

The Electrical World

TELEPHONES OF THE WORLD

Very Nearly Three Out of Four of Them Are Found in America—Europe is Backward.

Of 8,500,000 telephones in the world, 7,000,000 are in America, 2,000,000 in Europe and the other 500,000 are scattered over the remainder of the planet's surface. Commenting on these recent estimates and their probable correctness, the National Telephone Journal of London says:

"The reason why Europe cuts so poor a figure in comparison with America is that four or five of the most civilized and populous countries are extraordinarily backward in telephonic development. France, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Holland and Italy—in the first four of which the telephone is entirely in the hands of the government—may be instanced. In the whole of France there are less than 200,000 stations, and in Austria and Hungary combined there are actually fewer telephones than in the city of Chicago.

"Ancient cities of universal renown, counting 400,000 or 500,000 inhabitants, and moreover of greater commercial importance, such as Lyons, Marseilles, Naples, Antwerp and Prague, are far behind American towns with 50,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, such as Peoria, St. Joseph, Dayton and Norfolk, Va., which few Europeans have ever heard of; while Vienna, with a population of nearly 2,000,000, has not so many stations as San Francisco, with 250,000 souls. If the countries of central and western Europe were as well developed telephonically as even Great Britain and Germany, to say nothing of Scandinavia, the comparison with America would be vastly more flattering."

LIGHT ADJUSTER IS USEFUL

Lamp May Be Raised or Lowered to Suit Convenience of Mechanic as Illustration Shows.

One way to raise or lower an electric light is to tie a knot in the cord. Another way is to use a lamp cord adjuster.

This latter method will be found more satisfactory, however, than the former. One of these adjusters is shown in the illustration.

By the manufacturers this device is called a two-ball adjuster. The



Useful Light Adjuster.

name is derived from the two balls through which pass the lamp cord.

By raising or lowering the lamp by hand it may be placed in any desired position. The lower ball is weighted to a certain extent to take up the slack cord when the lamp is raised. This sort of adjuster will be found most useful in machine shops in such places as over a lathe. The mechanic may raise or lower the light to the convenience of the work. The flexible cord also permits the moving of the light to the right or left.

Power for Electric Motors.

Internal combustion engines utilizing furnace gases are increasingly employed in Europe. A large mining and metallurgical works in the north of France has decided to use the gas from 160 recently built coke furnaces to obtain power for operating electric motors and lights about the works in the district.

Discovery of Tungsten.

The rare metal tungsten was discovered in 1781. It came into world-wide prominence a few years ago when the new metal filaments for electric incandescent lamps were made of the new metal, producing a better and a vastly cheaper light.

Aid to Meter Reader.

Ronovo, a railroad town in Pennsylvania, has adopted the very convenient scheme of placing electric light meters on the back porches of the houses. This arrangement permits the meter reader to read a great many meters in a day. It is a common meter to read 300 meters. Another advantage is that the meter is placed in a conspicuous place, where the consumer may read it from time to time and get better acquainted with it.

Energy Cost Meter.

An energy cost meter which plainly shows a prospective customer the expense of operating an electrical device he may wish to buy has been designed for use where such devices are sold.

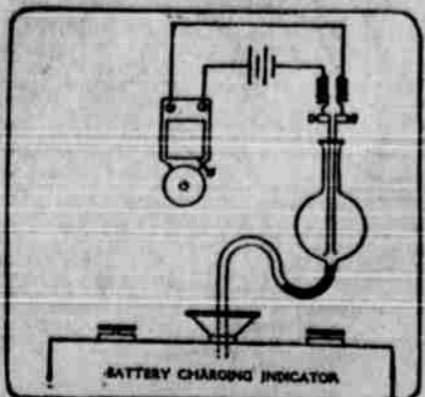
Burglar Excluder.

To expel burglars an Illinois electrician has invented a lighting system by which the head of a household can turn on every light in his house from his bedside and prevent them being turned off at individual switches.

MERCURY TO CLOSE CIRCUIT

Device is Quite Simple and is Used as Indicator in Charging Storage Batteries.

