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AGE.

Ringers are said to be long-lived folk, but whether there is any justification for so sweeping a claim or not, there is plenty of evidence just now that quite a number of ringers are enjoying the honours of that 'old age which, though despised, is coveted by all.' The Exercise will join in congratulating those members of it who in recent days have reached particularly memorable milestones along life's road. Especially will they congratulate Mr. Robert Brundle who, a few days ago, passed his ninetieth birthday. Robert Brundle has been a remarkable man, for his active ringing, which ceased only with the ban, has been spread over nearly sixty-five years, and has included some remarkable achievements, among them peals in new Surprise Maximus methods after he was eighty and a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus at eighty-seven, to say nothing of the numerous long peals which he rang in his younger days. Indeed, he achieved fame fifty years ago when he took part in the record peal of Oxford Treble Bob at Debenham in 1892. He is the kind of man who through good times and bad is not only a buttress of his own company, but forms the salt of the Exercise. He is honoured to-day by all his friends, those who have known him in St. Mary-le-Tower belfry and those who know him only by name.

But there are others who occur to us as having greatly served the Exercise in their day and generation, of whom it can be said, 'old age has crept upon them unperceived.' Last week Mr. W. H. Fussell, a great enthusiast, joined the band of octogenarians whose careers have marked a trail through the history of ringing for more than half a century. Names like those of Canon Coleridge, George Williams, James George, the Rev. William C. Pearson, W. J. Nevard and Tom Miller occur to one, and there are doubtless others, now in the eighties, whose birthdays are not just yet. These men in their different ways have contributed their share to the maintenance of our art, and we delight to think they are still with us and able to retain the interest which has inspired them through their long life. We value them also in another direction. To many of us they form a living link with a past which belongs to a different age in ringing matters.

They have seen the evolution of ringing from a comparatively modest standard of accomplishment to the high level which it has now reached as a science, and they have watched the development of ringers from an unorganised collection of companies with few aspirations to the carefully planned body which has been welded into half a hundred associations and guilds united under one central organisation. This has all taken place in the lives of

(Continued on page 458)

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these men, and from their standpoint as ringers these years have been worth living through. What is more, some of them, like Canon Coleridge, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, are still actively identifying themselves with the organisation of ringing affairs and taking their share in the work. In this spirit they are carrying on in these difficult days an example to many who seem so easily to become depressed because ringing at the moment is under a cloud. They at least are not among the pessimists.

And behind this group of octogenarians there marches another larger band, the men in their seventies, who but for the enforced silence of the bells would be giving a lead in the towers of the land. It is amazing when one casts a look around to see how many ringers there are in the septuagenarian stage who are, as it were, 'fighting fit' for the belfry, and, to mix the metaphor, straining at the leash. Age is one of the things which is no bar to ringing and, as has so often been said, there seems no limit at either end of the scale. Youth and age can blend in the tower, and youth does not necessarily rob age of the honours to be gained at the rope end. Ringing is one of the things that keeps a man young in spirit, and it is that spirit which wards off the chilling hand of the passing years. Let us then salute age when we meet it in the belfry and honour those among us who have done so much to raise the standard of our art.

DEATH OF IPSWICH RINGER.

MR. ALBERT DURRANT'S HANDBELL PERFORMANCES.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Albert E. Durrant, an old and respected member of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, which took place on September 8th after a long illness.

He was at one time a very noted double-handed handbell ringer, and took part in, among other performances, the following first peals on handbells by the Norwich Diocesan Association: March 12th, 1888, 7-8 to Bob Maximus at Ipswich; April 14th, 1888, 5-6 to Grandsire Triples at Sproughton; March 8th, 1889, 5-6 to Grandsire Caters at Ipswich; December 25th, 1895, 3-4 to Double Norwich Court Bob Major at the residence of Mr. F. J. Tillet, the conducting being shared between Mr. Charles Mee and the late Mr. James Motts.

During the present century Mr. Durrant did not do much peal ringing, but was an extraordinarily neat handler of the rope and a good striker. His peal records in the N.D.A. report show 62 on tower bells and 13 on handbells. In later years he took great interest in listening to peals rung on St. Mary-le-Tower bells and enjoyed hearing Forward Maximus more than the ringers did.

After he had left handbell practice for about 20 years the writer saw him ring 3-4 to Double Norwich Major in his own good style. Thus passes to his rest another of the fine old ringers. G. E. S.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. JANUARY MEETING ABANDONED.

Members and friends of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford met at Codsall on Saturday, September 13th, in beautiful weather. The number of 22 included a welcome visitor from Banstead, Surrey, in the person of Pte. A. J. Adams, R.A.O.C. Apologies were received from Staff-Sergt. B. G. Key, R.A.O.C., Mr. Fred Bennett, who has recently joined the Tank Corps, Messrs. W. Walker, H. Butler and B. Horton.

Handbells were made use of up to the time of the service, when the Rev. C. H. Barker read the prayers and the Rev. M. Spinney, Vicar, who gave an address, also accompanied the singing on the organ.

After welcoming the company to Codsall, the Vicar said how sorry he was that the bells could not be used. He hoped the time was not far distant when they might meet under happier conditions.

Adjournment was then made to the Parish Hall, where a nice tea, provided by local friends, had been prepared, including tomatoes, lettuce, sugar, etc. The Vicar presided over the business.

On the proposition of Mr. R. Pickering, seconded by Mr. I. Evans, it was agreed to give the sum of one guinea to the 'John Perry Memorial Fund'.

Mr. C. Wallater proposed and Mr. W. Fisher seconded that the next meeting be held in April, and that the one usually held in January be omitted.—This was agreed to.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address, etc., and to Mr. A. G. Richards and his lady helpers for providing and serving tea, concluded the business.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ROCHESTER, KENT.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 13, 1941, in Two Hours and One Minute,

At St. Peter's Vicarage,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings.

Tenor size 15 in C.

*WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... | JOHN E. SPICE (New College) 3-4
 (St. John's) ... 1-2 | REV. JOHN SHEPHEARD-WALWYN
 (Oriol) ... 5-6

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on handbells by the ringer of 5-6, who is totally blind. This is the first handbell peal to be rung by the society.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 13, 1941, in Two Hours,

IN THE RINGING CHAMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different callings.

Tenor size 15 in C.

*JAMES S. WEBB ... 1-2 | JOHN E. SPICE ... 3-4
 † WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 5-6

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal of Minor 'in hand.' † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor. The ringer of 5-6 was elected a member of the association prior to starting.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 20, 1941, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

IN THE CRYPT OF ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

GEORGE W. STEERE ... 1-2 | GEORGE H. CROSS ... 5-6
 ALFRED H. POLLING ... 3-4 | JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

Umpire—William J. Robinson.

Rung in honour of the 80th birthday of William H. Fussell, of Slough, and of his completion of 60 years' membership of the society.

RADLEY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, September 21, 1941, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,

At THE SCHOOL HOUSE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different callings.

Tenor 14 in D.

