

THE TELEPHONE.

How the "Hello Girls" Handled the Election Returns—How the System Helps the Newspapers.

With the presidential election nearly two months past, the excitement attending thereon has died away.

Many of these stories, and perhaps a majority, have to do with the getting of returns. Every instrument, every news getting agency and every being who is directly concerned in getting results on election day and night are kept on the qui vive.

In the presidential election of 1908, this rivalry was unprecedented. The utmost efforts were put forth and unusually large expenditures of money were made to score what in newspaper parlance are known as "beats."

Some years ago the telephone companies gave out their bulletins direct in the large cities. In the last election they gave them to the newspapers, who, in turn, gave them to the public over the telephone or on screens.

The Philadelphia Times, a new evening paper, in expressing its appreciation says: "This is the first time we have received anything without paying for it since we have been in business."

The Baltimore World says: "The (telephone) service was perfect and enabled us to put a more complete 'extra' on the street by eight o'clock than ever before."

Although the bulletins of the telephone company were first at hand in nearly every instance, the accuracy of the reports was not sacrificed to obtain this result. In so far as possible every bulletin was rigidly censored.

Department heads and traffic officials of the telephone companies are elated at the highly successful outcome of this rigid test of their system. As a result of the work it performed, stacks of letters are carefully filed in executive offices complimentary to the efficiency of the organizations.

Other tests the telephone has been subjected to would make interesting reading. For instance, during the pennant winning games at Detroit last fall the city was base-ball mad.

To prepare for the emergency the telephone companies organized bulletin squads whose only duties were to answer baseball enquiries. The large number of young ladies who comprised these squads handled in some cases over 7000 calls an hour, or, in other words, some operators handled about seven calls a minute, although each one insisted they handled three times as many.

These are but two instances out of many that are happening day after day which prove that the telephone has become our most indispensable servant. It is becoming a necessity in every home and office, whether in town, city or country. It is lock-stepping with progress at every stride.

These two instances also serve to indicate the increased number of purposes for which the telephone is used, and also tends to show the dependence the general public places upon it.

But to get a definite idea of the growth in popularity of the telephone and the increase in the number in use, one should take note of the growth of the Western Electric Company, the principal manufacturers of telephones and telephone supplies in this country. In 1902, telephones shipped by this company numbered one million and a quarter, in 1904 a million and a half, and in 1906, two millions and a quarter, an increase in five years of a million telephones, or approximately over 80%.

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Darwinism and A New Discovery.

The Centenary of the Birth of the Great Evolutionist and the Recent Finding of Bones of Primitive Men.

It is an interesting coincidence that just as the scientific world is preparing to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Charles Robert Darwin and the semicentenary of the publication of "The Origin of Species" a discovery should have been made bearing directly on the theory of evolution.

The claim that the bones turned up in France are the earliest relics of the kind in the possession of scientists is made by M. Perrier, director of the Paris Museum of Natural History.



CHARLES ROBERT DARWIN AND THE SKULL OF A "LOW BROWED" MAN.

The drama of his time while the great ice movements were still in progress on the planet. It was doubtless a matter of 150,000 years ago or so when he shaped his stone weapons and slew the hairy mammoth in what is now the sunny land of France.

The question that arises, therefore, is as to whether the remains found confirm the theory held and formulated by Darwin that man is a direct evolution from lower orders of creation and that at some time in his history he was a creature midway between the human being of today and the monkey of a bygone age.

Science no longer believes in what is popularly called the "missing link"—that is, in a creature representing a midpoint of development between man and ape. The ape of today is himself an evolution, and the claim of those who hold in general to Darwin's views is that from some ancestor of the ape, a lower type than the animal of today, sprung a divergent type that eventually became man.

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Uncle Sam's Farm Manager. Secretary Wilson's twelve years at the head of the department of agriculture have covered a period of wonderful progress in farming in the United States.

Granted that prosperity would have come to the farmers anyway and that the increase in crop production and crop values was inevitable, the department officials and their staff have not initiated the lucky lord of the soil who sits on the fence and whittles while things grow.

Georgetown May Drop Crew. While no definite decision has been reached as to whether Georgetown will have a crew at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., next year, there is every reason for believing that the Washington Institution will abandon this expensive feature of its athletics.

The Editor's Pants. The Dallas (Tex.) New Era recently made this poetic appeal to its subscribers: "Lives of great men oft remind us honest toil don't stand a chance; the more we work we leave behind us bigger patches on our pants."

Roosevelt has been likened to every great man of history except Mark Antony. Now, that African trip was no petty episode in Mark's life as we read about it.

Poor Chollie. Mollie—Is that Chollie at the door? Folle—I don't know. I can't hear the simplest little thing tonight.—Yonkers Statesman.

A Foolish Poem. The trees' sparse leavings bid us grieve For autumn woods bereft. I'd just as lief leave all would leave As to see leaves thus left.—Boston Herald.

Found Use For It. He—My friend married for money. She—Does he regret it? "He doesn't regret the money."—Smart Set.

Love is Blind. "If you'll close your eyes I'll kiss you." I heard the fellow say. "If you'll close your eyes I'll kiss you." But she couldn't see it that way.—New York Telegram.

