

No. 215.

Arthur H. Burton, Montreal, Que.—Stating that 'Bell' Company compelled his sister-in-law to take the long-distance instrument at increased rate, and also refused to supply writer with 'Blake' instrument until he pressed the matter by complaining to the city hall and calling at the head office of the company. Also subsequent letter stating that if the 'Bell' Company deny the facts he will send an affidavit and other proofs.

No. 216.

M. H. Overholt, The Fernside Fruit Farm, Jordan, Ont.—Stating that private line has been running for 15 years over a distance of 12 miles, connecting with St. Catharines. The line had connection with the 'Bell' Company, but was cut out and further connection refused. Two years ago a company was about to be formed, when the 'Bell' Company promised service at \$15 and blocked the scheme. The 'Bell' Company have taken all the subscribers of this line with the exception of the writer, who is keeping it up alone. The 'Bell' Company are now charging \$20 per year. The writer asked Mr. Sise to give him connection and he would bear the cost, but was refused. The writer states that the 'Bell' Company asked Mr. Rittenhouse to visit Ottawa and testify that the company was giving good service; they did not, however, give any in the Pelham district until they were compelled to do so. The writer asks for a grant of \$200 or \$300 to complete all the private lines and get new 'phones and he would furnish the rest to put this line in good running order. He also asks what power he has to put telephones and whether the 'Bell' Company is compelled to give him connection. When he was running the private line, the telephone did not cost him over \$3 per year.

No. 217.

I. R. Edmands, Union Carbide Co., Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.—Enclosing newspaper clipping giving notice of the incorporation of the Home Telephone Company, of San Francisco, with a capital of \$10,000,000, for the establishment of an automatic telephone system in San Francisco.

No. 218.

F. V. Warmal, Seeley Manfg. Co., Montreal, Que.—Contradicting statement made by the Bell Company that a five-cent piece is never lost when using slot machine telephones. The writer states that he loses money in this way three or four times daily, and explains that the operators refuse by order of the company, to obtain the person required as in the case of long-distance service, hence if the man wanted at a subscriber's is out, the coin is lost.

No. 219.

Home Telephone and Telegraph Co., San Diego, California.—This company operates the Strowger Automatic System. Has 1,350 subscribers and trouble department only reports average of 7 or 8 cases of trouble per day. From standpoint of first cost, operation, expense of maintenance, the system is very satisfactory.

No. 220.

Lafleur, McDougall & Macfarlane, Montreal, Que.—Enclosing copy Journal Telegraphique, containing Swedish Telephone Tariff.