

Aurora Interferes With Wires and Cables By Surcharging Earth With Electricity

A magnetic storm of unusual intensity swept over the Northeastern United States and Canada yesterday. Going on one of its worst rampages in many months, the aurora borealis, maker of celestial fireworks that frequently light up the Arctic night, caused earth currents that stopped the operation of telegraph and cable wires entirely for some time yesterday afternoon, and throughout the day crippled both land and cable services, according to The Associated Press.

Slow transmission of market transactions between Wall Street and London was caused by the magnetic disturbances yesterday morning, but by the time the height of the disturbance was reached this afternoon most of the transatlantic market transmissions had been completed.

Telegraph experts reported that the disturbance apparently did not go south and west beyond New York, but the fact that wires in this locality were paralyzed at different periods during the day affected messages going to and from all sections of the country and to foreign countries.

For a while yesterday afternoon nearly every wire in the New York offices of the Associated Press were "dead." In Canada, the Canadian Press and Telegraph companies likewise found their wires seriously affected by the disturbances.

Efforts were made by telegraph experts to work adjustments to meet the frequent changes in earth currents, but the aurora borealis worked too fast for human hands.

A vivid display of the aurora bore-

alis was visible here shortly before 10 o'clock last night, the beams shooting toward the zenith across a perfectly clear sky.