

OCTOBER

1938

TELEPHONE

TOPICS



**VOL. 32**

Number Six

## To the Men and Women of Our Company

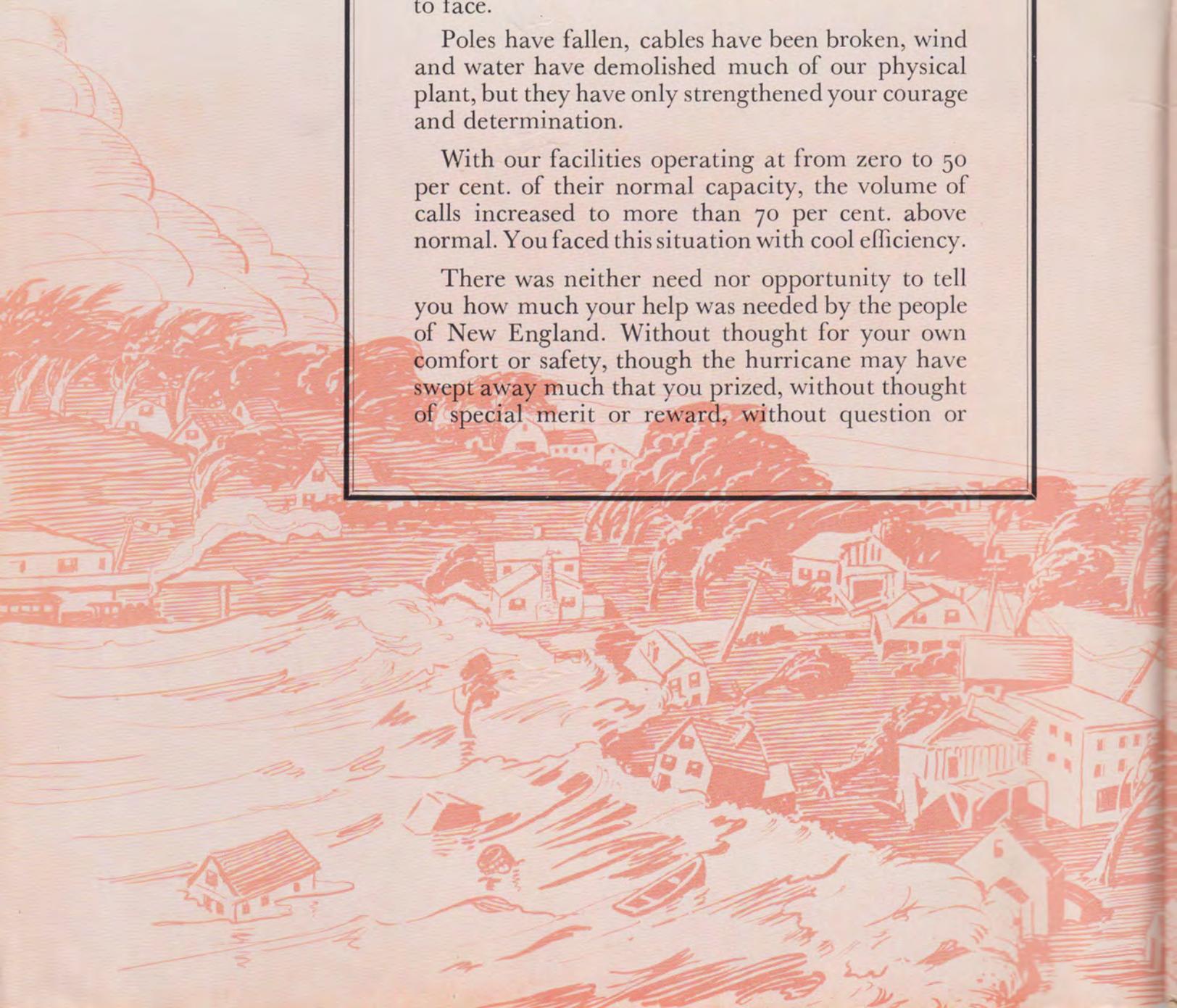
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**F**OUR times within the past twenty years storms and floods have tried your mettle. Now we are recovering from the most serious disaster that has ever faced any company of the Bell System. Your strength and loyalty have been tried by an ordeal greater than any telephone people have ever had to face.

Poles have fallen, cables have been broken, wind and water have demolished much of our physical plant, but they have only strengthened your courage and determination.

With our facilities operating at from zero to 50 per cent. of their normal capacity, the volume of calls increased to more than 70 per cent. above normal. You faced this situation with cool efficiency.

There was neither need nor opportunity to tell you how much your help was needed by the people of New England. Without thought for your own comfort or safety, though the hurricane may have swept away much that you prized, without thought of special merit or reward, without question or

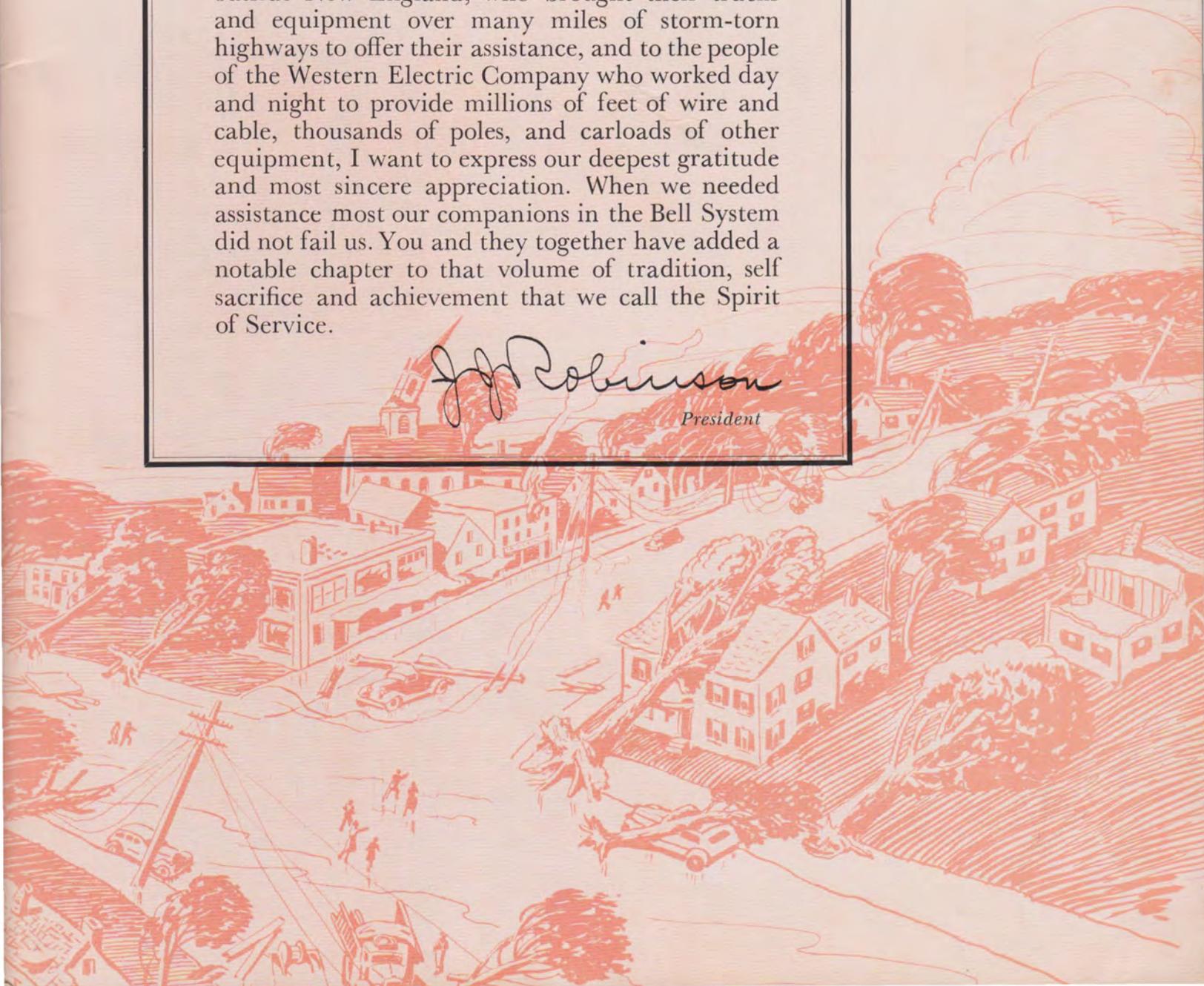


doubt you offered all your skill and experience, all your time and your thoughts to meet this public need.

It is not within my power to thank you — that is a public task. I can only express my own great admiration for the job you have done so well. More vivid than any other impression left by the storm is the picture of our men and women working side by side with a single common purpose — to supply telephone service when and where it was more needed than ever before.

To those workers from Bell System companies outside New England, who brought their trucks and equipment over many miles of storm-torn highways to offer their assistance, and to the people of the Western Electric Company who worked day and night to provide millions of feet of wire and cable, thousands of poles, and carloads of other equipment, I want to express our deepest gratitude and most sincere appreciation. When we needed assistance most our companions in the Bell System did not fail us. You and they together have added a notable chapter to that volume of tradition, self sacrifice and achievement that we call the Spirit of Service.

*J. F. Robinson*  
President





*This bewildered man stands in front of our central office at Southbridge, Mass., watching the flood waters sweep down Main Street in ever-increasing waves.*

**D**IVERTED from the usual seaward path of hurricanes by a high pressure area off Nova Scotia and swept inland with the phenomenal speed of 50 miles an hour and wind velocities as high as 186 miles an hour, New England's first real hurricane whirled through the five states we serve on Sept. 21, leaving behind it the most serious and widespread destruction any company of the Bell System has ever faced.

A tidal wave from 14 to 30 feet high, pushed up by the terrific wind pressure, demolished whole settlements along the coast, and inland floods of major proportions, resulting from the heavy rains that accompanied the storm, inundated hundreds of square miles of cities, towns and farm lands.

Even pictures fail to give any adequate conception of the magnitude of this disaster. At least a thousand persons lost their lives, damage ran into hundreds of millions of dollars, hundreds of persons lost all they possessed, travel facilities were completely disrupted and communications systems were wiped out in many sections. Reconstruction is less a matter of repairs than of rebuilding from the ground up in some places.

The picture of the damage to our own facilities is almost beyond comprehension. A quarter of our 1,223,000 telephones without service, New Hampshire, Vermont and sections of Massachusetts virtually "off the map" as far as reaching them by telephone from outside was concerned, more than 350 communities isolated from telephone contact with the world, most of our major cable routes shattered, whole sections of our plant entirely demolished—it is difficult indeed to

# FLOODS RAVAGE

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## Desolation and Throughout our Blasts Swirl

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realize what that five hours of wind and rain and tidal wave meant to us.

A list of the materials for repair may help to picture the damage. Four hundred miles of cable, 31,000 poles, 72,000,000 feet of wire, fifty carloads of telephone hardware—much more material than we would require for a whole year of normal maintenance were required practically instantly for replacements. It was the job of the Western Electric Company to supply it all.

In this emergency, the men and women of our Company met the supreme test of their loyalty and skill. Terrified by the storm and destruction, our customers depended on the telephone to give them news of relatives and friends. Hospitals in urgent need of medicines and supplies depended on the telephone. Doctors with patients who needed their help, newspaper men, public officials and relief workers making desperate efforts to meet the situation, needed the telephone to give them the information they required. With our facilities operating at from zero to 50 per cent of normal capacity, the volume of calls increased to more than 70 per cent above normal.

Operators struggled through falling trees and wreckage to reach the exchanges where their help was so badly needed, linemen and splicers started repairs long before the hurricane had blown itself out, engineers and department heads gathered at a swiftly organized emergency bureau at 50 Oliver St., Boston, to arrange emergency circuits, re-route calls, estimate the damage, send the forces where they were most needed.

Then help arrived from outside as the Bell System

# AND HURRICANE NEW ENGLAND

## Destruction Spread Company, as Deadly up the Coast



*Gilbertville, Mass., flooded by waters which caused the abandonment of our central office during the early hours of the storm.*

organized its resources for the assistance of wrecked New England. Fifteen hundred men and 350 motor vehicles, from points as far as Georgia, Texas and the Dakotas, sped here across storm-torn highways to lend their assistance in the greatest cooperative effort toward reconstruction in all economic history.

Working side by side with our own courageous men and women, using the skill and experience that marks the Bell System worker wherever he may be, these men assisted in creating from almost helpless chaos and disorder a chapter of telephone tradition that can never be forgotten. No such cooperative effort has ever been required or has ever been accomplished. These men, with our own loyal workers, set out with grim determination to restore order and comfort through telephone service. All but four companies of the Bell System were represented.

