



No. 1,684. Vol. XXXVIII.

FRIDAY, JULY 2nd, 1943.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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**SOUND CONTROL.**

In the letter printed on another page Mr. F. C. W. Stevenson draws attention to what is undoubtedly the greatest difficulty caused by the ringing of church bells. The great majority of people like to hear bells, and the music is to them a part, and a very lovely part, of our English scene and atmosphere. But this appreciation is conditional, and bell ringing can be, and often is, an almost intolerable nuisance to those who have to live and work close to a belfry.

It is the penalty bells have to pay for their publicity and wide range. Their effect is greatest when the listener is properly attuned to them and when they are heard at some distance across fields or from a neighbouring street; or (though less frequently) when on some occasion of public rejoicing or at the climax of some wedding festival, their loud and triumphant tones take possession of the air, and for the moment capture the attention of listeners and voice their thoughts and feelings.

But people are not always so attuned. At the same time some are thinking how beautiful the bells sound, others may be annoyed almost to distraction by them. And this, as a rule, is not due to any difference in the listeners themselves, but to temporary and local circumstances. Change their positions and those who cursed would bless, and those who bless would curse.

If bell towers could be placed in the midst of parks or wide open spaces, away from houses where only those need listen who wished to, there would be no annoyance and no complaints. But bells are hung in church towers, and churches must be among houses and in close contact with the people. Some men must live too close to the bell towers, and they have to suffer, so that those who live further away can enjoy bell music at its best.

That is the difficulty and it exists because the problem of sound control has not been fully solved. Not so long ago it was virtually ignored by those who could have done something. Architects designed their steeples entirely for outside effect and without the slightest regard for the bells. They made the windows large and arranged the bell chamber floors so that the bells swung above the sills of the windows. When, as they usually did, they put in big louvres widely spaced, or when, as not unfrequently, they left the windows completely open, the sound beats down on the surrounding houses and cannot fail to be a nuisance.

Much of this was sheer ignorance, for architects thought little about the bells and knew less; but some of it was due to perversity. Lord Grimthorpe, who

(Continued on page 286.)

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exercised a good deal of influence sixty years ago, always insisted that the bells should be above the sills of the windows.

For some time a good deal of improvement has been going on in this matter. The Central Council can claim some credit, for, led by Sir Arthur Heywood, it has done much to instruct and enlighten opinion. But a lot remains to be done. Ringers can do their share. Wherever it is possible the lower parts of the windows should be blocked by some material which will stop sound. At present, of course, the trouble is to get material.

The best sign is that the bell founders are alive to the importance of the matter. There was a time when they were inclined to consider that their job was to hang the bells, and how they sounded, either inside or outside the steeple, was not their business. Blocking up windows or putting in new floors was for the local builder. That position was quite understandable.

When the return of more normal conditions makes it possible we hope ringers will bring these matters to the attention of the authorities of their churches. Meanwhile, they should carefully read Mr. Stevenson's letter, for he writes with experience and authority.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

THURCASTON.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 26, 1943, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY WAYNE ... .. Treble	HERBERT W. PERKINS ... 5
DENNIS DALBY ... .. 2	SIDNEY CHENEY ... .. 6
A/B Wm. ERNEST RAWEON 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 7
SHIRLEY BURTON... .. 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Monday, June 21, 1943, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT NEW COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF REVERSE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MARGARET D. TELFORD (Somerville) ... .. 1-2
JOAN HOULDSWORTH (St. Hilda's) ... .. 3-4
JOHN E. SPICE (New College) ... .. 5-6
DEREK P. JONES (St. Edmund Hall) ... .. 7-8

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPR.

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

The first peal in the method by all the band and for the society.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wednesday, June 23, 1943, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT 92, ETWALL ROAD, HALL GREEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

ARTHUR D. COOK ... .. 1-2	GEORGE E. FEARN ... .. 3-4
RICHARD J. B. HADDEN ... 5-6	

Conducted by RICHARD J. B. HADDEN.

## MUFFLED RINGING ON SUNDAYS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I see that on one or two occasions lately bells have been rung muffled on a Sunday. That is quite wrong. Bells should never be muffled on Sundays or the great festivals.

And it is not good to ring a muffled peal on the eve of Whit Sunday. 'CHURCHMAN.'

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT CRANFORD.**

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association was held at Cranford on June 19th and was attended by over 40 members and friends from Bosham, Sussex, Cranford, Ealing (Christ Church and St. Stephen's), Feltham, Hastings, Heston, Hillingdon (St. Andrew's and St. John's), Kensington, Kingsbury, Liverpool, Ruislip, St. Albans (St. Peter's), Swindon (Christ Church and St. Mark's), Twickenham, Uxbridge, Walthamstow and Willesden.

The pretty little peal of bells, recently restored and augmented by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, were kept going at intervals till about 8 p.m. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge and London Surprise Minor. Opportunities were given to learners who had not yet reached the change ringing stage.

At evensong the beautiful little church was filled. The lesson was read by the vice-president, Mr. J. A. Trollope, and the address was given by the Rector, the Rev. Maurice Childs, who welcomed the association and spoke of the history of bells, referring particularly to the three ancient ones at Cranford. The oldest dates from the 14th century. It was almost certainly rung for the victory of Agincourt, and again for the victory of Tunis.

Cups of tea were provided in a nearby building, and a short informal meeting was held, at which three new members were elected—Messrs. G. H. Orford and H. G. Chastney, of Cranford, and Mr. William J. Winter, of Heston. A local band is being formed under Mr. Orford and already progress is being made.

Future meetings were tentatively arranged as follows: July 17th, Twickenham; September 4th, Ruislip; October 2nd, Acton. The vice-president and secretary, on behalf of those present, expressed their deepest sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Coles in the loss of their gallant son so soon after winning honour and promotion for bravery. Mr. Coles feelingly replied.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and the local company.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT OSPRINGE.**

At a meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association, held at Ospringe on Saturday, June 26th, ringers were present from several neighbouring towers as well as from other districts of the association.

Ringing began about 3 p.m. and continued in various methods until 4.30, when service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. F. Hodges, who gave an address and a welcome.

Tea at the Ship Inn was followed by a business meeting, during which Mr. J. W. Unwin was elected district representative to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. H. Whitehead. It was proposed to hold a meeting at Sturry if possible. One new member was elected from the local tower. Reference was made to the passing of several members of the association. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar, to Miss D. Whiting for playing the organ, and to Mr. F. Farnsworth for making the local arrangements.

**DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH C. DEAN.**

The death is announced of Mr. Joseph C. Dean, for many years secretary of the Northampton Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, who passed away on June 23rd.

The funeral at St. Peter's, Northampton, on June 26th, was conducted by the Rev. W. R. M. Chaplin, assisted by the Rev. M. L. Cinchinan and the Rev. A. T. Seggar. The service, which was fully choral, was attended by many ringers and friends. The bells were rung half-muffled. Mr. Dean's death is a great loss to the branch and to the Guild.

**DEATH OF FLIXTON RINGER.**

The death is announced of Mr. Robert Thomas, of Flixton, Lanes, which occurred suddenly on February 14th following an operation at Abbotsfield Hospital, where he had been admitted only three days previously.

Mr. Thomas, who was 55 years of age, joined the Flixton band in 1926 and had been a regular service ringer ever since.

He was a blacksmith by trade, a lifelong abstainer and non-smoker, and was known for his remarkable fitness. During the 1914-18 seasons he played rugby as a Salford forward, and ten years ago when the Urmston baths were opened he gained the diving and under water championships and was presented with an illuminated address for his exhibitions at galas.

The funeral on February 17th was conducted by the Rector, assisted by the curate, and was attended by over 100 persons representing Mr. Thomas' many activities. Four A.R.P. wardens acted as bearers. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by Messrs. Ben Thorpe, A. Barnes, J. Worth and D. Vincent. Among the many floral tributes was a wreath from the Flixton ringers.

**OTTERY ST. MARY.**—On June 12th, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Arbery 1, W. H. Godfrey 2, L. Hine 3, C. Turner (conductor) 4, E. Marks 5, G. Burrows 6, W. Dommett 7, N. Pyne 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Catherine Annie Godfrey, wife of Mr. John H. Godfrey, secretary of the East Devon Branch of the Devon Guild.

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

A meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association at Diss on June 19th was attended by 53 members from Bergh Apton, Botesdale, Cambridge, Chediston, Dickleburgh, Diss, East Stonham, Fornsett, Isleworth (Middlesex), Ikley (Yorks), Kingston (Herts), Long Stratton, Mulbarton, Norwich, Palgrave, Stradbroke, Shelfanger, Winfarthing and Wymondham. The eight bells were rung during the afternoon and evening in various methods from rounds to Superlative.

The president, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, preached at the service, and after tea in the Coffee Tavern the business meeting was held.

The dates and places of the next two meetings were as follows: Fakenham on September 11th, and Norwich on October 23rd, if conditions make it possible. Ten new members were elected. It was decided not to issue any report for the past year, at any rate not without further consultation. No doubt as a result of the ban, the occasional annoyance shown at ringing in the past by people near the tower is now replaced by expressions of appreciation.

**GOLDEN WEDDING.****MR. AND MRS. S. JONES, OF ECCLESTON.**

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. S. Jones, of Eccleston, Cheshire, was celebrated on June 7th by a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's Church followed by the firing of the bells 21 times.

In his early days Mr. Jones lived at Pulford, where his father was sexton, and there he learned to ring despite the fact that at the age of ten he lost his left hand in an accident. On his marriage in 1893 he went to Eccleston, where there was a ring of six, and he was an active member of the band until the church was demolished. The new church was opened on Ascension Day, 1900, and was furnished with a splendid ring of eight. Mr. Jones became towerkeeper a few years later, and he still holds the position.

Mr. Jones has always been regular at service ring and has taken part in a number of peals for the Chester Diocesan Guild. His three sons have all taken up ringing, the eldest conducting the quarter-peal on this occasion. The remaining two are with H.M. Forces abroad.

The band were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and hearty congratulations and good wishes were the order of the evening.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT TRING.**

A successful meeting of the Western Division of the Hertford County Association was held at Tring on June 19th and was attended by about 30 members and friends from 18 towers.

In the absence of the Vicar, the service in church was conducted by the curate (the Rev. — Moore), who gave an address. Mr. R. Goldsney, an Apsley ringer, was at the organ.

After tea the business meeting was held in the tower, Mr. F. J. Reeve being chairman.

Flamstead was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held if possible on July 17th. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, the Rev. Moore for the service, Mr. N. Brackley for the local arrangements, and the organist for his services.

During the afternoon and evening Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Major were rung as well as rounds for the beginners.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT COLCHESTER.**

A district meeting of the Essex Association, held at St. Leonard's, Colchester, on June 19th, was attended by only 14 ringers, but they represented eleven towers, Thorington, Thurlow, Mistley, Langham, Newport, Isle of Wight, Springfield, Clacton-on-Sea, Tendring, Earls Colne, Kirby-le-Soken and Ipswich. During the afternoon and evening there was some good ringing in several Minor methods.

The service in church was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. J. Ramsey McCullum.

In the absence of the District Master, Mr. Frank Claydon took the chair at the business meeting, and Great Bentley was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held in September.

**MR. GEORGE HENRY DAYNES.****A CORRECTION.****To the Editor.**

Dear Sir,—In your issue dated February 19th last, on page 83 you print an article on 'Death of Lt.-Col. G. C. Rogers,' in which you state 'conducted by the late G. H. Daynes.'

I wish to correct this statement, and to inform you that my old friend George Henry Daynes, although well past the allotted span, is still in good health, and regularly attends St. John's, Deptford, for ringing every Sunday morning and evening.

F. W. RICHARDSON.

16, Harefield Road, Brockley, S.E.4.  
[We offer Mr. Daynes our apologies.—The Editor, 'The Ringing World.']

## THE TUNING OF BELLS.

(Continued from page 277.)

### SIMPSON'S SECOND CHAPTER.

Canon Simpson's suggestion that English bell founders shortened their bells for the sake of convenience in ringing (and so upset the balance of their tones) was little more than a rather vague conjecture, but it has been repeated many times, and in Groves' Dictionary (the standard reference book on musical matters) it reappears as a statement of fact: 'Change ringing (practised only in this country) is directly responsible for the alteration in the shape of English bells from that prevalent on the Continent. This alteration was undoubtedly made to facilitate the balance of the bell so that it might be more easily manipulated when hung in the old style, with the result that the series of tones in each bell has been completely upset.'

This cannot be true. When the traditional shape was evolved, ringing had not developed beyond swinging the bells little more than frame high, and change ringing did not become general until centuries later. Nor could any shortening of the bell have made sufficient difference in ringing it, to induce the founders to run the risk of spoiling their work for the sake of the ringers, to whom they had no obligations, and with whom in most cases they never came into contact.

