

HOW UNCLE SAM USES THE TELEPHONE

BY WALDON FAWCETT



UNCLE SAM has been quick to adapt to his own uses all the notable inventions and innovations of the age. The telephone, wireless telegraphy, the automobile, the flying machine and all the other notable scientific and mechanical advances of the generation have been pressed into service by the federal government as quickly or almost as quickly as spheres of usefulness have been opened to them in the commercial field. Of all the nineteenth and twentieth century revolutionary creations, however, no one has come to have such dependency placed upon it by the national government as has the telephone. Certain it is that there would be occasion for universal surprise were it possible to compile statistics that would show what proportion of the government business is now transacted by telephone.

Every federal official, from the president to the most subordinate of the nation's public servants, has a telephone on his desk, and considerations of time saving and monetary economy, to say nothing of the convenience, impel the almost universal employment of the "instantaneous" communicative system. It has, to a great extent, displaced the mails and telegraph. Washington, our national capital, is famous as the "best telephoned city in the world," and it is likewise known far and wide as the "City of Magnificent Distances"—two circumstances which combine to influence heavy dependency upon the telephone by the 30,000 federal employes at Uncle Sam's headquarters. More than this, however, the executive branch of the government is coming to rely more and more upon the telephone for the transaction of official business between the seat of government and federal offices in other cities. Aside from this extension of long-distance telephone operations, Uncle Sam, through practical experiments with wireless telephony.

Perhaps the most convincing evidence that could be offered of the degree of dependency which Uncle Sam now places on the telephone is to be found in the attention paid to the installation of telephone facilities in the new \$50,000 office building recently completed for the use of President Taft and his business staff. Ever since the Spanish-American war the telephone room at the executive offices has been considered one of the most important features of this model business establishment, but the equipment of the reconstructed White House annex is infinitely superior to the telephone facilities in the old structure, and is, indeed, probably the finest and most complete to be found in America—that is, the most notable that has been provided in any private residence or corporate business office, or elsewhere than in the up-to-date telephone exchanges in our largest cities.

The new telephone room at the White House adjoins, on one hand, the general staff room—the working quarters of the president's clerks and stenographers—and, on the other hand, the office of the secretary to the president. Just

beyond this is the president's private office, so that the chief executive of his "right-hand man" can reach the telephonic nerve center with very little trouble. The private branch exchange in the matter of switchboard and all the details of equipment, represents the latest approved practice and the wiring of the office is thoroughly up-to-date. By no means the least important feature of the telephone room is a specially designed telephone booth, claimed to be the finest booth and the only one of its kind in the world. This is for the use of the president, when using the long distance telephone, and the structure is sound proof in the highest degree.

In general appearance the president's new telephone booth conforms very closely to the usual type of booth found in hotels, railroad stations and business houses all over the country. To be sure, the oak wood of which it is constructed has been specially selected for its beautiful grain and the plate glass in the door and windows is unusually heavy, but in general appearance the booth conforms closely to prevailing standards. The distinctive characteristics is the roominess of the interior. Not only will the booth accommodate satisfactorily so big a man as President Taft, but there is ample space for a stenographer to stand beside the president's chair inside the booth in case the executive should desire to have a memorandum taken down in shorthand as he received it over the telephone. There are also facilities whereby if desired, this booth can in warm weather, be connected with the novel air cooling system which has been installed in the new White House offices for the purpose of making them habitable to a weighty president during the dog days.

Through the medium of this telephone clearing house—with an operator on duty night and day—the president has the entire official world at his ear. First of all, it serves as the "central" of the White House private telephone system. This system has 18 "inside stations" as they are known in technical jargon—that is, it controls a dozen and a half different telephones distributed about the presidential mansion, the White House offices and the grounds, and thereby linking the business offices, the living quarters, the kitchens, laundry, stable and garage, etc., etc., not forgetting the headquarters of the police force of 32 men that guard the White House, and the members of which may be needed at some point quickly, to control a crowd or remove a crank. Via the president's private exchange his 'phone or any of the other 18 may be quickly connected to any of the thousands of 'phones—official and non-official—embraced in the public telephone system of the city of Washington.