*"Action" at the Western Electric Distributing House at Watertown, Mass. Hundreds of miles of wire and cable being loaded on trucks to be sent to devastated areas. Because the building was without electric power these men had to carry all materials down seven flights of stairs because the elevators were stalled.*

The work of these repair crews out of doors was the subject of comment everywhere as the people of New England, bewildered by the disaster, traveled about to see the scenes of wreckage. But within the exchanges, where flashing lights were the only visible indications of conditions outside, the telephone women of our





*This cable crew from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania are at work near Wakefield, R. I. Notice the aerial ladder for cable work, one of the many kinds of Bell System equipment which were rushed into New England.*

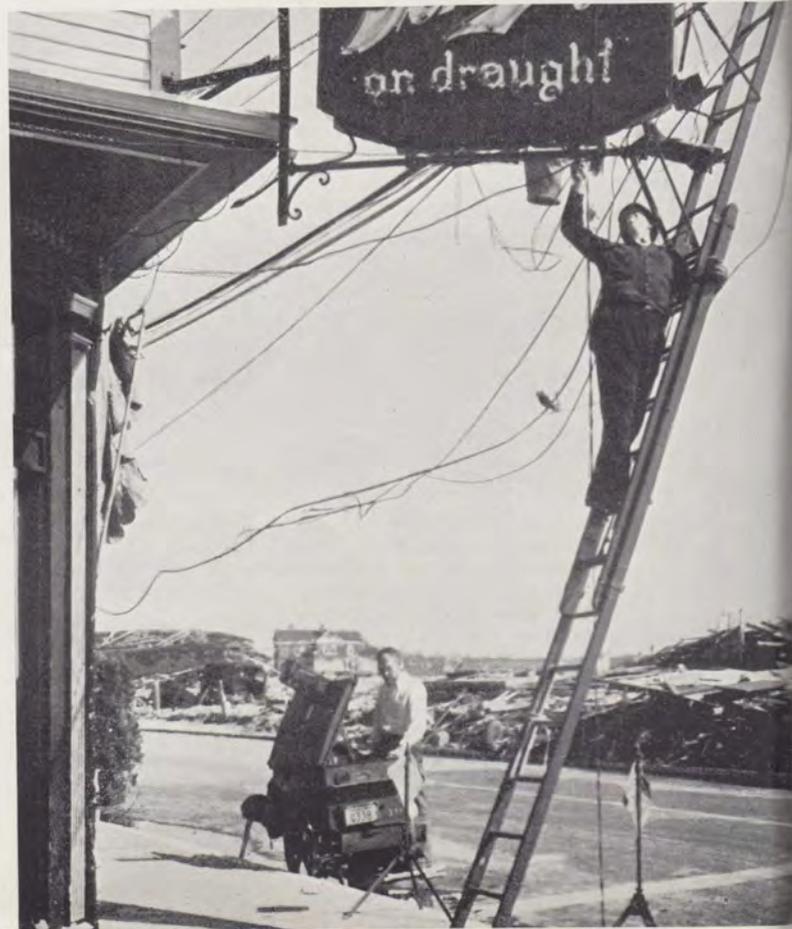


*Cable truck and crew from the Diamond State Telephone Company of Delaware at work on Depot Street, Easton, Mass.*

*This refreshment sign spells no relief for this cable crew from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania, at work near Narragansett Pier, R. I.*



*This was the main entrance of our central office at Orange, Mass., at the height of the flood. Small wonder our operators were forced to abandon their positions.*





*Splicer at Providence, R. I., who went down into flooded manholes to dry out our cables before the water had been completely pumped out.*

Company, assisted by a few skilled switching operators brought here by plane from other companies, carried on coolly, efficiently and courteously—each one too busy to realize the extreme urgency of the work she was doing.

What the combined efforts of these workers meant to the people of New England can never be determined. Within a few days after the flood service had been restored to all hospitals, police and fire departments and relief agencies, within nine days every isolated exchange was back in contact with the world again, and at the end of ten days individual residence and business telephones were being restored at the rate of 25,000 each 24 hours. As *Topics* goes to press such progress has been made that in some sections all telephone users are back to normal service. Permanent repairs will require many months of arduous labor.

In the incomprehensible magnitude of the whole story, details of how service was restored are almost lost.

At Chicopee Falls, where the most important cable route serving Vermont was disrupted by the destruction of a bridge, a coast guard crew shot a line across the turbulent stream with a Lyle-gun after a line dropped from an airplane had been parted against a rock in midstream. The line was used to drag a cable across the river.

Short wave came into its own for bridging gaps where all normal facilities had been demolished. Short wave equipment supplied by our own Company or other companies of the Bell System was used between Block Island and the mainland, between Hardwick and Irving and in several other sections. Over a short wave gap set up between Keene, New Hampshire, and Boston 200 messages of the utmost importance passed within the first two hours after it was set in service, including one call to San Bernardino, California.

Two yachts equipped for marine radiotelephone service played an important temporary part in the

*A section of Boston "Long Distance". Every position was filled as emergency calls flooded the office and operators from Associated Companies were rushed to assist these girls.*

telephone system by passing important calls, from Falmouth and from Block Island, to the Company's ultra short wave station at Green Harbor.

In many communities, where the normal sources of power failed, automobile batteries and even gasoline-operated welding machines were hired to supply the current necessary to carry messages along the wires.

Telephone men were often the first visitors to towns that had been cut off from contact with the outside world by floods or wreckage across the highways. By boat, by automobile and on foot, sometimes using axes to clear a path through the heavy litter, they made their ways to stricken communities, collected from town officials, druggists, doctors and others information as to what supplies were most urgently needed, and telephoned in the requirements from the nearest available telephone instrument. At the same time they gave swift reports of the condition of the local telephone plant.

Damage to a bridge at Danielson, Connecticut, disrupted service between Boston and New York by cutting off all but two of the total of more than a hundred circuits. From New York came word that despite this limiting of facilities, operators were handling five times the normal number of calls from New England. Most of the calls were re-routed over circuitous paths between the two cities.

The most important cable breaks in our territory were at Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts; Irving, near Orange, Massachusetts; Wareham, Massachusetts, and West Boylston, Massachusetts. As a result of these breaks large sections of Vermont, New Hampshire and Cape Cod were cut off from service with the rest of the world. These were among the first repairs completed within a few days after the storm.

There are countless stories of individualism and narrow escapes, of sacrifices made by our men and women in order to remain at the posts where they were needed and of the ingenuity they displayed in meeting conditions without precedence. Those will be told by word of mouth for many years to come.

*Telephone Topics* this month attempts to tell the story largely through the pictures which our own people have gathered and sent in from their emergency posts in the field.





Mayor Roger L. Putman of Springfield broadcasting flood information furnished from emergency headquarters information bureau established at City Hall.

Main Street, Gilbertville, Mass., presents a scene of broken wires after the storm. Our central office in this town had to be abandoned when flood waters rose.



Placing poles at Chicopee Falls, Mass., to support new cables spanning the river after the bridge was destroyed.



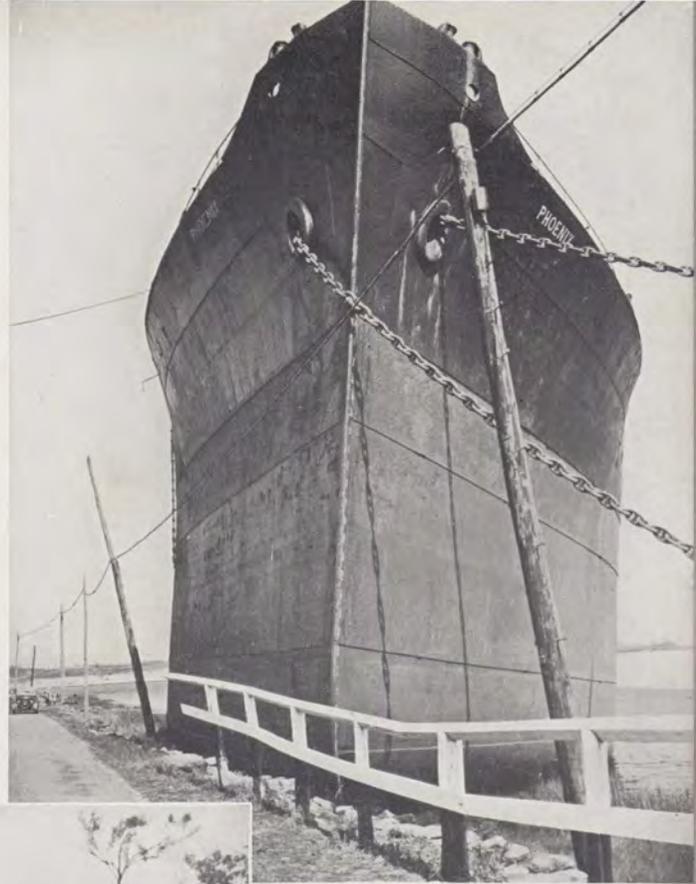
Ohio Bell Telephone Company men rebuilding the trunk line from Gilbertville to Ware, Mass.



Through this switchboard, set up in Springfield, Mass., City Hall, emergency flood information was sent out to Western New England.



*A tangled mass of cable, wires, poles and debris in Southbridge, Mass.*



*The PHOENIX, largest oil tanker in the Shell Oil Company fleet, driven by the hurricane against this aerial cable along the shores of the Taunton River just north of Fall River, Mass. Her port bow anchor parted a submarine telephone cable and the anchor chain wrecked a barge.*

*Our cable on Main Street, Monson, Mass., saved the Universalist Church from damage after the storm had uprooted this tree.*



*Shows how the hurricane leveled these sections of open wire toll lines near Southbridge, Mass.*

*Debris left after the storm had passed Cushman Hall, Monson Academy, Main Street, Monson, Mass.*



*The telephone army to the rescue at Northampton, Mass. Here 37 trucks with crews stopped on their way into New England from the Illinois and Indiana Bell Telephone Companies.*



*Storm destruction on Bellows Falls Road just west of Keene, N. H. Hundreds of huge pines were snapped off in this vicinity.*



*It took a big tree to move our wires on Third Street, Turners Falls, Mass. This one carried poles and cable with it in its fall onto a garage.*



*This cable on Main Street, Northfield, Mass., is suspending a telephone pole in mid-air, leaving only the stump in the ground.*



*A pine forest and quantities of open wire were destroyed along this road just east of Peterboro, N. H.*



*Webster Road, Southbridge, Mass., became a roaring river at the height of the flood. Buildings, automobiles and box cars were carried to destruction by the swirling waters.*



*Temporary cable which supplied emergency service to the Melrose Hospital, Melrose, Mass.*



*Truck and crew from the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company repairing damaged wires at Melrose, Mass. The C. & P. was one of the companies which came to our rescue in the storm restoration.*



*This cheerful group is another which came with its truck and equipment from the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Baltimore, to work in Wakefield, Mass., after the great wind.*



*Torn wires, broken poles and uprooted trees decorated lawns in Stoneham, Mass.*

*Laurel Park near Northampton, Mass., presented this devastated appearance after the hurricane.*



*Trucks as far as the camera could see, manned by their crews from the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, leave Hartford, Conn., for New England Company territory.*





*The Orange, Mass. central office at the height of the flood. Water washed over the third row of jacks on the switchboard, despite the fact that the board was raised.*



*Monson Academy boys clearing wreckage from Washington St., Monson, Mass., after the hurricane.*



*Uprooted poles and falling wires made lower Hampden Road impassable at Monson, Mass.*



*Flood waters washed away half of Central Street, Southbridge, Mass., imperiling houses and crippling telephone service.*



*A crew of telephone men work feverishly to repair lines at Hall and Governors Avenues, Medford, Mass.*



*A Chesapeake and Potomac Company lineman does his part in the job of reconstruction at Melrose, Mass.*



*All the way from Grand Rapids, Saginaw and Kalamazoo, Michigan, came these men with their trucks to help us rebuild our tangled plant.*



*Short wave emergency control station on Troy Road, near Keene, N. H. Over this radio-bridged gap calls were passed to all parts of the United States, including San Bernardino, Cal.*



*Using this tree as a telephone pole, these men set up the necessary wires and cable to provide the Melrose Hospital with emergency service after the storm.*

*Chesapeake and Potomac linemen's crew at Melrose, Mass.*





*One of the trucks from Michigan Bell Telephone Co. is unloaded from flat cars at Hartford, Conn., before starting over the road for our Company.*



*The storm dropped this tree across our lines near 191 Melrose St., Melrose, Mass.*



*Line crew from Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company at Wakefield, Mass., chop trees to free wires and cable.*



*Linemen and splicers from the Indiana Bell Telephone Co. pause for a moment after detraining at New Haven, Conn., prior to starting for our Company's territory.*



*Splicers, linemen and supervisors from the Michigan Bell Co. after detraining at Hartford, Conn.*



*Line crews with their trucks from the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. in Brockton, Mass., to assist our Southern Division Plant forces.*



*Western Electric office force works by lantern light after power fails. All of the emergency supplies were carried downstairs and loaded by hand when lack of power stopped the elevators.*



*Trucks from the Indiana Bell Telephone Co. being unloaded from a freight train after their trip across the country from Indiana to New Haven, Conn.*



*Another view of the seven-car freight train which carried trucks from the Indiana Bell Telephone Co. to New England.*



*A tangle of cable and trees near Stoneham, Mass.*

*Erecting a new pole in Melrose, Mass.*



*Falling trees and broken poles drop this cable onto the street at Melrose, Mass.*





*The headquarters of the Installation Dept. in Providence, R. I., directing the restoration of service under difficult conditions.*



*A truck from the Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania plows through sand left on the road by the storm before the Dunes Club at Narragansett Pier, R. I.*



*The Providence, R. I., long distance board with available circuits reduced by the storm, attempting to handle the largest number of calls ever received. "Messenger" lights and flash lamps carried by supervisors furnished the only illumination.*



*A line crew of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. which assisted our own forces in Everett, Mass.*