*GERALD BROMLEY ... 1-2 | JOHN E. SPICE ... 3-4
 Miss MARIE R. CROSS ... 5-6

Conducted by Miss MARIE R. CROSS.

* First peal 'in hand.' First peal as conductor. Mr. G. Bromley is totally blind.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 21, 1941, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At RESTORMEL, JANES LANE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*Miss O. D. HAIRS ... 1-2 | E. A. BARNETT ... 5-6
 FRANK I. HAIRS ... 3-4 | Mrs. F. I. HAIRS ... 7-8

Conducted by FRANK I. HAIRS.

* First peal.

REMARKABLE PERFORMANCES.

PEALS BY TWO BLIND MEN.

A very remarkable and interesting feature of the handbell records this week is that in two of the peals one of the performers was totally blind.

Mr. Bromley learnt to ring with the O.U.S.C.R. and later with the All Saints' band and the Llandudno band. Mr. John Shephard-Walwyn was fired by his example, and learnt to handle a bell at New College, and to ring changes at St. Nicholas', Abingdon. Both have rung peals on tower bells—Mr. Bromley, Bob Major, and Mr. Shephard-Walwyn, Minor and Grandsire Triples. Men who have rung with them have often been surprised to learn that they are blind.

The University peal of Doubles was arranged because one of the band happened to be staying in Kent, where the Rev. Shephard-Walwyn has a curacy ten miles from the conductor's home. The Bob Minor was arranged quite by chance. Mr. Bromley happened to be in Oxford for the week-end and wanted some ringing, so it was decided to start for a peal. Only after the event was it realised that both had scored their first 'in hand' within eight days of each other.

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

(Continued from page 464.)

If the previous statement shows what has taken place, then you ought to be able to produce the 10th row of London 57234168 by making the 3rd B.S. with the 5th and 7th in the first lead of Bob Major and carrying on Bob Major work to the point where the treble strikes 6th in the lead commencing 13876542, which would have been 17856342 in the absence of the B.S. if you try this you will find the 2nd's places at the lead end are made in order by the 5th, the 7th and the 3rd as in London Surprise. If you wish, you could have taken Bob Major in the ordinary way to the lead head 17856342, then made a B.S. on 357 at first opportunity and continued until the treble strikes in 6th place. This time I will show you how it is done. Later examples you may be able to work out yourself.

12345678

21436587

24163857

42618375

46281357

64823175

68432715

and Bob Major on
to lead heads.

15723486

17358264

13876542

Now continue this
lead until treble
strikes in 6th.

31785624

37158264

73512846

75321486

57234168

or commencing at
the third lead head
of Bob Major

17856342

71583624

75138264

75312846

57321486

57234168

So you see that the 10th row of London Surprise is really the result of making a B.S. on 357 and added C.S.'s on 5, 7 and 3. Indeed, there is only one other way of producing the row 57234168 and that is by working in the opposite direction by successive C.S.'s on 2, 4, 6, 8 with the treble and introducing at any convenient point a B.S. on 3, 5, 7. Q set laws cannot be broken.

At this point if you are smart you will say, 'Ah! Have you forgotten the C.S. that 2 and 5 make in the Extreme position at rows 6 and 7?' No, it is not forgotten. Look more closely. It is only apparently a C.S. and not one in reality. Write down rows 3 to 8 as follows and you will see that the London way has the same result at row 8. The London way obscures the C.S. blows of 5, but it is necessary to prevent repetition of rows in the treble bob hunt.

3 12537486

4 21573846

5 25178364

6 25713846

7 25178364

8 25713846

Here it will be seen clearly how 5 makes the C.S. with the treble, but it cannot be allowed in this form because (a) the 2nd lies on lead three consecutive blows, and (b) row 8 is a repetition of row 6.

So you see 2 and 5 have not made a C.S. If they had you could not have produced the row 57234168 after the lead head 17856342 in the way shown above. This is one of the traps you have to guard against. Now let us proceed to Section B. In this section 3, 5, 7 leave the picture and the work is taken up by the even bells 2, 4, 6, as shown in the skeleton lead. You will observe that the 2nd, 4th and 6th make places in quick succession. The 2nd makes the place in rows 11 and 12. The 4th in rows 12 and 13, and the 6th in rows 13 and 14. The 2nd plain hunts up to the treble and returns to lead, whilst the 4th and 6th each cross the treble before making the place and continuing in the same direction. In fact, they appear to behave somewhat similar to 3, 5, 7 in Section A where the 3rd turned back, whilst 5 and 7 proceeded onwards after the place. In Section B the results are quite different and much more surprising. Although at a casual glance the treble appears to have been moved three steps in C.O., in reality it has only moved one step as a careful examination of row 14 will show and as I have indicated by the Bob Major lead head 18674523. As I have just said, the effect of these three places in Section B is surprising. It may even be responsible for the term 'Surprise' which this method carries in its name. In the first of these places of Section B, rows 11 and 12, the 2nd is moved in C.O. from after the 4th to after the 3rd. In the second, rows 12 and 13, the 4th is moved in C.O. from after the 6th to after the 2nd, and in the third, rows 13 and 14, the 6th is moved in C.O. from after the 8th to after the 6th, so that the combined effect of the three places, neglecting for the moment the treble, is to change backward coursing order of 38642 to forward C.O. 32468! Although these bells are in forward C.O. they make their whole pulls at lead backstroke and handstroke contrary to the general rule.

To make these results a little clearer, compare the C.O. of row 14 with rows 10 and 1 and with forward C.O. of rounds, thus:—

Backward row 1 864213578

,, 10 864257318

,, 14 246185732

Forward row 1 246875312

(To be continued.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 449.)

RECORDS AND NOMENCLATURE.

In 1932 the Analysis Committee, which in 1912 had taken over the work of the Peal Values Committee, absorbed another committee which had done good and lasting work. At Northampton, following a resolution by Mr. Edwin H. Lewis, a committee was appointed to compile a record of the first and longest peals rung in various methods, and A. T. Beeston, Law James and Hervey Beams were entrusted with the work. As a result they prepared a schedule of the first peals in the various methods on all numbers and of progressive lengths of Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques and Maximus. This schedule is printed in Mr. Morris' 'History.' It was a job which entailed a very large amount of patient research work and was excellently done. Inevitably there are a few additions and corrections that need to be made, but they are surprisingly few.

Outsiders can never be quite certain who really does the work for which a committee is nominally responsible, but in this case it is fair to give almost the entire credit to Beeston.

A. T. Beeston stands very high among the parson ringers and as a practical and method ringer probably has no superior among them. He was born at Wirksworth in Derbyshire on December 2nd, 1861, and was at first intended for a commercial career, but he took orders in 1890 and spent the best part of his life as curate-in-charge of New Mills in Derbyshire. He learned to ring at a very early age, but did not take much active interest in change ringing until 1895. His first peal was Bob Triples in March, 1898, and his second 8,288 Kent Treble in the following May. Altogether he rang over 400 peals, many of them of outstanding merit, including spliced Minor and the first in several Surprise Major methods. For twenty years he was the secretary of the Chester Diocesan Guild, which he represented on the Central Council from 1911 until 1926. He was made an honorary member in 1927, but three years later his health began to fail, and he retired. He died on June 30th, 1933, at the age of 71.