However, the higher circles of officialdom are by no means dependent upon the public service for their telephone facilities. They have a very ingenious system of their own. It is a secret network of wires, and, very naturally, it is centered in the White House. Primarily, this confidential telephone web consists of a special private telephone wire leading from the White House to each of the nine departments of the government. The main purpose of this is to enable the chief magistrate to at any moment consult with any of his nine cabinet officers without any danger of eavesdropping, but of course, should the president desire to communicate confidentially by 'phone with any subordinate in any of the departments, it is a simple matter to summon such individual to the secret 'phone, rather than to have him communicate with the White House via the regular telephonic channels.

Equally important as arteries of quick communication, are the two special telephone wires leading from the White House to the United States capitol. One of these lines leads into the great exchange at the big white-domed building, and through this "central" the president can get connection with the private office of any senator or representative, or with the cloak rooms or other rendezvous of the lawmakers. The other line from the White House to the capitol is a strictly secret line. Not only does it not lead into the exchange at the capitol, but the terminal is not accessible to any person save with the president's sanction. It is safe to say that there are men who have been in congress for years, who do not know of the existence of this secret line to the White House, much less know the location of its terminal. However, the line serves a most important purpose, for it enables the president to at any time, confer with the vice-president or with any senator or representative—for instance, the administration spokesman or floor leader—in absolute security as to the confidential character of the verbal exchanges. Not even a "hello girl" can overhear what is said. In number of connected telephones, and in point of the average number of calls handled

daily, the greatest private telephone exchanges in the world are those at the United States capitol, and in the most extensive government departments at Washington, as, for instance, the war and navy departments, and the department of agriculture. Such an exchange covers hundreds of 'phones, and there is a "night service" which enables communication with all the more important officials at their homes. The equipment of the more notable of these governmental exchanges is perfection itself. The switchboards, for instance, are of the illuminated type. That is, instead of the receipt of each call being marked by the fall of a small metal tab—something that may easily be overlooked by a "hello girl"—the summons for "central" to make a connection is given by the illumination of a small electric lamp—something that cannot readily escape notice. The switchboard of this type provides, of course, one

The Quaker Cabinet

AS THE rivers farthest flowing, In the highest hills have birth;

As the banyan, broadest growing, Offense bows its head to earth;

As the noblest minds give onward, Channels far of good to trace;

So the largest hearts bend downward, Circling all the human race.

Fish as Food.

Fish in one form or another is almost universally recognized as one of the important food materials that enters into the diet of most American families.

The mode of capture affects the market value. Fish caught by the gills and allowed to die in the water by slow degrees, as is the case where gill nets are used, undergo decomposition very readily, and are inferior as food.

Fish are often landed alive and allowed to die slowly. This custom is not only inhuman, but lessens the value of the fish. It has been found that fish that are killed immediately after catching, remain firm and bear shipment better than those allowed to die slowly.

Fish, because of their abundance, cheapness and wholesomeness are invaluable as an article of food. It is less nutritious and less stimulating than meat, as it contains less solids and more water.

The idea that fish is a brain food has been greatly exaggerated, because it is rich in phosphorus and the brain having that chemical in its composition which the fish is supposed to supply. The fact is that many meats have as large a proportion of phosphorus as fish. Being easily digested and therefore a good food for brain workers, may be one reason why the idea prevailed.

Scalloped Beef.

Chop fine the remnants of cooked beef; moisten with the liquor in which it was cooked, season with salt, pepper and butter if needed. Place in a deep dish and cover with seasoned mashed potatoes mixed with beaten egg. Bake a light brown and serve.

Molasses Candy.

Take one quart of molasses, two cups of sugar, one teaspoonful of vinegar, butter the size of an egg. Boil until it hardens in water. Just before removing it add a teaspoonful of soda. Pull when cool.

Breakfast Relish.

Put one dozen very thin slices of lean bacon into a hot frying pan; cook for one minute, then add six slices of tomatoes, or the canned may be used with the liquor reserved for soup or sauce.

WE SUFFER not through any miraculous interposition of an avenging God, but in consequence of violated law, and the laws of nature make no distinction of persons; but so interwoven is human society, that the penalty is rarely confined to the transgressor.

Birthday Cake.

For a small child, little cakes decorated with frosting and red candles are always appreciated. There are so many inexpensive and pretty things to be bought now that one's ingenuity need not be taxed to make something pleasing. A cake baked in a small round loaf, frosted in white and the name written in chocolate with the date, or it may be done with colored sugar.

