





The Old and the New in Telephone Instruments



The old and the new, both in men and telephones. In the above illustration are shown, at the left, T. B. Holmes of Grand Forks, N. Dak., manager and organizer of the first telephone exchange in that city, who is holding one of the first telephones used in that exchange. At the right is A. A. Purchase, present manager of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company at Grand Forks, who is holding one of the latest types of desk telephones.

TRAM FIGHT FOR INCREASED FARES DRAWING TO CLOSE

(Continued from page 1)  
ered," Robison answered.  
"Is it not a fact that the city increased gas rates when it required the gas plant?" Webster inquired.  
"Yes," was the reply.  
"And forgot the consumer," Webster retorted. "Then you admit that the street railway has been a loser during the last five years?"  
"Yes," based on what they claim should have been received as a net return on the investment," the witness said.  
"Do you believe that the state railway commission, having the power to fix rates, should determine rates that will enable this utility to be maintained in good operating condition, or do you think that the property should be allowed to go to pieces?" was the thought penned by Webster.

Flames of Happiness That Need Never Die

I always think of happiness as a flame. I always have, all my life. It's just a fancy of mine, but it's as clear as anything. Fire—a lighted fire throwing a gleam across the grayest day, an indistinguishable fire. Because, however it dies down, you can find embers at the heart of its ashes and build it up again with what you have. Almost without knowing it, almost in spite of yourself, you do just that. You take what you have: love, of course, if you are one of the lucky ones who have it, or friendship—anything that means happiness to you. Sometimes the fuel that comes to your hand is the joy you have in your own mind, in learning and thinking, in books and plays and music. Sometimes it's religion. Most people, after they're older, keep it burning with work, hard, clean work and the little things that make it crackle—jokes and nonsense and bits of singing and laughing. Now and then, of course, you pile it with the driftwood of your ambitions, and your dreams shoot up and up. It's a fire that costs you something, happiness; but you keep it going, as you keep life going. I suppose because it is instinct to preserve what's yours.—From "The Flames of Happiness," by Florence Ward.

Yard Distance From Royal Nose to Thumb

More than eight hundred years ago there lived a king—an English king, one Henry, surnamed Beauceclerc, Alexander McAdie relates in the Atlantic Monthly. Early in his reign gray-bearded councillors declared that in their opinion it would be nice to have a measure of length called a yard; and this should be the distance between the tip of royal Henry's nose and the end of the royal thumb.  
The king's nose may have been large or small or tilted upward. Moreover, the distance may have been measured when the king's nose was swollen, for royal noses can hit a doorpost in the dark just like common noses. And the royal thumb may have been stubby or spatulate. Henry, too, might have playfully extended his fingers and wiggled them with his thumb not quite at, but very near, the end of his royal nose; or he might have wiggled eight fingers with the thumb of one hand touching the little finger of the other. Twirling his fingers thus he could delicately convey to the court scientists who were conducting the royal triangulation just what he thought of them. But at all costs the deed was done and the Englishmen of the Twelfth century achieved a yard.

Omaha, with a total of \$758,105 in building permits in February, led all other western cities except Kansas City in building. The increasing activity in building is expected to bring greater crowds than ever to the annual building show, March 30 to April 5, given under auspices of the World-Herald.

Draws Sordid Sketch of London Slum Life

About nine o'clock the miserable little fish shops of London, which punctuate the obscure facades of the long tenement rows like big lamps, are crowded with women and children carrying dishes and baskets, writes Alfons Paquet in the Frankfurter Zeitung.  
Even as late as ten o'clock children play on the pavements and weary, dowdy women sit on the steps of their tiny unlighted houses, whose windows glint vacant and dusty into the darkness. Women also gather in clusters on the street corners. Silhouettes of men stand out in front of brightly lighted soup and baked potato caravans. Candy stores and fruit shops are still open.  
In the middle of a row of darkened show windows electric lights shine brightly on the varnished coffin of an undertaking parlor. All these little details stand out sharp and ruthless, as they do in China.  
Until eleven o'clock the corner pubs are packed with humanity. Each has three or more entrances leading to a little narrow room separated from the private bar by a light partition extending from the wall to the counter. The bartender with his barmaids presides in the middle of this horseshoe counter, directing things in a fog of tobacco smoke and whisky fumes.  
Men stand as closely together on the sawdust-covered floor as their half-drained glasses on the wet, narrow ledge in front of them. Dirty hands empty again and again the pot of highly salted shrimps beside the door.

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