

Rotarians Addressed On Modern Aladdin's Lamp

The momentous achievements resulting from Edison's discovery of the incandescent lamp were told at Rotary luncheon yesterday by Lt.-Col. K. S. Rogers. The text of Mr. Rogers' address follows:

"The fable of Aladdin and his magic lamp, still told to wondering children in many languages throughout the world, is, no doubt, well remembered by all of us in this room today. We can remember listening, spell-bound as mother, or some other member of the family, told us the wonderful tale of the idle, and useless son, of a hard-working father, who, as a reward for doing absolutely nothing, was given complete power over the genie of the lamp. We marvelled and exclaimed over the precious stones, silks and satins, dishes of solid gold and silver, and the magnificent castles, showered upon Aladdin as a reward for such an infinitesimally small effort as simply rubbing the side of the lamp.

"As maturity came to us, and we realized that this was only a story, and that the magic lamp no longer was to be readily found in our world, our imaginations became hardened against such fantasies. While we proceeded to perform, with more or less success, the hum-drum tasks of the workaday world, other people—not so easily dispossessed of their Aladdin's lamp type of dream—labored in various fields to produce results comparable only to those of Aladdin's lamp.

"In a little more than fifty years the work of such practical dreamers as Edison, Tesla, Steinmetz, Marconi, Fleming, Kettering, and a host of lesser known scientists has developed a modern Aladdin's lamp, which already more than rivals the magic of the lamp of our fable.

"Edison, pioneer extraordinary, gave us, along with many other important inventions, the magic of light, long after the sun has gone to rest—light which in its intensity can today be made to rival the sun! He simply took some small filaments of bamboo, carbonized them by the usual charcoal making process, and, in order to make them long-lasting, he enclosed them in a glass bulb from which he exhausted all the oxygen. Without oxygen, these delicate filaments of carbon when heated to incandescence by passage of a current of electricity, could not be immediately consumed, yet gave off what was considered, back in 1880, an exceedingly brilliant light. Thus we born, what I today choose to call 'The Modern Aladdin's Lamp.'

Edison Effect

In the course of his experiments with his new incandescent lamp, Edison, always a shrewd observer, noticed that the heated carbon filaments gave off what was apparently a stream of matter, in the vacuum. He noted this in his laboratory notebook, and it was afterwards known as the "Edison Effect."

"Some ten to fifteen years later, after Marconi and other experimenters had discovered a way of using what were known as Hertzian waves in the atmosphere, for the transmission of telegraphic signals, they were in need of an exceedingly sensitive instrument for detecting these waves at a distance.

"Professor Fleming of England, remembering the 'Edison Effect', designed a detector, afterwards known as the 'Fleming valve', which had one more element in it than the lamp used by Edison. This 'Fleming Valve' was a very sensitive detector of radio waves and was actually used extensively by the Marconi Company just after the turn of the century.

"According to the fable, there is only one Aladdin's lamp. Our modern magicians of applied science were not content, and they set up amazing machinery, capable of reproducing their modern Aladdin's lamp at astounding speed, thus making it possible for every member of the human family to have his own Aladdin's lamp or rather, lamps. Even as these production lines hummed at increasing speed, the scientists worked incessantly to further improve their magic, and to discover new uses for the lamp in the service of humanity.

"Edison's carbon filaments, producing what today we would regard as a dim and yellow light, were replaced by filaments of tungsten, and as a result, homes, public buildings, the streets and highways of the nations of the world became lighted with a brilliance comparable to the sun.

Auto Headlights

To make it possible for us to travel speedily and safely through the dark, they replaced the dim, oil or gas lamps of the early automobiles with the great headlights of today, making it possible for us to see every object on a road three hundred yards or more ahead on the darkest night. It is true the workers in this field are known by the prosaic title of 'illuminating engineers', but are they not, after all, magicians?

Other researchers, driven by an insatiable curiosity, carried on along the lines started by Fleming with his wireless detector. Then, about 1910, Dr. Lee DeForest introduced a third element into the vacuum of our modern Aladdin's lamp, in the form of a simple grid of wire, which he placed between the hot filament and the plate, which had been introduced previously by Prof. Fleming of England. In his original notes, he called this the 'grid', and so it is known in the radio and electrical industries to this day. He

also called the element introduced by Fleming the 'plate', which name it still bears.

