

PHONE GIRLS STRIKE

Wheaton Operators Object to New Chief and Quit—Doings of Our Local Exchange

BEST OF SERVICE NOW GIVEN

Some of the neighboring exchanges of the Chicago Telephone Company have experienced troubles recently, regarding both the service and their employees; but patrons of the Downers Grove exchange have not as yet been inconvenienced—on the contrary, excellent service is given them, and the new directory is a very complete one.

At Wheaton, last week, as a consequence of numerous complaints from patrons regarding poor service, Miss Mabel Murray of Chicago was placed in the position of chief clerk and chief operator.

The local operators did not like the proposition of importing some one from outside, and formed a union and struck for the removal of the chief. They were given fifteen minutes to reconsider, but "stood pat," and were discharged.

The force of operators there now is: Mabel Murray, chief; Anna Solmers, Maggie Sommers, Miss McIntyre, Tillie Estenfelder, Minnie Moran, Miss Ing and Jessie Siese; the latter three coming from Chicago.

The Chicago Telephone Company endeavors to give its subscribers good service, and will not for one moment tolerate impudence on the part of its operators if it becomes known. One lady called up central to inform the manager that her phone was out of order, and the operator told her to "call a physician." The lady in question was not in the habit of receiving impudence, and quietly wrote the Chicago office detailing the conversation.

The new central is now in operation at West Chicago. Miss Sargent is chief operator, and Miss Grace Court relief. Mrs. Simmons will have charge nights. Two new toll lines to Chicago are to be connected in at once, and a "trouble man" will be located there, thus saving special trips of a man from Wheaton. Two farmer lines, north of town, each with eight subscribers, are to be connected within a few days. Three new phones have been installed the past week.

The Downers Grove exchange, over which Mr. R. H. Gibson, of Hinsdale, has had management since March 1, is one of the best in this vicinity—equal, except in number of subscribers, to the Hinsdale exchange, which has about 300. At present there are 215 subscribers on the service here, including nine farmer lines, carrying an average of seven to a line. The signal bells are all operated by a powerful Warner pole-changer, with which the most distant farmer's bell can be rung as loudly as any phone in the village. These farmer lines come in from all directions, placing the subscribers in direct communication with the merchants and residents, and enabling them to get the daily markets and news and leave their orders for supplies.

Besides the manager and one "trouble man," the Downers Grove exchange employs four operators: Miss Daisy Taden, chief operator; Miss Kittie Wall, assistant chief; Miss Florence Briggs, relief; Mrs. Nannie Hoffert, night operator.

The toll service from this exchange is being constantly extended and improved. A Missouri editor refused to publish obituary notices of people who, while living, did not take his paper, and gives this pointed reason: "People who do not take their home paper are dead anyway, and their mere passing away is of no news value."

WORLD'S FAIR BOOKLET FREE

Contains important information about railroad rates, tickets, baggage and sleeping car berths. Tells how to reach the Exposition grounds and how to find various exhibits and buildings. Gives rates for chairs, guides and cabs. Contains list of larger hotels, with their rates, location and capacity. Also location of camping grounds and rates for accommodations. Gives location of free information bureaus. Contains indexed map of Exposition grounds and map of St. Louis street railway lines. Call on or address C. P. Scott, agent C. B. & O. R. R.

Sunday carousals in adjacent groves are expensive luxuries. Nature's court demands and collects penalties for violated law on due time. The youthful period passes quickly and maturer years brings regrets that are hard to endure and recollections that even remorse cannot erase from memory's tablet.

STARTLING EVIDENCE

Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland, Bentonsville, Va., serves as example. He writes: "I had Bronchitis for three years and doctored all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Lung and Throat troubles, Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Guaranteed by all druggists. Trial bottles free, regular sizes 50c, and 1.00.

Delegate from Downers Grove

The Naperville Woman's Club was well represented Saturday at the meeting of the Kane County Federation of Women's Clubs, which met Saturday, the 4th, at Elgin. The meeting was held in Unity Hall, that city, and all the clubs in this vicinity had their representatives there, with the exception of Downers Grove, from which no members were able to attend.

A resolution was passed asking the president of the federation to appoint two ladies from Kane county and one from DuPage county to formulate plans for a district convention, to be submitted to the November meeting of the Kane County Federation for its approval.

Miss Julia Lathrop, of Rockford, was nominated and endorsed by the federation as a candidate for the position of president of the state federation. The election will take place at the state meeting at Danville in October.

After the program a box luncheon was served, and a special table arranged to accommodate the presidents of the various clubs represented, and other guests of honor.

Naperville Holds Back

The Board of Local Improvements of Naperville at its meeting on the evening of May 31, finally disposed of the bids received on May 19 for the laying of the water mains.

The lowest bid was \$45,093, and the next was about \$1,000 higher. Neither of these bids was accompanied by a check for 10 per cent thereof, as required by the special assessment act, and, for that reason, the board was unable to consider them. Under the statute, bids which are not accompanied by a check or cash for 10 per cent of the amount thereof cannot be considered.

The next lowest bid was for \$52,729.30. The difference between this bid and that of the lowest bidder being more than \$7,000, the board deemed it best to reject all the bids and readvertise, this course being also recommended by the engineer, it being his opinion, and also that of the board, that responsible bids, on another letting, could be secured of from one to two thousand dollars less. In fact, several of those offering higher bids indicated that, on a reletting, their bids would be considerably lower.