This apparatus is very simple; it utilizes the pressure of the gas which is disengaged when the charging of the storage battery is completed into a glass tube which has been bent twice a small quantity of mercury is poured; this mercury is in connection with the space above the battery, which is inclosed. When the charging is complete and gas in excessive quantities begins to be given off, the pressure pushes the mercury in the tube until it forms a connection between two wires which form part of the circuit of an electric bell. A sort of safety valve is also provided for the escape of any accidental sudden pressure, caused for instance by the sudden expansion of heated gas.



BATTERY CHARGING INDICATOR

DIFFUSED LIGHT FROM LAMP

Rays of Pronounced Intensity Secured, Making it Possible to Read Without Effort.

An entirely new type of reading lamp, the reflector of which throws a diffused light instead of a glare, has been invented, says the Popular Mechanic. The electric bulb in this lamp is so arranged within the re-



Lamp Prevents Eye Strain.

lector that the rays from both the reflector and the bulb are thrown upward against another reflector which throws the light outward and downward with a pronounced inequality, thus making it possible to read printing or writing without straining the eyes, or subjecting them to the direct rays of the bulb.

ELECTRIC PLANTS ON COAST

Huge Generating and Transmission System to Be Undertaken in Mexico—Power From Water.

A most ambitious electric generating and transmission system is soon to be undertaken on the Pacific coast of Mexico. Three large hydro-electric plants are to be built, having a combined capacity of 300,000-horse power, and according to present plans 1,200 miles of transmission lines will be built, covering most of the Pacific coast of Mexico, or a territory about seven hundred miles long. One of these plants will be situated on the Mayo river, across which a dam 170 feet high and 260 feet long will be built. This will form a reservoir with a capacity of 10,000,000,000 cubic feet of water. Another dam, 225 feet high and 708 feet long, will be run across the Humaya river, forming a reservoir of 11,000,000,000 cubic feet, while the third dam, 315 feet high and 145 feet long, will be stretched across the Santiago river, and will furnish a reservoir of 9,000,000,000 cubic feet capacity.

ELECTRICAL NOTES

Electrical apparatus for permanently curling women's hair is a German scientist's invention.

An electrically operated penny-in-the-slot machine has been invented in England for quickly cleansing smokers' pipes.

An orchestra in an Ohio school is led by an electric flash light, so constructed that it can be made to beat any kind of time.

Screens which effectually keep fog from entering buildings by way of electric ventilating fans have been perfected in England.

Electric heating units by which any coal stove can be converted into an electrical one have been patented by a New York inventor.

Telephone connection between cities on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States is promised before the end of the year.

The invention of a flame derived from electric energy that will not give off heat is claimed by a French scientist, who is keeping the details secret.

A wagonload of grain can be loaded into a car in ten minutes by the use of portable elevators, operated by electricity, that an Illinois railroad has adopted.

More small towns in Norway use electricity than in any other country, owing to the abundance of water power.

A new French system of rapid telegraphy, by which it is possible to send 40,000 words an hour, has worked successfully over distances of 900 miles in that country.

That gold will boil in an electric furnace at a temperature of about 2,400 degrees Centigrade has been discovered by a French chemist.

A Philadelphia church has established a school in wireless telegraphy, equipping its tower with apparatus with a radius of 400 miles.

MAKES GREAT RECORD

That of George McBride Unequaled by Any Player.

For Three Full Seasons Clever Washington Shortstop Never Missed a Game and Has Never Been Banished by an Umpire.

George McBride, shortstop of the Washington American league team, has made one of the most wonderful records in major league baseball. In the five years that he has been with the Senators he has taken part in more games than any player in either of the big leagues. During that time the team has had the name of only one shortstop, McBride, in the official averages.

Joining Washington in the fall of 1907, he started active work in 1908, and took part in every game played by the team that season. He duplicated his record in 1909 and 1910. During the seasons of 1911 and 1912 he failed to take part in only five games. Only once in his professional career has he been banished by an umpire.

McBride's fielding average since joining the team has been in a class by itself so far as the shortstops of the American league are concerned. His average since 1908 runs between .929 and .948, and his errors range from 52 to 58. The only players approaching this record are Honus Wagner of Pittsburgh, and Doolan of Philadelphia, but neither of these National league stars has taken part in as many games in any one season as McBride.

Only McBride's batting keeps him from being classed as the equal if not the superior of the great Honus Wagner. Even in this, however, he shows consistency, as his averages for the last five years range between .236 and .235. In spite of his low batting average, however, he is considered one of the most timely hitters on the team.