We now come to the second of the two articles which make up Canon Simpson's book. In it he goes into details as to the way to tune a bell correctly. What he says need not be taken as the final word on the subject, for he had neither the opportunities nor the necessary instruments to carry out the elaborate investigations and experiments on which the three leading founders base their systems of tuning. What he wrote was the starting point of the investigations. This is what he says:—

The object of my former paper was to place on record certain facts concerning bells as they are, and to call the attention of the musical public to them. And I did so, not only to offer an explanation of the want of harmony observable in peals—and still more in carillons—but also in order to bring public opinion to bear on founders and tuners, so as to induce them to bring their bells into a more perfect agreement with the (presumed) intentions of the original designers of the present form of bell than has been thought necessary in the past.

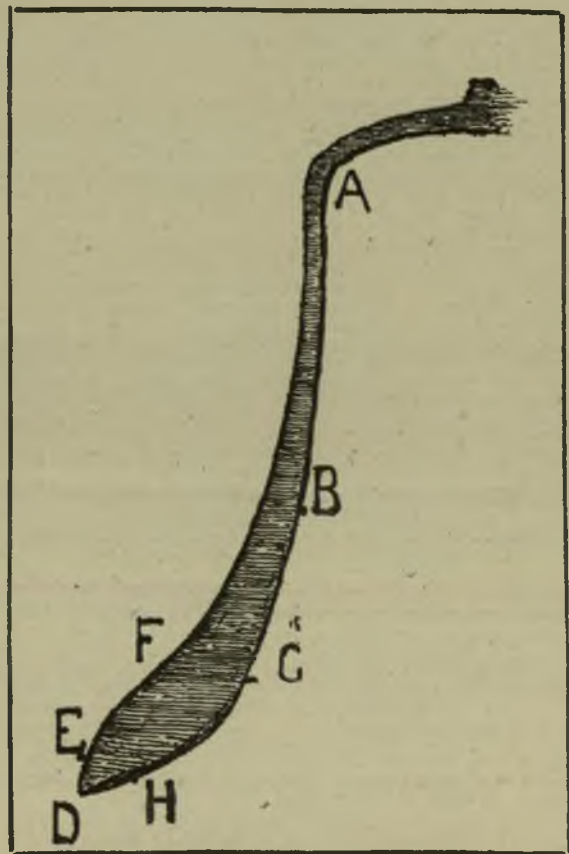
But I did something more than this. I ventured on a pretty confident opinion that existing bells and peals might (generally) be so rectified as to be much more completely in tune, both with themselves and with each other, than we have yet found them.

And here I desire to say at the outset that I am not a bell founder. Had I been such, no doubt, I should have kept any special knowledge to myself and have made use of it for my own advantage. But, having no personal interest to serve, and believing it to be for the best interests of the art that the knowledge I have acquired and which I hold to be essential to any real progress, should be at the command equally of all the profession, I have preferred to make a clean breast of all I think I have learned, and let bell founders take it or leave it as they may think best.

If, as I venture to hope, my account of things should prove correct and of value, I shall feel amply repaid if this is acknowledged (as no doubt it would be) by those

to whom it may prove an important assistance in what is now a very obscure department of the founder's art.

It will be remembered that the main point insisted on in the former article was that the tones which I have there designated as the nominal and the fundamental should in each bell be brought into unison.



According to theory the nominal should be an exact octave above the fundamental. But, as a matter of fact, we rarely find it so, the nominal being very generally about a quarter of a tone (more or less) sharper than the fundamental; and the question is, 'How to bring them together?'

In order to explain my answer to this satisfactorily, I must direct attention to the figure.

This figure represents a half-section of a normal English bell. (Foreign bells, which probably represent an earlier type, differ from the English in having the line CD straight instead of curved.) The line ABCD represents the inner surface of the bell, and forms a continuous curve, the curvature of which becomes more acute as we approach the lip at D.

The line of the outer surface is more complicated, but it is so ordered that the thickness of the bell shall be uniform from A to B, then gradually increase up to a point C, and then rapidly diminish until the bell terminates in a sharp 'cusp' at D. (A 'cusp' is a point where two curves meet and stop.)

The points E and F indicate the positions of certain 'bead lines,' which may be observed running all round a bell, which mark the boundaries of what is called the 'sound-bow,' or principal zone of the bell; and the points

H and G are the corresponding points respectively on the inner surface.

We are now in a position to explain how to tune a bell—i.e., how to alter its tones so as to bring them into harmony with each other, or with the corresponding tones in other bells.

It would evidently be inconsistent with the character of this paper to enter into a detailed description of the various processes, and of the effect of each; but here is the whole matter in a nutshell—

The point H is the 'turning-point' for tuning the nominal.

The point C is the 'turning-point' for tuning the fundamental.

To be a little more particular:—

1. To sharpen the nominal, metal must be taken away (of course all round the bell) from the little triangular portion HDE; by this means the nominal may be safely sharpened about 1/8th of a tone. But the process rather spoils the look of a bell, and, for that and other reasons, is not popular with tuners. Nevertheless, it is effective, and within reasonable limits, quite allowable.

2. To flatten the nominal metal must be taken off all round the bell from H to C, or to G, or even to B, if necessary, thus thinning the main part of the bell; by this means the note may well be lowered as much as half a tone if required.

Now, these two processes are well known to all English experts, and I have never met one who used any other; which shows, as I said before, that (consciously or unconsciously) English experts tune their bells to each other by the nominals and by no other note.

And now for the fundamentals:—

1. To sharpen the fundamental take off metal along

the line CD; this may be continued until line CE. To flatten the fundamental take off metal from C to G, or even to B, if necessary.

And these are the processes used by foreign experts in tuning their carillons or peals; which, again, shows (as I said before) that the main object which *they* have in view is to tune their bells to each other by the fundamentals, and not by the nominals.

If now the above rules are carefully studied in connection with the figure the following possibilities or impossibilities — which I am unable here to establish at length—will, I think, be sufficiently apparent:—

1. That the fundamental cannot be flattened without also flattening to some extent the nominal.

2. That the nominal can be flattened considerably without altering the fundamental—viz., by taking off metal, on both sides of C.

3. That the nominal can be flattened a little, while by the same process the fundamental will be a little sharpened, thus bringing the two towards each other—viz., by reducing the rounded surface CD to a flat surface.

4. That the fundamental can be sharpened considerably; while leaving the nominal nearly unaltered.

5. That, although the process of sharpening the nominal will also raise the fundamental, it will not do so in the same degree; and would tend, therefore, to bring the two together, in the unusual (and very objectionable) case of the fundamental being originally the sharper.