The Board of Local Improvements will, in a very short time, again advertise for bids, and it is then confidently expected that the contract for laying the water pipes will be let. It has been demonstrated that a contract can be let for the laying of these pipes before the decision of the Supreme Court on the appeal is rendered, if the Board of Local Improvements deems it wise so to do.

State Statistics

The report of the assistant adjutant general of the Illinois Grand Army at the encampment at Springfield shows a membership on Jan. 1, 1904, of 20,519. On Jan. 1, 1903, it was 21,025, being a net loss of members for the year 1903 of 506, as against 700 in the preceding year. The net loss in the number of posts in each year was 16. One post, in each of these years, was gained by organization and muster, and one by reinstatement.

The number of posts in good standing Jan. 1, 1904, was 543. The death loss in 1902 was 713; in 1903 it was 753. A comparison of the two past years indicates that the gains by muster, transfer and reinstatement are about equal to the losses of honorable discharge, transfer and suspension. The net loss in membership is therefore practically the loss by death. If it was possible to stop the loss by suspension, an annual increase in numbers could be expected for the next few years.

A Satisfactory Show

The Woods' Peoples' Players held the boards under canvas at Naperville Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, to large and well-satisfied audiences.

Among the specialties to be introduced here on Thursday, June 16, are several well known specialty teams, who play the big circuits during the regular winter season. Fox & Joyce will appear in their knock-about comedy and black face act, introducing all latest songs and dances of the season. Arthur and Nettie Woods, late of the Castle Square Opera Company, introducing all the latest sentimental hits and concluding with the well known operatic travesty entitled, "The Same Thing Over Again." Don't forget the date, June 16-17-18. Prices 10c, 20c and 30c.

The striped potato bug is on hand in large numbers and attending strictly to business, laying eggs on the under side of the potato vine leaf. Every egg is warranted to hatch, and every young bug knows where to find a square meal. Destroying the parent bugs may save the crop if persisted in day after day, but the surer method of getting rid of the pests is to spray the vines with a weak solution of Paris green forthwith after the eggs begin to hatch. Delay is exceedingly dangerous.

DRIVEN TO DESPERATION

Living at an out-of-the-way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's the best on earth. 25c at all drug stores.

NEIGHBORHOOD TOPICS

FROM NAPERVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Barber, of Downers Grove, called on their many Naperville friends and old acquaintances here last week.

The county of DuPage will be represented at the state Democratic convention to be held at Springfield by Jasper L. Dillie.

One Naperville stone mason contractor has eighteen employees, and could give employment to double that number if they were available.

The thirty-ninth annual commencement of Northwestern College will last seven days, closing on Thursday, June 16, with the graduating exercises in college chapel.

For the first time in the history of farming hereabouts has the dandelion become a pest to be reckoned with. The copious rains of last year have produced a crop that has almost ruined the pastures in some places. Farmers say that it is an open question whether it would not be more profitable to plow their pastures and rely upon other feed for the dairy.—Clarion.

MONEY IN THE TREASURY

The Wheaton high school realized enough on the musical to finish paying for the piano and have a balance left in the treasury. The entertainments given by the high school are always first class, and our people, realizing this, are always liberal patronizers.—West Chicago Journal.

ROOM ONLY FOR ONE

The village of Bradford has placed the license fee for this year at \$2,800, says the Princeton Republican. The plan is to make the fee so high that only one saloon can live. J. P. Code took out a license. He is well pleased because he has secured a monopoly of the business in the town. The plan of fixing the license fee at a high price originated a few years ago and the first fee was placed at \$1,400. Since then additions have been made to it from year to year, until now it is at its highest figure. Bradford has a population of 800.—Sandwich Free Press.

TWO CASES OF INSANITY

Fred Miller, who for years was employed by Mertz & Moschel, at Downers Grove, suddenly developed symptoms of insanity last week and was taken to Wheaton preparatory to committing him to the Elgin hospital. For about a year he had at times been acting queerly, and last week became so violent that it was necessary to restrain him. His mania is of a religious order.

Minnie Hayes, aged forty-five years, a resident of Hinsdale, was adjudged insane by a jury Saturday, a week ago, and sent to Elgin. Her insanity was caused by illness, and she refused to take medicine, thinking it was poisoned.—La Grange News.

HUNTERS' PARADISE

It is found that an island in the Illinois river, two miles below Henry, is literally overrun with cats. Several years ago, somebody dumped a litter of kittens on the island to get rid of them, and now the place is alive with cats. Food is scarce and the animals have become so ferocious that it is unsafe for a human being to set foot on the place. A hunter who recently visited the island says the half-starved creatures eyed him with a hungry look from every direction, and he was glad to get back to his boat in safety. He thinks something ought to be done to exterminate them.—Sandwich Free Press.

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WORST OF ALL EXPERIENCES

Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newson, Decatur, Ala. "For three years," she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters, and the result was miraculous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered." For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles, Electric Bitters is the only remedy. Only 50c, guaranteed by all druggists.

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It will cure deafness in any person, no matter how acquired, whether from catarrh, scarlet fever, typhoid or brain fever, measles, whooping cough, gnatting in the ear, shocks from artillery or through accidents. It not only cures but stays the progress of deafness and all roaring and buzzing noises. It does this in a simple, sure and scientific way. The effect is immediate.

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