

**Telephones—continued**

- Department of Railways, 29, 30, 32, 36, 45-46
- See also* Minister of Telephones and Telegraphs
- Number of, 13, 14, 27, 28, 75, 141, 146
- Growth in, not due to Government control, 76, 146-148
- Telephone system in Manitoba,
  - Beginning of (1880), 13
  - Purchase of, by Bell Telephone Company of Canada (1881), 13
  - Extension of (1882-84), 13
  - Economic depression causes slow development of (1888-1905), 14
  - Character of immigration retards development of, 14
  - Rapid expansion of (1900-1908), 15
  - Inquiry by Government into, 16
  - Application of Manitoba to Dominion Government to amend charter of Bell Company rejected, 16-17
  - Project of joint Governmental and Municipal ownership, 17
  - Policy of Government regarding, 18, 20
  - Committee of Legislature on (1906), 19
  - Alleged exorbitant rates of, 19
  - Rates to be "cut in two" by Government, 19, 21, 22
  - Construction of competitive Government system in Winnipeg (1907), 23
  - Municipalities reject Government policy in respect to, 24

**Telephone system—continued**

- Purchase by the Government of the Bell, 26
- Position at the time of purchase of the, 27
- Terms of purchase of, 29-31
- Promises of Government regarding, 32, 33, 35
- First Commission appointed to manage, 36
- Commission for management lacks full power, 37
- Political pressure upon, 38 *et seq.*
- Abolition of technical staff in Telephone Department, 46
- Opposition criticism of, 47
- Alleged surplus from, 48
- Political importance of, 49
- Accounts of (1908), 51
- Real deficit in, 53
- Current expenses of, improperly charged to capital, 54
- Necessity of recasting accounts of, 54
- Absence of Depreciation Reserve in, 55
- Deficit (1908), 58
- Opposition criticism of accounts of, 60
- Reduction of rates in, 62
- Unremunerative farmers' rate in, 64
- Influence of misstatement of financial results in, 65
- Labor difficulties of, 66
- Reorganization of, 67
- Deficit in (1909), 69
- Public Accounts Committee, criticism of, 70
- Political abuses in, 76
- Deficit in (1910), 79
- Crisis of (1911), 81
- Disappearance of fictitious "surpluses," and admis-