

# TAPPED WIRELESS, INDICTED.

**E. T. Earl Under Felony Charge for Publishing Private Message in Paper.**

*Special to The New York Times.*

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Aug. 4.—Edwin Tobias Earl was indicted by the Grand Jury to-day for tapping a wireless and publishing a private message. Under the laws of California this is a felony punishable with imprisonment of five years and a fine of \$5,000.

Earl, who is a big stockholder in the Home Telephone Company, was blamed for a recent effort to increase the rates which is now being investigated by the Grand Jury. Earl has charged Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, publisher of The Times of this city and W. R. Hearst with being in a conspiracy against him and his two papers.

Last Monday morning Earl printed a telegram sent by the managing editor of The Herald to the publisher, who was at Catalina Island which, he contended, proved the conspiracy against him. He accused Hearst of a part in this, as the wireless company's station is on The Examiner Building. The wireless was interrupted by some boy amateur operators and printed in both of Earl's papers.

The wireless company protested and filed complaints, declaring that if it could not protect its messages its business would be ruined. It is expected this case will go to the highest court to test the privacy of wireless messages.

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