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**Thirteen Subscribers When  
Telephones Came in 1884**

Georgetown was among the first communities to have telephone service.

An exchange was opened here in 1884, only 10 years after Alexander Graham Bell first told his father of his theory of telephony, and only six years after the first exchange in the British Empire was opened at Hamilton.

Georgetown residents took to the telephone rapidly, and the use of the instrument has increased steadily through the years as the community has grown and developed. The original exchange, located in a book and stationery store owned

by J. H. Jackson, and located on Main Street, was serving 13 telephone subscribers by the end of 1884.

The subscribers as listed in the first telephone directory for this area, published, January, 1885, were: Bank of Hamilton, Main St.; Barber, John R., Paper Mills; Barber, John R., Residence, Main St.; Beaumont, S., Batton Mfr., Glen Williams; Freeman, Dr. W., Church St.; Goodwillie, G. C., Barrister, Main St.; Grand Trunk Ry Station; Jackson, J. H., bookseller & stationer, Main St.; King, R. W. and Co., Foundry; Northern, & North-Western Ry Station; Roe, Dr. W. J., Residence, Main St.; Williams, B., Woollen Mills, Glen Williams; Williams, Joseph, Flour & Saw Mills, Glen Williams.

New customers subscribed for service each year and there were 20 telephones here in 1887, and 27 in 1894.

With so few subscribers it was not necessary to assign numbers in the early years, but this step was taken in 1899 when there were 29 instruments in use here.

Eight years later, when the number of telephone users had increased to 111, the company began providing service on a 24-hour basis, instead of only during business hours as had been the practice until then.

The numbers of telephone users increased rapidly after that time, passing the 200 mark in 1910 and jumping to 485 by 1919. By 1939, when the second world war began, there were 700 telephones in use here. Then, because all available telephone equipment was needed for defence purposes, only essential orders could be filled and the number in service grew slowly.

However, as soon as the war ended the Bell Company began working towards the stage where it could again supply service on demand and by the end of 1947 there were 1,165 telephones here.

The demand for service has continued in recent years and, in keeping with its practice of providing the most suitable type of equipment to serve each area, the telephone company prepared plans for the opening of the new dial exchange which when it goes into use, will serve all those Georgetown people now wanting service and will be capable of expansion to take care of future needs for some time to come.



**"Thank you...from all of us"**

—for your cooperation in Georgetown during the changeover to "dial" telephone service.

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

- Always make sure of the number by first looking it up in your new supplementary directory.
- Use all possible care in dialing—follow carefully the instructions on the front page of your new supplementary directory.
- Keep your personal directory of telephone numbers up to date.

Give us the kind of telephone service you want is our job. You want it to be fast and dependable—and to keep on getting better. You want to deal with pleasant, friendly people who take a real interest in your problems and who are willing to give you a little extra attention.

And that's the kind of service, we want you to have. *It makes your telephone mean more to you—makes our job mean more to us.*

W. O. MISENER, Manager.



**THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF CANADA**

**First Telephone Exchange  
In J. H. Jackson Store**

The Bell Telephone Company has been represented in Georgetown through the years by people who have been popular residents of the community and active in its affairs.

The first Bell representative here and the one who held office longest was J. H. Jackson, who operated a book and stationery store on Main Street when he was appointed by the telephone company in 1884. At that time the first Georgetown exchange was opened in his store.

Besides looking after telephone affairs, Mr. Jackson continued to broaden his other business interests, and by 1901 was carrying a line of house furnishings in addition to his other goods. Six years later, the firm became known as Jackson's Department Store. Just before the turn of the century, Mr. Jackson's telephone title was changed to local manager.

After 32 years as the Bell Company's representative in Georgetown, Mr. Jackson was succeeded in 1916 by H. W. Snelling. Miss G. Glassey succeeded Mr. Snelling when she was appointed local representative in March, 1918.

Up to that time, 100 had been the telephone number for both the bell office and the department store, but the number was left with the store and the telephone representative's number became 170, which has remained unchanged up until the introduction of dial service.

After one year's service, Miss Glassey was succeeded as local representative by Miss Mae Ross. Miss Doretta May Bell was Georgetown's chief operator in 1921-22, and she was succeeded by Miss Florence Nel-

lie Saunders. Miss Saunders was later transferred to Kitchener, where she served as a supervisor for a short time, then returned here as local representative.

Miss C. R. Whitmee was appointed the Bell's local representative here in 1923, beginning a tenure of office that was to last 17 years. Miss Whitmee's title was changed to "branch manager" in 1926.

In 1940 Miss Mabel Chave succeeded Miss Whitmee. Miss Chave was succeeded as local representative in 1948 by Miss I. Thompson, but continued to serve as Georgetown's chief operator.

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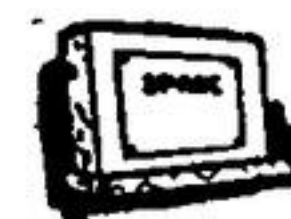
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