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A GESTURE OF HONOUR.

If it should happen that this war is a long war, ringing organisations are likely to find a considerable drain on their financial resources, and those which are not too well blessed with funds may eventually be hard put to it to make ends meet. The reason, of course, is not far to seek. There is going to be a heavy call upon the man power of the belfries and as ringers are called away to service elsewhere, there are certain to be some who will neglect, or be unable, to keep their subscriptions going. Even in a normal year there is always a proportion who fail to pay their dues, and if every association were to strike off the roll all who allow themselves to lapse, there would be a serious decline in the real membership of many societies. Most, however, allow a considerable latitude to defaulters, a latitude which, often, is not justified. Association finances consequently suffer. The circumstances in the days before us will accentuate this position. Among the men called away there are those who will not be able, even if they are willing, to keep their subscriptions paid, but in their case it should be the concern of the societies to see that they retain their membership. Those who are called to serve in the fighting forces must not be allowed, either through lack of means, or lack of opportunity of paying, to lose their link with their associations.

On the other hand, those who are left at home should be all the more ready to support the associations; indeed, they should welcome the opportunity of showing their absent colleagues that they are determined to keep the flag flying, not only by an extra keenness and effort in the belfry, but by a little personal sacrifice which may touch their pocket. The maintenance of ringing organisations throughout the country is a vital necessity to recovery later on, and those who are left to carry the Exercise through these disturbing days might well make some special endeavour to ensure the financial stability of the associations.

Just a few of the societies, of course, could exist for a time, without the life blood of revenue, but the large majority may find it extremely difficult to sustain any real activity, if they are faced with a much reduced income. It is easy to say 'We will see that none of our members called away to serve their country shall lapse,' but it ought to be possible for those who are left to do more than this. Cannot they undertake to pay the whole or part of the subscriptions of the absent members, if the latter are unable to pay for themselves, both for the good of the associations, and also as a gesture of honour to those who have gone out to serve their country?

(Continued on page 630.)

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After all, we get our ringing cheaply enough. We have our instruments and the appurtenances provided for us without cost. True, we make it a duty to ring for the Sunday services, but this is no hardship, because we love our art and desire to serve the Church, and the shilling or two which we pay annually to our association is but a small levy for all the pleasure which we get out of our ringing and the opportunities which are provided for us to meet and fraternise with our friends. Cannot those who are left at home make it their responsibility to pay the subscriptions of their fellows in the Services?

It may be said that these are early days to talk of doing this, but we do not think so. The experience of the last war was that the associations suffered rather seriously financially; now is the time to plan if similar difficulties are to be avoided in the future. In every belfry where a man has to leave on military service the remaining members should start a fund into which they could put their pence over a few weeks to ensure the payment of the absent ringer's contribution. And as others are drafted away those who remain might continue to provide these subscriptions. An additional penny a week would guarantee the contributions of at least two members, and there will be few towers, we imagine, where two-thirds of the ringers will be lost. As an alternative to a fund of this kind, individual ringers could undertake to pay the subscription of one colleague in addition to their own. It would be no real hardship to most, and it would be a safeguard to the associations, whose duty it will be to bend all their energies to reviving the art and setting it forth again on the path of progress, as soon as the opportunity is ripe.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SHRIVENHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS DIKE 1	EDWARD C. AUGER 4
*FREDERICK G. BAXTER ... 2	REGINALD G. PARTRIDGE... 5
HAROLD A. EDWARDS ... 3	*CHARLES E. TITCOMBE ... Tenor

Conducted by H. A. EDWARDS.

* First peal.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, October 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Three Minutes,

AT 60, DURNFORD STREET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5160 CHANGES;

Forty-three six-scores, three callings. Tenor 2 lb. 10 oz.

JACK BENNETT 1-2	FRANK RHODES 3-4
NORMAN BERRY 5-6	

Conducted by FRANK RHODES.
Witness—Rev. Edward Jenkins.

These bells are rung by ropes and wheels and are mounted on headstocks in a frame.

HANDBELL PEAL.

AYISHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT 4, FAIRLEIGH TERRACE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

*JACK N. A. PUMPHREY ... 1-2	ALBERT ROUGHT 3-4
WALTER C. MEDLER 5-6	

Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

* First peal on handbells.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

COURSING ORDER AND THE CONDUCTOR.

If we bear in mind the varying position of the treble, we can say that the Coursing Order of Bob Major is never at any time altered except by a bob or a single. There are three places where we can call bobs without disturbing the tenors, the Wrong, the Middle, and the Right or Home. (Presently we shall have something to say about Bobs Before.)

Now let us see what effect these bobs have on the Coursing Order.

If we call a bob at Wrong (the first lead end) the natural course end we produce is 52436. A bob at the Middle (the sixth lead end) produces 43652, and a bob at the Right (the seventh lead end) produces 42356. Transpose each of these by 53246 to get the Coursing Orders that will be produced and set the results down as follows:—

	Natural Course- Ends.	Coursing Orders.
A bob at W produces	23456	53246
do. do. M do.	52436	32546
do. do. R do.	43652	53462
	42356	52436

When we compare the Coursing Order produced by a bob at Wrong with the previous Coursing Order we find that three bells are altered; and these three are the three which follow each other immediately after the seventh. What has happened is that the bell which before had been following the seventh now follows the other two, and the order of these three bells is altered from ABC to BCA.

When we examine the actual changes at the bob we find that the bell which previously had followed the seventh is the bell that makes the bob. So that we can say that the effect a bob at Wrong has on the Coursing Order is to put the bob making bell, which previously had been next after the seventh, two positions later in Coursing Order. The relative position of all the other bells are not altered. Instead of the bells coursing in the order 23456, they course in the order 34256.

Very little mental transposition is required to find the new Coursing Order provided that the ringer has accustomed himself to observing Coursing Order as a regular practice. For instance, if before he calls a bob Wrong the Coursing Order is 34625, he can without difficulty know that after he has called it, the Coursing Order will be 46325. Moreover, if he is observing the Coursing Order he can never be at a loss as to which of the bells should make the bob.

