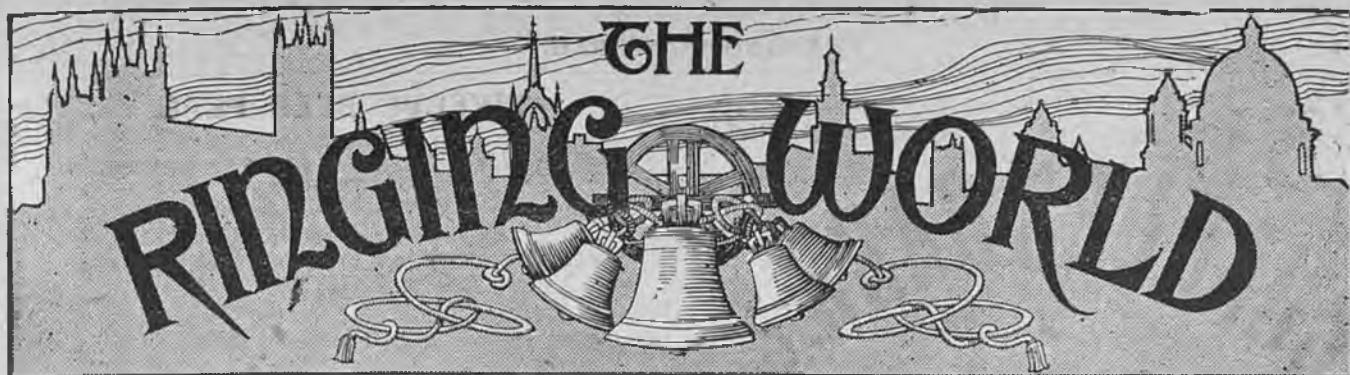




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FRIDAY, AUGUST 28th, 1925.

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THAT NEEDED REGISTER.

Recent correspondence once more emphasises the need there is for the Central Council to set up a register of peal compositions and of methods. For a long time past we have pointed out how important it is that there should be reference files of these two things, and the Central Council's archives is the place where they should be found. Continually we are having disputes as to the authorship of peals, and this will go on to the end of time, unless there is in existence an official collection of compositions to which one can turn and say authoritatively whether a new claim to originality can stand. Indeed, the present unsatisfactory state of affairs will almost assuredly increase with the years if something be not done. A man may, perfectly genuinely, obtain what he believes, with the limited means of investigation at his disposal, to be a new composition; it may even be rung and accepted as his, and yet the same figures may have been put on paper years ago by one of the old masters, or by some lesser light of the Exercise. As Mr. Symonds points out this week, these supposedly new-found compositions, published as the product of a present-day ringer, may be robbing an earlier composer of the honour due to him, and yet the man who has now evolved what he considers something original may feel justified in his claim, because, having searched all the available material, he can find nothing which can be called the same as his own figures. That is because of the lack of anything like an exhaustive collection of compositions.

The task of providing this register is obviously one for the Council. The difficulty with most of these things, as we pointed out in another connection last week, is to find the right man, with the right qualifications and with the necessary leisure. Hitherto the Council, when entering upon matters of this kind, has generally confined its search to its own members, but there is no reason why they should not go outside their own ranks and enlist, if possible, the services of one or two of the many enthusiastic young men now gradually making their names in the Exercise. They would doubtless, in the interests of the art on which they are so keen, be ready to give their help. Among the rising generation there are ringers as brilliant as any who have gone before them, and if the work of the Council is not to be handicapped and circumscribed, it will be necessary to go outside the ranks of the members to find the necessary men to undertake the tasks which are calling, some of them almost urgently, for attention. And, after all, if it is essential that those who work in such capacity for the Council should be in touch with it as members, there is always the remedy of enlarging the number who find seats as honorary members.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, August 18, 1925, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD... .. Treble	GEORGE WALKER... .. 7
*PERCY J. JOHNSON 2	ERNEST BISHOP 8
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS... .. 3	JOHN NEAL 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	GEORGE F. YENDALL 10
MORRIS J. MORRIS 5	JOSEPH T. DYKE 11
JAMES H. SHEPHERD... .. 6	WILLIAM T. FROGGATT ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by A. WALKER.

* First peal on twelve tower bells, and is from Leeds. Ringer of 8th from Swindon; 11th from Midsomer Norton.

TEN BELL PEALS.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 15, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN S. SWINFELD Treble	CHARLES DRAPER 6
ALBERT WALKER... .. 2	WALTER WALLACE 7
ALBERT H. WARD 3	JOHN FLINT 8
EDWARD C. GOBEY 4	ARTHUR BRAINES... .. 9
SIDNEY F. PALMER 5	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by A. WALKER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Beryl Lilian Ward, the youngest daughter of Mr. A. H. Ward. Also as a compliment to Mr. A. Braines on the 4th anniversary of his wedding. This peal was specially arranged for the conductor, upon his first visit to Duffield.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5049 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6
HENRY PRING 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT 7
MRS. R. F. DEAL 3	GEORGE E. TREW 8
RICHARD CLARK 4	JOHN A. BURFORD 9
JESSE B. TYLER 5	RICHARD F. DEAL ... Tenor

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by W. A. CAVE.

Mr. Pring was elected a member at Long Ashton on August 7th, and Mr. and Mrs. Deal at Colerne on August, 19th.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BANGOR, CARNARVONSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIEVE TRIPLES, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*J. F. WILLIAMS... .. Treble	T. JONES 5
J. H. MIDWINTER 2	W. SAUNDERS 6
W. T. PEGLER 3	A. E. PEGLER 7
A. J. HUGHES 4	*R. P. C. DAVIES ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by W. SAUNDERS.

* First peal. Arranged for W. Saunders, who hails from Coalbrookdale.

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WEEK

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 15, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 1	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 5
ALFRED G. HILL 2	MUS. V. A. JARRETT, R.E. ... 6
FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. 3	GEORGE MORRAD 7
* EDWARD J. BEER 4	C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, August 17, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

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

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

WILLIAM J. GROOM 1	WILLIAM ROSE 5
JAMES BRITTS 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 6
ALPHEUS J. BERRY 3	ERNEST E. GRIMES 7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 4	WILLIAM C. ROMSEY Tenor

Composed by FREDK. W. ROGERS. Conducted by Wm. C. ROMSEY.

Arranged to oblige the ringer of the 5th, who hails from Eye, near Peterborough.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 18, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

FREDERICK DIGBY 1	CHARLES T. COLES 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	HARRY KILBY 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	WILLIAM J. NUDDS 7
EDWIN F. PIKE 4	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

HAVANT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 19, 1925, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Faith,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE M. KILBY 1	HARRY L. AITKEN 5
FREDERICK A. BURNETT 2	RICHARD J. STONE 6
JOSIAH D. HARRIS 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
TOWER R. TAYLOR 4	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

Arranged specially for Messrs. Kilby and Harman, who hail from London and Leatherhead respectively.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, August 20, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

FREDK. BORRETT 1	EDWARD EVANS 5
GEO. HOWLETT 2	CHAS. CUTTING 6
CHAS. E. BORRETT 3	WM. C. ROMSEY 7
FREDK. SMITH 4	EDWIN R. GOATE Tenor

Composed by J. COX.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.—On Saturday, August 8th, at the Church of St. Leonard, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), Thursdays: J. Overton 1, G. H. Day 2, H. Baker 3, E. E. Peacock (first quarter) 4, B. Head 5, E. Foxall 6, W. Overton (conductor) 7, H. W. Overton 8. Arranged for G. H. Day, Newport, Mon., and E. E. Peacock, Cardiff.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(The SS. Philip and Jacob Guild.)

On Thursday, August 20, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Church of SS. Philip and Jacob,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

MRS. E. J. BROWN 1	ISAAC LONG 5
MISS ANNIE BROWN 2	FREDERICK E. TYLER 6
FREDERICK W. WADE 3	HENRY T. HOWELL 7
RAYMOND C. SEAGER 4	EDWIN J. BROWN Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by E. J. BROWN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. R. C. Seager and Mr. F. E. Tyler; also as a wedding anniversary peal for the conductor.

NORWICH.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, August 20, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes

At the Church of St. John-de-Sepulchre,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES RAMPLEY 1	GEORGE H. CROSS 5
WILLIAM E. BASON 2	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... 6
CECIL V. EBBERSON 3	GEORGE T. CROFT 7
JAMES F. DUFFIELD 4	GEORGE MAYERS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

The ringer of the 7th was elected a life member of the Guild before commencing the peal.

LOWER BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 9 cwt.

ERNEST JONES 1	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
* THOMAS C. LARREY 2	PERCIVAL W. CAVE 6
THOMAS HAMMOND 3	JAMES MARTIN 7
ARTHUR LINTOTT 4	EDWARD CADNCE Tenor

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

* First Surprise peal away from treble.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

* STEPHEN H. HOARE 1	FRANCIS A. SMITH 5
PHYLLIS M. MOSS 2	WILLIAM SEELEY 6
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ... 3	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD ... 7
WILLIAM HODGETTS 4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by M. F. R. HIBBERT.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. First in the method as conductor. Arranged for Miss Moss, of Uxbridge. This composition contains 23 course ends each of 648 and 678.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

On the Royal Memorial Bells of S. John-the-Divine,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS 1	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
* WILLIAM WILLSON, JUN. ... 2	HAROLD G. JENNEY 6
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 7
WILLIAM WILLSON 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED H. DEXTER.

* First peal in the method. Rung on the 23rd anniversary of the first peal on the bells. First Surprise peal rung in Leicester with a 'resident' Leicester band.

