 7
CLIFFORD A. BARRON 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal of Superlative. First peal in the method on the bells.

WETHERBY, YORKSHIRE.

On Thurs., Aug. 14, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. in G.

ERIC NAYLOR Treble	ROGER LEIGH 5
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 2	GEORGE KENWARD .. 6
KILBY R. HOLTON 3	*BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Double Norwich. First peal in the method on the bells. The conductor's 50th peal in the method, conducted 31, rung in 50 different towers.

HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS

Tenor 28 cwt. 14 lb. in D.

*WINIFRED M. BURTON .. Treble	RONALD H. DOVE 7
†BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	†ERNEST G. ORLAND .. 8
*ERIC NAYLOR 3	HAROLD WALKER 9
THOMAS E. SONE 4	*BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. 10
ROY BETTLELEY-COOKE .. 5	*S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. 11
‡CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 6	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal of Treble Twelve. † First peal of Treble Twelve on tower bells. ‡ First peal on twelve bells. This is the first peal on the twelve bells since being recast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. Mr. T. E. Sone's 300th peal as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Aug. 7, 1952, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE BLESSED VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 29½ cwt. in C sharp.

*BETTY GRIFFITHS Treble	PETER E. PARRY 6
*SHIRLEY GOLDING .. 2	DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD 7
FREDK. H. BIRKS 3	WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 8
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 4	BRIAN HARRIS 9
J. BENJAMIN BUDD .. 5	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

* First peal on ten.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 22 cwt. 23 lb. in E flat.

ARTHUR H. REED Treble	*RONALD D. SHORT 6
*MRS. H. L. PARFREY .. 2	WILLIAM G. GIGG 7
*HAROLD L. PARFREY .. 3	†PHILIP W. WEEKS 8
GEORGE PRESCOTT .. 4	ROGER O. FRY 9
HARRY J. GAYLARD .. 5	KENNETH F. MEDWAY .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Caters. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung as an eightieth birthday compliment to Mr. Jack Pugsley, the local towermaster.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 18, 1952, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR*

Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lb.

*JOHN A. RODEN Treble	RODERICK J. LEES 5
STANLEY PRESTIDGE .. 2	†HOWARD HOWELL 6
J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 3	WILLIAM DAVIES 7
†ERNEST STITCH 4	MAURICE G. TURNER .. Tenor

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

* First peal of Major. † 400th peal. First peal in the method as conductor. The quarterly peal for the Guild. In memoriam John Goodman, a former Ringing Master of this Guild.

ELTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.	Tenor 10 cwt. 24 lb. in G.
CORALIE J. SMITH Treble	FREDK. J. HURRELL .. 5
GEOFFREY W. ASHDOWN .. 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER .. 6
JOHN E. LYDDIARD 3	GEORGE H. DAYNES .. 7
WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS .. 4	JAMES HURRELL Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. DAYNES.

Rung as a compliment and to commemorate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. James Hurrell; also to Joan Mary Daynes, granddaughter of the conductor, who was married on July 12th to Mr. Gordon J. Wall at Keston Parish Church. The conductor was 82 years of age on July 6th, 1952.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 28, 1952, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PAINSWICK COLLEGE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

J. BENJAMIN BUDD Treble	PETER E. PARRY 5
DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD 2	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 6
PERCY SWINDLEY 3	R. GORDON CORBY .. 7
ROGER B. MORRIS 4	BRIAN HARRIS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

First peal in the method on the bells, for the Guild and by all the band.

MALPAS, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 31, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E.

BRIAN HARRIS Treble	*ROGER B. MORRIS 5
*BERNARD R. MILLWARD 2	DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD 6
PETER E. PARRY 3	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 7
J. BENJAMIN BUDD .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

* First peal of Plain Bob Major. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. P. Swindley.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs. July 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5184 MAULDEN SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS .. Treble	LEONARD H. BOWLER .. 5
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 2	JOHN R. MAYNE 6
ANN B. SPEED 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

First peal in the method by all except the ringer of the 2nd. A birthday compliment to R. F. B. Speed.

PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 9, 1952, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 16 cwt.

J. DOUGLAS B. LEYLAND .. Treble	A. EDWARD REEVES .. 5
G. ARTHUR BELL 2	†REV. R. D. ST. J. SMITH 6
*VERNON G. ECKERSALL .. 3	FRANK REYNOLDS .. 7
FRANK J. MAUDE 4	ARTHUR LEIGHTON .. Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by REV. R. D. ST. J. SMITH.

* First peal. † First peal of Bob Triples. A compliment to V. G. Eckersall on his recent marriage.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Aug. 13, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE Treble	HUBERT E. ASHLEY .. 5
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	E. ALAN JACQUES .. 6
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 7
*S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 4	WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLB.

* First peal in the method.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs. Aug. 14, 1952, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

STANLEY H. WALLIS Treble	RONALD J. SHARP 5
JOHN G. GIPSON 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS 6
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN 3	PETER BORDER 7
ANDREW C. SINFIELD 4	BRYAN F. SIMS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by BRYAN F. SIMS.

FRINDSBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 15, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 16 cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB .. Treble	VICTOR A. JARRETT .. 5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL 2	CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 6
†PETER F. BORER 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 7
THOMAS E. TAYLOR .. 4	†TERANCE E. MANSER .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal in the method and on a working bell. ‡ First peal.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 7½ cwt.

PERCY J. SPICE Treble	*REGINALD P. CRUMP .. 5
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS .. 2	†A. RONALD LING .. 6
HILDA OAKSHETT 3	THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 7
MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT .. 4	MRS. T. H. FRANCIS .. Tenor

Conducted by A. RONALD LING.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method and as conductor.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

*JUNE STARLING Treble	HENRY PRATT 5
PETER WOOD 2	JOHN WARNER 6
GEORGE SAUNDERS 3	STANLEY BONES 7
*JOHN LEEMING 4	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

* First peal of Major. The ringer of the 3rd has 'circled the tower.' Rung in honour of the feast of the falling asleep of the Blessed Virgin.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CASSIAN,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 23 lb. in F.

ALFRED W. GLAZZARD .. Treble	*EDWARD V. RODENHURST 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 2	J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 6
GERALD BOWEN 3	MAURICE G. TURNER .. 7
ALFRED C. BOXLEY 4	HOWARD HOWELL Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* 50th peal of Plain Bob Major. Rung for the 38th wedding anniversary of Mr. William Jones, of Chaddesley Corbett.

LAMBOURN, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's. Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

STANLEY G. DAY Treble	REGINALD W. REX 5
ALBERT DISERENS 2	FREDK. E. COLLINS .. 6
RONALD F. DISERENS .. 3	*JOHN HILL 7
NOEL J. DISERENS 4	WILFRED WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* 100th peal. The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

LLANFRECHEFA, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 7½ cwt.

JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. Treble	*REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS.. 5
*DONALD G. CLARKE .. 2	*ERIC SUTTON 6
†JAMES L. FITZGERALD .. 3	JACK R. WORRALL 7
*YVONNE C. PORTER .. 4	DAVID S. VOSS Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

* First peal of Bob Triples. † First peal 'inside.' First peal of Bob Triples on the bells. A wedding compliment to Donald G. Thomas, B.A., and Jean M. Brinkworth, who were married at Llantarnam Church earlier the same day.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Aug. 21, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

*SUSAN JACKSON Treble	ALLEN MORGAN 5
WM. H. A. COMPTON .. 2	ALBERT E. HUMPHRIES .. 6
R. GEORGE MORRIS .. 3	REGINALD WOODYATT .. 7
GEORGE E. LARGE 4	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal (aged 15). In honour of Princess Margaret's 22nd birthday.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 23, 1952, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SYMONDS .. Treble	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 5
ARTHUR W. DAVIS 2	AUSTIN T. WINGATE .. 6
ALLEN MORGAN 3	LESLIE EVANS 7
FREDK. R. HARRIS 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

The first peal on the bells since being rehung by John Taylor and Co.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HOOLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 29, 1952, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 6½ cwt. in B flat.

*ROSELYN CREWE Treble	†BERNARD R. MILLWARD.. 4
BETTY GRIFFITHS 2	PETER E. PARRY 5
SHIRLEY GOLDING 3	BRIAN HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN HARRIS.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.



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**TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sun., Aug. 3, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

CLAUDIA A. HARDING .. Treble	ERNEST H. MASTIN .. 4
JOHN E. FOX 2	CECIL V. EBBERSON .. 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS .. 3	CLAUDE COUSINS .. Tenor

Conducted by CECIL V. EBBERSON.

CRADLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

*On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of St. Clement's Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob (seven methods).

*LESLIE EVANS Treble	GEORGE DAVIS 4
ROLAND LEWIS 2	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 5
C. WILLIAM NUTT 3	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED F. MORETON.

* 250th peal.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Wed., Aug. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,*

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.

*JOYCE ROTHWELL Treble	JAMES FERNLEY 4
*LESLEY GOSLING 2	BARRY CORBISHLEY .. 5
MRS. C. K. LEWIS 3	C. KENNETH LEWIS .. Tenor

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal.

CLEWER, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Fri., Aug. 8, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,*

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Comprising 21 extents each of Plain Bob (4 callings) and Grandsire (ten callings). Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb. in F.

DAVID H. PEARCE Treble	WILLIAM BUTLER 4
*MONICA HOWARD 2	JAMES BROOKS 5
GORDON C. HERD 3	ROYSTON P. PURCHASE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

* First peal 'inside.' The treble ringer has now 'circled the tower.'

TIBSHELF, DERBYSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

(North Notts District.)

*On Sat., Aug. 9, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,*

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob, three of Oxford and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

ARTHUR SMITHSON .. Treble	THOMAS RADFORD .. 4
*DOREEN ARMSTRONG .. 2	FRANK BRADLEY .. 5
†MARION BRADLEY .. 3	WILFRED RILEY .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Northampton Branch.)

*On Tues., Aug. 12, 1952, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,*

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight six-scores each of Fortune, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Old Bob, April Day and ten six-scores of Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOHN HARROLD Treble	ANTHONY J. BAKER .. 3
ALAN C. COZENS 2	KENNETH D. PERKINS .. 4
IVOR J. DICKIN Tenor	

Conducted by IVOR J. DICKIN.

First peal of Doubles on the bells. Average age 15 years and 6 months.



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RUSHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wed., Aug. 13, 1952, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, 15 callings. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.
DENNIS BERESFORD .. Treble | †CLIVE M. SMITH .. 4
*FRANCIS A. SEDGWICK .. 2 | PETER BERESFORD .. 5
WALTER J. COPE .. 3 | BRYAN E. CARSON .. Tenor

Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles 'inside.' † First peal in the method.
First peal in method as conductor.

RUMNEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE. LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 15, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.
*MARION J. DAVIES .. Treble | JACK R. WORRALL .. 4
*WILLIAM A. JERRETT .. 2 | †W. RICHARD SPEAKE .. 5
†RONALD C. LUCAS .. 3 | A. RYAN PRICE .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Minor.

CLAY CROSS, DERBYSHIRE. THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. (North Notts District.)

On Sat., Aug. 16, 1952, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Oxford and four extents of Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr.
PHILLIP J. EASTLAND .. Treble | THOMAS RADFORD .. 4
DOREEN ARMSTRONG .. 2 | FRANK BRADLEY .. 5
MARION BRADLEY .. 3 | ALBERT WHEELER .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

GAYWOOD, NORFOLK. THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. On Sun., Aug. 17, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, two callings. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.
HELEN BRAY (16) .. Treble | GEORGE H. MOORE (17) .. 4
MIRIAM HIGDON (17) .. 2 | DAVID HEIGHTON (17) .. 5
CYRIL COUSINS (19) .. 3 | JOHN S. BARNES (18) .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN S. BARNES.

First peal as conductor. Average age of band 17 years 11 months.
Believed to be the youngest band to ring a peal for the above Association.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Mon., Aug. 18, 1952, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.
ERNEST MORRIS .. Treble | WILLIAM THORNEY, JUN.. 4
HAROLD KILBY .. 2 | ARTHUR DEBENHAM .. 5
E. CHARLES TURNER 3 | W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON.. Tenor

Conducted by W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON.

First peal of Minor in this method by all the band except treble ringer.

GUILDFORD, SURREY. GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. On Fri., Aug. 22, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.
HENRY HUTTON .. Treble | T. MARK WHITE .. 4
AUDREY MORRISON .. 2 | *COLIN A. HOPPER .. 5
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON .. 3 | FREDK. A. MUNDAY .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. MUNDAY.

* First peal in more than one method. First peal of Minor as conductor. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS

NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 7 Minutes,
IN THE BELFERY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

ERIC NIXON .. 1-2 | MICHAEL SLANEY .. 5-6
FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 3-4 | CHARLES H. PAGE .. 7-8

Composed and Conducted by MICHAEL SLANEY.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of 3-4.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 8, 1952, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,
AT 29, HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

JOHN THOMAS .. 1-2 | JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS .. 3-4 | THOMAS W. LEWIS .. 7-8

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to T. W. Lewis.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA. THE NEW SOUTH WALES ASSOCIATION. On Tues., Aug. 12, 1952, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT 15, FIRST AVENUE, FIVE DOCK,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

WILLIAM M. ROWE .. 1-2 | *JOHN J. CUMMINS .. 5-6
THOMAS W. GOODYER .. 3-4 | PHILIP M. J. GRAY .. 7-8

Composed by J. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by PHILIP M. J. GRAY.

* First peal of Major 'inside.'

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS. THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. On Wed., Aug. 13, 1952, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT 53, LEYS ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 12 in F.

*ROBIN G. TURNER .. 1-2 | †MALCOLM KING .. 5-6
JOHN KING .. 3-4 | PATRICK I. CHAPMAN.. 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS.

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* 25th peal. † First peal on eight bells.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE. THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. On Thurs., Aug. 14, 1952, in 1 Hour and 55 Minutes,

AT BICONA, 325, PENNYGATE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor size 14 in C sharp.

*REV. G. N. HEATH .. 1-2 | CYRIL WANDER .. 3-4
STANLEY E. BENNETT .. 5-6

Conducted by CYRIL WANDER.

* First peal.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS. THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. On Thurs., Aug. 14, 1952, in 1 Hour and 29 Minutes,

AT 53, LEYS ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 8 in C.
PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 1-2 | ROBIN G. TURNER .. 3-4
JOHN KING .. 5-6

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. On Wed., Aug. 20, 1952, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,

IN THE BELFERY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

ERIC NIXON .. 1-2 | MICHAEL SLANEY .. 5-6
FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 3-4 | ERNEST C. S. TURNER .. 7-8

Composed and Conducted by MICHAEL SLANEY.

The composition contains the extent of the 7568's, 7856's and 5867's.
Also all the 65's and 56's at the course-ends.

APPLETON, BERKS.—On Aug. 10th, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: R. Holmes 1, F. Absolam (first quarter) 2, Miss F. Edgar 3, R. White 4, F. Messenger 5, F. White 6, H. C. White 7, G. Holifield (cond.) 8, F. A. White 9, F. White 10. Rung for the festival of St. Lawrence, patron of the church.

BRENT TOR, DEVON.—On Aug. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. C. Panter 1, J. Rich 2, Mrs. W. C. Panter 3, W. Boucher 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5. This church is 1,100ft. above sea level, the highest in Devon and the second highest in the country.

CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND.—At the Cathedral on Aug. 15th on the middle bells, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: E. A. Palmer 1, A. Hodgson 2, J. Boustead 3, J. Ling 4, J. B. V. Porter 5, A. Forsyth 6, J. Butterfield (cond.) 7, C. Lightning 8. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to J. W. Porter, who died August 4th, 1952.

CAYTHORPE, Lincs.—On July 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Mackears 1, C. L. Simcock 2, S. Whaley 3, G. Scott 4, H. Squires 5, L. Squires 6, John Cragg (cond.) 7, J. Pheasant 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. J. P. Paley, aged 92, who was buried at Teignmouth the same day. He was for many years captain of the St. Vincent's Society.

ELTHAM, LONDON.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss C. G. Smith 1, E. B. Crowder 2, J. Murrell 3, Miss M. Ashdown 4, F. W. Richardson 5, F. J. Murrell 6, G. W. Ashdown (cond.) 7, P. Rablah 8.

HARPOLE, NORTHANTS.—On Aug. 1st, 1,260 Doubles (120 April Day, 480 Plain Bob, 660 Grandsire): Miss J. Watson 1, M. Burt 2, M. Tomalin 3, W. Burt 4, H. Haynes (cond.) 5. First quarter in three methods for all except conductor.

QUARTER PEALS

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Aug. 17th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: D. M. Salisbury 1, A. J. Salisbury 2, F. R. Nicholls 3, J. R. G. Spicer 4, F. Warrington (cond.) 5, H. S. Peacock 6. First quarter Cambridge Minor 1 and 2.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On June 29th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: D. J. Parsons 1, G. A. Packham 2, B. W. White (cond.) 3, E. Lish 4, F. W. Parsons 5, R. Langridge 6, E. F. Packham 7, A. Ryman 8. First quarter in the method for all except the conductor. Rung for the patronal festival.—Also on Aug. 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. S. M. Longhurst 1, Miss M. Howell (first of Stedman) 2, Mrs. C. A. Cruttenden 3, E. Lish 4, F. W. Parsons 5, C. R. Longhurst 6, B. W. White (cond.) 7, F. E. Cruttenden 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect on the death of the Rev. Austin H. Balleine.

HUNTINGDON.—On Aug. 17th, at St. Mary's, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: M. Dyer (first quarter Major) 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, J. Smart (Horsham) 3, D. M. Salisbury 4, A. J. Salisbury 5, R. F. Baker 6, F. Warrington (cond.) 7, H. S. Peacock 8.

KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.—On Aug. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Halliwell (first quarter) 1, L. Townley 2, K. Clement 3, T. Haslam 4, T. J. Clement (cond.) 5, L. D. Clement 6, L. Pearson 7, S. Edmondson 8.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTS.—On Aug. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. C. Milnes (age 11) 1, F. C. Hooper (cond.) 2, C. F. Briggs 3, S. L. Barley 4, C. J. Copp (first quarter 'inside') 5, F. W. Midwinter 6. A birthday compliment to H.R.H. Princess Anne on her second birthday.

PEWSEY, WILTS.—On Aug. 15th, 1,260 Doubles (being 480 Reverse Canterbury, 600 Plain Bob and 180 Grandsire): Miss S. Faux (first quarter) 1, Miss J. Green 2, Miss B. Thompson 3, A. G. Williams (cond.) 4, P. Brown 5, P. Braund (first quarter) 6. First quarter in three methods for all.

ROCHDALE, LANCs.—At All Saints' (Hamer) on Aug. 8th, 1,260 Minor (being 540 Oxford Bob and 720 Kent Treble Bob): Beatrice Wood 1, K. Abbott 2, I. W. Taylor 3, Marjorie Leach 4, P. J. H. Hudson 5, J. Taylor 6. Rung on the eve of the wedding of Mr. J. A. Taylor to Miss E. Senior. First quarter in these two methods by all the band.

SOWTON, DEVON.—On Aug. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. White 1, D. Reeks 2, A. Gooding 3, J. Dunster 4, A. Tapley 5, F. Willmington 6, W. Reeks (cond.) 7, L. Burnett 8. Rung half-muffled after the memorial service to the late Rector (the Rev. H. Spencer).

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Thrift 1, Miss R. Bending 2, E. J. Runter (cond.) 3, W. Glover 4, G. Sollars 5, G. Andrews 6. Rung for the occasion of the dedication of the new east window (owing to late war damage) by the Bishop of Chelmsford.

STREATHAM, SURREY.—At St. Leonard's on Aug. 10th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: S. Howard 1, E. Miles 2, Mrs. C. J. Mathews 3, J. Chapman 4, T. Welbourne 5, G. Parsons 6, H. Barratt (first quarter in method) 7, J. Euston 8. A welcome to Mr. H. Barratt, on a visit from Minchinhampton, Glos.

WEST STOW, SUFFOLK.—On Aug. 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: E. Footer 1, A. G. Ballam 2, W. F. Rickwood 3, W. Stannard 4, E. A. Murrell 5, A. F. Ballam (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam H. W. Foulgar, of Great Barton.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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The Official Journal of the Central
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HOLIDAY COPIES

Will postal subscribers going on holiday please
send their temporary address to the Editor of
'The Ringing World' if they require their
copies forwarded to them. They should be
received on the Monday previous to the date
of issue.

The peal at Llanfrecfha,
Monmouthshire, on Aug.
16th, successfully completes

a trio of wedding peals on consecutive Satur-
days, in the Newport area. This last peal en-
abled Mr. Eric Sutton, of Bristol, who was a
guest at the wedding, to ring a peal at the
church where he learned to ring. Unfortunately
his tutor, Mr. Robert Smith, who is conva-
lescing from an attack of malaria, was unable
to ring.

