

HOME TELEPHONE CO. INFORMATION ROOM MYSTERY AND MARVEL

Miss McMunn Sees, Hears and Feels Some of the Intricacies and Puzzles.

WIRES, BUTTONS, BUZZERS

Most Wonderful Thing is the Wire Room Where a Million Things Wait, Shiver and Hum.

By Ella McMunn.

If you know what to do, till the doctor comes, how to make a cake, what time the boat leaves, who killed Cock Robin, and just everything in between, and are so genuinely gentle that you can say "I'm sorry, lady," when really it wasn't your fault at all, why, in time you might get a position in the information department of the Home Telephone company.

Temperamental Over the Phone. It means knowing how to handle 12,000 subscribers who allow themselves to be "temperamental" over the phone, because everybody has his or her temperamental streak, which is just a high sounding name for tantrum, and it is ever so much better to say cross, ugly things to girls who can't talk back, or the other way around, than it is to get yourself disliked by your immediate circle of acquaintances.

But before I go on with this scientific treatise on electricity and explain to you just how to run a telephone office, I'll tell you who the "Automatic-Secret Service" girls are. Miss Norma Foust is chief operator, and the other seven girls are the Misses Lulu Stearns, Lydia Heffner, Margaret Epplman, Bess Flows, Louise Kamp, Mable Robinson and Mrs. Mary Wall. They work in shifts of four, and look so much like other girls that you wouldn't know them apart out on the street where people don't need brains especially, but at work they awe you big by all the things they know.

Given Newspapermen Increase. About a flat topped desk six and a half feet square, and a chair, and their positions, and everything they do not know of and is to be found in a revolving cabinet thereon, or learned from the library or the newspaper offices or someone who they get it for, even though it requires a vast amount of research on their part. And, incidentally, they have lengthened the lives of many newspaper men, who were previously called upon to tell the scores of games, the time of day, and the latest style in pajamas. Now the information department of the phone company wonderfully relieves the pressure, although there are still people who can't get a line without asking for information, and editor as to how many eggs to put "under."

Growl On! Thanks. The telephone company announces that requests for information of any kind are welcomed, and in addition to that contained in the latest directories and the numerous street address files they advertise to give current attractions at theatres, arrival and departure of trains, baseball scores and results of other sporting events, time of day, daily weather reports, morning calls, and on hand there are kept the official railway guide, official Parcel Post Map, Standard Handbook Dictionary of Facts, Words, Almanac and Encyclopedia. They tell you about hotels, rooming houses, apartment houses, U. S. officials, county officials, foreign consuls, garages, historical happenings, cookery recipes, authors of poems, stage fare, and where to spend your vacation. An average of 200 persons in winter and 100 in summer ask to be awakened by the telephone operator, and as people just aroused from sleep are far less amiable than at any other period of the day, they growl what passes for thanks into the phone.

Falls Down Sometimes. Everybody apparently falls down once in a while on the sources of information from which he supplies his mind and keeps up his egotism, and even the public school pupils who know a staggering lot of things rely upon the information department for facts with which to expand their craniums, and yet sometimes when things get to popping pretty lively down there, and the buttons, and buzzers and knobs and wires all need attention at once, and somebody waits for a fraction of a minute, the subscriber puts in the time asking the operator if she is reading, which sometimes happens if the person just before has asked how to get a safety pin out of a baby's windpipe.

Got Back to Earth. But when Miss Foust realized my thirst for knowledge and evident need of it, she untrapped a rubber horn from her chest, removed from her ear a thing resembling a petrified muddle, attached to a string, and backed away from a cribbage board on which was a bevy of lot of pegs and glass eyes with lights twinkling under them and took me up stairs.

On the way there were ever so many people who seemed to know what they were doing, which was more than I did, and to get the conversation down to where I had a "hook in" once in a while, I asked her if they ever had any banquets, and if they did, how many would be there. She said that they had always been given an annual "dinner" by the president, starting in 1911, until the war troubles, when the employees numbering nearly 400, had given up the festivity in order that the Belgians could go toward helping the Belgians.