*Line truck and crew from the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. restoring service at Narragansett Pier, R. I. Note the bed driven onto the sidewalk by the waves.*



*Cable truck and crew from the Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania repairing broken cable at Narragansett Pier, R. I.*



*A New Jersey Bell Telephone Company line crew helps to restore service on Upland Road and Norwood Street, Sharon, Mass.*



*View from inside of ruined store at Narragansett Pier, R. I., shows a New Jersey line crew and truck restoring service. In back of the truck is all that remains of one of the great bathing pavilions.*



*Six feet of sand was left over the Narragansett Pier Road and had to be cleared before telephone trucks could get through.*



*Another New Jersey Bell Telephone Company line crew helps our men in Sharon, Mass.*

*The central test bureau at Providence R. I., immediately following the hurricane.*



*One of the Providence, R. I., Revenue Accounting machines being operated by a gasoline lawnmower when power failed.*





*This pole could not stand the strain, so terminal box, cable junction, guy wire and pole tip crashed among broken branches on Main Street, Brookfield, Mass.*



*Arthur Busb, left, and John Dick, right, replenish fuel supply in auxiliary power equipment at North Brookfield, Mass.*



*This car could just squeeze under this cable at Gilbert and Cushing streets, North Brookfield, Mass.*



*Trees, wires, poles, cable on North Avenue, Weston, Mass.*



*This falling tree fanned cable and wire on River Street, Brookfield, Mass., but it did not break.*



*Main Street, East Brookfield, Mass., on the road to Brookfield Orchard.*



*These men at Manchester, N. H. came to our aid from distant Arkansas and Missouri in the territory of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.*



*Long Lines sent these trucks and crews to the aid of our plant forces in and around Worcester, Mass.*



*Four more employees from the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company at Manchester, N. H.*



*A Winchendon Mass. customer has his service restored by two New York Telephone Company combinationmen.*

*A line crew and their truck from the New York Telephone Company assist our men near Hubbardston, Mass.*



*A small part of the tremendous supply of cable which has been shipped by Western Electric supply houses into New England. This cable yard is at Providence, R. I.*





*A Coast Guard officer loading the Lyle gun preparatory to shooting a line across the river at Chicopee Falls, Mass., to restore communications.*



*Upturned poles on Charles Street, Three Rivers, Mass.*



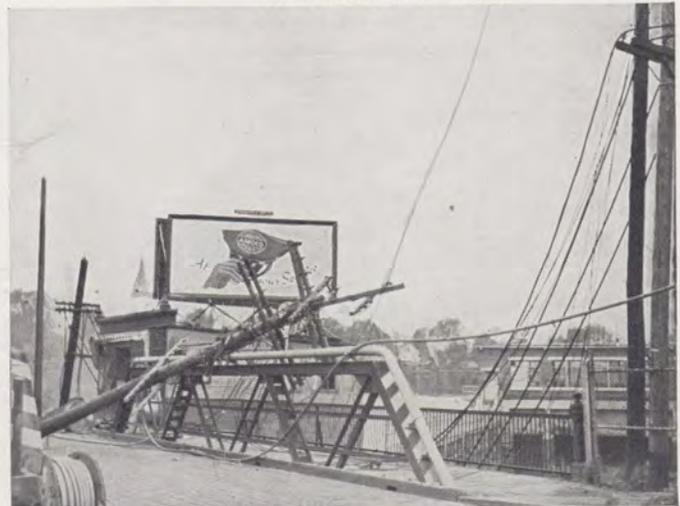
*Windswept Chicopee Falls, Mass., where the bridge went out during the flood, carrying with it important cables to the north.*



*Ohio Bell Telephone Company men arrive at Pittsfield, Mass., to begin work of restoring telephone service to storm-bound New England.*



*Wires and trees down in Bondsville, Mass.*



*Another scene at Chicopee Falls, Mass., where a bridge and cables were destroyed by flood waters.*



Convoy of heavy construction trucks and crews from the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company arrive to assist our forces in New Hampshire. They are shown entering North Walpole, N. H., after crossing Vermont.

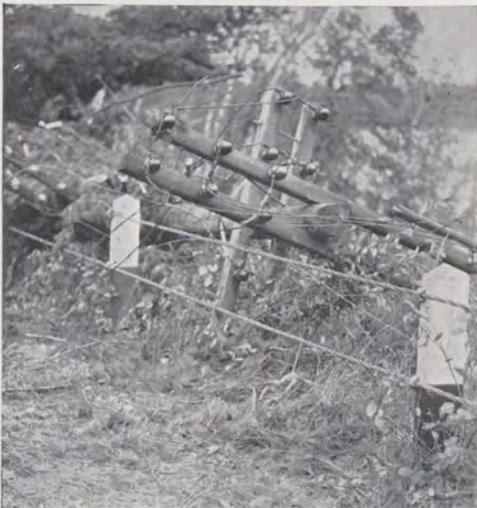


Heavy construction crews and their trucks from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania which are now assisting our men in Quincy, Mass.



A yard full of equipment and men from the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company at Keene, N. H., where the storm leveled our plant.

One of the reasons that telephone service failed at Hudson, N. H.



A tangle of trees, poles and wires on Abbott Street, Nashua, N. H.

White plugs in Jacks at Keene, N. H., indicate the lines which were out of service. After the hurricane only 50 of 1853 lines were working. This picture taken three days after the storm, shows hundreds of lines still out of order.





*New England Telephone and New Jersey Bell Telephone Company trucks working together to repair hurricane damage to cable line in Seekonk, Mass.*



*Tangled steel was all that remained of this car when a huge tree fell on it on Main Street, Sunderland, Mass.*



*A dangerous spot on Everett Street, Southbridge, Mass. Giant limbs carried telephone wires with them when they fell.*



*Hoisting a new telephone pole into place at Jamaica Plain, Mass., where the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company crew helped restore service.*



*Illinois Bell Telephone Company trucks entering Pittsfield, Mass., to take part in the struggle to restore New England's communications.*



*More Illinois Bell Telephone Company trucks and crews at Pittsfield, Mass.*



A heavy wrecking crane lifts tree stumps from the roadside on Gilbert Street, North Brookfield. Many of these trees fell across our cable.



Scene of desolation in a suburb of Providence after the tidal wave had receded.  
Providence Journal-Bulletin



This river was formerly a street in Ware, Mass. Overflowing of the Ware River isolated Ware from the rest of the world for several days.



Welding machines provide power for our building, 234 Washington St., Providence, R. I. The flag denotes an emergency red cross station set up within the building.

Emergency power for our 112 Union St., Providence, R. I., building, as fire engines pump out flooded manholes.



The emergency headquarters set up at 50 Oliver Street, Boston. Here Plant, Traffic, Commercial and Engineering coordinated their departments to provide emergency service to hospitals, fire, police and government departments, etc.





*Floods sweep across River St., Brookfield, Mass., on the road south. Our foresighted engineers placed this cable underground across this danger spot.*



*Fire adds its horrors to flood and hurricane at East Brookfield, Mass. William Thompson can be seen splicing in a new cable at upper right.*



*The Brookfields are again connected with the world as the first pair in a new cable is spliced in at East Brookfield, Mass.*



*A maze of wires and broken poles on Waverly Street, Newton, Mass.*



*The Topics photographer took a rowboat at East Brookfield.*



*Looking towards the North Brookfield, Mass., central office, showing poles held up by stakes.*



*Why Plant men are praying there will be no more wind.*



*The voice road to North Brookfield is underground but still carries traffic.*



*A national guardsman stands alertly before the smashed windows of our Newton Corner, Mass., business office.*



*Old friends turned enemies as these trees crash across the cable at Spencer, Mass. This shows graphically how strongly Bell System equipment is built.*



*Took this picture from a Brookfield, Mass.*



*Howard Blum (on ladder) splices, while Norman Anderson (near truck) prepares wire near Leicester, Mass.*



*Little cable holds up big tree at Brookfield, Mass.*



*Brookfield, Mass., on the carrying messages.*



*Careful sorting of trees and wires needed on North Avenue, Weston, Mass.*



*Truck pulls cable to position on a new pole at Spencer, Mass.*



*A step in the process of restoring a submarine cable across the Taunton River, Slades Ferry, Mass. The new cable is prepared for dragging across the bed of the stream.*



*The inundated plant of the American Optical Company at Southbridge, Mass.*



*Another step in the replacement of the submarine cable at Slades Ferry. Steel drums are attached to the cable and winch trucks on the opposite side of the river prepare to drag it across.*



*A crew from Indiana Bell Telephone Company arrives at Brockton, Mass. by bus.*



*One of our trucks pulling a 1600-foot section of aerial cable into place at Newport, R. I. This cable connected Newport with Middletown and Portsmouth.*



*Still another step in the replacement of the cable at Slades Ferry. The men are preparing the splice.*

*Narragansett Pier, R. I. Cable truck and crew from Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania.*



*Cable splicers from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania working on a 720-pair toll cable in Wakefield, R. I.*

*Cable truck and crew from the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania working at Narragansett Pier, R. I.*



*Cable truck and crew from Diamond State Telephone Company working on Depot St., Easton, Mass.*



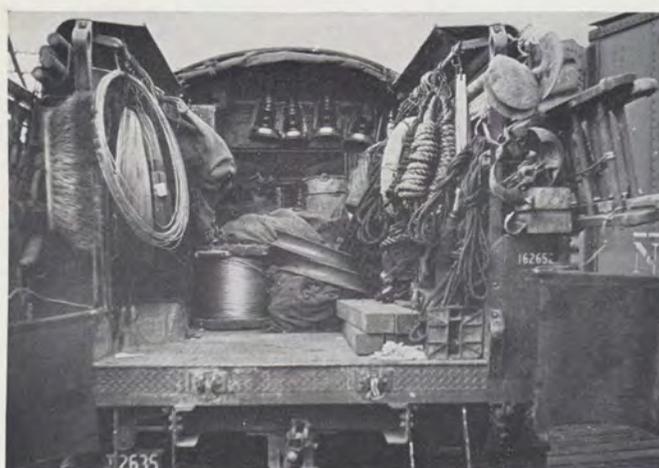
*Aerial cable tower trucks from the Illinois Bell Telephone Company at New York Central Railroad freight depot in Chicago, waiting to be loaded onto special train for shipment to hurricane-swept New England.*



*Some of the 43 pieces of motor equipment loaned by the Illinois Bell Telephone Company to the New England Company for use in reconstructing lines damaged in the hurricane.*



*Rain descends as Ohio Bell Telephone Company trucks arrive at Palmer, Mass., bringing help of men and materials.*



*Every Illinois Bell Telephone Company construction truck arriving in New England to help rebuild communications here, carried this standard equipment tool load.*



*Uniformed men with trucks and equipment arriving at Providence, R. I., from the Indiana Bell Telephone Company.*



*Another scene at Palmer, Mass., showing Ohio Bell Telephone Company trucks arriving in the business section.*



*Some of our wires which were blown down in Turners Falls, Mass. A view on Third Street.*



*A vanquished file of telephone poles near Montague, Mass. Picture made by F. R. Camp, Safety Instructor.*



*A grove of elms reduced to wood for the fireplace on Main Street, Northfield, Mass.*



*Another view on Main Street, in Northfield, Mass., showing an elm prostrate on a home it has sheltered for years.*

*A tangle of wires and cross arms near the central office in South Deerfield, Mass.*



*The beginning of installation of the armored submarine cable across the Taunton River, south of Slade's Ferry, Mass., to replace one wrecked by drifting barges.*



# "Thank You" Our Customers Write As We Dig Out After Storm

*"Every meeting with a customer face to face or through other media lays a background. Every meeting in time of stress is a challenge to win a friend. It is in the unusual meeting that the greatest need lies and the greatest opportunity lies. It is here that we make friends or enemies."*

From "Public Relations Program," project No. 1.



★ ★ ★

A Householder of Medford, Mass., who commends eagerness to be of service:

"I wish to thank you and congratulate you for the quick efficient and courteous cooperation you and your men have extended to me in restoring my telephone service, which was disconnected as a result of the storm on Wednesday."

"I know you are and have been extremely busy and have more than you can handle in the ordinary course of business and the fact that you sent a man to my home at twelve midnight last night to repair the damage is greatly appreciated by me and every member of my family. Were it not for the fact that we have had illness at our home, perhaps we would not have felt the loss of the telephone so greatly."

"You and your workers should be commended by your company officials for your courage, eagerness to be of service and your ability to make the subscribers happy and contented in the midst of all the destruction of the storm."



★ ★ ★

A Monument Designer and Builder of Peabody, Mass.:

"I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your cooperation in helping us with telephone service yesterday; with sickness in the house it helped us a great deal, and I certainly appreciate the efforts you used in granting my request."



★ ★ ★

A Member of the House of Representatives, U. S. A., residing in Milton, Mass.:

"May I express my thanks to you and through you to the Telephone Company for its help in restoring telephone service at our office in Milton. It is greatly appreciated not only by me but I am sure by those who have tried to reach us without success since the storm."



★ ★ ★

A Housewife of Newtonville, Mass., who appreciates a good Plant job:

"Mr. ——— and I want you to know how much we appreciate your promptness in restoring our telephone to us, which you did in five days after the terrible hurricane that put it out of commission. We realize the terrible situation you were up against and the great loss it has incurred to you. You certainly deserve much credit in the wonderful way you have handled this service problem in so short a time and we thank you."



