Overseas Telephone Calls Are All In The Day's Work To Operators Who Handle Them

All-Time Peak Reached During Holidays With 992 Calls On Christmas Day; New Circuits Added

Right: The international switchboard in London, where radiotelephone calls to and from the U. S. are linked to Great Britain's wire lines. Below: A similar switchboard in Buenos Aires.

Above: This switchboard in Honolulu handles radiotelephone calls with the U. S. mainland through the A. T. & T. Company station in San Francisco, as well as calls to and from the other islands of the Hawaiian group. Left: A section of the A. T. & T. Co.'s overseas switchboard in New York, where calls are handled to Europe, South America and ships at sea.

"On your call to London, we are ready." It was twelve years ago, January 7, 1927, that an American telephone operator first felt the thrill of those words as she reported to a subscriber that his overseas telephone connection was established.

Even today, with telephone service extending from this country to all of the world's continents and to most of its countries, and with 93 per cent of the world's telephones within reach of Bell System telephones, the average long distance telephone operator feels some tingle of excitement as she receives a subscriber's call for London or Paris, or it may be for Melbourne or Capetown, for Buenos Aires or Tokio.

Most Calls Are for Americans

To the overseas operators, however, working at the switchboards in New York and San Francisco and Miami, Fla., where the overseas radio telephone circuits terminate, each call is simply another incident in their day's regular duties. These operators handled more than 59,000 overseas messages last year.

A call to Europe may be to any one of 26 countries on that continent, but most of the calls are to Great Britain or France. Such calls almost always are for a particular person, and in 65 per cent of the cases they are for an American traveling or residing abroad. Out of every 100 calls, 20 are likely to be for persons staying in hotels.

Christmas Holidays Brought Peak

A new peak in overseas calls was reached on Christmas day when 992 conversations were held over the radio telephone circuits. The previous record day for this service was on Christmas, 1937, when 749 calls were handled. Conversations on New Year's day were fifty-six per cent more than they were a year ago.

The handling of transatlantic traffic was facilitated this year by the addition of two new circuits. These new channels were developed during the past year by redesigning two of the regular circuits so that two conversations may be held over each simultaneously.

The Christmas traffic to Central American and Caribbean points, through the overseas switchboard at Miami, increased by more than eighty per cent over that for December 25, 1937. Calls to South America were up sixty-eight per cent, while the transpacific traffic, through San Francisco, was more than twenty-one per cent greater, almost as much as the increase shown by transatlantic calls.

Among the overseas calls made on Christmas day was one between Mexico City and Stockholm, Sweden; another took place between Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and Springfield, Mass.; and still another connected Rochester, N. H. and Luxor in Egypt.

Completion Time Speeded Up

The overseas services have shown marked and continued improvements since their inauguration twelve years ago. Then the average time required to complete a New York-London call was about 45 minutes. Speed on similar calls now averages between ten and twelve minutes. Many calls between terminal cities are completed in one or two minutes, the callers remaining at the telephone as is the practice with long distance calls in this country.

WINTER EGG SLUMP CAN BE AVOIDED, AUTHORITY SAYS

Proper Lighting and Feeding Plan Will Keep Production Up in Cold Weather

The coming of cold weather brings with it the inevitable problem of keeping egg production up as the mercury goes down. That is largely a problem of getting enough feed into the birds, according to C. S. Johnson, Manager of the Poultry Department of Purina Mills.

"Egg production often goes down during a severe cold snap because birds don't eat as much feed as they should," Johnson says. "It takes more feed to maintain heat and energy in the bird's body during cold weather and still produce the same number of eggs. That's why hens must be kept eating if they're going to keep on laying.

Hens Need Longer Days

"Short days and long nights call for special lighting and feeding in order to get increased feed consumption. Hens in heavy production need a 13 to 14-hour day to eat enough feed to maintain their egg output," says Johnson. "At the Purina Experimental Farm we have found that morning lights are more satisfactory than both morning and evening lights or all-night lights.

To get more eggs increase feed consumption by scattering Layena Checkers over laying mash.