Get a candy pail cover, sandpaper and stain it, then bore the holes part way through, making the hole to stand the candle in. This candle board may be used by every member of the family, being brought in in state with the cake in the center, and the lighted candles around it. More holes may be bored each year or they may all be arranged when the board is made to make the staining all look alike.

For a very young child the tiny cake might be surrounded by the little candles the size of a match, that are so popular with the little people. When there is a small party, or if one wishes to make a surprise cake, put little gifts that will not be hurt, by beating into the cake before baking. Even older children are made happy by such a cake.

Suet Pudding.

Mix and sift together two and three-fourths cups of flour, one teaspoonful of soda, one and one-half teaspoonfuls of salt, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, and half a teaspoonful each of ginger, cloves and nutmeg. One cup each of milk, molasses and suet. Combine mixtures. Three-fourths of a cup of currants, one and one-fourth cups of raisins, one-half cup of finely sliced citron added at the last. Steam three hours and serve with an egg sauce, made as follows: Two eggs, well beaten, one cup of sugar, one-fourth of a cup of hot milk, and one teaspoonful of vanilla. A yellow sauce may be made by using the yolks of the eggs. Flavor with orange rind and juice.

Why does Great Britain buy its oatmeal of us?

Certainly it seems like carrying coals to Newcastle to speak of exporting oatmeal to Scotland and yet, every year the Quaker Oats Company sends hundreds of thousands of cases of Quaker Oats to Great Britain and Europe.

The reason is simple; while the English and Scotch have for centuries eaten oatmeal in quantities and with a regularity that has made them the most rugged physically, and active mentally of all people, the American has been eating oatmeal and trying all the time to improve the methods of manufacture so that he might get that desirable foreign trade.

How well he has succeeded would be seen at a glance at the export reports of Quaker Oats. This brand is recognized without a rival in cleanliness and delicious flavor.

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HYMN WAS NOT A HOODOO

Didn't Seem Particularly Appropriate, But Later Events Justified its Use.

The story of the minister who held a religious meeting in a penitentiary and aroused the ire of the inmates by announcing as a hymn that one beginning "The dying thief rejoiced to see," is equalled by the tale of a local preacher whose church got in debt not long ago. A congregational meeting was held for the purpose of extricating it, and the chairman of the board of deacons, or whatever the financial body was, got up and stated the situation, and ended by calling for a special collection to make up the deficit.

"I suggest that we sing a hymn," one of the members of the church suggested.

This idea was carried out and the number of the song was announced. A smile overspread many faces, however, when they reached the line: "When we asunder part it gives us inward pain."

Nevertheless, the "sundering" process was most successful and wasn't particularly painful, either.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

EPIDEMIC OF ITCH IN WELSH VILLAGE

"In Dowlais, South Wales, about fifteen years ago, families were stricken wholesale by a disease known as the itch. Believe me, it is the most terrible disease of its kind that I know of, as it itches all through your body and makes your life an inferno. Sleep is out of the question and you feel as if a million mosquitoes were attacking you at the same time. I knew a dozen families that were so affected.

"The doctors did their best, but their remedies were of no avail whatsoever. Then the families tried a drug, which was noted far and wide for its remarkable cures. People came to him from all parts of the country for treatment, but his medicine made matters still worse, as a last resort they were advised by a friend to use the Cuticura Remedies. I am glad to tell you that after a few days' treatment with Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Resolvent, the effect was wonderful and the result was a perfect cure in all cases.

"I may add that my three brothers, three sisters, myself and all our families have been users of the Cuticura Remedies for fifteen years. Thomas Hugh, 1650 West Huron St., Chicago, Ill., June 23, 1903."

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one droop of disease that women have been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Halls' Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Halls' Catarrh Cure is taken directly into the blood and cleanses the system of the poisonous matter that is the foundation of the disease, and gives the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer one hundred dollars to any person who can cure a case of Catarrh. Send for full testimonials.

Address: J. C. HENNEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists and by mail.

Take Halls' Family Pills for constipation.

Limited Relief.

"Do you believe in a future punishment of everlasting fire and brimstone?" asked the man with the question habit.