McBride "broke" into the National league in 1905, when he was purchased from the St. Joseph team by the Pittsburgh club. Later in the season he was traded by the Pirates to the St. Louis Cardinals for Dave Brain, the third baseman. In 1906 he was tied with Tinker of the Cubs for first place in fielding, but because of



George McBride.

his weak hitting was traded, with Egan, a pitcher, for Bill Phyle to the Kansas City club of the American association. In the fall of 1907 he was purchased by Washington.

Since the passing of Ganley, in the summer of 1909, McBride has been field captain of the Senators, under three managers—Canillon, McAleer and Griffith. When McAleer bought an interest in the Boston Red Sox he offered the Washington club \$10,000 for McBride, but the offer was turned down.

OLD PLAYER MORE VERSATILE

Pitchers Worked in the Outfield and Catchers Filled in Infield—Many Men Now Needed.

One marvels how major league teams a few years back managed to go through a season with 12 or 13 players when today the average team finds itself pushed for material even though it carry 25 players on its list.

In the old days few players were ever idle. Pitchers played the outfield when they were not pitching, while catchers were constantly being used in the infield when they could be spared behind the bat. It would seem that the players were more versatile in those days or the standard of play was not as high as it is today.

The average pitcher nowadays can pitch, and that lets him out. He could not fill any other position satisfactorily, and is idle about five days out of every week. When the pitchers were forced to play other positions they naturally acquired ability aside from pitching, and this made them of more value to their teams.

Cause for High Sky.

Josh Devore of the Giants complained about the high sky that made fly balls difficult to judge in Knoxville in a spring training game. Josh had an explanation that satisfied McGraw. "They have the high sky here all the time," said Devore. "It was to be high or else they couldn't get these mountains under it." Can you imagine anything quite as bad as this?

Swears Off Arguing.

Believing that all the umpires in the American league have been instructed to be strict with him, Clark Griffith has sworn off arguing with them, and he even has gone so far as to bet a suit of clothes that he will not get put off the field all season.

Some "Come-Backs."

Just a reminder. "Come backs" of 1913—Orvie Overall, Otto Hess, Hans Wagner, Larry Lajoie and—not forgetting Christy Mathewson.

Chance Wants Hoop.

Manager Chance offered \$5,000 for the release of Shortstop Hoop of the Venice team of the Pacific Coast league.

Social Forms and Entertainments



Celebrating the Tin Wedding.

An author who was about to celebrate the tenth anniversary of her marriage describes her plans in this way.

"For refreshments, will serve coffee in tin cups, with tin spoons, and dainty sandwiches on tin plates; will pass water in a tin pail, using a tin dipper. All refreshments will be passed in tin pans, the waiters will use tin coffee pots to refill the coffee cups. For a centerpiece for the table, will use a large tin cake pan, with an opening in the center, in which a small fish horn can be placed, the cake pan and fish horn both being filled with flowers. Shall decorate the rooms with tin as far as possible. In one archway shall use tin plates tied together with ribbon, a small hole being punched in the plates for the purpose. This will form a curtain for one archway. In another archway shall use tin cups for the same purpose. Tin candlesticks can be used if one is fortunate enough to have them. Wire toasters tied with ribbon can be hung on the walls to hold photographs. Small tin spoons tied with ribbons can be given as souvenirs, being passed around by the waiters, in a tin dust pan."

A few more suggestions would be that the bride carry her bouquet in a tin funnel and the bridegroom hold a very small tin horn in his buttonhole containing a small bouquet. Potted plants and flowers may be set in tin pails for jardiniere and vases, and small tin basins can be passed instead of finger bowls. Tin foil may be put to various decorative uses, not forgetting to wrap the bonbons in it.

A Bluebird Party.

Cut the cards on which to write the questions from blue water color board or from heavy blue paper and they should be bird shaped. The answers are all birds and children will love this game. As a reward a "bluebird" pin might be a suggestion: 1. A child's plaything. (Kite). 2. What you do at every meal. (Swallow). 3. Nothing, twice yourself and fifty. (Owl). Less than the whole and the top of a house. (Partridge). Equality and decay. (Parrot). A celebrated English architect. (Wren). A tailor's implement. (Goose). Part of an ancient fireplace. (Crane). A girl's nickname and a baked dish. (Magpie). A turbulent country. (Turkey). To spoil and half a score. (Martin). Popular in baseball season. (Bat). A bit of wood and a disturbance. (Sparrow).