With these possibilities within our reach, it is surely evident that bells can, as regards these two principal tones, be put into tune with themselves and with each other. And, if so, they can be so cast in the first instance.

(To be continued.)

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### BELFRY GOSSIP.

Last Thursday, Mr. Josiah Morris, of Leicester, reached his 76th birthday. Like his two sons, Ernest and G. Stedman, he has had a distinguished ringing career.

Mr. Frank H. Hicks is among those who have written about the heavy ring of five at Kingsdon. He says that a peal of Doubles in six methods was rung on them on March 20th, 1937. Mr. P. N. G. Rainey rang the 24 cwt. tenor.

Damage to the amount of £200 was done to St. Margaret's, Leicester, by a fire which broke out in the choir vestry. But for the prompt action of Mr. A. Bailey, one of the ringers at Knighton, it would have been much worse.

Last Wednesday was Mr. George R. Pye's 71st birthday. He has not been in very good health lately, but the whole Exercise will extend to him congratulations and every good wish.

On June 27th, 1726, Benjamin Annable and the College Youths rang 6,832 Bob Major at St. Mary's, Lambeth. It was the first time more than 5,120 changes had been rung in any method.

The old ten bells of St. Michael's, Coventry, were rung for the last time on June 27th, 1885.

The Lancashire Association rang the first peal of Northampton Surprise Major at Oswaldtwistle on June 28th, 1921.

On the 30th of June, 1833, was rung by Mr. Elijah Roberts on a Musical set of Hand Bells, fixed in a frame and remained so for the whole performance, a complete Peal of that admired system, Steadman's Cinques comprising, 5016 changes composed by himself conducted by Mr. Henry Cooper, and was accurately rung in a most masterly style in three hours and twenty-four minutes.

Henry Cooper died on July 2nd, 1864, at the age of 62. The highest point so far, in method ringing was reached on July 1st, 1931, when William Pye called at St. Mary's, Ealing, a peal of Surprise Major in twelve spliced methods.

A peal of Spliced Plain Bob, Fulbeck Bob, Double Bob and Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung by the Norwich Diocesan Association at St. Michael's, Coslany, Norwich, on July 1st, 1939.

The Birmingham Amalgamated Society rang the first peal of Grand-sire Cinques in hand on July 2nd, 1886. John Carter, conducted and Mr. Tom Miller rang 5-6.

The diagram on page 288 should have a point C marked between H and G and rather closer to the former than to the latter.

### FOR THEIR COUNTRY.

We regret to announce that Pilot Officer Derek M. Sharp and Flying Officer R. F. Kingham, R.A.F.V.R., have failed to return from bombing operations over the Ruhr.

Derek Sharp was a well-known member of the Kent County Association and took part in many peals. He received his flying training in America, where he was the hero of a rather sensational event which most of our readers will remember. For some months he had been engaged on operational duty in this country and was commissioned last April.

Ronald F. Kingham, who was 20 years of age, was a member of the Winchester and Oxford Guilds and had rung several peals.

Both probably would have made names in the Exercise and they will be missed. The price that has to be paid for final victory is a heavy one.

### THE TUNING OF BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the articles now appearing in 'The Ringing World' on the tuning of bells, I believe most ringers realise that it is possible to have both good and bad Simpson-tuned bells, and also both good and bad 'Old Standard' type bells. Again, most ringers know the broad principles upon which the partial tones on Simpson or harmonically-tuned bells are arranged, but records and accurate statistics of good 'Old Standard' type rings are sadly lacking.

What is needed, before it is too late, is accurate records of the partial tones of bells, which, in the opinion of ringers, comprise good 'Old Standard' type rings. Before we can achieve this we must obtain ringers' opinions and find which are generally considered good rings of their type.

Could we, for instance, have the views of your readers as to which, in their opinion, constitutes the best 'Old Standard' type ring in each county, only rings 100 per cent. 'Old Standard' to be included?

I do not wish to start a controversy concerning the merits of the two systems of tuning, which in my opinion is a matter of personal taste, but to find out which are considered the best 'Old Standard' rings in the country.

For Oxfordshire I would suggest the ring of ten at Magdalen College, Oxford, with a tenor 47½ inches in diameter in E natural. The ring is made up as follows:—

Treble: Abel Rudhall, 1740. 2: Ditto, 1739. 3: Abraham Rudhall I., 1712. 4: Ditto. 5: Abel Rudhall, 1748. 6: Ellis Knight I., 1623. 7: William Dawe, circa 1400. 8: Robert Taylor and Sons, 1828. 9: Ellis Knight I., 1641. Tenor: Ditto, 1623.

Perhaps others would give their opinions on Oxfordshire and other counties.

Derwen, Launton, Bicester.

FREDERICK SHARPE.

## RINGING AND THE PUBLIC.

### A PROBLEM AND ITS SOLUTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Preoccupation with war work has prevented me from writing sooner, but I should like, if I may, to take this opportunity of adding some comments in amplification of your reasoned and wisely tolerant leading article, 'Ringing and the Public,' which appeared in the May 21st issue of 'The Ringing World.'

The question of the effect of bellringing on the general public is one of very great importance to all who are interested in, and lovers of bells. The removal of the ban, after years of silence, has brought this matter acutely to the forefront, as may be seen by the numerous letters on the subject which are now appearing in the general Press, and the time is, therefore, opportune to deal with the matter adequately and comprehensively.

After a lifetime spent in dealing with the technical and acoustic problems connected with bells, and from coming into contact with all classes of people during that time, I have found that only rarely does one find any attempt made to meet the objections properly. As a bell lover, I say unhesitatingly that in certain circumstances, and under certain conditions, the noise of bells (or 'sound' if you prefer it) can be an unmitigated nuisance and the cause of much justifiable irritation. Those who have to live or work close to a church, often in premises which are nearly on a level with the belfry, quite naturally find bellringing most distracting to say the least. Often in my own case when at work in our Croydon foundry, trying to deal with some problem requiring close concentration, I have been quite exasperated by the bells being rung on test. In such circumstances one is not in the mood to appreciate the great and undeniable beauty of bell tones and bell music.

### THE REMEDY.

In your article you outline certain hints and suggestions for the conduct and performance of ringers, which, in themselves, are admirable. But, excellent as they are, they do not solve the problem completely, nor, as you rightly point out, does it help to ascribe the complaints solely to cranks and eccentrics who are prejudiced. Bells are a part and, to the majority of people, a very lovely part, of our English scene and atmosphere, and it is incumbent upon those of us who desire to maintain this part of our island life to avoid, as far as we can, those conditions which create opposition.

