

No. 227c.

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

REPRINT OF THE REPORT OF THE TELEPHONES COMMITTEE OF THE 10TH APRIL, 1901.

The telephones committee report that with a view to carrying into effect the license about to be granted by the Postmaster General, empowering the council to carry on telephone exchange business in the Brighton area, they have obtained from Mr. Bennett an estimate of the cost of installing the necessary system.

The council will remember that in June last, the committee submitted a preliminary report prepared by Mr. Bennett in accordance with the instructions of the council, of the cost of the provision of a 1,200 and 2,000 line exchange respectively, for the purposes of the application to the Postmaster General for the necessary license, and that the council adopted the committee's recommendation thereon, which was as follows:—

'That application be made to the Postmaster General, for a license to the corporation to establish and carry on a system of public telephonic communication in the Brighton Telephone Exchange area for a period of 25 years, the maximum rates of charges for exchange subscribers to be as follows:—

'For unlimited service . . . . .	£7 0 0
'For limited service . . . . .	3 10 0 and toll of 1d. a call.

and that the councils of the several districts included within the proposed exchange area be requested to give their consent to the application.'

In the same report, estimates, furnished by Mr. Bennett, were submitted, of the probable income and expenditure in respect of a 2,000 and 1,200 line exchange respectively. The particulars of which, for a 2,000 line exchange, are as under:—

*Estimate of Revenue.*

2,000 subscribers at £5 5s. per annum, average receipt. . . .	£10,500
80 public telephone offices, at 3s. per week, average receipt. . .	624
Extra mileage charge on long lines, say 80 miles at £4. . . . .	320
Commission on telegrams, express letters, &c., telephoned to the post office. . . . .	25
	<hr/>
	£11,469.
	<hr/> <hr/>

*Estimate of Working Expenses.**Staff.*

Manager and engineer . . . . .	£250	0	0
Assistant engineer . . . . .	130	0	0
Outside superintendent . . . . .	117	0	0
Inside superintendent . . . . .	117	0	0
Storekeeper . . . . .	91	0	0
3 inspectors, at £78 average . . . . .	234	0	0
2 improvers, at £26 . . . . .	52	0	0
4 clerks, at £65. . . . .	260	0	0
2 boys, at £26. . . . .	52	0	0
Chief operator (lady) . . . . .	91	0	0
Assistant operator (lady) . . . . .	52	0	0
44 girl operators, at 10s. per week average. . . . .	1,144	0	0
5 night and Sunday operators, at 12s. per week . . . . .	156	0	0
Travelling and allowances . . . . .	50	0	0