Mr. E. Stitch and Mr. H. Howell rang their
400th peal together at Penn, Staffordshire, on
August 18th.

The half-yearly meeting of the Lincoln
Diocesan Guild will be held at Heydour on
September 6th and not at Grantham as pre-
viously stated.

Would the very young lady from Chester who
found her way up into the tower of St. Mary's,
Ilkeston, accept our apology for not being able
to give her a longer ring, as it was service time?
The conductor hopes she will inform the band
when she is paying another visit, as she handled
her bell very competently.

Susan Jackson, of Worcester, has rung her
first peal at the age of 15 by ringing the treble
to Plain Bob Major at Claines. She is a pupil
at the Worcester Girls' Grammar School, and
was taught to handle a bell by Mrs. Darmon
(née Jean Southerst) while she was teaching at
the same school. Susan has the makings of a
good ringer.

We regret to learn that Preb. E. V. Cox,
president of the Devon Guild, underwent a
major operation at Exeter Hospital on August
18th. The latest bulletin is that he is going on
satisfactorily, but it must be some time before
he can be fit for normal work again. His many
friends, we are sure, will sympathise with him
and send their good wishes for a speedy
recovery.

BELFRY GOSSIP

For the festival of St.
Bartholomew, a quarter
peal of Grandsire Doubles
was rung at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, on
August 20th, by five members of St. Bartholo-
mew's Hospital and the conductor. This is be-
lieved to be unique in hospital records. The
ringers were Dr. D. Cave 1, S/Nurse Judy
Midgley 2, S/Nurse Elizabeth Layton 3, Miss
R. L. Hopkins 4, J. Armstrong (cond.) 5, D.
Burton (student) 6. It was the first quarter in
the method for all except the 2nd ringer.

Mr. Albert Walker has accepted the invita-
tion of Mr. J. E. Spice to take a Birmingham
twelve-bell band to the opening of the new
tower at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on October
25th.

Will the tourist who rang in the peal at
Burnham on Tuesday, August 12th, please send
his address to Mr. George Gilbert, who will
post on his golden arm circlets that he left on
the hat peg. Also any members who require
postcards of Burnham tower.

Peals of Painswick College Bob Major are
relatively few. The Chester Diocesan Guild
have added this method to their ever-growing
list by the peal at Bulford, conducted by Mr.
Brian Harris on July 28th.

It is with pleasure that we publish this week
the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Eltham,
Kent, on July 19th, and called by Mr. George
H. Daynes shortly after his 82nd birthday. The
peal was 'the Original,' evidence of Mr.
Daynes' excellent memory.

The grand old man of Minehead, Somerset,
Mr. Jack Pugsley, the local captain, had his
80th birthday celebrated by a peal of Grandsire
Caters on the bells of St. Michael and All
Angels'. It was a compliment to the popularity
of Mr. Pugsley and the excellent 'go' of the
bells that many of the band who honoured the
occasion travelled a considerable distance.

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WEST SUSSEX YOUNG RINGERS' TOUR

'Societas Nobilis Campanariorum'

THIS high sounding title appeared at the head of the beautifully laid out programme of the tour organised by Norman J. Smith, of Chichester, and held from August 4th to 9th last. Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk and Hertfordshire were visited by a party of 20 odd youthful (and not so youthful) ringers from Chichester, Bosham, Itchingfield, Thakeham, Storrington, all in Sussex, Malvern (Worcs), Leicester, Catherington (Hants) and various towers in the neighbourhood of Newport, Mon. The majority travelled by cycle, with one car party and two motor-cyclists, and all assembled at Cambridge on the evening of Sunday, August 3rd.

Ringling on Monday began very appropriately at St. Benet's (6, 13 cwt.), the church at which Stedman is believed to have first taught his principle to the ringers. Ringling was preceded by the Sussex Association Office, which was kindly said for us by one of the Franciscan Fathers attached to the church. Some good ringling took place here before moving on to Great St. Andrew's, where the rather poor 'go' of the octave (10½ cwt.) was not conducive to good striking!

However, after lunch we were privileged to ring on the truly grand eight at the Roman Catholic Church (tenor 32 cwt.) which are the heaviest octave in the county. Despite a long draught of rope, some good striking was heard in the standard methods, and our 'tenor man,' Winnie Keys, was able to ring her heaviest tenor to date! Next came the pleasant six at Trumington (tenor 10 cwt.), where Miss Willers kindly met the party, and the equally good six (7 cwt.) at Stapleford with a welcome from Mr. Finch. There being a little spare time in the programme, a telephone call to the Vicar secured the use of the five at Little Shelford (10 cwt.) where the music of the bells acted as background to a tennis party at the Vicarage. Evening ringling was on the very fine heavy six (21 cwt.) at Chesterton.

MISSIONARY WORK

Tuesday saw us first at Bottisham, with its grand church and good ring of five (11 cwt.) on which various familiar and not so familiar Doubles methods were rung. It is hoped that the missionary work carried out here in conversation with the Vicar and a local lady will result in the vacant treble pit being filled! Next came the well-known town of Newmarket, where a visit was paid first to the tower of All Saints'. A little ringling on the eight (10½ cwt.) was quite sufficient, and it is hoped that recasting and re-hanging of these bells will not be long delayed. However, the grand six (21 cwt.) at St. Mary's, where we were cordially welcomed by the Vicar, amply compensated us, and after ringling, most of the party made use of the facilities of the Church Hall, kindly put at our disposal by the Vicar, for a picnic lunch.

During the short run to the next tower, Exning, the mother church of Newmarket, the expected rain arrived, and the period of ringling here was slightly extended in consequence. The bells are a fine five (14 cwt.) with a very long draught, but go well: ringling included a touch of New Doubles. At Fordham, the next tower, the Vicar said prayers in church before ringling on the six (17 cwt.); the tower became quite a familiar sight to the party, as it was passed on three occasions altogether!

Ringling followed at the grand recently-augmented six at St. James', Stretham (10 cwt.) before the short trip into Ely for an hour's ringling on the fine eight at St. Mary's (18 cwt.), where we were met by two local ringers, one of them, Marion Grain, late of Bosham. Methods rung here included Double Norwich and Cambridge, before the departure of the cyclists to the Youth Hostel at Witchford. During the evening a visit was paid to Sutton-in-the-Isle, where the Vicar had kindly given permission at short notice. The six here (16 cwt.) hang in a magnificent

tower, and ringling was preceded by an informal organ recital (during a search for the tower key) by our unofficial Chaplain, the Rev. George Smith, which was much enjoyed.

RANG ON HIS KNEES

The first tower on Wednesday was St. George's, Littleport, with its octave (18 cwt.) which are rung from a west gallery. The sallies were extremely low here, and this resulted in the writer being able to turn in the tenor to a course of Double Norwich literally 'on his knees'! Then came a long run across the Fens to Mildenhall, in Suffolk, where the ring of ten (16½ cwt.) in the fine, lofty tower was rung to various methods.

Following a quick lunch, a tactful talk with the churchwarden gained the use of the tuneful five at Freckenham for a short period, before a visit to the town of Isleham, which contains the heaviest ringable (?) five in the world (25 cwt.). The 'go' of these bells, which are tuned to the minor key, was such that ringling consisted of rounds and Plain Bob Minimus with tenor covering, and it is to be hoped that a full restoration may take place before any accident happens. Unfortunately the bells are clocked in the ordinary way by a paid chimier, and again we hope that this system of chiming will be discontinued before any of these fine bells are cracked.

On again past Fordham (!), the motor-cyclists and car found the cycles parked outside the church at Wicken, the tower of which proved to contain a ring of five (8 cwt.) reputed unringable. However, the Vicar, who was in church, readily gave permission for a ring, telling us that it was the first time the bells had been 'up' for nearly 30 years, and a good raise in peal followed. The bells went quite well, and ringling was enjoyed, to the surprise of the villagers, most of whom had never heard their bells rung. During the 'fall' the treble rope parted at the pulley, to the discomfort of the ringer. However, a bit of 'splicing' was successfully accomplished before going on to Wilburton, where we arrived rather late, and we must thank the Vicar and local captain for waiting for us, and apologise for our lateness. The last tower was Haddenham, nearby, where the fine six (16 cwt.) were rung to various Minor methods, and where we again received a welcome from the Vicar and local captain. Here the short organ recital followed the ringling! The evening was spent in handbell ringling at the hostel, to the evident pleasure of the other visitors.

AMERICAN SPECTATOR

On Thursday we again passed Fordham Church for the third and last time en route for Chippenham, where Marion had kindly arranged for us to ring. The six (14 cwt.) here, rung from the ground floor, were put to good use before a long run across rather dull countryside to the old town of Bury St. Edmunds. After lunch, the party first visited the grand Church of St. Mary with its heavy octave (28 cwt.) which, however, went well, and then the Norman tower of the Cathedral, only 150 yards down the road, where several local ringers met us. Quite a crowd of non-ringing visitors, including an American Serviceman, watched the ringling on the ten (30 cwt.), which included a course of Bob Royal.

Next came the cream of the whole week, a visit to the famous tower of Lavenham, where Mr. Stedman Symonds and his son met us with the kindly welcome accorded to all the many ringers who visit their tower. The beauty of these bells with their 'matchless tenor' (23 cwt.) is too well known to need further praise, and it need only be said that the ringling included a good touch of Double Norwich, during which the conductor became so engrossed in listening to the beautiful music that he almost missed a bob! Later, the mechanised party paid a visit to the nearby church of Long Melton, almost as fine as that at Lavenham, and

then joined the cyclists, who had meanwhile gone on to Naughton Mill Hostel, in ringling on the fine six (18 cwt.) at Monks Eleigh. There is no local band here at present, and we were welcomed by the Vicar, together with ringers from the nearby church of Preston; it is hoped that this fine ring may once again be heard every Sunday. Mr. Symonds joined the mechanised party at their hotel in Lavenham for a social hour with some good handbell ringling (including 720 Bob Minor).

MEMORY OF MARIA MARTEN

Friday's ringling began at Hadleigh, where we found that the heavy octave (28 cwt.) took quite a bit of ringling! Then on via Polstead (where the ill-fated Maria Marten met a sad end in the Red Barn!) to the magnificent church and tower of Stoke-by-Nayland, where a call on the Vicar gained permission for a ring on the heavy six (26 cwt.). After a few preliminary trials, during which we heard 3-2-1-6-5-4 instead of rounds, we discovered that the ropes fall in the order 1-2-3-6-4-5! Despite this, some good ringling, which included a course of Cambridge, took place before the run into Sudbury, with its three rings of eight.

