

TELEPHONE BRAIN CHILD OF A GENIUS

Professor Alexander Graham Bell Brantford's Most Illustrious Son EARLY EXPERIMENTS Eminent Scientist Tells The Courier Story of His Invention

Alexander Graham Bell sat in a steam heated apartment, illuminated by electric lights overhead. He had arrived in the city by electric railway, and come to the hotel through streets electric lighted and traversed by motor cars and motoring cars. To the mind of the average citizen of to-day, none of these holds any element of novelty or of newness, but it must have proven interesting to anyone enabled to read the thoughts which passed through the mind of the Scottish-Canadian inventor, as his mind turned back to the days of the middle seventies, the days when none of these modern conveniences existed, the days before Professor Bell by his invention of the telephone gave to the world one of the greatest boons of present day civilization, the device which has annihilated space and carried the human voice of thousands of miles across the continent. Interesting, indeed, must it have been to anyone who has fathomed the reflections passing within that mind, on the eve of the day when it was to be honored and its fruit commemorated, by the birthplace of the telephone.

In 1872 Professor Bell left his home in Brantford to assume his duties at the Boston university. To-day, forty-five years later, he returns to Brantford, a man honored by the civilized world, a man whose name is a byword and whose invention a household convenience, wherever the mind turns. Brantford indeed gave birth to the telephone, and proudly Brantford welcomes home her most illustrious son, the father of the telephone.

A Pen Picture. Professor Bell bears modestly the honors which have been laid upon his broad shoulders, ever as he does lightly his advancing years. He has a hearty handclasp a warm welcome for old friends and acquaintances, and yesterday he was surrounded by hours among friends of bygone days. He is like his picture, very like them, but more so; the likeness published in The Courier today is an excellent one. But the personality of Alexander Graham Bell, the genial magnetism which draws one toward him even as a child is drawn toward him to the invention of the telephone these are things which cannot be reproduced on paper, either by word, pen or camera. His voice is the mellows Scotch nature, but more kindly and affable to all, and as far removed from suspicion of what is as are the poles apart.

Arrived Quietly. Professor Bell reached the city early yesterday, his train coming from Hamilton via radial with other members of his party, arriving at a time when he was expected by none, and when none was on hand to tender a welcome. Brantford, though it has grown during the past few years, is however no strange city to Professor Bell, and he was able to guide his party through the rainy streets to the Kerby House.

Word of his arrival was not long in reaching the ears of the Bell Memorial association, and W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., together with Mrs. Cockshutt, hastened to the hotel to welcome the inventor to his former home, which was quietly though none the less heartily accomplished. To a Courier representative, he accorded the favor of a most interesting interview which must necessarily suffer in its transcription to paper. "The telephone," said Professor Bell, "has proven itself indispensable in times of peace and war alike; modern day warfare, in fact, could not be carried on without its use. The telephone to-day has reached a high stage of development but none knows what the future may hold in store. We have not yet succeeded in conquering space so far as the sense of sight is concerned, but it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that we may yet see reproduction of vision and sound alike."

The Telephone City. Brantford's claim to the title of "The Telephone City" is established clearly by Professor Bell. "The telephone was invented here in 1874," he affirmed. "I was then engaged in scientific pursuits at the Boston University, but I spent my summer and Christmas holiday in this city, and while on these vacations completed my experiments which give to Brantford the credit of being the birthplace and the home of the telephone."

Books upon books have been written upon the technique of the telephone, the elaborate and intricate mechanism whereby sounds breathed into the mouth piece of an instrument are reproduced through the receiver of a similar instrument miles away. All attempted explanations have been either vague and unsatisfactory, or else so complicated and technical, as to prove almost incomprehensible to the average reader. But to follow Professor Bell, by his own words, step by step in the experiments leading to the perfection of the invention, is to gain a fuller far more comprehensive knowledge

BELL MEMORIAL UNVEILED TODAY BY DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE

Alexander Graham Bell Gardens Were Thronged by Huge Crowds, Despite Unpleasant Weather--Adjournment Made to the Opera House.

The consummation of forty one years' waiting was observed at the stroke of noon to-day, when His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, Governor-General of Canada, unveiled the memorial erected to Professor Alexander Graham Bell, whose invention of the telephone, at his home on Tutela Heights, marked a step in the progress of civilization perhaps never surpassed, and not frequently equalled. Wednesday, October 24, in the year of Our Lord 1917, should live long in the memories of all loyal Brantfordites as the day upon which this city was crowned with its rightful title: "The Home of the Telephone."