With the introduction of his new element, the 'grid', DeForest discovered that he could exert absolute control over the flow of material between the plate and the filament, simply by introducing another charge of electricity on his grid. The modern Aladdin's lamp, by this simple introduction to its interior, of a coiled piece of wire, became what is perhaps the most important invention in our century—designed to change in one way or another the life of every human being. Without the DeForest three-element radiotron, or audiotron as DeForest termed it, we would today have no long distance telephone, no radio broadcasting stations, no world-wide radio telephone, no television, no radar, nor would we be able to see the unseeable, as we now do through the electronic microscope.

"Lee DeForest, magician of our day, simply carrying to a conclusion the original research of previous magicians, has changed the living conditions of humanity in one generation. Aladdin's lamp indeed! Reproduced in all civilized countries to a total of hundreds of millions of copies of the lamp yearly, available for only a few cents to any human being, it has given the people of our time more magic than Aladdin ever dreamed of!

"Through it, giant airplanes safely ride the skyways with their human freight and precious cargo, guided to their destination through constant radio-telephone communication to weather bureau stations and to airports, seeing through the darkest night, or foggiest day, by the miracle of radar, whose basis is our modern lamp of magic!

Electron Microscope

"The science of medicine, once groping blindly for the secret of the germ which causes disease, is now rushing forward in its research, aided by the electron microscope, so powerful that it even the tiniest germ is magnified to thousands of diameters.

"Mathematical problems, of such complexity that it would take hundreds of expert calculators years to solve, are now answered in the twinkling of an eye by large and intricate calculating machines, employing literally thousands of these modern Aladdin's lamps as the basis of their operation.

"Without our modern lamp, we would be still looking at silent movies, for it is only through the magic of the lamp that the very voice of the actors and actresses are picked up on a beam of light passing through one edge of the moving picture film, and by the variations in the light, reproducing on a gigantic scale the most faithful image of the actor's voice.

"Our modern Aladdin's lamp in one form—through its ability to pick up the invisible infra-red rays of light—provides burglar and thief protection in banks and manufacturing plants and even in the home, by ringing a bell or otherwise sounding the alarm, when the invisible beam of infra-red is broken.

"Another version of the lamp—by means of a fluorescent coating on the large extruded end of the glass tube—provides a picture, transmitted to it by other magic lamps, clear and even in color, so sharp and well defined that it can be magnified to full picture-screen size by projection. Our modern Aladdin's lamp has given us television.

"Acting as a transmitter, in a single glass bulb perhaps as much as fifty horse power of energy, this modern magic servant carries our voices across the oceans and continents of the world, either in international broadcasting or in private telephone conversations.

At Tea Hill

"This summer you will see, going up on the top of Tea Hill, a more or less unpretentious small building with perhaps a steel tower mounted on that tower will be a fairly large reflector, looking something like a huge old fashioned bath-tub or dish-pan, pointing towards New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. An exactly similar installation, facing Tea Hill, is to be erected simultaneously near New Glasgow.

"At either end a small group of our modern Aladdin lamp tubes will automatically go to work without human supervision, and provide a weather-proof link, free of storm interruption, from the grinding ice which were away the old Wood Islands cable, and which will carry our island telephone conversations back and forth silently and efficiently on a wave length so very, very short that no ordinary receiving apparatus can pick it up.

"The beam will be a single beam, at the start at all events, but on this single beam, through the miracle of pulse time modulation, no less than sixteen conversations can be carried on simultaneously without one interfering with the other. Our modern Aladdin's lamp comes to little Prince Edward Island to assist us in our age old communication problems.

"There is today scarcely a human being throughout the world who does not benefit in one way or another from our modern magic lamp. We have, through it, harnessed the great strength of the genie electricity, by properly applying various forms of the lamp to the task at hand.