"Having provided adequate lighting and sufficient eating time for the birds the next move is to step up their incentive to eat. For this we recommend Layena checkers, moring and evening on top of the regular mash feed. Layena checkers are laying mash pressed into grain-like pellets that are easy to feed.

Keep Mash Hoppers Filled

"The correct procedure is to keep the hoppers filled with mash all day, then mornings and evenings stir the mash well and scatter on top of it Layena checkers. This activity at the hoppers, caused by the mash stirring and checker feeding process attracts the hens and makes them eat more feed.

"Birds in heavy production should also have a feeding of Layena checkers at noon."

NEAR AND FAR

The imperial crown of India cost $300,000.

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About 95 per cent of the potash used in the United States goes into fertilizer.

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Sugar cane grown in Queensland, in Australia, last year weighed 5,113,000 tons.

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Close to 10,000,000 baseball fans witnessed major league games during the 1937 season.

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Japan expects to obtain 16,000,000 tons of coal from Manchuria within the next five years.

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The Russian secret service, which replaced the Cheka in 1922, is known as the Gay-Pay-Oo, from the Russian initials of its full name.

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The Chateau of Tarascon, one of France's finest examples of Gothic architecture, has been converted into a museum of provincial art.

ISN'T IT SO?

A pike is a road. A piker is a road hog.

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Daughter's long suit now is wearing a long suit.

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People who live in glass houses know how gold fish feel.

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A lot of gossip goes in at one phone and out the other.

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The man who can joke with his wife about her bills must have a mighty keen sense of humor.

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The boss in the family is the one whose vanity and selfishness aren't handicapped by the feeling called love.

—

A diplomat is a man who can make his wife think that he is doing her a favor when he accepts part of the week's wages he turned over to her the night before.—Chicago Herald and Examiner.

AMERICAN BOY MAGAZINE COMPANION TO THOUSANDS

Hundreds of thousands of boys and young men read **The American Boy** Magazine every month and consider it more as a living companion than as a magazine.

"It's as much a buddy to me as my neighborhood chum," writes one high school senior. "**The American Boy** seems to understand a boy's problems and considers them in such a sympathetic and helpful way. It gives advice and entertaining reading on every subject in which a fellow is interested. It is particularly helpful in sports. I made our school basketball team because of playing tips I read in **The American Boy.**"

Many famous athletes in all sports credit much of their success to helpful suggestions received from sports articles carried in **The American Bay** Magazine. Virtually every issue offers advice from a famous coach or player. Football, basketball, track, tennis, in fact every major sport is covered in fiction and fact articles.

Teachers, librarians, parents and leaders of boys clubs also recommend **The American Boy** enthusiastically. They have found that as a general rule regular readers of **The American Boy** advance more rapidly and develop more worthwhile characteristics that do boys who do not read it.

Trained writers and artists, famous coaches and athletes, explorers, scientists and men successful in business and industry join with an experienced staff to produce in **The American Boy,** the sort of reading matter boys like best.

The American Boy sells on most newsstands at 15c a copy. Subscription prices are $1.50 for one year or $3.00 for three years. Foreign rates 50c a year extra. To subscribe simply send your name, address and remittance direct to **The American Boy,** 7430 Second Blvd., Detroit, Michigan.

GOING DOWN

Counties on the honor roll for low scores in typhoid fever and diphtheria in 1938, have been announced by Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the Maryland State Department of Health.

No section of the State was entirely free from typhoid fever, Dr. Riley said, but ten of the twenty-three counties came through 1938 without having any deaths from the disease charged against them; fifteen had no deaths from diphtheria, and four of the fifteen had neither sickness nor deaths from the disease.

The Counties with no deaths from typhoid were Anne Arundel, Carroll, Cecil, Garrett, Harford, Kent, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, Saint Mary's and Washington, Queen Anne's has the distinction of having had no deaths from typhoid during five year period from 1934-1938, inclusive.

There were 283 cases of typhoid and 33 deaths from the disease reported during the year in comparison with 327 cases and 33 deaths in 1937. Of the cases and deaths reported in 1938, 229 cases and 24 deaths were charged against the counties and 54 cases and 9 deaths against Baltimore City.

