

APPENDIX No. 1

present have no telephonic communication with the mainland, but I presume that this would be a work of such great cost that it would not be self-supporting, and that it therefore cannot be undertaken without help from the Dominion government, though it would be a great benefit, not only to us, but also to the neighbouring provinces.

Yours truly,

WM. T. HUNT.

No. 239.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE,

FREDERICTON, N.B., July 6, 1905.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK,
Chairman, Select Committee on Telephones,
Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—By direction of the city council, I inclose a copy of the report of the special committee of this council in reply to your communication of May 29 last, respecting telephone system.

I have the honour to remain,
Yours very truly,

J. W. McCREADY,
City Clerk.

No. 239a.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the City Council:

GENTLEMEN,—Your committee appointed to make inquiries concerning the telephone system in the city of Fredericton for the benefit of the telephone commission at Ottawa, after careful inquiry beg leave to submit the following report:—

The telephone company doing business in our city is known as the New Brunswick Telephone Company, the number of instruments in use being 410, and the service and rates are evidently satisfactory to all parties, as we never hear of any complaints. The arrangement between the city and the said company is of a most satisfactory nature. The company are supplying the city with all necessary telephones for one-half of their regular rates, also allowing city free use of their poles for fire alarm service.

Considering the vast number of shade trees in our city, and the fact of two electric companies operating a system of high voltage, there are certain times, such particularly as spring and fall, when local troubles arise through grounds and induction, and with the view of eliminating those troubles as much as possible, the telephone company at their last general meeting decided upon many large and expensive improvements. We may add they have decided upon an estimated expenditure of \$25,000 to include a new exchange building, cabling, conduit W.R.R., and the installation of central energy system which will give a service of the most improved and up-to-date kind.

We understand that the commission is already in possession of the long-distance rates of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, and you undoubtedly find said rates are much lower than rates charged by other companies with the same service, this company's line being equipped with copper metallic circuits, and whose staff is of efficient size and possessed of the required knowledge to keep the system in general in a satisfactory working order.

Any further information or inquiries you may require which the committee can furnish we most cheerfully offer.