

\$13,000,000 TELEPHONES IN UNITED STATES

A Talkative Race of People--Number of Calls in 1911 Were 14,500,000,000

Hello! Hello! This you Smith? This is Jones. I haven't time to get down to your office, but if we can arrange matters over the telephone"—

And Smith and Jones proceed to transact their business at the saving of time and energy which has made the telephone a national institution. Incidentally they are adding one more to the enormous number of calls which place America so far ahead of all other countries that there isn't any second.

If the average man were asked to hazard a guess at the total number of telephone conversations in the United States during the course of a year he would probably reflect a minute and chance "a billion," making ready to back water for the extravagance of his fancy. As a matter of fact he would be something over 13,000,000,000 calls out of the way, for the statistician of the A. T. & T. estimates the number of calls in 1911 at \$14,500,000,000.

Before you get your breath at the veritable ocean of language conjured up by these figures it may be well to let you have another astonishing fact connected with them. The total number of telephone conversations throughout the world during this same year was 22,000,000,000. Which means that the United States alone used two-thirds of the telephone messages of the entire earth.

Out of a total of 12,453,000 telephones installed throughout the world, the United States has 8,302,000 and all of Europe only 3,239,000. Of a universal total of 29,566,000 miles of telephone wire, the United States has 18,179,000 miles and all of Europe 9,461,000. The number of telephones per 100 of population is 8.1 for the United States, for the German Empire it is 1.6; for Great Britain 1.4; for Italy 0.2; for Russia 0.1; for Spain 0.13 and for the entire world 0.6.

Having digested these figures, you are in a position to understand another phase of the situation which is equally impressive. The sum of \$956,000,000 is invested in the telephones of the United States which fact makes it the fourth in-

dustry of the country in point of per capita investment.

Such is the present status of the American telephone. It has worked its way into American finance as it has into the American home. It has become a social as well as a business necessity. And it is growing all the time. Small wonder that visitors from the other side of the ocean pick upon it as a distinctive phase of American life.

"What strikes and frightens the backward European almost as much as anything in the United States," he says, "is the efficiency and fearful universality of the telephone. Just as I think of the big cities as agglomerations pierced everywhere by elevator shafts full of movement, so I think of them as being threaded, under pavements and over roofs and between floors and ceilings and between walls, by millions upon millions of live filaments that unite all the privacies of the organism and destroy them in order do not mean that Europe has failed to adopt the telephone, not that in Europe there are no hotels with the dreadful curse of an active telephone in every room. But I do mean that the European telephone is a toy, compared with the unexorable seriousness of the American telephone. Many otherwise highly civilized Europeans are as timid as in addressing a royal sovereign. The average European middle-class householder still speaks of his telephone, if he has one, in the same falsely casual tone as the corresponding American is liable to speak of his motor car. It is naught—a negligible trifle—but somehow it comes into the conversation!"

Our telephones are efficient, as our rage on the infrequent occasions when they fail to work amply, proves. They are universal, as is shown by the figures we have adduced above. And if the fourteen billion telephone conversations which are credited to us seem to point to inordinate loquacity, it ought to be enough for us to turn to America's record in business and commerce, and reply that we have something worth while to talk about.

WHEN SCIENTISTS GET TO GOING RIGHT Life Will be Prolonged and Death Will Only be Short Cessation of Breathing

Another step forward in Dr. Alexis Carrell's experiments looking to the prolongation of life is announced at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Some time ago Dr. Carrell created a sensation in the scientific world by keeping a fragment of tissue from a chicken heart "alive" for 104 days. Now he has succeeded in separating from the body of an animal the heart, stomach, liver, intestines, kidneys, and bladder, and in having those organs live and functionate under his eyes for ten hours.

To accomplish this result, the excised organs were placed in a solution, supplied with blood aerated continuously or oxygen pumps, and kept at the requisite temperature by an apparatus much like an incubator.

The aim of Dr. Carrell's experiments was thus expounded by him in a recent address: "If it were possible to transplant immediately after death the tissues and organs which compose the body into other identical organisms, no elemental death would occur, and all the constituent parts of the body would continue to live."

"SISS, BOOM, BAH."

The colleges gives a man polish. And with polish a man appears fine.

I wonder if that is the reason Some students are seen with a shine.