A Novel Sewing Shower.

There were 12 neighborhood girls who had grown up together and when the first one announced her engagement and approaching marriage, the others decided to give her a sewing shower. Each one brought a yard of dainty figured lawn and the hostess supplied patterns for the following articles which were useful and easily made in the afternoon. There was lace, beading, ribbon, embroidery card, needles and thread on hand and the girls worked merrily. Here is what the happy little bride-elect took home: Small aprons, a sunbonnet, a slumber-pillow cover, a half-combing jacket, a corset bag and a set of bureau drawer sachets.

The refreshments were: Lettuce sandwiches, lemonade, green-and-white frosted cakes and pistachio ice cream.

Wedding Invitations.

An invitation to a wedding should be printed on heavy white paper, folded once, and inclosed in an envelope of the same size, and this placed in the address envelope. The address should never be typewritten, no matter how many invitations are issued. Special written invitations are often sent, and these should be immediately acknowledged in a few words of acceptance or a note of regret if unable to attend. An invited guest need not necessarily send a present, but it is a pretty courtesy to do so, even though the offering be but a bouquet of flowers, as a token of cordiality and congratulation.

Double Purse.

Purses something on the order of the well-known shepherd purses, made of green suede and lined with white satin, have fairly sizable pockets. These purses are provided with two rings, one for pushing well over either pocket and a third central ring on which is a smaller ring to slip over the finger.

Three Dainty and Charming Frocks for Indoor Wear



The black charmeuse frock is made with a front drape of "blonde" lace opening onto a fichu of white nixon. A soft silk crepe in flesh pink forms the second design and is worn with a deep fichu in a paler shade of pink. The effect is enhanced by the front butterfly bow, which is in black silk, flowered with deep crimson. The last sketch shows a delightful little model, the bodice and panier of which is in gray and blue flowered muslin, veiling a pale gray cashmere.

They were served on little tables covered with white doilies.

Menu for a Spinster Tea. Several weeks ago I had several requests for ideas for "spinster" affairs, or bachelor maids' parties. I just found this clever menu that would be just the thing to use at such a party, and hope it will not be too late to help out.

1. Always in pair.
2. Would they were here.
3. Front curis.
4. Objects of envy.
5. Warranted to pop.
6. A solace.
7. Sadly missed.
8. High backed comb.
9. Cause of woe.
10. Courtship.
11. A lover.
12. Our tears.
13. Left over.

KEY TO THE MENU.

1. Cup and saucer.
2. Jolly boys.
3. Curled molasses chips.
4. Pressed pears (pairs).
5. Bottle of ginger ale.
6. Tea.
7. Kisses.
8. Honey in comb.
9. Spiced tongue.
10. MUSH.
11. A spoon.
12. Salt.
13. Heart (baked).

A Good Thing to Know.

To increase the lasting capacity of candles, keep them in the ice box for 24 hours before using. They will burn much slower, and to the up-to-date hostess who uses candles constantly this is quite an item. It is quite customary to light the dining room almost entirely with candles placed around the room or the plate rail, mantel and sideboard. These are not shaded, and it is a very pretty idea to have individual candles at each plate. These are usually shaded to protect the eyes.

A Jack Horner Pie "Shower."

This is a pretty way to present the gifts to a bride at a shower if the articles are small like hosiery or handkerchiefs. Make a Jack Horner pie in the colors the hostess wishes to have and when dessert time comes (if the occasion is a luncheon) ask each guest to pull her ribbon and as the package is forthcoming, each one has some excuse to find like "This piece of pie is too large, please hand it to Miss B.—" (the honored guest). And the next one says: "My piece is very much too small, just pass it to Miss B.—" This makes loads of fun and opening the parcels adds zest to the occasion. It is well to have an appropriate sentiment written on the donor's card to be read aloud. Handkerchiefs and stockings may be rolled and concealed in tissue paper with fringed ends and so look like the snapping motto favors so popular at all social functions. The ribbons tied around each one and all put within the pie.

MADAME MERRI.

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