

# CAN TELEGRAPH NOW WITHOUT WIRES

BY C. H. WILLIAMS

If you were on a ship midway between Portland and Honolulu and the craft were to sink beneath the waves, you could, while the waves were lapping hungrily at the sinking craft, send a message to your friends in Portland and direct the disposition of your property. Or if your voyage were more happy, and was to end at Portland, you could, while off the Columbia River, far out of the sight of land, order a cab sent to your pier to meet you at the hour you step off the gang-plank.

You can order rooms reserved at your hotel, notify your wife you will be home for dinner, or do any one of the thousand things that you can through the old telegraph and telephone system. If the shaft of your steamer breaks and the vessel drifts helplessly at the mercy of wind and wave at any point off the coast from Sitka, Alaska, to Magdalena Bay, your captain can flash a message to Portland for a tug, giving the location of the disabled vessel, with reassuring messages to friends of passengers on board. This is a splendid accomplishment, when it is remembered that thousands of steamships, similarly disabled, have drifted helplessly for weeks, and many have finally gone down, overwhelmed by storms.

All these things and innumerable others have been made possible by the installation of the new wireless station on Council Crest by the United Wireless Telegraph Company, which has just been put in operation. With the crash of the wireless spark as his only companion, D. A. Cameron, the operator, keeps vigil over the city sleeping far below him, for the station works only at night, when conditions are most favorable for the wireless apparatus. The violent rays of the sun are at war with the ether waves that carry wireless messages, and light them like red corpuscles in the blood to disease germs. Humidity in the air also breaks up ether waves. Only short distances are covered by wireless in the daytime. Messages to be sent over 200 or 300 miles are transmitted at night when conditions are perfect.

### A Modern Aladdin.

Every night Operator Cameron, hears the wireless messages passing between Admiral Evans' fleet of fighting ships and the Southern California stations. He hears what ships far out at sea have to say as they pass each other hundreds of miles apart. He is chummy with the operator at Sitka, Alaska, and chats with the man at the key in the lonely hut on Tatoosh Island, as readily as one neighbor to another over the telephone. He gossips with the man on watch at San Diego, and the stations between as readily as one man to another across the room.

The wireless telegraph operator is another Aladdin. He conjures his key, which is another magic lamp, and the genii of the clouds do his bidding. The willing slave carries his message a thousand leagues over land and sea, and delivers it more quickly than a flash of lightning. Before the wink of an eye is accomplished, this modern wizardry is done.

This is nothing short of magic—greater magic than the wonder-workers ever wrought. That one may send a message across mountains, over deserts, fling it across oceans, without wires or cables, losing not a letter of its import, is nothing less than a miracle.

Would the steamship Columbia have gone down last Summer off the California coast in collision with the San Pedro, had both vessels been equipped with wireless as Portland-San Francisco steamers are now? Probably not. By wireless telegraph and its sister invention, the wireless telephone, ships can warn each other of approaching danger, even in the densest fogs and smoke, which often make visual signaling impossible. Lighthouses equipped with wireless can warn ships off the shore more effectively than the present system of lights.

### In the New Station.

At the Council Crest station, a mast 200 feet high has been placed, from the peak of which stay wires reach in each direction. These wires are not used in receiving or transmitting messages, eight antennae serving these purposes. There are 25 other stations on the Pacific Coast already, all of them in touch with the Portland station, as well as a number of ships that ply across the ocean. From Portland to Sitka is 870 miles, while to Magdalena Bay is 1550 miles more. Stations will be placed within a short time at Coos Bay and Grays Harbor, making a chain of wireless masts that will be in ready communication with each other at all times reaching the whole length of the Western North American Coast.

Wireless messages have been sent very long distances successfully. Last Spring the naval wireless station at Point Loma, Cal., took part of a message sent by the wireless operator on board the Connecticut, which was off the east coast of Cuba. A message from the battleship Rhode Island was received by the same station, the vessel being at that time off Cape Henry. The armored cruiser Pennsylvania, in San Francisco Bay last August, took a wireless message from Savannah, Ga., a distance of more than 2600 miles. The message was recorded without a break.

