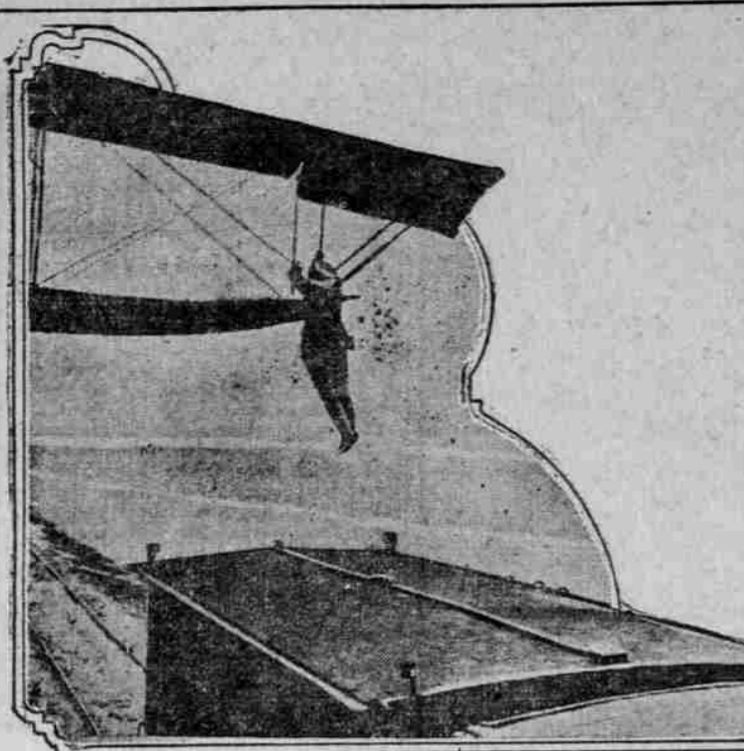


NEWEST SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES AND REMARKABLE FACTS

Here Is One of the Latest Movie Thrillers



DROPPING FROM AN AEROPLANE ON TO A TRAIN.

FEATS called impossible in real life are only problems for the directors of moving picture companies. Flesh and blood detectives do not alight on the top of a moving train from an aeroplane. The detective has too much regard for his safety, if granted he has the nerve and the ability to carry out the stunt.

Take Off Hat or Put It On in Bathtub

PROFESSOR FRANZ NAGEL-SCHMIDT, of Berlin, Germany, after pointing out the poisons that lurk in all anti-fat panaceas, declares that he has for nearly two years employed an electric battery for the reduction of superfluous flesh. This electric battery produces a "foradic" current which sets the little fibres and strands of your muscles in rhythmic, regular, harmonic vibrations. These muscular movements are attuned to the normal rhythm of a resting muscle in such a way that the muscular motions occur without fatigue of the bulk of huge flesh.

Briefly, with this new kind of electricity, Professor Nagelschmidt is able to exercise the muscles hidden away by clumps of fat in such a manner that even the laziest theater-goer, baseball fan or lobster-palace diner fails to feel tired. Furthermore, the circumambient flesh ceases to dangle as an obstruction to the blood supply, the heart or the other vital tissues.

With this novel treatment for obesity the breathing is undisturbed, the pulse remains normal, and all the bodily activities remain unaffected. Even a fraction of the same muscular gymnastics under the old methods for growing thin, such as rolling, crawling, punching the bag and walking, inflame the heart action and the pulse unfavorably. This latest plan prevents all of this, does away with "that tired feeling" and eliminates the oleaginous excess.

Fat, then, according to this "Nagelschmidt electric current," can be turned off and on at will. You may take an adipose or eliminate as much as you please. The only question seems to be one of submitting to the battery.

Another method of reducing fat to a minimum, available for many who cannot be placed in touch with this new electricity, is to artificially produce a current of electricity in your bathtub. Although it is not so reasonable nor yet absolutely explainable upon our knowledge of the impenetrability of the human skin, yet it is a well-proved fact that if Epsom salts or sulphate of magnesium is added to the water of your full bath, in the course of a few months from 15 to 20 pounds will be eliminated.

