Radio Corporation Starts Wireless Trans-Ocean Photographic Service

By The Associated Press

New York, May 1.—The Radio Corporation of America and the Marconi Wireless company of England inaugurated a commercial radio picture service last night. The first photograph to be wirelessed was a photograph of the speakers' table at the Pilgrim's society dinner in London Wednesday night.

Transmission of the picture started at midnight in London, which was 7 p.m., New York time. Static or other trouble caused some delay, and the reception of the first picture was not completed in the office of the Radio Corporation of America until 8:45 p.m. With perfect conditions, the pictures have been sent in 20 minutes.

A. B. Houghton, American ambassador, a speaker at the dinner, was easily recognizable. Features of Lord Reading, guest to honor at the dinner, also were preserved fairly well. Between these two was the figure of Lord Desborough, toastmaster.

Pictures are translated into radio impulses by photo-electric cells. These impulses, crossing the Atlantic, actuate a receiving instrument which reproduces the picture as a sketch in hot brown wax flowing from a fountain pen, operated from radio impulses. The reproduction is a sketch in wavy lines of wax, deposited on the paper a little thicker than ink on a little engraved card.

The picture came in the form of tens of thousands of dots and dashes, each of which caused a motion of the fountain pen.