Allegany, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties were the four that had neither sickness nor deaths from diphtheria during the year. The other eleven counties without any deaths from diphtheria were Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Saint Mary's, Somerset, and Wicomico. There were 353 cases of diphtheria and 18 deaths reported in 1938 in comparison with 513 cases and 23 deaths in 1937. Of the totals in 1938, 125 cases and 3 deaths were reported from Baltimore City and 228 cases and 15 deaths from the counties.

Of the fifteen counties with no deaths from diphtheria last year, four have special distinction. Howard had no deaths from diphtheria charged against it during the seven year period from 1932-1938 inclusive; Kent and Saint Mary's have had none in the last six years and Carroll, none in the last five years.

Opportunities for protection against both typhoid and diphtheria are readily available, Dr. Riley said. He advised those who had not been protected against typhoid within the last two years to go to their family physicians for the three necessary inoculations. He urged mothers to have their babies protected against diphtheria before they are a year old, if possible, and certainly before the children enter school.

CHEVROLET REGISTRATION FIGURES

Maryland's automotive registration figures for the year 1938, made public today, show Chevrolet in first place in the State, as in the country at large.

Chevrolet, the figures reveal, registered 8,888 passengers cars and trucks in Maryland in 1938. This represents 42.4% of the state's total passenger car registrations in the low-price group, and 42.8% of the truck registrations in Chevrolet's weight classification.

This showing in 1938 gives Chevrolet leadership in seven out of the past eight years for passengers car sales in Maryland, while Chevrolet trucks continued their unbroken record of leadership since 1932.

OLD AGE INSURANCE

Q. I am employed in the shipping department of a wholesale grocery company. Two years ago I was advised to get a social security account card. However, it was not convenient for me to do so at the time, and I have never obtained an account number. Why do I have to have a social security account number? What good will it do me? What will happen if I never get a social security card?

A. Failure to obtain a social security account number might mean that in your old age you would fail to receive benefits which otherwise you would claim. If your employer is complying with the law, he is now deducting one percent wage tax from your pay. Your employer pays an additional one percent tax on your wages; and every three months he sends your wage tax to the Government with his own pay roll tax. If you are paying the tax, why not assure for yourself the benefits? The chances are that nearly every one of your fellow workers has a social security account number. When your employer makes his quarterly tax return he should include the name, account number and amount of wages he paid each employee (under age 65). When that wage information reaches the Social Security Board, it is entered on the "books", in somewhat the same way that bank deposits are entered on bank depositors' books. In the Records Division of the Social Security Board there are now about 35 million individual wage records. Each account bears the same number that is shown on the worker's social security card. That is how individual wage records are identified. Unless you have a social security account number, your wage record will not be found in the files of the Social Security Board. Each one of your fellow workers who has a social security account number will be credited, year after year, with his own wage earnings, and finally he will receive old-age insurance payments that are based on his wage record. It is not too late to secure credit for the taxable wages you were paid during 1937 and 1938; but first you will have to obtain a social security account number. Then ask your employer to furnish the Social Security Board field offices with a statement of your wage-earnings since 1936. After that, you will be given credit for all taxable wages paid you since 1936.

Q. I have been working in a factory ever since the old-age insurance law went into effect. I understand that the wages paid to me in the past two years have been credited to my insurance account, which is kept for me by the Social Security Board. Is there any way in which I can find out the exact amount of earnings shown on my wage record?

A. Yes. All you have to do is to ask for a statement. Any field office of the Social Security Board will give or send you a postcard form on which you may write your request for a statement of your wages. You may write, phone, or call at the Baltimore office of the Board, 100 Hopkins Place, and secure, free of charge, one of these postcards. Be sure to include your social security account number in filling out the card. Before mailing, place a one cent stamp on the postcard. You will promptly receive from the Government, a statement of all the wages you earned in the factory, as shown by your employer's report for 1937. Later in the year, you can get another statement showing wages paid you during 1938 in covered employment.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Christ Jesus" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ, Scientist, on Sunday, February 26.

