

4-5 EDWARD VII., A. 1905

Information on these questions is hard to obtain. The truth could only be known by making a personal canvass of those whom the Bell people claim as subscribers. Twenty would surely cover every Bell telephone now in the territory covered by us, pay-stations and all, and it might be twice as many as there are.

Bell rates before competition were: Residence, \$72 per year; business, \$110.

Bell rates at this date are: Residence, \$12 per annum; business, \$18 on party lines, or automatic board. No free service except individual line.

Wages paid are: Outside staff, 20 cents an hour and expenses; operators (girls), \$15 per month. They are expected to be in position to answer a call from 6 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., but actual business hours are much less. We pay two for service, but they arrange with each other as to the hours.

Cost of equipment and material is as follows:—

Ericson indicator board, wired for two hundred lines, but with only fifty 1,600 ohm. jacks installed, \$300. This board has fifteen sets of keys and cords, night bell, line pilots, test keys and hand generator.

Connecticut board, same winding drops, but of fifty capacity only, with twenty drops installed, \$90.

We use the American Electric Fuse Company make of arrestors and racks, costing from ten cents a line up.

\$10.25 for Conn. No. 14 C. wall telephones, complete with batteries.

\$11.25 for type "A" desk telephones, complete, as above.

Roeblings No. 12 B.B. steel double gal. wire, 3½c. per lb., delivered, less 2 per cent ten days.

No. 10 H.D. copper cost us, last lot, 15½c. per lb. Have bought as low as 12½c.

25-ft. chestnut poles, 7 in. top, from 90c. in the woods to \$1.50 to \$2 delivered at the hole.

Ten-foot, ten-pin yellow pine cross-arms, two coats creosote, 38c., delivered from South Carolina to our station.

Six-foot, six-pin arms, similar to above, 22c. each.

¾ x 11-in. gal. bolts, \$5.35 per 100, f.o.b., Philadelphia.

28-in. gal. braces, 28c. per pair, f.o.b., Philadelphia.

1½ x 9-in. locust pins, \$10 per M., f.o.b., Philadelphia.

No. 9 Hemingway insulators, \$12 per M., f.o.b., Muncie, Ind.

We avoid cable as much as possible, and for substitute bunch rubber-covered weather-proof twin copper wire, and either hang to a messenger wire, or run in a wooden box, or gal. iron conductor pipe. This costs about two cents a foot, per pair, but does not have to be fused, or require especial care in handling.

We generally contract digging holes, and find 20 cents a hole about the average cost in this section.

We also contract raising the poles, one of our stockholders having invented a portable derrick by which one man can handle the standard pole with cross-arms and all on, and put it in the hole. Two horses are used to move the derrick and two men generally go with it. They charge us eight or ten cents for putting a pole in the hole, according to situation, and have a record for a day's work of a pole every four minutes. Our other hands then tramp the dirt in at 12 cents an hour. We have tried raising by hand and find it averages six men twenty minutes to put a standard pole in the ground.

No. 147. THE CUYAHOGA TELEPHONE COMPANY.

ELECTRIC BUILDING,

CLEVELAND, O., June 6, 1905.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK, K.C.M.G.,

Postmaster General and Chairman, Select Committee on Telephones,
Ottawa, Canada.

DEAR SIR,—It gives me great pleasure to be able to furnish you with a list of the data requested by your committee, although it is not possible for us, at this time, to answer the last two questions.