★ ★ ★

A woman of Jamaica Plain who will never forget the kindness of operators:

"I would like to say a few words to your company for the courtesy I received on the evening of the recent wind

storm. I am located at Jamaica Plain and my sister and brothers are at Bedford, Mass. I tried and tried to reach them by phone to find out how bad the storm affected them but was unable to, after several attempts the chief operator here in Jamaica kindly connected me with your Lexington chief operator who was most courteous, she told me the storm was very bad in that locality but that there had been no loss of life and she also assured me that she would do all in her power to connect me with my family.

"I am most grateful and will never forget what it meant to me to know that my family were alive."

"I want to thank these operators who were so kind to me and who tried so hard to relieve my anxiety."



★ ★ ★

A Housewife of Salem, Mass., who speaks for many:

"We in Salem feel very appreciative and grateful to you for the efficient manner in which you repaired damages from the recent hurricane. Although I personally wasn't inconvenienced many friends were and I feel we should all show our appreciation by thanking you for accomplishing so much in so short a time."

*We gain friends for our Company, and therefore for ourselves, just as we make personal friends or enemies. Active friendship, or active hostility, has for its background all the experiences of the past, but it becomes vital and vocal finally because of some one act. From "Public Relations Program", project No. 1.*



★ ★ ★

A Cotton Manufacturer at Fall River, Mass.:

"We wish to express to you and to the members of your organization our congratulations upon the efficiency and despatch with which telephone traffic was handled not only for the duration of the recent hurricane but also during the extremely busy days that have since elapsed. . . . Please extend to your operators and the various other departments of your organization our deep appreciation of their untiring effort and splendid cooperation in this emergency."



★ ★ ★

A Bereaved Householder of Providence, R. I., who commends quick and courteous service:

"I wish to express to you sincere thanks for connecting my house with emergency wire the day after the hurricane. I had lost a very intimate friend and it was necessary that I be in touch with his family to help them."

"It is such quick and courteous service that you give that makes me feel that our public utilities are willing to help at a time like this."



★ ★ ★

### The Woonsocket Call:

"Especially since we knew some of the tremendous difficulties you and your staff had to contend with, we appreciate deeply the fine telephone service that we received during the period after the recent big storm. There were more long distance calls than usual out of this office and the cooperation of your operators and their chiefs minimized delays. Because of the Journal printing here we had our switchboard in operation several recent evenings and we all remarked on what a grand job the operators were doing.

"We have tried, in the columns of the Woonsocket Call, to keep the people patient. I think as a whole that they understand your problems and I hope that they will continue the spirit of cooperation that they have thus far shown.

"Our news department appreciates the fine way in which you have kept them in touch with the news developments of the situation."



★ ★ ★

### President of the Woonsocket Hospital:

"On behalf of the Woonsocket Hospital, may I express to you our deep gratitude for the aid which you extended to us during the great hurricane.

"We were able to communicate with all doctors whose own telephones were not out of order. We were also able to converse with police and fire headquarters and summon the ambulance when needed. Many other very important messages and orders were given, which assisted us in caring for accident cases during the catastrophe."



★ ★ ★

### The Mayor of Fall River, Mass.:

"I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the wonderful cooperation received of your company during the emergency created by the hurricane.

"A word of praise would not be amiss for the untiring efforts of the operators who did everything possible to aid me in putting through the numerous calls I had to make. I should like to express my gratitude to them through you for all they did for me."



★ ★ ★

### The New Hampshire Broadcasting Company:

"At a time when all the agencies engaged in storm and flood relief were calling on us for broadcast service, you made it possible for us to get through to our transmitter. . . . I can only say thank you again, and assure you that if we can be of service to your company it will be a privilege to work off some of the indebtedness."

*An intelligent, helpful attitude is a profitable attitude—to your customer, to your Company and to yourself. From "Public Relations Program", project No. 1.*



★ ★ ★

### A Woman Property Owner in Watertown who appreciates personal interest and initiative:

"During the worst of the storm we put a call in to friends in Clifton Heights. Your operator (about 9:30 Wednesday night), said that she could not get that number but would give us someone nearby. I would like that girl to know that her unusual service meant a great deal to us. Through her efforts, I found out that my house in Clifton Heights had lost a good part of the roof leaving the upstairs rooms open to the weather. Because I found out about it and with additional good service from your exchange early the next morning, I was able to reach a carpenter in Marblehead who was able to cover the damage so that nothing worse developed."

*In all the complexities of life there are situations not exactly covered by practice and there are rare exceptions where deviation from practice should be made. Try to recognize them. Decide after judgment exactly what you are going to do. From "Public Relations Program", project No. 1.*



★ ★ ★

### The Managing Editor of the Union-Leader of Manchester, N. H.:

"We didn't think the situation would call for it so soon, but since it has, we hasten to extend our thanks for the cooperation of your staff, and our appreciation of its excellence in helping us to cover the flood and wind stories for The Union and Leader."



★ ★ ★

### The U. S. Customs Service Collector at St. Albans, Vermont:

"Our particular business comes to a definite standstill without telephone communication. The type of service rendered by you on that occasion typifies the spirit and cooperation of efficient management, and I again thank you very kindly for what you did for us on that occasion."



★ ★ ★

### The Chief of Police at Lewiston, Maine:

"The service given this department by the telephone operators during the severe storm of last Wednesday evening is most commendable. Their cooperation during this emergency aided us greatly in caring for danger spots, and undoubtedly was the means of preventing many accidents."



★ ★ ★

### The Mayor of Beverly, Mass.:

"May I take this opportunity to express to you the sincere thanks of the people of Beverly for the efficient manner in which your company took care of the telephone situation in our city during the recent hurricane.

"With all the damage that occurred in Beverly and everything that the Telephone Company had to contend with there were very few complaints.

"I am sure such service and efficiency was appreciated by the residents of Beverly."



★ ★ ★

### The Board of Selectmen of Hamilton, Mass.:

"At a regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen held September 26th, it was unanimously voted to commend the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company for their splendid efforts in restoring service during the recent severe storm.

"We know we reflect the attitude of the townspeople when we say that your service is very much appreciated."



★ ★ ★

### Area Supervisor, Works Progress Administration at Fall River, Mass.:

"I wish to extend to your organization heartiest congratulations on the splendid manner in which your operators served our organization in this recent emergency. Their courteous and earnest attempts to assist us are greatly appreciated."

# Boston and Return *all Divisions*



Some of the golfers who waited for the photographer before they started out.



J. Smith, W. Shyne, A. Grenier, Boston; C. Merrow, Portland.



O. Stanton, Manchester; A. Niden, Boston; L. Cash, Portland; C. Sisk, Boston.



J. Shuttleworth, Portsmouth; A. Reynolds, Boston; H. Learson, Portland; W. Elder, Boston.

Seventy-two divot diggers gathered at the Kernwood Country Club, North Salem, Mass., one of the North Shore's finest 18 hole courses, on Saturday, September 10, for the return match between the Boston and Portland golf teams.

All divisions were represented in the tournament. The Portland team consisted of 17 members from the Eastern Division, 6 from Providence and 3 from Worcester. On the Boston team were 39 from the Metropolitan and General offices, 5 from Salem and one each from Portsmouth and Manchester, N. H.

Boston loaned Portland ten players, to make even teams and this proved to be their downfall, for while the team matches ended even 8 to 8, with two matches halved, Portland was the final victor on points by the close score of 27½ to 26½.

Points		Points	
Boston 19	vs	Portland	14
Boston 3½	vs	Providence	5½
Boston 2½	vs	Worcester	½
Boston 1½	vs	Boston	7½
<hr/>		<hr/>	
26½		27½	

Individual awards in the various flights were won by the following: 1st flight—R. Sprinkle, Boston. 2nd flight—E. Coffin, E. Steptoe, Boston; R. Roache, Worcester. 3rd flight—C. Ekwall, Boston; C. Bunker, Portland; W. Sumner, Providence. 4th flight—K. Newell, D. Galvin, C. E. Cook, Boston. 5th flight—H. W. Bates, W. F. Potter, Boston.

Scores: E. Coffin 75, E. Steptoe 77, R. Sprinkle 81, R. Roache 81, M. Cash 82, T. Lawton 84, O. Stanton 85, E. McDonald 85, A. Meersman 86, W. Weeks 87, T. D. Smith 88, C. Ekwall 88, C. Nordquist 89, J. Daley 89, J. Lavalley 90, M. Cogan 90, C. Bunker 90, B. Regan 91, J. Church 91, H. Chalmers 91, W. Sumner 91, E. Colwell 91, D. Galvin 91, K. Newell 91, W. Reid 92, L. Cash 92, J. Driscoll 92, J. Shuttleworth 92, A. Nidene 93, R. Hayes 93, J. McGlone 93, J. Sheehan 94, M. Harrington 95, A. Maggioli 96, E. Nash 96, C. Sisk 96, W. H. Smith 96; C. Cook 97, G. Hutton 98, H. Randlette 98, R. Trudell 99, N. Hanson 99, C. Brant 99, T. Kennedy 99, J. Walsh 100, H. Learson 101, F. Hathaway 101, F. Wurtz 102, A. Grenier 102, C. Chasson 103, W. Elder 103, F. Mahan 103, J. Smith 104, F. E. Tarr 105, W. Shyne 106, W. Hyland 106, A. Brickett 110, W. Proctor 111, C. Merrow 112, H. Farr 112, H. W. Bates 114, W. Potter 114, J. McDonough 116, P. Todd 116, D. Sabin 116, A. Reynolds 117, H. Bates 118, C. Ingalls 119, K. Rollins 120, G. Corsick 125, F. Barrett 130, T. Moore 130.

# Portland Play Match—Golfers from Assist Both Teams



F. Hatbaway, M. Harrington, Boston; J. Sheehan, E. MacDonald, Providence.



W. Potter, T. Moore, P. Todd, F. Barrett, Boston.



J. Lavallee, Worc.; T. Lawton, M. Cogan, Boston; R. Roache, Worc.



E. Colwell, Boston; R. Hayes, Prov.; T. D. Smith, Boston; C. Nordquist, Prov.



J. McDonough, Portl.; W. Hyland, D. Galvin, Boston; W. Proctor, Portl.



R. Sprinkle, Boston; M. Cash, W. Weeks, Portl.; A. Meersman, Salem.



J. Church, W. Summer, Prov.; J. Daley, Boston; J. McGlone, Salem.



K. Newell, Boston; D. Sabin, Portl.

E. Nash, Worc.; A. Maggioli, Boston.



G. Corsick, H. Bates, Boston; H. W. Bates, C. Ingalls, Portl.



C. Chasson, Salem; F. Wurtz, J. Driscoll, C. Brant, Boston.



# Joseph H. Serror

## Honored as Red Cross Representative

**J**OSEPH H. SERROR, Division Plant Safety Supervisor of the Southern Division, was highly honored on being chosen as the outstanding First Aid Representative of the American National Red Cross.

Joe represented that organization on a nation-wide NBC broadcast of the Hobby Lobby program over Station WEAJ, New York City, on Sunday evening, August 28th.

Joe was interviewed by Dave Elman, who said in part:

"Tonight we have a man whose name has never appeared in newspaper headlines—he has never travelled up Fifth Avenue acclaimed by cheering millions. He is just a man who had a hobby, and because of that hobby, I believe he is one of America's greatest unsung heroes. His name is Joseph H. Serror, of Cranston, Rhode Island. Mr. Serror, what is your hobby?"

**SERROR:** Saving lives. And teaching other people how to do the same.

**DAVE:** Well, that is a hobby. What's the story back of it?

**SERROR:** Twenty years ago I came upon the scene of a terrible accident. A lot of people standing around, powerless to help. The agony and suffering I saw that day made such an impression on my mind, that I decided from then on, in case of any emergency at all, I would be prepared to help. I decided to make that my hobby.

**DAVE:** How did you go about it?

**SERROR:** I was working for the telephone company at the time, and I devoted all my spare time at night to taking up every course given by the American Red Cross. And now hardly a week goes by, that my hobby doesn't help some one.

**DAVE:** Mr. Serror, in looking over the records of the Red Cross, I notice that your name appears again and again, in recognition of the splendid work you've done. Tell us about some of these cases.

**SERROR:** The first chance I had to put my hobby to use was in 1922. I was passing by a boiler factory when there was a terrific explosion. One side of the building was blown out. It was a miracle that only one man had been hurt, but he was in terrible shape. Broken bones, arteries severed, and numerous other injuries. Everything was confusion.



*Joseph H. Serror, Division Plant Safety Supervisor in the Southern Division, with the demonstration board he uses with first aid classes to show the blood circulatory system of the human body. The main arteries are traced by illuminated Neon tubes. From this board his classes learn the correct places to apply tourniquets.*

People were rushing around, everyone giving orders, but nobody doing anything to help the injured man. A quick examination showed me that the first thing to do was to stop the bleeding.

**DAVE:** How did you do that?

**SERROR:** I took my handkerchief, made a tourniquet out of it, and applied it to his arm. This stopped the bleeding. The next thing to do was to fix up those broken bones.

**DAVE:** Well, you weren't carrying splints around with you, were you?

**SERROR:** No,—but it was easy enough to break up a few wooden packing cases and make splints out of the boards. I fixed up his arms and was working on his legs when the doctor arrived. He told me that my prompt action had saved the man's life.

