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UNION CARBIDE COMPANY.

Sault Ste. Marie Works.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., June 5, 1905.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK, Postmaster General,
Chairman Select Committee on Telephone Systems,
Ottawa, Ontario.

DEAR SIR,—I wish to acknowledge your inquiry of May 30th in regard to our telephone system which we have in use at this plant.

It is the system known as the 'Automatic Electric' and has a central station system with automatic central so that no operator is required. The system is adaptable for a small or a large number of 'phones, and is in use, not only in places similar to ours, but in comparatively large cities.

Our system is comprised of a switch-board for twenty-five 'phones, but at present we are using only fifteen.

I looked very thoroughly into the different systems of intercommunicating telephones before deciding on this kind, and I found that although this system was first-class and the 'phones more expensive than some of the other systems, yet, on the whole, it was the cheapest for our particular use.

Most of the intercommunicating systems on the market require a separate wire from every 'phone on the system to every other 'phone, besides a ground connection, and where the 'phones are distributed over a considerable area the expense of wiring amounts to a very considerable item.

Our plant is very extensive and some of the 'phones are nearly a half-mile apart, and, therefore, the simple wiring, two wires and a ground to each 'phone, which this system uses, makes it very desirable.

I am inclosing a descriptive pamphlet covering this system which goes considerably into detail and which, I think, you will find interesting.

The system which we have installed has been in use over two years, and we are very much pleased with its operation. The telephones are first-class and the talking qualities are excellent. It requires very little attention of any kind to keep it in good condition. It is operated by a bank of small storage batteries and about the only attention the system needs is what is required to charge the batteries about once a week, which is accomplished by throwing a switch and turning on the current for a period of a few hours, which does not in any way interfere with the use of the telephones.

In short, our experience is that the claims that the manufacturers have made for their telephones are entirely fulfilled.

There are a number of towns and cities which have adopted this system and if you are contemplating a city 'phone service I would recommend that you correspond with some of the cities where it has been tried. Grand Rapids, Michigan, started using this system about a year ago and the addresses of other cities can be obtained from the manufacturers.

If I can be of any further service to you in this connection, I hope you will feel free to call upon me.

Very truly,

I. R. EDMANDS,
Superintendent.