

Events in Field of Electricity

Telephone Competition.
CHICAGO adheres are undergoing a prolonged siege on the problem of telephone franchises. The Bell company has a monopoly of the field, but its franchise is expiring and an extension of twenty years is sought with all the energy and persuasive power which a good thing inspires. A company organized by the Illinois Manufacturers' association also seeks a franchise and offers to do business at a rate much lower than the present company, besides agreeing to pay a percentage of the profits into the city treasury. Rival promoters are criticizing and condemning each other with great vigor and volubility, at the same time professing undying love for the "dear people." Some day an author who appreciates a good thing will acquire fame and fortune by gathering these and similar effusions and print a book of "Love Letters of Corporations to the People." The "best sellers" of today would be out-classed tomorrow.

The Manufacturers' Telephone company filed a bond for \$1,000,000 with the council committee on gas, oil and electric light as a guarantee that it will carry out the provisions of the franchise it is seeking from the city.

At the same time it prepared a statement showing how it will be able to pay 11 per cent on an investment of \$13,000,000, and still give the city a much less expensive service and with a more modern plant than that offered by the Chicago Telephone company.

John M. Glenn, secretary of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, made this statement to the committee:

"On a basis of 150,000 telephones the investment was estimated by one expert at \$15,000,000 and by the other expert at \$15,000,000. The estimated cost of operation, depreciation and maintenance, including \$150,000 for the payment of interest at the rate of 5 per cent on \$15,000,000, was fixed by one expert at \$4,487,400 and by another at \$4,222,000. Both experts have agreed on the amount of gross revenue, based on the amount estimated by the association, at \$5,122,000. The net revenue after the payment of 5 per cent on the investment ranges from \$649,600 to \$911,000, according to the two experts."

Under the original contract by which the Chicago Telephone company, operating in northern Illinois, obtained its lease from the American Telephone and Telegraph company, owing to the patents of the Bell Telephone company all the telephone instruments remain the property of the lessor and provision is made that the lessee shall charge its subscribers such rental and royalty as the parent concern shall fix from time to time. A commission by similar amount is allowed from the use of call bells, batteries, wires and other appliances.

Provision is made for 50 per cent of the telephone rental and royalty to be paid to the parent company. Under subsequent contracts the local company is allowed but 15 per cent commission on long distance messages, provided that the sum in each instance shall not exceed 10 cents. A commission by similar amount is allowed from the public telephone cash receipts.

Under these contracts the American Telephone and Telegraph company, which also owns the Western Electric company, which furnishes the supplies for the so-called local concern, has absolute control of the telephone situation in Chicago. The rates are really fixed by P. P. Fish, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, who lives in Boston.

Monorail to Coney Island.

The New York Rapid Transit Commission's committee on plans held a public hearing the other day on the application which has been made by F. B. Behr for a franchise to build a monorail railroad between Brooklyn and Coney Island. Mr. Behr explained to the committee that the system he proposed would begin at the ferry at the foot of Atlantic avenue, run out Atlantic avenue and to Coney Island by way of Rogers and Nostrand avenues. It has planned another line running out Third avenue by way of Manhattan, then the two making a loop, so that passengers could go out to Coney Island one way and back the other. The Behr monorail is a high speed, elevated, electric railroad. The cars run upon a single rail, having the wheels in the center of the cars and straddling the rail as a saddle sits on a horse. The rail is elevated about six feet above the ground, or the structure on which the roadbed rests, and the sides of the cars extend below the rail. This brings the center of gravity below the rail so that there is no danger of the car upsetting. Mr. Behr promised to maintain an average speed of sixty-five miles an hour on his Coney Island line, including stops. At the official trial of his railroad for the British government at Brussels, he maintained a speed of ninety miles an hour on a three-mile track and carried passengers at that speed. Ex-Bridge Commissioner Lindenthal, Joseph Ramsey, Jr., former president of the Wabash railroad, and other engineers informed the committee that Mr. Behr's system was a feasible and safe method of transportation.

Something About Carborundum.

The pupils of M. Henri Moissan, it is announced, are offering him a medal to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the first isolation of fluorine. The name of Moissan is associated with scientific discoveries of even greater importance; for he, more than any other, showed the way to the enormous possibilities associated with the electric furnace. M. Moissan has never attempted to turn any of his brilliant investigations in electro-chemistry to a commercial account. He was a discoverer of carbide of calcium, now being manufactured throughout the chief countries of the world. He never even patented his process, communicating it, indeed, for the common benefit to the Paris Comptes Rendus for publication. Another worker in the same field is Mr. E. G. Acheson, who is chiefly responsible for the industrial utilization of the Niagara Falls. He discovered a new commercial product which he named "carborundum," now almost universally in use as an abrasive, and he also introduced the process of electrically manufacturing artificial graphite. Mr. Acheson has recently described his discovery of carborundum before the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering as follows:

"I mixed together a quantity of clay and powdered rocks, and placed the mixture in an iron bowl such as plumbers use for holding their melted solder. Into this mixture I inserted one end of an electric lamp carbon, the other end being connected to one lead from a dynamo, the other lead being attached to the iron bowl. A strong current was sent through the mixture and the central portion of the clay was thoroughly melted. When cold the mass was removed and examined carefully. Adhering to the end of the carbon rod I noticed a very few small bright specks. With difficulty I secured one, and placing it on the end of a lead pencil, drew across it a piece of glass. It not only scratched, but cut the glass. I had found the rough, uncut gem."

