'PHONE GIRL SAYS "O."

No, She's Not Surprised, But Is Drawing Nearer to Naught—"Ought" Grates on Sensitive Ears.

The telephone girl is progressive. For years and years in repeating a number which had a zero included she would always call it "ought." For instance, if a subscriber called for "twenty four thirty," the telephone girl would repeat: "Two-three-four-ought." When some subscriber who had a little feeling of compassion for the king's English, which was being so cruelly murdered right before his ears, would gently object and say: "Two-four-three-naught," the girl would again repeat, "ought," and tell the subscriber to "look in the dictionary."

But the world moves, says the New York Herald. The "naught" is commencing to be realized in the most exclusive telephone circles. It could not be expected that the telephone girl would surrender all at once. She has fought for that "ought" too long to drop it immediately, and thus confess that she had been wrong.

So, while she has dropped the "ought," she has taken up "o" instead. So now she repeats 2340 in this manner, "two-three-four-O."

It is a splendid victory for English undefiled. Optimists can now see dawning that glad day when the telephone girl will say "naught" right out loud.

PERSONS WHO LIVED LONG.

Men and Women Who Reached Years of Remarkable Length—Many Centenarians.

The late Pope Leo had a long life, but compared with the ages of others who had gone before him he was comparatively youthful at his death. Thomas Parr and Henry Jenkins are, respectively, credited with the ages of 152 and 169. Jeanne Serimphan was married when she was 127 and died when she was 128. Dr. Dufournel married at 116 and became the father of two children and died at 120. Marie Priou reached the age of 158. A woman of Metz, the mother of 24 children, died at the age of 100. Surgeon Politman celebrated his one hundred and fortieth birthday. Patrick O'Neil buried seven wives and died at 120, and a Norwegian peasant is recorded as dying at 160 and leaving two sons, one aged 108 and the other only nine summers. Robert Taylor lived to be 134 and died of excitement on receiving the picture of Queen Victoria signed by herself. An Irishman named Brown, who was a habitual drunkard, lived to be 128; he had a daily jag for 90 years. Durond d'Estivel, of Cahors, lived to be 128. A woman of 124 drank strong coffee in great quantities all her days, while a man of 114 lived on fruit, chiefly melons, and chewed lemon peel.

ROYAL RULERS OF JAPAN.

Present Reigning House Dates Back Six Centuries Before Opening of Christian Era.

His majesty, Mutsuhito, or emperor, and Edward VII., king of Great Britain, are the two ideal prototypes of the constitutional sovereign. Seated firmly as they are in the hearts of their subjects, who should be surprised at their ever-growing glory and popularity?

The mikado is of the long and unbroken line of 1"0 ancestors who sat before him on the throne, which was set up 660 years before the Christian era, says Niroku Shinpo. Just think of it! The oldest of the royal families in Europe is that of Capet, which, however, is comparatively young, as it dates no further back than the ninth century. And it remains now in the Parisian society as a rare relic of a bygone royal family. The Savoy, the Brunswick, the Baden, and so forth, go back only to the eleventh century. But our imperial line, as already mentioned, started long before the battle of Marathon was recorded, long before the songs of Homer were recited. Since then no foreign conqueror ever set foot on the soil of Japan.

RADIUM IN MEDICINE.

Expected to Work Marvelous Results in the Treatment of Cancer and Blindness.

The Anglo-Indian Review summarizes an interesting account of the possible future applications of radium. The area where success is practically assured is at present not very large, but in the medical field it is already fairly extensive. In the working of X-rays and in the marvelous results achieved in the treatment of cancer and blindness we have every hope for great and universally benefiting results. In its industrial applicaton we are somewhat restricted by the extremely limited supply of radium available, but it is stated that a small fraction of an ounce, properly employed, would probably provide a good light sufficient for several rooms, and would not require renewal during the present century. It has been calculated that the energy stored up in one gramme of radium is sufficient to raise 500 tons weight a mile high. An ounce would, therefore, suffice to drive a 50-horsepower motor car at the rate of 30 miles an hour round the world.

