

one that would meet your case. It has a minimum of moving parts and double doors. The front door is locked with a switch lock, and the interior door has an ordinary screw lock.

Mr. Wilson,—

The point I was leading up to is that of maintenance. The question of maintenance is the one on which the installation of a new system is based. It is an easy matter to get money for the first installation, they do not care what it costs at the present time, but what is it going to cost to maintain after you have got it? Years ago it was the other way about, the question then was, "What was the initial cost?" That day is gone, and they do not ask what is the first cost, but what is the cost of maintenance, and I shall be pleased to have your opinion on this?

Mr. Fairlie,—

The majority of the installations are equipped to ring with the two dry cells at the way stations because it is always necessary to have the batteries for the telephone. The maintenance man can then renew the one set while attending to the other.

Mr. Wilson,—

We found that the dry cells were too expensive.

Mr. Fairlie,—

In connection also with maintenance, the selector has been given the most severe tests. As telephone train despatching has really only been in operation during the last three years, we were desirous of knowing how long the selector apparatus would stand up under actual operating conditions. Repeated calls were sent over a test line to see how many calls the selector would respond to before it would show any signs of wear. The selector was taken off after having answered a million and a quarter calls and had not developed any weakness. From statistics taken from different roads this would mean about twenty-nine years of trunk line service.

Chairman,—

Mr. Wilson, you can take it from me that we will go to Jackson's Point next year.

We would like to hear from Mr. McKenzie.