

### Annual Banquet Of Merchants and Manufacturers

The fifty-first annual banquet of the Merchants and Manufacturers association has been set for Thursday, March 13, at the Ambassador Hotel, the association announced today.

Fulton Lewis Jr. will speak on "Labor and the Law."

Arrangements are in charge of Lewis Allen Weiss, chairman of the annual banquet committee, who is assisted by Don Harding, Willis J. Boyle, J. A. Hartley and H. W. Tuttle.

In addition to Lewis, M & M members will hear a report from Dave F. Smith, president, and from Don Belding, chairman of the association's public relations committee.

### Navy Veteran Is Recipient Of Battalion Book

Larry Benton, local police officer and veteran of the Navy C.B.'s, last week received a 9x12-inch leather-bound book containing pictures of every man in his battalion. The book, of remarkable workmanship and published from an \$1,800 23rd WSCB fund, depicted the battalion's activities over a period of 21 months.

Pictures of more than 1,100 servicemen appear, as well as scenic and operational views taken on many Pacific islands. It required nearly a year to gather information and secure pictures for the book publishing, Benton revealed.



FIRST TELEPHONE CALL . . . This is an artist's conception of the incident of March 10, 1876, at 5 Exeter Place, Boston, after the first complete sentence was carried via the telephone. As Bell was about to test a transmitter, he upset a battery, and the solution spilled over his clothing. He called, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want you!" The damage to his clothing was forgotten when Watson rushed into the room crying, "Mr. Bell, I heard every word you said—distinctly!" On Aug. 10 of the same year, the first long distance telephone call was received by Bell in the Robert Whyte's Boot and Shoe Store in Paris, Ont., Can. Robert Whyte, a close friend of Bell, was a great-uncle of Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald.

### Torrance Family's Ancestor Aided Bell on First Long Distance Call

The 100th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Graham Bell, March 4, 1847, revealed for the first time to most Torrance residents that an ancestor of a local family had much to do with the development of the long distance telephone—in fact, the first long distance call conducted by the famous telephone inventor was received in the shop of this ancestor.

The associate of Bell's, who aided in many of the early trials of the telephone, was the late Robert Whyte, of Paris, Ontario, Canada, great-uncle of Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald and father of Miss Margaret Whyte, of Los Angeles.

Few local residents heard of the place in the development of the first long distance telephone which the Paris Boot and Shoe Shop owner shared, but on the 70th anniversary of the first long distance call, on August 10, 1946, a plaque was unveiled at Paris, Ontario, the site of the old Dominion Telegraph Company in the store building of Robert Whyte.

James Whyte, father of Grover C. Whyte, was raised from childhood in the home of Robert Whyte, Margaret Whyte has resided in Los Angeles for 25 years.

The first long distance telephone call was arranged after Bell had experimented for some time with the instrument, aided by Robert Whyte. The call was between two points only 8 miles distant, but the battery which had to be utilized was some 68 miles away.

The story, as told by the Bell Telephone Company, follows:

**Story of the Telephone**

It was in the summer of 1876, at his father's home near Brantford, Ont., where he had conceived and described his "talking wires" invention in July two years before, that Alexander Graham Bell decided that his telephone had been developed sufficiently for a test to be made by electrical means and over a distance.

Bell wrote to Thomas Swinyard, managing director of the Dominion Telegraph Company in Toronto, asking permission to use the telegraph line between

Brantford and Paris. Thinking Bell to be just another crank, Swinyard at first ignored the request. But his young assistant, L. B. McFarlane, later a president of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, persuaded him to accede to the request.

Bell was given permission to use the line at a specified rental for an hour on the evening of August 10. That rent was never collected. Instead the telegraph company, immediately following the successful transmission, made application for rights to the telephone as an adjunct to telegraph.

The transmitting instrument was set up in the Dominion Company's office in Brantford, and the receiver in its Paris agency in Robert Whyte's Boot and Shoe store which stood on the site of the present day Apply McCausland block. With one receiver at Paris, and one transmitter at Brantford, the primitive apparatus made possible a one-way talk.

The inventor's instructions for adjustments to the transmitting apparatus had to be telegraphed from Paris to Brantford. Early in the evening, Bell drove by horse and buggy to Paris, cradling the precious iron-box receiver in his lap.

George P. Dunlop, the telegraph agent, was not quite sixteen at the time. Mr. Dunlop had heard about Bell's experiments and he was eager to assist when the inventor intruded himself. He offered every cooperation and made Bell familiar with the telegraph arrangements. Then he hurried out to invite as many as possible of his best customers to be guests at the demonstration.