PEERING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE MOSS Treble	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 5
WALTER ARNOLD 2	WILLIAM ELLIOTT 6
FRANK CLAYDON 3	HAROLD W. CLARK 7
WILLIAM KEEBLE 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Quickest peal of Major on the bells.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

RICHARD JENNER Treble	GEORGE MALYAN 5
JAMES HEASMAN 2	FREDERICK WHITE 6
DAVID VINCENT 3	THOMAS E. SONE 7
WILLIAM COLLINSON 4	STAFFORD H. GREEN Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by STAFFORD H. GREEN.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 lb. in F.

*GEORGE H. HUMPHRIES ... Treble	CHARLES H. KIPPIN 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 6
*JOHN LEE 3	GEORGE F. HOAD 7
MISS FREDA E. ORR 4	GEORGE H. DAYNES Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

Ring after meeting short for Grandsire Caters, Mr. F. G. Woodiss kindly standing out. * First peal in the method.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 23, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

LEWIS WISEMAN Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 5
*GEORGE WIFFEN 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3	WILLIAM KEEBLE 7
HAROLD W. CLARK 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

First peal in the method on the bells. * First in the method away from the treble. The band desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. L. Wiseman for their kind hospitality at the conclusion of the peal.

PRIVETT, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 23, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE POLLINGER Treble	REUBEN SANDERS 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	EDWARD P. DOFFIELD 6
ALBERT W. COLES 3	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
EDWIN F. PIKE 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

AN UNFORTUNATE PEAL ATTEMPT.

On Thursday, Aug. 20th, at St. Michael's Church, Basingstoke, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after two hours and forty-eight minutes' ringing, through the fourth rope breaking: E. Austin 1, E. P. Duffield 2, G. Lovegrove 3, R. Philpott 4, F. Brown 5, J. Chesternan 6, C.Q.M.S. Gilbert, R.E., 7, J. Ballard 8. It would have been the first peal for ringers of 1st, 3rd and 5th, and first in the method by all except the tenor. All ringers were local men, except 2nd and 7th.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ABBAY DORE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 16, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Abbey Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores 12 callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

ALFRED HUGHES Treble	ALBERT E. JONES 4
PERCY H. YOUNG 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
*KENNETH SOUTHALL 3	ARTHUR W. KINSEY Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal on a bob bell. † First peal. First peal on the bells. This is the only Cistercian Abbey in the country now used as a place of worship.

HARESFIELD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 16, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JAMES JONES Treble	BERT JONES 4
ALBERT WRIGHT 2	HERBERT LYES 5
FREDERICK EDGINGTON ... 3	WILLIAM JONES Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

WATLINGTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5048 CHANGES;

Being three 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

ERNEST A. BULLOCK Treble	ARTHUR WIGMORE 4
ALFRED BACON 2	JAMES H. RAPER 5
TOM GREENACRE 3	WALTER N. ASBBY Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. RAPER.

First peal as conductor in three methods.

ESSENDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 22, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5048 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

FRANCIS KIRK Treble	CHARLES JEFFS 4
ERNEST HUNT 2	WILLIAM NASH 5
JOHN MALYAN 3	JOHN T. KENTISH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN MALYAN.

SHILTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten callings.

Tenor 7 cwt.

†PERCY ALDHAM Treble	ED. (TEDDY) PICKERING ... 4
C. HARRY WEBB 2	GEORGE NEWTON 5
JAMES UPTON 3	*FRED WATTS Tenor

Conducted by J. UPTON.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles for first peal as conductor. First peal of Doubles on the new bells; a splendid ring of six, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

COMPOSITIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. C. H. Kippin has missed the point at issue, when replying to my letter of August 14th, and deprecates the Central Council's 'Collection of Peals' of Double Norwich, the defence of which I must leave in other hands.

Let me explain another way. Sometimes a peal of Bob Major is rung and published as being composed by one of the band, whereas the composition may have been previously composed, perhaps, by B. Annable, J. Reeves, W. Shipway, or some other person.

I wish to see honour remain where honour is due, and not deprive the rightful heads (whether with us or gone to the great majority) of the laurels they deserve.—Yours truly,

Ipswich.

G. E. SYMONDS.

NOMENCLATURE.

THE COMMITTEE'S POSITION REVIEWED.

By the Rev. H. DRAKE.

As those who have criticised the Nomenclature Committee's report in your columns do not seem to have read it very carefully, or, at any rate, have not understood it, it may be well to give a short account of the whole subject.

Until the Council met at Lincoln, the practice of naming methods was that those who first rang a method (or, at any rate, who first rang a peal in a new method) gave it a name. As methods were not discovered every day, this did not work badly, as time was given to digest or revise one new name before another appeared. But when the Report on Minor Methods appeared, with a large number of new methods, the position was altered. It was at first suggested that these methods should be rung as soon as possible, and that the band who rang each should name it in the accustomed way. What might have been foreseen happened; some methods were named satisfactorily, others got several names; others, again, got none. In short, the old method broke down. This is the first fact to recognise. The system was choked by being given more than it could assimilate.

At the Lincoln meeting, the Methods Committee, dissatisfied with the poor progress made, suggested that the Analysis Committee be entrusted with the task of naming the methods which had not been named. At the time I was sorry this suggestion was made. It seemed to me that it would have been better to have kept the old way, but to have reorganised it. However, the Analysis Committee bravely faced their task, and produced a list of names to which much objection was taken, especially to their 'floral' class of names.

I have never joined in the objection to these names, but for some reason which I have never understood, I was approached by ringers whom I had not met, from several parts of England, begging me to get the Council to do something to solve the difficulties caused by one method having several names, or one name standing for several methods, and by the doubts which had been cast on the floral series of names.

Several of us then brought the matter before our associations, and we were encouraged to pursue the matter, with the result that the Nomenclature Committee was appointed by a small majority at the London meeting, in order to make an attempt to reduce the existing confusion to order.

So far the lines on which we have worked have been to provide every method with a name, and only one name, and where an objection was raised to a name, and that objection seemed worth considering, to provide an alternate name for that method.

Let it be noted that I have spoken of an objection worth considering. I do not mean that I personally, or the committee as a whole, agree that the objection should be, or will be, sustained; but in case it is sustained, an alternative name has been suggested.

So far from our claiming autocratic powers, it will be seen that in each case there are two things for the Council to decide; first, whether the objection to the existing name can be sustained; and then whether the proposed name shall be adopted.

But as time would make it impossible for the Council to go through each name separately, it will be best for those who object to any point, to do so beforehand in your columns. We shall not, however, do much good by accusing one another of 'change for the sake of change,' which, of course, we all want to avoid; or by one critic complaining that we have classified too much, and another that we have not classified enough. Our work was not to classify, but something of the sort must be done.

Now let us get down to actual examples. Take the name 'Oxford.' More than once I have been present when the call was made 'Go, Treble Bob,' and some proceeded to ring the Oxford variation, and the others the Kent. The last time this happened, I afterwards began a touch of Oxford Bob, and one of the ringers thought the call was for Oxford Treble Bob. This latter method, therefore, has three words in its name, and none of the three sufficiently distinctive. What we suggest is that Oxford, and that word alone, should be the title of that method, and that Oxford Bob should be known by another name. Of course, we lose an historical link by doing so, and my antiquarian sympathies rebel against such a change; but in this life, there are many occasions when the antiquarian and the practical spirit are in opposition: all we have done is to give the Exercise, through the Council next year, and through your columns in the meantime, the opportunity of saying which shall prevail.

Let us take another example from your columns last week. We are there told how to splice 'London Scholars' Pleasure' with other methods; but Mr. Fidler is wise enough not to say what call is made on the occasion. One can hardly believe that all three words—none of them easy—are called out. But if they are not, why print them as if they were?

It will be noted that this name offends in several ways. Not only are there more words than one in it, but one of them ('London'), is commonly used of another method; another ('Pleasure') seems more the name of a class than of a single method, while the remaining

word ('Scholar') is not definite enough for a name by itself. Moreover, the whole term is rather a description than a name, so that we may be said to have given a name to a method which has never yet had one.

In this case, as in many others, the old name can be easily kept as a sub-title; and we can thus satisfy the claims both of the Antiquarian and the Practical man.

Do not let anyone say that we cannot see that there is another side to the question. In presenting the Report, it was pointed out that there would be sure to be some who would think that we had not gone far enough, while others would say that we had gone too far; so we recognised at least two other points of view than our own. What I have asked for, is that we should get some constructive proposals from these other points of view, and that time should not be wasted by mere useless destruction. HERBERT DRAKE.

COVENTRY BELLS.

We understand that the question of the Coventry (St. Michael's) Cathedral bells is not settled yet, and will not be taken up again till September. It is now in the hands of the Chancellor of the Diocese—presumably on the question of his granting a faculty. Therefore, it would be well for the C.C. to see if it could be represented before the Chancellor's Consistory Court.

BELLS BROADCAST.

Bells have been prominently before the public through the agency of the broadcasting programmes during the last week or so. On Wednesday week there was an hour of bells from 2 LO and various relay stations. The musical items included vocal and orchestral numbers, in which bells play a part (either in the music or the title), and there was a short 'chat' upon 'The bell,' in which the speaker referred to the charm of church bells and their inspiration, and concluded by touching upon the other uses of bells, which were illustrated—the sheep bell, the fire bell, the dinner bell, and the like. It was an entertaining talk, which doubtless interested tens of thousands of listeners, but it showed a lack of technical knowledge by a reference to 'Grandsire Triplets and Bob Majors.'