"We use the X-ray to see deep into diseased human tissues. In another application, we scan a printed page line, by line, reproducing electrically in copy-

Caste "Heaven On Earth"



Pictured above is the cast as they appeared in the one-act play entitled "Heaven On Earth" which was staged recently at the final Studio Night performance for this season by the Little Theatre Guild of Charlottetown, at the Empire Theatre. Left to right: Ernest Hubbard (Jock Lawson); Laura Hubbard (Mrs. W. E. Scantlebury); Ellen, the maid (Ethel Sutherland); Jill Hubbard (Lorraine Van Maaron); Adrian Illidge (H. Barry Bugden). The play was directed by Miss Iphigenie Arsenault.

—Photo by Saunders.

plete faithfulness the printed words or illustrations. These electrical impulses are then flashed by high powered additions of our lamp into the atmosphere and miles away picked up by smaller masters of the genie, which assisting one another, reproduce the original printed page with the utmost fidelity on a roll of paper along side your home radio receiver.

"This magic we have christened 'facsimile.' A complete page of a daily newspaper can be thus reproduced by today's methods in less than ten minutes.

"Mobile police radio-telephone has for many years taken its part in guarding society against the criminal element. Highway police in the United States are today being equipped with small radar sets by which they can follow the movements of a speeding car and record accurately the rate at which it is travelling.

"The commercial development of air transportation has, we know, been held back as a result of the irregular schedules caused by foggy weather, resulting in low visibility. Already some of the world's great airports are equipped with arrangements of our magic lamp, which provide safe glide paths to their runways in the thickest weather or on the darkest night. Eventually all regular airports will be using some form of this bad weather landing device.

"I have mentioned only some of the more spectacular applications of our modern Aladdin's lamp. Every day countless new methods of providing humanity with its benefits are brought to light. The genie only waits to do our bidding when controlled by the lamp.

Atomic Power

"Another genie was released in New Mexico in 1946. He was released again at Hiroshima when, in the twinkling of an eye, he snuffed out the lives of some quarter of a million human beings. So dreadful is the power of this genie that the men instrumental in his release are still fearful of mankind's ability to control him. His name is 'atomic power.' On the ability of our modern magicians to control atomic power depends the ultimate fate of humanity.

"The scientists who gave us the vast benefits of the genie, controlled by our modern lamps, are fearful, not of their own ability to provide control of atomic power, but fearful of the ultimate will to destruction known to exist so profusely in our human family. Our race is on a threshold, which we can cross either into the unimaginable benefits, of harnessing this new genie in the service of humanity, or as the other alternative, can release him to such destruction that humanity itself must perish.

"Applied to the production of heat and power, the giant force of the atom can bring men release from much of the cold and want that exists in the world today. Applied to the manufacture of destructive bombs, our want and misery will be increased very quickly to unbearable proportions. Let us, as thinking men, resolve to do all in our power toward the promotion of international goodwill, to the end that our two genies, the Genie of Electric power and the Genie of Atomic power, will be allowed to work hand in hand to produce more and better magic, through their application to the everyday problems of living.

"There is only one ultimate control of the genie 'atomic power', and that control is international

goodwill and 'universal brotherhood.'

Rotarians Don Gas and Sterling Giddings were joint chairmen at Rotary yesterday. The following guests were welcomed: Messrs. W. J. Murphy and I. G. Ross, Ottawa; A. A. Leaman, Halifax; T. P. Mitchell and Harry MacLean, Charlottetown.

Rotarian J. C. Montgomery, chairman of the Auction Committee, presented his report, and at the conclusion handed the club's cheque of \$5,376.64 to Rotarian W. J. P. MacMillan on behalf of the Red Cross Society. In accepting the cheque, Dr. MacMillan spoke of the need for such voluntary aid, and thanked the Rotarians for their splendid contribution.

HALIFAX MERCHANT DIES

HALIFAX, May 10 — (CP) — Henry Stubbs Colwell, a pioneer merchant of this city, was buried here today. He died last Friday at the age of 81.

"WELCOME STRANGER" TOPS "GOING MY WAY"

—It took Paramount three years to find the right vehicle for the screen's dream team, Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald, but for "Welcome Stranger," which opened yesterday at the Capitol Theatre, it was time well spent and richly rewarding.

With co-star Joan Caulfield, lovely, charming and talented, providing a romantic foil for Bing's songs "Welcome Stranger" has everything the terrific two-stars' first hit, "Going My Way," had, plus a tender love story. The acting of Bing, Barry, Joan and the quality supporting cast is superb, and the down-to-earth story they enact will make you glad you're part of the human race.

