

FACTS ABOUT TELEPHONES

Some Things Learned by the Legislative Investigating Committee. NOT YET IN SHAPE FOR MAKING REPORT

Improvements in System of Operating and Growth of Business Render Reconstruction Necessary Every Ten Years.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 15.—(Special.)—While the legislative inquiry into telephone cost and rates may not have developed anything sensational, it has unearthed a lot of information that is of more or less interest to the public and more particularly to Omaha people.

One fact that will be of particular interest to the people of Omaha is that before six months have passed there will have been inaugurated in that city the common battery system.

The present system in vogue in Omaha and Lincoln is the local battery system. This requires a generator to signal. The generator is the arrangement in the bell at the subscriber's station that furnishes the current to signal central.

PROGRESSIVE INDIAN TRIBES

Sao and Foxes Thriving Financially and Improving Socially. PRESTON, Neb., March 15.—The Sao and Fox Indians in the southeastern part of Nebraska and northeastern Kansas have made remarkable progress in civilization the last twenty years.

In trading over the reservation one would not know that he was among the Indians if he was not told. The farms and improvements show thrift and progress. Many of the farmhouses and barns are large, commodious buildings.

For the last fifteen years these Indians have appreciated the advantages of education. They are anxious that their children shall have a good, practical education. Some of the children walk long distances to school.

The desire for modern improvements has grown rapidly. Not many years ago they were satisfied with tents and bark ground for houses, also blankets and leggings for clothes, but all these have been discarded for warm, citizens' clothing, and carpets and good furniture for their homes.

The old pony has been superseded by good horses and buggy. These Indians have not only improved in material things, but they are far more healthy than they were twenty years ago. Tuberculosis, which is making wonderful inroads on many tribes, has almost disappeared among the Sao and Fox.

While there are about 2,000 lines in use in Omaha there are about 12,000 lines that have been constructed, but are not in use. The large number of lines not in use is occasioned by the construction of cables. These are built in 100, 200 and 300 pair cables and if in the judgment of the company business is liable to increase materially in some parts of the city, large cables are put in, though few of the wires are in use at present.

Some day it is hoped by the officers of the Nebraska Telephone company to have all the downtown wires underground. At present the company has 32,000 feet of conduit and 249,881 duct feet. As a matter of information a duct foot is that portion of a conduit through which a cable is drawn.

The testimony given by representatives of the Nebraska Telephone company and of the independent telephone companies was to the effect that the telephone exchange had to be reconstructed every ten years on an average. This is due to modern improvements and partly to increased business.

In Omaha the Nebraska company has had a steady growth and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent in improvements and enlargement of the plant. Fifteen years ago the company had 1,000 subscribers. At present it numbers on its roll nearly 5,000. And representatives of the company testified that the increase has been made in the cost to subscribers. When the company was organized it issued to the Bell Telephone company \$367,650 worth of stock for the right to use the company's plants in Nebraska and Iowa.

The stock was issued to the Bell company because the new company had not the cash. The Bell people waived their right to dividends for the first five years and since that time the stock has been paid for out of the proceeds of the Nebraska company. The Bell people still own 51 per cent of the stock of the company.

COLLEGE PROFESSORS

Talk of Foods. The New York papers recently contained a long account of the so-called discovery of a celebrated professor in one of the leading universities. The "discovery" related to a new and successful way of treating wheat and barley to prepare the starchy part by dry baking, so it would be made more digestible and nutritious. Thereupon Prof. Livingston, commenting on the discovery of the other professor, says: "A discoverer who was a business man first and a scientist afterward found that such foods could be made more digestible when cooked with dry heat instead of boiling in water, and has already placed on the market the food which he discovered prior to Dr. —"

This refers to Grape-Nuts, the most scientifically made food of the kind. Grape-Nuts can be easily digested by babies or anyone with a weak stomach, and the food contains the most powerful rebuilding element known, particularly as relates to the rebuilding of the brain and nerve centers. It is a delicious food requiring no cooking but ready for instant service just as it comes from the package. A recipe book free in each package describes many delicious dishes made from Grape-Nuts.