On Sunday, as a preliminary to a service broadcast from Aberdeen, listeners heard the bells at Buckfast Abbey, Devon. Eight bells were rung in call changes and lowered in peal. There are fourteen bells at Buckfast, there being two semitones in addition to the ring of twelve. The tenor is 40½ cwt.

CHURCHWARDEN CALLS QUARTER-PEAL.

At Dore, on Saturday, August 15th, in 52 minutes, a quarter-peal (1,264 changes) of Bob Major: A. Craven 1, H. Ringham 2, F. Ward 3, T. O'Hara 4, J. W. Sykes 5, W. Riggan 6, M. Wilson 7, J. E. Lewis Cockey (first quarter of Bob Major as conductor) 8. Rung to commemorate the 70th birthday of the Vicar of Dore, after the failure of a peal attempt in the same method. First quarter-peal by the ringer of 2nd. First quarter 'inside' by 7th. The first occasion at Dore on which a quarter-peal has been called by one of the churchwardens.

PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL.

THE METHOD.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 0 9

1 2 3 4 6 8 5 0 7 9

2 1 4 3 8 6 0 5 9 7

2 4 1 8 3 6 5 0 7 9

4 2 8 1 6 3 0 5 9 7

4 2 1 8 3 6 0 9 5 7

2 4 8 1 6 3 9 0 7 5

4 2 8 6 1 9 3 0 5 7

2 4 6 8 9 1 0 3 7 5

2 6 4 8 1 9 3 0 5 7

6 2 8 4 9 1 0 3 7 5

2 6 4 8 9 0 1 7 3 5

6 2 8 4 0 9 7 1 5 3

6 8 2 0 4 9 1 7 3 5

8 6 0 2 9 4 7 1 5 3

6 8 2 0 4 9 7 5 1 3

8 6 0 2 9 4 5 7 3 1

8 0 6 9 2 5 4 7 1 3

0 8 9 6 5 2 7 4 3 1

8 0 6 9 2 5 4 7 3 1

4th place bob.

The first peal in the method was rung at Loughborough Bell Foundry, August 15th, 1925. Conducted by H. J. Poole.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER CONTROVERSY ON RINGING.
EDWARD CRANE AND HIS PEAL OF STEDMAN.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Sixty years ago, Dr. John Brown, one of the most humane of men, wrote that it was a natural and healthy thing to enjoy watching a dog fight. We have grown softer since, and our modern dogs hardly live up to the character good old Dr. Watts gave them; but something of the same spirit still lives in the delight we take when two well-equipped opponents set about each other in the correspondence column of the 'Ringing World.' The subject of dispute is no great matter. It may be a challenged peal, or concerning the authorship of some composition or method, anything in which personal interest or pique enters, then let the opponents metaphorically take off their jackets and set about each other with verbal cudgels in right goodwill, and we, the outsiders, are ready to enjoy the fun.

Yet methinks that even in this there is a great and lamentable falling away. It is a long time since we had a really exciting controversy in the ringing papers. We can only hope that they are not altogether things of the past. If all people thought alike the world would be a dull affair, and change ringing will be in a bad way when ringers cease to hold strong opinions, or to be ready to back them with strong words. Wherefore don't be afraid to speak out, and so long as you keep to the rules of the game don't be afraid of personalities. You will not hurt your opponent by suggesting that he is an ignorant ass (probably it will be quite true), and you will be doing your little bit to add to the gaiety of the nations.

It is just on two hundred years ago since the first newspaper controversy on a ringing matter. The opponents were two Norwich men, Thomas Melchior and Edward Crane, by name, and the subject in dispute was the first peal of Stedman Triples. To understand it we must first know something of the history of change ringing up to the date of their publication.

Change ringing started about the year 1600, the closing years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Bells had been rung, of course, for many centuries before that time, and, no doubt, had been 'rung up' for many years. But then it was that the sixes were invented; and the invention of the sixes made, as Fabian Stedman tells us, the whole of change ringing possible. If you will study the history of the art during the following three centuries you cannot help noticing, that though there has been development and progress all along, yet there have been definite times when things seem to move with great rapidity, and other times when, for years, little or no progress was made. Just at present we are in the midst of one of the times of progress; the eighties of the last century saw another; and probably the most notable of all was in the early years of the eighteenth century.

Change ringing had been practised for a hundred years. I do not doubt that the average ability and intelligence of ringers was quite equal to that of to-day or any other time. But no complete peal had yet been rung. In 1715, the Norwich men accomplished the first five thousand, a peal of Grandsire Bob Triples. We skip another twenty years, and we have the following remarkable record:—

1717.—The first peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, by the London Scholars.

1718.—The first peal of Grandsire Triples, at Norwich.

A peal of 'Hick Triples,' by the Union Scholars.

The first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, by the Union Scholars.

1719.—A peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Peter's, Norwich.

1721.—A peal of Bob Major Triples, at Mortlake.

1722.—A peal of Grandsire Triples, at Stroud, Gloucestershire.

1724.—The College Youths rang 5,058 Grandsire Caters, at St. Magnus. A peal of Triples, at All Saints', Hertford.

1725.—The first peal of Grandsire Cinques, by the College Youths, at St. Bride's.

The first peal of Bob Major, by the same society at the same tower.

A peal of Grandsire Triples, at Cambridge.

1726.—The first peal of Bob Maximus, by the College Youths, at St. Bride's.

1727.—10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at St. Miles', Norwich.

A peal of College Triples, by the College Youths, at St. Olave's, Southwark.

6,006 Grandsire Cinques, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, by the London Scholars.

6,314 in the same method, at the same church, by the College Youths.

The first peal of Union Triples, by the College Youths, at St. Lawrence Jewry.

1728.—10,080 Bob Major, at St. Mary's, Bermondsey, by the College Youths.

1729.—5,126 Grandsire Cinques, by the College Youths, at St. Michael's, Cornhill.

1731.—The first peal of Stedman Triples, at St. Peter's, Norwich.

Another peal of Stedman Triples, at St. Miles', in the same city.

1732.—The first peal of Double Grandsire Caters, by the College Youths.

The first peal of St. Simon's Triples, at St. Bride's, by the College Youths.

A peal of Middlesex Triples, at Twickenham.

1735.—The first peal of Court Bob Major, at St. Lawrence Jewry, by the College Youths.

This is anything but a complete list, but it is sufficient to show what great strides were made at that time in ringing. You will notice that while peals were being rung in widely scattered parts of the country, the most notable were in two cities, Norwich and London. That is almost what you might expect. You would, of course, look to London to be in the forefront of the advance. And Norwich was then relatively a much more important place than it is now. Bristol was the second city of the country, Norwich the third, and the rest nowhere. The West of England has never been a great place for change ringing (I am not referring to recent years), and so it was quite in the nature of things that the early lead was taken by the two great cities—London and Norwich.

And two men seem to have stood out as the leaders of the Exercise—Benjamin Annable, at London, and John Garthorn at Norwich. Annable left by far the better record of the two, whether as composer, conductor or practical ringer. But it is evident that it was due to the genius and abilities of John Garthorn that ringing received its first great impetus in Norwich. It was due to him that Norwich had the honour of ringing the first peal in any method, and he laid the foundations on which the fine performances of the Norwich Scholars were built.

Of his history we know very little. He was the composer of the 1715 peal of Bob Triples, which he called, and which seems to be the only five thousand in which he took part. He composed the peal of Grandsire Triples rung in 1718, but did not ring in it. Possibly he was becoming advanced in years; possibly his health was failing. Anyhow, before 1730 he was dead, and was buried in St. Gregory's Churchyard in the city. If one had the time, a search through the parish registers might reveal some details of his age and occupation. At that time there were three rings of eight in Norwich. Mancroft had had a complete octave since 1672. St. Andrew's were made eight in 1705, but for some reason or other do not seem to have been used for peal ringing. I said something a week or so ago about the kind of frame they are hung in, and probably from the first they have never been very easy bells to ring. St. Michael's, Coslany (St. Miles'), were made eight in 1726. The other historical ring in Norwich, St. Giles', were not made eight till 1726.

I imagine (for several reasons) that the peal ringing was done by a combined band from St. Peter's and St. Miles, and that after Garthorn's death, or retirement, the leadership fell at St. Peter's to Thomas Melchior, and at St. Miles to Robert Crane. Rather curiously, except in the case of the 1715 peal, and the two peals of Stedman Triples, the old Norwich peal boards do not mention any conductor. We can only guess at who called the peals by putting two and two together. Thomas Melchior rang the seventh at Mancroft to the 1718 peal of Grandsire Triples, the same bell to the 1719 peal, the treble to the Stedman Triples of 1731, and the treble to the 12,603 of Grandsire Caters in 1737. These were all at St. Peter's. It is pretty certain he called them all. But in the 10,080 of Treble Bob at St. Miles in 1727 he rang the second. Robert Crane rang the tenor, and either he or Edward Crane who rang the seventh evidently called the bobs.

There was a family of Cranes who were ringers. Robert was the oldest, and, I fancy, the father. Edward and Thomas were his sons. Edward was the cleverer and ambitious member of the family. Thomas did not, so far as I know, ever ring a peal, but we shall hear of him presently.

You will notice that here are all the usual causes for the usual very (very much too usual) ringers' quarrel. You have Thomas Melchior firmly entrenched at St. Peter's as Garthorn's successor, as leader, conductor, composer, and general authority on ringing matters, yet not in a position to be quite independent of the Coslany men. And you have Edward Crane, younger, ambitious, through his father in control of the other available peal ringing tower; clever, too, and quite of the opinion that he had as much right to be conductor and leader as anybody else—Thomas Melchior or another. A split was almost bound to come over something or other. It actually came over Stedman Triples.