### Stock Quotations to Pleasure Seekers

A striking demonstration of one of the many uses of the wireless was made last August by an enterprising New York newspaper. The annual cruise of the New York Yacht Club was about to be sailed through Long Island Sound and the newspaper equipped a tug with wireless apparatus and arranged to send financial bulletins and stock quotations to it every little while. The tug was to follow the fleet of pleasure craft and hoist signals telling the latest news of Wall street. Each yacht had been supplied with code books in advance by which the owners could interpret the tug's signals. Wireless messages were flashed to the tug from the top of a Broadway skyscraper, where a mast and laterals had been set up.

While the fleet was gathering at Glen Cove a number of the yachtmen declared they intended to separate themselves entirely from business worries during the cruise. They accepted the code books politely, but intimated they



**UNITED WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY**  
(INCORPORATED)  
**AEROGRAM**

The United Wireless Telegraph Company transmits and delivers this message subject to terms and conditions printed on back of this blank.

7 7 pm Cam

C. C. WILSON, PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT UNITED WIRELESS STATION Portland 17th March 08

Fleet now at Magdalena Bay reports serious interruptions in working by the



## PORTLAND'S NEW STATION ON COUNCIL CREST AND HOW THE MEN WORK IT

Operators believe that with the constant improvement of sending and receiving apparatus that is bound to come, the wireless message will be sent longer and longer distances, and no one can guess what will be the ultimate distances spanned by the wireless spark.

### Has Made the Earth Shrink.

Like the other big advances in science, the wireless telegraph has made the world smaller. For centuries the earth has been shrinking. When Marco Polo first circumnavigated it, the globe grew noticeably smaller. When the first steamboat ploughed the Atlantic, distances grew less. With the invention of the telegraph and telephone and the building of steam railroads, what seemed like formidable distances shrank to short and comfortable journeys. With the invention of the wireless telegraph, the earth positively shriveled. It has done more to annihilate distance than almost anything else. Terror of sea travel has been vastly minimized.

And why not greater wonders still? Why should not the control of ether, the most insubstantial substance, bind the planets closer together as it has the hemisphere? It is not altogether improbable that the ether wave offers a means of communication with Mars and other planets believed to be inhabited. Given the means of generating an ether wave strong enough and there is no reason why it should not break on the shores of that little known, mysterious planet. Why not sometime detach an ether wave from the Council Crest antennae that would pulsate the receiving lateral of a Martian station?

Either not only permeates the air and water but substances as well and is the chief constituent of that void between the worlds where nothing is across which light and heat travel on ether waves but through which no sound can come. How fast the ether wave will speed in its own element, where no air is, cannot now be known. Who knows but in that supposedly perfect medium, an ether wave would flash across hitherto unbridged distances and all in the twinkling of an eye?

In fact some wireless inventors believe Mars has been trying to signal us by this means already. Last Summer when this new science was being developed by leaps and bounds, a number of scientists were experimenting along the Atlantic Coast at widespread stations. Operators at the keys throughout the night reported that a certain fixed interval each night a mysterious message of three dots would be tapped on the receiver. Not once, but many times this happened, and many operators at different stations reported it.

Where the dots came from no one knew but the suggestion was made that it might have been Mars trying to speak to the earth through this new and universal means of communication.

### Largest Bath in the World.

New York Sun.

The biggest swimming pool in the world has just been officially put in commission at Tooting Bec Common, England. It is 300 feet in length and is 50 feet wide. With a capacity of 1,300,000 gallons of water, it is so arranged that 80,000 gallons can be pumped into it daily, thereby insuring a partial flow all the time. By this plan it will not be necessary to clean the bath more than once a year. To empty the bath and refill it means an expenditure of £30. The depth of the pool is 6 feet 6 inches. It has no covering overhead, but all around there is ample accommodation for spectators.

The work of construction was begun about a year and a half ago, and was so far advanced last Fall that it was used for general purposes. The fixtures, of course, were only in a rough state; nevertheless about 200 persons visited the big pool every day for their dip. One day in the week is set aside for women, and on these days the bath is taxed to its fullest. There is no admission charge, in spite of the large number of bathers, no fatality has so far occurred, but the bath attendants have rescued 15 persons, and they received the Royal Humane Society medal last year for saving two persons from the deep end. The bath is situated in the most picturesque part of the common.

### Hardy Newspaper Men.

Boston Transcript.

