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the Bell long-distance system, and this is a great inconvenience to us. The Bell people are anxious to connect with us, and, of course, failing any other solution of the difficulty we must freely connect our systems on the best terms we can get. We are deeply interested in the work of your committee, and are looking for good results.

If there is anything we can do for you further than this we will be always glad to do it, and in the meantime beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

K. W. MACKENZIE,
Mayor.

No. 236a.

MAYOR'S OFFICE,

EDMONTON, ALTA., June 27, 1905.

WALTER TOSD, Esq.,

Clerk of the Select Committee on Telephones,
Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your communication of June 21, I beg to say that although the Bell Telephone Company, through their agents, have shown a desire to connect freely with our municipal system, we have not received from them any definite proposal as to the terms upon which such connection could be effected, and on our part since our system is not standardized we are not in a position at the present time to talk business, thus the matter stands for the present.

I regret that by an oversight my communication to you of the 16th June went forward unsigned.

Yours very truly,

K. W. MACKENZIE,
Mayor.

No. 236b.

The Select Committee on Telephone Systems.

In reply to the committee's inquiry, the mayor of the city of Edmonton reports as follows:—

The system operates in Edmonton, Strathcona, Fort Saskatchewan, St. Albert, Leduc and Beaumont, with long-distance connections, also connections with government lines, Edmonton and St. Albert to Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, Ray, Rivière Qui Barre, Morinville and St. Emile. The amount of debenture stock issued is \$27,000. The population of the territory served is about 16,000, and total number of telephones in operation 460, of which 448 are direct one station lines. The number of residence telephones is 124; business, 324; and rural, 12.

The lines are No. 12 iron wire grounded circuits. The construction is pole entirely. The system is magneto, the central office equipment being manufactured by Bell Telephone Company and Stromberg-Carlson Telephone Manufacturing Company, and the subscribers' telephones by Stromberg-Carlson Company (with a few exceptions by other manufacturers.)

The rates charged per annum are: business \$30, residence \$20, rural \$20. The system was only acquired by the city in January last, and the question of depreciation, etc., has not yet been determined. The system was acquired by purchase from the Edmonton District Telephone Company, Limited.

The number of 'Bell' telephones in our territory before acquisition was 1, viz., the Edmonton toll office. The number at this date is 2, viz., the Edmonton and Leduc toll offices.