Bos'n's Pipe and Telephone Call West Virginia's Crew to Quarters

Chief boatswain's mate Samuel Conover instead of piping down each hatch as in the old days steps to the transmitting system and sends his calls instantly to all parts of the U. S. S. West Virginia. Keys at the right-hand side of the box enable him to select the particular parts of the ship which he wants to reach.

The loud speaker in the crew's recreation room is occasionally a source of entertainment when some radio program of special interest is being broadcasted.

When John Paul Jones commanded, "All hands to quarters," a hardy bo's'n blew the call on his little pipe and followed it up with a lusty shout down the main hatch. With the passing years, ships grew so big that it would take several minutes for a call to be sounded in every part. So several years ago the Navy Department began to consider the telephone as a means of speeding up orders.

The "Arizona" was the first battleship to be equipped with a loud-speaking system. That was in 1916, the very earliest days of loud speakers, and results were so encouraging that the Navy has equipped all subsequent large ships with these systems. Navy officers have co-operated with engineers of the Western Electric Company in adapting each advance in the art to naval needs. The system installed on the "West Virginia," our latest super-dreadnaught, has 100 loud speakers, placed so as to cover every part of the ship. These instruments are grouped on five circuits, any or all of which can be connected to receive calls. By omitting certain circuits for certain special orders, those within earshot of these loud speakers are not annoyed by calls that do not concern them.

The system is operated from any of three talking stations: on the bridge, while the ship is cruising; on the main deck aft, while in port; and in the ship control room, during target practice and battle. A two-stage vacuum tube amplifier assures sufficient power to give good transmission. Its first stage has two tubes in parallel, and its second stage 10 tubes. The large number of tubes was used not only from power consideration, but so that the failure of a tube would not affect the operation of the system.

But the loud speakers have not made the bo's'n's pipe obsolete. No, indeed; he tootles his calls as of old; only he throws some switches and steps up to the transmitter before he pipes up. First he blows; then for the benefit of those who aren't familiar with the little tunes he plays, he shouts the words of the call.

The ordinary wire telephone is much used in carrying on the various activities of the "West Virginia." A battleship is a busy place, with its equipment to be operated and kept in perfect order and its more than 1400 officers and men to be housed and fed. "Save time and steps—Telephone!" is nowhere more applicable than on shipboard. The switchboard of the "West Virginia" has a capacity of 200 lines, serving telephones located in every part of the ship. While at her dock, the switchboard is connected through the Navy Yard board with Bell System lines for official business.

THAT COMMON COLD

"If you cough or sneeze
Do it behind your 'hanky', please"

"No better advice could be given the victim of the cold that is so common at this time of the year," says Dr. John S. Fulton, Director of the State Department of Health," than the jingle quoted above. Remember that every cold is caused by a germ that you have picked up from somebody or something. If you have a cold, don't pass on the germs of your cold to the next fellow.

At this time of the year when there are apt to be sudden changes of temperature, it is worth while to take some precautions against taking cold. Dress according to the weather. Don't over-eat. Drink plenty of water. Keep yourself fit by daily exercise in the open. Fresh air is the best possible tonic. Keep away from the person who has a cold. Don't use a common towel or drinking cup. The person who coughs or sneezes in your face, ought to know better. If he doesn't know better, avoid him.

The laws of Maryland require cases of influenza and grippe to be reported to the Bureau of Communicable Diseases of the State Department of Health. Quarantine is not required but patients are urged to take every precaution to prevent the spread of the infection to others. While quarantining is not required, the person who voluntarily keeps away from other people while he or she is suffering from a cold, is helping to prevent the disease from spreading to others, and is thereby performing a public service.

At Home and Abroad

By YVONNE LOSH

SOME OF THE INDIANS I HAVE MET IN NORTHERN CANADA

These Indians here in the North surely liked their women—to work for them. The man was always last—when work was concerned and first—when it was time to eat.

During the fur trapping season the men work rather hard but after they have secured enough furs to pay for the year's provisions they take a vacation until the next trapping season.

When the Indians are on a vacation they exert themselves as little as possible. Once every few weeks the man goes out hunting and when he has killed a deer or moose, he cuts out the tongue and other choice morsels and takes them home so that his wife may cook them for him immediately. After she has done that for him he tells her of the whereabouts of the animal and instructs her as to what she is to do wih it.

While the Indian brave feasts on the delicacies his wife goes out, finds the animal, skins and dresses it and carries it home piece-meal. Indeed she even tans the hide and makes from it moccasins for her brave and for herself. The rest of her time is spent in cooking big pots of stew for her brave and waiting upon him while he continues his routine of eating, grunting, and sleeping until the meat is all gone, when he sets out again for another deer hunt. Now and then the brave exerts himself enough to smoke the pipe which his wife has filled and lighted for him.

These Indians treat their wives in the same gentle and considerate way even in the presence of white people and strangers.

Some friends of mine gave an Indian chief the remains of their picnic luncheon. However, they handed the things one by one to his wife who was with him in the canoe. A ham bone with considerable meat on it was passed to her first—she smelled it, gave a sigh of delight and passed it over to the chief, who, after sighing with anticipation gave a low grunt and laid it down beside him. The oranges, apples, sandwiches, cake and ginger ale all went through the same procedure and were all duly handed over to the chief. However, finally a lemon was passed over to the woman, which she smelled as before and handed to the chief. He, however, smelled the lemon, not being pleased with it, graciously handed it to his wife as her share of the spoils! She took it, glad to get at least something and while her lord ate she paddled him homeward.

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