

G. Gazette
Dec 16 1927

We did not get an electric shock, but we had a very pleasing experience on Monday afternoon. We were one of a little company who saw "history" being made in Cowbridge—nothing more or less than the beginning of a new era of "more light." A small company, including the Town Clerk (Mr. W. T. Gwyn), members of the Corporation, and general public, accompanied the Mayor (Councillor W. A. Phillips) to the transforming station at the rear of the hall, and there his worship, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Dinham, manipulated some levers. We did not see much effect then; but Mr. Dinham remarked, "And now, gentlemen, Cowbridge is supplied with electric light." We later saw the light switched on in the first house to receive the current, and what more fitting place than an old house, associated for generations with the history of the old borough, linked up with the lives of the forefathers of Cowbridge and the Vale for centuries past. Yes, as we stood in the Bear Hotel, and saw the light flash through the old house, we thought more than we could say. Unfortunately, through illness, Mr. W. A. Chamen (general manager of the South Wales Electrical Power Co.), was unable to be present. Mr. C. A. Allen was also unable to be present. Under the direction of Mr. Dinham, a magnificent lighting effect was produced on the old Town Hall. We venture to say that nothing of the kind approaching it for brilliance has ever been seen in Cowbridge before. Hundreds of coloured lights, trailing over the front, over the roof, around the old clock, and even up to the bell-tower. Hundreds of people saw for the first time in their lives the old bell, which has for so long, and sometimes so faithfully sounded the passing hour. The face of the old clock (re-gilded) looked smilingly down, and seemed to say—"for what the South Wales Electrical Power Company has done for me I am truly thankful. May the Lord incline the hearts of the Town Council to treat my two brothers, one on either side of me, in the same manner." The report from the houses already installed is "Tip top." We congratulate the Mayor upon being the first to switch on the light, which, we are sure, will be a boon to the old town. There was another Town Councillor who for the first time switched "off" the light; but as it is so easy for one man to create "darkness" after others have laboured for "light," we need hardly add congratulations.

TELEPHONE

Service into 1898

Reminiscences of Borthwick, Glos
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