Chief Characteristic. Knicker—What is most noticeable about the horse show? Bocker—Hipplessness.—New York Sun.

A Brave Bard. "Cheer up, cheer up!" The poet said. Then put some ice Upon his head.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

SEAWEED AS A FERTILIZER.

Its Value to Coast Farmers is Increasing. Seaweed is a valuable fertilizer. The Irish peasants prefer it to manure, and the farmers of the Orkney Islands formerly let farmyard manure accumulate unused on account of its inferiority to seaweed as a fertilizer.

The seaweed that is brought ashore or drifts there is dried and burned, and the ashes are spread over the land. The ashes contain a good proportion of potash and phosphates, and some kinds of weed also yield nitrates. These three substances are the life of vegetation, and for this reason the ashes of seaweed are an ideal food for crops.

Some years ago a French sea captain attempted to organize a company to send ships to the Sargasso sea, where they could easily collect big cargoes of drift weed and bring it to France to be burned for the fertilizing ashes. Capitalists told him, however, that they did not think it would pay to carry the weed so far, and the money was not raised.

It is asserted by some authorities that the great deposits of nitrate of soda which are sent from Chile to all parts of Europe and the United States to be spread over the farm lands were formed by the decay of huge masses of seaweed when the land was sunk under the sea. Undecomposed parts of seaweed, it is said, are still found there.

The attention of the Cape Colony government was recently called to the fact that very large quantities of seaweed are constantly being washed ashore along the northwest coast, and at last accounts the government had sent for samples of the weed to determine its value as a fertilizer.

Mr. Humphry Davy was one of the first to recommend seaweed as a fertilizer about a century ago. For generations the inhabitants of the Channel Islands have gained a fair living by collecting and burning the weed and selling the ashes as manure.

The publications of the United States agricultural department say that the use of seaweed as a fertilizer is increasing in this country, that for long stretches of the New England coast the weed is utilized by the farmers for fifteen to twenty miles inland and that it is especially favored for the stimulation of clover fields. Eye beach is almost always strewn with the weed, and few lands ever show so luxuriant growth of red clover as those in the neighborhood of this beach.

The seaweed thrown up on the shores in the neighborhood of Cape Town has long been regarded as an expensive nuisance. The city government has for years been paying teamsters to collect the stuff, haul it away and bury it. The amount of weed thus disposed of has been about 1,500 tons a year.

The city authorities have now seen a new light and are spreading the news among the farmers that the weed is a very valuable fertilizer.

James J. Hill's Idea of a Farm. There will be much discussion of farming for the next few months from many angles, one among them being the most useful size of farms. We do not wish to be one sided and shall always state fairly the large farm or combination arguments, but it seems to us that farming in this respect is the exception among businesses. Economy in the cost of supervision is the only reason for the expansion of the unit in any business, and land is more productive under the small farm system. Even if larger farm units are possible they are not desirable. We do not want the European regime of an overlord with tenant farmers. We want the greatest number of independent little farmers, who hardly need even one farm hand. James J. Hill has more sense than nearly all of the professors, and he delivered an opinion two years ago to the effect that the individual farmer must have fewer acres and more hoes.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE WAYNE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA. at the close of business, Nov. 27, 1908.

RESOURCES table with columns for Reserve fund, Cash, specie and notes, Legal securities, Due from approved reserve agents, Checks and cash items, etc.

LIABILITIES table with columns for Capital Stock, Surplus Fund, Undivided Profits, Deposits subject to check, etc.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Wayne, ss. J. H. Scott Salomon, Cashier of the above named company, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Correct—Attest: W. B. HOLMES, ALONZO T. SEARLE, T. B. CLARK, Directors.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank

HONESDALE, WAYNE COUNTY, PA. at the close of business, Nov. 27, 1908.

RESOURCES table with columns for Reserve fund, Cash, specie and notes, Checks and other cash items, etc.

LIABILITIES table with columns for Capital Stock paid in, Undivided Profits, Deposits subject to check, etc.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Wayne, ss. J. C. A. Emery, Cashier of the above named company, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Correct attest: M. E. SIMONS, J. W. KUBITZER, JOHN KUBIACH, Directors.

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Dentists.

DR. E. T. BROWN, Office—First floor, old Savings Bank building, Honesdale, Pa.

Physicians.

DR. H. B. SEARLES, Office and residence 1116 Church street. Telephone, Office Hours—2:00 to 4:00 and 7:30 to 8:00, p. m.

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The OLDEST Fire Insurance Agency in Wayne County. Office: Second floor Masonic Building, over C. C. Jadwin's drug store, Honesdale.

Honesdale DIME BANK advertisement. Includes text: OBSERVE ITS GROWTH! Honesdale DIME BANK, Sixth Statement, HONESDALE, PA. Organized 1906. STATEMENT NOV. 27, 1908. RESOURCES: Loans \$362,877.44, Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages 67,192.50, Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures 20,000.00, Legal Reserve Fund, Cash, etc. 61,945.75, Overdrafts .90. LIABILITIES: Capital Stock \$75,000.00, Surplus, Earned 28,103.08, Deposits 408,903.51, Cashier's Checks Outstanding 10.00.