

ARTHUR BIGELOW, BELLMASTER, 57

Carillonneur at Princeton Dies on European Trip

Special to The New York Times

PRINCETON, N. J., March 9—Word was received today that Arthur Lynds Bigelow, bellmaster for Princeton University and a member of the university's engineering faculty for 25 years, died in Paris on Feb. 25. He was 57 years old.

Mr. Bigelow, who was born in Springfield, Mass., was one of the world's leading bellmasters. After studying engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, he went abroad in 1930 to study bells at the Carillon School in Mechlin, Belgium. He stayed there for 11 years, also acting as concert artist on the carillon in the tower of the University of Louvain Library in Belgium.

Mr. Bigelow examined thousands of bells for dimensions and tones throughout Western Europe. In the nineteen-thirties he directed the reconstruction of the bells destroyed by German artillery fire in Louvain during World War I. He was driven out of Belgium by the Germans in 1940, when he was bellmaster of St. Peter's, a large church in Louvain.

In the United States, Mr. Bigelow's work includes the design of bells in the carillon of the Washington Memorial at Valley Forge, Pa., and at Cornell University, St. Vincent's Seminary in Philadelphia, Smith College, the Taft Memorial in Washington, the University of the South at Seawanee, Tenn., and schools and churches in other parts of the country.

In addition to his work with bronze bells, Mr. Bigelow was responsible for the design of the first commercially produced electronic carillon.

At Princeton he taught courses in engineering graphics and spatial analysis for structural geology. As bellmaster of the university he attracted visitors with annual bell concerts performed on the Class of 1892 carillon in the Cleveland Memorial Tower.

The carillon, one of the world's largest, has 49 bells, many of which Mr. Bigelow made himself, and has a range of four octaves.

The carrillonneur and his wife, the former Johanna Canivez of Brussels and Amsterdam, had flown to Europe to visit their daughter, Marianne, a teacher of choreography in Paris. The funeral and burial were in Paris.

The New York Times

Published: March 10, 1967

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