The grand ring at All Saints' (26 cwt.) was visited after lunch and ringling was preceded by a pleasant ceremony at which the Ringing Master for the week presented a writing case to Norman, with thanks from all the party for his hard work in organising such a grand trip: the recipient suitably replied. St. Gregory's and St. Peter's (16 and 23 cwt. respectively) were also visited in the company of the local ringer who so kindly met us.

After tea we unfortunately had to say au revoir to Sam Harding and his passengers the Rev. George Smith and Anne Home, who were unable to stay longer with us. We thoroughly enjoyed having them on the tour and hope they will be able to come again next time. En route to Castle Hedingham Hostel, permission was obtained for a ring on the five at Wickham St. Paul, where again the Vicar welcomed us, and evening ringling was in the fine 16th century brick tower of St. Nicholas, Castle Hedingham, only a few yards from the hostel. Ringling on this grand six, with a very long draught of rope, was much enjoyed and methods up to Cambridge were rung. A social hour at the local hostelry and half an hour at the hostel with handbell ringling and refreshments followed, before the motor-cyclists left for their 'digs' at Halstead.

A WET FINISH

On the following morning, the writer, also, had to leave the party, to continue his holiday on the Norfolk broads. But he understands that everything went quite well on this last full day of the tour, apart from appalling weather, the worst of the whole week. Towers visited were Sible Hedingham (8), the light eight (11 cwt.) at Baintree, with an unusual belfry staircase, the equally light six (6 cwt.) at Rayne—very appropriate considering the weather—Much Hadham (13 cwt.) and Braughing (19 cwt.) in the evening. Some of the party snatched a ring at Standon after the failure of a peal attempt during the afternoon.

Before setting out for home on the Sunday, most of the party rang at Little Munden and Standon for service. As only a few minutes were available at Little Munden, an elaborate system of changing over ropes was quickly devised to enable all to 'snatch' the tower!

Everyone agreed that the week had been extremely enjoyable, thanks to the hard work of Norman Smith in making all the arrangements, and the party would like to thank most sincerely all the various incumbents for giving permission for the use of their bells (sometimes at only a few minutes' notice) and to the many local ringers who had everything in readiness and who met us at their various towers. A special word of thanks is due to Marion Grain for her advice re towers, etc., and to Mr. Symonds, at Lavenham.

(Continued on page 556)

THE ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS

By EDGAR C. SHEPHERD

FOREWORD

In the following brief account of the activities of The Society of St. Martin's Youths from 1755 to 1846 frequent reference is made to 'The Recollections of John Day,' a series of sketches published in 'The Bell News' in 1895. In all the written history of change ringing there is nothing quite so fascinating as the 'Recollections.' It is true that they have not the chronological exactitude of Jasper Snowden, the intriguing deductiveness and speculation of Trollope, or the mathematical limpidity of Arthur Heywood. But they have in perfection what all these other excellent writings lack to a degree, and that is a warmth and intimacy that brings the subjects of the sketches very close to us, and a simplicity of truth in the telling that presents the human virtues and failings of the characters in a sober and kindly light.

To attempt to provide a shortened version of John Day, therefore, would be an impertinence; to compete with him would be an essay doomed to failure. May these present papers serve to provide the broad outline of Birmingham ringing during the latter part of the 18th century and the first half of the 19th century, and so perhaps lead the reader to seek out John Day himself. The seeker will be greatly rewarded.

1.—THE ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS IN THE 18th CENTURY

THE earliest record of The St. Martin's Youths is that of a peal of Bob Major rung in the year 1755. There can be little doubt, however, that the Society was in existence at an earlier date. Old Joseph Neale rang on the bells at the Bull Ring before they were made into 10, and no doubt the St. Martin's men of those days were change ringers. But it does not seem likely that any peal was rung in the town before 1755. There is no trace of any such performance, and Neale himself was significantly silent on the subject.

In the 18th century Birmingham possessed three churches with rings of bells, St. Martin's, St. Philip's and St. John's. St. Martin's Church had been rebuilt and altered several times. As early as 1552 it had 'iij bells wt a clock and a chyme.' In 1682 the bells were made into six with a tenor 18 cwt., and later on two trebles were added. In the year 1758 Lester and Pack, of Whitechapel, supplied a ring of ten with a tenor of 36 cwt., and in 1772 Pack and Chapman added two trebles to make the twelve.

St. John's Church down by the River Rea was in existence in 1382. It was rebuilt in 1735 and a tower was added in 1762. Fourteen years later Robert Wells, of Aldbourne, supplied a ring of eight bells.

St. Philip's Church was erected between 1711 and 1715, and Joseph Smith of Edgbaston supplied one or two bells, and then, in 1727, a full octave. In 1750 these bells were replaced by a ring of ten, tenor 29 cwt., supplied by Thomas Lester.

Close to the town, but not at that time within its boundaries, was the fine Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul at Aston. The five bells mentioned in the inventory of 1552 were not augmented until the year 1775, when Pack and Chapman provided an octave. In 1814 the bells were made into ten.

THE FIRST PEAL

The first peal by The St. Martin's Youths, the Bob Major of 1775, was rung at St. Philip's Church. It was a 5,040, and it was rung by: John Thompson 1, Joseph Thompson 2, William Thompson 3, John Archer 4, Abraham Fletcher 5, Samuel Brooke 6, Humphrey Peck 7, Andrew

Peake and William Smith 8. No conductor is mentioned, but it is probable that Peake called the bobs.

Three years later the earliest known peal at St. Martin's was conducted by Andrew Peake. The method was Grandsire Caters, and the performance marked the beginning of a period of activity that brought The St. Martin's Youths the reputation of being one of the leading companies of ringers.

Shortly after this Andrew Peake left Birmingham for Shifnal, where he assisted in the formation of a good change ringing band, and where his name appears with that of Samuel Lawrence in a number of peals rung by the Albion Society of Shifnal. Peake was succeeded in Birmingham by John Archer, who called 6,210 Grandsire Caters in 1768. It was composed by Archer, but the figures, like so many of the early compositions, have been lost. Trollope expresses a doubt of the truth of the peal on the grounds that little was known of composition in the method at that date. But it is difficult to agree with this reasoning. Annable and Holt had already produced titum peals of Grandsire Caters, and John Martin of Leicester and Doubleday Crofts of Nottingham were both composing with confidence in the method near this time. There can therefore be small justification for casting doubt on Archer's figures.

Little is known of most of these early ringers, but among the band of 1768 there are one or two to whom attention may be drawn.

Thomas Hadley, who had taken part in the previous peal of Caters, is described as 'Esq.,' and this, together with the fact that he subscribed to 'The Clavis,' would seem to single him out as being of a somewhat superior social position. It is more than possible that he was the son of Humphrey Hadley, the clock and watch maker of Camp Hill, who made a parish clock for Solihull Church in 1724. If this is so, then Thomas was a clock maker in active business between 1780 and 1790.

Of the two new names in the peal of 1768, Phineas Smith later became conductor to the Society, while Daniel Veisey, a ringer with a good record, was a printer and copper engraver with a business in Moor Street. His firm made the elaborately engraved plate from which the Society printed its dinner invitations. This plate was subsequently lost, and John Hopkins spent much time in trying to recover it.

BLISTER ON THE TENOR

Joseph Neale, born in 1719, was the last survivor of the old band that rang at the Bull Ring when the octave was in the tower, and he, of course, was present when the bells were made into ten. In all probability it was from him that the story of the tenor came. It is said that when the bells were being hoisted into the tower someone noticed a large blister on the tenor, just above the soundbow. When this was broken a cavity, or hollow, about three inches by two, became apparent. There was, of course, great argument on the matter. Some wanted to send the bell back to the founders, but others argued that it would be better to hear its tone first. It was finally agreed to raise the bell to the tower, and, says Day, 'a fortunate thing it was, for I imagine there are few better bells of its weight.'

Joseph Neale died in 1812 in his ninety-third year.

In 1772 the bells at St. Martin's were made into twelve, and in the following year the Society scored 5,324 Grandsire Cinques, the third peal in the method to be rung outside London. Maximus did not follow very quickly

on the Cinques, but the next few years were far from inactive ones in Birmingham and the district. Bob Royal was rung at the Bull Ring, and the opening of the new rings at Aston and St. John's, in 1775 and 1776 respectively, brought fresh life to the Exercise. A band was formed at Aston, and at Deritend there was an increasing number of younger men, able to train and gain experience on this handy ring without the embarrassment of the weighty bells at St. Martin's and unhampered by the prejudices of some of the older hands.

On October 25th, 1779, The St. Martin's Youths rang their first peal of Maximus. The method was Plain Bob, and it was the first peal of Bob Maximus to be rung outside London. Phineas Smith was the composer and conductor, and the band included Thomas Hadley, Daniel Veisey, James Dovey and John Bristow, together with some of the younger men from St. John's. James Dovey was well known in the Stourbridge district, and John Bristow is notable as having rung in the 7,326 Grandsire Caters at All Saints', Worcester, that remarkable peal where the clapper fell out of the tenor just as the bells came into rounds.

The years following 1779 saw the performance of a number of peals, Bob Royal at Coventry, Oxford Treble Bob Royal at the Bull Ring, and Bob Major at Bewdley. Throughout this period the younger men were gradually replacing the old hands, and Charles Shuter was taking the place of Phineas Smith as conductor.

The year 1786 was notable in more ways than one. It was the year in which Samuel Lawrence came to Birmingham, and it also saw the visit of The College Youths to the Midland town. Both events were of importance, Lawrence's advent in its immediate effect on Birmingham ringing, and the visit of The College Youths in its influence on the destiny of that distinguished society.

WEIGHED 32 STONE

Samuel Lawrence was a native of Shifnal, where he did his early ringing with The Albion Society in company with Andrew Peake, who had left Birmingham some years before. Lawrence was a farrier and must have been well-to-do, for he travelled the country a good deal. At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, in 1788, he took part in the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung, and he was in the two Birmingham peals of 1820. He was said to be the second heaviest man in England, weighing some 32 stone, and old Elvins, the carpenter, who assisted at the hanging of Dudley bells in 1819, used to say that when he saw the great man strip for ringing he was amazed at the sight. He never saw such arms, 'they were as thick as a child's body.'

The staircase at Dudley is rather narrow, and Lawrence had great difficulty in squeezing himself through. 'But,' said Elvins, 'it took three men to get him down, one to push, one to pull and Lawrence in the middle.' In after years the old carpenter used to say to John Day, 'Ah, John! It is a pity that such men as Sam Lawrence should ever die.' Lawrence's death in 1825 was the result of his falling as he was climbing into his chaise. The chair he was using as a step broke under him, and he fell, breaking his thigh. Owing to his great weight the bone could not be set. Mortification set in and he died. He was buried in Shifnal churchyard, where his grave may be seen near the belfry door.