I believe it was Crane who started the ball rolling. I think the young man thought to himself that it would be a fine thing to ring a peal of Stedman Triples, and that he was the man to compose the peal. I think that Melchior, when he heard of it, treated the matter with lofty contempt. HE was John Garthorn's successor. HE was the man to say what should be rung, and if any peal of Stedman was to be attempted HE would supply the composition. Young men should keep their proper places.

But Crane, you will remember, could control a tower, and at least part of a band. All that was needed was to compose the peal, com-

plete the band, and ring the first peal of Stedman Triples without Melchior's aid, and in spite of anything he could say or do.

The lists were thus set ready for the battle, and the formal challenge was thrown down by the publication of the following notice in the 'Norwich Gazette' of September 11th, 1731:—

Whereas that most Noted and harmonious Peal of 7 Bells called Stedman Triples, which has so long lain hid in Darkness from the knowledge of the World, and although so many ingenious Ringers have pricked so many Thousand Sheets of paper and could never bring it to truth, but have thought it impossible to be done. This is, therefore, to acquaint all Ringers and Lovers of that art that it is now brought to Light and truth with two Doubles, and is pricked at Length which contains 5,040 Changes by that ingenious and Compleat Ringer, EDWARD CRANE.

Note.—If any Ringers Doubt the Truth of the Peal let him come to the sign of the 6 Ringers in St. Michael's of Coslany, and they may have any wages from 2 guineas to 10.' The challenge was promptly taken up.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Luton District was held at Woburn on Saturday, August 22nd, members being present from Bedford, Luton, Dunstable, Houghton Regis, Husbome, Crawley, Stony Stratford, St. Albans and Linslade. The fine peal were kept going from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m., with an interval for tea, which was held at the Magnie Hotel. After tea, a short business meeting took place, presided over by Mr. A. King (president of the branch).

Luton was selected for the next meeting, early in October.

After the usual votes of thanks, the tower was again visited. Touches were rung in many methods, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise Major, the striking in the different Surprise methods being very good.

TALGARTH, BRECONSHIRE. — On Friday, August 7th, at St. Gwendoline's Church, in 44 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): C. Powell 1, D. J. Moore 2, L. S. Griffiths 3, W. D. Griffiths (conductor) 4, C. M. Davies 5, S. Powell 6. First quarter-peal for the ringers of the 5th and tenor.

WITNEY (OXON). — On Tuesday, August 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 54 mins.: E. Brown 1, H. Brooks 2, N. Spindlow 3, T. Bull 4, G. Brooks 5, J. Monk (conductor) 6, J. Brooks 7, C. Channon 8.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT AT FAREHAM.

A quarterly meeting was held at Fareham on Saturday last, when, despite the very unsettled weather, a large number of ringers attended. The meeting was originally fixed for Alverstoke, but owing to serious illness near the church it had to be abandoned, and by kind permission of the Vicar of Fareham (the Rev. J. C. Tarbat) the meeting was held there. Members were present from Curydrige, Fareham, Havant, Portsmouth (St. Mary's and St. Thomas'), Titchfield, Wickham, and the Isle of Wight was represented by members from Ryde, Whitwell, and Mr. H. Barton. The visitors included Messrs. A. Harman (Leatherhead), O. J. Hunt (Coventry) and the general secretary (Mr. G. Pullinger).

Tea took place at Foster's Temperance Hotel, and the business meeting which followed was presided over by Mr. R. J. Stone (district chairman).

It was with the utmost satisfaction that the district welcomed as new members, the ringers at Hambledon. A combined practice was held there the previous Saturday, and the company decided to join the Guild. Consequently the following names were submitted to the meeting: Rev. E. Kynaston (Vicar of Hambledon), as hon. member; Messrs. W. Boyes, T. Parker, J. Knight, E. Marsh, G. Spiller, H. Perkins, W. E. Hunt, J. Turner, as full members; and Messrs. F. Friend and H. H. Collins, probationers. These were unanimously elected. The meeting also confirmed the election previous to a peal attempt of Messrs. Ernest Morris (Leicester) and E. F. Pike (London).

It was decided, if possible, to hold the annual district meeting at Alverstoke on November 21st next; or, failing that, St. Thomas' Portsmouth. The secretary announced that it was proposed to hold a joint meeting of the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth districts at Ryde in the near future, and it was decided to leave it in his hands to arrange a suitable date.

A vote of thanks, on the proposition of Mr. G. Pullinger, was accorded the Vicar of Fareham for the use of the bells; and, on behalf of the mainland, he welcomed the visitors from the Isle of Wight, who were present with them.—To this Mr. B. J. Snow (Ryde) suitably responded.—The members then returned to the tower for further ringing. During the afternoon and evening the ringing included all the standard methods, and also Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major.

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.

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HANDBELLS
In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The ringing of a peal of Stedman Triples on the back eight of Wells Cathedral, during the Somerset tour, constituted a 'weight' record, for no peal of Stedman Triples had been previously rung on so heavy a ring of bells. Exeter and St. Paul's are the only heavier peals.

Wells Cathedral contains a remarkable 12th century clock, which, although constructed from primitive materials by a monk, is still in faultless working order and an irreproachable timekeeper. Besides giving the hour, the clock records the quarters of the moon, and on the stroke of the hour a group of mediæval figures break into life, and whirl round and round until the last chime dies away. There is only one other clock of the kind in existence.

A quaint inscription has been discovered on the wall of All Saints' Church, Maidstone, opposite the tower and belfry. It is a tribute to the skill of a local stonemason, and runs as follows: 'Here lyeth the Body of John Wallis, who died February 20th, 1745, aged 28 years.

'Stop Ringers all and cast an eye,
You in your glory so once was I,
What I have been as you may see
Which now is in the Belfree.'

The note in this column, re one of Leicester's 'first eleven' going on tour round the world to visit 'Uncle' Joe E. Sykes, brings this reply: 'E. M. left Leicester on June 5th, and travelled via New York, Seattle, Honolulu, Kobe, Noji, Fusan and Antsuy in Korea, arriving at Ansham, Manchuria, on July 8th; started back next day via Mukden; Harbin; Vladivostok, Omsk; Irkutsk; Moscow; Leningrad, and arrived home in Leicester on the eve of his birthday—July 27th.' Some journey this!

Bertram Prewett, whose memory is a cherished possession, was killed in action on August 31st, 1918.

The record handbell peal of 19,738 Stedman Caters was rung at Guildford on August 31st, 1912, in 9 hours 32 mins.

The first ten-bell peal in Scotland—Grandsire Caters—was rung at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on August 31st, 1886.

Birmingham possesses some very active youths. Here is Ald. Pritchett nearly 71, climbing Cader Idris, from Arthlog, returning by the Fox's path to Dolgelly, and thence walking to Barmouth—20 miles in all. There is many a man twenty years his junior who couldn't stand up to that.

Then there is that other Birmingham 'lad,' James George, who has been performing on Southwark tenor again ringing her to a peal of Stedman Cinques. And he will be 72 in November. Birmingham is a frightful blot of the landscape, but it seems a pretty good place to live in if one wants to keep one's youth and virility.

In the belfry at Keighley, Yorks, is a peal board recording the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major in the North of England. It reads as follows: Rung in this steeple on the 18th of August, 1811, by eight Ringers of this Town, 5,376 Changes of that most intricate Peal, Cambridge Surprise eight in, composed by Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, being the first true Peal in that Method ever rung in the North of England, it was performed with great correctness in 3 hrs. 18 mins., by Jeremiah Foulds treble, George Hattersley 2nd, James Baldwin 3rd, David Smith 4th, Joshua Cawood 5th, Thomas Iveson 6th, Thomas Midgley 7th, James Inman tenor. Conducted by Mr. David Smith.

Bert Chilvers, of Cotton, who rang his first peal, on the 9th, as recorded last week, has been handicapped from birth by a useless right arm. He has to do his ringing with his left arm and hand only, and his progress in the art has been a triumph over disability. He is conductor at Cotton, where shortly, the existing ring of five bells is to be made into a peal of six.

Bishop Ryle, Dean of Westminster, who died last week, was always interested in bells and ringers. He attended the College Youths' dinner in 1920, and made a most interesting speech. During the time he was Bishop of Winchester he entertained the Diocesan Guild at his residence, Farnham Castle.

THE 'OTHER WAY OF BROADCASTING.'

On Saturday week, a band of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild tried their hand at broadcasting, but not through the B.B.C. stations. They rang a 'peal' of Minor in seven methods, but they did it in seven different towers, and the time is given as 'not exceeding seven hours.'

This is believed to be the first time such a feat has been accomplished. The following are the details of the performance:

- 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, at Great Addington.
- 720 Oxford Treble Bob, at St. John's, Cranford.
- 720 Kent Treble Bob, at Isham.
- 720 Oxford Bob, at Islip.
- 720 Double Oxford Bob, at Lowick.
- 720 Bob Minor, at Woodford.
- 720 Double Court Bob, at Ringstead.

A Baxter 1, A. Bellamy 2, W. Hayo 3, L. Wyman 4, J. Hudson 5, G. Blaxley 6. Conducted by G. Blaxley.

MULTI-METHOD PEALS.

HINTS ON 'SP LICING' AND RINGING MINOR METHODS.

By JOHN P. FIDLER.

THIRD ARTICLE.

