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### PICKAX IN CONDUIT IS RADIO MYSTERY

HAPPENED IN ST. LOUIS

**Fans All Stirred Up Over Continued Interference And Strange Noises Until Explained**

The big radio mystery of St. Louis has just been solved. For weeks the ether has been filled with disturbing waves of unknown origin and meter length, that produced noises like the grunts of a worm, according to some radio fans, and like the snorts of a half a dozen dougongs and sharks according to others.

So serious became the mysterious disturbance that even the nightly programs from station KSD were interfered with, not to say anything about long-distance programs.

Radio fans—from the owners of the simplest crystal sets to the possessors of five-bulb superheterodyne sets raised a howl as night after night the air continued to be filled with the unearthly screeches.

**Fans Excited**  
Mass meetings of radio fans were held.

Committees were appointed to search out the cause of the interference. The fans organized themselves into the Missouri Radio Listeners' association and raised money to further their quest for the troublesome etheral spooks.

The committees snoop around investigating electric irons, automobile coils, battery chargers, toasters, billboards, percolators and even curling irons.

Finally it was discovered that the peculiar noises were not being received during the day—only after darkness set in. Also when it rained—the rain seemed to clear the air of all the trespassers.

"It's the arc lights on the streets" one committee charged.

Ridiculing the charge, the city electric light and power company nevertheless sent out trouble squads to help solve the mystery. The company's trouble men finally located the serial spook in his grave and dug him up.

It was an ordinary pickax.

**Explanation**

The explanation was this: A company laborer had accidentally driven his pickax into a main conduit and it had given him a nasty shock. Scared to touch it again and perhaps afraid to report the matter the man had shoveled dirt on the pickax and left it there. The pickax of course shot out sparks when the current was on. When it rained there were no sparks because the connection was made perfect by the mud.

### NORTH SHORE WANTS ANOTHER BUS PERMIT

**Plan Line From Lake Bluff to Libertyville and Area Is Report**

The Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee railroad company has filed a petition with the Illinois Commerce commission asking for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate a motor bus line for carrying passengers and baggage between Lake Bluff, Libertyville and Area.

Just why the North Shore Line wishes permission to operate buses over this route is not made quite clear for the company already operates a street car line between the towns mentioned. There is a possibility that the permission to operate buses is intended as an auxiliary measure when the company is not able to operate sufficient cars to handle traffic. This is true especially during fair time. By operating buses the company will be able to handle its patrons in much better shape.

The plans of the company to operate buses between Lake Bluff, Libertyville and Area is part of a plan that is being put into effect whereby in the near future the company will operate buses to practically all parts of the county. The success that has attended the company's efforts up to the present time seem to indicate that all of these bus lines will do well as the business has increased in great bounds wherever the buses have started running.

### STAMP COLLECTORS AMONG EX-SOLDIERS

**Service Recognition Association Receives Stamps From Many Countries**

Stamp collectors in the ranks of the Illinois Service recognition board, which is distributing the state's soldier's bonus, are accumulating stamps from practically every country in the world. The stamps come in on letters from Illinois veterans who have scattered to the far corners of the world since their discharge. Many men of foreign birth who served in Illinois forces during the war have returned to their native land but are still entitled to the bonus if they were legal residents of the state at the time of the enlistment.



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