

The Daily Mail

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TELEPHONE 67.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1928.

MODERN MAGIC.

An incident which occurred in the office of the New York Times recently may seem fanciful and incredible were it not known to be based on the simple truth. The Times was receiving reports by radio from Commander Byrd's Antarctic expedition and wanted to communicate with one of the New York radio managers who at the moment happened to be in another part of the city. The man happened to be listening at the time over the telephone to code messages from one of Commander Byrd's ships. Suddenly it burst upon him out of the air that the Times wanted him to hang up his telephone receiver so that it could talk to him. Here is what happened according to the Times:

"That request was conveyed to him through a message sent from this office to the Byrd ship. There it was radioed back into the air and reached the man in Queens whose line was so "busy" that he could not talk to Manhattan. But the Antarctic could talk to him and put him in touch with Manhattan. It was certainly a round-about method of establishing the connection, but it was sure. A good degree of ingenuity was required to think up the plan, but it worked beautifully."

The same thing could easily happen in Fredericton almost any night in the week. A man might be listening in on the radio to a program from a New York or Chicago station and too much interested to answer the telephone. In that case it would be possible for a neighbor living across the street to call up the broadcasting station on long distance telephone and have the announcer inform Mr. So and So that his home was on fire or that burglars were endeavoring to break into the cellar. We are certainly living in a wonderful age.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

This weather is hard on chronic gronches. Oh, no, not the fact of the sunshine, or the snow, or even the gentle rain, all of which, we are just discovering, really have much to recommend them. It's the time of year, you know—the short days and the long nights. It's the mysterious sly whispers, the conversations that stop so abruptly when certain persons appear.

It's the laughter we hear, now more than ever, on the streets, in the living room, at the bench, the desk, the barnyard. It's the wistful look kids have, the unsuccessful attempts they make to read the countenances of their parents. What scowling old grump can escape it!

You may have the rheumatism, the wheat may still be on your hands with no market, Uncle Henry may have died and left you not a penny, but somehow about this time of year you can't help being happy.

The entire nation becomes infected with this curious seasonal malady. And they do say it's just as prevalent in foreign countries, too. For a fellow to escape it, he'd have to go way out on the prairie or up in the mountains, dig his grave and then lie in it. And then the chances are someone would come along and wish him the compliments of the season.

So it's no use, old bears, cross-patches, frowners and mean folk. You've just got to smile from now on until Christmas. It's in the air. Maybe a little of the gladness will stick in your soul through the year.

Barclay's Bank of Liverpool which is to apply to Parliament for permission to establish a Canadian branch, is some banking institution. It has a paid up capital of 15,858,217 pounds, a reserve fund of 10,250,000 pounds, and deposits of 317,950,894 pounds. It is known as one of the big five of English banks, and has 1920 branches in

England and Wales. The last British Bank to invade Canada was the Bank of British North America, which was ultimately absorbed by the Bank of Montreal.

Scientists who have been making investigations with the accelerometer, whatever that is, now find that only a pound and a half of gasoline, which is less than a quart, and five horsepower are required to run the average car 25 miles. Our suspicion is that the scientists conducted all their inquiries with the car headed downhill.

The steamer Tuscan which recently arrived at Halifax loaded a cargo of 8,800 cases of whiskey and other liquors and two and a half million dollars in gold. A rather valuable cargo that.

Our idle wonder for the day is how the late Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, who chopped down a stout tree every morning before breakfast, would stand nowadays on reforestation?

Sam Hill in the Cincinnati Enquirer says a wife used to be able to take a five-dollar bill and buy Christmas presents for all the relatives with it. Aye, Sam, and in those days she could get five, too.

And among the popular bed-time stories we hear quite frequently there is the one: I'll take the ashes out of the heater pit the first thing tomorrow morning."

A well known New York sport authority recently wrote 1,400 words on "What Is an Amateur?" and his closing remark was, "Frankly, I do not know."

One Homecoming that would cause unprecedented traffic to and from around the country would be jokes returning to their first owners.

That airtight stove that looks like a phonograph should be just the place to chuck any Red Hot Mama record still extant.

The irksome feature of being a Big Shot in the New York gambling line, and subsidiary businesses, appears to be the "shot" part of it.

In Finland they call bootleg korpi-knunsen kyyenelita. What a wonderfully descriptive language those Finns have!

Chap who has invented an "automatic stoking device for a heater" evidently doesn't know that Dad beat him to it.

We have finally reached the conclusion that we are of that comparatively large class that likes its radio intermittent rather than continuous.

The husband of a local June bride is still drinking his coffee from a mustache cup, so as not to swallow any more grounds than necessary.