Gossip About Noted People

Wellman's Cold Feet.

THOSE ancient days Walter Wellman, even then a hunter after the north pole, was one of the most assiduous of the players who assembled every night in the poker room of the Press club, relate the New York Telegraph. Mr. Wellman was ever a cautious player and it was the irritated and annoyed Colonel Sterrett who spread continuously the rumor that Mr. Wellman was a man who could be easily induced to quit the game when his stack of chips had grown to respectable proportions. Colonel Sterrett declared that he had made a list of the excuses offered by Mr. Wellman for breaking away from the game while still a winner, and that Mr. Wellman had never repeated himself.

A Rise and Fall.

President Roosevelt, in his impulsive way, sent for a well-known young writer and asked abruptly: "Do you know Spanish?" "No, Mr. President, I do not. I very much regret to say," was the reply. "I am sorry to hear it," commented the chief magistrate, and the subject was dropped. The young man went away deeply impressed with the idea that, had he known Spanish, he might have been appointed to a high office in the diplomatic corps, so he set to work assiduously, dropping everything else, and soon acquired a proficiency in that language. The other day he called at the White House and was cordially welcomed. In the course of conversation he said: "By the way, Mr. President, I know Spanish well; I both talk and read it with ease." "Oh, you don't say so?" was the president's reply; "then you ought to be one of the happiest men in the world; you can read 'Don Quixote' in the original."

Commoners With Hats On.

A member may wear his hat in the House of Commons so long as he is sitting, but the moment he rises he must uncover; and, of course, no one remains covered when he addresses the chair. But here is one of those paradoxes that make the house always so delightfully interesting and its rules so unlike those of any other legislative body, relates Appleton's magazine. When the house is dividing and a member desires to raise a point of order, the rules require that he must "speak sitting and covered."

Young Lawyers at Court.

The youngest lawyer that ever appeared before the supreme court of the United States the other day argued in favor of the constitutionality of the North Carolina statute prohibiting the running of "bucket shops" in that state. He was Walter Clark, Jr., son of Chief Justice Clark of the supreme court of North Carolina, and he has just passed his twenty-first birthday. The rules of the supreme court require that an applicant shall have had three years' practice before the highest court of his state before being eligible to admission, and as young Clark necessarily could not have this experience a special motion was necessary to enable him to appear. Young Clark, beardless and in appearance only a youth, seemed not the least the highest tribunal in the land.

Nerve Falls at the Altar.

Walking at the hurdle, Max Schpiel, husband-to-be, and Rose Dumont, bride-elect, both of whom were in the habit of wearing hats, turned back for another trial gallop, halter free, before leaving the gilded barrier into the pit strown field of matrimony. Their nerve failed on the very steps of the altar. Concluding that the best way to be happy, they returned the license and called it off.

Red Necktie Spoils Elopement.

When Miss Julia Tompense of Waterbury, Conn., crocheted the most lurid red necktie that ever graced the neck of a Waterbury Adonis and worked in a number of pretty sentimental inscriptions upon its dainty folds, she little thought that the same necktie would shatter her hopes of an elopement.

Both Curious and Romantic

When the young couple arrived in New York the bride-to-be discovered that Ver-

Loftin and His Pads.

An old friend in Washington of W. M. Loftin, who succeeded Charles A. Dana as the master spirit of the New York Sun, says in the Washington Herald that when Mr. Loftin came to the United States from Ireland, he first lived in San Francisco, and worked there as a reporter—and a good one he was, too. It was then Mr. Loftin's ambition to found a high-class weekly newspaper in Washington, believing that he could achieve more fame as the editor of that sort of journal than any other. That was more than thirty years ago. Among those who worked with him in San Francisco was Ambrose Bierce, the author and satirist. Even that far back in his career in this country, Mr. Loftin was a collector of rare pictures and engravings, and kept himself constantly poor by putting all of his extra earnings into pictures. He came east with the determination to start a weekly newspaper in Washington, but did not succeed in raising sufficient capital. He was successful, however, in securing capital enough to found an evening newspaper in Baltimore, which he conducted for a short time, and then went on the Sun in New York. It is said that if he had not spent so large a part of his Baltimore paper's earnings on pictures, he would have built up in this city a journal of great influence. It is believed that Mr. Loftin has more money invested in pictures and engravings than has even J. Pierpont Morgan.