A bob at the Middle alters the position in Coursing Order of the three bells which are hunting, one after another, immediately in front of the tenor, and gives the order 23564 instead of 23456. Again, it is the bob making bell which is put two positions further backward in Coursing Order, the relative positions of all the other bells being unaltered.

A bob at Home alters the position in Coursing Order of the three bells furthest in Coursing Order from the tenors, and gives the order 24536 instead of 23456. Yet again it is the bob making bell which is put two positions further backward in Coursing Order, the relative positions of the other bells being unaltered.

All this will give us a simple rule for transposing to obtain new Coursing Orders produced by bobs, at either

Wrong, Middle, or Home. Retain the old Coursing Order except that the bob making bell must be put two positions later, and will come after the two bells which run In and Out at the bob instead of in front of them.

But besides the Wrong, the Middle, and the Home, there are other bobs which can be called without parting the tenors, or, if they do part them, are made in series, and if the first parts them the second brings them together again. As these bobs are very often used in peals we will next consider what effect they have on the Coursing Order.

The most important of them is the bob Before, in which the tenor runs out and the seventh runs in; and which in Bob Major lengthens the course by one lead.

The natural course-end produced by a Before is 35264. All the working bells are displaced and as sometimes two, or three, or even more, Bobs can be used in the same course, this makes it very difficult to transpose course-end from course-end while you are ringing.

Here are three courses taken from a peal composed and conducted by the Rev. J. H. Pilkington in 1897 on the bells of his own church, Framlingham. The calling is very similar all through and would present a stiff task to those very clever conductors who, as they are ringing, transpose the course-end by the scales given in a table of course-ends.

These four courses contain parts of no fewer than thirteen 'natural' courses, each with its natural course-end.

If we work by Coursing Order instead of by course-ends we shall find that the task is very much simplified and well within the limits of the average good conductor's capacity.

There are nine changes of Coursing Order caused by bobs at Wrong, Middle, or Home, and we have already seen how to deal with them.

Now study the bob Before. If you write out a course of Bob Major and make a bob when the tenor runs out and the seventh in, you will find that one other bell only is affected and that is the one which makes the bob. Now look at the Coursing Order and you will see that whereas that bell was, previous to the bob, coursing in front of the tenor, it now courses immediately after the seventh, and the Coursing Order of the other working bells is not altered. Whereas in the plain course the Coursing Order was 53246, in the natural course produced by a bob Before the Coursing Order is 65324. All we have to do is to take the last of the bells in Coursing Order and put it first.

As a piece of practice set down by transposition the Coursing Orders of the four courses given above. To do so you must have the previous course-end to start from. It is 65234.

R to W	W to B	B to M	B to R
35624	56324	45632	45326
43256	32456	32456	32456
34526	45326	(64532)	
		26453	26534
25364	53264	53264	53264

The Coursing Order given in brackets lasts for one lead only.

(Continued on next page.)

COURSING ORDER.

(Continued from previous page.)

In a similar way it is good practice to set down by pencil and paper the Coursing Orders which occur in some peal that you may be likely to call, whenever conditions permit. The familiar four-part composition by J. R. Pritchard is a good example.

Occasionally in Bob Major a peal has two bobs made in following leads, in the first of which the seventh makes the bob and in the second the tenor makes the bob. The first parts the tenors, the other brings them together again.

For our present purpose, and for many others too, it is well to treat these two bobs as one operation. The course-end they produce is 64523 and the Coursing Order (which in the plain course is 53246) is changed to 24653. That means that when you are transposing your Coursing Order you must count as the last the two bells which previously you counted first. These two bells are those which will run in and out at the bobs.

AN ANCIENT ABBEY BELL.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Talley Abbey, near Llandilo, Carmarthenshire, one of the most romantic and fascinating ruins in Carmarthenshire, county of ancient monuments, was founded in, or a short time before 1196. King John made a grant to the Abbey in 1208, another grant being made by King Edward I. in the thirteenth year of his reign, and still another by Edward III. in 1334. In 1772 it was agreed to build a new church, and in dismantling the Abbey, the great bell, weighing 72 cwts., was carted to Carmarthen by one, Griffiths Parry, who was paid 8s. 6d. for his services, and then shipped to Exeter. Is it now in Exeter Cathedral? Is this bell in the present peal? As there is considerable doubt about these bells, I should be glad if any reader could enlighten me.

EDWARD J. THOMAS.

'Elephant and Castle,'
Carmarthen.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MAULDEN, BEDS.—At St. Mary's Church on Sunday, October 8th, for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes), being 240 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, April Day, Old Doubles and 300 of Grandsire: Walter Forman 1, Ronald J. Sharp (conductor) 2, Samuel Daniels 3, C. Edward Jefferies 4, Andrew C. Sinfield 5, Sidney Sharp 6. First quarter-peal in five methods by all.

SEALE, SURREY.—On Monday, October 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) in 42 minutes: Miss Kathleen Gillians (first quarter-peal) 1, J. M. Denyer (first quarter-peal) 2, W. Denyer 3, E. Gardner 4, W. Thompson 5, C. W. Denyer (conductor) 6.

HOLLOWAY.—At St. Mary Magdalen's on Sunday, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for the harvest thanksgiving service in 45 minutes: H. Brown 1, R. Charge 2, J. Kent 3, B. Newman 4, G. Charge 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, F. Akers 8. Also rung as a farewell to Mr. C. Chambers, who is sailing for South Africa.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

TRIPLES BEST FOR BROADCASTING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As Mr. Trotman, in your issue of September 29th, is asking, what does the rest of the Exercise feel about the B.B.C. interval signal, I will, as one of the rest, state what I think about it. To begin with, I agree with Mr. Trotman when he states that 'it might be improved on.' Also I agree that the suggested new record should certainly get rid of the 'monotony of always having the trebles at the lead'—in other words, the new record should *not* be call changes, but I part company entirely with Mr. Trotman when he objects to 'the tenor behind all the time.' (I refer, now, only to broadcasting purposes.)