Those who are not yet conversant with the methods already detailed in my previous articles should not make any attempt to tackle the methods of the group to be dealt with below, but keep the copies of the 'Ringing World' by them for future reference. I am the last person to expect any band of ringers to keep pace with these notes—it cannot be done—but if kept, they will be found handy for reference. Further, if the thirty-five method peal is to be accomplished, all the notes must be obtained, and it would be advisable if each member of the band had a copy so that he could study them at his leisure. The more study at home, the better the practice in the tower.

As I briefly hinted in the last article, the ground work of the group now to be dealt with is 'Woodbine,' and we will, therefore, christen it with that name. No doubt I shall get drawn over the coals, but that does not matter, as the subject is not part of that hardy annual, 'Method Nomenclature.' Those who have been used to ringing this method ought to be able to tackle five new methods at once practice, and ring a five method extent at the first time of asking, but we must not forget our slower brethren, and to them I must explain.

The methods comprising this group are 4th's Place Delight Methods, viz., Grove, Braintree, Neasden, College Bob IV., and Wragby. The reason why I am taking the 4th's Place Delight Methods in preference to others of Treble Bob, is on account of the various kinds of slow work, which are exactly the same as that in the Oxford group.

Braintree is the odd method, and is the only one requiring any amount of study.

First of all, I will give the combinations of the group, with the resultant method:—

Work above Treble, or that of bells passing 'up.'	Work below Treble, or that of bells passing 'down.'	Resultant Method.
Woodbine.	Kingston.	Wragby.
"	London Scholars' Pleasure.	College Bob IV.
"	Sandal.	Neasden.
"	Overton.	Grove Delight.
"	Braintree.	Braintree.

WRAGBY.

Let us look at the lead of Wragby (No. 12, page 16), so that a note may be made of the work above treble, or our old friend of Snowdon's days, viz., Woodbine. Incidentally we may as well kill two birds with one stone, and learn also how to find out from the lead given the starting work of each bell. The notes on this particular point apply to any method, and will assist the ringer in taking over any bell without the necessity of having his position explained to him, thus saving valuable time. How often one comes across a ringer who learns his method by the course, is given an unaccustomed bell to start off with, has to run through the whole course before he can pick up the path of his bell, when, had he learned the method by the order of passing the treble, he need only have found out where the bell passed her previous to coming into rounds! I might add at this juncture, it is not necessary to write out the full course to find out the work of each bell previous to rounds coming up, as we soon shall see.

First of all, examine the path of the bell in second's place at the lead end. It is the 6th; trace back, and we find that she passed treble 2-3 up; then make a note of the work after passing in that position. The 4th, being in third's place is next on the list, being the bell coming out of 'slow'; there is not far to go, and our discovery is that it passed the treble 1-2 up. We have a little farther to trace back with the 4th's place bell, viz., the 5th, she having passed treble 5-6 up. This is a position requiring special attention, as also does that of the next bell, the 2nd, which passed treble 3-4 up, and in their work, there are either made before or after working with treble in 3-4. There is only one bell left and that is the 3rd, occupying 6th's place, which had passed the treble in the 4-5 position.

In our search for the work after passing treble down, we find ourselves on very familiar ground; it is identical to that in Kingston, consequently there is no further need to memorise it.

After this analysis we find the following recorded in our notebook:—

Pass Treble.	
1-2 up.	(Out of slow), 4th's, as in Oxford.
2-3 up.	(In slow), 4th's, as in Oxford.
3-4 up.	4th's, 3rd's, and a triple dodge in 5-6 up.
4-5 up.	A triple dodge in 5-6, before and after lying 6th's.
5-6 up.	Triple dodge in 5-6 down, 3rd's, 4th's.
	Work down, as Kingston.

ROB WORK.

This will be found somewhat different from that of Oxford, but the bells passing treble 1-2 and 2-3 remain unaltered, so the hobs are called when the observation is in one of these two positions. The instructions given on conducting Oxford apply to this method. The bell passing Treble 3-4 up, makes the hob, i.e.,

continues making 3rd's and 4th's alternately until Treble returns to dodge 3-4 up. Those passing 4-5 and 5-6 continue dodging until divided by the Treble.

Attention may now be directed to the remaining members of the 'group,' and little or no difficulty should be experienced in the execution.

In College Bob IV. (No. 20, page 18) we find the work up is as for Wragby, and that down as for London Scholars' Pleasure. Neasden (No. 16, page 17) has Sandal work substituted for London Scholars' Pleasure, and Grove Delight has Overton work in the corresponding positions. The latter method not appearing in the present collection, a lead is given here.

642135

Grove Delight.

1 2 3 4 5 6

2 1 4 3 6 5

1 2 4 3 5 6

2 1 3 4 6 5

2 3 1 4 5 6

3 2 4 1 6 5

3 2 1 4 5 6

2 3 4 1 6 5

2 4 3 6 1 5

4 2 3 6 5 1

2 4 6 3 1 5

2 4 3 6 5 1

4 2 6 3 5 1

4 2 3 6 1 5

2 4 6 3 5 1

4 2 6 3 1 5

4 6 2 1 3 5

6 4 1 2 5 3

6 4 2 1 3 5

4 6 1 2 5 3

4 1 6 2 3 5

1 4 2 6 5 3

4 1 2 6 3 5

1 4 6 2 5 3

1 6 4 5 2 3

Bob 1 6 4 2 3 5

BRAINTREE.

Pass Treble Up. Work as in Woodbine.

1-2 down. (After snapping Treble), lead, 2nd's, lead, dodge off (i.e., 1-2 up), 3rd's, 4th's, i.e., Kent Places (pass Treble 4-5 up).

2-3 down. lead, 3rd's, 4th's, and out (Kent Places).

3-4 down. dodge on, dodge off (i.e., dodge 1-2 down [lead] dodge 1-2 up), and out.

4-5 down. (Kent Places), 4th's, 3rd's, dodge on (i.e., 1-2 down), stay in slow.

5-6 down. (Kent Places), 4th's, 3rd's, lead and out.

The rule for 'splicing' this method with its four companions, is the same as that for Oxford. A full course of it must be rung. If the practice is followed of always introducing these odd methods in the position given for the first group, the conductor will have his troubles reduced. As the extent can easily be pricked out, there is no necessity for it to appear here.

Having mastered these five methods we are now in a position to attempt a ten method peal, and I would suggest it be arranged as follows:—

1st extent (spliced).	Braintree and Grove Delight.
2nd extent (spliced).	Neasden and College Bob IV.
3rd extent.	Wragby.
4th extent (spliced).	Overton, Sandal.
5th extent.	London Scholars' Pleasure.
6th extent.	Kingston.
7th extent.	Oxford.

My next article will deal with Group No. 3, the College Exercise Group.

Previous articles have appeared in our issues of Aug. 14th and 21st.

CAMBRIDGE MAXIMUS AT WINCHESTER.

An attempt for a peal of Cambridge Maximus was made on Saturday last at Winchester Cathedral by twelve members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, mainly recruited from London and district, under the conductorship of Mr. Wm. Pye. Exactly 2½ courses, or a quarter of the peal, had been rung in 59 minutes, and good steady striking was being maintained, when a message came from the Dean asking that the ringing should cease owing to serious illness in the Cathedral Close.

THE SOMERSET TOUR.

A DELIGHTFUL WEEK IN THE WEST COUNTRY.

On Saturday, August 8th, a party of ringers, some with their wives, etc., met at Yeovil with some very large ideas about ringing. A peal of Stedman Caters at the Parish Church was the first course of a very attractive menu, but a great disappointment was in store, for, after some first-class ringing, the 9th took so much 'humping' that it was found impossible to continue. On inspecting the bell afterwards it was found that one of its bearings was bone dry, and, in the opinion of those who know, Hercules himself could not have stuck it through a peal.

The headquarters for the first part of the trip were at Queen Camel, to which place the party now proceeded. Those with their own means of locomotion found no difficulty in getting there, but those who had to rely on the railway soon discovered that 'slow and easy' applies to another section of English railways other than the South Eastern. However, on arrival at Sparkford Station, the fortunate ones were there to convey luggage, and the weary ones to their destination, Mr. Pulling's brother having made all the arrangements for accommodation and catering for the inner man.

On Sunday the landlord's car was commandeered (no, dear reader, it was not a 'Tin Lizzie,' but a good solid old bus), and a move towards Beckington was made. A peal of London was successfully brought round here, and on its conclusion the local band, who said some very nice things about the ringing, were in such a hurry to ring for the evening service (there were only five of them) that the peal band had to retire to the churchyard to finish dressing, and, as one of the party aptly remarked, 'it was a good job he hadn't taken his shirt off.'

Sherborne was the seat of operations for Monday. The party, who arrived early in the town, were shown round the school (which is probably the oldest in England, and dates from A.D. 704) by Major Hesse, who was educated there. The Abbey, which dates from the same period, was found to be equally interesting. The peal of bells, the heaviest ring of eight in the kingdom, were then set going to Stedman Triples. No one would have been surprised if the peal did not materialise, but much to the joy of everyone concerned, the bells were kept going until the conductor shouted, 'This is all.' It may be added that no one was sorry, especially the ringer of the tenor, who, before the peal, was so optimistic that he had visions of turning it in to Major! Arrangements had been made for a peal at Milborne Port in the evening, but this was not possible, owing to the late start at Sherborne. The tower was visited, however, and a course or two of different methods were indulged in, just to keep the ringers from getting rusty.