The year that Lawrence came to Birmingham was made notable by the visit of 'The College Youths.' The following account of this disastrous trip was written by J. A. Trollope in 'The Ringing World' of June 28th, 1940.

'The party was made up from both companies into which for 30 years the Society had been split, and this visit was an attempt to reunite the two sections into one.'

(Continued on next page)

THE ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS

(Continued from previous page)

'The London men arrived in Birmingham towards the end of October, 1786, and on the 24th twelve of them started at St. Martin's for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus. It was a first-class band, made up of some of the best ringers who have ever belonged to the Society of College Youths, including John Povey, who probably was conductor, John Reeves, Robert Patrick the bell founder, William Lyford, Joseph Holdsworth and Samuel Muggeridge. They rang for two hours, when the tenor clapper broke, and so the peal was lost. . . .

'Next day the damage at St. Martin's was put right, and the College Youths made another attempt for the peal. Outside, listening, was a young member of the Aston band, William Hassall by name, and in after years he used to talk about the ringing and say how excellent it was. All went well for nearly three hours and a half, and a peal seemed certain, when Muggeridge set the tenor and went and sat down, saying he was tired and would ring no more. He had been opposed to the fraternisation with the ancient society, and did not like ringing with some of its members, and some of the others in the band thought he had spoiled the peal purposely. A heated altercation ensued, during which William Jones, who had been outside listening, came into the belfry. He had been a prime mover in the scheme of joining the two companies into one, and when he heard what had happened, in his anger and excitement he pulled the treble rope so hard that the bell was thrown over, smashing the stay and ceasing itself, no one paying any attention to the flying rope.

'Thus the Birmingham visit, instead of being the means of healing the thirty-year-old schism in the Society of College Youths, proved a decisive factor in the break-up of the ancient branch.'

(To be continued)

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Eastern District at Selby

The quarterly meeting of the Yorkshire Association, Eastern District, was held in conjunction with the Selby and District Society at Selby on August 16th, when ringers were present from Beverley, Cottingham, Doncaster, Goole, Hemingbrough, Hesse, Howden, Liverpool, Pontefract, Pudsey, Ripon, Selby, Sutton-on-Hull and York. The ten bells were kept ringing till about 7.15, when ringing had to cease because of an open-air play being performed in a garden close to the Abbey.

The service in the Abbey was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. P. Kent, M.A.), who gave the address and was assisted by the Rev. T. H. Pattinson, curate.

Tea was served in the Corunna Cafe, followed by the business meeting, presided over by the vice-president, Mr. A. E. Sellers. Two new members were elected, Mr. C. Caborn, of Selby, and Mr. E. Edmondson, of Liverpool, the latter a life member. Howden was selected as the place of the next meeting, if possible on Nov. 29th. The usual votes of thanks were passed, and Mr. T. H. Foster, of Selby, welcomed the company to Selby.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Peals.—Prestwick 4s., Tibshelf 3s., Clay Cross 3s., Bexley 7s. 6d.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AD GLORIAM DEO

Dear Sir,—It was very gratifying to see that a peal was recorded in your issue of August 15th at the nearby parish to mine of Stoulton, which was rung 'Ad Gloriam Deo.' Surely all peals should be rung to the glory of God, whether in honour of granfer's 90th birthday or the tenor ringer's first son and heir. I was pleased to see this simple reason for ringing a peal on Stoulton's lovely ring of six.

I'm surprised, Mr. Editor, that you and 'The Ringing World' come in for some criticism over the contents of this weekly journal. My own impression is that it is a newsy little paper for those interested in campanology, and I must record my admiration of your leading article each week. Some of these from time to time have been extremely well written and worthy of wider circulation among church people generally, for they have emphasised so clearly that the bell ringer is a church worker in every sense of the word, and that whether it is Sunday service ringing or the peal of Stedman or Norwich, it is, all of it, Ad Gloriam Deo.—Yours truly,

F. C. CHAMPION (Rev.).

Hinton-on-the-Green Rectory,
Evesham.

PROGRESS AT TIBSHELF

Dear Sir,—Miss D. Armstrong, of Tibshelf, Derbys, who did not start ringing until Jan. 7th, 1952, rang her first 720 Plain Hunting on March 4th and her first quarter 'inside' Plain Bob on May 13th. On August 9th at Tibshelf, in 2 hours 50 minutes, she rang her first peal at the first attempt 'inside' to Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob. A week later, on August 16th at Clay Cross, Derbys, she again rang the 2nd to 5,040 Oxford and Kent in 2 hours 44 minutes. In both peals stood Miss M. Bradley, of Blackwell tower, who had previously only rung the treble to one peal.

These two young ladies are also learning handbells and both have rung plain course Plain Bob Minor—Marion 1-2, Doreen 5-6, with yours truly in the middle. This handbell ringing started from scratch on July 2nd.

How's that for progress!

Yours faithfully,

F. BRADLEY.

Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

THANK YOU, DEVON AND CORNWALL

Dear Sir,—Having just returned from my holidays in Cornwall, may I, through your columns, thank all those ringers in Cornwall and over the border in Devon, 'scientific' and otherwise, who have made me so welcome and have contributed so much to my happiness? To mention all individually would be almost impossible, but to Mr. P. Williams (captain of the Redruth band) and his wife go my very special thanks. For the fourth successive summer, thank you, Devon and Cornwall.—Yours sincerely,

E. T. P. FIELD.

Buckland Newton, Dorset.

STEDMAN DOUBLES

Dear Sir,—In the letter from Mr. G. E. Symonds which was published in 'The Ringing World' on July 25th, it is stated that each six-score of Stedman Doubles (with the starts as indicated) can be called ten different ways. Are there not fifteen different ways of calling six-scores of Stedman Doubles?—Yours faithfully,

H. MILES.

Carbis Bay, Cornwall.

KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Worrall, the Oxford and Kent compositions of Treble Bob with Bobs and Oxford at other leads besides the third is called Worcester variation. The composition with bobs and Oxford only at thirds is termed the Ilkeston variation of Spliced. Mixed or Combined Treble Bob, whichever you may think fit. To my idea it is the same whether they are mixed or joined together.

As for changing to Oxford when the treble is in 3-4 it is a change of method and I consider it is far more interesting than changing at the lead ends. For the benefit derived from changing there you may as well not change at all because you get the same score.

By changing in 3-4 you keep the tenors out of the slow, and also returning up behind. You get the tenors dodging at the Wrong and Home and also the Middle much the same. What can you wish for better than that? Do we not like to hear the tenors dodging at the back? What is nicer than having 6, 7, 8, 9, 0 come rolling up at the course end and having a three pull dodge and also having a couple of bobs at Wrong previously? The idea is to keep the tenors out of the slow and to get them up behind again and by doing so we use the Oxford at third lead.

My advice is if you are going in for composition do your best to get 4 and 6 extents in 5-6 and plenty of dodging with the tenors with the bell at the Wrong keeping off the tenors. Then listen. With best of luck.

E. C. GOBEY.

Ilkeston.

[Editorial note.—There was a misprint in the letter on this subject on page 539. It was the Suffolk Guild and not the Sussex Guild which attempted the three variations. The error is regretted.—Editor.]

STAMINA

Dear Sir,—While in a pub at Chesterfield listening to that grand ten, I am reminded that Mr. Ben Knights worked from 6 a.m. on Friday, January 19th, 1906, continuously till Saturday noon of January 20th with breaks only for meals. Without sleep or rest and after a considerable walk, he rang North Wingfield tenor to 7,328 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 4 hours 26 minutes. The performance might be of interest to Mr. Jack R. Worrall. (See Belfry Gossip, August 15th.)

J. T. D.

ONE-HAND CLOCKS

Dear Sir,—With reference to the recent correspondence on 'one-handed clocks,' there is one at Long Stratton, Norfolk, which has not yet been mentioned. According to 'The Norfolk Magazine,' Vol. 5, No. 3, page 6, this clock was installed in 1722 and was put in working order in 1950, after being idle for some years.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN S. BARNES.

Caston, Norfolk.

St. Mary's, Scarborough

For three months the bells of St. Mary's, Scarborough, will be silent. They are to be provided with new clappers and new fittings. These bells were hung in 1851 after two of them had been on view at the Great Exhibition. The dedication was in December, 1852. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have promised to have the bells rehung by December, and it is hoped to rededicate them exactly 100 years after they were first dedicated. In the meantime St. Mary's will not be altogether silent. The firm is to lend the church a 7 cwt. bell which will be tolled for Communion and other services.

FOR BEGINNERS—AND A WORD TO THE OLDER HANDS

IX.—FROM KENT TO OXFORD TREBLE BOB

One of the first Treble Bob methods was Oxford. It came into being long before Kent, which, when it was first introduced, was known as 'New' Treble Bob.

Oxford, especially on the higher numbers, is not, in these days, rung anything like as frequently as is Kent, but in six-bell ringing it forms a very useful contribution to the seven-method peal, which is the least that six-bell ringers should aim at.

To those who can ring Kent Treble Bob, the Oxford method is comparatively easy to learn. Actually it is merely a reversal of the bells in 3-4. Here are figures (at the first lead of the treble) which will show this:—

Kent	Oxford
231546	241536
213456	214356
123465	123465
214356	213456
124365	124365
142635	142635
412653	416253
146235	416235
416253	412653
461523	421563

The reversal of the bells in 3-4, however, leads to some essential differences in the work, but first of all let us look at the similarity of the two methods. All the dodging is precisely the same (though not always in corresponding places, with the same bells). There is also a 'slow' work common to both methods—the whole pull at lead and 2nds place alternately from the time the treble leaves the front until it returns—and this slow work is done by the bells in the same order.

Another important point in the relationship of the two methods from the conductor's point of view is that the compositions of one method run true to the other.

And now the differences in the work of the method.

In KENT we had this:—

Pass the treble in 2-3, make 3rds and 4ths and go up.

Dodge with the treble in 1-2, coming out of 'slow,' make 3rds and 4ths and go up.

In OXFORD each of these bells makes 4ths only and goes back to lead.

Pass the treble in 2-3, make 4ths and go down into the 'slow.'

Dodge with the treble in 1-2, make 4ths and go down to lead.

In KENT, after passing the treble in 4-5 or dodging in 5-6 up with the treble, make 4ths and 3rds on the way down.

In OXFORD both these bells make 3rds only and go back up to dodge in 5-6.