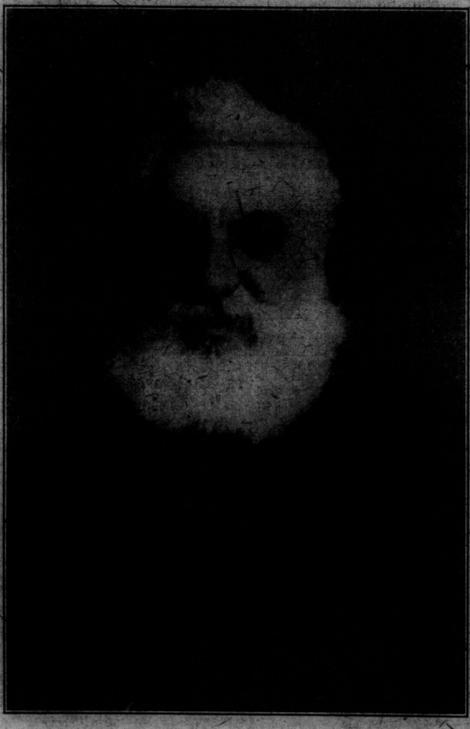
The unveiling ceremonies, performed at noon, were attended by a gathering of colossal proportions, which thronged the gore on all sides, despite weather conditions far from ideal. Crowds almost as dense surrounded the G. T. R. station earlier in the morning, when His Excellency the Governor-General and party arrived, and were tendered a civic welcome by various officials and leading residents of the city. Throngs lined the streets about the entire line of procession through the main portion of the city to the memorial, situated on the gore formed by the intersection of King, West, Albion and Wellington streets. Workmen had been engaged upon the grounds of the monument until as late as last night, a final effort to complete preparations, and the condition of memorial and grounds alike reflected credit upon their labor in the face of inclement weather conditions.

The gathering at the base of the Memorial was probably the most notable ever witnessed in the city's history, and long should the day be remembered when Brantford laid at the feet of Alexander Graham Bell a tribute to the genius which is his.

The invited guests met early in the morning at the Kerby House, and before ten o'clock the procession to the station was under way, a line of more than thirty cars passing by Market street. At this station, despite a drizzling rain, the crowd was thick. The train by which the Governor-General arrived was late, and it was after ten-thirty when His Excellency and party entered the station, escorted by Mrs. W. F. Cockshutt. After the ceremony of introductions to the most prominent persons present, the Duke and party proceeded to the platform erected in the rear of the station, where the following address of welcome was read:

Mayor Bombyl. On behalf of the Corporation and citizens of Brantford a proud Manufacturing City, less than 30,000 souls who have contributed more men and more money in proportion to their numbers than any other in this Dominion for that matter than in the British Empire, to fight the battles of the Empire to ensure the liberty of the world, permit me to welcome you as the representative of His Majesty King George, the loyalty of the Six Nations' Indians in this time of empire peril. His Excellency replied fittingly.

The school children assembled on the platform, sang a number of patriotic airs, and the procession, under way once more, proceeding by Market, Colborne, Brant Avenue, Church and Albion streets to the monument, where the Dufferin



Alexander Graham Bell, Inventor of the Telephone.

Officers, the band in attendance for the occasion, were assembled. The Army and Navy Veterans, a little group of nine veterans of previous wars, were also assembled, and were inspected by His Excellency. Ascending to the platform, Mr. W. F. Cockshutt, M.P., addressed the Governor-General and the gathering as follows: W. F. Cockshutt, M.P.

Your Excellency, Dr. Bell, our guests and fellow citizens, it devolves upon me as Chairman of the Bell Memorial Association, to preside on this most interesting occasion, and this I shall endeavor to do to the best of my ability. First, we desire to express our most sincere thanks to His Excellency for his presence to-day, and that he has found it convenient to make the occasion of his first visit to Brantford co-incident to the unveiling of the memorial. We are de-

Afternoon's Programme Includes Visit to the Bell Homestead and Opening of the Great War Veterans' New Club House.

which we feel sure will appeal to our guests. We are honored by the attendance of a large number of distinguished visitors from over our southern border, who are thrice welcome, not only for their personal worth, but also for the fact that they represent one of our latest and most valued allies in the great cause to which I have just referred.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares," is an injunction of scripture. But without imputing anything angelic to Dr. Bell, I am going to say that it was indeed a great milestone in our history when Prof. Alexander Melville Bell, with his family, settled in our midst in the year 1871. We thought much of the Bell family as it was, but could we have known then what subsequent years have revealed, our appreciation and admiration would have known no bounds.