During the last ten years the schedule of records has been kept up to date, mainly by Mrs. Fletcher, who joined the Analysis Committee in 1932. Whenever a peal in a new method, or a longer length in an old one, is rung, the full particulars of method, composition, and performance, are type and added to a loose-leaved book which thus affords an authoritative account of the record peals.

When I left the committee in 1910 my place was taken by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter. Mr. George P. Burton had replaced Mr. Borrett some time before, and shortly afterwards Mr. George Williams was added.

Edward Westall Carpenter was one of two brothers, both of whom were original members of the Council and did good work for it. They were the sons of a Croydon doctor, and the elder brother, Arthur, followed in his father's profession. I have already mentioned him in connection with the Peal Collections Committee. He was a graduate of Oxford University. The younger brother, who was born in 1855, went to Cambridge and, after taking orders, was curate at Milton-next-Sittingbourne, in Kent. In 1883 he was appointed Vicar of Bobbing,

and as his church had six bells he turned his attention to ringing, which was not difficult, since his elder brother had already taken up the art with enthusiasm. Edward learned most of his ringing at Croydon, and his first peal, one of Bob Major at Carshalton in 1887, was conducted by Arthur. In 1890, Edward became the secretary of the Kent County Association. He spent the last years of his life as the Rector of Boothby Pagnall in Lincolnshire. From 1891 to 1902 he represented the Kent County Association on the Central Council, and from 1903 to 1932 he was an honorary member. He was a most attractive person, both to look at and to deal with.

When change ringing began to revive after the Great War, the influence of the first edition of the Minor Methods Collection began to be widely felt. Many bands were practising the new methods in the book, and were giving them names, as they were invited to do. Up to a point things went according to plan, but it was not long before difficulties appeared. The bands were expected to publish the names in 'The Ringing World,' and, generally speaking, they did so, but the information was widely scattered over many copies of the paper, and at any given time it was almost impossible to say which methods had been named and which not. Many people did write the names as they appeared above the figures in their own copies of the book, but that was not much use to the general public, and some official action was necessary. C. W. O. Jenkyn, the Council's librarian, undertook to get the information up to date and to publish lists from time to time. That helped matters, but still there was a lot of confusion and many methods were given different names by separate bands, and some three or more.

The Analysis Committee naturally experienced the inconvenience more than anyone else, and they began to call for some action to settle the matter definitely. In 1921 at Westminster, A. T. Beeston asked the Council to give them authority to supply names to the many methods still unnamed as the only way out of the muddle. It was, in so many words, an assertion that the plan of leaving the naming to the bands which first rang the methods had proved a failure. Law James proposed that for six weeks people should still be allowed to supply names, and after that the Analysis Committee should take the work in hand. On my suggestion the time was extended to six months so as to give everybody a reasonable chance, and the Council agreed.

The Analysis Committee published their proposals in 'The Ringing World' of May 26th, 1922. They had gone carefully into the matter and tried to do the naming according to a consistent plan. Plain Methods were called after lakes. Treble Bob method after flowers, fourth's place Delight methods after abbeys, and third's place Delight methods after castles.

These proposals were not well received in the Exercise generally. Six-bell ringers objected to the words 'castle' and 'abbey' in the titles, and especially to the floral names. There has seldom been such unanimity in the Exercise as there was in the condemnation of the floral names. The committee were rather taken by surprise, and evidently thought the criticism was largely artificial and insincere. Tulip and Primrose had been familiar to ringers as names of methods for scores of years; what objection could there be to Hyacinth and Geranium? E. W. Carpenter, who had given much thought to the matter,

declared himself unrepentant; and Beeston sought to consolidate the position by getting his own band to ring the methods and so claim a further right to name them.

But the feeling in the Exercise was a real one, even if it was not altogether logical, and when the matter came before the Council at Westminster in 1924 a proposal to appoint a committee to deal with the whole question of nomenclature met with approval and was agreed to.

Mr. George P. Burton was the prime mover in the matter, and he took the lead in the new committee. The others were all estimable persons, but their known qualifications were not such as would create any great confidence in their ability to deal with a subject which was partly historical, partly literary, and partly æsthetic.

I did not begin the agitation against the floral names (the Editor of 'The Ringing World' was almost the first there), but after a while I took a hand, because I had in my mind that a second edition of the Minor Collection would shortly have to be prepared, as well as collections of Triples, Plain Major and ultimately Surprise Major methods. I wanted the matter settled before the new publications appeared, and I also wanted to get the control of everything connected with the books, including the naming, back into the hands of the Methods Committee, who, I felt should never have let it slip.

Long experience has convinced me that if you want to produce a good book on any subject you must not have too many cooks all claiming equal authority to mix the broth. A committee very often is bad enough, and we were faced with a worse prospect, for here was a second committee, very active and self-reliant, who would claim (and have a right to claim) an overriding authority on what was after all an essential part of the new books.

Fortunately they played into my hands, for, instead of recommending a conservative revision of the disputed Minor methods names, they advocated a root-and-branch reformation of all the names and sub-titles which had come down from the ages. Many of those names carried history with them, such as London Scholars' Pleasure and Double Norwich Court Bob, and some were really good poetical names like Morning Star and Evening Star. The committee's plea was utility, but utility is not everything, and we cannot afford to sever the links with the past history of the Exercise. I set myself to thwart their scheme and, having secured the rejection of their report at Ipswich, in the next year I induced the Council to give back the control of the names to the Methods Committee.

But that was not the end of the controversies on naming. I had to justify my action and publish for criticism the final list of names as they were to appear in the second edition of the Minor Collection. I had sense enough to try to give what ringers wanted, and to leave untouched the good work others had done; and so the matter went through all right.

Meanwhile I persuaded Law James to agree to the naming of the Plain Major methods and the Alliance Minor methods without making any fuss or doing anything which might provoke controversy, and when the books appeared they were accepted by all without comment.