**DAVE:** I understand that was the case for which you were awarded the Theodore N. Vail medal.

**SERROR:** That's right.

**DAVE:** What do you consider your outstanding life-saving achievement?

**SERROR:** One Sunday evening, I was out driving when suddenly I heard the screech of brakes behind me. I turned around in time to see a car on the curve, turn over several times and come to a stop, upside down. There were seven people imprisoned in that wreck. After I got them out, I found broken bones, severe lacerations and many other injuries which required immediate first aid. I was able to relieve their suffering and by the time the ambulance arrived, all the injured had been cared for.

**DAVE:** And because Mr. Serror speaks modestly, I'd like to add that I've been informed that because of his life saving work, and because of his lectures, demonstrations and training of over fifteen thousand people in first-aid work, the National Headquarters of the American Red Cross at Washington, D. C., considers Mr. Serror its outstanding member. Thank you, Mr. Serror."

Joe's fellow-workers are proud of this honor conferred upon him, and wish to congratulate him for his untiring efforts in this splendid field for which he has devoted many hours of his own time.

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## New Hampshire and Maine Telephone Associations Convene

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**J**OHAN F. TIERNEY, President, opened the Annual Convention of the Telephone Association of New Hampshire at the Ashworth Hotel, Hampton Beach at 10:30 A.M., September 7.

The program consisted of a Traffic Conference conducted by Helen I. Barry, Central Division Toll Instructor, a Plant Conference conducted by Waldo F. Davis, Connecting Company Engineer the afternoon of the first day, and a General Conference the morning of the second day.

A. R. MacKinnon, Albany, New York, Secretary of the New York Telephone Association, and Mrs. MacKinnon, Herbert E. Foster, Winthrop, Maine, Vice-President, and Alfred F. Winslow, Standish,



*J. Elmer Draper  
President of N. H. Tel. Assoc.*

Maine, Director of Telephone Association of Maine, were welcome guests from other states.

The Public Service Commission of New Hampshire was represented by Nelson Lee Smith, Chairman, who was accompanied by Waldo F. White and William Cogswell of the engineering staff of the Commission.

The registration reported by Secretary Bernice M. Rines was 110 people and 19 of the 24 companies operating in the State.

The officers and directors for the ensuing year are: President, J. Elmer Draper, Wilton; Vice-President, Howard W. Chellis, Meriden; Secretary, Bernice M. Rines, Laconia; Treasurer, John Gadd, Plymouth; Auditor, Alfred F. Hildreth, Hollis; Directors, John F. Tierney, Weare; Frederick A. Lundberg, Hillsboro; Dr. Lloyd H. Cogswell, Warner; George F. Adams, Salisbury; Henry T. Turner, Laconia; Loren P. Rand, Chester; Leon S. Tucker, Dunbarton; Bartlett T. Miller and Earle J. St. Clair, Boston, Mass.; George G. Foss, North Barnstead.

John F. Tierney, who has rendered valuable and efficient service during nine years as President of the Association, expressed his appreciation of the assistance and cooperation he had received during his term of office from all the Association members.

J. Elmer Draper of Wilton, the new President, entered the telephone business as spare night operator in February, 1918, becoming a full time operator in June of that year. He remained in the employ of the Wilton Telephone Company until September, 1925. He was elected a Director and Auditor of the Wilton Telephone Company in 1929 and President and Treasurer in 1934, which position he now holds.

Mr. Draper, in addition to his telephone work, holds a responsible position in a large corporation in Wilton.

*Maine—September 14 and 15*

Following the usual custom, the Telephone Association of Maine held its Annual Convention in two locations, in Norway at the Grange Hall on September 14, and at Lakewood on September 15.

Both meetings were opened by President W. J. Thompson of South China, and at each meeting Mrs. Clara A. Yeaton, Chief Operator of the Lewiston, Greene and Monmouth Telephone Company, conducted Traffic conferences and Waldo F. Davis, Connecting Company Engineer, presided at the Plant conferences.

At the Norway meeting, Alfred F. Winslow of the Standish Telephone Company, Standish, presided at the General Conference, and at Lakewood, Herbert E. Foster of the Lewiston, Greene and Monmouth Telephone Co., Winthrop, performed similar service.

At Lakewood, where the Annual Business Meeting of the Association was held, Herbert E. Foster read a resolution expressing the regret of the Association at the passing of A. Van DenKerckhoven, Charter Member of the Association and its Secretary-Treasurer from the time of its organization until his death at his home in Bethel, February 15, 1938.

Eugene A. Van DenKerckhoven, who is carrying on the work of his father as Manager of the Van Telephone and Telegraph Company, was elected a director of the Association to fill the vacancy on the Board caused by the death of his father.

*(Continued on Page 35)*



45th  
John J. Noreau  
Metropolitan Plant

*Celebrating Service  
Anniversaries*



40th  
Deane B. Small  
Eastern Commercial



40th  
Harry A. Hunt  
Metropolitan Plant



35th  
Budd D. Colwell  
Central Commercial



35th  
Oscar J. Ives  
General Accounting



35th  
Donald Chisholm  
Central Plant



30th  
Thomas W. Shay  
Metropolitan Plant



30th  
Patrick J. Welsh  
Metropolitan Plant



30th  
Francis A. Jones  
West. Disbursements  
Accounting

*Other Service Anniversaries*

**40 YEARS' SERVICE**

THOMAS N. FARRELL, Metropolitan Plant  
ALBERT C. SAULT, Western Plant

**35 YEARS' SERVICE**

JOSEPH A. CAMPBELL, Western Plant  
JOSEPH E. HARRIS, General Engineering

**30 YEARS' SERVICE**

JOHN T. BOWERS, Metropolitan Plant  
MARY E. LYNCH, Metropolitan Plant  
MARY A. SULLIVAN, Central Traffic  
MARGARET E. O'NEILL, Eastern Traffic

**25 YEARS' SERVICE**

MAE DEARY, Southern Accounting  
GEORGE W. BRIDGES, General Plant  
JOHN F. CHAMBERLAIN, Equipment Installation  
FRANCIS J. HALLAHAN, Equipment Installation  
CHARLES J. RILEY, General Plant  
RICHARD J. ROTHWELL, General Plant  
RICHARD D. CUSHING, Southern Plant

WILLIAM DONILON, Southern Plant  
WILLIAM A. GRIST, Southern Plant  
WILLIAM F. HETHERMAN, Southern Plant  
WILLIAM E. POST, Southern Plant  
JAMES O. WEAVER, Southern Plant  
ARTHUR F. SOMES, Central Plant  
MARTIN B. DOWNEY, Metropolitan Plant  
DANIEL H. FARREN, Metropolitan Plant  
WILLIAM J. McAULEY, JR., Metropolitan Plant  
MARY R. MEEHAN, Metropolitan Plant  
ABRAHAM ZISKEND, Metropolitan Plant  
JOHN FOSTER, Eastern Plant  
WALTER J. DONAHUE, Western Plant  
FRED W. GRUBER, Western Plant  
ROBERT J. HOGAN, Western Plant  
MARION V. CASEY, Southern Traffic  
ANNA CHEVALL, Southern Traffic  
MARGARET A. MURPHY, Southern Traffic  
KATHERINE T. GLYNN, Central Traffic  
LILLIAN M. HOGAN, Central Traffic  
ANNA G. McOSKER, Central Traffic  
LAURA C. TAYLOR, Central Traffic  
BERTHA F. WALSH, Metropolitan Traffic  
NINA C. GORDON, Central Commercial

## Gifts

Lillian Bailey, formerly of the Traveling Auditor's Department, was transferred on September 12 to the Metropolitan Division Commercial Department as a service representative in the Quincy busi-



Lillian Bailey

ness office. On the day of her leaving, her former associates decorated her desk with flowers and presented her with a fitted traveling case and a purse of money.

## Maine Tel. Associates

(Continued from Page 33)

Ellis W. Nash of the Nash Telephone Company, Damariscotta, Maine, who was elected Secretary-Treasurer at the meeting of Directors held in June of this year, reported registration at Norway of 16 companies and 85 members and guests, and at Lakewood 19 companies and 108 members and guests.

Officers and Directors for the ensuing year are President, William J. Thompson, South China, Vice-President, Herbert E. Foster, Winthrop, Secretary-Treasurer, Ellis W. Nash, Damariscotta; Directors, Alfred F. Winslow, Standish, George J. Chandler, Norridgewock, G. A. Young, Island Falls, Eugene A. Van DenKerckhoven, Bethel, Earle J. St. Claire, Boston, Harold F. Hilton, South Poland.

George F. Hagerman, who retired from his position as Supervisor of Connecting Company Relations on May 31, was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of their Associations by the members of the Telephone Associations of New Hampshire and of Maine.

## Central Division

ARTHUR HINDLE, *Plant*

DONALD HEATH, *Traffic*

HOWARD H. RANDLETTE, *Commercial* MYRA L. HAMMOND, *Rev. Acct.*

DANIEL S. SWEENEY, *Disb. Acct.*

## Father

Joseph Tyo, Certifier, in the Central Division Disbursement Accounting Office, recently became the proud father of a bouncing baby boy.

## Fete Miss Gagnon

Lilianne Gagnon of the Manchester Revenue Accounting Department bid farewell to her friends here at the office on Friday, August 20th. Lilianne is to enter the nurses' training school at the Notre Dame Hospital in this city.

On the Monday previous to her departure, Miss Gagnon was given a surprise luncheon by the Accounting girls at the Farm Kitchen in Hooksett, N. H. At that time, she was presented a hand bag and a sum of money.

Miss Gagnon was given a ruby ring as a parting memento from the office force.

## 25th Anniversary

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of Thyra R. D. Peterson, chief operator at Manchester, N. H., the girls in the Manchester



Thyra R. D. Peterson, Chief Operator at Manchester, N. H. on her twenty-fifth anniversary.

Traffic office decorated her desk and presented her with a white gold wrist watch, a pocketbook and a box of candy.

## Golf Tournament

Eighty-five golfers enjoyed a full day of sport at the Kenwood Country Club in Salem, Saturday, September 17. The arrangements were made by a committee from the Salem District headed by John Barry, Dave Hall and Dick Mulroy. They were ably assisted by John McDonald, Paul Cross, Dick Collins and John Dalton.

The day's events closed with a dinner when numerous prizes were distributed as follows: Low Gross—Earl Coffin and Fred Crowe, each with 80; Most Pars—Al Meersman and Bill Reid; Most 5's—George Glennon; Most 7's—Nat Chase; Most 8's—George Stevens; Highest Score—Chauncey Brown, 161; Longest Drive—Bernie Dwyer; Nearest

## Weenie Roasts

On the evening of August 18, about sixty Salem Revenue Accounting Associates and friends motored to West Beach, in Beverly, for their annual Weenie Roast. It was a cool night and everybody seemed to have a big appetite, for the hot dogs disappeared faster than they could be cooked. Hot coffee, doughnuts, and marshmallows completed the menu. Community singing and games were enjoyed, and the party broke up about 9:30, after a very pleasant evening.

On the evening of August 10th, the Revenue Accounting Associates in Manchester motored to North Hampton Beach for a most enjoyable "Weenie Roast."

The weather was perfect and the full moon added its charm to the occasion.

After the roast, the party continued on to the center and to Salisbury Beach, and a grand time was had by all.

Cup on 9th Green—Bernie Dwyer, 4 feet 2 inches and Al Lee, 14 feet 2 inches; Kickers Handicap, five tie with 75—L. McKee, E. McClary, Bill Reid, W. B. Richardson and Lester Armstrong. Prizes were also given to those traveling the greatest distances to the tournament and went to Bill Byers, Laconia, N. H., R. E. Kingsbury, Holyoke, Mass., and Forrest Johnston, Keene, N. H.

### *Fitzgerald's 35th*

On Wednesday, August 31st, James D. Fitzgerald, Division Auditor of Disbursements, completed thirty-five years service with the Company. Coming into work on that day he found his desk beautifully decorated with flowers and his office force assembled in his office to congratulate him on his long service with the Company. Many telegrams were received and he was busy answering telephone calls and messages from other departments in the Company. On Thursday evening, September 8, a dinner was held in his honor by his office associates at the Weber Duck Inn in Wrentham, and he was presented with a latest style traveling bag. Dancing was enjoyed after the dinner until a late hour and a most enjoyable evening was terminated by all wishing him many more happy years with the Company. Among the invited guests was Fred W. Tucker, Auditor of Disbursements.

### *Outing*

An enjoyable Summer outing party was held by the Rochester-Dover Traffic and Commercial people at Union Lake Lodge in Barrington August 30.

The group motored over to the lodge and after a good supper, games and dancing were enjoyed for the rest of the evening.

Eveline Muggleston, Service Representative at Rochester, handled all the arrangements for the outing. This party was also in the nature of a farewell gathering to Evelyn Stacy Hughes, formerly Business Office Supervisor, who recently resigned to be married.

Also, it served as an opportunity to welcome Winifred Kelley, the new Supervisor, and acquaint her with her new associates and surroundings.

### *Parties*

Mary Riley, Service Representative in Marlboro, was the guest of honor at two dinner parties occasioned by her recent resignation. She is to be the bride of James McDonough of Hopkinton on September 27. The first party was held at the 1812 House in Framingham, September 8 and the group consisted of the Marlboro Traffic and Commercial girls. A gift of an electric toaster was presented the bride-to-be. The arrangements were made by Edith Slayton.