In my opinion, when ringing is being broadcast 'all in' ringing on any numbers is a mistake. We are told 'there is no beginning or end to it.' If the broadcast was to be confined to the ears of ringers—then certainly it should be of the highest campanological character, but it is broadcast to the whole public, very few of whom know anything of campanology, and I think the finality of the tenor behind is, for such an uninitiated audience, very much to be desired.

We have, of course, many bands quite capable of putting over the air a perfectly struck touch of, say, Double Norwich, as suggested by Mr. Trotman, but I submit, sir, that however well it is struck, it is not nearly as appealing to the non-ringing public as is well-struck Triples, or even Caters, *if rung slowly enough.*

The type of broadcast that has appealed to me more than any other, and I believe to many other ringers as well, has come from the belfry of St. John's, Croydon, and from their old ring of eight. They then used to give us very slow and very well struck Stedman Triples, and, to my mind, for broadcasting purposes, Triples, rung slowly, is ideal. Fast ringing, for broadcasting, I think, is wrong.

ROBERT WHITTINGTON.

Cranleigh.

PRESENT RECORD PRAISED.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Trotman, I should like to say a few words if I may. I will start at the end of his letter, but I won't speak for the rest of the Exercise, but one of the Exercise. Since we first had this record of Bow bells, I have never yet heard anyone say, 'Those — bells, etc.' I say they are music itself and beautiful music too. We all like a course, or peal for that matter, of Double Norwich, but as we only get at the most two minutes of interval signal, where should we be if they start with rounds every time? We might hear a lead or lead and a half of the same changes. This would soon get monotonous, but a few changes of Caters with the trebles at lead and tenor behind are final, and I am sure the public or, as Mr. Trotman puts it, the world over like to hear the tenor behind. Who knows anything about Double Norwich except a few bellringers? The B.B.C. have plenty of records of change ringing, but they seem to prefer the one in question, and, after all, what right have we to interfere with the B.B.C.? If the time signal was anything else but bells we should not think of doing so.

I think, Mr. Editor, if my memory serves me right, we heard a course of Double Norwich on the back eight at Bow some years ago rung for evening service. They are the same bells we hear on this record. It was good and well struck, but would not a course of Grandsire Caters be better than eight bells? Mr. Trotman says that good as this old record is, it might be improved on. I should like to know in what way.

I venture to say that if Mr. Trotman chose the band himself he could not get better striking or find a sweeter peal of bells.

May I suggest that we get on with the jobs referred to by Sam Jones and Richard V. Fuller and the Editor's front page and leave the B.B.C. to put their own house in order? C. H. WEBB.

DEATH OF MR. HAROLD N. DAVIS.

WELL-KNOWN LONDON RINGER, COMPOSER AND CONDUCTOR.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Harold N. Davis, which took place recently after an operation in St. Giles' Hospital, Camberwell.

The deceased, whose age was 65, had dropped out of ringing for some time and probably was unknown to most of the younger generation, but 40 years ago he was one of the most active of London ringers, and took part in many peals, especially with the Waterloo Society. He was an excellent ringer, and composed and conducted several peals, especially of Grandsire Caters. He was cousin to Mr. James E. Davis.

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DEATH OF THE REV. E. J. ATKINS.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. E. J. Atkins, which took place on September 30th. The deceased gentleman, who was for 39 years Rector of Isham, was a member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild and of its predecessor, the Central Northants Association, and will be remembered by many members for the welcome he gave to ringers at meetings held at Isham and for his addresses to them. Sympathy will be extended to his son, Mr. E. M. Atkins, of Kilburn, who is one of the representatives of Cambridge University Guild on the Central Council, and his daughter, Mrs. F. Boulton, of Isham, who are left in bereavement.

The funeral took place at Isham on Wednesday, October 4th. The Peterborough Guild was represented by several honorary members, among those present being the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, J.P., R.D. (president of Kettering Branch), Canon C. C. Chambers (Wellingborough), the Rev. A. T. Segger (Walgrave), the Rev. J. H. N. Hill (Wellingborough), the Rev. C. T. Padbury (Mears Ashby), the Rev. H. A. Curtis (Barton Seagrave), and the Rev. H. A. J. R. Norton (Pytchley). The Isham ringers were represented by Mr. T. Garley. Members of public bodies and organisations of which Mr. Atkins had been a member were also present.

DEATH OF A MANCHESTER RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Robert H. Davies, of Manchester, who passed away on Saturday at Nell Lane Hospital. He had been ailing for about three months, but had got sufficiently well to be ready for work, but, becoming worse, he was removed to hospital on Friday.

Mr. Davies had just passed his 70th birthday and had been a member of the Lancashire Association since 1890. He had been attached to the bands at Birch-in-Rusholme, Manchester Cathedral and, in later years, at Christ Church, West Didsbury, where he was secretary. He had rung 72 peals in the standard methods, some of which he conducted. Mr. Davies was one who never sought peals, but he never refused to stand in if he could help it. His last ringing was a touch of Stedman on September 17th.

The interment took place at Southern Cemetery after a service in Christ Church, the bells being rung before and after the service.

Mr. Davies will be missed at Didsbury, where he tried to keep Sunday ringing going. There have not been many peals rung of late years at West Didsbury, owing to building development in the district.

TO-MORROW'S MEETINGS.

The following meetings have been arranged for to-morrow, Saturday, October 14th:—

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, at Binegar.
North Staffordshire Association, at Tunstall.
Peterborough Diocesan Guild, at Bozeat.
Lincoln Diocesan Guild, at Lincoln.
Ladies' Guild, at Handsworth, Sheffield.
Yorkshire Association, at Shipley.
Oxford Diocesan Guild, at Weston Underwood.
Barnsley and District Society, at Penistone.