Bing is cast as a doctor, but a most unprofessional sort of doctor. He's say, he loves to sing and he hates settling down. When he does agree to take over Barry Fitzgerald's small town practice while the latter vacations, it is

CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of newsworthy nature may be inserted at five cents a word strictly payable in advance

CORNWALL PLAYS TONIGHT

PHONE SAUNDERS 1806 for group and wedding pictures on location.

DUNNING GOES IN SERVICE—The S. S. Charles Dunning will begin her regular run between Wood Islands and Caribou today. It was learned yesterday that "Dunning" leaves Caribou at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. and Wood Islands at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Prince Nova is already in service.

ATTENDING GRADUATION—Mrs. Lloyd S. Cox of Morell is a guest at the Lord Nelson in Halifax. On Tuesday she will attend the graduation exercises at Dalhousie University, where her son Lloyd will receive the degree of M. D., C. M.

FUNERAL SATURDAY—The funeral of Mr. Elisha G. LePage was held from his late residence, 237 Pownall St., on Saturday afternoon. The services were conducted by Rev. T. E. McLennan and Rev. H. C. Rice, D.D. The pallbearers were Messrs. Walter Buntin, Harry W. MacKenzie, Arch Harding, Melville Andrew, Homer Nicholson and W. R. LePage. Interment in the People's Cemetery.

TO SALVAGE SUBMARINES

LONDON — (CP) — New equipment for underwater salvage work has been fitted in a ship recently launched here. A special gun, using an explosive, fires a steel wire with a hollow centre into a steel plate of a sunken submarine. A hose is passed through the wire and air pumped into the sub, permitting it to surface.

only, he insists, for two months. And when Barry gets a look at his flashily dressed, city-wise substitute, that's two months too long for him.

Bing finds the whole town thinking as Barry does. He puts the Crosby personality to work, adds some skillful doctoring and four melodious new tunes, and soon the community is ready to declare a "Dr. Crosby Week." All that remains is for him to help fulfill Barry's dream of his own hospital, and to win Miss Caulfield. Then Bing is ready to hang out his shingle and roam no more.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE
L. S. STEVENSON
BRANCH MANAGER
140 RICHMOND ST.
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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

THE DAVIES FAMILY

Sir. — It is worth recalling that Louis Henry Davies, who was to become Sir Louis Davies, was born in the rambling town house situated at No. 10 Water Street. It was a Victorian house with a terraced basement. He was the son of Benj. Davies, Esq., who was born in Charlottetown on November 24, 1813.

The future Sir Louis was baptized in the parish church of St. Paul, his early education being received from private tutors who found in the young lad many hopes of a brilliant career in the legal profession.

It was in St. Eleanor's parish that he found his wife, the daughter of the then rector of the parish church of St. John, a woman of rare beauty and intellectual attainments. To this marriage were born Miss Ethel, who became the bride of Judge Hyndman, an elder brother of Charlottetown's esteemed banker now retired on pension from the Royal Bank of Canada; Miss Gertrude, whom the older generation of Charlottetown will remember for her gracious hospitality at the town house so well known throughout the Province, and who received her education at an exclusive school for young ladies in Brussels. The next child was a boy who received the name of Thomas Stewart Davies, and who found a charming bride not of his own faith, namely the Church of England, but in the great sister Church of Rome. The youngest child was Miss Mary, who later in life returned to Charlottetown with her prominent American husband. I may add that Mr. and Mrs. Magrath may possibly visit the Province during the coming summer.

I am, Sir, etc.,
VICTORIAN

CHEW CARES AWAY

Chewing gum containing vitamins K is said to be a good preventive of tooth decay.



PRECISION AND QUALITY WORKMANSHIP are the keystones of Plymouth production. Pictures above show—1. Firing Piston to a clearance comparable to one half the thickness of a cigarette paper. 2. Superfinishing a crankshaft. Frictional surfaces are ground mirror-smooth. 3. Taming a crankshaft for perfect balance with sensitive instruments. 4. Dynamometer-testing a completed Plymouth engine.

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