AMERICANS SAVE CUBANS

Dolphin's Crew Launch Boats in Terrific Havana Squall. BRITISH SEAMEN LOOK HELPLESSLY ON

Moody Will Formally Commend Sailors' Courage at Inspection Today Before Visiting Palma and His Cabinet.

HAVANA, March 15.—While Secretary Moody and his party were on shore this afternoon a heavy squall swept over the harbor. It grew dark as night and the wind and rain were terrific. Commander Stoney of Dolphin, realizing the peril to the small boats in the harbor, called for volunteer rescuers. The entire crew of Dolphin responded.

Boats were instantly manned and sent off. The launch returned with four half-drowned Cubans and the captain's gig with another. The courage of the sailors is especially commended, as the British ships did not see the need for action, although one of the capized boats was much nearer to Ariadne than to Dolphin.

Secretary Moody at inspection tomorrow will summon Dolphin's crew and commend the men for their pluck and presence of mind. The arrival of the British squadron, consisting of the warships Ariadne, Indefatigable, Retribution, Tribune, Fantome and Columbine, this morning from Kingston, Jamaica, gives the harbor a naval aspect.

The British ships were accompanied by the organization of the Farmers' Co-operative association, and among other business done the following resolution was passed unanimously: That we heartily endorse the action of Senator Brady in his efforts to secure the passage of the "elevator bill."

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Much American money was lost in the failure. There was a great outcry against the authorities in prosecuting Whitaker Wright and his fellow investors, and in January last a petition was circulated on the London stock exchange signed by many influential men demanding the prosecution of Wright, as it was considered that the credit of the city and the London stock exchange demanded a thorough investigation. A fund of \$25,000 was raised to initiate the prosecution. Arnold White, the author, publicly stated that the reason the prosecution was not undertaken by the government was that the directors of the London & Globe were declining to do so.

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INDICTMENTS FOR GAMBLING

TECUMSEH, Neb., March 15.—(Special.)—The grand jury in the Johnson county district court found indictments against John Mandery and Patrick Lane, residents of Sterling, on the charge of gambling and they have been compelled to give bond for appearance for trial. It is said other indictments were found in the cases of other people, but so far they have not manifested themselves. It is quite likely that the little poker games will be on at this county for some time, for the assembling of the jury caused considerable uneasiness with many of the farmers who hope to see the county that are reputed to be poker players.

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FLOOD DANGER SEEMS OVER

Leaves Ample Time to Keep Record Waters in Place. MOST RIVERS CEASE RISING AT LAST

Southerners Rejoice When Sun Shines Again and Set to Work with Rejuvenated Vigor on Weakened Embankments.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 15.—The Ohio river is falling slowly here tonight and stands at 41.4 feet. The weather is clear and warm. The Louisville boats that have been tied up for several days owing to the high water will resume operations Monday.

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WRIGHT IS ARRESTED

It is possible for me to continue my trip mainly on the account. CLUE ONLY OBTAINED ON SATURDAY.

LONDON, March 15.—Only yesterday the London police called the New York police that Whitaker Wright and a woman supposed to be his niece had sailed on La Lorraine, under the name of Andreoni. Wright's wife and family are still in England and as far as the police have ascertained none of his relatives have left the country.

Whitaker Wright left London about February 21 and went direct to Paris, where he stayed about four days before proceeding to Havre to embark on La Lorraine. He was traced to Paris by the banks which he cashed there at the office of the French steamship line and elsewhere. When he left his country seat at Godalming he was accompanied by his wife and child, and he is reported to have concealed his movements by the redirection of his luggage and by other means.

This procedure was apparently quite successful, for it was only yesterday morning that the detective got the clue as to his movements through the numbers of the banknotes he had cashed. This clue was easily followed up owing to Wright's marked personal appearance. The young woman joined him at Havre on the eve of sailing. It is reported that she has a large sum of money in her possession.

Wright's wife is living in comparative seclusion near Godalming. When seen this evening she reiterated her belief that he was on his way to British Columbia for the sake of his health. Her doctor, however, has said he needed change. His own desire, she said, had been to do something for the unfortunate shareholders and the worry told severely on his health. He had remarked if there was ever any trouble he must recover strength by going to the mountains. He had heard from him at Paris, but he did not mention his movements. When told that her husband had been arrested in New York she said she supposed he must have met friends in Paris, and she persuaded him to change his mind and go to New York, perhaps on his way to the mines in British Columbia.