The second party was held at the home of Manager Kenneth Picard in Marlboro and was attended by the Business Office employees. Miscellaneous gifts including a hostess set to go with the electric toaster were presented Miss Riley.

### *Colwell Honored*

On September third, in recognition of thirty-five years service, Budd D. Colwell was tendered a dinner at the Pioneer Inn by his associates in the Salem and Beverly business offices.

Mr. Colwell has had a varied career, starting as salesman in Newton, thence to the traffic department in Boston, and later as Manager at Medford. Next he became assistant traffic manager in Somerville and Dorchester and then in the PBX department in Boston. In 1914 he was appointed Manager at Taunton, in 1917 Manager at Brockton, in 1923 Manager at Lynn, in 1925 at the division office in Boston, and in 1930 as Commercial Representative at Salem.

The arrangements were in charge of George Merrill, Elizabeth Chagnon, Ruth Westman, Daniel Tower and Lois Tupper.



*Associates of Bud Colwell who gathered to celebrate his thirty-fifth anniversary.*

## *Eastern Division*

DANIEL J. DESMOND, *Plant*

REGINALD W. HANSON, *Traffic*

E. I. HERBERT, *Commercial*

HELEN P. CURRAN, *Rev. Acct.*

ANNA O'BRIEN, *Disb. Acct.*

### *Plant Sales*

The Plant employees of the Eastern Division are anticipating an upward trend in Plant Sales for the balance of 1938.

Following is a summary of sales activity for August, with a few of the leading salesmen.

Total sales—189; yearly revenue—\$3,659.66. Elmer Kinney of

Presque Isle led the Division with 6 sales; Carroll M. Cleaves of the Biddeford Area—5; James E. Carle of Biddeford and Fred B. Brown of Portland 4 each.

In the other group Ella T. Christiansen of Portland, Lydia F. Howard of Lewiston, Donald K. Marston of Lewiston and William T. Bean of Portland 2 each.

## Setters

Leo J. King, Sub-Station Repair "A" in Portland, is the proud owner of these two fine English Setters, "Briton" and "Buzzer". Briton (sire of Buzzer) is one of the



outstanding gun dogs in the East. The two bird dogs are trained by King, and obey every command with dispatch and a degree of intelligence that is amazing.



The pictures show Briton pointing a pheasant, and the two setters in their air-conditioned, padded trunk compartment. Briton, the older of the two, won first prize in the last Maine Kennel Association Dog Show, and is well known as a field trial performer.

## Golf Bird

*Editor's Note.* Last December *Topics* carried a story about a "gull" on the golf links at Portland. In answer to the criticisms which were leveled at our associate editors in Maine, Danny Desmond submits the following story from the Portland Evening Express of September 7.

There are many hazards at the Municipal Golf Course at Riverton—sandtraps, water holes, high grass and ditches—but now there is another, Pete the crow.

Pete is a rascal, a thief by day, a chuckler over golfers' discomfiture by night. The sight of a slowly rolling golf ball awakens all Pete's evil instincts. He swoops down, stops the ball with his scaly feet, holds it firmly, gives it one or two pecks with his iron beak, grasps the resultant shredded surface with his bill, and hies away for parts unknown.

The 10th and 13th greens are his favorite snooping grounds, but he has been known to enter the clubhouse and fly off with a package of biscuits. His depreda-

tions are becoming more widely known as Pete's store of golf balls grows. Although he is nearly tame—made so by the generosity of caddies—Pete prefers the public not to touch him. Hold a cookie before him, however, and he will consume it greedily.

A day or so ago a golfer laid a perfect shot across the waterhole and upon the 13th green. The ball was headed for the cup when Pete came out of nowhere, grabbed the ball and flew into a tree. The golfer poured maledictions upon Pete's black head but it took a well-thrown putter to retrieve the ball.

## Donohue to Providence

John V. Donohue, non user supervisor of the Eastern Division, was recently honored at a farewell party at the Old Orchard Country Club.

Jack has been transferred to Providence where he will supervise a much larger group than in Portland. His loss will be felt by the Eastern not only because of his outstanding results, but also because of his being such an all round good fellow.

Willis J. Weeks, Division Sales Manager, was toastmaster and made the presentation of a traveling bag and a box of cigars. John C. Whittemore, District Manager, willed the sales car to Jack. The non-user group was represented by Paul Marcous, who expressed clearly how the boys felt about his leaving.

There were 44 present including in addition to those already mentioned, Linn R. Wood, manager at Waterville, John G. Hardy, manager at Lewiston, Herbert W. Chalmers, manager at Biddeford. The business office groups of Portland and Lewiston and nearly the entire sales group were present.

## With the National Guard

Regimental Headquarters Battery, 152nd Field Artillery, commanded by Captain Leslie C. Hartz, Toll Testman at Bangor, recently completed a successful tour of duty at Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., from August 13th to August 27th.

Among telephone men assigned to this outfit were Grover C. Brown, Combination man at Bangor, who is the 1st Sergeant, H. Warren Maddocks also of Bangor, Telephone Corporal in charge of switchboard maintenance and 1st Lieut. Lawrence Crosby of the Commercial Department, located at Port-

land, also Charles A. Fenno of the Bangor Engineering Department who is a member of the Regimental Band.

Approximately 1000 miles were covered by this Regiment, which also ran 25 miles of paired wire to be used as fire control lines. During the tour of duty the Regiment was pleasantly surprised to have associated with them as observers Major M. Hammond, Construction Supervisor of Manchester, N. H., also Captain Carroll E. Scott, Toll Testman of Boston, Massachusetts. Lawrence Crosby was promoted to Captain on September 18.

## New Dam

A very interesting meeting of the Maine Association of Engineers, of which Ralph A. Williams, Eastern Division Plant Superintendent is President, was held at the Great Northern Paper Company's new Dam and Power House site in the Town of Mattawamkeag, Maine, on Saturday, September 17.

Great Northern Company Engineers under Frank Bowler, Chief Engineer, conducted a tour of the plant in the making and explained the value of the many new features introduced in the cement foundation construction methods.

To us, as Telephone people, the subject of the afternoon's meeting held especial interest because it will require the relocation of nearly three miles of our toll line that serves this Territory.

Some of the principal facts concerning this private development are: Cost, approximately 2½ million dollars; Employing 300 men; Weekly payroll of approximately \$9,000; Will produce approximately 17,000 kilowatts; With a flowage of approximately 1,500 acres and will be the second Hydro-Electric development in New England to use the new type roller gate to control the flow of water through the flood gates.

A very interesting discussion of this development took place after a fine supper served to more than seventy members of the Association and their guests at Lincoln.

Other Telephone people present besides Mr. Williams were John B. Stuart, Bangor District Engineer, Robert F. Brown and Edgar W. Bellefontaine, both of the Bangor District Engineering Department.

### Married

Congratulations are in order to Daniel Golden, Motor Vehicle Supervisor's force of Bangor on his

marriage to the former Mildred Kennedy of Bangor which took place on August 6. Dan was presented with a purse by his associates in recognition of the event.

work. Ruth received several gifts from her many friends on departure from the Revenue Accounting Office.

### Married

Emma Cella of the Toll Billing Department resigned on August 26, to marry George Clough of Mattapan on September 4, at St. Gregory's Church, Dorchester. Their future home will be in Mattapan.

## Metropolitan Division

MARTIN B. DOWNEY, *Plant*      MARY C. MULLEN, *Traffic*  
BRYANT M. PATTEN, *Commercial*      WINIFRED C. FITZGERALD, *Rev. Acct.*  
PERCY H. COBB, *Disb. Acct.*

### New Brides

Eleanor Huddleston, Service Representative at the Cambridge Business Office, who left the employ of the company the first of July, was given a linen shower by the girls in the Cambridge Office at the 1775 House in Lexington. Her marriage to Arthur Mitchell took place at her home in Durham, New Hampshire, on Labor Day, September 5. She will make her home in Knoxville, Tennessee, where Mr. Mitchell is an instructor at the University of Tennessee.

Helen B. McEachern, Service Representative at the Cambridge Business Office, also left the employ of the company in July and was tendered a shower at Megansett Jr. Tea Room, on T Wharf. She became Mrs. George Gormley in July and is now living in Somerville.

Mary F. Gorman, Coach at the Cambridge Business Office, left the employ of the company in August to be married and a shower was held for her by the employees of the Cambridge Office at the home of Miss Marguerite I. Wilson in Belmont.

Anna C. Swett, Checker-Order Writer at the Somerville Business Office, who left the employ of the company in August, was given a shower at the Hofbrau Restaurant and is now Mrs. Leroy Hutchins and will reside in Dover, New Hampshire.

Frances E. McDuffee, Teller at the Somerville Business Office, resigned on July 30. She was given a shower at the 1775 House in Lexington and is now Mrs. John C. MacKay and is living in Boston.

### To Marry

Catherine G. Seeley, popular observer in the Dial Service Observing Bureau, resigned on September 10. She is to be married to Adam

Geten who also is an employe of our Company in the Plant Department at the Harrison Avenue Building.

Prior to becoming a service observer Miss Seeley worked in the Columbia office as an operator and supervisor.

A shower was tendered Miss Seeley by her associates at the home of Alice Higgins and she was presented with many gifts.

### Married

Mary E. McNerney, Service Representative in the Central District, was married to Dr. William J. Devlin of Springfield, on September 10 at the Mission Church in Roxbury. Mr. and Mrs. Devlin will be at home to friends at 230 Fort Pleasant Ave, Springfield, after September 14.

### Transferred

On August 26, Ruth Newton was transferred from the Toll Billing Unit to the Commercial Department for training in Commercial

### Hunter Retires

Frank E. Hunter, a Splicing Foreman in the Metropolitan Division, was retired recently at the conclusion of almost forty-four years' service.

He entered the service of the Company as an apprentice cable splicer.

His long service with the Company in the Metropolitan Division coupled with the fact that Frank was always considered the dean of the splicing gang made him known to practically all of the Plant force and many people in other departments.

His passing from active to inactive service is regretted by his many friends in the Metropolitan Division, a number of whom gathered recently at the Franklin Park Golf Club, Forest Hills, Boston, and feted him at a testimonial dinner. In behalf of his co-workers in the Construction Department and his many friends in the other forces, he was presented with a substantial purse with which to purchase some article he could best use during his retirement.



Friends who gathered to honor Frank E. Hunter at the conclusion of his forty-fourth year of service.

### Cooney BX. Supervisor

Edward C. Cooney is now Business Exchange Supervisor in charge of large P.B.X. sales. He replaced Eugene L. Vail, who is now working on a special study of Department Store Telephone Order Business. Mr. Vail recently returned from New York, where he had a week's training on Department Store Telephone Order Business.

### Newcomers

The Business Telephone Calling Group have four new members, Anna Hourihan, Helen Toomey, Amy Barthelmess and Gertrude Dwyer.

### Training

Mildred Ackerley and Helen McCarthy of the Telephone Calling Group, recently entered a service representative's class.

### Splicers' Outing

The Metropolitan Division Cable Splicers, Local No. 25, I.B.T.W., held their annual outing at the Stowe Country Club on Saturday,

September 10.

Over two hundred people, including the members of the organization, their families and guests, enjoyed the facilities of the Country Club.

Throughout the day, the outing was punctuated by sports contests. In the morning, golf held the attention of a large group. In the golf tournament Walter E. Hill was awarded the first prize barely nosing out Merrill H. Field, who captured the second place. Another match between Dick Field, Supervising Splicing Foreman and James J. Murphy, Superintendent of Construction, representing the Construction Department, and Frank J. Doyle, Division Plant Superintendent, and John G. Daley, General Plant Manager, finished up, with the Construction outfit being declared the winners.

Other sports consisted of a baseball game between the team of Splicers and one of Installers. The former won by a score of eight to five.

Herbert Cleary took first place in the young men's race; Otto Wilhelm won the old men's race; William F. Wells defeated a large group in the soft ball throwing contest; Freddie Smith was declared the "champ" in the pie eating contest; "Sonny" Walsh captured the same honor in the pie eating contest for children; Splicer James J. Knowles and his daughter were declared the best waltzers; Catherine Glynn was the winner of the women's shoe race; Bill Stearns and Charlie Glancey were first in the three legged race; and Mrs. Leslie R. Schiano was declared the champion in the women's bowling contest.

Dancing followed dinner served at the Country Club.

Patrick F. McCarron, Chairman of the Outing Committee, was assisted by Joseph F. McNeil, President; Peter F. Ryan, Frederick T. Lyons, Edward V. Leonard, James E. Muldoon, Adrian R. Reid, Richard P. Jackson, Michael E. Gaddes and James E. Murphy.



(Upper left) The Pie Eating Contest. At right, facing camera is Freddie Smith, the "winnab." (Upper right) The Golf Tournament. Left to right: James J. Murphy, Merrill H. Field, Frank J. Doyle, John G. Daley. (Lower left) Committee in charge of the outing. (Lower right) Some of the Splicers' wives pose.



At the annual combined outing of plant, traffic and commercial of District number three at Saxonville. Left, horseshoes; center, a few of the guests pose; right, the wives at archery.

### New Newton Business Office

The familiar Business Office sign now swings over a new location in Newton. The customers of Newton and Watertown have been served since September first by the recently opened Business Office at 321 Washington Street, Newton Corner.