What, then, is the remedy? The answer in most cases is almost absurdly simple. In all my long experience I have never yet met an individual who, however bitter they have been about bells, has not admitted when pressed that they like the sound of them from a distance or across the fields in the country. Here, then, is the key to the problem. Reproduce the effect of bells when heard from a reasonable distance and almost the whole opposition would disappear at once.

### TOWERS GREATLY VARY.

Unfortunately, during the past and even up to the present century, the general idea has been that bells must be hung right up on a level with the window openings with the result that in the majority of the towers they are now so installed. This is quite wrong, especially in modern towns and cities, as it fails to take into account the considerable carrying power and penetration of bell tones when rung by swinging. Acoustically, the ideal belfry would be one with no windows and no roof and with the bells fixed from six to ten feet below the top of the walls, when mouth upwards, according to size. Atmospheric and architectural considerations make this impracticable, but it is quite possible to get very near to this ideal in the great majority of existing towers simply by closing up the insides of the belfry windows with boarding or, if it is preferred to make it more permanent, brickwork or masonry, to such a height that the sound of the bells has to rise upwards before passing into the open air. Naturally each tower must be dealt with on its own merits according to local conditions, but if the job is approached intelligently there are few examples which cannot be improved enormously. For instance, a tower standing on very high ground well above and away from other buildings probably needs no alteration. On the other hand, a city church tower must be dealt with fairly drastically, and in extreme cases only a very small opening should be left at the top. The exact amount can always be determined experimentally with very little trouble. Those towers which have open spires or plenty of room above the bells lend themselves best to the purpose.

When bells are being rehung in new frames the opportunity should always be taken to fix them at a lower level relative to the window openings where conditions permit. When new towers are to be built, the levels of the floors relative to the windows should be arranged so as to allow of any bells which may be installed in the future being fixed well below the openings. In this respect I appeal particularly to architects.

The advantages of the treatment outlined above are twofold. In the first place, the sound of the bells is modulated, to any desired degree, in the immediate neighbourhood of the tower, and in the second place (and this is the more surprising to most people) will tend to increase the radius over which they can be heard. The reason for the latter fact is, I imagine, that as the sound of the bells has

(Continued in next column.)

## ST. PETER'S, SHAFTESBURY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Hartley is quite correct in stating that the 5th is heavier than the tenor. We rehung this peal of six in 1922 and the bells were weighed when at the foundry at that time. The diameter of the 5th bell is 3ft. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., weight 13 cwt. 2qr. 7lb., and the diameter of the tenor bell is 3ft. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., weight 12 cwt. 2qr. 26lb. The note of the tenor is between E and E flat. I might add that these two bells were not tuned or altered in any way whilst at our foundry.

J. OLDDHAM.

The Bell Foundry, Loughborough.

## WEIGHT OF TENORS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Some correspondence has taken place in your columns about the weights of bells, and I would like to ask if any of your readers can verify the weights of the 9th and tenor at Ewerby, Lincolnshire, given by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson on page 414 of 'Among the Bells.'

He gives the 9th a diameter of 44 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches and weight 14 cwt. 3qr. 18lb., and the tenor 47 inches and 15 cwt. 23lb. So small a difference as 33lb. seems remarkable to me.

C. E. BORRETT.

Sheringham, Norfolk.

## DURHAM & NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On June 19th a practice meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Association was held at Chester-le-Street, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. The ringers were welcomed by the Rector, Canon C. R. Appleton. Tea was at The Anchorage. Mr. J. W. Parker, of Sunderland, made sympathetic reference to the loss by Mr. Sid Breeze (late West Hartlepool) of his wife. Mr. Parker also tendered a vote of thanks to the ladies for providing the tea, and to the Rector for the use of the bells.

This is the first of a number of meetings to be arranged, and it is hoped to hold the next one at Houghton-le-Spring Parish Church on Saturday, July 10th.

## A TALE OF OXFORD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have recently been reading a book entitled 'An Oxford University Chest,' which is a study of life in the City and University of Oxford. Possibly your readers, and in particular members of the O.U.S.C.R., may find the following quotation amusing. In the section dealing with undergraduate life, at the end of a list of the lesser-known clubs, there appears the following:—

'The Campanology Club.'—'Mr. W. Jones (Jesus) will read a paper on "The development of Bob Major into Stedman Triples in the latter half of the nineteenth century." In Mr. Williams' rooms, No. 4 Staircase, Jesus College.'

A little later in the chapter, when the author is discussing the place of clubs in undergraduate life, the following comment appears:—

'The hardest-working political economist may like an hour off a week to discuss bellringing. In the campanology club, he dares to stand himself a drink and expand.'

All very interesting, I am sure!

R. D. St. J. SMITH.

Heanor, Derbyshire.

## DEATH OF MR. J. ROBERTS.

The death is announced of Mr. John Roberts, of Woolton, Liverpool, who passed away on Thursday, June 10th, at the age of 78 years.

Mr. Roberts was a life member of the Lancashire Association, which he joined in 1892, and for many years was one of the Woolton company. He had rung several peals, chiefly of Plain Bob and Grandsire.

He was laid to rest in the churchyard at Woolton on Monday, June 14th, after a service in church conducted by the Rector, the Rev. M. Pryce Jones. The bells were rung half-muffled before the service. After it they were rung open to a course of Grandsire Triples.

## RINGING AND THE PUBLIC

(Continued from previous page.)

to rise as it leaves the tower, it passes over surrounding buildings or natural features with less obstruction. In reference to this it should be borne in mind that the customary louvres, which are placed in nearly all belfry windows, accentuate the trouble by throwing the sound downwards.

It is necessary for me to add that the foregoing comments apply to ringing peals. In the case of chimes, carillons, clock bells, etc., where the bells are stationary, it is almost always preferable to fix the bells level with the window openings so as to provide the least possible obstruction to the egress of the sound. The point is that when bells are stationary and struck by clappers or hammers, the sound produced is not nearly so insistent or penetrating as when they are swung.

FRED C. W. STEVENSON.

Croydon, Surrey.