Briefly, the two bells going up make 4ths and go back; the two bells going down after the treble make 3rds and go up.

A bob in Oxford Treble Bob causes both the 3rds places to be made by the same bell, but with a 4ths place (the actual bob) between. Thus the bell that has to make the bob dodges in 5-6 up with treble, follows it down, makes 3rds, 4ths and 3rds (a whole pull in each place) and goes up in front of the treble. It comes into the 'slow' work the next lead.

The conductor should note that, while in Kent the bell that is going into the 'slow' comes down behind the treble, in Oxford the next bell to go into the 'slow' is the bell that comes down IN FRONT of the treble. That is important to remember when he is calling from a non-observation bell.

Touches of Oxford can be called like touches of Kent, and here is another 720 which will go to either method, without bringing the 'tenors' (5 and 6) up the wrong way at a lead end; in other words, whenever they are together when the treble leads they strike in their natural order, 5-6, at backstroke.

Last week's 720 was: Call the 6th IN, Out and In three times. The other 720 is: Call the 5th Out, In and Out three times. If, for this latter, you want to make the 6th the observation bell, you can do so by calling it to make the bob in the first course, and then call it twice Wrong (successive leads) in the 2nd course; and repeat twice.

The bell that makes the bob in Oxford is the one that dodged in 5-6 up with the treble and the call can be made as it strikes its first blow in 3rds place. Contrary to Kent, in which the places are made the 'wrong' way (backstroke and handstroke), the places in Oxford are made the 'right' way (handstroke and backstroke).

To call a bell 'Wrong' in Oxford or Kent Treble Bob causes it to have an extra double dodge in 5-6 up, and the call comes in the lead when the bell has dodged in 3-4 up with the treble.

OUTINGS

CLEWER

A good day's tour around Cambridge was enjoyed by ringers from Clewer, Farnham Royal, Windsor, Old Windsor, Slough, Hampton, Stanwell and Sunbury, those from the last three towers arriving in Windsor on bicycles before 7 a.m.

After a short break for refreshment the first tower, Hitchin, was reached on time. This fine ring was soon set going in rounds, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and Spliced Plain and Little Bob.

The next stop was Godmanchester and the hard-going bells there were soon ringing in rounds, Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich. Then came St. Mary's, Huntingdon, where ringing ranged from rounds to Double Norwich, including a musical touch of Oxford Bob Triples.

A good lunch was had by all in a convenient field just off the main road to St. Ives, where was the next tower. The long draught here did not appeal to some of the less experienced, nevertheless a variety of methods, including Duffield, was rung.

En route to St. Benet's, Cambridge, the majority in the coach were gently lulled to sleep on the way by sweet music from two mouthorgans, an accordion and a banjo. At Benet's, the usual methods were rung and the only touch of Surprise during the day, Spliced London and Cambridge. The bells were then rung down and everyone moved off to tea.

After a good tea, Royston was reached a few minutes late. Due to an error in the time-table the ringing here had to be cut down and the visitors left for the last tower, Baldock. Methods rung here included St. Clement's Major.

The run home was broken at a convenient hostelry where tune ringing was enjoyed by all present. Midnight saw the coach in Windsor from where a few had a long ride home.

Methods rung on handbells during the day included: Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Spliced Plain, Little and St. Clement's Minor, Plain Bob, Duffield, Spliced Plain, Little and St. Clement's, and Spliced Grandsire and Original Major. Grandsire Caters and various irregular Minor methods.

Many thanks are extended to all those who made such an enjoyable day possible.

HOVINGHAM, YORKS

A townsman will often say to a countryman, 'What do you find to do in the country?' To anyone asking me this I should reply, 'Well, just come to Hovingham and try fixing a date for our bellringers' outing.' Yes, it is quite a problem. Eventually it was decided that July 19th should be the day.

Accompanied by good friends and good weather, we were off to an early start and arrived at West Tanfield by 9.30 a.m. Here we had an enjoyable sojourn, but whether it was due to the early time of day or to other causes it certainly was not our best ring of the tour. Mid-morning refreshments followed and we were delightfully entertained by four of our team going through a plain course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells.

From Tanfield we proceeded through the hay country by way of Middleham and Leyburn and on to Aysgarth. For most of us this was our first visit to Aysgarth, and allowed plenty of time in our programme to see the falls, a most beautiful sight, before visiting the church. Here we were joined by members of the local team, who spent most of their lunch hour ringing with us, and it turned out to be a very sociable meeting.

In the Church of St. Andrew there is a grand set of six, the tenor being 11 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in F sharp. With two local members standing in, we rang touches of Bob Minor and then we went on to Stedman, Grandsire and St. Simon. Our ringing session went in quick time and with reluctance we rang the bells down. However, we were made very welcome at the Palmer Flatt Hotel, where our non-ringing friends had already had a good start in the bar.

After lunch we went far and wide. Our destination was Leeds, but by no means was it an easy task for our coach driver. Going over the hills by way of Hawes, Horton-in-Ribblesdale down to Settle, we encountered steep and narrow roads, the latter being to our disadvantage when we met another bus coming in the opposite direction. One of us had to give way and, I suppose, being the trespassers into their country, we were the ones to do the reversing.

We were behind schedule at Leeds, but having booked tea there was no delay and we were soon in the Empire enjoying a tip-top show. On the homeward run we stopped in York for drinks and supper. The Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Kearsley, who was a member of the party, thanked the organisers for a very good outing.

Speaking of next year, it has already been suggested that a trip to London would be favoured. If this is to be the case, I had better start now trying to fix the two days required for such an outing. R. M.

KING'S NORTON BELLS

Apropos the ring at King's Norton, a correspondent writes that one bell in this tower is dated 1641 and the others were cast by the Eayres of St. Neots and are dated between 1760 and 1761. According to North in his 'Church Bells of Leicestershire,' King's Norton once had a ring of ten given by William Foretry, but was reduced to eight owing to the strain on the tower. Only two peals of Major have been rung on these bells, which have a tenor weighing 21 cwt.

WEST SUSSEX TOUR

(Continued from page 553)

Methods rung during the week included Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Caters, Erin Doubles and Triples, April Day, St. Simon's and New Doubles, Bob Minor, Little Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles and Triples, St. Clement's Minor, Kent and Oxford Minor, Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich Major and Cambridge Minor and Major. Some 40 towers were visited and 845 steps climbed during the week. Roll on next time! P. N. B.

BELLS IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 538)

FROM time immemorial it has been the custom to ring the church bells when any royal personage or nobleman passed through or visited the place. A manuscript quoted by Brand (Smith's Berkeley MSS.) declares that:—

'Antient ceremonies used throughout the kingdom, continued from antiquity till the days of our last fathers, that whenever a nobleman or peer of the realm passed through any parish, all the bells were accustomed to be rung in honor of his person, and to give notice of the passage of such eminency.'

Churchwardens' accounts bear testimony of this custom, as, for instance, at Waltham Abbey:—

'1542. Item pd. for the ringing at the prince his coming, jd.'

Likewise at Marlow we read:—

'1592. Paid to John Black for mending the bells when the queen came to Bisham, js. vjd.'

St. John's, Stamford, records:—

'1635/6. It. for ringing wⁿ ye King (Charles I.) came throu ye town, 2s. 0d.'

And at Aylestone, Leicester, 1695/6, the Constable's accounts have:—

'To the Rings when his Majti Pass'd by Aileston upon his Progress, 1s. 0d.'

Thus we read of many such payments, but rarely do we read of ringers being paid for NOT ringing. The accounts of Lambeth, London, record such a payment when King Henry VIII. visited Lambeth in 1517/18, thus:—

'Item paid to the yema amyner flor defawt off the ryngynge off the bells at the Kyngs comynge, ijs. iiijd.'

HOLIDAY RINGING

Holidays were always the time for ringing, even as to-day. While our forefathers were content to just ring their own bells, the 'ramblers' and 'rovers' of to-day are not content unless they pull in 20 or 30 towers on a week's holiday tour!

Plough Monday (January 10th) was until recent times looked upon in rural districts as a holiday—the 'Plough Monday boys,' bedecked with scraps of ribbons and other finery, and one of them dressed as a 'moll,' danced in the streets and asked for money. The bells were rung in many parishes to mark this occasion.

In a somewhat similar way May Day was welcomed with many peals. The maypole, decked with flowers, round which the young people danced, stood on the village green. Charles Knight in 'Once Upon a Time,' page 152, writes:—

'The Puritans waged war with the maypoles, and indeed with all those indications of a full-hearted simplicity which were the echo of the universal harmony of nature. The maypoles never held up their heads after the Civil War.'

Indeed, so early as the year 1644 a Parliamentary Ordinance directed all maypoles to be removed by the constables of the parishes. A curious confirmation of this is furnished by the second ladder leading to the belfry at Castle Bytham, Lincs, upon which is cut these words:—

'This ware the may povel 1660.'

The day was not forgotten as is evidenced by many churchwardens' accounts. A typical example of this is at All Saints', Stamford:—

'1707. Expended on the Ringers on May day, 0.5.0.'

The treble bell at Balsham, Cambs, is said to have been broken in 1774 by people striking the bells on May morning (Dr. Raven's 'Church Bells of Cambridgeshire,' page 119).

SEED TIME AND HARVEST

At Rushden, Northants, it was formerly the custom to ring a bell at daybreak during 'seed time' to call the labourers to their work; so, too, the harvest bell was formerly—and still occasionally—rung early in the morning during harvest season to summon the reapers. At Moreton, also in Northants, the early morning bell, which was usually rung at 5 o'clock, rang an hour earlier, i.e., at 4 o'clock, at which hour also a bell was rung at Walgrave. It is also remembered at other places in the same county, as at Spratton, Wellingborough, etc. At Barrow-on-Humber, Lincs, the harvest bell was rung at daybreak, and again in the evening, as is learned from a copy of the 'Office and Duty of the Parish Clerk' preserved in the parish chest, dated 1713:—

'Item. He is to ring a Bell Every working day morning at Break of the day and Continue the ringing thereof until All Saints and also to ring a Bell Every Evening about the sunsetting until harvest be fully ended—which Bell are to begin to ring from the beginning of harvest.'

In an old survey in the same parish, preserved among church papers, we read:—

'The Clarke Receiveth from Every Cottager at Easter for Ringing the Day Bell and Night Bell in Harvest two pecks of wheat. . . .'

In several counties it was the custom to bring the last or 'harvest load' home decked with boughs of oak and ash. The farmer would then send some of his men to ring the bells, whilst others, riding on top of the load, would sing:—

'Harvest home! Harvest home!

The boughs they do shake, the bells they do ring,

So merrily we bring the harvest in, the harvest in!

