

Is This All There Is to It?



This Sikh lad in his raw wool cap was one of hundreds of boys at a school in Patna, India, who reported for BCG inoculation against tuberculosis. Norwegian nurse Rachel Johnson is administering the inoculation, one of some 200,000 given during a BCG demonstration campaign in India, sponsored jointly by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), the Scandinavian Relief Societies and the Government of India.

# Chatting . . .

By M.H.B.

**HADN'T REALIZED**, until we talked with Miss Mabel Chave the other day, how large the staff of the local Bell Telephone Company office has grown. Miss Chave is the chief operator, and tells us there are eighteen girls in the Traffic Department, who operate the switchboard, in addition to Miss Isobel Thompson, who has charge of the Commercial Department. Inquiring further, we learned the names of the girls who belong to those politely-voiced "Number Please" queries we hear when we ring for a number any hour of the day or night.

They are Mrs. William Bonathan, Nan Brown, Marjorie Cascadden, Doris Kean, Mrs. Ruth Lintasy, Mrs. Eugene Logan, Violet Louth, Dorothy Olney, Lena Palmer, June Plastow, Merle Pries, Rose Marie Robinson, Mrs. Mel Spence, Marion Stuart, Mrs. Duncan Toet, Mrs. Floyd Varey. The two occasional staff members who come in to relieve when someone is away, or ill, are Ann Crabtree, and Mrs. William Milliere, who sometimes relieves the night operator, Mrs. Bonathan.

Mrs. Varey, Miss Stuart and Miss Kean are Senior Operators who do supervisory work.

**WHEN MISS CHAVE** first came here as Chief Operator, there were in the neighbourhood of 800 phones in Georgetown, while the official figures for phones in 1949 stand at 1543. This has necessitated what is known as a seven-position board at the Bell office, with five or six operators on the job during the day. We wondered which days and times of day were busiest, and found that Friday and Saturday mornings are usually the busiest times, while the hours nine to eleven in the morning and from 6.30 to 8.30 any evening find people using their phones more than at any other times.

With the Bell providing continuous day and night service, the hours the girls work are, of necessity, quite differently arranged from usual office routine. They work a five-day week, and their days or evenings are divided into six, seven and eight hour "tricks". The six-hour trick is usually in the evening hours, and there is a half hour out-of-trick. If a girl is working the seven-hour trick, as a rule it is broken into two three hour shifts, one in the evening and one in the morning. The eight-hour trick is usually a straight night shift from 11.15 p.m. to 7.15 a.m. and a fifteen-minute rest period is included.

The longest long-distance call which has gone through originating from the Georgetown office was to Australia. Most long-distance calls, however, are to Toronto or are placed through Toronto, and from the Georgetown office there are five direct lines and two dials to Toronto, as well as direct circuits to Guelph, Brampton and Milton.

And of course, everyone knows whenever there's a fire, the first thing to do always, is call the operator, because the siren is rung from the phone office. There are two levers controlling the siren which the operator receives the alarm, immediately pulls. Then the Fire Chief is usually called and the Hydro Superintendent. Strictly speaking, however, the Bell operators are required only to ring the siren, and then answer the firemen's inquiries from the Town Hall. But often, in order to be of more service, in addition to notifying the Chief direct the operators try to locate the firemen at their various places of employment.

Just about a year ago, the Bell Telephone office was completely renovated, with an attractive new colour scheme, commercial office, and comfortably furnished lounge room with interior decorations by Eaton, making the surroundings for the staff very pleasant indeed.

**MR. AND MRS.** Bob Caldwell and his wife, moved from their home above the Bungee Club to Acton, where Bob has opened a grocery store. The Caldwell's will be moving to their new home above the Bungee Club.

Chatting with Mr. and Mrs. Don Herrington of the Lions Club St. Patrick's, we learned that their son, Don, has returned to Toronto General Hospital for further treatment on his leg.

Incidentally, the Lions Dance held in the Rose Room last Friday night was a gala affair, with a good crowd enjoying the dancing music of the Modern Aires. Everyone connected with the dance had their fingers crossed all Friday afternoon, as one of the heaviest snowfalls of the year accompanied by high winds threatened to tie up car traffic completely. However, the weather cleared nicely around seven o'clock, enabling taxis and cars to get the girls in their long evening gowns in com-

fort to the Rose Room.

**THERE SEEMS TO BE** a lot of influenza around town these past two weeks, and doctors say they are being kept busier now than they have been all winter. Ah, well, on Tuesday, the calendar said Spring had officially arrived, and the very thought of green grass, trees in leaf, and warm balmy air is enough to help you to feel better, isn't it?

Admittedly, at times of writing that puts a bit of a strain on the imagination, for Old Man Winter seems loth to break his grip. Maybe the wind is chill, but the snow today is really beautiful, so softly white and dazzling in the bright sunshine.

Receiving a promotion in his work with Provincial Paper Ltd., chemist Max Hughson has been transferred to the Port Arthur division of the company. Max boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Clark.

Her family planned a surprise birthday party for Mrs. Isobel Cleave on March 6th, at the home of her brother, Mr. Frank and Mrs. Thompson in Milton. Also present were another brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Thompson of Hornby, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Walker Cleave and Jane and Miss Margaret Pasmore of town.

Making a splendid recovery from the appendectomy operation she underwent in Guelph General Hospital ten days ago, is Miss Ruth Evans, Edith Street.