The Golden Text will be from Col. 3:16, 17: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom... And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Among the citations comprising the Lesson-Sermon will be the following from the Bible, Luke 10:22: "All things are delivered to me of my Father, and no man knoweth who the Son is but the Father; and who the Father is but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him."

The Lesson-Sermon also will include passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy, among which is the following, page 167: "There is but one way,-namely, God and his idea—which leads to spiritual being."

Legends Of The American Indians

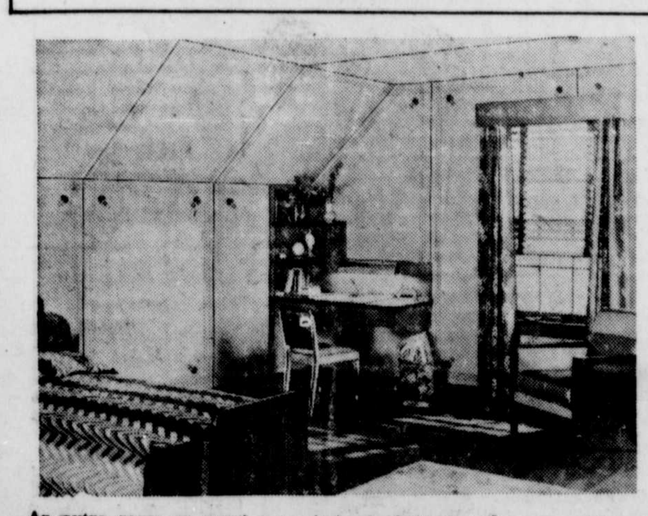
The third and last painting of a delightful series by a well known artist, reproduced in Full Collor. Look for this feature in the March 5th issue of The American Weekly, distributed with the **Baltimore Sunday American.** On sale by all progressive newdealers.

A 77-year-old flask of veal broth sealed by Louis Pasteur is called the oldest container of preserved soup in America. It is owned by Dr. Louis Laplace.

The world's earliest stone architecture was in Egypt.

REMAKING THE HOME

By JANNETT ALLEN



An extra room or guest room is waiting for you in your own home: in that unfinished attic of yours.

All very well, you say, to have that extra space, but can you afford it? Oddly enough, you not only can afford it, but actually can save money by doing it in the proper way.

There is no mystery about the process. If your attic is properly refinished with a board that insulates as it builds, you will save about 50 per cent of the heat loss through your roof. Too many houses apparently are trying to heat the great outdoors by allowing their heat to leak out. The roof area of the house is the main culprit in this respect.

By turning the attic into a finished room with insulation board walls, you thus obtain an extra room which will pay its own way and provide an annual dividend in fuel economy. The heat leakage which, with cold weather, takes big bites out of the family purse, will be reduced.

The extra room which will so cleverly add living space and cut fuel bills may take many forms, according to the needs and tastes of the family. I know one that was turned into a game room, another into a children's library, a third into a photography dark room.

The simpler the wall finish of the extra room, the better. Large sheets of cane fiber board lend themselves especially well to the attic finishing job, since they cover a lot of surface with little carpentry. Left in the natural tannish color the walls will make pleasing background for any sort of furnishings. If color is desired, paint may be used. Calcimines and water paints should be applied directly to unsized cane fiber board though calcimine may be applied to the board over a varnish size to facilitate removal by washing. It should be sized before oil or varnish paints are applied.

For our part, we are agin any nation, ism or group that tries to get something by scaring the daylights out of those who have it.

Anthony Eden says England isn't asking for our help. Still, we can't remember that you ever came visiting to bring us anything.

American Womanhood

NEW YORK—A statue representing "American Womanhood," created by Gaetano Cecere for the facade of the Home Furnishings Building at the New York World's Fair 1939.

For Jaded Appetites

New ways to prepare food—menus that are tasty—helpful hints for the housewife. Don't miss the many fine features that appear regularly in The American Weekly, distributed every week with the **Baltimore Sunday American.** On sale by all progressive newdealers.