"In 48 years no editor has been received as a patient at the Longview Hospital, as a patient of Cincinnati, and only one reported. In that time the hospital has treated 2102 housewives, 1284 laborers, 552 domestic servants, 589 other servants, 206 farmers, 208 clerks, 111 carpenters, 125 merchants, 125 tailors, 131 painters, 115 shoemakers, 89 cigarmakers, 78 saloonmen, 76 machinists, 64 cabinetmakers, 58 teamsters, 65 butchers, 32 bakers, 49 coopers, 48 saloonkeepers, 47 soldiers, 46 school teachers, 42 printers, 29 lawyers, 30 physicians, 30 firemen and 28 policemen.

### Father O'Flynn.

Alfred P. Graves.

Of priests we can offer a charming variety, far renowned for learning and piety, and still, I'd advance ye without impiety.

Father O'Flynn as the flower of them all.

Refrain—  
Here's a health to you, Father O'Flynn,  
Saints and saints and saints again,  
Piouslest preacher and tenderest teacher,  
And kindest creature in ould Donegal.

Don't talk of your Provost and Fellows of Trinity,  
Famous forever at Greek and Latin,  
Faix and the divil and all at Divinity,  
Father O'Flynn 'd make hares of them all.

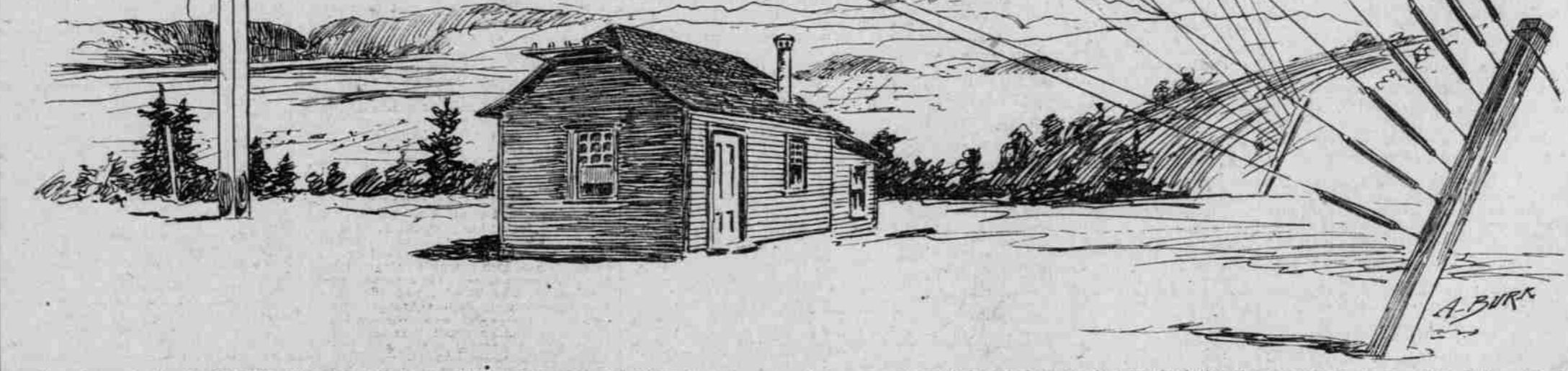
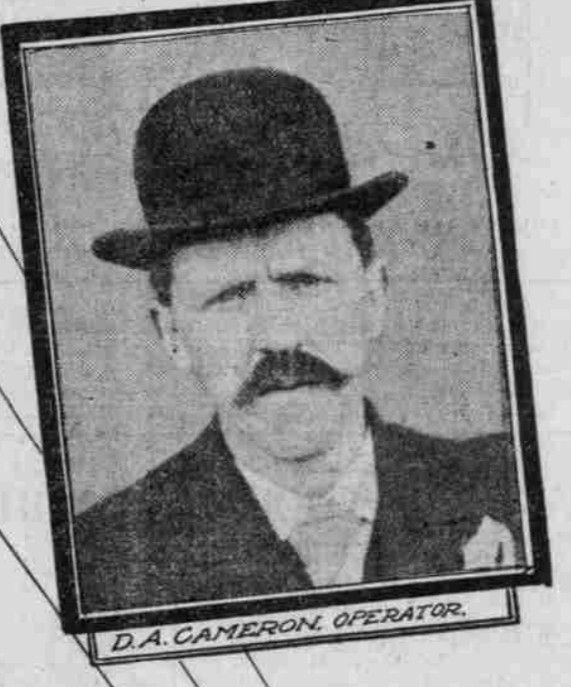
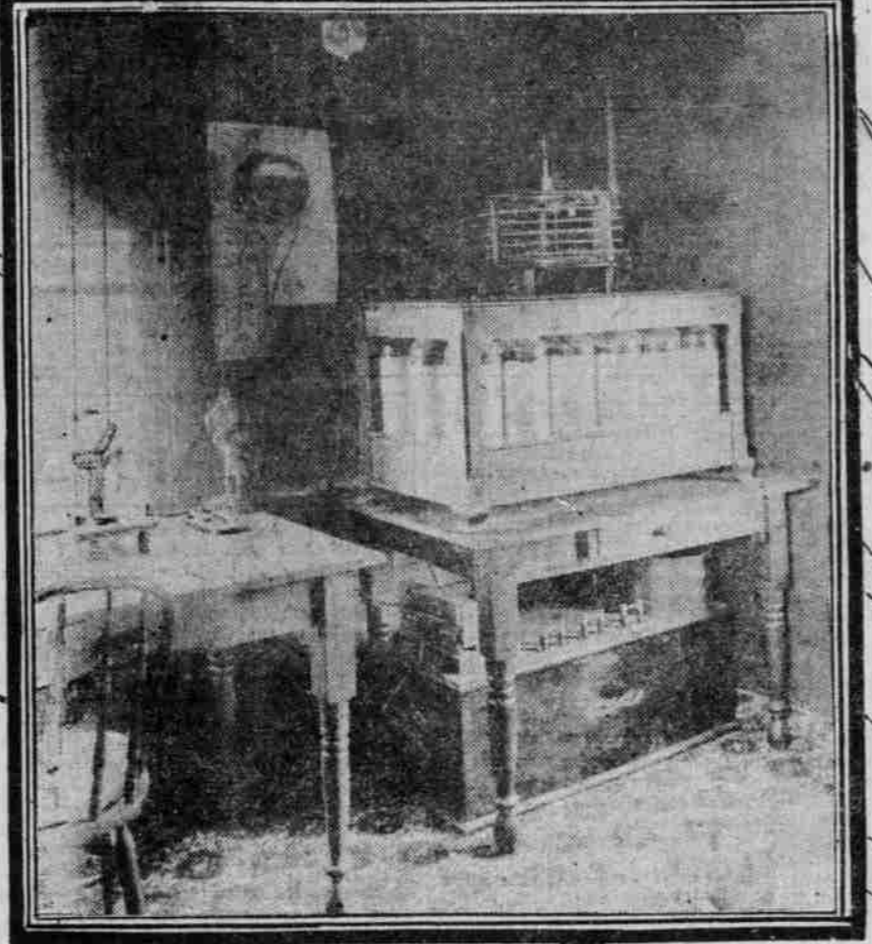
Come, I venture to give ye my word,  
Never the likes of his joke was heard,  
Down from mythology into mythology,  
Trot and conology, it had the call.