The news spread quickly. So many people arrived to see what was going on, there was no room in the store for everyone, and the door had to be bolted against late comers. The babble was deafening—both inside and out—and often the crowd had to be cautioned to keep quiet.

**Bell's Description**

Then, to quote Bell's own words written into a report the next day:

"The experiments were very satisfactory as demonstrating the power of the undulating cur-

### Alexander Graham Bell Memory Honored On 100th Anniversary

Telephone people, educators, scientists and public officials throughout the world on March 3 paid homage to the inventor of the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Bell's invention has become so common to Americans in the life of today that other facts about him are sometimes overshadowed. Yet, during his long and useful life he carried on many activities benefiting the human family, for which he should be remembered as well as for the invention of the telephone.

Today there are more than 30,000,000 telephones in the United States, each a mark of tribute to the invention of the telephone 71 years ago.

Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on March 3, 1847. His rich life—which had an incalculably great influence on the world—came to an end on Aug. 2, 1922. As a mark of respect, telephones throughout the Bell system were silenced for two minutes during the burial services.

His father was Alexander Melville Bell, who was widely famed as a teacher of correct speech and as a lecturer on elocution. It was Bell's father who invented a form of "Visible Speech," code of symbols made up of curves and straight lines, something like shorthand. These symbols indicate the position and action of the throat, tongue and lips in pronouncing syllables and uttering various sounds.

Bell achieved the invention of the telephone by reasoning out two ideas. One was how to generate and use a current of electricity that would "undulate," as he put it, or vary in intensity as sound waves, shrill or deep, loud or soft, vary in the air, he came to understand that to transmit sound electrically he had to have a current that could be "shaped" by sound.

Equally important was his conception of a transmitter—a practical method for shaping the "shapeable" current. Here Bell came to the conclusion that a single membrane or diaphragm would act like the human ear drum to gather the complexities of speech or sound in the air, and through its vibration bring about corresponding variations in the current flowing on the wire.

On June 2, 1876, came the "break" in telephone history. Bell and Thomas A. Watson were making ready the harmonic telegraph for a test. Bell at one end of the line was tuning up the metal reeds on a group of receivers. Watson in an adjoining room was sending the tones of the transmitters to

phone, along with a number of Paris citizens, heard clearly and distinguishable the voices of speakers and singers talking in an historical experiment at the office of the old Dominion Telegraph Company in Brantford, nearly eight miles distant.

"For Bell the moment was a thrilling one, and his eyes were bright with happiness. His dream had come true!"

George P. Dunlop of Toronto was only witness of the first call present at the 1946 ceremony. He said, "I'll never forget that call, nor will I forget Bell's excitement. The scene made such an impression on me that it seems it happened last night instead of 70 years ago."

A message was received from John C. Miller, 90, of Sinalunga, Sask., who was also present at the first call but could not be present at the 70th anniversary.

**PROP WASH**

CAA has received 63.3 percent less money over last seven years than it believed necessary to supervise safety and run the always, due to cuts made in its budget requests. Requests totaled \$490,415,319—grant only \$213,034,827.

The circuit remained open until after 11 o'clock and a number of people at both ends tried the instruments.

A membrane telephone was located in the office of the Dominion Telegraph Company in Brantford, Ont. The iron-box receiver was in one experiment located in the town of Paris, about 8 miles from Brantford, the battery, however, being in Toronto, a distance of 68 miles from Paris.

On the basis of the distances quoted by Mr. Bell, the circuit mileage of the voice currents would be about 136 miles.

On the anniversary of the first call, an advertisement of the Bell Telephone Company read:

"This is the 70th anniversary of the birth of long distance telephone service. Paris and Brantford were its joint birthplace."

"As the evening shadows lengthened on August 10, 1876, an excited crowd gathered in Robert Whyte's boot and shoe store in Paris to witness the reception of the first long distance telephone message in the world. There Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the tele-

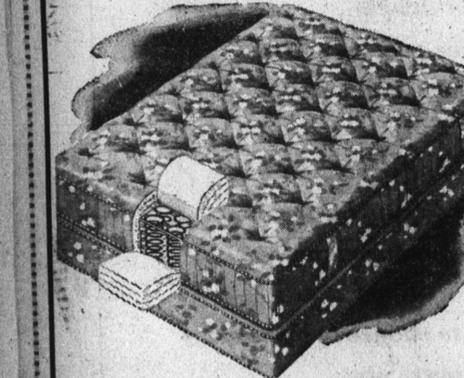
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"The words of the songs were all intelligible to me, as I happened to be acquainted with them, with the exception of one 'Maggie May' sung by Mr. Griffin with other voices joining in the chorus, I could hear the combination of voices as distinctly as the single voice."

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