

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
CONTINUED SESSIONS YESTERDAY

S. H. Midram, the Board's Expert, Presented a New Schedule for the N. B. Telephone Company, Estimating an Increase of Earnings by \$287,500 a Year—Sessions Will Resume This Morning.

At the session of the Public Utilities Commission yesterday morning S. H. Midram, the Board's expert, presented a new schedule for the N. B. Telephone Company, which he estimated would increase earnings by \$287,500 a year.

In the proposed schedule there are six groups of which No. 1 will comprise respectively exchanges of less than 50 subscribers with and without mileage; No. II, 50 to 200 subscribers; No. III, 200 to 1,000; No. IV, 1,000 to 2,500; No. V, 2,500 to 5,000; No. VI, 5,000 to 12,000.

The company's proposed schedule was similar to that in operation by the Maritime Telephone Co. of Nova Scotia.

In the Midram groups no changes are made in 1.1A or 1.1B but in No. 1.1 the business rate is increased from \$35 a year to \$39, and the residence rate from \$27 to \$30, while the 4-party line is eliminated. There are slight changes in the farmers' residence line.

Group IV, Fredericton: Pros. Prop'd
Class of phone. Rate Rate
Business—1 party \$45 \$48
2 party 32 36
Residence—1 party 20 23
2 party 24 27
4 party 34 39

The 4-party business phone was eliminated.
Group V, Moncton: Pros. Prop'd
Class. Rate Rate
Business—1 party \$48 \$54
2 party 36 42
Residence—1 party 23 27
2 party 27 30
4 party 37 42

4-party business eliminated.
Farmers' Business. \$33 \$39
Residence . . . 24

For Group VI, St. John, Mr. Midram suggested for business phones a measured rate, whether individual or switchboard line, with a minimum rental of \$35 a year for 720 messages; in addition charge of 5 cents a call for the next 1,200 messages and a charge of 2 1/2 cents a message for all other calls over 1,920 a year.

For residences, he suggested \$26 annual rental for a one-party service; \$33 for a two-party and \$39 for a four-party line. For farm lines in Group VI, he proposed \$45 on business and \$31 on private phones.

Group I would show an increase per station from \$17.35 to \$19.29; Group II, from \$16.94 to \$21.27; Group III, from \$15.18 to \$20.11; Group IV, from \$17.15 to \$23.17; Group V, from \$18.74 to \$25.53; Group VI, from \$18.49 to \$23.43.

Mr. Midram interpolated that Moncton with an increase of \$10 per station had relatively the largest increase, but he said that in the last years Moncton had grown 10 per cent and the increase was not high in consideration of the present number of subscribers.

The average rate per station outside of St. John would increase from \$17.35 to \$23.73, or a suggested increase of \$6.38 per station.

In St. John the present average revenue per station is \$24.50, and the suggested rate \$36.36, an average increase per station of \$11.86.

For all groups the present average per station is \$20.07, as compared with a suggested average of \$25.50, or an average increase of \$5.43 per station.

On toll lines, Mr. Midram said the present rate is six-tenths of a cent a mile, and he proposed seven-tenths, thus making the St. John rate conform with the rate charged throughout all the other lines on the American continent.

In regard to the night toll rate, the present night period, he said, is from 6.30 p. m. to 7 a. m., the company proposed from 8.30 to 4.30 and suggested from 8.30 p. m. to 7 a. m.

On toll lines the present earnings are \$193,500 a year, and his increase would bring a total revenue of \$250,000. He would increase the revenue from inter-company business, as between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia from \$62,000 to \$71,000 a year, and an annual increase of \$19,000.

His schedule would increase earnings from short toll lines, Rothesay for example, from \$12,000 at present to \$16,000 and for pay stations from \$16,500 to \$20,000.

A decrease would come in earnings from bank interest, etc., on account of sale by the company to provide money for renewals of government war bonds. The total interest revenue would drop from \$27,520 to \$25,000.

He referred to the free service between St. Stephen and Calais and proposed a charge of 5 cents in tolls or an additional revenue of \$2,000.

His suggested increase in rates on phones of physicians, boarding houses, etc., would give an increase of \$3,500. Nurses were not included.

Referring again to the alleged advantages of the measured service over the flat rate, Mr. Midram stated that here there would be an individual business rate of \$72, instead of \$45, to produce the relief suggested for the company even were private exchanges measured; where both individual business' phones and private exchanges on a flat rate, the rate would be \$98. The measured service he had laid out allowed six messages a day on the minimum charge.