The location is convenient to patrons of both of the communities it serves, and Manager Eugene Campbell and his people look forward to a more personal contact with their customers. We are neighbors to the other utility companies, the Boston Consolidated Gas Company office being across the street, and the Boston Edison Company store is only a few doors down on the same side of the street.

The office is very pleasing to the eye. The color tones of the walls, linoleum, window drapes, Venetian blinds blend harmoniously with the well-appointed light oak furniture. The office is located on the corner of Washington and Peabody Streets, and receives ample natural light during the entire day.

Like many things the new office must be seen to be appreciated. The Business Office people will be pleased to welcome visitors and show them the conveniences for our customers.

### Damon Retires

Charles L. Damon, Stockman of the Central District Commercial Office at 6 Bowdoin Square, Boston, has retired after thirty-two years of service. During his service in this Company he filled the positions of collector, counter representative and stockman.

"Charlie", as he was known to his wide telephone acquaintances, was the recipient of several gifts and cards from his co-workers.

### District No. 3 Outing

Green Acres in Saxonville was the scene of this year's annual outing of District No. 3.

The combined Commercial, Plant and Traffic forces of the district, together with their guests, more than three hundred people, enjoyed one of the best outings held in District No. 3, a district that enjoys an enviable reputation for running affairs of this sort.

From morning to late afternoon, a program chock full of sports was carried out.

In addition, golf was played all day.

The General Committee was chairmaned by John F. Rycroft, assisted by Timothy F. Murphy, Frank J. Thompson, Margaret K. Murphy, William D. Driscoll, John J. MacDougall and Joseph D. Murphy.

After the active day of sports, a dinner was served in the banquet hall followed by dancing.

The following are the winners of the various events:

Event	WOMEN'S EVENTS	
	Winners First Place	Second Place
50 Yard dash	Marion Leith	Louise Hannon
Archery	Alice Shaw	Louise Hannon
Cracker-Whistling	Charlotte O'Donnell	Mary Kelley
Three Legged Race	Dot Durkee and Gene Campbell	
Potato Race	Ella Shaw	Marion Leith
	MEN'S EVENTS	
50 Yard dash	Francis E. Joy	George D. Wilson
Shot-Put	Wynn Campbell	John Adams
Archery	Theodore H. Simpson	Edward R. Sears
Potato Race	John M. Kelly	John J. McCarthy
Cracker-Whistling	George D. Wilson	Peter Ginsberg
Baseball Game: Area No. 2, managed by Barry M. St. George, defeated Area No. 1 managed by George D. Wilson.		

### Southern Division

ERNEST R. NOKE, *Plant*

EARL McDONALD, *Traffic*

LOUISE SHAW, *Commercial*

LILLIAN G. EVANS, *Rev. Acct.*

S. JAMES ALLEN, *Disb. Acct.*

### Shower

On September 23rd and 29th many girls from the Brockton Central Office attended showers for their two brides-to-be. On September 23, Marjorie Howard and

Gladys Kiiski gave a shower for Marjorie Smith who is to be married on October 8th, and on September 29th, Eleanor Charron had a shower for Rose Bradshaw who is to be married later the same

month. In both instances the brides-to-be received many useful presents.

### **"Sail and "Roast"**

On August 6, a group of the Providence Revenue Accounting Girls spent a day on the Narragansett Bay aboard the 28-foot converted cat boat "Gypsy", owned and piloted by "Skipper Alfred F. Evans", a retired employee of the New England Tel. & Tel. Co. Mildred and Marion McConnell, Eleanor Rolfe, Lois Maher, Jeanette Boylan, Lucia Allen, Doris Vale, Velma Tuttle, Lillian Evans and Mrs. Helen Ormerod were the members of the party. Eleanor McPherson of Nova Scotia, who was visiting in Providence at the time was also one of the guests. Swimming and rowing helped to make the day a pleasant one.

### **Honor Miss Hutt**

On August 25 Mildred Hutt, Service Observer at Brockton, was given a banquet by members of the Brockton central office traffic force in honor of her 25th Anniversary. The gathering took place at the Pembroke Pines Inn at Hanover, and was attended by about sixty of her associates.

Mrs. Carrie Smith, Chief Operator at Brockton, acted as master of ceremonies and on behalf of those who attended the gathering, presented Miss Hutt with a beautiful wrist watch to commemorate the occasion. For entertainment a program of piano and vocal selections was presented.

### **Welcome**

We extend a hearty welcome to Gladys Walsh, student at Attleboro.

### **Marriages**

In the Brockton District marriages again appear in the news lime-light.

On September 4, in Brockton, Genevieve Kearns was married to Roy L. Albanys. Miss Kearns was attended by six bridesmaids, three of whom were Barbara Kenny, Virginia Chase, and Marie O'Leary of the Brockton Office.

A secret marriage was revealed at Brockton early in September when announcement was made of Win-

ifred Foster's marriage to Carl Chaskes. The event took place on August 4, 1937.

Mildred Gibbs, Junior Supervisor at Attleboro was married to Frank Wilson of the C.O.E.I. Department in Lebanon, New Hampshire on August 12. Upon her return she was honored at a banquet given for her by 17 of her office associates. She was presented with an electric Mixmaster and a table set by those who attended. At the same banquet farewells were extended to Marjorie Mayall and Eleanor Gingras, two recent resignations at Attleboro. They were each presented with a useful gift.

From Plymouth we also hear of new brides. On August 30th, Esther Haley was married at the home of her family to Carlton Holmes.

Doris Arthur, Supervisor at Plymouth, was married to Secundo Zucchelli on August 22. This wedding took place at the home of Miss Arthur's sister in Carver.

Claire Irving of Taunton was married to Bradford LeMaire on September 10.

In Woonsocket the new brides are Eleanor Wilson and Ethel Anderson. Miss Wilson was married to Charles Moss on September 11. She was attended by Ruth Wilson, a cousin, and Lois Koerner, both of the Woonsocket office. Marjorie Symes, also of the Woonsocket Office aided at the reception which followed the ceremony.

Miss Anderson was married to Eugene Wrenn on September 24. Irene Gilroy, Central Office Instructor at Woonsocket was bridesmaid.

Both brides received a present and a purse of money from their associates in the central office.

### **Public Service**

About three fifteen on the afternoon of August 18, an operator, upon answering a line signal at the Attleboro Central Office, heard a woman scream, "I'm sick", then silence, with the line signal still showing.

It was a four party line, and the operator immediately referred it to the test desk for assistance, to locate if possible, the calling party. The operator then called the police, relating what had happened and gave them the addresses of the subscribers on that line.

The testman, Mr. Walley, who at that time was acting Wire Chief, rang all the parties on that line, and getting no answer and having no available man to send, went himself to the locality. After calling at two houses and being informed by the neighbors they were away for the day, he met the police, who had arrived and together they went to the only other party on the line. At the house they received no response to their knocking, so they went in and found a woman unconscious on the floor. Mr. Walley applied first aid to her, while the police put in a call for a doctor.

The woman, upon recovering, called out for her child, which was found safe and sound in the adjoining room. With the arrival of the doctor and some of the neighbors, Mr. Walley left the scene, feeling with a sense of satisfaction, that he had rendered to the public, just another of the many services that is the privilege of a telephone employee.

## **Western Division**

MAURICE S. BLAISDELL, *Plant*

IRVING L. FISHER, *Commercial*

CLARENCE F. HEPBURN, *Disb. Acct.*

LORETTA L. KENNEDY, *Traffic*

RUTH M. SIMPSON, *Rev. Acct.*

### **Bus Accident at Charlton**

Emergency calls to the hospitals in Southbridge and Worcester on Sept. 13 were the first tragic events which broke to New England the news of one of the worst accidents in this locality when an east bound

bus and a west bound trailer truck crashed on the Hartford turnpike near the Oxford-Charlton line. Some idea of the seriousness of the crash may be gained by the fact that seven passengers of the bus were killed outright and thirteen persons severely injured.

The first emergency call was received at 6:10 A.M. for the hospital in Southbridge. It was handled by Mr. Woodbury, the Agent in Charlton, and Miss Templeman, an operator in Southbridge. The first call was followed by several other emergency calls from Charlton to Oxford, Worcester and Southbridge for ambulances, doctors and police to aid the injured survivors of the crash.

Mr. Woodbury, the agent at Charlton, on duty alone at the time of the tragedy, found it necessary to call his wife and daughter to assist him in handling the hundreds of calls that were being placed to Boston, Worcester, New York and Springfield. At 8:00 A.M., Evelyn Stone and Rosalind Oliver relieved Mr. Woodbury and they were kept exceptionally busy throughout the day handling the calls of newspapermen, police and relatives of the deceased and injured.

High traffic was reported throughout the day in the neighboring towns of Oxford and Southbridge where people had gone to place their calls as most of the telephones in Charlton were busy.

### Ten Times Tennis Winner

Harold Hemenway, construction progress clerk at Pittsfield, won the city tennis championship for the



Harold D. Hemenway

tenth time on August 20. He defeated Ben England at the Camp Merrill courts in the finals, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4, before an audience of over 250 spectators.

### I.B.T.W. No. 14 Annual Clambake

Local No. 14, I.B.T.W., of the Pittsfield Area, held their annual clambake and outing at Mickle's Grove at West Pittsfield, Mass., August 6.

There was a very good turn-out with between 75 and 80 present including visitors from other locals. Also visitors from Springfield and Boston were present.

The arrangements were under the supervision of Harry E. Illingworth, as Chairman, assisted by Everett L. Brooks, Donald Tucker, William E. Wagner, Gerald T. Curtin, Louis E. Boos, Thomas J. Rule, Floyd E. Murphy and Alexander C. White.

Ouimette, of Northampton, catered.

### S.C.O.M.A. News

On August 17 twenty-two members of the Springfield Central Office Maintenance Association organization did justice to a steak roasted over the coals made from a hickory fire at an outdoor fire place at Blunt Park. Darkness terminated the sports, including volley ball in which all were interested participants.

An outing was held on August 31, with steak providing the major portion of diet. Lawrence Nickerson officiated as chief cook, assisted by Irving N. Hathaway and Carl Donovan, acting as assistants.

The entertainment committee is planning for several dancing parties as an entertainment feature during the winter months.

The golf tournament of the associated members terminated in August, with individual scores as follows:

	Gross	Handicap	Net
William Julian	105	36	69
Leroy Rodiman	105	34	71
Irving Hathaway	110	38	72
Frank Rattman	89	15	74
Edward Bowler	88	11	77
Lawrence Nickerson	112	34	78
Charles Alderman	92	11	81

William Julian was the prize winner of a Joe Kirkwood Driver.

The bowling season is scheduled to start October 5th at Smiths Bowling Alley.

### Winged Visitor

The cafeteria in the Worcester office received a visit from a strange



Francis McKeon, night switchman at Worcester, holds the pigeon which recently invaded the cafeteria.

diner recently when a homing pigeon landed on the balcony outside of the room and dragged itself across the threshold.

So bedraggled did it look, that several operators immediately assisted it to their table, where it began a hearty meal on an ear of corn. After the corn came dessert of tapioca pudding washed down with milk.

After it had eaten until it could eat no more, the pigeon blinked its eyes, smoothed its feathers with its bill, then settled down with heavy eyes for a nap. While it gathered a few winks of sleep, the small thin band around its leg was examined. The letters "LYN 574—Aug. '38" were plainly visible.

The pigeon was then left to sleep on the balcony and at an early hour the following morning, left for parts unknown.

### Plant Ratings

The following Western Division men successfully passed examinations for Plant ratings during the month of August: George R. Lucier, Jr., Sub-Station Installer & Repairman, Class "A"; James R. Steele, Sub-Station Installer, Class "B"; George W. Crosby, Sub-Station Installer, Class "B"; William H. Shea, Sub-Station Installer & Repairman, Class "B"; Stanley E. Nye, C. O. Repairman Dial SxS, Class "A"; Carl E. Donovan, Switchman Dial SxS.

## Whalom Cyclone

On August 16, Mary L. Ahern, Junior Supervisor and Madelyn J. Burns, Operator at Fitchburg, were at Whalom Park when a freak cyclonic storm struck. Wind, hail, lightning and thunder turned the park into an inferno of noise within minutes. Trees crashed, amusement structures collapsed and women screamed in terror. Strangely enough no person was



A view of the cyclone damage to Whalom Park, prior to the hurricane.

injured although two trees crashed on to the roof of the summer theater while a play was being presented. Miss Burns was in the theater at the time and Miss Ahern was at the bath houses.

The storm did a great deal of damage in the Whalom Park Area, but was so freakish that Fitchburg did not get a drop of rain. About 150 lines were put out of order and 20 poles knocked down.

## Diving Champ

Edith M. Parent of the Springfield Revenue Accounting Department is the winner of the Western Massachusetts diving championship for women. She carried away the honors in the contest which was held at Look Memorial Park in Northampton on Sunday, Aug. 21.

## Honor Francis Jones

A large number of friends and

associates of Francis A. Jones, Inventory Supervisor in the Springfield Disbursements Accounting Office, gathered at the Hotel Worthy in Springfield on the evening of August 31st in honor of his 30th anniversary with the company.

The toastmaster was Michael F. Coyne. After dinner dancing was enjoyed until late in the evening. Mr. Jones was presented with a lounge chair from his fellow associates and on the following day received a bridge lamp from the clerks in the Inventory Unit.