ROTHERHAM RINGERS MARRIED.**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT RINGING MASTER.**

On Saturday, September 16th, the wedding took place at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Whiston, between Mr. Norman Chaddock and Miss Elsie Brothwell, both of Rotherham.

The bridegroom is a well-known ringer in the South Yorkshire area and is Ringing Master of the Sheffield and District Society. The bride, taking up change ringing in the last 18 months, has made rapid progress in the art.

Touches in various methods were rung before the wedding, in which the bridegroom took part, and after the service a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by John Holman 1, G. Gordon Graham (conductor) 2, Harry Stenton 3, Jack Brothwell 4, John Brothwell 5, John E. Turley 6, Tom Brothwell 7, Reginald Payne 8.

A MINIATURE RING.

A peal of Grandsire Doubles has been rung on a unique set of bells at Middleton, Lancashire. They have been made by Mr. Norman Berry and are hung on oak headstocks, with aluminium wheels, in an oak frame, and are complete with ropes and stays. The tenor weighs only 42 ounces and has the note F.

A small semi-elliptical spring, used in conjunction with the stay, enables the bells to be held up at hand or backstroke at will.

Mr. Berry's ingenuity will be admired, as will his skill and that of the other two ringers who scored the peal on these midget bells. A photograph of them which we have received shows them upon a stand round which the ringers can presumably sit, but, even so, it appears to us a great deal of dexterity must be needed to control these miniature bells. The peal was rung at the fourth attempt.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Largely through the instrumentality of Mr. G. E. Symonds and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, the manuscripts of the late Samuel Slater relating to the performances of the Norwich Scholars have been deposited in the Borough Library of Ipswich. It is very satisfactory to know that these records, the fruit of many years' labour by Mr. Slater, are now preserved for future generations.

Last Wednesday was the twenty-ninth anniversary of the first peal on ten bells entirely by parsons. It was 5,067 changes of Stedman Caters, rung at St. Mary's, Warwick, and composed and conducted by C. D. P. Davies. In addition to the conductor, the band contained H. S. T. Richardson, F. J. O. Helmire, H. L. James and C. W. Jenkyn, all of whom have passed away, as well as Canon Coleridge, Mr. Carew Cox and Mr. E. V. Cox, who, happily, are still with us.

On October 17th, 1726, the College Youths rang the first peal on the new bells which Rudhall had just supplied to St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The method was Grandsire Caters and the bobs were called by Benjamin Annable. Caters was rung, we notice, not Cinques, although the intention was from the first to install twelve bells, and the order was duly given.

The natural conclusion is that when the church was consecrated (which was a day or two after the College Youths' peal), the two trebles were not ready. The founder seems to have had some trouble with these bells, and when he did hang them they did not agree properly with the others. Some years later they were taken down and replaced by new ones. They then got into the steeple of All Saints', Fulham, where one of them still is.

One hundred and eighty-four years ago yesterday George Partrick called Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, and the Cumberlands, who made up the band, claimed it as the first time this famous composition was rung. The claim has generally been allowed, but four months previously on June 9th, 1754, the Eastern Scholars, with William Underwood as conductor, rang 'at the Parish Church of Saint George in the County of Middlesex, a Compleat Peal of 5,040 Grandsire Trebles with two Singles, being the first of the kind ever rang on them Bells.'

At the time only three peals of Grandsire with two singles had been composed and all by John Holt—the Original, the Ten-Part and the Six-Part. We may be reasonably sure that Underwood did not call the Original; he may have called the Six-Part, but it is much more likely that he called the Ten-Part. A month earlier he had called another peal of Grandsire Triples at Romford, but no indication is given as to the nature of the composition. However, it well may have been the first performance of the Ten-Part.

Thomas Tolladay, who more than anyone else made the St. James' Society one of the leading London companies, died on October 18th, 1843. The muffled peal to his memory was not rung until the following January 3rd.

As announced among the notices of meetings, the Lancashire Association have postponed the meeting at Whittle-le-Moors to October 21st owing to the regrettable death of the hon. branch secretary, Mr. Alfred Blogg.

RAMPTON BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The fund for our sixth bell is still open and stands at present at £6 12s.

The advance in bell metal has increased the cost of fittings and bells to such an extent that we are unable to install both bells at the same time, as was hoped. However, the 5th bell of our peal is safely paid for and will (D.V.) be dedicated at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1st, the feast of All Saints.

This bell is given by their sons in memory of the Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Evelyn-White, Rector and Lady of the Rectory 1894-1928.

THOMAS L. HAVERS, Rector.

WEDDING OF TWO LOUGHBOROUGH RINGERS.

At Loughborough Parish Church on September 30th the wedding took place of two members of the local band, Mr. Leslie Wallace Stevens and Miss Irene Cecil Durnford. Mr. Stevens, who is a native of Llanbradach, South Wales, has been a valued member of the band at the Parish Church for five years and has rung about ten peals. Miss Durnford scored her first peal in February last.

The best wishes of the local ringers were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, who are the second married couple in the band, the other being Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Edwards.

WEDDING AT BARROW-ON-HUMBER.

The wedding took place quietly at Holy Trinity, Barrow-on-Humber, on Tuesday, October 3rd, of Mr. W. A. Crowder, of Barrow-on-Humber, and Miss K. M. Fell, of New Holland. The bridegroom has been a member of the Barrow Guild of Ringers for several years. Immediately after the ceremony touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire were rung by the local band and some of the bridegroom's fellow-ringers from St. Peter's, Barton-on-Humber. Those taking part were F. Fowler, J. Chapman, W. Goddard, T. Johnson, J. Barrick, J. Atkinson, E. Dannatt and H. Eastoe.