His schedule provided for an addition in revenue of \$15,000 for changes in location of phones.

His total estimated gross revenue is \$1,044,500, as compared with a present actual return of \$767,000, an increase of \$287,500.

Chairman Conall presided and there were present with the other members of the board, Dr. J. B. M. Baxter and Peter J. Hughes for the company; M. G. Teed for the Retail Merchants' Association; E. C. Weyman, wholesale grocers, and the following unaffiliated firms: Baird and Peters, Brock and Peterson, J. M. Humphrey Co., W. H. Thorne Ltd., St. John Hide Co., and Vassie and Co. Ltd.; Messrs Black, O'Leary and Robinson of the telephone directors; Superintendent Fraser, the Utilities Commission expert, Midram, Warden

Keith, Westmorland, and Councilor Gaskin, Coveville.

In the matter of \$104,000 carried on the company's books which the company contends should be taken into consideration the chairman asked Mr. Midram several questions.

Mr. Midram said that in arriving at the value of the company's property, Dr. Hayes had allowed depreciation in land outside of St. John and had not depreciated land, buildings, tools, etc., at headquarters.

Based on the Hayes' valuation corrected, he had arrived at a plant valuation of \$1,325,841, on his own depreciation he had established a value of \$1,268,252, and the company's book value showed \$1,370,436. The difference between Mr. Midram's valuation and the company's book value is \$104,000.

Dr. Baxter, Mr. Midram said the Hayes' valuation of the plant, without depreciation, was \$1,613,653. Adding \$10,968 spent by the company after the Hayes' valuation the plant value, undepreciated, on March 31, 1911, would be \$1,624,621.

Dr. Baxter said that prior to 1910 there were only private corporations, and no public utilities; they could earn as high a rate on their investment as they could secure from the public and if the patron considered the rate too high his only relief was to discontinue the service.

A fundamental error in the report of the utilities commission in 1910 was figuring depreciated value from a depreciated valuation. Depreciation should have been applied to original value only or to the book value of the company. He would prefer that the commission not fix a certain amount for depreciation in the future but set out that not less than a certain amount be reserved without establishing a base.

Afternoon Session

To M. G. Teed Mr. Midram said the average revenue per revenue producing station under the new schedule was \$25.50. The total revenue per station was \$43.94. In his report Mr. Midram had estimated the total revenue for station as \$40.72.

Dr. Baxter said that was \$14.22 more than the company had applied for.

To M. G. Teed Mr. Midram said that the present average per revenue producing station outside of St. John was \$17.35 while the suggested revenue under the new schedule was \$23.73. The increase includes exchange rentals.

The reason for the increase in Group III for both business and resident subscribers with an increase per station from \$17.15 to \$23.17 was because a large percentage of the subscribers were farmer line subscribers. Their rate is low and hence this lowers the average revenue per station.

The following is the proportion of farmer subscribers to the total number of subscribers:

Farmers	Total
Andover 26	408
Bathurst 32	212
Campbellton 26	600
Chatham 85	400
Edmundston 109	300
Florenceville 317	363
Newcastle 256	590
Sussex 263	625
Sackville 291	618
St. Stephen 230	910
Woodstock 337	819

In addition you have the party line subscribers at a low rate which rather lessens the revenue and makes it comparable with other cities of the same population as St. John.

In regard to the average increase in St. John of 43 per cent, Mr. Teed questioned the fairness of only a 20 per cent increase for resident subscribers. Mr. Midram said under no circumstance could you lower the measured rate. He considered it a very decided advantage to business subscribers. He felt that no business subscriber is going to be charged an excess rate. The \$36 rate is a low rate; it does not jack up business.

Mr. Robinson—If we get more revenue than we need, you are not coming back to secure a reduction. We will. We only want to protect our shareholders.

Dr. Baxter—The big merchants are getting value in inverse proportion to the small grocer.

Mr. Midram said he allowed for a loss of 2 1/2 per cent of revenue due to subscribers dropping out under the new rates.

Mr. Robinson—We expect some will drop out, but not for long. The big boost is in residential rates from \$20 to \$30 or 50 per cent.

To Mr. Weyman Mr. Midram said the average number of calls per day on a residential phone was 7 1/2.