The Hydrophobia Microbe.

Dr. A. Negri, at Pavi, announced last March the discovery of the specific micro-organism of hydrophobia. He now states that he has examined more than 100 dogs with natural or laboratory hydrophobia, and has never failed to find the specific micro-organism in the nerve centers. On the other hand, he has never found it in other dogs.

Through the Suez.

The civilian passengers through the Suez canal last year numbered 92,000, and the pilgrims, emigrants and conviots, 40,000.

AMERICAN ANCESTRAL HOMES

Our Shrewder Millionaires Propose to Build Them in Their Own Country.

Now that the American millionaires have had time to look about them and have contracted the habit of visiting Europe, where they are received by royalty, it is not surprising that they should be taken with a desire for ancestral homes, says the Philadelphia Record. In the first impulse several of them have bought up the ancestral homes of impoverished English aristocrats and attempted to enjoy the emotions which are commonly ascribed to the man who inherits baronial halls, oil portraits, tombs and vast game preserves. It has been noted, however, that after a very brief experience most of them have turned up again in the neighborhood of Wall street, where their most exciting and happiest days have been spent. The fact is that life in the foreign ancestral home is too like a pioneer existence to please the American millionaire for long. To equip the place with electric lights or even with gas; to install a hard coal furnace and hot air pipes, and all such modern improvements as hot and cold water, dumb waiters, electric bells, swift-footed young servants, telephones, soft carpets and whatever makes living comfortable—the things for which the millionaire labored in his most active age—would be ridiculous. No man can experience or pretend to experience the state of mind of a born aristocrat in his ancestral home without submitting to ancient conditions.

The shrewder American millionaires propose to build their own ancestral homes in their own country within easy reach of the busy cities and where no traditions bind them to the life of privilege which is the lot of the foreign aristocracy.

WANTED QUEEN'S COURIER.

Rich American Held Out Financial Inducement to the Servitor of Victoria.

"When your American millionaire wants anything he wants the best," observed an Englishman, who was a 'queen's messenger' in Victoria's reign. 'He's willing to pay well for it, too.

"I know this from an experience I once had in Constantinople. After my signature on the hotel register I added, for reasons of my own, 'queen's courier.'

"The next day I was surprised to receive a card bearing the name of a well-known wealthy American. I couldn't remember the gentleman, but, thinking that I'd probably met him on a steamer or on a train somewhere, I told the servant to show him up.

"A few minutes later a short, fat man who conveyed the general effect of too much diamond stud and watch chain was ushered in.

"I rose to meet him.

"'How are you?' he started off in a business-like voice. 'You're the queen's courier, ain't you? Well, now, I'll tell you. I'm here with my family—been tourin' Turkey, y' know—and our courier's left us. Now I know you've got a pretty comfortable job with the queen, but I don't care how much it is; if you'll come with us, we'll give you a darn sight moren's she's payin'. What d'yer say?"

THE BEST LINIMENT.

"Chamberlain's Pain Balm is considered the best liniment on the market," write Post & Bliss of Georgia, Vt. No other liniment will heal a cut or bruise so promptly. No other affords such quick relief from rheumatic pains. No other is so valuable for deep seate pains like lame back and pains in the chest. Give this liniment a trial and you will never wish to be without it. Sold by Corner Drug Store.

The Love of Eating.

IS THE AMERICAN BECOMING A GOURMAND?

In our largest centers of population, such as New York and Chicago, we daily see more attention given to the inner man. Cafes and lunch-rooms are filled with men and women who seem to give all their time and attention to thoughts of properly or improperly feeding their stomachs. "It is of course best to eat slowly, but not too much," says Dr. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. In this 20th century people devote so much time to head work that their brain is fagged and there isn't sufficient blood left to properly take care of the other organs of the body. The stomach must be assisted in its hard work—the liver started into action—by the use of a good stomach tonic, which should be entirely of vegetable ingredients and without alcohol. After years of experience in an active practice, Dr. Pierce discovered a remedy that suited these conditions in a blood-maker and tissue-builder. He called it Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery—an alterative extract that assists in the digestion and assimilation of the food in the stomach—so that the blood gets what it needs for food and oxidation, the liver is at the same time started into activity and there is perfect elimination of waste matter. When the blood is pure and rich, all the organs work without effort, and the body is like a perfect machine.

