

"never get anywhere with that things". Two hundred miles long and right here in our town they had violated one of the cardinal laws of physics, they had turned a right angle with a wire. My father laughed and told Joe Stone of my prediction. Later Mr. Stone called me in and let me talk with some one in Grand Rapids and I was compelled to acknowledge that in most ways this phone was better than ours; in fact, a success in spite of right angles."

Since the day of that first installed telephone line a local and long distance system has covered the country with its millions of wires, and now Radio has annihilated distance and brought the whole world into every home with the turn of a switch and swing of a dial. Likewise transportation has seen marvels since the days when travel by horseback and canoe, stage coach, covered wagon, primitive trains and sail-ships covered all the known means of movement from place to place.

In this year 1936, streamlined trains, great ocean liners, air ships and millions of automobiles offer speedy transfer to every part of the globe.

Industrial life has also seen a similar complete change. Whereas the village blacksmith was called upon, once, to make nearly everything in iron; the spinning wheel was in every home, plowing done with a crooked stick and mills run by water power, we now have the great "plants" specializing in every kind of manufacture and employing millions of workers.

In no one thing has the world been more benefitted than in the development of lighting methods. Advancement from the day when a tallow candle or the glow from a fire place was the sole means of illumination, has been slow but steady, bringing in turn kerosene, gas, and electricity, each developing a high degree of perfection. With the neon light now glowing on signs everywhere, it may truly be said "night has been turned into day." The writer recalls a time in the 70's when Doctor Kedzie, a guest in the home on a visit from Lansing, spoke of the new electric light as an "interesting discovery" but he "doubted if it would every be of much practical value"!

Prophecy sometimes goes awry!

ARTICLE X
Congregational Church

In this, the concluding article of the series, we come back, inevitably, to first principles, and with the clear knowledge that Vermontville was founded on the two cardinal ideas of religion and education, it is fitting that this record should close with a short history of the churches that have, through the years, been the organizations to fill a basic part in Community life and growth.

During the entire century, religious services have been held and even before the settlers drew lots for their choice of land, a prayer meeting opened the gathering.