Whether this is a mysterious electrolytic action that is set up between your skin and water, or merely a powerful assault of the salt upon the usually impervious skin, has not been positively determined. The fact, however, remains that Epsom salts in the bathtub aids materially in reducing your avoidables.

It is evident from these two procedures that corpulent persons need not expend all sorts of money upon every published anti-fat remedy. It is far better to apply these certainly harmless, clearly and non-fatiguing methods discovered by medical men of acknowledged training than to pick up every cat's-paw panacea with no other support than the embellished words of an advertising writer.

Fish That Sing and Grunt

FISHES have often been referred to as "voiceless, emotionless creatures," but scientific investigation has demonstrated that like land animals they are largely swayed by the same emotions, and that in a limited way they give expression thereto.

There are more than 300 species of fish which are known to produce sound. One particular kind of fish, which are called "maigres," emit sounds having a duration of about 25 seconds, and also various notes, usually degenerating into a mere humming, either from excess or want of intensity. When these fish are traveling in shoals the sounds given out by them may be heard from a depth of 20 fathoms. More than once it has been suggested that the story of the sirens had its origin in the utterances of these fish.

When captured, the scud, or horse-mackerel, the globe fish, the grunt, the pig-fish and the hog-fish all emit sounds resembling the grunt of a pig; while one, well known along the Atlantic Coast as the croaker, derives its name from the croak it gives when taken into a boat. The barbel and the carp also croak when taken from the water.

There is a species of "sea-frog" found by the natives of Malabar, and

operator, of course, being out of the question.

The aeroplane soared above the train for a minute and then, with the swiftness of an eagle, swooped down upon the moving train. The aviator managed to keep his machine just above the coaches of the train. He was compelled to keep the equilibrium of the plane while the detective clambered out and dropped on the roof of one of the coaches. In other sections of the film the sleuth is shown making his way into the coach, where he gets the passenger he is pursuing.

In this country Rodman Law has made a name for himself by all sorts of daring feats such as jumping from Brooklyn bridge, New York, and performing rare feats as a steeplejack. And that is by no means all. Law has to his credit such little accomplishments as climbing up the side of a skyscraper, being shot out of a cannon, and then, to cool off, leaping from the top of the Statue of Liberty in the harbor of New York. Broken bones and sprains have not deterred him,

neither have the pleadings of his wife. He has forgotten what it is to fear.

Five years from now it is reasonable to suppose that the film companies will be calling upon just what the stunts will be no one ever can guess. It would seem that before that time all the daredevil tricks known to human ingenuity will have been exhausted.

so-called on account of the noise it makes when captured. The red guard has been dubbed the "sea-cock" by reason of its crowing.

The armadillo, a siluroid fish found in the Rio Parana, is the most remarkable of the harsh, grating sound it emits when caught with hook and line. It is said that this noise can be heard distinctly while the fish is yet beneath the surface.

There is a fish in the Tagus that emits sounds resembling the vibrations of a deep-toned bell, gong, or pedal pipe of an organ. Herrings, when the net has been drawn around them, have been observed to do the same, and similar accounts are given of the river bullhead. An amphibious siluroid fish, on being taken into the hand, is said to shriek, and certain of the blennies emit similar sounds.

Build Artificial Islands to Construct Bridge

WITH the completion of the Pamban channel viaduct, connecting Tutoral in India with Pamban on the Island of Rameswaram the first link has been forged in the railway line between the south end of the Indian peninsula and the Island of Ceylon. This viaduct is 6778 feet long. Rail connection is made across the island to Dandakottai, and then by steamer across a 32-mile strait to the Island of Manar, to which point the Ceylon railway system has been extended.

To facilitate the work of sinking the bridge cylinders an artificial island, made of coral boulders and concrete in the shape of a circle, was placed on each side of the stretch of water.

This bridge was made by Indian labor, under two contractors. There was intense and sometimes by no means friendly rivalry between the two crews of workers.

Gold-Plated Door Knobs in Fifth-Avenue Flats

IN SOME of the \$25,000-a-year flats on Fifth avenue, New York, the hardware is gold plated. Hinges, window brackets, fixtures, door handles, key plates, etc., are all treated with gold before being placed in position. All that is required to keep the gold in fine condition is a slight rubbing with a piece of dry leather. No polish is necessary and the woodwork near this yellow hardware is never tarnished.