Pegs, Buttons and Wires. By that time we had passed bookkeepers, and stenographers, and men with needles in their hands and holes in their heads and were up stairs where the wire chief showed me a book with a million figures in it and which had a lot of holes in it, a thing that looked like a thermometer, but wasn't, and more pegs and buttons and wires wrapped in paper, and of course I understood perfectly all about it at the time, but I don't seem to remember anything except that he had three pieces of lead in his hand which he had put there, and which had been shot off of something by somebody somewhere, and that it was a shame for people to be so careless about the lot of phone company such a lot of trouble.

Wire Room a Marvel. But of all the marvels down at the big building at Park and Burnside streets the most wonderful, except the girls themselves, is the wire room, where there are a million things looking like curlycombs with roots twisted into wire matresses, and in millions others (figures are not exact—I think there are more), about the size of a coffee pot but not resembling it in any way, which are attached to wires and makes a noise like a mouse gnawing a nutmeg, buzzes a little like a fly caught behind a window blind, and it is all over.

Lane Will Continue Fight on Compact. Senator would Give Opponents of Present Laws Opportunity to File Referendum. Washington, Feb. 24.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL).—Senator Lane will continue his opposition to ratification of the Oregon-Washington fisheries compact to give opportunity for opponents to the present laws to file a referendum on the new law of the Oregon legislature. Reports have reached him a long time ago that the opposition was flim-flammed at Salem, and no harm can come from delaying action for 60 days. If a referendum is not filed, he will not further oppose ratification.

Photoplay House Is Not a Newspaper. Huntington, Ind., Feb. 24.—(I. N. S.).—According to a decision handed down in the circuit court here, a moving picture show and a newspaper are different institutions. T. Guy Perfect and Elmer Fosse were each fined for operating a moving picture theatre on Sunday. Perfect contended he displayed films of news events like the Sunday newspapers, and that therefore he was immune from the operation of the Sunday closing law. After deliberation the jury decided that a moving picture theatre is a theatre and not a newspaper.

Free Trial Coupon. T. A. Stuart Co., 326 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich. Send me at once a free trial copy of your package of Stuart's Calcium Wafers. Name..... Street..... City..... State.....

"INFORMATION" TELLS YOU EVERYTHING



Young women who operate remarkable intelligence and accommodation bureau conducted by the Home Telephone company.

GETS MORE FOOD AS CZAR'S CAPTIVE THAN IN AUSTRIAN ARMY

So Writes a Bohemian Who Is Held Prisoner in Russian Camp in Siberia.

The accompanying paragraphs relate the experience of Bohemian soldier in the Austrian army, who now is in a Russian prison camp in Melenki, Vladimir Gubnia, Siberia.

There are hundreds of Austrian prisoners here, all kinds of nationalities—German, Magyar, Italian, Roumanian, Croatian, Polish and others. We have plenty to eat, lots more than we had in the Austrian army, and are treated well. We can go to work and get paid for it, but the German and Magyar prisoners do not want to work.

The Red Cross people visit us often and distribute money, clothing, tobacco, food and other things—but only among the German and Magyar prisoners. The Bohemians and other prisoners don't get anything. The distributors are German women and they say that we get all we need from the czar.

Some prisoners are working in factories, some in the mines, and in stores. I am working in an office and am getting 50 rubles per month. I wouldn't complain if I could only get news from home from my wife and children. The last I heard from home was nearly two years ago. I am afraid they are dead from starvation.

I often think of the difference between how we fare here and in the Austrian army, where, for instance, near Zamostra, we had to walk 60 kilometers in one day. We lost more than half of our regiment. It was terrible, marching nights and fighting daily without any food except for some bread and what we could find in the fields, such as beets, cabbage and potatoes, all of which we had to eat raw. That lasted full eight days.

Get Rid of Pimples—Quick

By Using Stuart's Calcium Wafers—Natural Little Blood Purifiers That Work Like a Charm.

Don't despair if your face is covered with pimples, blotches, liver spots, or your body is covered with spots with tetter, rash, boils, etc. Just use Stuart's Calcium Wafers for a short time and see how quickly you will clear up your skin.



Stuart's Calcium Wafers contain in a natural manner the greatest blood purifier—Calcium Sulphide.

Get a 50 cent box of Stuart's Calcium Wafers at any drug store and you won't know what to do with your stock of hair-growing in ointment, grease, etc. Send for a free trial package of these wonder workers.

