

Leviathan's Wireless Breaks All Records

WORKING night and day, with Vice-President David Sarnoff and General Superintendent G. Harold Porter, of the Radio Corporation of America, standing watches along with four regular operators, all perspiring in pajamas under the tropical heat and press of work, the radio apparatus of the Leviathan is breaking all records for volume of traffic handled and for long distance transmitting and receiving.

Ship to shore communication, radio compass work, interdeck phone service, daily press reports and long distance spark tests, together with thousands of straight commercial spark messages, are all be-

ing carried on simultaneously in this supreme test of the world's greatest, most complex and most versatile wireless equipment.

On the very first night out of Boston,

with 15,000 words awaiting transmission and thousands of messages coming in over the receivers for the ship's newspaper, the densest fog in years closed about the ship, forcing the set into service for compass

Since the hour of departure the Leviathan's apparatus has been working at maximum, handling a greater volume of correspondence than any circuit, ship or shore, operating to Europe.

Four expert operators—Pickerill, Erwin, Tamburino and Green—are standing two eight-hour watches each. One of the men is constantly on duty operating the six kilowatt continuous wave telegraph transmitter, putting thirty to forty amperes into its antenna, with which the ship is able to keep in constant communication with land from any place on the ocean.

The Leviathan is the only merchant vessel with apparatus powerful enough to accomplish this tremendous feat.

Another first-time feature of this giant of the deep is its duplex radio telephone set, with which two-way voice communication is at all times possible. Besides this the ship is fitted out with an auxiliary continuous wave telegraph transmitter and a standard two-kilowatt 500 cycle spark outfit.

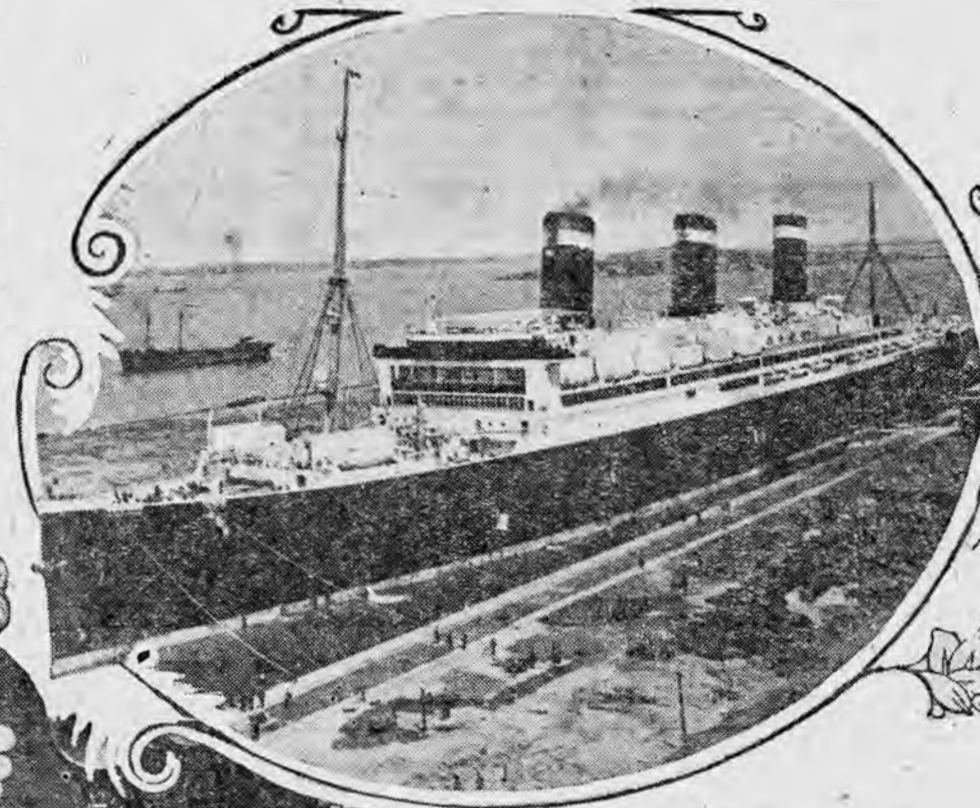
Life Boats Have Sets

As an added precaution for the safety of passengers in the eventuality of a shipwreck, which, of course, no one speaks of here officially, even the lifeboats have been radio-equipped. The passengers noticed this, though they did not speak about it.

Superintendent Porter, of the R. C. A., says that ultimately passengers sitting in their cabins aboard the Leviathan will be able to telephone directly to their homes. As far as the ship is concerned, this service is available already, but the idea cannot be carried out generally until more land stations have been fitted out to carry on this work.

In testing this last mentioned service voice communications from the radio shack of the Leviathan were heard clearly throughout New England, and even to New York city, according to verifications received today from E. K. Cahan, of 601 West 156th street, New York city, and from New Rochelle and Floral Park, L. I.

World leaders in every profession who are members of the Shipping Board party are exchanging hourly business reports



Photos by K. & H.

Chief Operator Pickerell testing the great liner's 'phone set, which has a range of 1,000 miles. His is the finest op's job to be had.

S. S. Leviathan, pride of the U. S. merchant marine, starting on her trial cruise.

bearings.

In the very middle of the transatlantic steamship lanes the Mauretania and other ships were given their bearings, while the exact position of the Leviathan was being ascertained and unusual maritime hazards dispelled.