I hoped it would have been the same with the Surprise Major methods, but as will be remembered, the old controversies flared up again, and incidentally were the cause of the book not being already in print.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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THE

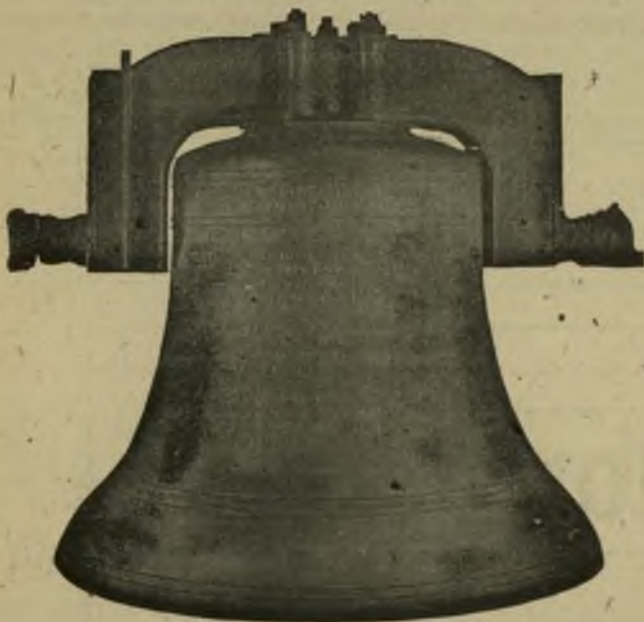
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Among the many churches damaged in the German attacks on London last October was St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton. The roof and windows were shattered, the building rendered unusable, and at one time it was feared the tower and eight bells had suffered. Last Saturday the Vicar asked two of the officers of the Middlesex Association to have a look at the bells and say what they thought. They disclaimed any expert qualifications, but so far as they could see the bells have suffered no damage whatever. Some of the wheels have been smashed by woodwork blown down from the windows, and the presence of pigeons has made a lot of cleaning and overhauling necessary before the bells can be rung. But if peace comes suddenly there seems to be no reason why these bells should not play their proper part.

We are pleased to report that Mr. Thomas Hurd is now at home and is well on the way to recovery.

Matthew A. Wood, for many years one of the leading ringers in London, was born at Church Row, Bethnal Green, on September 22nd, 1826. He died in 1912.

William Shipway printed Double Norwich Caters in his 'Campanalogia,' but it was not until September 22nd, 1894, that the first peal was rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol. Even now the method has not received the attention its great merits warrant.

The first peal of Major on the sea was rung on the Mediterranean on board the S.S. 'Barrabool' seven years ago last Wednesday. The method was Bob Major, Mr. Rupert Richardson rang 3-4 and conducted, and the rest of the band was: Mrs. Richardson 1-2, Rev. E. B. James 5-6, and J. S. Goldsmith 7-8.

John Cox was the first man to compose a peal of Stedman Caters with the sixty in-course tittum course-ends. He called it at St. James', Bermondsey, on September 25th, 1845.

The first peal of Dublin Court Major was conducted at Gosforth by Mr. W. H. Barber on September 27th, 1913; and on the same date in 1924 the first peal of London Surprise Major in Scotland was rung at St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.

The first course of Grandsire Triples in Natal was rung on Sunday, September 9th, 1923.

Fifty years ago to-day two peals were rung, one was Bob Major, the other Grandsire Triples. The latter was Holt's Original at Southover, Lewes, conducted by Mr. George Williams, and was Mr. A. J. Turner's first peal in the method.

Eighteen years ago to-day Mrs. Frank Hairs rang 1-2 to a peal of Superlative and thus became the first lady to achieve a peal in a Surprise method on handbells.

Mrs. Hairs felt very proud last Sunday when her daughter, following in her footsteps, rang her first peal on handbells. Miss Hairs did not start ringing until last May, so she has done very well indeed. She is a night nurse in Hove and her time for practice is very limited. Was this the first time that father, mother and daughter have rung a handbell peal together?

Mr. Spice writes to say that his colleague, Mr. I. Emery, is still detained in hospital owing to a very painful complication, but is improving and now hopes to be home shortly. He sends his kind regards to all ringing friends.

LONDON SOCIETIES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your headline, 'London Societies,' surely should be 'National Societies.' Years ago they were London, but now you will see peals rung right up in the North by resident College Youths, and in Bucks my own association has a local Cumberland band, thanks to one member.

With regard to the rule in question, will it affect our main duty (let us never forget that)—Sunday ringing? No, the two main towers, St. Paul's and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, would still have their own bands and quite right. It simply boils down to peals, and surely when it comes to pleasure, some other arrangement can be made than scrapping an age-old rule and tradition.

One of my pleasant memories is ringing a handbell peal with three stalwart College Youths, Messrs. Cockerill, Winney and Bert Langdon. As soon as we met they suggested my own Guildford Guild. I thanked them, but said, 'No,' and suggested a guild which was a friend to all of us, the Oxford, and it was rung for that. Personally, I ring peals entirely for pleasure, and the name of the guild it is rung under is immaterial. Surely if a mixed band of both societies met in London for a peal there are plenty of societies right outside London they could ring it under to avoid jealousy.

I am quite willing to admit that these old societies, like old buildings, have their inconveniences. I have personal experience of one such building, but with all its faults I would not have it altered and I would say to both societies, 'Hands off that rule.'

In your last paragraph you suggest killing tradition. It will be a bad day for all of us when tradition is killed in our national life. Where should we be but for the Navy, and they live and thrive on it.

A. H. PULLING.

The Royal Grammar School, Guildford.

THE 'GRAND OLD MAN' OF RINGING.

MR. ROBERT BRUNDLE CELEBRATES HIS 90th BIRTHDAY.

Events in Ipswich Veteran's Career Recalled.

On Thursday week, Mr. Robert Brundle, whose home is at 5, Wellington Street, Ipswich, celebrated his 90th birthday. He is in excellent health, with all his faculties unimpaired, for his hearing is perfect and he can find papers and notes without glasses. The Exercise will join in congratulations to this 'Grand Old Man' of ringing, for he has had a long and, as a ringer, an eventful life. His peal ringing, for instance, began in 1878 and ended, at any rate temporarily, only in October, 1938, when he took part in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus—yes, Cambridge Maximus—in honour of his eighty-seventh birthday.

Bob Brundle has been a great ringer, as witness the fact that he has taken part in numerous historical performances and in the later years of the Ipswich Society's progress shared in the first peals in a number of twelve-bell Surprise methods. But, like most great ringers, Mr. Brundle is loth to talk about himself. At last, however, through the good offices of Mr. George Symonds, we are able to give our readers some of the facts from his long career in the belfry. He prepared the notes with his own hand and himself searched the ringing papers for his facts. It must have been a laborious task, because he has not got a complete record of his peals.

Mr. Brundle, a joiner by trade, has visited many parts of the country in pursuit of his work, which was particularly connected with the building and equipping of flour mills. Thus, having learned to ring at St. Matthew's Church, Ipswich, he travelled at different times as far north as Dundee and Edinburgh, south to various places on the coast, and west to Bristol. Always he rang on the bells of every church available.

At one time he lived in London, near St. Peter's, Walworth, and married his first wife at Holy Trinity Church in the Borough. He has numerous great-grandchildren, scattered in various parts of the country and some in East Africa.

Mr. Brundle has, of course, seen much of the social and mechanical revolutions of this age, but one thing can be recalled with special interest. He saw the birth of the pedal cycle. He made his own wooden bicycle shod with a flat iron tyre. His inventive mind soon told him that a round tyre would be better in contact with the stones of the rough roads of that day, and he applied it to his own machine. One of his home-made 'bone-shakers' is now in the museum at Lowestoft.

