

APPENDIX No. 1

No. 163.

E. J. HARRIS,
*Mayor.*J. W. PATTISON,
Sec.-Treas.

NEEPAWA, MAN., June 12, 1905.

To Sir WM. MULOCK,
Chairman Select Committee on Telephone Systems,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 2nd instant, desiring to obtain the views of the council of the town of Neepawa regarding telephonic conditions in this locality. The town of Neepawa owns and operates its own telephone system. Your communication was placed before the council at its first meeting, the matter was discussed and a select committee of the council appointed to prepare a report thereon, which was presented and adopted by the council. Following is a copy of the report, also additional information directed to be furnished by the council:

'The select committee of the council of the town of Neepawa appointed to consider the letter from the select committee of the parliament of Canada appointed to consider the telephone systems, beg to report as follows:

'That having considered the letter referred to, they would suggest that the secretary-treasurer be instructed to furnish the committee with any and all information they desire. That they view with pleasure the fact of the government taking up this question, the outcome of which they hope may be a recommendation looking toward government-owned trunk long-distance lines. That we do not think, judging from experience with the Bell Telephone Company, that an arrangement between any municipal system and that company would be a satisfactory one to the municipality. In our case the municipal system has proved very satisfactory, as to service, cost and profit.

'Upon motion of Councillors Dinwoody and Gossell, report was adopted.

E. J. HARRIS,
'Mayor.'

You are already in possession of certain information relating to this system, which has been furnished from this office and is printed in your reports. The system in use is metallic circuit and was installed five years ago. It is run to a certain extent in connection with our electric lighting system. The cost up to the present time on capital account is \$12,000. We have a switchboard of the manufacture of International Company of Chicago, 200 drop. Number of 'phones installed, 180; charges are \$10 per annum for domestic, and \$20 for commercial. The average cost per 'phone installed and in operation is \$70. Cost of maintenance is \$16.50, which includes interest and sinking fund. At these rates the system is just self-sustaining. We have no long-distance or party lines in connection with our system. The Bell Company operate a long-distance line. They have about nine subscribers; they are building lines to the neighbouring localities.

Yours truly,

JAS. W. PATTISON,
Secy.-Treas.

No. 164.

PARKHILL, ONT., June 20, 1905.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK, Ottawa.

HON. SIR,—Your communication to our clerk *re* telephone system, has been referred to me to reply to, by motion of the council.