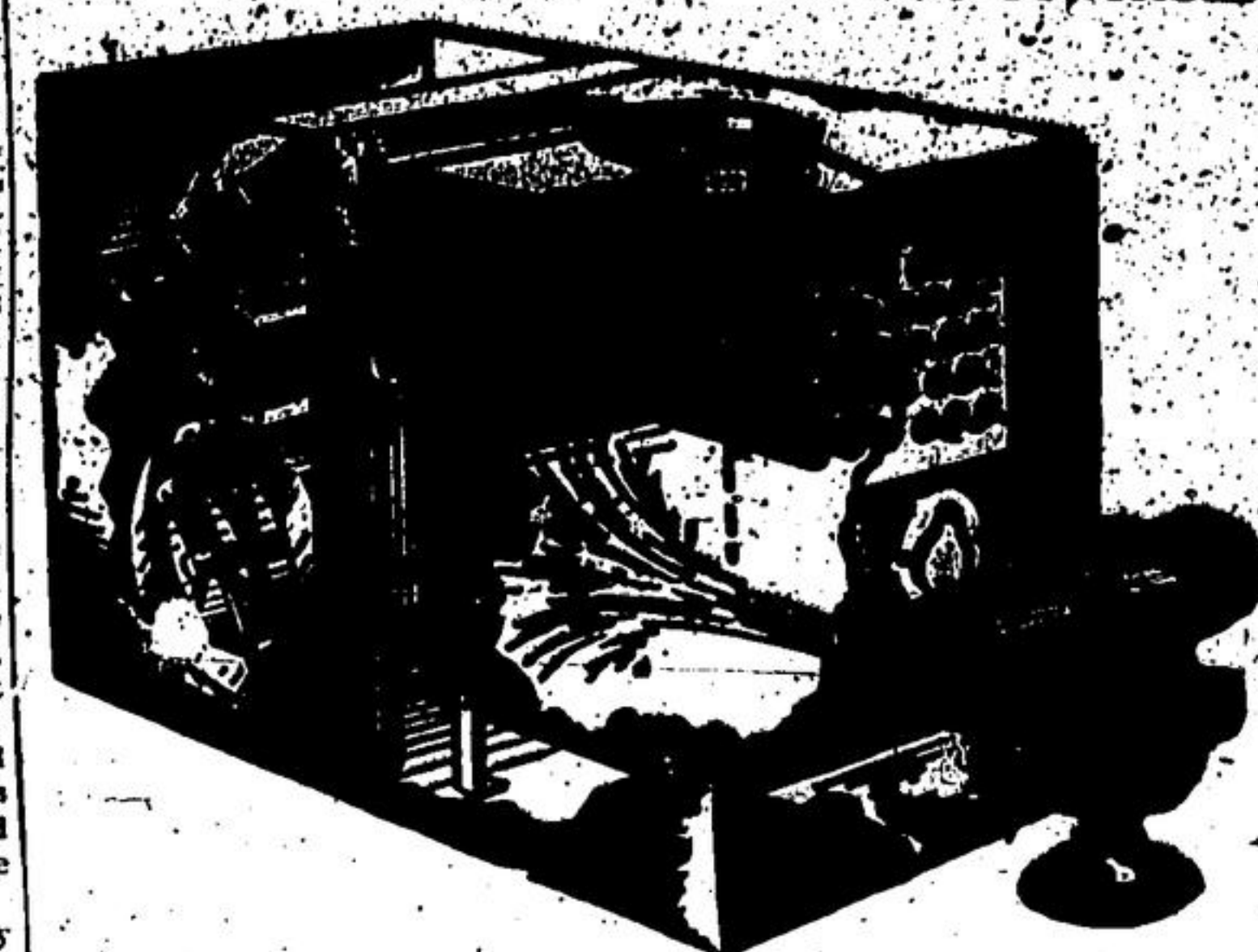
**OH — OH — HAVE AN** idea those "damn women drivers" we are so often scathingly termed, are going to come in for more than their usual amount of verbal abuse, now that we have parallel parking on Main Street. Maybe there's a little angle to this new parking business that hadn't really been thought out — in addition to providing a much broader main thoroughfare, we're quite sure that on ordinary week days when some women take the family car down town and load it up with groceries, there will be a lot more parking places for male drivers than heretofore. Parallel parking is one thing most women drivers find difficult to do skilfully, and we for one, would rather push a baby carriage full of baby and groceries down town and back, than to endure the nervous frustration of that ten minutes or so it would take us to manoeuvre the car into one of those parallel parking spaces which never seems big enough to accommodate all four corners of the car at once.

**THE TORONTO** Skating Club Carnival, held last week in Maple Leaf Gardens, is always an eagerly anticipated event among figure skating fans in town, and this year's performance attracted even more Georgetown people than usual. For the first time to our knowledge, a Georgetown girl was actually in front of the "footlights". No one would recognize Barbara Param, however, in her completely realistic disguise as a hunting dog in the hunting scene burlesque "Phew HELLO!" This humorous skit was well staged, complete with hound dogs,

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lady riders and hunt-men as well as a fox and the stink who threw the "hunt" into a panic as a special St. Patrick's touch on the 17th, all the hound dogs wore huge green bows on their tails.

After the final performance Friday, Barbara attended the supper and dance at the Royal York which the skating club entertained the carnival performers. A twelve below zero night was disastrous for a district farmer. In the dead of night one of his sows produced a litter of eight pigs, and when found in the morning all but two of them were frozen. Taken to the warmth of the farm kitchen, one little pig was saved, but the other died.

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