Headquarters for Holiday Goods

Fully guaranteed for 10 years. Five drawers, solid oak case, complete, with full set of attachments and accessories, new drophead style, easy running. Solid oak easy terms.

Headquarters for Holiday Goods

Exactly as shown. Made of white maple, giving a clean, sanitary appearance, convenient top, size 26x16 inches. 2 large flour bins, 2 drawers and 2 boards extra well made. You can see at a glance that it's actual worth is \$12.

Headquarters for Holiday Goods

Exactly like illustration. Large size, elegantly finished, in golden oak, saddle seat, extra well made. Fancy mahogany back as shown, turned spindles, new, rich, exclusive design. Easily worth \$2.

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There's Human Sympathy and Kindness

Shown in **Hartman's Credit Service**

This is an institution that seriously considers its obligations to the people—that believes every customer is entitled to conscientious service—to consideration to help. We are sincere in our purpose and that sincerity is reflected in our generous, helpful Credit Service.

There's human sympathy shown in our liberal treatment of customers—thoughtfulness of others—a genuine desire to accomplish the greatest possible good within our power. It's an institution that has high ideals and that lives up to them.

We excuse customers from making payments when ill or out of work, and in case of death all payments cease. The dependent ones are given a receipt in full for the balance due. We give the kind of help that wage earners and salaried employees need—that you need. We want to serve you—we want to help you. Will you call tomorrow?

COMPARE THESE PRICES WITH THOSE OF OTHER HOUSES. SEE HOW HARTMAN UNDERSELLS



Genuine Leather Locker, only 26.75
See cut. Best guaranteed leather, with beautiful ornamental joints, stuffed, solid oak frames, massive arms and side head rests, diamond tufted back. The kind you pay \$40 for elsewhere; can be had in green, maroon or tan leather.



Special Kitchen Cabinet, Maple, 7.25
Exactly as shown. Made of white maple, giving a clean, sanitary appearance, convenient top, size 26x16 inches. 2 large flour bins, 2 drawers and 2 boards extra well made. You can see at a glance that it's actual worth is \$12.



Great Iron Bed, 6.45 Special, only 6.45
Our own exclusive design, made with beautiful ornamental joints, post knobs and chills. This bed is finished in three coats of thoroughly baked-on enamel and can be had in any of the popular colors. Massive in construction, high head and foot, easily a \$12 value and you'd be asked that for it elsewhere. Special.



All Goods Like Lute



Special Ladies' Writing Desk, 6.85
In fine solid oak or mahogany finish. French legs, large drawers, nice size, finely carved front. A large lot just received for special Xmas trade. This desk is easily a \$10 value.



Massive Solid Oak Sideboard, 12.75
These sideboards are made to order for the Hartman chain of stores, and every effort has been given to the details of workmanship and finish. They have extra large French beveled mirrors, are elaborately carved, swell front.



Your Money's Worth or Your Money Back



Solid Oak Chiffonier, 6.75
This is a large size extra well made Chiffonier. It has beautiful golden oak finish, large French bevel mirror and post carvings.



Brussels Rugs, Special, 12.85
These superior Rugs have no finer seams. Size, 8-12x10-6 ft. The patterns are exclusive and the colors most beautifully blended. They are extra well made and being firmly woven from fine all wool and worsteds, will stand the greatest amount of wear.



New Special Arm Rocker, 1.65
Exactly like illustration. Large size, elegantly finished, in golden oak, saddle seat, extra well made. Fancy mahogany back as shown, turned spindles, new, rich, exclusive design. Easily worth \$2.



All Goods Marked in Plain Figures



Princess Dresser, 13.75
Like cut, in fine quartered oak or mahogany finish, swelled front, massive French beveled plate mirror, carved frame, easily worth \$20.



Center Table, 1.95 Special
Made of finest solid oak or mahogany finished, finely rubbed and finished, quarter sawed, large top, with carvings and fancy rim, size 24x24, fancy shell beneath. Makes Xmas gift.



Hot Blast Heater, 5.75
Exactly like cut, 5 sizes, up from \$2.75, smoke consuming, no dust or dirt, burns any kind of fuel, electricity guaranteed. Fully guaranteed.



Hartman Special B se Burner, 19.75
Most powerful double burner, made Return flow, potent improved grate and gas burner, gas consuming, large, self-feeding magazine, elegantly and triumphantly warranted.



Elegant Special Display of Holiday Gifts. Largest line in Omaha. Lowest prices. Select them now! We will hold them free of charge, and deliver them when desired, in plain unlettered wagons.



Sewing Machine, 18.75
Fully guaranteed for 10 years. Five drawers, solid oak case, complete, with full set of attachments and accessories, new drophead style, easy running. Solid oak easy terms.