Silver plating on white metal is used on the rim in the dining-room. Nine coats of paint are spread on the walls of the dining-rooms in these magnificent flats, the same care being used as with the paneling of a motor car. The walls, instead of being highly glazed, have a soft, silky finish.

Jewels to Be Fed and Bathed

TO increase the splendor of their toilettes, Creole beauties make use of the Cucuyos, a large species of firefly, found in the tropical forest of South America. Strange jewels, which must be fed, and must be bathed twice a day, and incessantly taken care of to prevent them from dying.

The Indians catch these insects by balancing hot coals in the air, at the end of a stick, to attract them, which proves that the light which these insects diffuse is to attract.

Once in the hands of the women, the Cucuyos are shut up in little cages of very fine wire, and fed on fragments of sugarcane. When the ladies wish to adorn themselves with these living animals, they place them in little bags of little tulle, which they arrange with taste on their skirts.

Their is another way of mounting the Cucuyos. They pass a pin, without hurting them, under the thorax, and stick this pin in their hair. The refinement of elegance consists in combining with the Cucuyos humming-birds and real diamonds, which produce a dazzling head-dress.

Sometimes, impressing these animated flames in gauze, the Mexican women twist them into ardent necklaces, or else roll them round their waists like a fiery girdle.

They go to the ball under a diadem of living topazes, of animated emeralds and this diadem blazes or pales according as the insect is fresh or fatigued. When they return home, after the soiree, they make them take a bath, which refreshes them, and put them back again into the cage, which sheds during the whole night a soft light in the chamber.

Silk Dresses Now Being Made From Wood

THAT silk dresses are now being made from wood may be news to many. With the aid of special machinery and chemical wonders are accomplished in rivaling the patient toil of the silkworm. So complete is the process that a spruce log thrown into a great vat emerges not long afterwards as shiny and silky thread.

The wood is first cut into thin sheets, after which it is put into a tank for chemical treatment. It is chipped and milled by the machinery and "digested" by the strong chemicals, rather closely resembling molasses in color and consistency. The solution is then forced through well-heated tubes, each with an outlet containing just as many perforations as there are to be filaments in the thread. Simultaneously it is sprayed with a chemical which "fixes" the thread, shrinking and hardening it. But to the wearer of silk, a garment made from woodpulp looks every bit as good as the products of the silkworm.

An inventor wears a fancy waistcoat of pine wood fiber, and looks forward to the time when wooden suits will be generally worn. The wood is, of course, not in its usually crude form, but it is first reduced to pulp, then drawn into threads, and woven like cloth. Cloth of this kind wears like leather, and is cheaper than the cheap-

est cloth. The value of the material thus spun is that it dyes extremely well, the colors coming up admirably, and it is, as a matter of fact, a good imitation of silk. Some of the cloth has been shown to spinners, who would scarcely believe that it had been produced from wood pulp.

The people of Tibet have for a long time now worn clothes constructed of wool.

In Ecuador the bark of a tree which grows on the slopes of the Andes is utilized for making blankets. Usually the blanket is six feet long and five feet wide, and is as soft and pliable as though it were made from flannel. It is about the thickness of a good flannel blanket, and can be rolled up and put in a strap without hurting or injuring it. This tree or bark blanket is merely a strip of bark cut from a section of the trunk of the demajagua tree. The Indians make a cutting around the trunk to get it and they prepare it by soaking it in water until it is soft. It is then pounded so that the rough outside can be stripped off and the inside alone left. The inside is of fine fibers so joined together by Nature that it makes a beautiful blanket, warm enough to be used as a cover, and soft enough for a mattress.

Nature Has Given Eskimo Extra Ribs

IT IS no compliment to tell an Eskimo that he has a lot of backbone, because he has, literally. The Eskimo also has more ribs than the ordinary human being, a physical equipment that came in good stead when these people of the Far North dared heavy seas in frail craft to get seal and fish.

In balancing the canoe or "kyak" the Eskimo of an earlier time used his waist, the sinews and muscles of which were developed to an unusual degree. Charles Dawson, the English scientist, who discovered the famous Piltdown jaw, has shown some interesting and hitherto not generally known facts about the bone formations of the Eskimo.