FREE! Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser is sent *free* on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing *only*. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper covers, or 31 stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

FEEDING SHEEP ON WOOD.

Great Damage Worked in Many Sections by Close Grazing on Young Pine Shoots.

With the rapid multiplication of great flocks of sheep in the far west has come the grave question of providing the wool bearers with sufficient provender. Many sheep owners in the western mountain regions where there is little or no grass to speak of have partly remedied the difficulty by feeding their sheep on wood!

Not cordwood, to be sure, but on the young and tender pine shoots which abound in the foothills and approaches of the mountain reserves, says the New York Herald.

The sheep of the western mountain regions, generally of those varieties known as "grade" merinos and coarse wools mixed, are run in flocks, or "bands," of 2,000 to 3,000 head, in charge of a herder, who is assisted by a "camp tender," "packer" or "camp rustler," whose business it is to look up range, move camp and "pack" in supplies, including salt for the sheep.

In the journey to the mountains the sheep are usually obliged to follow certain natural highways, and their progress and the work of handling them are largely governed by the surroundings. In all cases of razing on the pine shoots the range is cut close, and this close-shaving of the only vegetable cover, together with the loosening of the soil, is working damage in many sections, much to the alarm of residents not interested in wool growing.

THE SULTAN'S PLAYERS.

Members of This Theatrical Company Must Be Ready to Go on Stage Night or Day.

The sultan keeps a theatrical company of his own, at the head of which is an Italian, Arturo Stravolo, of Naples. All the members of the company, says the London Express, are relations, by blood or marriage, of the director. Being the sultan's own company, all the male members wear a uniform and hold military degrees. The tenor has the rank of a general, the baritone that of a major, the first violinist is captain, and the horn player merely lieutenant. The company do not perform on fixed days, but only when the sultan wishes it. They are often awakened at midnight, and have to be ready, dressed and "made up" within 40 minutes to play before the sultan, who generally is himself the sole audience. Abdul Hamid follows the play attentively, and if anything is not quite clear he stops the performance and has the passage explained to him. Sometimes, however, the sultan, in a fit of melancholy, leaves abruptly, and the players have to stop and go home. The sultan does not permit children to appear on the stage. In a recent production of "A Doll's House" two stalwart Albanian guardsmen acted the part of the children. Arturo Stravolo, who is a born comedian, is the sultan's favorite.

HOW SARDINES ARE CURED.

Should Be Prepared Immediately After Capture, Then Plunged Into Boiling Olive Oil.

"It is in the spring," said a fish dealer in the Philadelphia Record, "that the sardine netting begins. Genuine sardines are the young of the pilchard. Their name comes from the fact that they are most numerous off the coast of Sardinia. They swim in shoals containing millions—fish-shaped shoals ten miles long and a half-mile wide. The sardines are netted and taken at once to the shore. They are washed, scraped and sprinkled with salt. The salt is soon removed, the head and gills cut off and there is another washing. Then, on beds of green brushes, the fish are dried in the sun. Next they are boiled in olive oil till cooked thoroughly.

"The packers—women always—take them now and pack them in the tin boxes we all know, filling up each box with boiling oil, fitting on the lid and making the box air tight by soldering the joints together with a jet of hot steam. Sardines are more or less perfect, according as they are prepared more or less immediately after their capture, and according as the oil they are packed in is more or less pure.

RULE WORKS BOTH WAYS.

It Costs to Go Into the Business of Horse Racing and It Costs to Get Out.

E. R. Thomas, the owner of the horse Hermis, talked one day at Saratoga about the expense of racing, says the New York Tribune.