Mr. Weyman—The residential service being \$35 a business man will pay for \$80.50 for the same service.

A—The business man would have to originate 2 1/2 times as many calls as the residence phone to be comparable. It would cost the telephone company the same for each call. But where the residential phone would pay for each call whether completed or not the business' phone would only pay for completed messages.

Mr. Weyman—How are these messages kept track of?

A—There are various ways.

Q—What will be cost of the new accounting system?

A—That depends on the system we adopted.

Q—Then as an expert what system should be adopted?

A—Recording the calls on a pad of paper.

Q—What will be the additional cost?

A—Relatively very little. I don't think it will entail additional employment.

Q—What check has the subscriber upon the statement of calls?

Witness said that he had made enquiries at Halifax. Complaints had been made of over-billing, but on investigation it had been shown that

there was no just cause of complaint. One big Halifax concern found that its business calls cost less under the measured service than under the flat rate. But social calls in business hours ran up a considerable bill.

Mr. Weyman—What increase would the farmer pay under your recommendation?

A—Farmers in small exchanges now pay \$15. They would be raised to \$18.

Q—The farmers' increase is about 20 per cent?

A—Roughly.

Q—Whereas the general increase is about 43 per cent, how did you arrive at the farmers' rate?

A—By the application of common sense. Exchanges serving the farmers are small.

Q—Are the farmers getting plow for less than cost?

A—No. The farmers often contribute poles and labor to their lines. The farmers are paying about all they can stand now. The more rural development there is the better for the business community.

Coun. Gaskin said farmers' rates should not be based on mileage tolls.

To Mr. Weyman the expert said the present revenue from St. John was \$217,423, and outside St. John \$254,362. The estimated revenue under the proposed rates were: for St. John, \$238,400, an increase of 33 per cent; for outside St. John \$314,600 an increase of 44 per cent.

Q—What will be the increase in residential tolls in St. John?

A—The present residential revenue is \$124,785; under the proposed rates they should be \$170,414, an increase of 37 per cent, roughly.

Q—What would be the increase under the measured service?

A—From \$85,500 to \$121,938 or 65 1/2 per cent.

Q—Would there be charges for calls between departments on principle exchanges?

A—For inter department calls not involving a call to central there is no increase.

Mr. Lewis—As the automatic system cheaper?

A—Maintenance would be higher, but operating cost less.

Mr. Robinson said they had an engineer at work, but were not yet in a position to tell the effect of an automatic system.

Mr. Weyman—Have you allowed for loss of revenue through subscribers not paying as much as now?

A—Yes. About 2 1/2 per cent. Some may drop out. Some may want a cheaper service.

Chairman—Is there any possibility of wireless?

Mr. Weyman—What are the business rates elsewhere in Canada?

At this point the Board decided to adjourn till 10.30 a. m. today daylight time.

"Clothes Pressed in Ten Minutes—Waiting Room Inside."

Those inside waiting rooms are so much nicer!—Burlington Express.

IRREGULAR PRICE
MOVEMENTS

New York, June 11.—The market slowly gained strength during most of the afternoon, but there was some irregularity in price movements and the volume of trading was light.

Crucible made a slight advance, adding several points to its forenoon gain, the apparent reason being that the directors are to meet next week and some of them are rumored to be in favor of another stock dividend.

Despatches from Chicago, while of course inconclusive, seem to hold out the idea that Lowden was gaining strength and it was generally assumed that the market would continue his nomination bullishly. The market closed generally a little below the best prices of the day, but with some substantial net gains running through the list. Sales 548,500.

E. & C. RANDOLPH.

The Matter Explained.
Misprint: "At 8 o'clock this morning, Mary, we were awakened by loud knocking, and our master went down and found it was a policeman who told him the pantry window was open."

Mary: "O, 'e did, did 'e? 'Ad 'e red 'er? 'I'll learn 'im to go 'ome, 'in at decent people's doors in the middle of the night just because 'e wouldn't go to the pictures with 'im last Friday. 'Impudence!"—London Punch.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation. It is a rule taken to keep you from being taken in by a cheap imitation.

Old Dutch Cleanser

Cleans Kitchen Utensils easily. It quickly cuts the burnt-in grease like nothing else can do. Try it on something hard to clean.

Chances are you'll find it the best thing you ever used.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

Old Dutch Cleanser is sold by leading druggists everywhere.