Mr. Brundle's membership of the College Youths goes back nearly 63 years. His certificate is dated October 22nd, 1878, and is signed by George Dorrington, Master; George A. Muskett, Hon. Secretary; Samuel Reeves and William Cecil, Stewards. In the course of his long career he has rung between eighty and ninety peals of Maximus and is the oldest man ever to ring a peal of Maximus. He was always blessed with considerable physical strength, and up to quite late in life was usually found at the heavy end in any peal in which he took part, especially if the going was bad. His friends tell an amusing tale of him on one occasion when he took on a bad-going tenor. He instructed his wife to sew buttons on his shirt in order to hold up his trousers, but the buttons broke away from the shirt through his exertions and—well, the trousers failed to stop where they should have done and the peal failed in laughter.

But let Mr. Brundle tell his own story as he has compiled it. It was written by his own hand, and in order that it may be preserved the manuscript has found a place in the library of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, of which he is so honoured a member:—

Some of my ringing friends desire me to send a record of my ringing to our worthy paper, 'The Ringing World,' to which I have been a subscriber from the first to the last publication. The leading articles are always interesting with fair comment; the articles from great men of the Exercise, the correspondence, Belfry Gossip, etc., are all very interesting. The time and goodwill of clever men given to educate some who are living and those to follow on are most instructive and helpful to all who wish to become bellringers. Looking at the

records of some of those past and gone and some living, I did not think my record of sufficient importance to find a place in 'The Ringing World,' but I feel I must comply with my good friends' wishes.

If spared till Thursday, the 18th of this month September (this was written earlier in the month), I shall be 90 years of age, for which I thank God. Not long ago I passed through a serious illness and lost my dear good wife on April 30th, 1939, so I must be like your correspondent who signed himself 'Not Too Tough,' although I find him looking well, just as clever, just as genial, as tough as ever, with the best of interest in the old society of St. Mary-le-Tower at heart.

My trade as a joiner took me long distances from home and gave me the opportunity of visiting many fine churches and some cathedrals in which I am much interested, and the opportunity of a nice touch or a peal.

In reference to my peal ringing, I find recorded in Norwich Diocesan and Suffolk Guild Reports about 350 in all, rung mainly at St. Mary-le-Tower and St. Margaret's Churches, Ipswich, under those distinguished conductors the late Mr. James Motts, Messrs. George Symonds, Charles Sedgley and William Brown.



MR. ROBERT H. BRUNDLE.



ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH,
where Mr. Brundle achieved many of his best performances.

The peals of Maximus include Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Old and New Cambridge, Superlative, Duffield, Yorkshire, Pudsey, Little Albion, Forward and Double Norwich Court Bob. The Cinques and Caters are Grandsire and Stedman, and the Royal consist of Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford and Double Norwich Court Bob. In connection with the Caters, I find that on October 22nd, 1878, 5,021 Grandsire Caters in 3 hours and 26 minutes, the first peal on the present St. Mary-le-Tower bells, was rung, and this was also my first peal. It was composed by John Cox and conducted by Daniel Prentice.

I have rung peals of Major in Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford, Double Norwich, etc., including Marven's 6,000 Plain Bob at St. Margaret's, (Continued on next page.)

WAR-TIME MEETINGS.**SECRETARIES' THANKLESS TASK.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Eric B. Hartley, has indulged in a general attack on associations' war-time activities which makes a reply imperative.

He complains that associations hold as few meetings as possible, and then not on the dates prescribed in the rules. Surely the officials have no choice but to hold meetings, many or few, as the members demand, and if there is no demand to be answered there will be no meetings. The time of officials is no less valuable than that of any other individual, and to-day may be better spent in aiding the national effort than on aiding the disgruntled ringer whose forte is destructive criticism. Moreover, if the rules demand a meeting on Saturday, the 16th, is the secretary expected to desert from his post as warden or Home Guard to satisfy regulations which were drafted in peace time?

Naturally a secretary will apologise for the shortcomings which are inevitable in war-time meetings and explain the difficulties of arranging them. Anyone who has had that thankless task will know that it was difficult in normal days and is a thousand times worse now. In my association, successful meetings have been held, helped in no small measure by one or two enthusiasts who have gone to considerable expense and trouble in taking over arrangements on the spot. We also issue an annual report and balance sheet in an abbreviated form, and all ringers who were members in 1939 remain so for the rest of the war, irrespective of whether subscriptions are paid or not. They are also qualified for application to the Benvolent Fund, and those advantages are only due to the policy of wise finance carried out over a number of years with the idea of preparing for a rainy day—which has now arrived. During the last year the customary allowance of rail fares to meetings has been suspended as a temporary measure until complete stock has been taken of financial workings under the new order.

Your correspondent's suggestion of holding monthly meetings at a particular place is excellent, but he does not realise the fact that meetings are for practice with those not so well advanced in ringing, and are often deliberately arranged in out-of-the-way places as a missionary measure, not as a social gathering of jolly old pals, nor yet to ring Surprise for the first time on the bells.

I have a grave suspicion, Mr. Editor, that your correspondent has never held office as secretary in an association long enough to realise the difficulties involved. Rather do I gather from his first paragraph, when he speaks of 'bagging' towers, that he is what is known in official circles as the secretary's curse. These gentlemen arrive at meetings unheralded by the customary postcard 20 minutes before tea, hold up operations while they take off the inscriptions of the bells (if allowed), modestly admit they can 'ring anything except Grandsire' (thus ensuring there will be no duds in *their* touch) and patronise the locals.

I presume the idea is to ensure a good obituary notice in 'The Ringing World'—'Mr. Thingummy had rung at one, or two, or three thousand and odd towers, and exasperated one, two or three hundred and odd secretaries.' These campanological parasites then eat a hearty and sustaining tea, boast of their feats of athleticism in cycling to meetings, and lastly depart cheerily among the exacerbations of those assembled.

S. E. ARMSTRONG, Hon. Gen. Sec.,
Sussex County Association.

Brighton.

SOME QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED.

Dear Sir,—Before people find fault with association secretaries because they do not arrange enough meetings, they ought to consider one or two things and ask themselves some questions.

The questions are what have the people who complain done to help and what are they doing now? It was very nice in the days before the war for these people to turn to their 'Ringing World' and decide where they would go every Saturday, but do they think that those meetings were arranged for them or that they were doing anybody any good by going to them? Some people when they talk about 'supporting' an association mean getting out of it as much as they can in return for nothing.

In the dark winter nights coming it will not be possible to have meetings in many places and not right to have them. If the blitz starts again people away from home except on urgent business will be a nuisance. Besides it has been announced that travelling facilities are to be cut down. Most secretaries are trying to do what they can, and little thanks and support they get for it.

LOCAL SECRETARY.

