



# **Dedication and inaugural recitals of the University of Wisconsin carillon, June 20, 21, 22, 1936 : presented by Ira Schroeder, Iowa College. 1936**

Madison, Wisconsin: [s.n.], 1936

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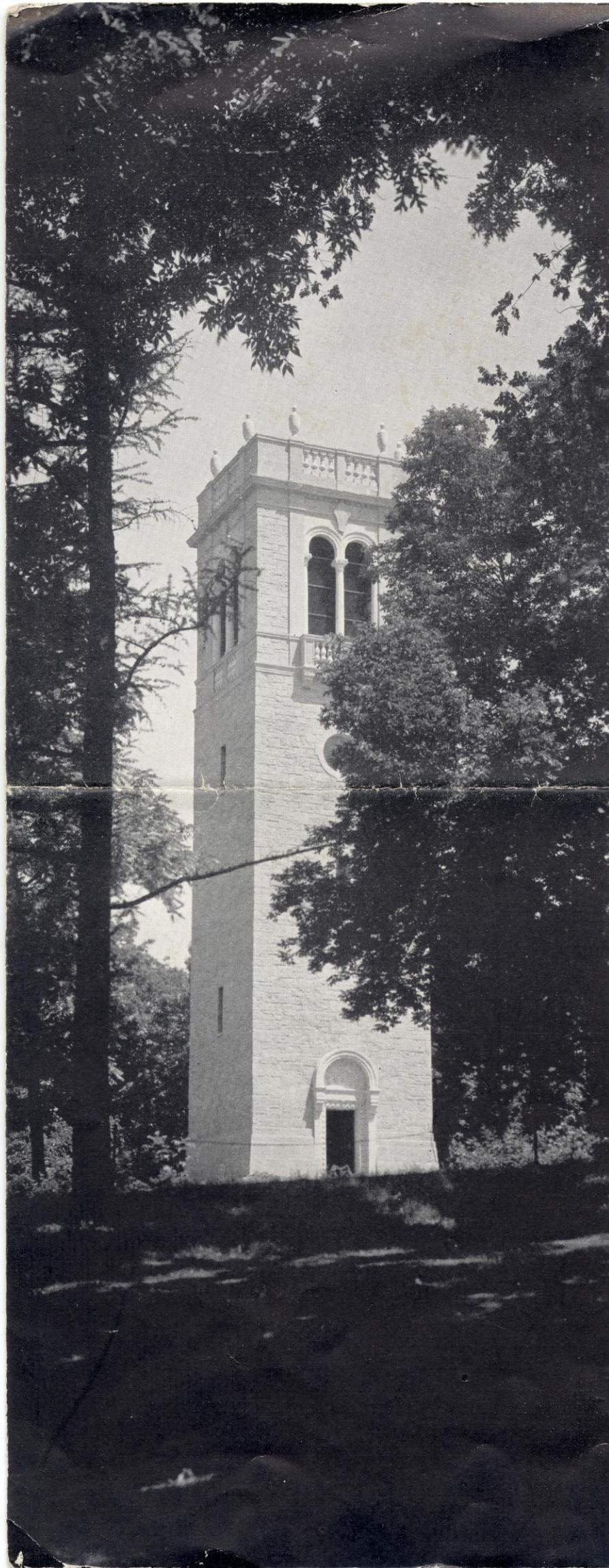
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**DEDICATION  
AND  
INAUGURAL  
RECITALS  
OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
CARILLON  
JUNE 20, 21, 22,  
1936  
PRESENTED BY  
IRA SCHROEDER  
IOWA STATE COLLEGE**

# The Story of University of Wisconsin Carillon

The idea of a chime for the University originated with the members of the class of 1917. The dome of Main Hall (now known as Bascom Hall) had recently burned and it was felt that in its reconstruction a chime could easily be installed. There were no carillons in this country at that time but many colleges and universities were installing chimes. Subsequent classes were invited to contribute to the fund. Today the carillon and tower stand as the gift of the classes of 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, and 1926.

A change in the University's building program left Bascom Hall without a dome and in 1932 plans were started for the purchase of a carillon and the construction of a tower to house it. Rapidly rising building costs would have prevented the completion of the project except for the grant of sufficient funds from the Public Works Administration of the Federal Government.

The tower was completed in June, 1935. It was designed by Mr. Arthur Peabody, state architect and was built by Maas Brothers of Watertown. The carillon was completed in March of 1936. It was cast and installed by Gillett and Johnston of Croydon, England. While the carillon now consists of only 25 bells the framework carrying the bells and the playing console have been built to accommodate 36. Five lighter bells and six heavier are to be added. It is hoped that future graduating classes will wish to contribute toward the completion of the carillon and the installation of a mechanism for striking the hours and quarters.