"A racing stable is like a newspaper," he said. "At the beginning it requires a good deal of money. You know what Charles A. Dana used to say about newspapers—that it costs a lot to start them, but they would stop of themselves? Well, that is equally true of racing stables. Only, as a rule, even to give a stable up costs money.

"Once, when P. T. Barnum was taking tickets at the entrance of his circus, a man asked him if he could go in without paying.

"'You can pay without going in,' said Barnum, 'but you can't go in without paying. The rule doesn't work both ways.'

"Now, in racing," said Mr. Thomas, "the rule does work both ways. It costs to go in racing, and it costs to get out, too."

Nitrogen in Radium.

One mystery seems to have been removed from radium. Sir Michael Huggins, the greatest authority living on the spectroscope, with the aid of his wife, has discovered that the lines attributed to helion in the radium spectrum are really the lines of nitrogen.

OCTOGENARIAN'S HOPE.

Buffalo Merchant of Four Score Years Contemplates Return to Chicago "in a Few Years."

Admiration for Chicago, amounting almost to love for the western metropolis, is seen daily in people who have made their homes elsewhere, says the Chicago Tribune. This was illustrated the other day in Buffalo, when a man 80 years old lauded the city in which he had been a pioneer, and which he had not seen since he was a youth.

Two Chicago women, waiting for a train in Buffalo, entered a queer old general store near the river. An old man, puffing a clay pipe, ordered his clerks to bring chairs, and sat down to entertain his visitors.

"Do you live in Buffalo?" he asked. The women answered that their homes were in Chicago.

"Well, I declare!" said the merchant, joyfully. "That the finest place on earth. I used to live there 60 years ago; had a store in South Water street. I tell you it was a great place for a young man! Ferdinand Jones owned a lot on the north side, and you could buy a big chunk of State street for $3,000.

"I'm going to sell out here in a few years and go back and open another store there. There's a lot of money to be made there yet."

The visitors hurried away to catch their train and left the merchant of four score years contemplating his return to Chicago "in a few years."

Curious Action of Radium.

A Russian doctor named Loudon, of St. Petersburg, has published some interesting observations relative to the action of the Becquerel rays on the nervous system and on the eye. He found that when a box containing bromide of radium was placed in a cage in which mice were kept the animals became paralyzed and comatose, and died in five days. He also found that persons who are either totally blind, or have only the feeblest possible perception of light, are peculiarly sensitive to the Becquerel rays, and are able to form visual conceptions of the contour of objects the shadows of which are shown on a screen by means of the rays.

CURED OF PILES AFTER 40 YEARS.

Mr. C. Haney, of Geneva, O., had the piles for 40 years. Doctors and dollars could do him no lasting good. DeWitts Witch Hazel salve cured him permanently. Invaluable for cuts, burns, bruises, sprains, lacerations, eczema, tetter, salt rheum and all other skin diseases. Look for the name DeWitt on the package—all others are cheap, worthless counterfeits. Sold by Corner Drug store.

Market Report.

The quotations given below are the prevailng prices Wednesday morning and are subject to change at any time

Butter, Ranch 25c per lb.,
Creamery, 30c per lb
Eggs, 40c doz
Potatoes, $0.50 per 100 lbs
Hay—Mixed, $8.00.
Timothy, $10.00 Baled.
Oats, $1.10 per 100 lbs.
Wheat, $1.10 per 100 lbs.
Apples, 75c.
Cabbage, $0 85 per 100 lbs.
Onion $1.00 per 100 lbs.

APPETITE AND MENTALITY.

Nations of Intelligence and Energy Are the Ones That Spend Most Money on Food.

It has been demonstrated by those who have investigated the subject that the people who eat are the peoples who get on and do things. People who have large appetites, it says, have become the chief nations in the world and the nature of the food consumed bears a relation to the character of the consumers.

