

Chichester Observer 7th August 1918 page 1

THE MIDDLETON ORCHESTRA. — An orchestra is being organised under the above title, which will be mainly composed of discharged service men, assisted by a few civilians and under the direction of Mr. T. S. Wood and worked directly in conjunction with the Middleton Entertainment Club. This orchestra, although mainly composed of men discharged from the colours, is in no way associated with any other organization except that referred to herewith; and it is anticipated help may be given to enable these men, physically incapacitated in their country's service, to augment their slender incomes in this congenial manner. A sympathetic appeal is made to the local public, which has already been started in the right direction by the generous support that has already been given by several of the prominent Bognor residents and also by the practical and workmanlike support given by the Middleton Entertainment Club and the employees of Messrs. The Norman Thompson Flight Co., Ltd. Mr. T. S. Wood, their talented and energetic conductor and cornet soloist is a man of considerable talent and much further promise, having been connected with the Leinsters and the Royal Sussex regimental bands, after graduating at Kneller Hall, Hounslow (the military band training academy), and has furthermore some large experience in town bands. It is shortly proposed to introduce this orchestra to the public attention in the form of a Bohemian concert and orchestral performance to be held at no far distant date, the organization of which, together with any future engagements, will be in the hands of the Middleton Entertainment Club and their supporters, details of which will be published later. The Middleton Orchestra is now in full practice and will include about fourteen or so performers, but like its parent club is of an elastic nature, permitting of expansion or contraction as circumstances or requirements may decide. During practices much promise has already been shown, and they are acquiring a masterly knowledge of all grades of music, from operatic selections to dance series and song and solo accompaniments.