

quency currents. One of these consisted of substituting the body of the lecturer's assistant for the usual vertical conductor used in sending wireless messages. The connections were made by the current from the machine passing through the assistant's body, from whence the energy was radiated as wireless waves in the ether. The messages were sent from this novel radiating arrangement in the small demonstration hall at the extreme western end of the building, and were received by a De Forest receptor set up and furnished with the usual wire antenna located in about the middle of the main auditorium. The potential and frequency of the oscillations were very much in excess of those utilized in the commercial transmission of wireless telegrams and hence the waves radiated were exceedingly short. It was Prof. Tommasini, of Geneva, who first demonstrated that the human body could be successfully substituted for an aerial of the same length and capacity. The body is not, of course, as good a conductor as are the metals, but this is offset by the fact that a current of high frequency penetrates the skin only a very small fraction of a millimeter. M. Emile Guarini, of Brussels, actually sent messages through space by connecting one human body to the positive side of a spark-gap, and another similarly connected to one terminal of the coherer.—*Sc. Am.*

THE physician of the future will find his greatest service in prolonging human life. The asylum and the poorhouse are not to be regarded as shining lights of advanced political economy, but there is something in life besides mere political economy, and the prolongation of existence is regarded as one of the chief functions, both of the medical profession and of public charities. On the other hand, it must be considered that there is a distinct economical loss in cutting off from existence a man before he has run the full course of his career. To train a man for usefulness requires now fully a quarter of a century, and it seems only fair that he should have at least twice that time for the manifestation of his activities. If, therefore, he be cut off at thirty-five, forty, or forty-five, the community is robbed of service to which it is entitled.—*Sc. Am.*

THE process of pill-making in a large manufacturing pharmaceutical house is very interesting. The powdered drugs are carefully mixed, and moistened with a fluid of special composition. The mass thus formed is worked to a proper consistency upon revolving iron rollers, and afterward divided into portions of definite weight. These are fed into a machine which de-