SUCCESSFUL SHROPSHIRE MEETING.**VISITORS AT COALBROOKDALE.**

The Shropshire Association meeting at Coalbrookdale on Saturday week was a great success. Visitors began to arrive about three o'clock from Eardisland, Hereford, Prees, Market Drayton, Wellington, Malinslee, Stockton and Dawley. The ten bells, silenced by the use of stretchers, were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire and Stedman Triples, as well as rounds on the ten for the learners.

The Rev. T. Eland (Vicar) welcomed the visitors, who enjoyed a very good war-time tea turned out of various pockets and parcels, while the local ringers had arranged ample tea, sugar and milk.

The Vicar presided at tea and took the chair at the short business meeting which followed.

It was proposed to try and hold a meeting at Wellington on Saturday, November 1st, and the annual meeting at Shrewsbury one Saturday in January, 1942.

Some fine handbell ringing took place in the tea room, also at the tower, especially the Grandsire Caters on the largest ten (tenor size 22 in C). This was the first time all the tower bells had been swinging since the ban was put on ringing. All the ringers taking part were delighted with the go of the bells, and naturally wished they had been sounding aloud. The bells were kept going until well after 8 p.m.

Several of the visitors went up to see the bells actually working and swinging. The tower inside is only about 14ft. 11in. square, and the ten bells are all hung on one level, and one visitor exclaimed, 'Gosh, aren't they a picture!' It was agreed that every effort should be made to arrange more meetings at other churches in the county.

MR. ROBERT H. BRUNDLE.

(Continued from previous page.)

Ipswich, 6,608 Double Norwich at Debenham, 8,064 at Leiston, 10,080 at Henley, Suffolk. There are many peals of Grandsire Triples and one attempt by the Edinburgh Cathedral Society at the Old Steeple, Dundee. Of the Stedman Triples there was notably the veterans' peal at St. Olave's, Hart Street, London, conducted by that wonderful gentleman of our art, the late Mr. Challis Winney. On October 19th, 1889, there was a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, and in 1893 three twelve-bell peals in a week: October 26th, 5,014 Stedman Cinques in 3 hours 47 minutes at St. Mary-le-Tower; October 28th, 5,040 Kent Treble Bob Maximus, in 3 hours 46 minutes, at St. Mary's, Cambridge; October 31st, 5,082 Grandsire Cinques, in 3 hours 40 minutes, at St. Mary-le-Tower.

Among other peals outside Ipswich were: September 24th, 1888, 5,120 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hours 44 minutes, at Manchester Cathedral; December 23rd, 1901, 5,024 Double Norwich, in 3 hours 10 minutes, at All Saints, Newcastle; May 19th, 1902, 5,079 Stedman Caters, in 2 hours 59 minutes, at Christ Church, Bristol. In addition to the peals above mentioned, my other peals above 6,000 are two of 7,000, one of 8,000, two of 10,000 to the 16,608 of Oxford Treble Bob Major on those harmonious bells at Debenham, Suffolk, in 10 hours and 32 minutes, on June 6th, 1892. Three of the band are still living, Messrs. F. Tillet, W. Crickmer and myself. Those who have passed on are ever remembered with pleasant memories, as are also the good old folk of Debenham for their hearty cheer.

On January 13th, 1912, I was invited to take part in a peal of Stedman Cinques on the famous Bow Bells, Cheapside, London. A good peal was accomplished in 3 hours 52 minutes: Edwin Horrex 1, Samuel E. Joyce 2, Challis Winney 3, Herbert Langdon 4, Alfred B. Peck 5, Archibald F. Harris 6, Robert H. Brundle 7, Ernest G. Tibbings 8, William E. Garrard 9, James R. Mackman 10, Richard T. Hibbert 11, Thomas Groombridge, sen. 12. Composed by C. H. Hattersley, conducted by W. E. Garrard. This peal had the 6th 24 courses at home and was the first published with these qualities. I also rang in two peals of Maximus, one of Kent, one of Oxford and one of Stedman Cinques on those famous bells at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, in one of Maximus at Yarmouth Parish Church, Cambridge Maximus and Stedman Cinques at Chelmsford and the septuagenarians' peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Pulham Market, Norfolk.

My last peal on Saturday, October 15th, 1938, in 3 hours and 48 minutes, at the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower, composed and conducted by George E. Symonds, was rung as a birthday compliment for my 87th year of age.

I wish to return my grateful thanks to Messrs. George E. Symonds, Charles J. Sedgley, William Brown and all my comrades at St. Mary-le-Tower for their good wishes and kind regard for me.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.
ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS
OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.**TEMPORARY REPAIRS TO FAMOUS CHURCH.**

On Sunday week a thanksgiving service, in conjunction with the harvest festival, was held at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, to mark the completion of the work of temporary repair. Happily, in the raids there was no substantial damage to the tower or bells, but nearly all the fine stained glass windows were blown out. The church is now glazed with plain glass, which has this advantage, that in daylight the beauty of the interior is shown up better than ever before.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress represented the city, and among others present was Alderman S. J. Grey (Deputy Regional Commissioner). Prebendary J. H. Carpenter (Vicar of Walsall) preached the sermon.

Although the pillars and walls still carry the scars left by the Easter 'blitz,' the church is 'wind and water proof.' Through the kindness of the Feeney Trustees, the effigies of the Lords of the Manor of Birmingham have been removed from the nave and are safely housed at Warwick. The Burne-Jones window has also been removed to safety.

At the thanksgiving service, the Rector, Canon Guy Rogers, expressed gratitude to the Lord Mayor and the City Surveyor for enabling the work of repair to be undertaken immediately. He added: 'We are indebted to two citizens (Alderman Pritchett and Alderman Cadbury), who have most generously, aided by other friends, raised £1,000 towards the repair fund. The congregation has raised some £600.'

A letter of congratulation and good wishes has been sent to St. Martin's by the members of Carrs Lane Congregational Church. Carrs Lane contributed officially to the restoration fund.

Alderman T. B. Pritchett is a nephew of the late Alderman J. S. Pritchett, who was for many years Master of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham.

DAMAGE TO CHURCHES.**A DISTURBING FEATURE.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Whilst apparently we must resign ourselves to the continuance of the ban on church bell ringing, the letter sent by the Minister of Home Security to the M.P. for Doncaster, as published in 'The Ringing World' dated September 12th, has at least one disturbing feature.

The following is stated: 'Admittedly churches in urban areas have suffered seriously from enemy action, but it has been in the course of an indiscriminate attack, and does not indicate that they have become military objectives because their bells might be used for giving a signal.'

Is this quotation an indication of official 'wriggling' as to liability of restoring damaged or destroyed churches, including their bells, over the whole country, or is it confined to churches in urban areas which have been subject to an indiscriminate attack? I suggest the former, because if one church with its bells does not become a military objective, no church will no matter where its situation.

It has appeared in the columns of 'The Ringing World' before that, in view of the fact that bells can now be rung only as a warning of invasion, following instructions from the local military authority or chief of police, both the bells and the tower at least must become military objectives.