## TWIN TOWERS.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 281.)

At Booton, Norfolk, there is the unusual feature of twin towers set diagonally to the main building. The lord of the manor at the end of the last century was a very remarkable man who was also Rector there for 50 years. He was the Rev. Whitwell Elwin, and we may think of him as a writer, preacher and builder, for he was editor of the 'Quarterly Review' for seven years, and, not content with being Rector of this place, pulled down the old church, distributed its treasures to churches around, and raised this many-pinnacled building, sparing no expense to produce a masterpiece in accordance with the architectural standards of his day. Startling and unorthodox, with twin towers set cornerwise, and with great heights of its doors, it is redeemed for those who do not like it by the exquisite workmanship in its woodwork—doors, pews, stalls and panelling.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael and All Angels, and generous tribute is paid to them, for St. Michael stands with his sword in a niche over the porch, and the angels are everywhere—in the windows and looking down from the hammer-beam roof. The windows on one side of the nave have a cavalcade of 22 martyrs, and the windows looking at them have a lovely procession of 16 angels with wings and raiment in rich colours, every angel with a musical instrument. In the vestry windows are 21 more angels also playing instruments, and angels dominate all the windows of the chancel.

Of the bells, all the information I have is that in 1824 the parishioners obtained a faculty authorising them to sell three of their four bells which were cracked and weighed about 16 cwt. There are now two by J. Taylor and Co. (1898), the largest being about 6 cwt.

Although not actually possessing 'twin' towers, the Garrison Church at Dover might come under this head. Dover Castle, Kent, originally a Roman fortress, has gradually arisen from Anglo-Saxon and Norman work. The pharos, or light tower, one of the most ancient portions of the structure, is manifestly of Roman workmanship, and was originally octagonal and about 14 paces across inside, the walls being no less than 10ft. thick at the base and about 40ft. high. The towers are numerous and have been built at different times, some of them being Norman, and in the centre of the keep is the massive keep or palace tower.

The ancient Church of St. Mary, within the east precincts adjoining the pharos, is now used as the garrison church. It is believed to have been originally Romano-British work. It has a central tower with one bell, 29in. in diameter, by Warner and Sons, 1880. Tradition says that in the 17th century there was a ring of six here, but whether they were in the church tower or the old Roman Pharos—as Hasted states—is somewhat doubtful.

Tradition is equally contradictory as to the fate of the old ring. One authority states that Prince George of Denmark, at the intercession of Admiral Rooke, caused them to be removed to Portsmouth and placed in the tower of St. Thomas' Church there. Another authority states that the order for removal to Portsmouth was never carried out, but that the bells went to St. Margaret at Cliffe. Neither of these traditions is correct, for the date of Portsmouth bells disposed of the first, and St. Margaret at Cliffe only possesses one bell, and that of earlier date than the supposed transfer, thus disproving the second.

In the surrender MSS. is some information as to one of the bells here, which is trustworthy as being within the personal knowledge of the narrator, Sir Edward Deering. It is given as follows in 'Arch. Cant,' Vol. I.: It appears that there was at that time (1630) in this church a brass—of which a sketch is given—to Sir Robert Astone, and the following note is added by Sir Edward:—

'The circumscription of the great bell heere and weighing 3,000lb. weight, and which was the gift of that Sr. Robert Astone, hath every letter fayre and curiously cast, and each crowned with a ducal crown, "Dominus Robertus de Astone Miles me fecit fieri Ao quarto R. Ricardi sedi G." Lower than this in small letters was cast

"Stepne Norton of Kent

Me made in god intent."

It may be noted that the last two lines appear on a bell at Chiselborough, Somerset, cast by the said Stephen Norton, and that the only two other specimens of his work known to exist—at Snaive and Holy Cross, Canterbury—the inscriptions are in very handsome crowned capitals.

At Horfield, Glos, some six miles from Bristol, the parish church has two towers, one at the crossing of the transepts, and the other at the west end. According to the only note I have on this church there are five bells, treble by A. Rudhall, 1715, inscribed, 'Fear God and honour the King'; second by John Rudhall, 1810, bearing churchwarden's name; third by A. Rudhall; fourth by Abraham Bilbie, 1734; and tenor by A. Rudhall, 1773, with the inscription, 'George the IIIrd. Defender of the Faith: Dr. Newton, Lord Bp. of Bristol: John Shadwell, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Horfield.' The tenor is 37in. diameter and note B flat.

(To be continued.)

### MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT DUFFIELD.

At least 35 ringers from Duffield, Belper, Darley Dale, Ripley, Ilkeston, Breaston, Ticknall, Derby (Cathedral, St. Luke's and St. Peter's), Spondon and Greasley were present at a meeting of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association at Duffield on June 26th. A welcome visitor was Mr. Cockey, of London, formerly secretary to the Peak District.

The methods rung included Stedman Doubles, Triples and Caters, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major, Spliced Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Duffield Major.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at West Hallam on Saturday, July 24th. As the church is very pleasantly situated with a nice ring of eight bells, ringers should make a note of the date.

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**STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH.**

**The Story of its Bells.**

BY JOHN P. FIDLER.

The first account of the bells of the Parish Church of Stockport is supplied by the Report of the Commissioners appointed in the reign of Henry VIII. to inquire into the Church property of the Macclesfield Hundred. Their return, dated 1548, shows that at that time Stockport had 'a ryng of iiii,' a number not exceeded by any church in the Hundred except Northenden, which had five. No account is given of the weight of the peal.

The next information is derived from an inventory taken in 1683, and contained in the account books of the churchwardens for that year. It records that there were then 'five bells in the steeple and one little bell at ye east end of ye Church.' The old peal of four may have been increased to five when the tower of the church was rebuilt in 1612. These five bells were sent to Rudhalls, Gloucester, in exchange for a new ring of six towards the end of 1731, the Rev. Harry Style being Rector at that time. Judging by the following entries which appear in the churchwardens' accounts, it would seem as though Stockport got its bells very cheaply, but it is very evident these accounts are not complete.

1731					
Deer	Paid the Carters for carridge of ye bells to Salop and back	17	2	3½	
	Pd Francis Rigley, ye bellhanger his bill	8	1	4	
	Pd Mr. Rudhall ye founder for exchange of ye bells	139	19	6	
	Pd fr six new clappers	3	9	3	
	" " six new baldrings	0	15	0	

The following tables show the weights of the bells in the aforementioned rings ('Stockport, Ancient and Modern,' Vol. I., page 219) :—

1683.

		cwt.	qr.	lb.
Treble	...	6	2	6
2	...	6	3	9
3	...	9	0	22
4	...	9	3	23
Tenor	...	12	1	0

1731.

		cwt.	qr.	lb.
Treble	...	6	1	8
2	...	7	0	14
3	...	8	1	12
4	...	8	3	10
5	...	10	3	10
Tenor	...	14	1	4

The 1731 ring of six have been knocked about a bit and the inscriptions of the 2nd and tenor have been effaced (rumour hath it that some of the parishioners objected to them and had them removed), only the founder's initials and date being left on. The remaining inscriptions are: Treble, 'Prosperity to the Town and Parish, AR, 1731'; 3rd, 'ABR Rudhall of Gloucester, Caster's Hall, 1731'; 4th, 'Harry Style, Rector, AR 1731'; and 5th, 'Thomas Robinson, Robert Lingard, George Whitaker, James Sellars, Church Wardens.' This is the peal that was sold to Marple in 1816 for £407, being 55 cwt. 3 st. 2 lb. at £7 7s. (see my 'History of Marple Bells').

