

Two Heights Churches Tune New Sets of Holland Bells

(Photos on Picture Page)

BY RICHARD WAGER

Church Editor

Bells, bells, bells—some 45 of them—will soon be filling the air in Cleveland Heights with their inimitable music.

A set of 10 large bells was installed and dedicated at new St. Ann's Catholic Church, Coventry at Cedar Roads, shortly before Christmas.

Yesterday, a set of 12 bells weighing a total of 21,510 pounds was installed in the belfry of the Church of the Saviour, Bradford and Lee Roads, and 15 bells were hoisted into the tower of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Fairmount Boulevard at Coventry Road.

The new bells at St. Paul's complement a previous set of eight and will make a carillon of 23 tuned bells, played in the age-old fashion, by hand, from a keyboard of large wooden handle-levers. Sets at the other two churches are played electrically from a piano-like keyboard.

Cast in Holland

By coincidence, the bells were installed at St. Paul's and at the Church of the Saviour on the same day, after years of waiting and planning. Each set was cast in Holland by a different foundry whose history goes back to the 17th century.

The carillon at St. Paul's Church will be mastered by Guy Gray, veteran carillonneur recognized by the exclusive circle of bell musicians in the world, who has served the church since 1935.

The new bells were cast by the van Bergen bell foundry, Heiligerlee, Holland, which has made tuned bells since 1685. They are being installed by H. T. van Bergen, a member of the company, and an assistant, Frederick Schutter, who came here from his home in Holland, specifically for this project.

With eight bells, Gray has a repertoire of 200 pieces. The complete carillon will permit virtually an unlimited repertoire.

It is believed the only other hand-played carillon in Greater Cleveland is in St. Christopher's-by-the-River Church, Gates Mills.

The St. Paul's bells vary in weight from 60 to 2,200 pounds. The new bells cost \$10,000 and are the gift of a number of donors. Van Bergen said they would be ready for playing in about six weeks.

At the Church of the Saviour, the 12 bells were cast by the Petit

& Fritsen foundry of Aarle-Rixtel, Holland, which has been in business since 1660.

Costing \$40,000, they are the gift of Charles K. Arter, attorney, in memory of his late wife and daughter. The bells are being installed by Forrest E. Verdin of Cincinnati, representing the I. T. Verdin Co., which manufactures the electrical apparatus by which they are to be operated.

Besides being played from a keyboard near the organ console in the church sanctuary, these bells are to be connected to an

electric clock and will ring the famous Westminster chime notes at each quarter hour and ring the hour. Neighbors may be glad to know, however, that the clock chimes will be silenced at night.

Verdin said the bells would be ready for playing in about three weeks.

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