On Tuesday, Wells was the hunting ground, and it may be said a very happy one. It is true that an attempt for Stedman Triples was abandoned at St. Cuthbert's, as it was thought that, if P.C. 137, who had the 7th in custody, lost too much weight, the ratepayers of Surrey would be put to more expense to provide him with a new uniform on returning to duty. In the afternoon, Mrs. Robinson, wife of the Very Rev. the Dean of Wells, very kindly entertained the whole company to tea, and showed them round the Deanery—a most interesting house, which has been occupied by the successive Deans of Wells Cathedral since it was built over 800 years ago. A certain amount of disappointment was felt when it was discovered that the band were one man short for Stedman Caters at the Cathedral, but nothing daunted, the best was made of a bad job by ringing a peal of Stedman Triples. Those of the party had had been fortunate enough to hear these magnificent bells before, said this was the best music, as Triples sounded infinitely better than Caters. On thanking the Dean for his hospitality and the use of his bells, he told us how glad he was that we had scored the peal, and how much he had appreciated the ringing.

All the really heavy rings had now been disposed of, and the lighter peals at Drayton and Curry Rivel came as something of a relief on Wednesday. It was unfortunate the weather decided to be unkind, especially for Mr. and Mrs. Williams, who had to cycle from Queen Camel, something like 20 miles, and also for Mr. Pullinger who cycled from Wells. The latter, who was drenched to the skin, purchased a new set of underclothes at Langport. On retreating Drayton he obtained permission to put them on at the local inn, and was told by the proprietor he might 'change his clothes in the front room at the back.' Another set-back came when it was found that the conductor, with his spouse, had not arrived: he eventually turned up with his 1925 model, being towed in by old Dobbie's 1918 bike. During the peal of Superlative, which the band rang here, Mr. Dobbie stood out and put the faulty machine in order. The peal itself was without incident, except that the treble ringer was the only man on a box. This caused a little confusion on starting, but was soon overcome when two of the band changed ropes. Tea was then partaken of at the Bell Inn at Curry Rivel. The inhabitants of this village are, according to a local resident, very small meat-eaters, it being only necessary to kill half a sheep a week, to meet their requirements of

this commodity. A peal of Cambridge was then attempted, but as this was lost after about an hour and three-quarters' ringing, the less said about the performance the better. No one seemed very unhappy, however, for, had the peal been completed, it would have meant waiting another hour for a train to Taunton, which was to be the headquarters for the remainder of the week, to say nothing of having to carry the baggage over a mile to another station, from whence the later train departed.

At Taunton the passengers were met by Mr. James Hunt, who had organised the times for the various peals with his customary precision, and obtained permission to use all the bells, with the exception of Wells Cathedral. He had also arranged for the accommodation of the party in this town, taking four of them under his own roof.

Two peals were fixed for Taunton on Thursday. Cambridge was rung at St. James', but at St. Mary's, where the band were welcomed by the curate-in-charge, Stedman Caters was lost, after 45 minutes' ringing. The company, which now included Mr. J. T. Dyke, the new general secretary of the Bath and Wells Association, made their way to the house of Mr. J. Maddock, a well-known figure of the ringing community, especially in the West Country. Here a convivial evening and real Somerset cider was enjoyed, and Mr. Hunt's splendid peal of handbells brought into use. The opportunity was now taken, as the whole party were together, to make a small presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Hunt and Mr. and Mrs. Pulling for the work and trouble they had taken to make the week such an enjoyable one.

First-hand knowledge of the proceedings on Friday is unknown to the writer, who, with one other (not a ringer), spent the day elsewhere. Anyway, it proved to be the only day of the tour on which two peals were scored, London at Burnham-on-Sea, and Superlative at Bridgwater. Lunch was partaken of at Burnham, and was much enjoyed until the bill was presented, which left a nasty flavour behind it.

Saturday came, and with it, the beginning of the end. Owing to a burial taking place at Milverton, time would not permit the company retrieving a bad start for London by commencing a second time, so, after three courses, it was decided to make for the hotel, where lunch had been prepared. Some of the ringers who had not received sufficient exercise during the week betook themselves to the skittle alley, where they showed considerable prowess at this old-fashioned game. Before going on to the next village, 'good-bye' was said to three of the party who could not stay until the finish of the tour.

Stedman Triples was rung at Wiveliscombe to wind up the week. This method was adopted as the visitors were informed that the inhabitants, who apparently have an ear for music, would not appreciate the tenor turned in, otherwise a peal of Surprise would have been attempted.

Returning to Taunton, the remainder of the company adjourned to the Parade Hotel, where for half an hour they enjoyed discussing what had been done, what remained to be done, and when.

Farewells were then bidden amongst expressions of regret that such an enjoyable week had come to its conclusion, but with the hope that in the future all might meet again to renew acquaintance with the fair county of Somerset.

In conclusion, grateful thanks are due to the incumbents of the various churches for granting permission to use their bells, and to the local bands for the great help they afforded the party, and the very warm welcome with which they were greeted at all the towers they visited.

The ladies of the party are also deserving of a word of appreciation for the way in which they discovered establishments where the appetites of the hungry peal ringers might be appeased on descending from the belfries.

G. W. S.

BRABOURNE, KENT.—For evensong, on August 9th, 720 Plain Rob: E. Cheesman 1, L. Finn 2, P. Pierce 3, W. Cheesman 4, S. Finn 5, A. Castle (Elham), conductor, 6.

(Continued from page 553.)

This bell was cast by John Warner and Sons, Crescent foundry, London. On the waist the Royal Arms and 'patent.'

This tenor was originally given by Cardinal Wolsey. The present bell is 84 inches diameter, and weighs 46 cwt. 0 nr. 23 lb.

Sanctus-bell.—STA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS' (in small Lombardic capitals).

Fire-bell.—'Lord, quench the furious flame.—Arise, run, hold out the same, I.W. I.C. * 1653. R.A.' This bell, called the 'Panne bell,' is of peculiar shape, nearly as wide at the crown as at the mouth, and has a most dismal sound. Diameter 32½ inches.

The ringing chamber is close under the bells, and the noise is deafening, with the result that the conductor has an unenviable task. Ringing has to be carried on, even in broad daylight, by means of three gas jets of the old flame burner type, so dark is the belfry, and although the tower is a 'barn' for room, the general conditions are the reverse of conducive to comfort in ringing. Only four peals are known to have been rung on the bells.

SHERBORNE ABBEY BELLS.

INTERESTING HISTORY OF THE HEAVIEST PEAL OF EIGHT.

By J. R. JERRAM.

Sherborne Abbey may now fairly claim to possess the heaviest peal of eight bells in England, with a tenor of a little over 46 cwt. Previous to 1891 that distinction belonged to Wells Cathedral; but in that year the peal was augmented to ten.

As regards the early history of Sherborne bells, the following notes are taken from the late Canon Raven's 'Church Bells of Dorset':—

'The first mention of the bells of All Hallows (i.e., the old parish church which was built on to the west end of the Abbey, and continued to be used as the parish church until the town bought the Abbey church at the dissolution of the Monastery in 1539), is in the year 1514-15, when some repairs were done, but the account is much torn: in 1515-16, the sum of 2s. 4d. was paid for the keeping of the bells, and 13s. 4d. was spent on the clapper of the great bell, and 7d. on the bawdericks, and 4d. on grease, and 3s. on two bell ropes, and 2s. 2d. on trussing the great bell. The bell here mentioned is probably Wolsey's bell, which was given to the town, not to the Monastery. Similar entries occur regularly. All Hallows had five bells, at least as early as 1527-8. When the parish bought the Abbey Church, 1539-40, the bells were transferred to it, and there were certainly six bells

roof of the same along the east, south and west sides, and then to ascend a few more steps and a ladder at the south-west angle of the tower. The chamber is so dark that it is necessary to light the gas in the daytime.

'In 1858, two trebles were added, and the sixth was recast by G. Mears, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London: and from that date the peal became one of eight bells.

'Unfortunately, at the end of that year, on the first Sunday in Advent, as the bells were being rung for evening service, the noble tenor suddenly cracked. Such a disaster, after having just spent so much on adding two new bells and recasting the sixth, seems to have exhausted the church funds for a time, and it was not until 1865 that she was recast by Warner. Since then, and since I visited Sherborne and copied the inscriptions, the third and also the seventh have been recast.

'The clock is in the ringing chamber and strikes the Cambridge quarters on 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 7th, and the hour on the tenor.'

Treble.—'G. Mears, founder, London.—Lord let the folk below—Resound in living song—Thy praise as I do now—With iron tongue.—August 10th, 1858.'

Second.—'G. Mears, founder, London.—We hang here to record—That the choir was restored—In the year of our Lord—1858.'



in 1542-3, for Roger Smyth was then paid 2d. for a buckle for the bawderick of the sixth bell, and Appulby and his two men were paid 1s. 2d. for "trussing of vith bell and for nayles to that work."

'In 1556-7, the two largest bells were recast, and a great collection was made for the bells amounting to £61 19s. 9d., besides gifts of cows, parchment, skins, bell wheels, etc. Then follow numerous items of expenses incurred about the work.

'In 1553-4, we find an item "in full payment for a Belle solde XI. li." Why this bell was sold is doubtful. It may have been one of the Abbey bells (perhaps the only one in the Abbey tower before the others were removed from All Hallows Church), which had been sold cheap. There are many other items connected with the bells up to the year 1578.

'In 1655, Robert Austen and his sons were paid £55 9s. 6d. for casting bells, and for metal for the "Panne bell," i.e., the Fire-bell.