Numerous entries of payments to ringers for their services appear in the churchwardens' accounts, some of which are as follows :—

1683	Paid to ye Ringers for ringeing ye 29th Maye the Kings Birthday and Coronato. day	0.	6.	8.
	Pd more then to the Ringrs, as their due custome for ale and tobacco	0.	1.	0.
	Paid to the Ringers for ringeing on the fifth daye of November	0.	6.	8.
	Paid them in ale and tobacco on that daye	0.	1.	0.
1697	Paid to the ringers in ale and money when news came for Peace	0.	3.	6.
	Item paid at ye King's returne (The Peace referred to in 1697 was on the occasion of the Treaty of Pyswick.)	00.	04.	00.
1704	Paid for 3 days ringeing about ye victory obtained over ye French and Bavarians near Hockstart, Germany	01.	03.	00.
1712	Paid for ringeing when ye Sheriff came to proclaim the cessation of arms between Great Britn. and France	0.	6.	8.
	Pd same day for ale and tobacco	0.	13.	8.
	Pd to Wm. Davenport for iron work done att ye bells 470lbs at 4d per lb he taking ye old iron 380lbs at 12d per lb to balance	5.	1.	2.
	Pd for ringeing on ye account of Dr Sackerville Sept 21. Pd for ringing of News att ye landing of King George	0.	6.	8.
	Spent with company to drink his Majis. health	0.	1.	0.
1745	Dec. 25 Pd to the ringers ringing two days and a half when the King's troops went thro the Towne in persuit of ye Rebells in their retreat from Derby	1.	0.	0.
1746	March 12. To ringing two days when King's troops raised the siege against ye rebells at Stirling	1.	0.	0.
	April 29. To the ringers for ringing two days and a half upon the news of the Duke of Cumberland defeating the rebells near Culloden on 16th. inst.	1.	5.	0.
1726	Gave ringers in ale when bells was new hung	0.	2.	0.

By the beginning of the 19th century the condition of the church tower was such that it was necessary to pull it down; in fact, the whole of the church, with the exception of the chancel, was demolished and a new church built. The trustees for the building of the new church were of the opinion that the ring of six was too small for the new tower, and resolved that a new ring of eight be provided. The new ring of eight was supplied by John Rudhall, of Gloucester, and they were hung in the new tower in 1817.

Their inscriptions are as under :—

Treble.	'Church and King 1817.'
2nd.	'Prosperity to the Town and Parish 1817.'
3rd.	'These bells were all cast at Gloucester by John Rudhall 1817.'
4th.	'S. Jowett, T. Gates, J. Minshull and James Rixon Churchwardens.'
5th.	'John Arderne. William Davenport. William Fox. Thomas Leigh Principales Præpositi.'
6th.	'Lord and Lady Warren-Buckley, Patrons 1817.'
7th.	'Rev. Charles Prescott BD, Rector. Rev. E. Hawell and Rev. K. Prescott MA, Curates.'
Tenor.	'I call in prayer the living to combine The dead must hear a louder sound than mine.'

James Rixon, whose name appears on the fourth bell, was a well-known local ringer of his time. He died at Romiley and was buried at Stockport on December 14th, 1851, aged 95 years. The Rev. K. Prescott, whose name appears on the seventh bell, was the curate in charge at Marple.

The total cost of the peal was £1,087, and they were rung for the first time on August 24th, 1817. Four prizes of fourteen, eight, six and four guineas were offered for the best peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5,040 changes, and on September 11th and 12th, 1817, the Ashton, Chester, Manchester, Mottram Seniors, Mottram Juniors and Oldham ringers competed. The first prize was awarded to Mottram Seniors, who rang the peal in 2 hours and 46 minutes; the second to Oldham, who took 2 hours 49 minutes 18 seconds; the third to Manchester; and the fourth to Mottram Juniors. Stockport appears to have maintained a reasonably good band, and a fair number of peals were scored, several of which are

(Continued on next page.)

## STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH.

(Continued from previous page.)

recorded on boards in the ringing room. An ancestor of the writer, Henry Paulden, was one of the band for a number of years and scored several peals. He later moved to Knaresborough.

After about eighty years' service the tenor bell was damaged by having a large piece knocked out of the lip. In 1897 all the bells were removed to Loughborough for attention, the tenor was recast and the remaining bells tuned. Two very good friends of the ringers, the Brothers Blackshaw, decided they might as well make a good job of it whilst they were at it, and gave two trebles to complete the ring of ten.

The inscription on the new treble is 'Voce mea ad Dominum, A.D. 1897,' and that on the 2nd is 'Deus Laudum, A.D. 1897, Gift of Two Brothers, Thomas W. Blackshaw, born 1849, and Joseph Blackshaw, born 1852. Both baptised in this Church.'

The additional inscription on the recast tenor bell is, 'This bell was recast A.D. 1897, the sixtieth year of the reign of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria. Rev. William Symonds, M.A., Rector. George Leah, Henry Gregory, Henry Clarke, John James Sidebottom, wardens. George Fredk. Tatton, Superintendent of Sunday School.' In addition, there is the mark of the founder, 'John Taylor and Co.' Its weight is 24 cwt.

The Gordon family has been in charge of these bells for many years, and old William Gordon, whose arrangements of handbell music are well known, and which were in great demand during his lifetime, did much to maintain the old ringing customs that had been handed down, even though he was not a great peal ringer. His son, William, too, did all he could to maintain these customs, and thus the bells, as of yore, played their part in celebrating national and local events. The writer has joined in the ringing on several of these occasions, and the last occasion he had the pleasure of ringing there was on Thursday, June 22nd, 1922, when a peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung to welcome home the Prince of Wales from his South American tour.

The band was made up as follows: Frank Stonely treble, Ben Thorp 2nd, John P. Fidler 3rd, James Fernley, sen., 4th, James H. Riding 5th, Fred Holt 6th, Tom Wilde 7th, W. W. Wolstencroft 8th, Albert Hough 9th, and Sam Booth tenor. Conducted by Tom Wilde.