WAR TIME RINGING.**HIGH WYCOMBE AND THE BLACK-OUT.**

The north aisle of the Parish Church, High Wycombe, Bucks, has been re-conditioned to meet the Lighting Restrictions Regulations to enable 6.30 evensong on Sunday to be continued. A like arrangement in the belfry ensures ringing as usual. This scheme came into operation on Sunday, Oct. 1st. At 5.45 p.m. the Vicar, the Rev. W. L. P. Float, met his ringers as usual in the belfry, a full band having assembled. The President offered prayers, and, as he retired, the bells were sent off promptly at 5.55 p.m. to the tune of Stedman Cinques. Four courses were successfully rung by 12 members of the local tower, so at least one ring of twelve does not hang derelict.

Ringling will continue as hitherto for Choral Celebration, 1st Sunday in the month at 9.20 a.m., other Sundays at 10.20 a.m., Evensong at 5.55 p.m. sharp. A quarter-peal can be attempted on any Sunday evening by arrangement. Practice is on Mondays at 7.30 p.m.

IMPROVEMENT AT SEFTON.

Service ringing at Sefton has not suffered through the present situation, rather it has improved. The bells are rung for half an hour before each service and a 720 has been rung for every service since the war commenced.

MOONLIGHT MEETINGS.

It is hoped in the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild to hold a series of Saturday meetings at the periods of the full moon.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**THE COMMITTEE DISCUSS WAR-TIME ARRANGEMENTS.**

A committee meeting of the above Guild was held on Saturday, October 7th, at Hartfield to discuss the welfare of the Guild in the present circumstances.

It was agreed that the activities of the Guild should be continued as normally as possible, and that if only a nucleus could be kept alive it would help to restore things when better times came.

It was decided to arrange a meeting in November and then wait until the days began to lengthen in January. The tower bells would be rung until dusk, and then tea and social with handbells would follow. Owing to the approach of rationing it was thought that everyone should make their own arrangements for tea.

It was agreed that owing to transport difficulties the meetings should be as central as possible and that a general meeting should be held as usual next year.

INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF R.A.F.

At Henlow, Beds, service ringing is being maintained both morning and evening on Sundays and, at present, the weekly practice on Tuesday evenings is being maintained. The future of the practices under existing conditions is under consideration of the police authorities, but if there is any objection raised, it is hoped to try the experiment of a set of 'silencers.' The local ringers are anxious to keep the practices going, as they have promising young blood in the band. Any ringer joining the R.A.F. and being posted to Henlow Camp will be welcomed at the tower on Sunday, 10.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.; or on Tuesday evenings at 7.30.

Two 720's of Minor have recently been rung after evening service: On Sunday, September 24th, 720 of Bob Minor. K. Wilton (first 720) 1, Miss K. Hartle 2, L. Wilton 3, J. Church 4, P. Tompkins (conductor) 5, E. Wagstaff 6. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 of Kent Treble Bob: E. Pearson, R.A.F. 1, Miss K. Hartle 2, A. Dille 3, J. Church 4, L. Bywaters (conductor) 5, P. Tompkins 6.

PEAL ATTEMPT AT WEST WYCOMBE.

On Saturday, September 23rd, a peal of Bob Major was attempted at West Wycombe by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild to commemorate the consecration by Dr. P. H. Eliot, Bishop of Buckingham, of the first part of the new Church of St. James at Downley in the parish of West Wycombe, which took place on September 17th. The peal, unfortunately, was lost, and afterwards a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by H. Wingrove 1, F. G. Biggs 2, P. Newton 3, R. Biggs (conductor) 4, J. Harrison 5, H. C. Jones 6, W. Lee 7, V. Evans 8.

SUNDAY RINGING.**SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.**

Ringling for Sunday services is taking place at the following towers, and visiting ringers, particularly those serving with the Forces, will be welcome:—

Great Baddow, 10 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Saturday afternoon, 3 to 5 p.m.

Hersham, 10.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Practice, Tuesday, tower bells, 7 to 8 p.m.; handbells, 8 to 9 p.m.

Burton-on-Trent, St. Paul's, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Nottingham, St. Peter's, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m., 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Great Staughton, St. Neots, Hunts, 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Southport, Christ Church, Lord Street, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 6 to 6.30 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9.

Tunbridge Wells, St. Peter's, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.15 p.m.

Carmarthen, St. Peter's, 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Chichester Cathedral, 10 to 10.30 a.m.

Poole, St. James', 10.20 to 11 a.m., 5.50 to 6.30 p.m. Practice, Mondays, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Maulden Beds, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Sunningwell, Berks, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Holloway, St. Mary Magdalen, 10 to 11 a.m.

Heckington, Lincs, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.

Bushey Herts, 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 4.30 to 5 p.m.

Woodbridge, Suffolk, St. Mary's, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Braintree, Essex, 10 to 11 a.m.

Bramley, Surrey, 10.45 to 11.15 a.m., 3 to 3.30 p.m.

With reference to the time given in our last issue for the ringing at St. Albans Cathedral on Saturday afternoons, we are asked to state that the time of meeting is 3 p.m., not 4 p.m. as stated.

Mr. Edwin Barnett informs us that the next practice at Crayford will be held on Saturday next, October 14th, from 3 to 5 p.m.

At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, in the City of London, a practice meeting will be held on Saturday next, October 14th, from 1.30 to 4 p.m., and if it is sufficiently well supported Mr. James E. Davis hopes to make it a weekly event.

At Willenhall ringing has been stopped since the outbreak of war, as the tenor bell is now used as a fire alarm in place of a work's siren which was previously employed for that purpose. It is hoped, however, that arrangements will shortly be made to enable the bells to be rung for Sunday service.

A TOWER-BELL PEAL.

The first war-time tower-bell peal was rung at Shrivenham, Berks. for the Oxford Diocesan Guild on September 30th. It was a 5,040 of Grandsire Doubles and two of the ringers rang their first peal.

A GOOD PRACTICE.

There was a good practice at Oxhey last Saturday. Cambridge Surprise Minor and Major, Bristol Surprise and Spliced Surprise four methods, with Stedman Triples, were rung on the tower bells. On handbells courses of Yorkshire, Cambridge and London Surprise were brought round, also three leads of Bristol, one touch of Spliced, courses of Bob Royal, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples.