Made Vice-Captain

Friends here will learn with interest of the appointment of Beverly Macaulay, U. N. B. graduate to the position of vice captain of the Montreal English Rugby club of Montreal. The annual meeting of this club was held at Montreal at the M. A. A. A. club house one evening last week and the annual election of officers took place. Macaulay who graduated from the local university last year, is now engaged with the Bell Telephone Company and played rugby with the Montreal English club during the football season just closed. The well known U. N. B. graduate also named on the committee along with Ritchie McCoy and others.

Check Was Lost.

A check for \$25 alleged to have been lost in the mails was the subject of an investigation at the post office yesterday. The check was cashed at a local bank by a party other than the one in whose favor it was drawn, and the impression prevails that it was picked up on the street. The check was lost by an insurance man who claims to have pulled off a record business last week.

Woodstock Press: Mrs. F. B. Carvell leaves on Tuesday for Boston where she will spend the Christmas holiday with the Misses Carvell. Mrs. Carvell will take a trip to the West Indies before returning to Woodstock.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

Hi Slocum says that he wants to see Christmas sit up and talk turkey.

Much is done for posterity that posterity will do over.

Baseball will continue to be played with nine men, two umpires and the bleachers.

One philosopher says the world is work crazy. Like most fault-finders, he offers no remedy.

Lima Beane thinks the announcement that a New York poet has married his first wife sounds like prose.

Queen Marie is not so dumb. (Slang for pretty smart.) She climbed into the bandwagon and rode with the victorious.

As usual, there'll be a boy who writes: "Deer Sandy Claws." Which gives the simple-hearted appeal a human touch.

"If you have a cold," says a medical authority, "keep it to yourself." But Doc, it is so human to want to exchange a cold for sympathy.

SODA FOUNTAINS ARE KEPT BUSY BY THE MEN

Chicago, Dec. 19—Let the popular misapprehension be righted: The ladies are not the chief props of the nation's soda fountains.

"Men are the principal patrons," M. H. Kauer, representative of a soda fountain manufacturer, said today at the fountain men's trade convention at the Edgewater Beach Hotel.

"The average male today orders a soda the same as he called for a stein of beer in the barrooms of other days."

He said the east sips more soda than the west. Pennsylvania's 10,000 fountains leading the states and only six per cent of the fountains of the country are located on the Pacific coast.

FORD GETS \$1 FOR ROAD THAT COST \$280,000

Boston, Dec. 19—A specially engraved check for \$1 was sent to Henry Ford today by the state of Massachusetts in payment for the road that he built to divert traffic from the Wayside Inn at Sudbury. The highway, slightly more than a mile long, was built at a cost of \$280,000 and was presented to the state for \$1.

The check, engraved by Donald F. Downing of the highway department, depicts the old Wayside Inn with a stagecoach in front of it, while opposite are a modern motor bus and a pleasure car.

IRISH LAWYERS TO USE GAELIC

Dublin, Dec. 19—Irish lawyers must have a working knowledge of Gaelic under a new Free State ruling. None will be allowed to practice in the Saorstad courts until he has satisfied the chief justice that he can speak Ireland's ancient language.

Injured in Fall

Miss Mary Steen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Steen, O'Dell Avenue, was severely injured when she fell on the slippery sidewalk at the corner of Brunswick and Smythe streets last evening. Though able to rise, the young lady was injured so severely that she had to be taken into a nearby house and administered to and conveyed to her home in O'Dell Avenue by car. A doctor was summoned and it was ascertained that the fall has caused a broken bone in the young lady's shoulder and it was promptly attended to. Her condition today is improved, though she is still suffering from the effects of her fall.

THE WILL to GIVE

In many cases is governed by what we have to spend. You will find in our store articles priced to suit every pocketbook.

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TO LET—A large warehouse situated on Westmorland Street, opposite Windsor Hall, also barn situated on Campbell Street. Apply to G. W. Hodge.

CITY OF FREDERICTON Tenders for Gravel

Tenders will be received at the office of the undersigned up to twelve o'clock noon on Monday, 24th. December, 1928, for the supplying of 7,000 yards of clean, sharp gravel to be delivered on or before February 28th next. 3,500 yards of the above 7,000 is permitted to be bank gravel. All gravel delivered must be satisfactory to the City Engineer or some other authorized representative of the City. The locations at which gravel is to be delivered will be given to any person interested at the office of the City Engineer. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. FRED. I. HAVILAND, City Clerk. City Hall, December 14, 1928.

It may be said for the minority political party that it never has to worry about the danger of over-confidence.

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