So merrily we bring the harvest in.'

The custom of ringing the harvest bell at Driffeld, Yorks, was from time immemorial. The old octogenarian parish clerk, Mr. Johnson, faithfully carried out this duty every year with marked punctuality. The bell was rung mornings at 5 a.m. and evenings at 6 p.m. for one month. The bell was given 150 bats and, after a pause, one more in addition corresponding with the day of the month. In many 18th century Inclosure Acts for the East Riding of Yorkshire there is a clause which secures the sexton certain rights for ringing the 'harvest' or 'barley bell.'

In many Midland parishes as at Waltham-on-the-Wolds and Wymondham, Leics; Greeton, Slipton, Staverton, Northants; Ashwell, Impingham and Market Overton, Rutland, a bell, called the gleaning bell, was rung during harvest in the morning, and sometimes also in the evening giving warning that gleaning might commence and when it must close for the day. This was also observed at Gillingham, Aldeby, Norfolk; Tadmarton and Swalcliffe near Banbury, and Midsomer Norton and other places too numerous to mention. This was done that all—the old and feeble, as well as the young and active—might have a fair start.

'THE CHILDREN'S BREAKFASTS'

In South Warwickshire this bell was rung at 8 o'clock in the morning as a signal for the commencement of gleaning in order 'that the children's breakfasts be not neglected.' This custom was also observed in some parishes in Lincolnshire, where, however, it is remembered as a thing of the past in many other places. At Whittering, Northants, this notice was given by a woman ringing a handbell through the village: at Lyddington, Rutland, the clerk claimed a fee of a penny a week from women and big children; and at West Deeping, Lincs, the clerk made a similar claim of twopence from each gleaner—when they declined, the ringing ceased!

In connection with the harvest and gleaning bells it may be mentioned that there was formerly a bell rung at Louth when harvest on the 'Gatherums' was ripe. A piece of land so called was in former times cultivated for the benefit of the poor: when the 'pescods' were ripe a church bell was rung, which gave warning to the poor that the time had arrived when they might gather there—hence (it is said) gather'em or gatherum. The church books had the following and similar entries relating to this custom:—

'1536. Item for Knyllyng the bell in harvest for gatheringe of the pescods, iiijd.'

Among the appurtenances of the manor in past times were the Manor Mill or Manor Oven, to which the tenants were expected, if not obliged, to resort to grind their corn and to bake their bread. Early in the 14th century such an oven existed at Melton Mowbray, Leics; and so late as the middle of the 19th century Sir Matthew Lamb, the then Lord of the Manor, endeavoured to compel the inhabitants to bake their bread in that oven on the plea of feudal rights. Nichols describes it as being, in 1790, fourteen feet in diameter, and adds that Sir Matthew Lamb, having desisted from his claim, a rival baker had set up a new oven of even larger size. To give notice when the manor oven was heated and so ready for use, a man paraded the streets of Melton blowing a horn. The same custom was followed at Cranwell, Lincs, but in some parishes—as at Warkton, Northants, and at Welton, Lincs—one of the church bells was rung, called the 'oven bell.' This was also observed at Keyston, Hunts.

(To be continued)

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World' of Aug. 30th, 1912
DEATH OF MR. MATT. WOOD

A Famous London Ringer

How fast the veterans of the Exercise are disappearing. To-day it is our melancholy duty to record the death of Mr. Matthew A. Wood, which took place on Tuesday at his residence, Church Row, Bethnal Green. . . .

Had he lived to September 22nd he would have been 86 years of age. Mr. Wood had had a remarkable career as a ringer, having rung 380 peals in England, Ireland and Scotland. His first peal was one of Grandire Triples at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on February 18th, 1846.

[Mr. Wood, who had lived in the same house since 1829, was, said 'The Ringing World,'

... unquestionably one of the finest ringers who ever entered a belfry. With a reach that gave him splendid command of a bell, a strength that he knew how to use to the best advantage, an ear that enabled him to make every blow a good one, and an intellect that endowed him with power to ring without making mistakes, he possessed, in his prime, a combination of qualities seldom found to so marked a degree in any ringer.' Between his first peal in 1846 and his last in 1909, there was no year in which he failed to ring a peal. Among those in which he took part were the third peal of Superlative, in 1850; 7,524 of Stedman Cinques in 1851 and 8,580 in the same method in 1861, and 15,840 Treble Bob, the then record, at Bethnal Green in 1868. In 1872 he rang in the first peal in Ireland, at Waterford, and in the following year called the first peal in Scotland, Grandire Triples at Dundee. He took part in the first handbell peals of Stedman, Caters and Cinques ever rung, and in the first peal at St. Paul's Cathedral.

His grandfather, Francois Du Bois, a silk manufacturer in Lyons, was a Huguenot refugee who settled in Spitalfields and took up ringing, taking part in over 70 peals under his Anglicised name of Francis Wood, among them 10,200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch in 1777.

Mr. Wood's peal book came in possession of the then Bishop of London, Dr. Winnington-Ingram, who made reference to this at the College Youths centenary dinner.]

AS I REMEMBER THEM

We begin this series in the hope that older members of the Exercise will be encouraged to give their memories of men now passed on who left their mark on the Exercise, so that the younger members may get some idea of what manner of men they were.

W. H. BARBER

The first time I ever saw Bill Barber was in the famous Bull Ring Tower, where he was conducting Stedman Cinques in a masterly manner. He was about 28, and was the possessor of a rather fierce looking moustache, which struck awe into me as it bristled when Barber shouted his commands. He had by this time proved himself to be one of the leading conductors in the Exercise. He was the very first to conduct Carter's Odd Bob one-part, both on tower bells and handbells, and was very progressive in outlook. He was a bricklayer by trade and in due course migrated to Newcastle, where very soon he was extremely active.

Possibly some of our North Country ringers might like to give us a picture of his activities, which were over a period of 40 years in their territory. When I was in York at the outbreak of the first world war I again met Bill. He had gone, as I had, to renew acquaintance with the famous George Breed, one of London's finest heavy bell ringers, who had become a publican in York. We met in the smoke-room of his inn on the riverside and enjoyed some handbell ringing. Bill by this time was much more tolerant in his outlook, and had begun to develop that gentle manner which was to become so much more pronounced as the years went by. He was no longer a young man in a hurry, but patient to a degree with those who were not so quick in assimilating ringing knowledge. How much the Newcastle men owe to that patience and gentleness! He was always eager to encourage the enquiring youngster, and would be at great pains to make a point absolutely clear and understood. Bill was regular in his attendance at the Central Council's gatherings, and was always very popular.

About 30 years ago Albert Walker arranged a peal of Stedman Caters at Beverley Minster with Barber in the band. He at once volunteered to ring the 9th, and although by no means robust in physique, he rang it to perfection, placing it with such accuracy as to leave an undying impression on the minds of those taking part. Unfortunately, after over three hours' ringing the tenorman gave up, but Bill was eager for inclusion in the next attempt, eight years later when he again rang the 9th, but, alas, the tenorman on that occasion gave up in just over an hour. Bill Barber was frequently to be seen at the Johnson Dinner at Birmingham and was never very far away from Harry Withers—another genius, but of a different type from Bill.

After retirement from work he returned to his native Clent in Worcestershire, and was often to be seen in Birmingham at the Bull Ring, ringing Stedman Cinques in the same masterly style that I as a raw youngster had admired so much. In 1947 I had the great joy of ringing a peal of Stedman Cinques with him at Buckfast Abbey. He was now approaching 80 years of age, but rang the treble with the same sure touch.

Barber was one of the finest characters who has graced the Exercise and was truly loved by all who knew him. Whilst on a visit to some relatives at Sutton Coldfield he was suddenly called to higher service, and it was not until he had been buried in that town that the Exercise learned of its great loss. No ringers' tribute at the graveside could be paid, but this was remedied on the anniversary of his death, when some of his oldest friends travelled from London and the Midlands and paid their last respects to a dear departed brother. Amongst the travellers was E. Alex. Young, then in his 87th year, who brought with him a bunch of flowers picked that morning from his own garden, and laid them reverently on the grave. A simple act, but how much was conveyed by it!

J. F. S.

NEWS FROM MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

A Year of Encouraging Progress

The annual general meeting of the St. Paul's Cathedral Society, Melbourne, was held on July 30th in the tower. The Very Rev. Roscoe Wilson, Dean of Melbourne, presided, 16 members being present. Apologies for absence were received from the vice-captain, Mr. J. Spencer, and from Messrs. A. Bennett, W. Ford and G. Weston.

The treasurer's report and balance sheet were accepted, a slight decrease in funds being shown over the previous year.

In his first annual report, the captain (Mr. P. Gray) stated that the past year had been one of steady progress and hoped the progress would continue. Membership had increased to a substantial figure, partly due to three arrivals from England during the past six months in the persons of the Misses B. Beeson and V. Willard and Mr. D. Cornish.

He then went on to point out what a privilege the office of a ringer was, and how ringing added to the glory of our worship. Melbourne was very fortunate in having such a fine ring of twelve bells, and it was his aim to make full use of them by ringing Caters and Cinques as soon as the tenor, which at the present moment was undergoing repairs, had been restored.

At this juncture he paid tribute to the long years of valuable service Mr. J. Spencer had rendered to the Society, and expressed the Society's sincere regret that ill-health prevented Mr. Spencer from making regular attendance to ringing.

The captain concluded his report by saying that on practice nights ringing now finished a half-hour earlier, so that all members could have supper together and get to know each other better. This new venture had proved to be a great social success.

The Dean thanked Mr. Gray for his report and said how pleased he was with the progress of the Society and congratulated Mr. Gray on his fine leadership.

The election of officers for 1952-3 resulted as follows: Captain, Mr. P. Gray; vice-captain, Mr. J. Roper; hon. secretary, Miss B. Sheppard; hon. treasurer, Mrs. J. Gray; steeple-keeper, Mr. C. Billington; hon. librarian, Mr. J. Willis; auditor, Mr. F. Boughton.

Mr. J. Willis accorded a hearty vote of thanks to the Dean. The meeting was followed by supper.

The handbell peal of Little Bob Major at Derby on August 9th, reported on page 534, was the first handbell peal in the method by the Association, and not the first handbell peal for the Association.

The first recruits of the newly-formed company at Stisted, Essex, to score their first quarters are A. Syder and T. Earl. They are both 15 years of age and the test took place at Rayne. Congratulations to Mr. Albert Saunders, who can now begin to see some result from his hard work.