The normal human skeleton has seven cervical or neck joints, otherwise known as vertebrae, 12 dorsal or rib-bearing joints, five lumbar, or joints of the waist, five sacral, or cemented vertebrae, forming part of the hip region, and three or four caudal or tail vertebrae.

There occurs, Mr. Dawson points out, among other abnormalities of the human frame, a rare additional joint of the back, one which sometimes makes its appearance between the ordinary lowest rib-bearing joint and the top-most of the joints of the waist. In its intermediate position, this additional joint sometimes partakes more of the shape or characters of the series of joints beneath it, and in other cases it more clearly resembles those above it. In the latter case, this joint sometimes bears a pair of small rudimentary or "floating ribs."

The explanation of this extra joint of the waist is usually ascribed to the fact that the movable series of joints of the vertebral column above the hips have borrowed one joint or section from the fixed series properly belonging to the hip region. The latter, in turn, borrows one joint from the tail, or caudal, series, which is consequently shorn of one segment. Moreover, this order of annexation is reversed, and the hip region or the tail is longer at the expense of the joints of the waist. The hip region is, therefore, sometimes described as traveling backwards or forwards.

Now, although these conditions occur as rare abnormalities, human beings possessing them have been known to exist in various races throughout the world and in all ages from prehistoric times to the present. Mr. Dawson says he has lately seen a recently imported skeleton, one of a man who flourished some 6000 years ago in ancient Egypt, which possessed the peculiarity of a 13th dorsal vertebra. All these, however, are but isolated examples. / But lately during an examination of various Eskimo remains, which from time to time have been brought from the Arctic regions, Mr. Dawson noticed that representatives (male and female) chosen haphazard from a certain tribe of Eskimos living along the northern shore of North America possessed the distinction of 13 dorsal vertebra, with the pair of additional ribs. We have thus, in this instance, what appears to be a racial characteristic. A naturalist, therefore, looks for some cause which has operated in convert-

Even the Birds Get Divorces Nowadays

DIVORCES and "advanced women" are known to bird life. Mrs. Olive Thorn Miller, who has made a careful study of the domestic life of birds, says that marriage among them is noted for its stability and joyousness and that the feathered Darby or Joan will make sacrifices to maintain the family life. She cites the case of a female bird which returned to its mate, creating life behind bars with a loved one to lonely freedom in the woods.

"I am sorry to say, however," says Mrs. Miller, "that in spite of this usually happy state of domestic affairs, there are occasional unmistakable instances of bird divorce. Sometimes it is the husband who tires of his spouse and drives her away to make room for a new bride. Again it is the wife, who, perhaps, makes up her mind that the father of the family is not providing properly for its wants, and rejects him on that score. In one case of the kind which I watched I am sure this was the trouble. The husband was a cripple, from an injury to his leg, and was certainly rather ineffectual. He opposed vehemently all efforts to drive him away, and succeeded in maintaining his authority until he was again able to care for his household.

And apparently some female birds have advanced notions as regard women's rights, and a dozen have been grouped around one poor hunted male, who looked in vain for a way to escape, but was unable to do so.

Furthermore, among birds the choice seems to rest with the female, and the male can court as ardently as he pleases, but his wooing will be in vain unless the fair one is persuaded that he is the proper one to share her home with her.

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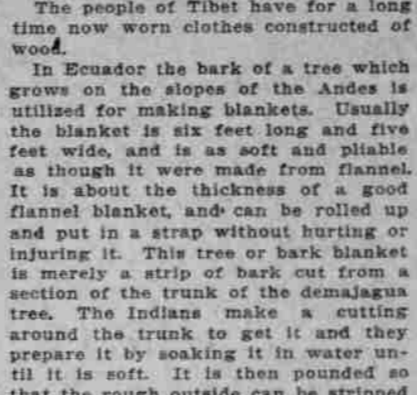
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Hands Misplaced in Ancient Egyptian Art



AN examination of ancient Egyptian art reveals a strange misplacing of right and left hands. Although the painter and sculptor of that epoch were at times almost painfully definite in expressing an idea, they were strangely unable to accurately depict arms and hands.