VISITING RINGERS ENTERTAINED.

A combined practice was held at Cawthorne, Yorkshire, on Saturday, October 7th, when good use was made of the bells from 3.30 p.m. until 5.45 p.m. Many Minor methods were practised, including Plain Bob, Double Bob, Fulbeck Bob, Stedman Double Slow Course, Oxford Treble Bob, Burton and Cambridge Surprise, and plenty of encouragement and practice was given to new recruits, who were very welcome.

After the ringing those present adjourned to the Spencers Arms for a supper, which had been arranged by the local ringers, and full justice was done to a beautiful spread by twelve hearty ringers.

The visitors, who included three ringers from Felkirk and one from Penistone, were entertained as guests, and the local band's hospitality was much appreciated.

It is hoped to arrange more of these practices when possible and 'keep the home fires burning.'

HARVEST FESTIVAL RINGING.

On Sunday, October 8th, at St. Mary's, Chipping Norton, Oxon, for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Simons 1, C. Taplin 2, H. Cook 3, W. Green 4, W. Gibbs 5, J. H. Jarvis 6, R. Jarvis (conductor) 7, A. G. Newman 8.

At Market Deeping, on Sunday, October 8th, at the Parish Church for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Surprise Minor (1,320 changes), being 720 each of Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk, Hull, Primrose, Bourne and 500 of Cambridge: F. Brightman 1, C. Woods 2, W. H. Waldron 3, W. Oldman 4, J. O. Landan 5, H. M. Day (conductor) 6.

On Sunday evening, October 8th, at St. Leonard's, Eynsham, for the harvest thanksgiving service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, ten callings: C. Calcutt (conductor) 1, W. Bennett 2, T. Bond 3, W. Bond 4, C. Bennett 5, H. Caves 6.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

According to a tradition referred to in a fifteenth century manuscript now in the Abbey muniments, St. Margaret's was founded by King Edward the Confessor. Stow relates that there was formerly a parish church within the old Abbey Church, and as this was somewhat to the annoyance of the monks, for their ease and commodity, the king caused it to be builded without.

Doubt is, however, thrown on this tradition by the fact that, so far as can be ascertained, the name and fame of St. Margaret of Antioch were unknown in England before the time of the Crusades, and it was not until the twelfth century that churches were dedicated in her honour.

In the reign of Edward I. the church was entirely rebuilt by the parishioners and the merchants of the staple, except the chancel, which was rebuilt by the Abbey as rector. This church, in its turn, became ruinous and at the end of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries, when so many of the London churches were rebuilt in the Perpendicular style, the present building was erected.

The old tower contained three bells and evidently stood at the west end of the church, as was usual in medieval churches. In 1516 the first stone was laid of a new tower, which was also to be a porch; and at the ceremony Master Verton, Walter Gardiner and other worshipful and well-disposed people of the parish of their charity and good mind gave £6 4s. 7d. towards the cost.

This was the time when parishes all over England were, when they could afford it, increasing the number of their bells to five. One bell was given to St. Margaret's by Master Pomfrey, and, for the second, gifts of money and metal were collected in the parish.

The old metal collected was 'by the Commandment of the worshipful of the parish, delivered to William Smith, founder, in part payment of the new bell, two brasses, and a clapper.' Some years previous to this William Smith (or it may have been his father) was sued by the parish of St. Mary-at-Hill on account of a bell he had cast for them.

The old tower evidently was still standing and payments 'were laid out for the taking down of the bells and frame and for setting up the old frame in the new steeple, and also for the making of the new frame for five bells and for new hanging of the bells.'

In English parish churches the normal position of the porch was at the south side and of the tower at the west end. In the smaller churches of the fourteenth century it is unusual to find any door at all on the north side, and even in the large Perpendicular Churches, where there are both north and south porches, the latter is almost always the principal entrance.

Why St. Margaret's is an exception to this rule is easy to see; its position in front of the Abbey decided the matter. But it is not easy to see why the tower was built on the north side. There were other churches which had the same feature; St. Mary-le-Bow and St. Michael, Cornhill, for instance, in London, and St. Mary Redcliffe in Bristol; but in these cases the matter was decided by the restricted sites. At St. Margaret's there was plenty of room to build the tower at the west end. To-day people might object that such a tower would

obstruct the view of the Abbey, but that would hardly be a consideration in the fifteenth century. It may be that the parishioners wished to use their bells without any break, and so kept the old tower standing until the new one was ready; but that does not strike one as a very likely reason.

Although I have no direct evidence on the point, I suggest that the most likely explanation may be found in the relationship of the Abbey and the parish church. St. Margaret's had originally been built by the monks as a humble dependent on the Abbey and the monks claimed and largely exercised the right of control. But, as was usual in the many similar churches throughout the country, the parishioners resented the assumption of inferiority and resisted the control. To own and to use bells was the sign of independence in a church, and there are many instances of disputes between monastic and parochial churches over the ringing of bells. Nearly always the abbey asserted that its services were being disturbed by the parish bells. If this were so at Westminster then we can see why the position of the tower was altered from the west end to the north-west corner, for that would put the whole body of the church between the bells and the Abbey choir.

The weights of the five new bells at St. Margaret's are given in the churchwardens' accounts for 1527 as follows:—the treble, 500 lbs.; the second, 621 lbs.; the third, 856 lbs.; the fourth, 1,010 lbs.; and the tenor, 1,614 lbs. There was also a saunce bell which, after the changes in the ritual of the Mass, was hung in a turret at the top of the tower, probably, as at St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, so it could be heard further, and all the people in the parish might know the times of divine service. This turret was erected in 1565, and for the making of it the parish paid John Barrowell £3 6s. 8d.