I do not suppose any of the band will forget the event. It was a warm evening, and 'Time, gentlemen,' had been called before the peal came round. Robinson's brewery is no great distance from the church, and the smell of hops and malt had entered through the open windows of the ringing chamber, so one can well imagine the feelings of the band as they filed down the turret stairs. Still, they had hopes, but these faded when they saw a limb of the law standing outside the door of the 'Pack Horse' just across from the church. But, happily, he knew the 'Nelson touch.' Remarking, 'I bet you chaps could do with a drink,' he walked away, and ere he had disappeared round the corner the door of the 'Pack Horse' opened, and there was not a ringer to be seen.

**BANBURY, OXON.**—On Whit Monday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1,259 changes: F. Selwyn, jun. 1, F. Baldwin 2, H. Alexander 3, H. Impey 4, W. Watson 5, F. Selwyn sen. 6, M. Smith 7, G. Holifield (conductor) 8, J. Simons 9, T. Impey 10.

## NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 4d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 2/-.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District. —Meeting at Ewell, Saturday, July 3rd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting in Parish Hall.—D. Cooper, Act. Hon. Sec., 51, Waddon Road, Croydon.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.** — Meeting at Solihull on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells (10) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, followed by business meeting. — T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch. — Meeting on Saturday, July 3rd, at Christ Church, Southport, 2.30 p.m. Emmanuel in the evening. Make own arrangements for tea.—S. Forshaw, Branch Sec.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Meeting at Hereford on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells from 2.30: All Saints' (8), St. Nicholas' (6), Cathedral (10). Service at St. Nicholas' at 4.30 p.m., followed by meeting at the College Hall of Cathedral at 5 p.m. No arrangements for tea.—Rev. E. G. Benson, Hon. Sec.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at St. Mary's, Braughing, on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. — G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Portsmouth District.—Meeting at Shedfield on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—R. J. Stone, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, Penhale Road, Fratton; Portsmouth.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Newbury on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Manor Lane, Newbury.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Dagenham on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells at 3, service 4.15, tea and business 5 p.m. — J. H. Crampion, Hon. Sec., 14, Wellesley Road, Wanstead, E.1.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Banbury and District Branch.—Annual meeting at Adderbury, Saturday, July 3rd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Woodbridge, Saturday, July 3rd. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Make own arrangements for tea.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—Guild practice on Monday, July 5th, at St. Thomas' Church, Dudley, at 7.45 p.m. — J. Goodman, Hon. Sec., 45, Holcroft Street, Burnt Tree, Tipton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting Saturday, July 10th, at Oswaldtwistle. Bells 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Cups of tea will be provided.—F. Hindle, Branch Secretary, 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

**SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Wellington Parish Church, Saturday, July 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. till 8.30. Tea at cafes in town, 4.30.—E. D. Poole, Hon. Sec.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—North-West District.—Meeting at St. James', Clerkenwell on Saturday, July 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Names must be sent not later than previous Tuesday. Service ringing at St. James', Clerkenwell, E.C.1, on Sunday, July 11th, will be arranged if enough visiting ringers are able to complete the band. — T. J. Lock, 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts; G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.** — Meeting at Balcombe, July 10th. Names for tea to Mr. A. Laker, 4, Barnfield Cottage, Balcombe. — C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at Halewood on Saturday, July 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service at 5, followed by meeting. Cups of tea provided; bring own food. Buses leave Pierhead every two hours, starting at 2 p.m. Another service leaves Pierhead every half hour to Wood Road, Hunt's Cross, a quarter of an hour's walk from there.—G. R. Newton, 57, Amphill Road, Liverpool 17.

**BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Meeting at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, July 10th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Church House. Names to Mr. W. Green, 9, Moor Road, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, before July 7th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Guilsborough Branch.—Meeting at Guilsborough (6 bells) on Saturday, July 10th. Bring own food. — C. Green, Branch Sec., Murcott, Long Buckby, Rugby.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting of Grimsby District at Barton-on-Humber, Saturday, July 10th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5 p.m. in Church Institute. Names for tea to Mr. A. W. Hoodless, 11, Holydyke, Barton-on-Humber, by July 7th.—H. T. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Annual meeting Ulverston, Saturday, July 10th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service in church 4 p.m. Tea and meeting after service. Names for tea to N. M. Newby, 19, Union Place, Ulverston, before Wednesday, July 7th.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 17th, at the Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, at 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 4.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—On Saturday, July 17th, Longton tower (8 bells) will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Make own tea arrangements.—Andrew Thompson, 63, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting at Oxford on Saturday, July 17th at 3.15 p.m. in the Rectory Room, Pembroke Street, St. Aldate's. Tea at 1s. 6d. for all members who apply, accompanied by remittance, by Saturday, July 10th. Service in St. Aldate's Church at 5.15 p.m.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Bottesford on Saturday, July 17th. Bells at 3 p.m. Tea, 1s. 3d. each, 5.30 p.m. Names for tea must reach me by Wednesday, July 14th. — T. Groombridge, 74, Dornoch Avenue, Sherwood, Nottingham.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern District. — Meeting at Goldhanger, Saturday, July 17th. Buses leave Maldon 1.30 and 3.30 p.m., and Goldhanger 7.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea to Mr. J. D. Buckingham, Rectory Cottage, Goldhanger, near Maldon, by Wednesday, July 14th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Bexley, on Saturday, July 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Names for tea to Mr. H. Holden, Church Institute, Bexley, by Monday, July 12th.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Kinver, Saturday, July 17th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Woden Cafe, High Street. Numbers to me by Wednesday, 14th, please, or caterer will not provide tea. — Bernard C. Ashford, Bowling Green Road, Stourbridge.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Meeting at Leigh on Saturday, July 17th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea for those who let Mr. B. Pankhurst, The Chestnut, Leigh, know by Tuesday, July 13th. — T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Service ringing.—St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, first and third Sunday, 9.40 a.m.; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, 10.15 a.m., third Sunday.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—Service ringing.—Cathedral, Colmore Row, 1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays, 10 a.m.; 2nd, 4th, 5.30 p.m. St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, Bath Street, 1st Sunday in month, 5.30 p.m.—G. E. Fearn, W.E. Box.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.** — Mr. H. E. Audsley's address is now 336, Mayplace Road East, Barnehurst, Bexley Heath, Kent.

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Printed for the Proprietors, Executors of the late J. S. Goldsmith, by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by the Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Breams Buildings, London, E.C.4.