Errata: Peal of Plain Bob Minor. Huntingdon, July 30th (page 516), read Gordon Whitehead 3, John R. G. Spicer 4.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

SILVER WEDDING

GOODFELLOW—BAKER.—On Sept. 3rd, 1927, at St. John's, Hillingdon, Frederick William, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Goodfellow, of Hounslow, to Grace, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baker, of Hillingdon. Present address: Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks. 1225

HANDBELLS WANTED

OLD PEOPLE'S CLUB, 250 members, anxious try handbell ringing. Want purchase, loan, Set 13 (Tenor B 16, Treble top G, 4 with F flat and C, A, sharp). Anyone please help greatly appreciated.—Evergreen Club, 17, Cross Road, Southwick, Sussex. 1172

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

CHURCH BELLS AND OTHERS OF STIRLINGSHIRE AND KINROSS-SHIRE by Randal Clouston. 46 pages. 7 photographs. Reprinted from the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. 3s. post free from the author at Cookley Farm, Eye, Suffolk. 1191

COLLECTION OF PLAIN MAJOR METHODS (second edition), with Table of First Performances. Price 3s. From Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Herts.

MISCELLANEOUS

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Holborn, in September, cancelled owing to repairs.—T. J. Lock. 1236

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Monday, Sept. 1st, and each first Monday in month, practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge, 7.15 p.m. Advanced practice, Christ Church, Ealing Broadway, 30th, and each last Tuesday. 1224

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.—Will all ringers coming to the university (or associated colleges) this October please contact Miss H. Tesson, Sec., McAdam Staplehill, Wimborne, Dorset. 1243

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting. Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, August 30th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 1195

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge and Hunts Districts.—Joint meeting at Bourn, Saturday, August 30th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin and H. S. Peacock, Dis. Secs. 1196

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting due to be held at Haslemere, Aug. 30th, cancelled. In lieu there will be a meeting at Puttenham on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to R. Kenward, 7, Raymond Crescent, Dennisville, Guildford. 1207

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting. Ropley, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Look up York Minor 1166

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, August 30th, at Welland. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. followed by tea and business meeting. 1202

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Practice meeting at Moorlinch, Sept. 6th, 6.30–9 p.m.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 1223

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Priors Marston (6), Sept. 6th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Please notify early for tea. All welcome.—Miss H. Purkiss, 61, Deppers Bridge, Southam, Rugby. 1232

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Awliscombe, September 6th. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea not later than September 1st.—J. Arbury, 2, Paternoster Row, Ottery St. Mary. 1161

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Thorpe Bay (8), September 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and meeting. Further ringing after tea. Names for tea to Miss M. M. Smith, 82, Tyrone Road, Thorpe Bay. 1178

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Meeting, Chaceley, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea follows. All welcome.—J. Beech, Hon. Sec., 6, Abbey Terrace, Tewkesbury. 1227

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Send on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) from 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5.15 in Parish Room. Ockham bells (5) 3 p.m. onwards. Old Woking (8) 6 to 8 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. S. Strudwick, Eskholm, Potters Lane, Cartbridge, Woking, by Wednesday, Sept. 3rd.—W. Simmonds, Hon. Sec. 1234

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—A quarterly meeting at Tenbury on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30.—G. Randle. 1219

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Abbots Langley (6), September 6th, 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names to R. G. Bell, 131, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford. Tel. Watford 7936. 1194

HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting, Northowram (8), Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Cups of tea at 5 p.m. Please bring own food. Business meeting to follow and bells until 9 p.m. Frequent bus service from Halifax. 1210

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Sevenoaks (8) (not Cranbrook as originally intended), Sept. 6th, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea not later than Sept. 4th to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 1206

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Half-yearly meeting, Sept. 6th. Accrington bells 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Church Kirk 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Accrington. Tickets (2s. 6d.) obtainable, together with money, up to Saturday morning, Sept. 6th, from R. Lee, 321, Willows Lane, Accrington. 1235

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Half-yearly meeting, Heydour (not Grantham), Sept. 6th. Service 4.15 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Make own arrangements for food, cups of tea available. 1228

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting at Great Brickhill, Saturday, September 6th. Bells 2.30. Service 3.30. Names for tea by August 30th.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 1188

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting, Hinton Waldrist, September 6th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea, before September 3rd, to M. J. Pryor, 54, Marlborough Gardens, Faringdon. 1190

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practices at Sandhurst, Sept. 6th, and Warfield, Sept. 20th, 6 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 1209

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Long Buckby, Saturday, Sept. 6th. Names for tea should reach me before Sept. 3rd, please.—E. Orland, High Street, Long Buckby, Rugby. 1242

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting, Urchfont (8), Sept. 6th. Bells 3. Service and tea. Names to F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 1213

SALISBURY GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Cranborne on Sept. 6th. Ringing 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea for those who notify J. Davis, 109, Wimborne Road, Poole, by Sept. 3rd. Wimborne St. Giles' in the evening. 1213

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual silver cup contest at Treeton on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Draw at 2.45. Names for tea without fail to Mr. F. Hanson, 50, Wood Lane, Treeton, near Rotherham.—J. E. Turley, Hon. Sec. 1221

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Stanford-on-Soar, Saturday, September 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Please bring own food; cups of tea available.—S. Patricia M. Lewin. 1201

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Horsham (8), Saturday, Sept. 6th, 4 p.m. Tea for those who advise by Sept. 3rd.—G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley, Sussex. 1218

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Quarterly meeting at Oxenhope on Saturday, September 6th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.15 p.m. Tea (4s. 6d. per head) 5 p.m. for those who notify Mr. J. H. Cloughton, Lower Town, Oxenhope, Keighley. Special business: Election of new committee member; any nomination to be sent to the district secretary. Members please note these arrangements as no circulars will be issued.—A. E. Marsh, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1183

SALISBURY GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at South Perrott on Wednesday, Sept. 10th. Bells (6) available at 6.30 p.m., practice only.—C. H. Lathey. 1211

BARNLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual cup contest at Barnley, Sept. 13th, at 3 p.m. All entries and names for teas must reach me not later than Sept. 6th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnley. 1239

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Meeting, Ide, near Exeter (6), Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Aliphington (8) available 7–8.30 p.m. Names for Sept. 8th to F. Welford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 1220

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Meeting, Goldhanger (7), Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. H. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 1175

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Great Gaddesden (6), Saturday, Sept. 13th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Robinson, 7, Gade Valley Cottages, Great Gaddesden, near Hemel Hempstead, by Sept. 10th.—P. A. Martin, Dis. Sec. 1230

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Hunton (6), Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, near Maidstone. 1231

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting at Sapcote (6) on Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for all those who notify Mr. M. Brown, 57, Stanton Road, Sapcote, near Leicester, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 10th. Members please note—special business.—J. Staniforth, Hon. Sec. 1216

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Rainford Parish Church on Saturday, Sept. 13th. For tea send names to Mrs. Ball, The Golden Lion, Church Road, Rainford, before Wednesday, Sept. 10th. Branch practice at Ormskirk in September.—W. Farrimond and Julia M. Preston, Branch Secs. 1240

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Meeting at Ulceby, Sept. 13th. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Ulceby bells (5) available in the afternoon. Thornton Curtis (6) in the evening. Names for tea by Sept. 10th to Mr. E. Hair, Station Road, Ulceby. 1229

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Somerleyton, Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at Duke's Head 5.15. Names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, the very latest, if you please, to Mr. E. Brown, 19, St. Margaret's Cottages, Herringfleet, Lowestoft.—J. Harwood, Sec. 1214

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival in Rutland, Saturday, September 13th. Guild committee meets Market Overton Village Hall 3 p.m., Service, Parish Church, 4.15 p.m. Tea, Village Hall, 5 p.m. Social evening in Village Hall 8 p.m. Drinks and refreshments available. Bells available in all towers from 11 a.m. except Edith Weston which will be open from 12.30 to 2.30 p.m. and 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. Other towers: Whissendine, Barrowden, Uppingham, Market Overton, Cottesmore, Greet-ham, Langham, Preston, Exton, Empingham, Caldecote, Seaton. Names for tea must reach Mr. R. Scott, Coumb, Market Overton, Oakham, by Thursday, September 4th, please.—R. C. Noon, Hon. Sec. 1182

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Practice meeting at Winterslow (6), Sept. 13th. Bells from 3. Tea arranged for those who send names by Sept. 9th to A. Coleman, Rose Cottage, Middle Winterslow, near Salisbury. 1222

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Clive (6, 25 cwt.), Sept. 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Elephant and Castle, Gomshill, 5.30 p.m. Advise by Sept. 10th G. C. Bagley, 34, Wharfare, Ironbridge. 1238

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts Branch.—Meeting at Harthill (8), Saturday, Sept. 13th. Names for tea by 12th to Mr. J. Hynds, Harthill, near Sheffield.—H. Denman. 1226

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Meeting at Mortlake (8), Saturday, Sept. 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea; details next week.—R. Lathbury, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames. 1233

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual dinner will be held at Bollands, Eastgate, Chester, on Saturday, Oct. 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets 12s. 6d. (jun. 10s.). Please apply in good time.—J. Kingdon, 3, Grey Friars, Chester. 1241

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—The Jubilee Dinner will be held at East Grinstead on October 11th. Ringing from 4 p.m. Dinner at the Glanfield Hotel 6.30. Tickets 8s. Please apply with remittance, as soon as possible.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst. 1181

LADIES' GUILD DINNER.—Leicester, Oct. 25th. Price 12s. 6d. per ticket. Accommodation available at following hotels: Bell Hotel, Humberside Gate; George Hotel, The Haymarket; Wellington Hotel, Granby Street; Midland Hotel, Princess Road (non-licensed). Early application, together with remittance, should be made to Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester. Limited number only available. 1217

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary.—Annual dinner at Guildhall, Worcester, on Saturday, October 25th. Tickets (7s. 6d. each) shortly available and obtainable from secretaries.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeberrow, Evesham. 1192

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RAYNE, ESSEX.—On Aug. 5th. 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Syder (first quarter) 1, June Starling 2, Mrs. M. Moore 3, H. Moore (first quarter 'inside') 4, J. Leeming 5, R. Suckling (cond.) 6.—Also on Aug. 5th. 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. Earl (first quarter) 1, June Starling 2, Mrs. M. Moore 3, H. Moore 4, J. Leeming 5, R. Suckling (cond.) 6.

WALLINGFORD, BERKS.—On Aug. 15th. 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Holmes 1, R. White 2, F. Messenger 3, G. Holifield 4, H. C. White 5, F. White (first as cond.) 6, F. A. White 7, W. Tame 8.

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