HAS LITTLE FAITH IN COAL DEPOSITS Deputy Minister of Mines Thinks Discovery Notlm possible but Highly Improbable

The Provincial Department of Mines has little faith in the existence of coal deposits reported to have been discovered by a farmer in Melancton Township, County of Dufferin, and on which Toronto people have secured an option.

The department does not like to say anything is impossible," said Mr. Thomas Gibson, the Deputy Minister, "but the reports of geologists received go to show that the occurrence of coal in quantities which would permit of profitable commercial enterprise is unlikely. The scene of the alleged discoveries in Melancton Township is not a great distance from the locality where coaly fragments which will burn have been found in the drift clay turned up by the plow, and which was investigated. So far, however, no large body of coal has been found, and unless it exists in considerable quantities, it is nothing more than a curiosity."

On a similar report about ten years ago the Government drill was loaned to prospectors operating in the adjoining township of Mulmur, but nothing other than gas was found, and that not in commercial quantity, although the drill was sunk to almost 1,000 feet.

A DEFINITION.

Decency is something you demand on the streets and you pay three bucks a seat to see violated.

HUDSON BAY ROUTE QUITE PRACTICABLE Buoys, Lights and Wireless Would Make it Perfectly Safe for Trade

Ben Hughes writing from Cochrane for the Toronto Globe, has interviewed explorers who say the Hudson Bay route is feasible and without any especial danger if safeguarded the same as other navigable waters. He says:

"Most of the tales that are being told of the impossibility of the Hudson Bay as a trade route are mere hearsay and gossip. The men who navigate these waters and have navigated them yearly say that if proper precautions are taken Hudson's Straits can easily be maintained as a regular trade passage." So speaks a man who has just returned to civilization after eighteen months' exploration work for a wealthy syndicate in the barrens of Ungava.

He joined the Hudson's Bay boat, the Mosecoule, a fourteen-knot vessel 300 feet long, at the west end of Hudson's Straits, and he made particular inquiries of Captain Smith here, a veteran captain, as to what he thought of the Hudson's Bay route.

A Captain's Opinion.
From him he learned that ice did not seriously interfere with him in his trips, and he has been making them yearly for the past twenty years. "If," said the captain, "the passage were buoyed and lighted properly, and wireless stations established on each side, it is perfectly practicable as a trade route. The idea that Hudson's Strait is an ice-logged river is foolish. It is 500 miles long and about 120 miles wide, and at Wolstenholme it is even 180 miles wide. There is always a passage, and if wireless stations were established navigators could know just where the ice was and would be able to avoid the delays they experience now."

No Doubt Route is Practicable.
The explorer joined the ship on Aug. 21 of this year, and right across Hudson's Bay and until they reached James Bay they did not meet any ice at all. According to the information he has obtained from those who make their living by sailing the sub-arctic seas, there is no doubt that a northern trade route will some day be established which will largely alter the transportation map of Canada.

The attempts that the Government have made so far to discover the possibility of this route, says this explorer, have been largely conducted by people who were unfamiliar with conditions and had no expert knowledge to verify what they were told. The Hudson's Bay factor, who is generally the source of information, has very little idea of the country a hundred miles away from his post, except by rumor and hearsay.

If the Government really wanted to discover the truth about the matter, he asked, why did they not get the opinion of the big English shipping firms who traded into those seas and had unique means of estimating the situation?

Possibilities of Minerals.
According to The Globe's informant there are great possibilities of minerals, but the expeditions fitted out so far have been ridiculously inadequate to cope with the needs of the tremendous country. "It is a world apart, and no man can get a conception of its vastness unless he has been up there," he said. "Living with Indians and Eskimos, the white men are imbued with their fatalism, and view any enterprise or exploration as so much writing on the sands of the seashore, to be wiped out utterly on the morrow."

Rounding up The Canadiens

Montreal, Oct. 26.—With all his players scattered to the four corners of the compass and not a single one in Montreal George Kennedy is having the time of his life rounding up the Canadiens.

Dubeau, who played point on the fast French team last year, lives in Prescott, to-day wired that he will be in Montreal shortly to talk business. Payan writes that he will be back from Brooklyn, and that he will be playing hockey again this winter. Lavolette is expected back from Fort William shortly, while Pitre, who is at the Sault, is also expected to return shortly.

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