Och Father O'Flynn, you're a wonderful way wid you,  
All ould sinners are wishful to pray wid you,  
All the young childer are wild for to play wid you.

You've such a way wid you, Father avick!  
Still, for all you're so gentle a soul,  
Glad, you've your flock in the grandest control;  
Checking the crazy ones, coaxin' the ony ones.

Liftin' the lazy ones on wid the stick.  
And though quite avoidin' all foolish frivolity,  
Still at all seasons of innocent jollity  
Where was the playboy could claim an equality.

At cemetery, Father, wid you?  
Once the Bishop looked grave at your jest,  
Till this remark set out wid the rest:  
"If I have, surely all to the lady."  
"Can not the clergy be Irishmen, too?"



would not be used. On the following day the financial storm broke.

Many who had steeled themselves to be heedless at the outset were the most interested readers of the financial bulletins. From having promised themselves to be interested only in squalls at sea,

they began to strain their eyes for squalls on the New York stock exchange. Scores who started out to remain with the fleet until the finish of the cruise at Newport hastened back to the storm-center. Those who remained were kept as fully advised of the market as if

they had been in their own offices. One minute and thirty seconds was required to flash the news of the London opening to the fleet, the message being relayed by the Newport naval station, and in three minutes the O.K. had been sent back to the New York operator that

the wireless tug had received the message. The same newspaper office was in possession of the fact that the schooner yacht Elmira won the Astor cup two minutes and thirty seconds after the boat crossed the line, all due to the re-

traveling on the ether wave, and then sent across the country and picked up as wireless messages are snared in a net of wires seems probable.

But the most wonderful development in the field opened up by the wireless inventor is probably as yet unguessed. Op-