Firstly, could not the hon. secretary of the Doncaster and District Society make further representations, to his local M.P. and to the Ministry of Home Security to keep the 'ball rolling,' and, secondly, could not the Central Council manage to meet next year in order to consider this most important matter and protect the interests of bell-ringers?

T. J. LOCK.

North Mimms.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**GOOD ATTENDANCE AT SEVENOAKS MEETING.**

A bi-meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association was held at Sevenoaks on Saturday, September 12th, when there was a good attendance of members of the district. Mr. and Mrs. E. Barnett, of Crayford, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Housden, Miss H. Oakshott and Mr. H. E. Audsley were also present. The bells (silent) were made good use of during the afternoon, various touches in different methods being brought round. A pause was made at 4 o'clock to attend a short service, conducted by the Rector, who in an address extended a welcome to all present and went on to speak of the great service the ringers had given to the Church in the past, and how that service would be more appreciated when the ban on ringing was lifted.

At the conclusion of the service the organist played Purcell's Trumpet Voluntary, which was much enjoyed by those present.

Further 'ringing' followed until 6 o'clock, when tea was served. An apology was received from the acting district hon. secretary, and Mr. A. Batten (Tonbridge Wells) moved a vote of thanks to the Rector for conducting the service and for the use of the bells; to the organist, especially for his rendering of the Trumpet Voluntary; and to the local hon. secretary (Miss D. Colgate) for making all the arrangements.

Mr. E. Ladd (District Master) reminded those present of the annual meeting, to be held at Tonbridge on the first Saturday in October.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT CLAPTON.**

Twenty members and friends were present at Upper Clapton on Saturday last at a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild. Weather conditions were favourable and the programme commenced with handbell ringing. At 4.30 p.m. a short evensong, with organ and choir, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. W. Thompson), who also gave an informal address. In this he extended a hearty welcome to the members of the association and remarked that, in general, ringers nowadays must feel very sad at the restriction imposed on bellringing, also very sad at the thought that so many churches and peals of bells have been destroyed or damaged by enemy airmen. He hoped that so long as the Restriction of Noise Order is still operative it may please God that we shall never hear the church bells ring, but expressed an earnest desire that we may soon be in a position to return to our rebuilt churches and restored peals of bells as part of a normal and peaceful existence.

A very enjoyable tea was provided, after which the business meeting took place. Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president) was welcomed back to the chair. The death of the Rev. A. H. Lloyd, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, an honorary life member, was reported, and the meeting stood in silence for a few moments as a mark of respect. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and arising out of them there was a discussion, with some ventilation of views, concerning bells and towers as military objectives, but there was no resolution.

More than one tower was mentioned as the place for the next meeting, but it was decided to leave this in the hands of the secretary.

Thanks were accorded to the Rev. Thompson and Mr. D. E. Campbell and other helpers for their part in ensuring a successful meeting.

Further handbell ringing took place, and methods were rung including Grandire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Stedman Caters and Cinques, the latter with tenor size 22 in C.

The visitors included Mr. P. A. Corby and the Rev. Malcolm Melville, and everyone was especially glad to meet Mr. Bob Pye, whose health has not been too good lately.

MR. W. H. FUSSELL'S 80th BIRTHDAY.**A HANDBELL CELEBRATION.**

Had there been no ban on church bells it is quite certain there would have been much ringing last week in Buckinghamshire and maybe elsewhere to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough, which, as our readers are aware, took place on September 16th.

It was felt, however, that the event could not be allowed to pass without some attempt to honour it, and a handbell peal, specially arranged for the purpose, was happily rung last Saturday at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, the headquarters of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, of which Mr. Fussell is one of the oldest members. He completed sixty years as a member on the day after his birthday, so that the peal was a double commemoration. It was, of course, rung by Cumberlands, and the Master and Hon. Secretary and Treasurer were in the company, the peal, a 5,024 of Bob Major, being composed as well as conducted by the Master.

Incidentally, the peal served also as a compliment to two other participants in the proceedings, for Mr. A. H. Pulling (61) and the umpire, Mr. W. J. Robinson (60) celebrated their birthdays during the same week.

Afterwards congratulations and good wishes were expressed to Mr. Fussell, who was absent, and the others.

The peal was rung in the choir vestry, which is situated in the crypt of the church, and was not entirely free from interruption. Although the door had, by permission, been locked, it was fortunate there was an umpire in the room to open it when there came a loud and imperious knocking. A gentleman, carrying tools, marched through, and banged the door at the other end of the room, then repeated the process when he came back. And every door-bang in that underground apartment sounded like a bomb explosion. However, this and sundry other distracting noises were survived, and the peal came round in just over two and a half hours. It is to be hoped that Mr. Fussell's next birthday may be celebrated on tower bells.

THE CAMBRIDGE GROUP.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—What is the sense of talking about the 'Cambridge' Group? Here are the first 12 Round Blocks of the Cambridge Minor. The first six Round Blocks are the same in both methods 'Cambridge' and 'Yorkshire.' I suggest that you add 7-8 to the starred rows and then compare them with the corresponding rows of 'Yorkshire' Major Round Blocks and see what sort of a mathematical progression you get. I have tried it so I know what I am talking about. You can find space for Mr. W. Taylor's twaddle, but I shall be very much surprised if you find space for these *mathematical truths*.

GEORGE BAKER.

2, North Street Quadrant, Brighton.

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624153
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THE STANDARD METHODS.

The methods we have called the Cambridge group are not merely a number allied in construction; they are closely related in the actual practical work of the belfry, and the man who rings them will get a good deal of help and interest if he understands what the relationship is.

In all of them the normal work of a bell is Treble Bob hunting, which (apart from the places always made above the treble on the lead and below the treble at the back) is only varied by two items of work, or rather by one operation which is shared by two bells.

These bells are always two which, at the time, are next each other in coursing order, and the operation consists of the first one making places round the second which runs through it. The result is that the two are reversed in coursing order. The work can be done either when the bells are hunting up or when they are hunting down, and always, after one of these operations has reversed two bells in coursing order, another similar operation is made, later in the lead, on the same two bells, to restore them to their original positions in coursing order.

The operation is exactly similar to what takes place in Double Court Minor when the bell which is turned from the front or from behind by the treble makes places round it, and courses after it instead of in front of it.

000608	608000
006080	060800
006800	006800
008600	008600
080600	008060
806000	000806

In the first of these examples the 6th is hunting down in front of the 8th, but stops to make places round it; the 8th runs through the 6th and the two bells are reversed in coursing order. In the second example the 8th is hunting up in front of the 6th, but stops to make places round it; the 6th runs through the 8th, and the two bells regain their original positions in coursing order.

The man who knows where these places and these run-throughs have to be made can at once go and ring Cambridge, or Yorkshire, or Pudsey, or any other of the kindred methods on any number of bells, not merely on eight, or ten, or twelve, but also on fifty, or a hundred, if it were physically possible.