The removal of the family after many happy years with us was the cause of regret and loss to us all. The father was a great man in his calling and his day, while the son has had few peers in modern times. The invention of the telephone has revolutionized both the business and social world and made a distant friend as close as a next door neighbor. The telephone has put humanity in touch and has banished forever the sense of isolation. By this wonderful work, Dr. Bell has won the lasting gratitude of mankind, and we owe him a debt of thanks that no memorial, however worthy, can ever repay.

As a man of science, Dr. Bell stands in the front rank. His labors on behalf of the deaf and dumb are beyond all words of praise. He makes the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. A moment ago I said there was nothing in this angel about Dr. Bell, but I take that back when I remember his invention of flying machines, when by the use of these he has invaded the realms in which angels are said to dwell, and by which means time and space are well nigh annihilated. These words are not lightly spoken, but with a deep sense of the truth. But time fails me, and I must hasten on.

The monument we are unveiling to-day is the work of 12 busy years. In 1904 the idea was first put forward by the speaker, a representative committee of citizens was soon formed, and the work of collecting funds and making plans began. For two or three years subscriptions were sought until sufficient were accumulated, then the old Bell homestead, with twelve acres of

land, was acquired as a public property and resort, and we expect as many as possible will visit it later in the day. Models of a monument were also called for, and nine sculptors from both sides of the line responded. A special "committee of award" was formed consisting of Sir Edmund Walker, Sir George Gibbons and Senator Davis of Buffalo, who gave the decision in favor of Mr. W. S. Allward, who produced by hard and consistent labor for eight years the monument that His Excellency unveils to-day. It reflects much credit on the sculptor, and it is the greatest work of his career. It merits a wreath for purely Canadian art.

The splendid bronzes are the production of the Goram Company of New York.

To those who view this monument for the first time, let me beg of you to study it in the light of its meaning and the ideas it is intended to convey. The underlying conception of the artist is "Humanity in communication," and the transmission of sound through space, and well it is portrayed. In conclusion, we heartily welcome you one and all to our thriving little city, and may you spend a pleasant and profitable day.

