

TRIUMPH OF THE TELEPHONE

Hard to Imagine How the World Could Get Along Without It.

LINES BUSY ON ALL SIDES

All People Worth While on the Wires—Immensity of Private Lines and Their Connections.

There seems to be no activity which is not being made more convenient by the telephone. It is used to call the duck snooters in western Canada when a flock of birds has arrived and to direct the movements of the dragon in Wagner's grand opera, "Siegfried."

At the Vanderbilt cup race its wires girdled the track and reported every start or mishap of the racing autos. And at such extensive pageants as the Quebec tercentenary in 1908, where 4,000 actors came and went upon a ten-acre stage, every order was given by telephone.

Garfield was the first among American presidents to possess a telephone. An exhibition instrument was placed in his house without cost in 1878, while he was still a member of congress. Neither Cleveland nor Harrison, for temperamental reasons, used the magic wire very often. In their time there was one lonely idle telephone in the White House used by the servants several times a week.

But with McKinley came a new order of things. To him a telephone was more than a necessity. It was a pastime—an exhilarating sport. He was the one president who really revelled in the comforts of telephony.

In 1886 he had sat in his Canton home and heard the cheers of the Chicago convention. Later he sat there and ran the first presidential telephone campaign—talked to his managers in thirty-eight states.

Roosevelt used the instrument mainly in emergencies, but with Taft it has become the common medium of conversation. He introduced the custom of a long distance talk with his family every evening when he is away from home. Instead of the solitary telephone of the Cleveland and Harrison days the White House has now a branch exchange of its own with wires running to every room.

Bankers Slow to Come In.

Next to public officials, bankers were perhaps the last to accept the facilities of the telephone. They were slow to abandon the old fatality that no business can be done without a written record. James Stillman of New York was first among bankers to foresee the telephone era. As early as 1875, while Bell was teaching his infant telephone to talk, Stillman risked \$2,000 in a scheme to establish a crude dial system of wire communication, which later grew into New York's first telephone exchange.

Wall Street Brokers Transact Practically All Their Business by Telephone.

In the stock exchange are 64 booths, each one the terminus of a private wire. A firm of brokers counts it an ordinary year's talking to send 50,000 messages, and there is one firm which last year sent twice as many. In the mansion that the late E. H. Harriman built at Arden there were 100 telephones, with sixty of them linked to the long distance lines. What the brush is to the artist, what the chisel is to the sculptor, the telephone was to Harriman. He built his fortune with it. It was in his library, his bathroom, his private car, his camp in the Oregon wilderness. No transaction was too large or too involved to be settled over his wires. He saved the credit of the Erie by telephone—lent it \$5,000,000 as he lay at home on a sick bed.

Long Distance Talks.

The long distance talks especially have grown to be indispensable to the corporations whose plants are scattered and geographically misplaced—to the mills of New England, for instance, that use the cotton of the south and sell so much of their product to the middle west. To the companies that sell perishable commodities an instantaneous conversation with a buyer in a distant city has often saved a carload or a cargo.

Such caterers as the meat packers have greatly accelerated the wheels of their business by intercity conversation. For ten years of longer one of these firms had talked every business morning between Omaha and Boston via 1,570 miles of wire.

In the refining of oil the Standard Oil company alone, at its New York office, sends 230,000 messages a year. In the making of steel a chemical analysis is made of each caldron of molten pig iron when it starts on its way to be refined, and this analysis is sent by telephone to the steelmaker, so that he will know exactly how each potful is to be handled.

In the floating of logs down rivers, instead of having relays of shouters to prevent the logs from jamming, there is now a wire along the bank, with a telephone hooked on at every point of danger. In the rearing of skyscrapers it is now usual to have a temporary wire strung vertically, so that the architect may stand on the ground and confer with a foreman who sits astride of a naked girder 300 feet up in the air.

The first steamship line to use the telephone was the Clyde, which had a wire from the dock to the office in 1877, and the first railway was the Pennsylvania, which two years later was persuaded by Prof. Bell himself to give it a trial in Altoona. Since then this railroad has become the chief beneficiary of the art of telephony. It has 115 exchanges, 400 operators, 12,000 telephones and 20,000 miles of wire—a more ample system than the city of New York had in 1895.