In 1511 the church possessed a 'sacring bell p'celle gilt,' which disappeared in the reign of Edward VI., when so much church property was alienated. At that time the building itself narrowly escaped destruction. The Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector of the Realm, intended to build for himself a great mansion on the site of what is now Somerset House, and to provide the ground and materials he confiscated and pulled down more than one church. 'Having cleared the place and projected the intended Fabric, the Workmen found that more Material would be wanting to go through with it than the demolished Church and the Houses would afford unto them. He therefore resolves for raking down the Parish Church of Saint Margaret at Westminster and turning the Parishioners for the celebrating of all Divine offices into some part of the nave or main body of the Abbey Church, which should be marked out for that purpose. But the workmen had no sooner advanced their Scaffolds when the Parishioners gathered together with Bows and Arrows, Staves and Clubs and other such offensive weapons which so terrified the workmen that they ran away in great amazement and never could be brought again upon that employment.'

In 1565 'Mr. ffisher bestowed of his benevolence being church-warden' the recasting of the second bell, and in 1592 Valentine Trevor was employed to recast the bells or some of them; but he did the work 'falsely and deceitfully,' so that Robert Mot had to be called in to cast them again. The churchwardens 'received of

divers worshipful parishioners and others towards the charge of the newe Bells iij li xijd.' The weights of the bells before they went away to be recast and after they came back again were carefully noted and recorded in the parish accounts. Four years later the fourth was broken and 'Mr. Moat' was paid £10 for the recasting and for a new clapper.

At some time during the earlier part of the seventeenth century the ring was increased to six, and in 1670 the octave was completed. The founder was Mr. Darbie, who was paid £47 10s. for the two bells. It is usually assumed that this was the somewhat notorious Michael Darbie. Such a thing is not impossible, for Michael was a London man and was still alive, though nearing the end of his career (his will is dated 1672). The likelihood, however, is that the bells were cast by John Darbie, of Ipswich, a much better craftsman, who in the next year supplied a ring of six to St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, and (probably) some bells to St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill. The ring of eight remained in St. Margaret's steeple until 1739, when Samuel Knight, who had already cast the grand ring of twelve at St. Saviour's, Southwark, and was then casting the ring of ten for St. Sepulchre's, Newgate, was employed to recast them. Knight died in the same year and before the job was completed. He had cast the first four, but the fifth and it may be the three largest bells were cast by his heir and successor, Robert Catlin. Catlin was a carpenter and bell hanger and a first-class workman, as his frame at Southwark shows, but as a bell founder he was not the equal of his master.

In 1761 the ring was increased to ten by Lester and Pack, who also recast the tenor. The present eight was cast by Thomas Janaway in 1773 and the present ninth by Thomas Mears in 1834.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

MEETING AT HAGBOURNE UNDER WAR-TIME CONDITIONS.

A practice meeting was held at East Hagbourne on Saturday, October 7th, when the fine peal of eight bells, tenor 21 cwt., were available from 2.30 until 6 p.m. The convening of this meeting was in the nature of an experiment, the usual tea and service being omitted in order to give the maximum amount of time to ringing. About a dozen ringers were present from Oxford, Abingdon, Radley, Stevenston and East Hagbourne. This was considered fairly satisfactory, and various methods were practised with energy and success.

A general discussion followed on the best means of keeping ringing alive in North Berks, and in view of the fact that most towers have ceased to practise, it was decided to try and arrange a similar meeting once a month at different towers in the district. It is proposed to hold the next at Drayton on Saturday, October 28th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained. It is hoped that when these practices become more widely known in the district they will be better supported. All ringers will be welcome no matter how humble their achievements, and it is earnestly hoped that the district will back up its secretary and those responsible for making this effort to keep up the standard of ringing in the difficult months ahead.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT ACTON.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Acton on October 7th, where there is a very nice ring of six bells. Nineteen members were present from the following towers: Crewe, Wistaston, Acton, Nantwich and Marbury. The ringing was much enjoyed from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and afterwards the Vicar, the Rev. Charles Parry-Williams, conducted a short service in the church.

The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea by the Parochial Church Council at the Vicarage. A hearty vote of thanks for this welcome hospitality was proposed by Mr. Richard T. Holding and seconded by Mr. Richard D. Langford.

The Vicar responded and said that he thought that the art of change ringing should be kept going even in these anxious times. He also said he hoped the meetings would be held wherever it was possible; even if it meant that later on ringers would have to bring their own food rations.

ARRANGING A WAR-TIME MEETING.

KEEPING THE ENEMY IN THE DARK.

The other day I went down to — well, I had better not say where, in case I should be giving away any secret that might be of value to the enemy, but I went down just to see my old friend Bill—I ought not to say what his other name is, in case it should enable the enemy to identify the place, because he could easily trace that by searching the files of 'The Ringing World.'

Anyhow I found Bill in his garden. His coat was off and his shirt sleeves were rolled up—just as I have often seen him in the belfry—and he was solacing himself with a pipe and contemplating his potato patch; the fact that I mention it was a potato patch won't convey any really useful information to the enemy, because actually it wasn't the potato patch that Bill was contemplating, and Bill hadn't got his coat off or his sleeves rolled up; neither was he in the garden.

He really was smoking his pipe—but then a lot of people smoke a pipe, so that doesn't give anything away. And he really was contemplating something. Actually he was pondering whether, in view of the sudden increase in taxation of his favourite beverage, he should have his empty tankard refilled.

He looked upon my coming almost as heaven-sent. He told me he had been torn between two loyalties. Loyalty to his country, which demanded that he should pay his share of the cost of the war, by cheerfully contributing by indirect taxation, and that other loyalty which imposed economy in personal consumption. He had been asking himself whether it would be better to drink another pint and thus provide another twopence towards the suppression of Hitlerism or to deny himself in the interests of economy and run the risk of Hitler getting away with it.

But my coming saved him a headache. War or no war, the deficiencies of private relationships required that I should show my hospitality. It saved Bill no end of a mental struggle.

And so, over our tankards, we sat and talked of this and that, mostly of that, rather than this, I think; and we whispered it almost, because in these days walls have ears, and Bill and I are the last who would give away anything to the enemy.