This gift to the University comes from the Chimes Fund. As has been stated above, at the time of its beginning little was known in the United States concerning carillons. They have been used for centuries in the Low Countries of Europe, but there were only two in the United States before the World War. Since the war at least thirty-four have been installed, ten of them in schools or colleges. Thirteen of these were cast by Gillett and Johnston.

There are no two carillons that are exactly alike; the range in tones as well as the range in weight vary greatly. Very little music has been published for the carillon, it is almost

all in manuscript form and must be copied, and arranged or transposed for the carillon on which it is to be played. Music published for other instruments must also be arranged. Every one of the compositions played during these inaugural recitals has been arranged for this set of bells by the carilloneur who plays them: Ira Schroeder.

A carillon differs from a chime in many ways. Chimes are made up of a small number of bells arranged in diatonic scale, while a carillon consists of at least two octaves (25 bells) arranged in chromatic scale. Percival Price, Dominion Carilloneur of Canada, says in his book, *The Carillon*: "Chimes are useful for rendering simple melodies, but they cannot be compared to the carillon with its full harmonies and tone shading." A carillon is equipped with a playing console which allows greater facility in playing than does a chime. Some are connected with electro-pneumatic devices which aid in playing the heavier bells and allow for automatic playing. The carilloneur uses both his hands and feet in playing, his feet on a pedal arrangement somewhat like that of a pipe organ.

The bells in a carillon are carefully tuned within themselves as well as with each other. This is done scientifically by turning them on a lathe after they have been cast. Each bell is tuned to five tones: There is the "hum-tone" which is an octave below the tone which sounds immediately after the bell is struck. This latter is called the "fundamental". The tone an octave above the fundamental is known as the "nominal", and sounds only briefly at the moment the bell is struck. Between the fundamental and the nominal are a minor third and a fifth above the fundamental. It is this complexity which gives the richness to the bell tone and must be taken into consideration in listening to, arranging music for, or playing the carillon.

The weights of the bells in the University of Wisconsin Carillon at present range from more than 3100 pounds down to about 75 pounds. The pitch of the heaviest bell is E-flat; the lightest is F, two octaves above. The future heaviest bell will weigh about 7300 pounds and the lightest about 40 pounds. The range will be from the second B-flat below middle C to two octaves above.

June 20, 1936

5:00 P.M.

## Dedication Ceremony at The Tower

5:15 P.M.

### DEDICATION RECITAL

Prof. Ira Schroeder, Iowa State College

1. Varsity Toast		
2. a. Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes	.....	English Air
b. Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms	.....	Moore
c. The Light Comes Down From Heaven	.....	University Hymn
3. Minuet and Trio, from Symphony in E-Flat	.....	Mozart
4. a. Old Black Joe	.....	Foster
b. My Old Kentucky Home	.....	Foster
5. Volga Boat Song	.....	Russian Air
6. On Wisconsin		

June 21, 1936

3:00 P.M.

1. Varsity Toast		
2. a. Come Thou Almighty King	.....	Giardini
b. Jesus, And Shall It Ever Be	.....	Oliver
c. O God, Our Help In Ages Past	.....	Croft
3. The Rosary	.....	Nevin
4. Hindu Song, from "Sadko"	.....	Rimsky-Korsakow
5. a. The Lord Is My Shepherd	.....	Koschat
b. Abide With Me	.....	Monk
6. On Wisconsin		

To get the best effect from the carillon the listener should be at a distance of from 300 to 500 yards. Persons in automobiles are requested not to sound the horns or start the motor at any time during the entire recital. It is suggested a parking place be chosen before the program starts and retained to its completion.

**June 21, 1936**

**9:00 P.M.**

1. Varsity Toast		
2. a. Love's Old Sweet Song		Molloy
b. All Thru the Night		Welsh Air
c. Come Out Tonight and Greet the Moon		College Song
3. In the Luxembourg Gardens		Manning
4. Stars of the Summer Night		Woodbury
5. Three College Songs		
6. a. Softly Now the Light of Day		Von Weber
b. Now the Day Is Over		Barnby
7. On Wisconsin		

**June 22, 1936**

**7:45 A.M.**

1. Varsity Toast		Wisconsin
2. Alma Mater		Chicago
3. Hail to the Orange		Illinois
4. Carmen Ohio		Ohio State
5. Quaecumque Sunt Vera		Northwestern
6. Hail to Minnesota		Minnesota
7. Old Gold		Iowa
8. Hail to I. U.		Indiana
9. The Yellow and Blue		Michigan
10. Hail Purdue		Purdue
11. On Wisconsin		Wisconsin

**June 22, 1936**

**11:45 A.M.**

1. Varsity Toast		
2. a. Auld Lang Syne		Scotch Air
b. Kelvin Grove		Scotch Air
c. Men of Harlech		Welsh Air
3. Andante		Scolland
4. a. O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go		Peace
b. Awake My Soul, In Joyful Lays		Caldwell
5. a. How Can I Leave Thee		Kunkle
b. Till We Meet Again		Whiting
6. On Wisconsin		