In the operation of trains the railroads have walked thirty years before they dared to trust the telegraph, just as they waited fifteen years before they dared to trust the telephone. In 1858 a few railroads used the telephone in a small way, but in 1897, when a law was passed that made telegraphers highly expensive there was a general swing to the telephone.

Several down roads have now put it in use, some employing it as an associate of the Morse method and others as a complete substitute. It has already been found to be the quickest way of dispatching trains. It will do in five minutes what the telegraph did in ten. And it has enabled railroads to hire more suitable men for the smaller offices.

When quick action is needed in New York City a general alarm can be sent in five minutes by the police wires over its whole vast area of 20 square miles. When recently a gas main broke in Brooklyn sixty girls were at once called to the controls in that part of the city

to warn the 10,000 families who had been placed in danger.

If the disaster cannot be prevented it is the telephone usually that brings first aid to the injured. After the destruction of San Francisco, Governor Guild of Massachusetts sent an appeal for the stricken city to the 34 mayors of his state, and by the courtesy of the telephone company, which carried the messages free, they were delivered to the last and furthestmost mayors in less than five hours.

After the destruction of Messina an order for enough lumber to build 10,000 new houses was cabled to New York and telephoned to western lumbermen. So quickly was this order filled that on the twelfth day after the arrival of the cablegram the ships were on their way to Messina with the lumber.

After the Kansas City flood of 1902, when the drowned city was without railways or street cars or electric lights, it was the telephone that held the city together and brought help to the danger spots.

And after the Baltimore fire the telephone exchange was the last to quit and the first to recover. Its girls sat on their stools at the switchboard until the window panes were broken by the heat. Then they pulled the covers over the board and walked out. Two hours later the building was in ashes. Three hours later another building was rented on the unburned rim of the city and the wire chiefs were at work. In one day there was a system of wires for the use of the city officials. In two days these were linked to long distance wires, and in eleven days a 2,000-line switchboard was in full working trim. This feat still stands as the record in rebuilding.—Herbert N. Casson in the Independent.

MUSIC TEACHING TO FARMING

How an Eastern Woman Took a Claim in Montana and Made a Stake.

"Four years ago I possessed just \$1,000. Today I have been offered \$10,000 for my property, all made from investing my sixteen hundred." The speaker was a woman of about 30, who until a few years ago supported her mother and herself by teaching music. "My investment was a tract of forty-six acres of the land reclaimed by irrigation in Montana. I had been teaching music for more than ten years and was getting \$600 a year with room and board for nine months. Not being a concert performer I was considered to be doing very well.

"It required a lot of self denial for my mother and me to save \$100 a year out of my small salary, with every expense to pay for three months out of the twelve. I think we had both made up our minds to jog along to the end of our days on my salary when I was inspired to become a homeseeker and take my chances with a farm.

"I was visiting a pupil in Montana and hearing so much talk about the reclaimed land I became interested. My mother was not with me, so I wrote her my intentions and then set out to join the homeseekers. The day after I received my allotment and had all the papers in my possession I received her answer to that letter and she sternly forbade my wasting our hard earned savings in such a mad scheme. It was a year before she would consent to come out and join me.

"Though I was lonely, I don't know but this happened for the best. It was a rough life at first, though my health improved by it. Beginning in the summer I had time to have a small house built and get my land cleared before the next planting time. It was covered with sage brush, which is harder to clear than one would suppose. I set out ten acres in apple trees and put thirty-three in wheat and oats. With the three acres about the house reserved for gardens and farm buildings this was the entire tract.

"That wheat produced fifty bushels to the acre and the oats sixty. Between my apple trees I set out five thousand strawberry plants and the rest of the apple land was planted in sugar beets and garden vegetables. I cleared something more than \$300 on the strawberries and as much more on the beets. The vegetables did well, but being green in the business I had not chosen wisely as to variety.

"Had it not been that the owner of a nearby tract was inspired to put up dill pickles, I believe my cucumbers would have been a dead loss. He thought all that I could give him at 2 cents a pound. That may not sound like much, but it is a lot more than the cost of production.