Free Trial Coupon

T. A. Stuart Co., 326 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich. Send me at once a free trial copy of your package of Stuart's Calcium Wafers. Name..... Street..... City..... State.....

NORTHWEST MUST USE ORIGINAL METHODS IN PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

Oregon Appropriated Its Fund and Washington and B. C. Expected to Do So Soon.

PICTURED TALKS BEST

Stereotyped Ads in Papers, Magazines and Booklets Have Lost Most of "Pulling Power."

By M. N. D.

Oregon has appropriated \$22,500 a year for two years as part of a Pacific northwest fund to be used in national advertising for tourists.

Before the money can become available, Washington must appropriate to the same purpose \$25,000 a year for two years and British Columbia \$17,500 a year for two years.

The Washington legislature is expected to act this week, the British Columbia parliament by the first of March.

The fund will be spent in a "national publicity campaign," according to the law enacted by the Oregon legislature under the direction of a finance committee of six members, two from each state. The governor is to name two who will represent Oregon.

The general office, according to the association's plans, will first be located in Seattle, but will be moved to other northwest cities in turn for a year at a time.

An office will be opened in Chicago to be used as a promotion center for outside work, a subsidiary office in New York and others in New Orleans and Kansas City if enough money can be secured.

Seattle Must Be Ignored. Publicity will be given especially to the points of scenic interest found on circuits of varying lengths to suit the convenience of tourists, but embracing generally Spokane, eastern Washington, Puget Sound, Vancouver and Victoria, the Olympia, Georgian circuit, Mt. Rainier, Portland, the Columbia river, the coast, Crater Lake, caves of Josephine, Klamath Falls, central Oregon, Walla Walla country and so forth.

There will be considerable many applicants for the two finance committee appointments from Oregon, and the governor admits that a large number have submitted their names for his consideration. Regardless of political arguments no one questions that the appointments should be men of the largest ability thoroughly conversant with the subjects of tourist travel and our scenic resources, and who are broadly devoted to Oregon interests.

Many Looking for Jobs. A large field of candidates for the salaried secretarial positions is already clamoring for preferment. Some of the clamorers are of the old style "hot air" type and some know something about organization.

A third consideration is the medium of presentation. What will be the factors most capable of bringing conviction to the minds of tourists with money to spend?

Pictured Addresses Are Best. A part of the preliminary discussion centers about the conventional booklets. These have been used a good while and for some particular purposes cannot be disputed. The various types and forms are well classified and to follow this stereotyped method will exert no strain on ideas or creativity.

More Creative. The use of newspaper advertising, followed up, would impose a heavy handicap on this medium. The Berger-Jones wonder color pictures, and is now demonstrating the pulling power of the pictured address before selected audiences.

General Campaign. In a general campaign that might utilize speakers and pictures it is obviously important that the best of all the views should be gathered into a collection and that the speaker or speakers should be chosen because of their power to make friends for the country friends who will talk about its beauty as well as come to see for themselves and who will carry away a lasting memory of its attractions.

Scenery Not Only Thing. Nor would it be wise to have only scenery. There could be graphic illustration of our electric power and its availability for industry and lighting. A charm lingers about the homes, the well

WILL HOLD BAZAAR TO RAISE FUNDS TO HELP THE POLISH PEOPLE

Portland Polish Relief Committee Will Endeavor to Get Help for Sufferers.

To raise funds for the relief of the war-stricken people of Poland a bazaar is to be held in Polish library hall, Maryland avenue and Falling street, under the direction of the Portland Polish Relief committee.

The date will be announced soon. Relief work throughout the country is being carried on by the Polish National Alliance through local subcommittees. An appeal addressed to the people of the United States calls on all Americans to help the suffering Poles in view of the great service given to the world and to America in particular in the past.

America is indebted to Poland for the services of her illustrious—Kosciuszko and Pulaski. Kosciuszko has been called the "Father of American artillery" and Pulaski the "Father of American cavalry." These Polish heroes fought for independence and helped the colonies.

The world little realizes the terrible suffering of the Polish people because of the war, says the appeal, thousands of villages having been razed to the ground and hundreds of thousands of people in consequence reduced to extreme poverty.