"Only for my neighbors," replied the party of the egotistical part.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Uses of Oddity.

"Isn't your hat rather curious in shape?" asked the uniformed man.

"Certainly," answered his wife. "It has to be. Any hat that wasn't curious in shape would look queer."

Free to Our Readers.

Write Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago, for 6-page illustrated Eye Book Free. Write all about Your Eye Trouble and they will advise as to the Proper Application of the Murine Eye Remedy. It is Your Special Case. Your Druggist will tell you that Murine Eye Remedy Strengthens Weak Eyes, Dissolves Eye Sores, Soothes Eye Pain, and sells for 5c. Try It in Your Eyes and in Baby's Eyes For Scaly Eyelids and Granulation.

The world delights in sunny people. The old are hungering for love more than for bread.—Drummond.

DAVIS' PAINKILLER should be taken with great care when chest and throat are sore, as it has a soothing effect. All drug stores sell it.

One fisherman ought to believe the stories of another, but he seldom does.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take LAXATIVE BROWN'S Quinine Tablets. Laxative Brown's Quinine Tablets cure Colds, Coughs, Sore Throats, and all other ailments. It is a sure cure. Write for full particulars to L. B. LITTLE, New York City.

Occasionally the human race is run over the course of true love.

Lewis' Single Binder made of extra quality tobacco, costs more than other 5c cigars. Tell the dealer you want them.

Cheap notoriety often turns out to be an expensive luxury.

ALL SUNSETS ARE NOT ALIKE

Domestic Happening Helped Mrs. Petyerby to See the Beauty of This Particular One.

Mr. and Mrs. Petyerby were sitting on their piazza. It was late afternoon and the sun was making his final preparations to gild the western heavens. Petyerby sat in mute admiration. "Did you ever see such a superb sunset?" he exclaimed, rapturously. "It is simply wonderful! Amazing!" Mrs. Petyerby did not join in his enthusiasm. She shifted uneasily in her chair. "You would think anything was good," she replied. "You're just had a good dinner. But it's just an ordinary sunset, nothing more."

"Where are you going?" asked Petyerby. "Why can't you sit still? Just like a woman. No artistic appreciation."

"I'll be back presently," replied Mrs. Petyerby.

Four or five minutes passed. She came back and sat down. There was silence.

"It is beautiful," whispered Mrs. Petyerby. "Don't think I ever saw a finer sunset. See that exquisite coloring off there—and those feather effects. Perfectly lovely!"

Petyerby turned his face slowly and gazed at her.

VIEW OF SELF-SACRIFICE

A question which frequently arises in social relations is to what extent should one sacrifice one's self to oblige one's friends. More than half the social pleasures entail a sacrifice on somebody's part. Money has to be spared that can ill be afforded, people whom one doesn't like have to be met and health has to be disregarded in order to keep an engagement.

The life of the average woman seems to demand of each successive day just a little more of her time and consequently of her vitality, and when she adds to her own burdens those of other people, by filling in a place at the last moment, or by doing any one of the multitudinous other little things that oblige socially, she is on the road to destruction and had better learn to say "No" before she has to go to a sanatorium. Every social leader has on her list some of these tried and true mortals whom she can coax into working overtime. For this reason her dinners are never clouded by a vacant place; her entertainments are always a success. But the woman upon whom she leans pays for it all, even though she has her good time.

Church Bell Kills Sexton. M. Dumet, sexton of the church at Bayet, was killed by the bell falling from the tower. He had gone to ring it to announce religious service, when it snapped off and dropped, killing him on the spot.

Making a Life. Many a man has made a good living who has made a poor life. Some men have made splendid lives who have made very moderate and even scanty livings.—Success Magazine.

A Modern Woman. A Massachusetts woman can talk 51 languages. And it was a Puritan poet who decided that one tongue was enough for a woman.—Cleveland Leader.

Commercial Value of Rat Skins.

The use of rat skins in the manufacture of fancy articles is increasing. Last year the trade in Great Britain alone amounted to \$250,000, and supplies of brown rat skins are being sought in lots of from 100 to 10,000. It is proposed to start a business in Calcutta for securing and preparing the skins of the brown rat, to be used among a variety of purposes, in the binding of books and the making of purses, gloves and various articles for women's use and wear.