'In 1670, the tenor was recast by Thos. Purdue at Clossworth. The recasting alone cost £21. At this time the bells were only rung at stack-level, from the ground floor, and there is a tradition that it required twenty-one men to ring the six bells. How they were stationed it is impossible to imagine. At what date they were hung with stays and slides, to be rung in the ordinary way, I have not been able to ascertain. But in 1762-3, Mr. Belby (i.e., Bilby) and Mr. Evans were paid £50 for new hanging the six bells, and very likely it was at that time that the change was carried out.

'The present ringing chamber is on a level with the vaulting of the church roof. To reach it it is necessary to ascend a spiral staircase at the angle of the south transept, and to traverse the leads on the

Third.—The original bell was cast by Robert Austen. The inscription was on the crown, and partly hidden by the stock. When she was recast in 1803 an attempt was made to reproduce it, but with rather unsatisfactory results. It now reads: 'Recast by John Warner and Sons, Ltd., 1903.—W—M x CAST x E.R.S x THO x GARD x (above EA . GAVE) ME. R.A. 1652.' The date on the old bell was 1655, not 1652, the last '5' being inverted was evidently mistaken for a '2.'

Fourth.—'Peace & Plenty is the wish of Thomas Thorne & Samuel Jeffery, Churchwardens, 1803. Thomas and James Bilbie, Chewstocke, Somerset, fecit.'

Fifth.—'Bartholomew Watts: and: Sweet Hart: Church Wardens, 1787. Be meek & lowly to hear the word of God. William Bilbie, Chewstocke, Somerset, fecit.'

Sixth.—'G. Mears, founder, London, 1858.'

Seventh.—'Recast by John Warner and Sons, Ltd., 1903. R. A. CAMPANA DOMINE. JOHN WHETCOMB JOHN COOTH WARDENS, 1653. William Hector Lyon, M.A., Vicar. Mark Parsons, Frederick Bennet, Churchwardens.'

The former bell was by Robert Austen, and weighed 26 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb., the present is 29 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

Tenor.—'By Wolsey's gift I measure time for all. To mirth; to grief; to church; I serve to call. G.H.—This bell was now cast by me Thomas Purdey, Oct. the 20th, 1670. Again recast 1865. Edward Harston, Vicar. James Hoddinott, Francis Stokes, Churchwardens.

(Continued on page 554.)

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.—On Sunday, August 23rd, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): F. Payne 1, H. Dawson 2, R. Thrift 3, H. Allen 4, F. Salter 5, A. Richell 6, Geo. Green (conductor) 7, Dr. Spencer Phillips 8. This quarter-peal was arranged for F. Salter, who hails from Nottingham, and was on a visit to the parish.

DORCHESTER, DORSET.—On Sunday evening, August 23rd, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. T. Godwin 1, A. Drew 2, C. Bengier 3, J. Bengier 4, W. J. Simons 5, J. Squire 6, G. White (conductor) 7, R. Priddle 8.

BARLINGTON, DURHAM.—On Sunday, August 23rd, at Holy Trinity Church, for Matins, 720 Wells Surprise Minor: R. B. Wilson 1, W. Oliver (first 720 in the method) 2, R. Park 3, W. N. Park 4, F. W. Lupson 5, G. W. Park (conductor) 6.—For evensong, 576 Wells Surprise: E. Brown 1, W. Oliver 2, R. Park 3, G. W. Park 4, W. H. Porter 5, W. N. Park (conductor) 6.

DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—On Sunday, August 23rd, for evensong, in 48 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): A. Markwell 1, A. G. Matthews 2, A. E. Sharman (conductor) 3, C. Rollings 4, C. E. King 5, G. Heley 6, A. Markwell 7, C. T. King 8. Arranged for the ringers of the treble and 7th, who hail from Staveley and Woburn Sands, respectively.

CHICHESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, August 23rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 51 mins.: W. R. Falconer 1, A. D. Rowe 2, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 3, F. B. Tompkins 4, G. Marshall 5, J. H. Blake 6, M. Heffer 7, A. Tigwell 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. W. E. Ticehurst and H. J. Tucker.

TACKLEY, OXON.—On Sunday, August 23rd, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Doubles (nine calls): W. Evetts, junr., 1 E. F. Honour (conductor) 2, Jack Cleaver (first 720) 3, G. Bullock 4, W. Judge 5, A. Whitlock 6.

SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, August 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Ray Curtis 1, E. Tall 2, H. Payne 3, Reg. Curtis 4, F. Mursell 5, H. Reeves (conductor) 6, F. White 7, J. W. Faithfull 8. First attempt for a quarter-peal for ringer of treble.

STONE, STAFFS.—On Sunday, August 23rd, at St. Michael's Church, for morning service, two 360's Grandsire Triples (conducted by T. Hodson and W. Buckley). After service, 504 Grandsire (conducted by A. Rowley). For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: H. Hodson 1, H. Buckley 2, J. Head 3, W. Buckley 4, C. Templeton 5, T. Hodson 6, A. Rowley (conductor) 7, E. Baker 8. First quarter-peal for ringers of 1st and 2nd. Mr. J. Moulson and Mr. P. Preston took part in the morning touches. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Pyatt.

OLD CLEEVE.—On Sunday, August 16th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Burnett 1, H. Rowe 2, R. Eaton 3, A. Bryant 4, A. Stevens 5, N. Churley 6, C. Greedy (conductor) 7, T. Bennett 8. Arranged for C. Greedy, of Newport, Mon.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, August 16th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, for evening service, 720 changes London Surprise, in 26 mins.: G. H. Southgate 1, J. Pilgrim (first 720 of London) 2, R. Woodard 3, L. W. Bale 4, R. Pilgrim 5, N. R. Bailey (conductor) 6.

SHREWSBURY.—On Sunday, August 16th, at St. Chad's Church, 480 Cambridge Surprise: F. Lycett 1, C. Lee 2, J. Evans 3, J. E. Lilley 4, W. Short (conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, C. R. Lilley 7, W. Watts 8.—On Aug. 17th, at the Church of St. Julian, 720 Cambridge Surprise: J. Evans 1, C. Lee 2, W. Short (conductor) 3, J. E. Lilley 4, W. B. Kynaston 5, C. R. Lilley 6. First 720 of Surprise ever rung in the county of Salop, and first by all except Messrs. Short and Lilley. Also 240 Oxford Treble Bob.—On August 23rd, at St. Chad's, 224 Double Norwich Major and 207 and 108 Stedman Caters.

DEATH OF MR. THOMAS HORTON.

A WELL-KNOWN MIDLAND RINGER.

Death has removed an old Midland ringer, in the person of Mr. Thomas Horton, of West Bromwich, who passed away on July 26th, in his 77th year. For 60 years he had been a member of the band at Christ Church, and, until a few years ago, he was most regular in his attendance in the belfry. He used to be a very keen peal ringer, and his total ran into hundreds. His first peal was at Christ Church, West Bromwich, in 1872. He was a member of many societies, including the Ancient Society of College Youths, Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, and the Midland Counties Association. He was a capable ringer in many methods, and had rung in belfries all over the country. In his early days he was a great tune ringer on handbells.

A half-muffled touch of 850 Grandsire Triples was rung on the occasion of the funeral by the local band at Christ Church, West Bromwich: C. Williams 1, E. Reeves 2, A. Pickering 3, J. Jaggard 4, J. Walker 5, J. Screen 6, A. Greenfield 7, R. Hall 8.

PRESENTATION TO MR. JOHN AUSTIN.

VALUABLE SERVICES TO RINGING RECOGNISED.

The annual salmon supper was held at the Queen's Hotel, Lydney, on Saturday, August 15th, when thirty ringers and friends sat down to an excellent repast, provided by Host and Hostess Woolley. After the tables were cleared, Mr. J. W. Jones (Newport) was elected chairman. The toast of 'The King' having been honoured, Mr. Jack Davies said it gave him the greatest pleasure to see so many friends around him that evening, and especially to see present one to whom they were all indebted, one who had done more for the Exercise than anyone he knew, who was always ready and willing to assist and teach beginners the art of change ringing, and whose efforts had been crowned with success. He asked the chairman to present Mr. J. Austin with a small testimonial, subscribed for by ringers and friends as a token of the respect in which he was held.

The chairman handed to Mr. Austin the testimonial, which consisted of a gold watch, suitably inscribed, and Albert, and said it gave him the greatest pleasure indeed to be there that evening, and to be asked to make the presentation. He could endorse all that had been said by Mr. Davies. He had been a sort of troublesome chap himself to Old Jack, as they called him, worrying him for a peal here and a bit of ringing there, but it was always arranged. He hoped Mr. Austin would live to a good old age, and continue to enjoy the art he loved so well.

Mr. E. T. Allaway (Birmingham), Mr. H. W. Bishop (Swindon), Mr. W. H. Harris (Gloucester), also paid tribute to the great services which Mr. Austin had rendered to the art, and to the great respect in which he was held throughout the Exercise.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North-Eastern Division was held at Kirby-le-Soken on Saturday, August 22nd, and was attended by nearly 30 members. Service was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Gledhill), who, in the course of his address, welcomed the association, and also expressed a wish that more of his own congregation were present to hear the beautiful words and music of the Essex ringers' service, and to hear the splendid singing of the men. The hon. secretary (Mr. R. W. Stannard) read the lesson.

Tea was provided at the Parish Hall, when the Master, Mr. W. J. Nevard, suitably thanked the Vicar for his welcome, and the ladies for their help.

The Vicar was elected an honorary member, and eight ringing members were elected. The meeting was a great success.

BARNESLEY SOCIETY.