Too English for His Wife. Asked whether her husband was an American, Mrs. Wright replied: "I do not know. I am an American. We were married in London, but he has always been thoroughly English, much to my disgust. He has been an American he would have been properly protected."

Eminent counsel, she said, would be engaged for her husband's defense and she hoped his health would enable him to make a vigorous defense. The lawyers acting in the case anticipate no difficulty in obtaining the prisoner's extradition and it is expected that Wright will be in London in six weeks' time.

History of the Case. The financial crash of the companies floated by Whitaker Wright came in December, 1901. There were eleven of these, including the parent company, called the London and Globe Finance corporation, with a total capital of \$60,775,000. Wright was the managing director. Among the others was more than one engaged in developing the British Columbia mining fields.

Few millionaires lived the same princely style as Whitaker Wright. In Park lane, London, he had a miniature palace, in the drawing room of which was a copy of the famous Cabinet of Roi de Louis XV. It took three years to complete and cost \$1,000,000. He owned a country seat in Hampshire, which 600 workmen were engaged. It contained costly fountains and statuary brought from Italy.

Wright's stables alone cost a small fortune. They have upholstered oak and leather seats and twisted iron chandeliers, while valuable paintings and his relief adorns the stable. His private yacht was fitted up with similar luxuries, and at one time he was credited with the intention of constructing a yacht to race Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht.

One of the victims of the crash was the late Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, formerly governor general of Canada and British ambassador at Paris. He consented to be chairman of the London & Globe, and had 25,000 shares in the different companies. With Lord Dufferin on the board of directors were Lieutenant General Gough, Calthorp, who was colonel of the Fifth Dragoon guards, and Lord Edward VII of Newcastle. When the crash came Lord Dufferin was severely censured for his connection with the companies, but in a frank speech to the stockholders of the London & Globe he declared his position, and won the sympathy of the country. His wealth, at one time large, was believed to have been swallowed up in the companies.

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March 10 action was taken against Wright, Justice Buckley, in the chancery division of the court of justice, made an order directing the official receiver, as liquidator of the London & Globe, to institute criminal proceedings against Wright and utilize the assets of the London & Globe to pay the costs of the prosecution. The following day a warrant for Wright's arrest was issued.

When the police officer went to his house he was informed that Wright had gone to the continent on account of his health. The London & Globe directors, including Swift MacNeill, asked the home secretary in the House of Commons what steps were being taken to prevent Wright's escaping from justice, and later the home secretary announced that the government intended to bring Wright to justice.

Telephone 1231. Matinee Thurs. Saturday and Sunday, 2:15; Every Night, 8:15. HIGH CLASS VAUDEVILLE. Russell Brothers, Little, Gillett, W. C. Fields, Joe Kimmel & Co. comedians, Anderson and Jallace and the Kinsdowns. PRICES—10c, 50c.

SEES PROFIT IN CANAL

Mexico Prepares to Capture Entire South American Trade. DIAZ WILL ESTABLISH STEAMSHIP LINE

Hopes to Obtain Bulk of Business with Latin American Countries and Reap Advantage of Geographical Situation.

MEXICO CITY, March 15.—Great interest is being taken here in the Panama canal. It is now believed that the United States will begin work on the canal immediately the treaty is ratified. It is realized by the government and by the leading business men that the canal will be of value to the commerce of Mexico. It is stated that President Diaz contemplates the establishment of a steamship line from Vera Cruz and progress to Havana, Port Limon, Colon Cavanilla and La Guayra, the steamers to make the round trip in one month. Communication would be thus established between Mexico, Cuba and Central America and by Colon with Colombia and Ecuador, Bolivia and Chile. The project thus will affect 30,000,000 Latin American people. It is a part of the plan made by the government of reaching out after the trade of South America.

It is realized that when the canal is opened the Gulf of Mexico will be the Mediterranean of the western hemisphere and Mexico in a position to reap great advantages from its geographical situation. Many actors and singers use Pina's Cure to strengthen the voice and prevent hoarseness.