The argument expressed in tabular form indicates in pence the amount expended a head each day for food and the annual exports in pounds sterling:

United States	29	299,000,000
United Kingdom	28	250,000,000
Germany	21	221,000,000
France	19	166,000,000
Italy	9	84,000,000

The American leads the world as a meat eater, with three pounds a week; the Briton follows a close second, with a little more than two pounds and a half; the German consumes a little less than the Briton and the Russian consumes one pound, while the Italian must perforce eke out his scant half pound with large supplies of macaroni and black bread and garlic. The argument has a plausible look, says the Chicago Chronicle, but let us not forget that the finest speciments of physical strength in the whole world, with the exception of one hardy savage tribe few in numbers, comes from a spot in the Emerald isle where the diet is potatoes and milk, chiefly skimmed, and black bread, and very little of any of them. And there is the sturdy Scot, who scarcely knows the taste of meat, but makes his way in all climes and under all conditions, though he springs from an ancestry that subsisted on oatmeal.

HOW A TRAMP SAWED WOOD.

Sounds of Hard Work Issued from Shed But Sticks Were Left Intact as Before.

Harry Sanderson, manager for Tony Pastor, who lives at Cranford, N. J., not feeling particularly well, took a day off recently and remained at home. From the window of his library, says the New York Herald, he observed a tramp entering his gate and he walked down to the rear door to meet him. It was the old story—a request for a meal. Having a load of unsawed wood in the shed, he told the fellow that if he got to work and performed on the sawbuck for a brief period he would have something prepared for him.

The tramp went to the shed and immediately the sound of vigorous sawing was heard, stick after stick parting under his energetic efforts. Calling the tramp into the kitchen, Sanderson complimented him upon his energy, and the tramp replied with a modest air that whenever he had anything to do he generally paid attention to it. The meal was eaten and the tramp expressed his thanks and departed.

Shortly afterward Sanderson went out to the shed and was surprised to find every stick of wood intact. Upon inquiry in the village he ascertained that he had been entertaining a stranded ventriloquist, who was working his way back to New York from Easton, Pa. The mean chap had simply gone into the shed and given his imitation of sawing wood.

DRINKING AND SMOKING.

Physician Declares They Are Not Companion Vices—Inebriates Find Little Comfort in the Weed.

"The prevalent idea that drinking and smoking are companion vices is altogether wrong," said a physician, who has made a special study of dipsomania, according to the Philadelphia Record. "I find, on the contrary, that the habitual drunkard is not abnormally addicted to the use of tobacco. He may use the weed as a lesser stimulant when not strongly under the influence of alcohol, but when the drink gets firmly intrenched in his system he cares nothing for tobacco, for then it has lost its force and its influence upon his nerves. Of course I mean in extreme cases.

"On the other hand, it is a rather curious fact that in the case of the moderate drinker, who also smokes, the cutting off of his supply of tobacco will increase his appetite for alcoholic beverages, and while at first the liquor will not affect him nearly so much as when he is smoking, in the end it will do him up. Consequently, it is safe to assume that the man who always used liquor and tobacco in moderation will, if he gives up tobacco, take more strongly to liquor. In fact, this is no assumption; it has been demonstrated on numerous occasions."

Telegraph in Cipher.

Chinese cannot be telegraphed, and to meet this difficulty a cipher system has been invented, by which messages in that language can be transmitted over the wires. The sender of the message has no need to trouble himself about the meaning, and, in fact, may be telegraphing all day without the slightest idea of the information he is sending, for he transmits only numerals. It is very different, however, with the receiver of the message at the other end, as he must have a code dictionary, and, after each message is received, must translate it, writing each literary character in the place of the numeral that stands for it.

The Only Titled Mute.

Sir Evelyn Arthur Fairbairn is the only subject of King Edward who bears a hereditary title and was born deaf and dumb. A tall, handsome man, with a peculiarly winning smile and attractive manner, he gives no outward sign of a misfortune which would have shadowed a temperament less bouyant than his own. Sir Arthur is a famous globe trotter, a great part of his travel having been undertaken to study means of ameliorating the lot of those afflicted as he is himself.