A successful meeting was held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on August 8th, but in the absence of the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, etc., who were all away, no detailed report can be given. Good practice on the bells was indulged in. Tea was prepared early and much enjoyed. The next meeting was arranged to be held on September 5th, at Wortley, on a date not to clash with the Yorkshire branch meeting, to be held at Penistone on Saturday, Sept. 12th.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

ST. MARY'S, ACTON, SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 25th, a glorious half-day was spent by the St. Mary's, Acton, ringers and friends. Leaving Acton at 1.48, Twyford was reached by the Great Western Railway at 3 p.m., where Mr. Dentry met them, and a few touches were indulged in on this very handy peal of eight in the standard methods. Miss Cross took part, and became a much appreciated guide.

Ringing ceased here at 5 p.m., when a good, old-fashioned tea was tackled by all and sundry. Sonning, the next and final call, was a treat in store, for here the annual regatta chanced to be on. The bells—a glorious eight—were soon going to Stedman, Bob Major, etc., much to the delight of the regatta folks. Ceasing at 8.30, all adjourned to the river, where some indulged in boating, and others had a dance in a meadow adjoining. Altogether a jolly time was spent. Both Mr. Dentry and Mr. Wright gave the ringers a hearty welcome—a real honest one, too—which was much appreciated, and very best thanks are due to them, their respective Vicars, and to Miss Cross, for their kindness.

FLEET RINGERS' OUTING.

Seven ringers from Fleet, Lines, including the Rector, had a very enjoyable little tour on August 5th. Starting at 8.30, in two cars, they were joined at Grantham by the Rev. C. J. Sturton, formerly curate at Fleet, now Vicar of Orston, who had kindly arranged for ringing at Elston, Whetton, and Orston. The bells were raised and lowered in peal at each church, and touches of Plain Bob, Oxford Bob and Grandsire were rung in good style. The bells at all three towers were in perfect order, and it was a real pleasure and privilege to ring them. Returning to Grantham for tea, home was reached at about 9.30 p.m.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, August 29th. Ringing from 2.30. Meeting at 6 p.m. The committee ask all members to attend to discuss important business concerning the Association. Will all members whose subscriptions are in arrears please oblige at this meeting to enable me to make a correct report for 1925?—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Derby, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited. Alteration of rules will be discussed.—Charles Draper, Local Sec., 25, Western Road, Derby.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Cheriton, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock; members 6d., visitors 1s.—W. J. Tucker, 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Ledbury District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cradley, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Church service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea.—Richard Thomas, District Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Taunton Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be at Combe Florey (Crech not available), on Saturday, August 29th. Service at 3 p.m. Tea at 4 and business after.—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the Bristol Branch of the above Association will be held at Mangotsfield, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, tea and meeting to follow.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arveley, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5, if it can be arranged. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dist. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, Established 1755.—Quarterly meeting at Solihull, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells (10) available 3.30. Tea will be arranged for those intending to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 29th, at Calverley. Usual arrangements. — H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hindley, St. Peter's, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. — James W. Grounds, Branch Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District. — The next district meeting will be held at Broughton Astley on Saturday, August 29th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Eccleston, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Will those intending to be present kindly inform Mr. R. Rigby, Bridge Foot, Eccleston, not later than Tuesday, Sept. 1st.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. — Exeter Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Crediton, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. in the Church Institute, 1/- each. The following bells will be available from 2.30 p.m.: Crediton, Newton St. Cyres, Shobrooke, Sandford, and Upton Pyne. All ringers welcome.—J. C. Oke, Asst. Sec., 35, St. David's Hill, Exeter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Ringing from 3.15. The Vicar will entertain members to tea. St. Mary's tower will be opened in the evening. A hearty welcome to all.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Sunderland, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Meet at Bishopwearmouth Church at 2.30, where bands will be made up for Holy Trinity and St. Ignatius (all 8 bells). Tea at St. Ignatius' Institute, Burlington Road, at 5. Members intending to be present please notify Secretary by Sept. 2nd.—G. S. Taylor, Dist. Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT & OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill, on Sept. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30 p.m. Will those requiring tea (at 5.15 p.m.) please notify Mrs. Whittaker, Cross Gate, Tickhill, not later than Sept. 3rd? —Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec. pro tem.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherwick, on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30. Sixpence per head will be allowed towards the cost of tea to all members informing me not later than August 29th.—Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. Dist. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A cycle run to Codsall on Saturday, Sept. 5th, bells from 3 o'clock; from there to Brewood, bells at 6 o'clock. Buses leave Green Square, Wolverhampton, for Codsall every half-hour, and for Brewood at 5.30, for those who cannot go otherwise.

DEVON GUILD.—North-Eastern Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Oakford, on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.45. Tea 5.15, 1/- each. Numbers for tea to reach me by Tuesday, Sept. 8th.—M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Hoddlesden on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—A meeting of the branch will be held at Lymm on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting at 4.30.—F. Bibby, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Leicester District will be held on Saturday, Sept. 5th, at South Wigston (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., and business meeting after tea. Proposed new rules to be discussed. Will all those requiring tea please notify me by Thursday, Sept. 3rd latest?—H. J. Poole, 61, New Park Street, Leicester.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanstephan on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells (8) available 11.30 a.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—J. Hammond, Branch Sec., Garthmor, Neath.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on Sept. 3rd and 17th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 8th; Southwark Cathedral on the 15th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 20 (6 p.m.) and *22nd; *St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 24th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—W. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Wortley on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells ready early. Tea can be provided if sufficient number apply to Mr. W. Wooller, New Lodge, Wortley, near Sheffield, before Sept. 3rd.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Stoke Albany (6) on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, Sept. 1st? Brampton Ash (6) will be available after tea.—R. G. Black, Stamford Road, Geddington.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Barmouth on Saturday, Sept. 5th. Service 2.30 p.m. Meeting 3 p.m. All members who can possibly do so, please attend. Friends cordially invited.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Wethersfield on Saturday, Sept. 5th. The bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Ringers' service in the church at 4.15. Tea and meeting in the Parish Hall. As these bells have recently been retuned and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, they are well worth a visit, and it is hoped a goodly number of ringers will make an effort to attend. Bus leaves Braintree for Wethersfield at 2.30 p.m., and returns at 9 p.m.—W. H. Dyson, Sec., High Street, Braintree.

LILANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bedwelty on Saturday, Sept. 5th (bells 8). Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The annual meeting of the members will be held at Kirkby-in-Furness on Sept. 5th, at 5 p.m. Bells (6) available all day. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday, Sept. 5th (bells 8). Important business, meeting 5 o'clock. Will all members try to attend?—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for September: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 6th, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 14th and the 28th, at 7.30.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Egham on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Followed by tea and business meeting.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A special district meeting will be held at Harwich on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Tea will be provided, part expense, 1s. each, to all who notify to the secretary before Sept. 8th.—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Willesden on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all who require tea (1s. per head) please advise me by Sept. 9th?—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Birstall on Saturday, Sept. 12th. The fine peal of 8 will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. onward. As this meeting is the jubilee of the foundation of the association, a special commemoration service will be held in the Parish Church at 4 p.m., when the preacher will be the Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, the president of the Lancashire Association. All members are urged to make a special effort to attend this thanksgiving service. All applications for tea tickets, for which a charge of 1s. 6d. per head will be made, must reach Mr. H. Peel, 2, Cross Street, Birstall, not later than first post, Tuesday, Sept. 8th. Members are reminded that all outstanding subscriptions should be paid without delay.—Percy J. Johnson, 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Warnham on Saturday, Sept. 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Royal Oak at 5 o'clock. Members attending please advise me not later than Sept. 9th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Hunsdon (Herts), on Saturday, Sept. 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due.—C. Beeston, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SNOWDON COMMEMORATION DINNER. — The annual commemoration dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon and past officers of the Yorkshire Association, will be held at the Victory Hotel, Briggate, Leeds, on Saturday, Sept. 19th, when the chair will be taken by the President at 5.45 p.m. prompt. By the kind permission of the respective clergy, the following rings of bells will be at the disposal of visitors from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Parish Church (12), Headingley (8), Far Headingley (8), Christ Church, Upper Armley (8). All applications for tickets for the dinner (for which a charge of 5s. 6d. per head will be made) should be made not later than first post, Tuesday, Sept. 15th, to Percy J. Johnson, 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — The second quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26th, at Melton Mowbray. Further particulars later. Will local secretaries and members please note date and endeavour to attend?—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

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DURHAM & NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

In spite of the unfavourable weather, a successful meeting of the Western District was held at Consett, on Saturday, August 22nd. The bells of the Parish Church, and those of Blackhill were at the disposal of the ringers, and touches of Bob Minor, Bob Major, Grandsire and Treble Bob were rung. Those present, including the local members, came from Newcastle Cathedral, Chester-le-Street, Tanfield, Pulham (Norfolk), and a member from the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Association.

A feature of the meeting was the improvement shown in the ringing of the local hands—several new members having recently joined the association. In the case of Blackhill, where a peal of eight bells was only put in two years ago, a touch of Bob Minor, with the help of one or two of the experts, was safely negotiated.

After tea, presided over by the Vicar of Consett, Mr. Tyson proposed that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Vicars of Consett and Blackhill for the use of the bells.—In replying, the Vicar of Consett expressed his pleasure at meeting the ringers once more, and assured them of his hearty co-operation whenever they cared to come again.

Mr. H. Tyson and Mr. J. Hargreaves were responsible for the arrangements of the meeting.

The next meeting will be that of the Eastern Division, to be held on Saturday, Sept. 5th, at Sunderland, where there are three eight-bell towers.

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