

NEW WIRELES TELEGRAPHY

Wireless telegraphy in a novel form is the newest idea in message-flashing. Rays of light are the means employed. The idea is based on the discovery made by Prof. H. Hertz that light rays of smaller wave-length, particularly ultra-violet rays, are able to start an electrical discharge. Working on this idea with a view to inventing a system of telegraphy that would make communication possible between two points without the aid of wires, a prominent electrical scientist of London began experimenting, and soon found that by drawing out the spherical electrodes of an induction coil until a spark no longer appeared between them, and then throwing the rays of ultra-violet light on the space where the spark appears, a discharge of sparks immediately resulted. The cause of this, as of many more light effects that have been produced of recent years, has yet to be discovered. The practical use to which the discoverer proposes to apply this means of starting a spark discharge is to telegraph to lighthouses, ships, or under any circumstances where wireless telegraphy is needed or where system cannot be used.

THE FIRST TYPEWRITER

The first typewriter ever invented was made in Norwich Conn., being invented by a machinist of the name of Thurber. The raised letters and engraving was done by George H. Martin, an expert penman and engraver, is still living. The machine was constructed over thirty years ago and met with little encouragement from the scientists of those days. The idea was laughed at.

The machine did its work well, although in a slow way, as compared with improved modern machines. The Thurber writer was set in a small

melodeon case in New London. The type worked with keyboard. The machine was taken to various States and exhibited, when inventors, seeing the idea, set themselves to work, and the result is the modern typewriting machine, with all its multitudinous variations.

NOTATION

Notation is the process of expressing numbers by letters or figures. The two principal forms of notation are the Roman consisting of seven letters and the Arabian containing ten figures. The latter now prevail throughout the civilized world. On account of its containing ten figures it is sometimes known as the denary system of notation. Were our system to contain 11 or 12 figures, it would be known as Undenary or Duodenary respectively. In the same way we could have had systems containing any number of figures whether under or over ten; but, as at present constituted, the system is found in every way satisfactory. All the figures used have a *simple* and a *local* value with the exception of zero, which has no value whatever of itself. It is used only to indicate the absence of value as the position it occupies. The zero in arithmetic holds a position somewhat analagous to that of the mathematical point, which latter has position but no magnitude. When a figure stands alone or occupies the *first* or *unit* position, it indicates its simple value. In the second or *tens* position it is tenfold what it was in the first position, and so on. Each step to the left its value is increased ten times.

BRIEFLETS

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Incorporate the Barbers of the Province and they will carry out in a systematic and effective

manner the Hygienic regulations promulgated by the Provincial Board of Health.

Some of the Liberal professions are being overcrowded. Why not create others? We have Dentists, Oculists, Aurists and Chiropodists. Why not have Hirsutists and Pellists?

Educating one another is only another way of helping one another; and helping, one another, is the most eloquent way in which to "Love one another."

NOTES

Wireless telegraphy is the latest desideratum.

The first newspaper ever published was founded in 911. It was a Chinese publication and known as King-Pan.

The Telegraphic Typewriter recently invented by a M. Stelges is a telegraphic recorder. It is expected to supersede the telephone as far as private house to house calls are concerned.

Seventy percent of Quebec children go to school. Ontario cannot secure an attendance of 57 per cent.

The length of the world's telegraph system in 1897 was 4, 908, 823 miles, of which more than half was in America.

The total number of newspapers published in the world at present is *estimate* at about 50,000, distributed as follows: United-States and Canada, 21,500; European Countries 24,300; Asia, 3000; Australia, 800, and all other countries about 1000.

There are about 150 Land surveyors in the Province of Quebec.