"The second year I planted my wheat and oats tract in sugar beets. The average yield was twelve tons to an acre and the average selling price \$5 a ton. My strawberries gave me a better profit the second year, and so did the vegetables between my apple trees. The apple trees are growing beautifully and have borne a light crop which sold to advantage, though of course the amount is insignificant when taken alone.

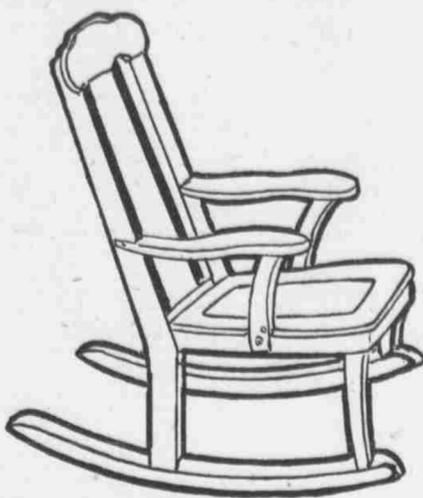
"Of course I have to work hard, and both early and late. I was careful at first to be as economical as possible. To avoid debt I could only afford to build a house of two rooms with a loft overhead, which was the sleeping place that first year of my only companion.

"He was it when he came out to me soon after I became a settler. His mother had been my landlady for a number of years, so the boy and I were very well acquainted. When my mother decided to remain with the friends with whom she had always boarded, I wrote for the boy. He had gone to work that summer for the first time on a delivery wagon. His mother allowed me to have him, with the understanding that half of his wages should be sent to her each month.

"I couldn't have wanted a better assistant than he proved himself to be. He didn't go to school that year, but the next, as soon as a school opened near us, I insisted that he attend. He kept up with his class and at the same time managed to help me so much that he fully earned his wages.

"When planting time came he left school of his own accord and only returned when the press of work had passed. He had managed to keep up in his studies by working after dark. My mother came out during the second year, so of course that made it somewhat easier for both the boy and me.

"We now have a comfortable house of three, which we use as kitchen and laundry. Where at first my stable only housed one horse it now accommodates six and three cows. We have several dozen hens, as many turkeys and almost as many geese and ducks. The poultry is my mother's particular care and she makes them pay for their keep. During the last year they have yielded her a handsome profit. If my apple yield as those of other orchards in my neighborhood do I expect to have my present income increased by at least \$1,000 a year. It is because of the fine condition of my apple trees that I am getting so many offers from buyers."—New York.



\$10 Solid Quarter-Sawed Oak \$5.00 Rocker with genuine leather seat Grand Opportunity to Get an Inexpensive Gift

For Saturday only we are offering as a special feature of our Christmas gift suggestions, this wonderful value in a rocker for \$5.00. The original price was \$10.00. We secured a large number of these rockers at an unusual price and are making this big concession for one day only. The rocker is SOLID QUARTER-SAWED OAK WITH A GENUINE LEATHER SEAT. It is thoroughly built and is the greatest bargain we have offered in months and months.

Other Saturday Special Offerings. \$3.50 Tufted Reversible Rug.....\$2.00 This rug is exquisite quality and a distinctive pattern. The size is 27x54 inches. The rug has a fine weave and is wonderful quality for \$2.00.

PILLOW SQUARES—35 CENTS Pillow squares of damasks, silk-brocades, silk-velours, silk-repp, and worsted tapestry in all colors and sizes form the third special for Saturday. The quality of these pillow squares is excellent. They are worth as high as \$2.00 each. All go for 35 cents Saturday.

SPECIAL YULETIDE FURNITURE ATTRACTIONS

A gift of furniture will delight your friends because it delights you. Good furniture becomes a friend of the family and remains in the home for years and years. Here are a few Christmas suggestions:

- Mahogany Stands—Made to endure; attractive.....\$3.00 and up
Mahogany Sewing Tables—Made in the best woods and fashioned in the handsomest designs.....\$13.00 and up
Costumers—Selected oak and pretty mahogany; strong and durable.....\$2.00 and up
Tea Tables—Solid Mahogany and quarter-sawed oak; graceful and charming designs.....\$8.00 and up
Mahogany Tea Trays—Very excellent quality and graceful models.....\$5.50 and up
Fire Side Chair—Mahogany; roomy and comfortable.....\$20.00
Cellarettes—Oak and mahogany; some with special attachment features.....\$15.00 and up
Smoker Sets—Very select line.....50c and up
\$5.50 Ladies' Desk Chair—Imitation mahogany.....\$4.00
Sectional Book Cases—Macey and Gunn designs; oak and mahogany.....\$12.00 and up
\$34.00 Overstuffed Chair—Mahogany frame; roomy.....\$25.00
Smokers' Cabinets—Oak and mahogany; strong and durable.....\$3.50 and up
Smokers' Stand—Oak and mahogany at.....\$1.50 and up
Children's Rockers and Chairs—Beautiful oak.....65c and up
Children's Sulkies—Strong and pretty, at.....\$1.50 and up
Umbrella Stands—Oak and imitation mahogany.....\$3.50 and up
Pedestals—Oak and Mahogany.....\$2.50 and up
\$47.00 Bed Davenport—Quarter-sawed oak frame; denim covering.....\$30.00
\$16.50 Mahogany Settee—Upholstered in denim; strongly made.....\$12.00
\$30.00 Overstuffed Chair—Full of comfort and beauty; graceful lines.....\$23.00
Telephone Stand and Chair—Solid oak; strong built.....\$5.50
Piano Seats—Beautiful mahogany, quarter-sawed oak and select walnut at.....\$7.50 and up
Medicine Cabinets—Selected oak and white enamel—handy and roomy.....\$3.75 and up
Mahogany Book Blocks—Neat designs fashioned along graceful lines.....\$5.00 and up
Hall Clocks—Mahogany and oak; accurate timepieces; beautiful decorations.....\$25.00 and up
Drop Leaf Tables—Finely grained and figured; handsome articles.....\$8.00 and up
Ladies' Writing Desks—Birch, mahogany and oak.....\$12.00
Ladies' Desk Chair—Selected oak; fine construction.....\$3.75
\$60.00 Mahogany Settee—Built up construction; handsome article.....\$30.00

Miller, Stewart & Beaton Co. THE TAG-POLICY HOUSE Established 1884 413-15-17 So. 16th St.

A Special and Very Important Notice!

To the Givers of Christmas Presents:

WHY NOT GIVE SOMETHING WORTH WHILE?

We are making an extraordinary effort to place in every home a high grade standard piano. OUR EFFORT CONSISTS OF SELLING A MUCH HIGHER GRADE PIANO FOR A GREAT DEAL LESS MONEY, AND ON MUCH EASIER TERMS THAN ANY OTHER PIANO HOUSE HAS EVER OFFERED, OR ARE OFFERING.

You Have Always Wanted a Piano

Why not take advantage of the special offerings to be found here? Waiting and delaying will not bring to you a better offer than we are prepared to make during this, the greatest money saving, opportunity offering.



XMAS PIANO SALE



We have done our part, why not do yours? There is no reasonable excuse for your home any longer to be without that article of furniture that is most useful as well as ornamental to any and every home.

A HIGH GRADE PIANO

Adds character; has a refining influence; is a source of amusement and entertainment; is a great educator, and in fact, is the most useful article of furniture that you can place in the household.

START TODAY IN DOING YOUR PART

By calling at our warerooms, see the beautiful case designs, hear the beautiful tones of the pianos we are offering, and allow us to prove to you that you can well afford to purchase that much wanted instrument now—today.

HAYDEN BROS.



Give Gifts that Will Please

They are at the

Christmas Fair of the Churches

December 4 to 20

Beautiful Court of the Bee Building

Every gift a gift that will delight and every one a gift at a reasonable price

Visit the Gift-Land of Omaha this week

Some of the Christmas Fair suggestions are: Water color novelties, fancy paintings, aprons, hand-painted china, handkerchiefs, comforts, fancy baskets, Mexican stamped pocketbooks, dusting caps, porcelain ware, dolls' outfits, delicious home cooking, candies.

THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES WILL BE IN CHARGE DECEMBER 15 AND 16:

Table with 4 columns: Churches, Chairman, Residence, Telephone. Lists churches like North Side Christian, Church of Good Shepherd, etc.

Your Money Goes Farthest at the Christmas Fair.

Under auspices of The Omaha Bee.