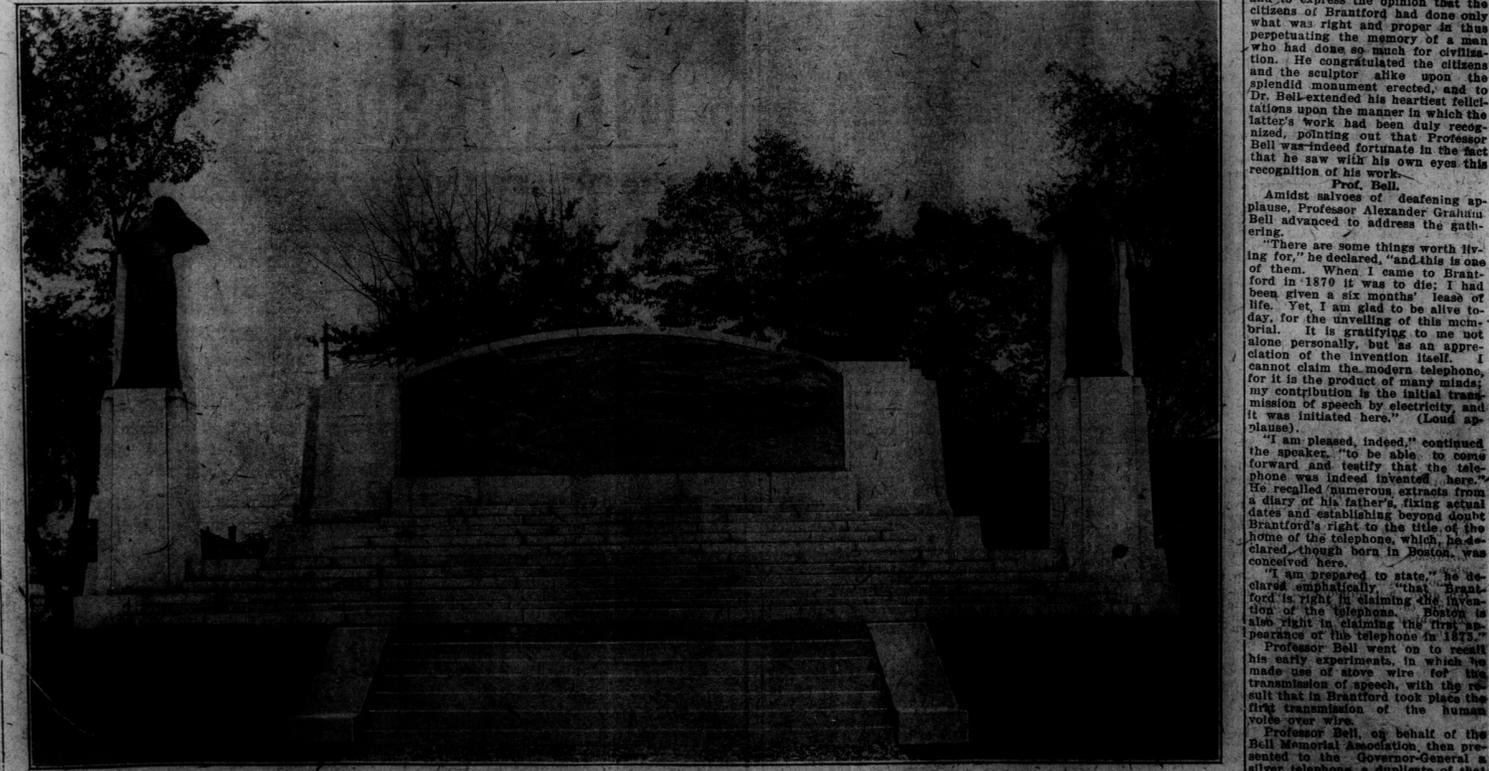
Bell, which had been falling intermittently all the morning, increased as Mr. Cockshutt spoke, and at the conclusion of his address, although it was not yet noon, by instructions were sent to Grace Church and the chimes struck the hour of twelve, the veils being removed from the monument as the bells chimed. The central bronze was draped in heavy canvas, and the two outstanding figures covered, one by the Union Jack and the other by the Stars and Stripes. The rain continuing, an adjournment was made to the Grand Opera House, where the program of speech making, to have been followed at the monument, was carried out. Mr. E. L. Goold, chairman of the Parks Board, read the address conveying the memorial and the park to the city.

One of the greatest discoveries ever made or likely to be made declared His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire, addressing the gathering at the close of Mr. Goold's address, "was the telephone. That is what my grandfather, an eminent scientist told me at the time of its invention." The surprise which we once felt at learning that a person had a telephone in their house now gives way to a greater surprise to learn of anyone who has not. In every sphere and activity of life, the telephone exercises a growing influence year by year. His Excellency went on to teach upon the tremendous part played in the present war by the telephone, and to express the opinion that the citizens of Brantford had done only what was right and proper in thus perpetuating the memory of a man who had done so much for civilization. He congratulated the citizens and the sculptor alike upon the splendid monument erected, and to Dr. Bell extended his heartiest felicitations upon the manner in which the latter's work had been duly recognized, pointing out that Professor Bell was indeed fortunate in the fact that he saw with his own eyes this recognition of his work.

Prof. Bell. Amidst salves of deafening applause, Professor Alexander Graham Bell advanced to address the gathering.

"There are some things worth striving for," he declared, "and this is one of them. When I came to Brantford in 1879 it was to allow I had been given a six months' lease of life. Yet I am glad to be alive to-day, for the unveiling of this monument. It is gratifying to me thus alone personally, but as an appreciation of the invention itself. I cannot claim the modern telephone, for it is the product of many minds; my contribution is the initial transmission of speech by electricity, and it was initiated here." (Loud applause.) "I am pleased, indeed," continued the speaker, "to be able to come forward and testify that the telephone was indeed invented here." He recalled numerous extracts from a diary of his father's, fixing actual dates and establishing beyond doubt Brantford's right to the title of the home of the telephone, which he declared, though born in Boston, was conceived here.

"I am prepared to state," he declared emphatically, "that Brantford is right in claiming the invention of the telephone. Boston is also right in claiming the first appearance of the telephone in 1876." Professor Bell went on to recall his early experiments, in which he made use of stove wire for the transmission of speech, with the result that in Brantford took place the first transmission of the human voice over wire. Professor Bell, on behalf of the Bell Memorial Association, then presented to the Governor-General a silver telephone, a duplicate of that



The Beautiful Bell Memorial. The idea conveyed by Mr. Allward, the sculptor, is the annihilation of space.

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