A carving showing Rameses II making an offering to the god Osiris, gives the ruler two right hands instead of a normal right and left hand. The god's

hands, says James Arthur in the Scientific American, are correct. Seti I, in another piece of sculpture is holding up his elaborate offering to the goddess Isis with two left hands. The "Key of Life" on her left side.

How these mistakes went on for years and years without correction is amazing. It is impossible to believe that the artists did not know what they were doing and, surely, the picture-loving people of old Egypt must have noticed that the hands in art did not tally with the hands in real life.

Photographs taken from sculptures in the sixth Egyptian room of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, show that the Egyptian artist was wrong in his conception of hands and arms more times than he was right.

working, the metal pieces near the antenna absorb by induction a large part of the energy; the metal guys, more or less parallel to the antenna, are particularly the seat of high-frequency currents that are very objectionable from the standpoint of efficiency, since the current induced in them is in the contrary direction to the current that traverses the antenna at the same moment, tending to annul its effect. To remedy this condition, the guys are insulated from the ship's hull.

"Other pieces slightly insulated from the hull by air spaces are also first put into a state of electric tension and finally discharge across the air space, thus it is common to hear, in certain parts of the boat, the crackling of sparks. At night, they may even be seen.

"In the French navy, also, it has been asked whether the explosives in the magazines may be considered as removed from all danger of ignition by the transmission station on the ship. This question is now being studied. It would appear that when the explosives are shut up in either in tight metal cases or simply in metal ammunition boxes, there is nothing to fear, since the metal walls form a screen that the electric waves cannot penetrate.

"At great distances from the emission antenna of radio-telegraphic stations, the danger no longer exists; in fact, the power induced at 50 to 500 miles from a post is an insensible quantity, the telephone, or perfected electrometers or galvanometers, are able to detect it. To suppose that a ship loaded with inflammable substances can be set on fire in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean by means of waves from the Eiffel Tower, or even by the combined effect of two powerful Continental radio-telegraphic stations is simply an effort of the imagination."

Parrot Speaks 200 Words

AMONG the feathered tribe, the powerful of Australia, the parrot, being at once gardener, architect and artist. For it not only constructs a neat, tunnel-like tower framed like a Gothic arch, but can lay out a garden, discriminately picking the orchid blossoms and arranging them into pretty patterns with impeccable taste.

For gay coloring the plita, fondness of Torneo and Sumatra takes the lead. Its feathers being every color of the rainbow. The bird of Paradise runs its close, and is in addition a dainty dancer. One species of this digs a hole a foot in diameter, over which it places crossed sticks (as for a Scottish sword dance), and strews leaves and rubbish over them, thus forming a floor on which it dances a pas seul. But the jaegers, and especially the species of the which can go one better; for besides being splendid little dancers, they provide their own music the while.

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The late Prince Wian of Korea always carried with him on his travels an enormous white parrot, with richly colored lining on its wings, and a purple harness set on each side of its perforated back.

A bird which takes a lot of beating, however, is the falcon which is used by the messengers of the Sultan of Andalusia, 150 miles, in 16 hours.

Sun Warps Skyscrapers

THE rays of the sun are strong enough to warp the immense towers of the Capital at Washington six inches every day. All tall buildings are affected in a similar manner by the sun. Skyscrapers are also moved by the wind, the tops of lofty towers swaying several inches under strong gales.

Life Saving Device Can Be Steered



A LIFE-SAVING device which permits the comforts of a steam-heated flat while being tossed about on the ocean wave has been introduced by Herr Heinrich a German engineer.

Arrangement is also made by which the occupant of the buoy can steer his craft and thus be able to make some headway if cast off near land.

The apparatus is shaped like a skit-

tle. Canvas constitutes the central part of two sleeves into which the castaway may slip his arms and thus use them as oars.

The lower part is a bucket which fills with water and keeps the apparatus in a vertical position, while the top has a sliding glass door. Inside the bag may be equipped with food tablets and water bottles.

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If sparks pass, either between two wires or across joints and air-intervals in these pieces, the danger must be pointed out to the commanding officer, to the steamship company, and to the wireless telegraph company.