We do not suppose that men will ring these methods so; at any rate not entirely so, especially on eight bells; for every ringer finds many and varied hints to make up the rules he uses, and no two men, perhaps, ring any method in exactly the same way; but the more a man knows and understands the work of a method, the easier and the more interesting it becomes, and a knowledge of the relationship of the works of all these methods on all numbers of bells cannot fail to be of use to him.

As we have already indicated, the positions of the operations are decided by the treble, for they are the means by which paths of the working bells are adapted to the path of the treble.

In Cambridge a bell always makes a double set of places—two before meeting the treble and two after passing it. And it always makes a double run-through—before it reaches the treble, through its course bell, and after it has passed the treble, through the bell which at the time is next in coursing order. The two bells it works with on its way down are the same two that it works with on its way up, but it comes to them in reverse

order. If, going down, it makes places first round its after bell A and then round B, when it goes up it will first run through B and then through A. Similarly if, going down, it runs through its course bell A and then through B when it goes up it will first make places round B and then round A.

Now, since there is a definite relationship between these operations and the bells which make them, it is obvious that the man who knows what the relationship is will be able to find his way and pick out his bells very much easier than if he did not know. He will also be able to say with certainty what bells should be working with him. Knowledge of this sort is very useful on the higher numbers.

In Cambridge, after a bell has made second's place at the lead-end, all the run-throughs are made hunting down and all the place-making is done hunting up, until at the half-lead-end the place is made beneath the treble. Then, during the second half of the course, all the run-throughs are made hunting up and all the place-making is done hunting down until second's place again is made over the treble at the lead-end.

The catch phrase for the order in which the place-making and run-throughs are done is 'furthest first.' When you are place-making from the front you make those in 9-10 (on twelve bells) first, then those in 7-8, then in 5-6, and then in 3-4. Alternately with this place-making from the front, from the back you run through 3-4 and 1-2; then through 5-6 and 3-4; then through 7-8 and 5-6, and so on according to the number of bells. When you begin the place-making from the back (after you have made the place under the treble at the half-lead-end) you first make the places in 3-4, then those in 5-6, then those in 7-8 and so on; while the run-throughs from the front are made in the reverse order, first through the highest positions. On twelve bells you run through 7-8 and 9-10; then through 5-6 and 7-8; then through 3-4 and 5-6; and then through 1-2 and 3-4.

In Yorkshire the place-making and run-throughs come in just as regular a manner. There directly after a bell has made places in any one position it runs through the next, or if the run-through comes first the place-making follows in the next position. For instance, directly after you have made places in 7-8 down, you run through 5-6, and directly after you have run through 3-4 up you make places in 5-6. As already explained, place-making and run-throughs are done with the same bell.

After seconds is made at the lead-end, and until the place is made under the treble at the half-lead-end, the run-throughs precede the place-making, and the bell always works with its course bell. After the place is made under the treble at the half-lead-end and until seconds is made at the lead-end, the place-making precedes the run-throughs and the bell always works with its after bell.

As the number of bells increases, so does the number of methods in the Cambridge group. Constructionally they are all interesting, but for practical purposes none except Cambridge, Yorkshire and Pudsey is of any particular value, and of those three Yorkshire is by far the best.

(To be continued.)

Have 'The Ringing World' sent to your ringing friends abroad; 4s. 4d. per quarter from 'The Ringing World' Office, Lower Pyrford Road Woking.

NOTICES.**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27th, at the Bell Foundry, 32-34, Whitechapel Road, E.1, at 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Preston, Saturday, September 27th. Handbells in vestry and ringing room. Service at 4 p.m. Tea in school after. Meeting in the same school afterwards. We hope as many as possible will try to attend.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —A meeting will be held at Heston on Saturday, September 27th. Tea at the Westbrook Memorial Hall, 1s. 8d. per head. Hall available from 2 p.m. As it has been necessary to guarantee an attendance of 20 for tea, it is very much hoped the attendance will be a good one. Handbells available. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, Ealing, W.13.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxborne (8 bells, silent) on Saturday, September 27th, at 3 p.m. Handbells available. Tea at the Welcome Cafe, near church. All are welcome. Please come.—A. Laurence, 6, West Goldings, Hatfield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Bradfield on Saturday, September 27th. Handbells available at 2.30 p.m., most probably in the Village Hall. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Village Hall. Owing to catering difficulties, those intending to be present must bring their own teas for all meetings while the war lasts. This parish is clear of the defence area, provided people travel via the Harwich Road from Colchester and enter Mistley end of the village. There is a good bus and rail service.—Leslie Wright, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Diss on Saturday, September 27th. Tower bells (silent), if possible, 2.15 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea at the Coffee Tavern 4.45 p.m. Please note change of date of meeting.—Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 52, The Close, Norwich.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Handbells from 3 p.m. in the Parish Room (Vicarage, side entrance). Business meeting 4.30 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church. A good muster is desired.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds, 12.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at the Studios, Falconer Road, Bushey, Saturday, Sept. 27th. Handbells from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome.—H. G. Cashmore, 24, Muriel Avenue, Watford.

BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT.—A meeting will be held at Chailey, 36, Dean Park Road, Bournemouth (by invitation of Rev. C. A. Phillips) on Saturday, September 27th. Handbells from 2.30 to 5. Service at St. Peter's Church 5.30. Tea at Parsons' Restaurant 6.15.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). —Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Edgbaston, Birm-

ingham, on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Silent practice on tower bells from 3.30 to 4.30; short service 4.30; tea 5.15. Business meeting and handbell ringing to follow. All requiring tea must notify by Oct. 1st at latest.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Service in church at 4 p.m. Tea at the Carlton Cafe at 4.45 (free). Will all members coming to tea let Mr. J. Medhurst, 251, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, know not later than Wednesday, October 1st.—T. Saunders, Peckham Bush, Paddock Wood.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on Saturday, October 4th, in conjunction with local meeting. All committee members who can are urgently requested to attend. Financial matters will be discussed. Meet in Church Vestry 4 p.m.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, October 4th, at 3 p.m. Handbells available. Short service at 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify the Rev. S. F. Linsley, The Vicarage, Stanley Street, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, on or before September 30th?—Andrew Thompson, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Leicester on October 4th. Ringing at St. Margaret's. Bells (silent) from 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. Tea (2s. 6d.) and meeting at George Hotel (near Clock Tower) 5.15 p.m. Social evening and entertainment at the George Hotel, 7 to 9 p.m. Only those who notify me by October 1st will be provided with tea.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Braintree on Saturday, October 11th. Handbells available from 2.30. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. It is essential that all intending to be present should notify me not later than Wednesday, October 8th. Please come and make this meeting a real success. A good bus service from all parts.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Heddingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Any ringers who may be coming up next term are asked to communicate with J. E. Spice (Master) at New College, or W. L. B. Leese (secretary) at St. John's.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The secretary of this district is now Mrs. C. Guy, Merrie Meade, Watgate Road, Newport, Isle of Wight.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. A. B. Wiffen's address is now No. 1, Hauteville Court Gardens, Stamford Brook, London, W.6.

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