New Special Steel Range, 29.75
Exactly like illustration. Elegantly finished, large size, new improved, complete, with high flames, as shown, 5 holes, large oven and fire box, punch food, duplex grate. This range is easily a \$45 value and you'd be asked that for one as good in any other store in Omaha. Credit Terms: \$5.00 Cash, 75c Weekly.



Center Table, 1.95 Special
Made of finest solid oak or mahogany finished, finely rubbed and finished, quarter sawed, large top, with carvings and fancy rim, size 24x24, fancy shell beneath. Makes Xmas gift.



Hot Blast Heater, 5.75
Exactly like cut, 5 sizes, up from \$2.75, smoke consuming, no dust or dirt, burns any kind of fuel, electricity guaranteed. Fully guaranteed.

22 GREAT STORES THROUGHOUT THE U. S.

HARTMAN'S

1414-1416-1418 DOUGLAS STREET

Credit Terms:
\$25 Worth, \$10 Cash, \$15 Month, \$20 Month, \$30 Month, \$40 Month.

Credit Terms:
\$100 Worth, \$10 Cash, \$90 Month, \$80 Month, \$70 Month, \$60 Month. Proportionately.

Holiday Gifts on time. Elegant display. New ideas and exclusive Hartman productions in desirable pieces. Lowest prices guaranteed. Select your gifts now. Payments may start after January 1st. Goods held if desired, and delivered later. Only 10 more shipping days before Xmas.

Quaker Maid Rye

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union three children, all girls, were born. In 1854 he married Beatie Sausberry in New York. Of this union one child, a boy, was born. In 1863 Mr. Grey married Kate Anderson, a St. Louis woman. They had four children. She died in Wichita in January of the present year.

Mr. Grey was engaged in the retail boot and shoe business in Chicago in 1871, and lost all his records in the disastrous fire. He says that he and Abraham Lincoln were close friends and that they visited together often at the White House after Mr. Lincoln was elected president.

"Time has been very kind to Mr. Grey. On his cheeks there is the ruddy glow of robust health; in his eye there is yet the gleam of ambition and determination; in his step there is the alertness not seen in many men of five and sixty. His voice is very good; he can read headlines in newspapers without glasses. He is a great reader and takes an active interest in current events, and voted a mixed ticket at the last election.

Bride Was Superstitious.
The marriage of a St. Louis couple was postponed for the oddest of reasons the other day. The man who almost became a bridegroom was George O. Miller, superintendent of the directory department of the St. Louis postoffice, and the near bride was Miss Olga Koerber. They postponed the wedding indefinitely because Miss Koerber discovered the fatal number thirteen in the marriage license.

They had been engaged for some months, and one day recently they took a car ride to St. Charles and decided to have the ceremony performed at once and surprise their friends when they returned to St. Louis. They went to the license office and secured the necessary paper and were in search of a minister to perform the ceremony, when Miss Koerber, who happened to glance at the license, uttered a little scream.

"What is the matter?" asked Miller.

"Why, this license is dated on the 13th of the month," she cried.

"What's the difference?" asked Miller, smiling.

"Why, I wouldn't think of getting married today, nor of using this license at all. I would expect to be unlucky all my married life."

No reasons that the disappointed man could mention were of any avail, and the marriage was postponed.

The disconsolate Mr. Miller admitted that no particular date in the future had been set. They would not be married for at least two weeks, he declared. And so many things can happen in two weeks.

Result of a Dare.
Miss Louise Lloyd of Millville, N. J., is so tender hearted that she has been unable to decide between the pair of swains who

aligned for her favor. When she felt herself on the verge of a capricious affection for William von Amman, the charms of Joseph Creamer were always sure to intrude themselves.

When Joe took her buggy riding, Bill waited her arrival with a huge box of sugary confections. When Bill was her escort to a dance, Joe pressed burning himself into her hand in the pauses of the cotillon. It was awful! The tortured husband looked her into the eyes of each other and vowed she would marry neither.

Affairs were at this pass on Sunday night, when both suitors went to Miss Lloyd's home. Glaring defiance at each other, the pair declared they would sit each other out.

One o'clock sounded, but Creamer and von Amman stuck to their chairs with grim determination. Finally as the clock pealed out 2 o'clock, von Amman rose and took his hat.

Walked on the Altar.
Misses Elizabeth and Jennie Kurich, sisters of Alvin Hank, Pa., with Howard Nimsenauer of Pleasantville, Pa., and M. A. Roodbush of Rainsburg, Pa., arrived at Cumberland, Md., to get married. The prospective bridegrooms procured ministers. They were astonished to hear one of the sisters abruptly declare: "I am not going to get married for two years," to which her sister agreed.



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THE BEST IN THE WORLD
Used in the United States Army and Navy