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Warning against a new wireless peril is made by a French writer. He shows that vessels which carry explosives are in danger from their own wireless plants. Whether this applies to warships, the writer is not prepared to say, although he is inclined to believe that the metal walls of ammunition compartments serve as an effective screen against electric waves. The theory that a vessel or warship may be blown up by wireless electricity generated at a plant at a distance is held to be untenable.

He says: "Many vessels in peril have summoned aid by means of radio-telegraphic signals. But care should be taken lest the transmission plants installed on board create a new source of danger, in certain conditions and for certain ships. On oil ships and others that carry inflammable cargoes, especially when these are volatile, such substances may take fire from sparks that pass, by induction, in various parts of the vessel, when the operator is sending messages. The Bureau of Navigation of the Department of Commerce of the United States has foreseen this danger and has issued the following instructions to radio-inspectors:

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Hair May Be Sewn Into Bald Heads



HAIR may be sewn into the scalp of the bald by a result of a process invented by Dr. Szekeley, a hospital assistant of Budapest. The prospect of getting a new crop of hair by this method is rather terrifying, as in the case of a perfectly bald man, 50,000 separate operations are required. With a skilled operator at work, 500 operations may be performed in an hour, so that in about 10 days the bald man will no longer be bald and all at a minimum of discomfort. In two weeks the former bald man has become accustomed to the luxury of hair and is serene in the thought that it never will be necessary to have the barber use shears on his head. For, sewn-in hair stays put and all that is needed is an oiling now and then to keep the crop soft and silky.

These who have undergone hair-implanting operations have been advised to think long and carefully before they agreed to submit. A wig can be removed but when hair is sewn in it is there to stay, it being inconceivable that anyone would ask to have 50,000 hairs pulled out.

Dr. A. Havas, in writing of the Szekeley method, says the operator makes a tiny loop with a gold wire about 1-500th of an inch in diameter. In this loop he inserts a fine strand of hair taken from a woman's head. This hair is from eight to 12 inches long.

"The puncture of the skin has not quite emerged from the needle. Then he cuts off the wire about one-twelfth inch from the loop and bends the end to make a tiny hook.

"This goes, he introduces the needle, properly sterilized, into the skin of the head and then withdraws it gently, leaving the needle in the skin, the hook holding by the loop the hair, bent double. After the needle has been withdrawn there may be seen protruding from the skin two hairs, one at each end of the hair held at its central point by the loop, and anchored, so to speak, under the skin by the hook.

"The puncture of the skin at a distance of about 1-25th of an inch apart, or 625 to the square inch. As there are two hairs to each puncture, this gives an extension of the square inch to three-quarters of an hour it is possible to plant 400 to 500 hairs.

Inflammation follows this hair-planting, but it is of only brief duration. The puncture points soon heal and it is said the new hair will become anyone unless a close examination is made. Such an examination would reveal that two hairs "grow" from one point in the skin.

Wireless Imperils Oil Boats

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The movement caused by the sun has been proved by experiments under the Capital dome. A 15-pound lead plumb was suspended from the top of the dome, a lead pencil attached to it on a sheet of paper. At the end of the day the pencil had traced an ellipse six inches long.

The same causes one side of a building to expand. As it moves across the horizon it acts on other sides, causing expansion. Late in the afternoon the cooling building contracts, thus having performed a complete ellipse during the day.

Another movement of buildings even less perceptible is their settling into the ground. Unless erected on bedrock, buildings settle gradually through the years. In Chicago some of the skyscrapers of a decade ago have settled five inches. This settling, because it extends to one side or corner only. This throws the structure out of plumb. One building only a dozen years old was found to be 24 inches out of plumb at the top and had to be bolstered up by huge jackscrews.

When inspecting radio-telegraphic plants on board tank steamships, oil boats, and all other vessels carrying substances that may give rise to mixtures which can be exploded or ignited by electric sparks, you will pay special attention to the insulation of the antenna, you will examine metallic contacts, cables, electric material, and all pieces in which the high-frequency currents of the radio-telegraphic plant are likely to engender induced currents.

If sparks pass, either between two wires or across joints and air-intervals in these pieces, the danger must be pointed out to the commanding officer, to the steamship company, and to the wireless telegraph company.

"The production of sparks between metallic objects in the neighborhood of powerful wireless plants is a well-known fact that is always taken into account in the installation of plants on land. On vessels, when a post is

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