

APPENDIX No. 1

By Mr. Boyce :

Q. They took over the telephone system from whom ?—A. From a private telephone company.

Q. Was that for Edmonton only ?—A. For Edmonton and district.

Q. Has the Bell an agency there ?—A. They have an agency there.

Q. You have not heard of any other municipal system ?—A. I know of no others. Of course, there are a number of independent companies.

By Mr. Grant :

Q. With regard to the town of Neepewa, have the Bell withdrawn from there ?—A. The statement is that they have taken out their poles and wires. They may have one pay station there; I do not know.

Mr. ROCHE.—Yes, they have one.

By Mr. Boyce :

Q. In these places, are there no long-distance lines—in Neepewa, Port Arthur, Fort William or Edmonton ?—A. Yes, the Bell have long-distance lines and pay stations in some of them, if not all.

Q. Yes, but there are no long-distance 'phones in Port Arthur or Fort William, are there ?—A. No; the system is only in the immediate locality. You see, Fort William and Port Arthur are isolated.

Q. And the same conditions apply to Neepewa ?

Mr. ROCHE.—No, the trunk line of the Bell system goes through Neepewa.

Q. But there is no direct connection with subscribers to the municipal system for conversation, is there ?—A. No.

Mr. MACLEAN.—You would have to go round to the pay station if you wanted to speak to Winnipeg.

By Mr. Boyce :

Q. I believe that they have recently opened a line from Minneapolis ?—A. Possibly.

Q. I know you can speak from Winnipeg to Minneapolis, but there is no possible means of communication existing at present between the municipal 'phones at Neepewa, for instance, and the long-distance line ?—A. No, but at Fort William and Port Arthur the municipal exchanges are connected.

Mr. ROCHE.—I have called up residents of Neepewa and they have had to come down to the long-distance station to speak.

By Mr. Boyce :

Q. And the Bell telephone never interchanges traffic with the local and municipal 'phones such as they have on St. Joseph's Island ?—A. No.

Q. There are also two other cases in which the conditions were somewhat peculiar, Port Arthur and Fort William. Those are municipal systems; and then there is that farmers' system on St. Joseph's Island in Algoma. I think it would be advisable to get some information with regard to all these systems.

WITNESS.—I may say I have put in a letter from St. Joseph's Island, showing that they have a very good system. (See Exhibit No. 2, Schedule G.)

Mr. BOYCE.—Yes, I have seen that system, and I think it will be very advisable to get some evidence from there.

WITNESS.—I may say I have later information regarding Neepewa; and also Port Arthur and Fort William, but it would take up too much of the time of the committee to read it now.

The Committee then adjourned.

Mr. FRANCIS DAGGER.