

Their choice was Robert Allen, a magistrate, who became local manager on May 17, 1892. The switchboard was placed in his home on Main street, which also served as his office.

It was a long distance office at first, but by 1900 changed to a regular exchange, providing local telephone service as well.

The twelve original customers were listed in the official Eastern Ontario telephone directory for December, 1900:

Berry, F.....	Butcher.....	Main
Burton, R.....	Residence .....	Crawford
C.P.R. Station .....	A. Atcheson, agent	
Delahey Bros.....	General Merchants .....	Main
Delahey, Dr. F.C.....	Office .....	Main
Grand Union Hotel .....	T.W. Patterson .....	John & Bromley
McCoy's Hotel .....	John McCoy.....	Main
McLaren, Dr. P.S.....	Office .....	Main
Mair, Dr. A.W. ....	Office .....	Main
Sine, Clifford .....	Druggist, G.N.W. Telegraph office..	Main
Tuffy, E.....	General Merchant.....	Main
Young, T.C.....	V.S., Livery .....	Crawford

About this time the Bell Telephone Company was promoting the use of its new long distance telephone, which gave more satisfactory service at greater distances. In fact, a directory advertisement of 1903 promised:

Long Distance Equipment

Improves service locally,  
Brings trade from distant points.

This same directory placed an asterisk before the listing for Delahey Brothers, general merchants on Main street, to indicate