## 401st

Members of the 401st Veterans Association will hold their Annual Armistice Eve meeting and dinner at Hotel Kenmore on Thursday Evening, November 11, at seven o'clock. The event will mark the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Armistice in 1918.

Major George K. Manson, General Chairman, heads an active committee, which promises a most delightful evening to those who attend.

## I.B.T.W. Outing

The afternoon of September 10 nearly 300 members and guests of Local No. 4, I.B.T.W., gathered at Turner Park, East Longmeadow, where an old-fashioned stone bake

was served, consisting of clams, lobster, chicken and corn.

William Parkinson conducted a successful horse shoe tournament in which many experts participated. Bowling contests were held at the club house with various other games about the grounds in which much interest was evidenced.

Invited guests included Mr. Charles N. Tasker, Vice-President of the New England Tel. & Tel. Co.; Clarence G. McDavitt, formerly Vice-President, retired; Jeremiah J. Coughlan, International President, I.B.T.W.; William F. Kelley, International Vice-President, I.B.T.W.; Timothy F. Murphy, International Secy.-Treas., I.B.T.W.; William J. Glynn, International Officer, I. B. T. W.; Martin J. Ryan, International Officer, I. B. T. W.

Members of the Pittsfield, Greenfield, Worcester, Fitchburg, Vermont and Providence Locals were also present and the following retired employes were guests of the organization: Napoleon Goudreau, Charles McCormack, Frank L. Burgess, James W. Lewis, James A. Crowell.

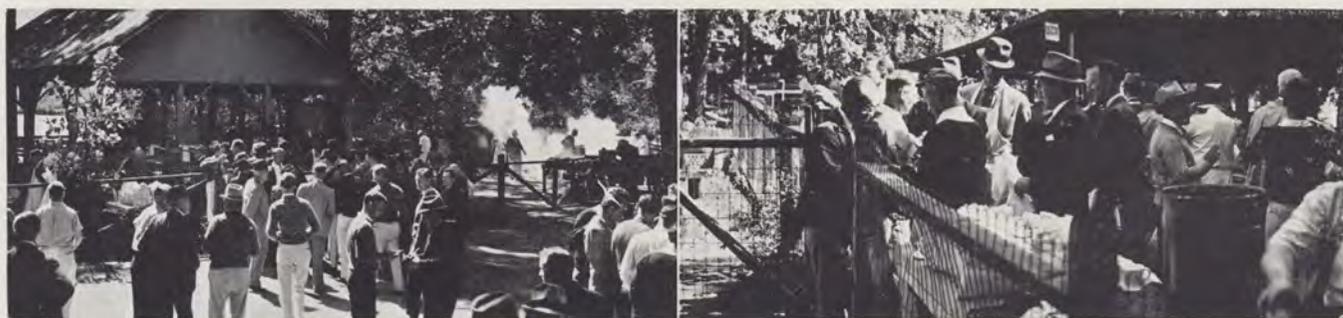
The committee in charge of this very enjoyable affair was Harry Oakes, Chairman; Gerald Foley, Martin McDonald, Bernard Sullivan and Jerry Cavanaugh.



Retired members of Local No. 4 at clambake. L. to r.: Napoleon Goudreau, Charles McCormack, Frank L. Burgess, James W. Lewis, James A. Crowell.



International I.B.T.W. officers. L. to r.: William F. Kelley, Jeremiah J. Coughlan, Timothy F. Murphy, William J. Glynn and Martin J. Ryan.



Going into dinner. A good feed of hearty food.

## Advertisements

Employees both active and retired, wishing to advertise anything for sale, rent or exchange may do so in *Telephone Topics* without charge. The Company magazine is glad to be of such service to employees, if there is a demand for it, but, of course, can assume no responsibility for statements made in the ads.

### FOR SALE

**ACOUSTICON**—Hard of hearing set for sale. Cost \$62. Will sell for \$25. Call HAN 5832.

Well constructed house in Arlington, Mass. 7 rooms, garage, hot water heat, screened porch. Lot 40 feet front by 150 feet deep. \$5,000. Lester C. Shirley. Tel. ARL 4475 or ELI 9950.

**COTTAGE** at Humarock, Mass. Large lot, electricity, running water, screened porch, surrounded by cedar trees. Price reasonable. Tel. BLUe Hills 4550.

**1938 PHILCO CAR RADIO**—For sale. Used one month. Six tubes; suitable for recent Chrysler cars or any make of car. \$35. Will install. Call Adelaide Weaver, 88 Main St., Saugus. Tel. Saugus 1135.

**HOUSE** with three acres of land; long frontage on state road. Two-car garage, stable, two hen houses, barn shed. On bus stop; twenty minutes from city. All improvements; house has ten rooms, bath, steam heat, hot and cold water. Mrs. Bertha Barby, 69 Waterman Ave., Centredale, R. I. Tel. Centredale 631.

**TWO-FAMILY HOUSE**—in Somerville. Six rooms downstairs, 7 rooms up. Front and back porches; newly painted; re-finished inside; all improvements. Income from rentals \$68 per month. Will sell at a sacrifice. P. L. Elswick, Main St., Groton, Mass., care of S. G. Copp.

### *Trouble on a String*

A puzzling case of telephone "trouble" was reported by a farmer. For several mornings his telephone had refused to observe early farming hours—it wouldn't "go to work" until sometime after sun-up.

The telephone company's "trouble shooter" checked the line. Everything seemed all right. But next morning came the same trouble. Upon further investigation a kite string was discovered fouled on the outside wire.

Ordinarily this would cause no trouble. But this string dangled into a chicken watering basin. At night the string became moist with dew and then thoroughly wet as capillary attraction drew water into it from the basin. The electric current in telephone use was detoured by the wet string and basin into the ground. But when the morn-

Why not have a winter home in Florida? Lot 60 x 125, sidewalks, electricity, one block from Highway \$200.00 each, 2 for 300.00, also small homes for sale or rent. Excellent fishing and hunting, living cheap. For information address R. H. Porter, De Leon Springs, Fla.

### FOR RENT

**COMFORTABLE ROOM**, well furnished. Three minutes' walk to bus or train service to Boston. Very desirable location. Room may be seen at any time. Mrs. George D. Hicks, 29 Wyoming Ave., Malden, Mass.

**FRIENDLY SERVICE** in an exceptional private home on one of best residential streets in suburban Boston is offered to elderly or retired people. Rates from \$15-\$20 a week. One room 16' x 14' with sunroom adjoining; particularly attractive for man and wife at combined rate of \$35 a week. Large private garage \$5 a month. ABC, *Telephone Topics*.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**SAVE \$20**—Are you buying a new or used car? I have a \$60 credit on the purchase of a new or used car which I will sell at a discount of \$20. Good on the purchase of a new Dodge, Plymouth, DeSoto or Chrysler, or on a used car of any make. Call HAN 6374.

ing sun dried the cord, the errant electricity resumed its usual route.

### *Dr. Wilkins Joins Medical Dept. Staff*

The Medical Department an-



nounces the appointment effective September 1, 1938, of George

Franklin Wilkins, M.D., as Medical Officer, Boston, Mass., replacing Joseph Maroney, M.D., assigned to other duties.

Dr. Wilkins was graduated with honors from Harvard Medical School in 1932 and from his internship at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, in 1934. For a while thereafter he was Resident Surgeon at the Riverside Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida.

At the present time Dr. Wilkins is a member of the Surgical Staffs at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and at the Carney Hospital; Assistant in Surgery at Harvard Medical School and was associated with the Department of Hygiene at Harvard University for the three years preceding his appointment as a Medical Officer in this Company.

## In Memoriam

*Bartholomew J. Rooney*, formerly salesman in the Commercial Department at Boston. Died September 10.

*Faith L. Small*, Chief Operator at Cornish, Maine. Died September 26.

*William E. Hitchcock*, combinationman, in the Plant Department at Manchester, Vermont. Died August 28.

*Harry A. Pitt*, P.B.X. Foreman in the Plant Department at Cambridge. Died August 24.

*Muriel B. Chase*, payroll clerk in the Commercial Department at Boston. Died August 27.

*Chester A. Keyser*, floor switchman in the Plant Department at Providence. Died August 23.

*Edna A. Carey*, formerly clerk in the Commercial Department at Worcester. Died August 19.

*Anna L. Wade*, Junior Supervisor at Boston Toll. Died September 28.

*Mary J. Sheehan*, formerly employed as Chief Operator at Dorchester. Died September 26.

*Frank Haughey*, formerly in the Plant Department at Boston. Died September 20.

# CLIPPED FROM OUR MAIL BAG

## *Bird in Hand*

"If someone left you a million dollars, what would you do?"

"Hire a trio of lawyers and try and get it."

## *Justice*

Prospective Employer: "Have you any references?"

Applicant: "Yes'm, lots of them."

Prospective Employer: "Why didn't you bring them with you?"

Applicant: "Well, ma'am, to tell the truth, they're just like my photographs, none of them do me justice."

## *One Way*

Wife (to husband in next room): "My dear, what are you opening that can with?"

Husband: "With a can opener, naturally. What did you think I was opening it with?"

Wife: "Well, I thought from your remarks you were opening it with a prayer."

## *Classroom*

A long-winded professor, noticing signs of restlessness in his class during a tedious lecture, said:

"My friends, I don't mind you looking at your watches during my lectures to see what the time is. But when you start holding them to your ears to make sure they are still going, then I feel that it is time I made a little protest."

## *Rivalry*

Two butchers had shops next to each other and there was great rivalry. One day the first butcher put up a notice in his window: "The king eats our sausages."

The next day the second butcher put up a notice with the words: "God save the king."

## *Chiropodist*

A lady with a huge brown paper parcel came out of a chiropodist's establishment. She was furiously angry, and said to a friend waiting for her: "Calls himself a chiropodist, and can't stuff a dog!"

## *Salesminded*

The business man had died and gone to, well, not to Heaven. But hardly had he settled down for a nice long smoke when a hearty hand slapped him on the back, and into his ear boomed the voice of a persistent salesman who had pestered him much on earth.

"Well, Mr. Smith," chortled the salesman, "I'm here for that appointment."

"What appointment?"

"Why, don't you remember?" the salesman went on. "Every time I came to your office you told me you'd see me here?"

## *Following Instructions*

"You're looking fine," announced the doctor to his patient. "Have you followed my dieting instructions and eaten only what a three-year-old child would?"

"Yes, doctor," was the sad reply. "For dinner I had a handful of mud, one of coal dust, a button, and a box of safety matches."

## *6 Feet Under*

"The thing for you to do," said the doctor to the man with the frazzled nerves, "is to stop thinking about yourself—to bury yourself in your work."

"Gosh!" returned the patient, "and me a concrete mixer."

—*Border Cities Star.*

## *These Moderns*

"Where's your doll, dear?" the family visitor asked the eight-year-old girl.

"Oh! the boy next door has custody of the doll. I get three lollipops a week alimony."

## *Exception*

Dad—My boy, always remember that whatever you attempt, there is only one way to learn and that is to begin at the bottom. There are no exceptions to that rule.

Son—None at all, Dad?

Dad—No, son.

Son—How about swimming?

## *Same*

Mrs. Meeker—Dear, what's the difference between direct taxation and indirect taxation?

Meeker—The same as the difference between your asking me for money and going through my pockets when I'm asleep.

—*Pathfinder.*

## *Some Order*

Modern competition appears to be forcing some of our public utility corporations to proffer unusual services to their customers. To call attention to these special services, telegraph companies often use little stickers on the corners of their delivered messages.

The story is current that a father, nervously waiting at his office for the news that both worries and thrills, received this message: "Charlotte gave birth to a baby girl this morning Stop Baby and mother both well and happy." On the corner of the envelope containing the message was this label: "When you want a boy, ring Western Union." —*Contact.*

## *Aunt and Ant*

It was the twins' first visit to the Zoo and their Aunt Prim, who had charge of them, was endeavoring to render the visit memorable. She succeeded but not quite in the manner she anticipated.

The lessons in zoology were boring enough but her continual nagging at the youngsters in regard to their behavior was making their lives a misery. At last they arrived at a cage containing a long-snouted animal which she informed them was an ant-eater.

Tommy brightened up at once, nudged his sister and whispered:

"Do you think we could push her in?"

## *Reversed*

Farmer—Gosh! You must have plenty of nerve to come down in a parachute in a hundred-mile gale like this.

Stranger—I didn't come down in a parachute. I went up in a tent.

—*Exchange.*

## A Family Pulls Together

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In the disaster through which New England has passed as a result of hurricanes and floods the value of a family has been proved as never before—a family to plan together, work together, pull together side by side to restore order from chaos and comfort from danger and destruction.

Our Company has a family, too. Not only the family of men and women who work day and night to serve our customers in normal times, but a family of highly trained men and women throughout the United States. It is their task to provide all America with "the finest telephone service in the world".

Everywhere in New England today you will see the men and women, the trucks and equipment of our relatives from the many sections of the United States who have come to help us during the emergency. Their insignia have seldom been seen in New England—their names may be strange to us, but they are a part of the great telephone family that is working together to keep our service the finest in the world—despite a catastrophe that has never been equalled. It takes a family to pull together in times of trouble!

We owe our deepest thanks and gratitude to:

American Telephone  
and Telegraph Company

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