

## ELECTROPHONE REPORTING A WONDERFUL INVENTION

**Advantages of the System—Chamberlain's Birmingham Speech All in Type in London Twelve Minutes After the Speaker Closed—The Telegraph Beaten Over an Hour.**

Mr. Chamberlain began his speech at 8:10 in the evening. The first batch of copy was sent to the composing room at 8:35. Mr. Chamberlain said he came down at 10:05; the last batch of copy was sent to the linotype operator and the printer at 11:05. The first batch of the paper on sale on the street was at 10:32, and the last batch of the telephone directory was at 11:05. At 11:37, so that the electrophone beat the telegraph by an hour and five minutes, the first copy of the paper was sent to the columns from end to end, even including the last passages, which were not sent to the press until 11:45. The space. Had the stop-press column been utilized for the last passages of the telegraph, the paper might have been published at 11:45.

The enterprise was purely an experiment, but was so successful that in fact it was a success. It was a very important part in the report of a great speech, since it is now realized that the telegraph is not the only means of a successful operation of the instrument. The words were heard with perfect distinctness, and the paper was delivered in the room in which the speech was delivered. At times it is true, the words of the speech are not heard with the applause of the audience, but thus escaped the reporters, and that was a contingency against which they were not prepared. The words were heard present in the room, unless they had been exceptionally close to the speaker. The words were heard with extraordinary clearness.

**THE HOLIDAYS**  
**(BRIGHTEN TRADE)**  
**Good Business Reported by Wholesale Houses.**

CA WHILE COLLECTIONS ARE FA  
r - The Demand for Heavy Seasonal  
Lines—The Outlook for  
Spring Trade.

Toronto, Dec. 12.—Bradstreet's trade review, weekly summary.

Wholesale firms at Montreal are busy with the sorting and holding of trade now, and the next ten days will be a busy period. The cold weather has stimulated the demand for heavy winter goods. The prosperity of the masses has kept the general demand for holiday goods fairly satisfactory. Trade at Toronto has continued fairly active this week. The movement in winter goods to stock lots has been good. The spring trade is satisfactory and promises to show a further increase now, under the stimulus of a falling price. Business in most of the

At Quebec trade shows an improvement, and holiday goods are in demand. Spring orders are commencing to arrive, and the demand from the country is encouraging. Payments

At Pacific coast trade centers good seasonable business is being done. The outlook for the spring trade is encouraging. Fresh discoveries of thoracic are exciting interest in the province.

Dispatches to Dun's review from the Dominion indicate a brisk holiday trade, with a seasonable quiet in other industrial interests as a rule. Wholesale trade is moderate and inactive in Toronto, with a brisk demand for fancy goods and a fair business in hardware and metals. Retail trade

all lines is very active. Seasonal weather has facilitated trade at Quebec, and collections are coming in well. Montreal reports that wholesale trade has assumed a holiday phase, but retail business is good and collections prompt. An advance in cotton goods

collections at Winnipeg.

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**INDORSES CHAMBERLAIN**

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**Woodstock Board of Trade Approves His Policy.**

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Woodstock, Ont., Dec. 12.—The board of trade at a largely attended meeting Thursday evening passed the following resolution: "Resolved, that the board of trade of the city of Woodstock do hereby endorse the policy of the Chamberlain of the city of Woodstock."

the stock heartily indorses and is in sympathy and accord with the fiscal policy outlined by the late secretary for the colonies, the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, sincerely believing that such a policy, embracing as it does, the system of preferential trade between the motherland and the colonies, is in the best interests of the British Empire.