Where the men of other lands are fighting for their own country, the Pole no matter in what army he fights—Austrian, Prussian or Russian—is fighting for his oppressor, it is argued. Famine threatens the country and bread and clothing are needed for the thousands of widows and orphans.

Officers of the Portland subcommittee are: J. C. Yeasack, president; Stanley Galaska, secretary; and Francis Glynzski, district deputy.

ordered farms, the productivity of the soil, the fruits and the flowers. There are cultivated valleys as well as wild mountains, commerce floating rivers and ports as well as torrens, forested slopes as well as colorful crags and waterfalls.

In the making of any plans, there must be constant insistence upon getting the best and most definite results with the money available. Oregon's drop in the bucket compared with the great advertising appropriations of some individual industries. The total

American Occupied A Chinese Palace

San Francisco, Feb. 24.—(P. N. S.).—An American recently occupied the vice royal palace of Szechuen, capital of the province of Washien, one of the largest cities and a northwest Canadian district believe so much in the splendor of their own scenery and the greatness of their own resources that they have joined officially and organized to tell the facts to the world. This will involve broad grasp of the subject, practical enthusiasm, wholehearted endeavor and the utilization of executive ability of a high order. Undoubtedly the success attending the disbursement of the initial appropriations will determine the continued support of the work.

Prescott, who was in charge of the Standard Oil interests at Szechuen, took charge of things when the major officials ran for their lives upon the arrival of revolutionists. A few minor officials who remained insisted that he move into the palace, which cost a sum equivalent to \$1,000,000 in American money. When quiet had been restored the native officials returned to their posts.

An honest preparation is WHETZEL'S DANDRUFF and ECZEMA TREATMENT and HAIR TONIC. It's a Portland product and one that is widely recommended by leading barbers and druggists. WHETZEL products bear signature of H. D. Whetzel, Laboratory Display 133 GRAND AVE.

If You Can Spare \$5.00 Get a Modern Phonograph

This Latest Grafonola Offer Means Education, Entertainment and Keen Enjoyment to Every Home

If you want to be one of the lucky ones and own one of these beautiful, high-grade, latest instruments and records, come in now and make your selection.

Total Cost, Records and All Now Only \$82.15

Here is an offer that cannot be overlooked by those who want the best in tone-production and attractive case design, at the least possible cost.

The large, beautiful Grafonola as shown here is undoubtedly the greatest value ever offered anywhere. Superb tone!

Twenty-six selections of your own choice, among them the latest, "While You Make Those Eyes," or "Poor Butterfly," also "No One But Dear Old Dad" and "Mother," "I Love a Piano," and "She Is My Rosy," included. This combination is made of the machine illustrated, with 13 double-face records and one free demonstration record, also needles, oil can, album and all other necessary accessories, free.

EASIEST TERMS—SELECT NOW! START YOUR PAYMENTS NEXT MONTH, AND THEN PAY ONLY \$5 A MONTH THEREAFTER.

It is our purpose to bring joy and happiness to every home, and therefore we are going to make the terms so easy that everybody can become the proud possessor of this marvelous instrument and splendid selection of records.

Will Send on Free Trial

If you have any doubts whatsoever as to the value of this exceptional offer, let us send one to your home; play it to your heart's content—it will not cost you a cent. You will be under no obligation. If at the end of five days you are not entirely satisfied in every way, we will cheerfully send for it.

If you prefer a portable type of machine, see also our \$39.25 offer, payments only \$1 a week, on 10th page, this issue.



Write us and the entire combination will be sent to you. We will send you a thorough trial, invite your friends to hear it, and if you are not satisfied with it in every way, send it back at our expense. No money refunded means—write us and we will cheerfully refund by return mail. If you wish to order, then pay as you go. For a copy of our offer, send us only \$5.

Two Great Music Houses—Morrison at Fourth Broadway at Alder Two Superb Main Floor Talking Machine Salesrooms



COUPON

Eilers Music House Portland, Oregon

Please send the special phonograph offer for \$82.15 as advertised in Sunday's Journal, February 25. It is understood that the instruments, records and accessories will be sent me prepaid and if it is entirely satisfactory after not more than five days' trial, I am to ship it back to you without cost to me and deposit to be refunded immediately.

Sign Here Name.....

Address.....

Tear Off and Mail Today

P. S.—If you do not send deposit please name two references.