I haven't explained that Bill is the captain of the belfry where he rings and I am the district secretary—the man who gets all the kicks and none of the blame; who does all the work, but gets blamed for everything that goes wrong; who stands to be shot at, and sits down to be criticised, but gets re-elected every year.

Well, as I said, Bill and I talked of this and that, until it was time for me to make another indirect contribution to the cost of the war, and then our conversation veered a little more towards this rather than towards that.

What I wanted judiciously to find out was what Bill thought of holding a war-time district meeting at his tower. Bill is an A.R.P. 'fan' (I am not sure that 'fan' is quite the right word, but you know what I mean), and I wondered how he would take the suggestion.

At first he gave me a flat refusal. He wasn't going to give the Germans a chance of catching him unawares; while he was ringing they might come over and drop a bomb, and he wouldn't be on the spot to give the warning—not that he would be in a fit state to give the warning if he was on the spot where a bomb dropped; but that didn't occur to him.

Naturally I didn't let it go just at that. I suggested a look-out post near the church so that Bill could be called, in an emergency, without loss of time, or, alternatively, that Bill himself could be the look-out while the rest of us did the ringing.

Of course, you don't know Bill; that is you don't know which Bill I mean, because, in case the information should get to the enemy, it is necessary, as I said before, to keep his identity secret. But Bill is one of those who doesn't like being left out when there is any ringing going on in his tower.

After another contribution, paid by me, towards the extermination of Hitlerism, Bill began to wonder if, perhaps, a little ringing on a Saturday afternoon might be possible. He still had vague doubts about its practicability; but he insisted that if it came off all necessary A.R.P. precautions must be taken.

Bill said, against emergencies, the stokehole, just outside the belfry door, should be made into a bomb-proof shelter; in accordance with his A.R.P. instructions, he will have to wear his 'tin hat,' everyone must put on their gas masks while they are ringing, and the village hall must be gas proofed if we are to have our tea and meeting in it. These things, Bill thought, would be simple to carry out. What was worrying him when I left him was lest any intimation of the meeting should come to the knowledge of the enemy, who, in consequence, would deliberately plan to bomb—no, I mustn't, for the sake of Bill's peace of mind, give away the secret of where this meeting is to take place. And there's the snag. If I mustn't say where the meeting is to be held, how can we hold a meeting? That's what's giving me a headache at the moment. O. P. Q.

MUFFLED BELLS

At Dover on Sunday afternoon, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled at St. Mary's Church in memory of Mr. Charles R. Millway, who passed away on Monday, September 25th: G. Eagles 1, T. W. Robins 2, J. Eagles 3, H. J. Saunders 4, D. Brown 5, H. Whitehead 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, E. T. Ellender 8.

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 the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Binegar on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. H. Nash.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made for all who notify Mr. W. Thompson, 29, Furlong Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before Wednesday. Please come early and have a ring before black-out time.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (p.v.) at Bozeat on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Service 4 o'clock. Important to have names early; send post-cards to Rev. J. H. Marlow, The Vicarage, Bozeat.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at St. Giles', Lincoln, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8, tenor 18 cwt.) available from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Short service 3.15 p.m. Visitors *must* bring their own food, tea (beverage) will be provided at small charge in the Parish Room, which will be available for handbell ringing during the evening.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE. — A practice meeting at Ibstock to-morrow (Saturday, October 14th), commencing 3 p.m.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. until black-out. Sheffield and District and all visitors welcome. No tea, but refreshment provided for lady visitors at home of Hon. Sec., E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The joint meeting of the Western Division and Leeds and District Society, previously advertised for Sept. 30th, will now be held on Oct. 14th, at Shipley. Bells from 2 o'clock. Business meeting approximately 6.30. — F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, Oct. 14th, 2-5.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Penistone on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Tower bells (8) from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing. Buses leave Barnsley No. 7 Bus Stand on the hour every hour, and half-past the even hour. All are welcome. — D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX. — During the winter months, commencing Oct. 14th, tower bell practices will be held every Saturday at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed by the local band.—H. C. Chandler.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 2 p.m. Time of service and tea to be announced at meeting. Come early. Will those wishing to have tea please notify me as early as possible?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Chilvers Coton (Rugby bells not available) on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in the Vestry at 4.30. Please make own arrangements for tea.—Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Owing to the death of the hon. branch secretary, the meeting of the above branch at Whittle-le-Woods is postponed to Oct. 21st.—F. G. Bradley, Branch Pres.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sharnford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available 2.30 until dark. Tea can be obtained at the Church Institute, and names should be sent to the Rector as early as possible to allow for any delay in the post. Handbells, etc., for the rest of the evening. Please make an effort to attend. These meetings now depend on YOU.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BUSHEY SOCIETY. — The bells (8) at Bushey, Herts, will be available on Saturday, Oct. 21st, from 3.45 to 5.15 p.m. Everybody welcomed. Most methods available. Handbell ringing afterwards. No time limit.—E. Jennings.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in the Parish Hall 5.30 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea kindly let me know by Wednesday, Oct. 18th. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, Oct. 18th. There will also be a practice on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at Broomfield, 3 p.m. till 6 p.m.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—A special meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available at 2.15. Important meeting in Rectory at 5.45 p.m. All district members should attend to consider how to fix a winter programme. All ringers will be given a cordial welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at headquarters on Oct. 24th at 7 p.m. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (South and West District), **GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (Chertsey District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (North-Western District).—A combined meeting of members of the above will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton, by Thursday, Oct. 26th.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, F. E. Hawthorne and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley (10 bells), on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 28th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock to 6.30. All other branch members cordially invited. No ringing after 6.30 p.m.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The committee have decided to carry on, and look to members for their support. It has been provisionally arranged to hold a meeting at Withyham on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Further details later.—C. A. Bassett, Assistant Sec.

ST. MARY, PUTNEY.—The bells will be rung every Sunday, 10.15—11 a.m., until further notice. All ringers welcome.—W. Foster, Tower Sec.

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