

TELEPHONE COMPANY ASKS RATE INCREASE

Expense of Operation Increased By High Cost of Materials; Would Provide a Temporary Relief

Throughout these long years of war, with the price of every commodity constantly advancing; with very kind of material used in the telephone industry from the smallest bolt to the largest cable, together with the thousands of different pieces of equipment used in the construction of the telephone system having doubled, and in many cases trebled in cost price; the telephone company has constantly endeavored to uphold its obligations to subscribers and maintain efficient telephone service at pre-war rates.

During the past year expenses have continued to rise and the net revenue to decrease by many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Today the margin of profit has ceased to exist, and on the contrary the Telephone company has for many months past been operated at a net loss.

Throughout this protracted period of war the employees have received due consideration. It was recognized by the company that they could not support themselves and their dependents on their former peace time wages.

During the years 1917 and 1918 the Telephone company, to meet the increased cost of living has successively increased wages to employees, which increased the operating expenses by more than half a million dollars per annum in the Illinois exchanges outside of the City of Chicago, to which must be added, the increased cost of all materials and apparatus used in the upkeep of the telephone plant.

Nearly all telephone material prices have increased from 100 to more than 20 per cent during the past three years; which means in simple language, that material costing \$1 in 1915 today costs \$2, and in many cases \$3. A glance at the following schedule of some of the essentials of telephone equipment will show the enormous cost increases during the past three years.

Underground cable has increased in cost 136 per cent; aerial cable 139 per cent; cable conduit 176.5 per cent; pipes 229.5 per cent; copper wire for toll lines 171.9 per cent. A further schedule of all material used in the construction of the telephone system would show corresponding increases.

Appeal to Commission

The time has now arrived when the Telephone company must seek relief through an application to the Public Utilities Commission of Illinois for an increase in rates for local telephone service in order to pay war time wages to the employees in the telephone industry; purchase necessary equipment to maintain a high grade of service.

Telephone service is vitally necessary to the government and to the nation particularly at this time. Material must be purchased at these abnormally high prices to care for the needs of our government, as well as the normal industrial development, and further telephone employees should receive adequate wages adjusted as nearly as possible to those prevailing in other industries.

It is under these unusual financial conditions that the Chicago Telephone company is making application for an increase in its rates for local service. The Telephone company has held out as long as possible before asking this relief, but has now reached a condition where the investments of the service, employees and the stockholders make it imperative that the revenue be increased.

This application does not cover a permanent increase in rates but will provide temporary relief, which may be discontinued in whole or in part, according to the circumstances, when the conditions which are responsible for the present stress are modified or entirely cease in the judgment of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Illinois.

INFANT WELFARE STATION WORKERS ARE OPTIMISTIC

By L. K. S.

The Infant Welfare station at Gross Point is "going strong", as our English friends say. It came back after the influenza quarantine with renewed vigor. Also the fame of this lusty infant is spreading far and wide.

The Council of National Defense, being one of its ancestors, is very proud of its flourishing condition. The Child Welfare department is even prouder, as it is the first station established since Mrs. Ira Couch Wood undertook the Child Welfare work for Illinois. A little article in this paper first called her attention to the station, before the formal report was sent to her. She and Mrs. Hardin got up the chrysanthemum exhibit for last Saturday at the

latter's charming greenhouses in Hubbard Woods. There will be an exhibition again on Saturday, Nov. 9, and Mrs. Hardin is willing to sell some of the plants and flowers, as the fuel shortage prevents her carrying on the greenhouses during the winter. The Hardin place is at the end of Mary street on Sheridan road, Hubbard Woods.

Wilmette is marching right along in the procession, as usual. She now has her own visiting nurse. This makes the life of the Infant Welfare station even more secure; for if the county nurse is called away, the help of "our own nurse" is promised.

The Wilmette Guard and its Woman's committee are also to be counted on for help and support.

The merchants are kindly giving liberal discounts for our supplies; and four specialists in different branches of surgery have offered their services whenever we have room for them.

With the County and the Township and the towns back of us to support us; and the rising generation ahead to lure us on, we hope to keep going and growing forever.

NEW CHANCE FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICE

Every housekeeper realizes that the dairy situation is daily becoming a greater problem. The increased price of milk affects every one of us, but especially does it affect the babies. On the purity and plentiful supply of milk depend the strength and vitality of the next generation. Then, too, all dairy products are increasing in price, and growing more scarce. The situation in many districts has reached such a crisis that dairymen are going out of business entirely, or decreasing the size of their plants, because the call to arms has depleted the number of trained dairy workers. Even with possible peace before us, it will take a year or more to get the working force back to anything approaching its normal numbers.

In order to cope with this problem, the call is going out for women to enter the dairying profession. The government is asking, through the Department of Labor, for three hundred thousand women to come into land service. Dairying is a branch of land service that should appeal to all women. The woman or girl who can help her nation in the present emergency will be doing as important a patriotic service as the nurse or the munition worker.

The Woman training farm at Libertyville (known as the Liberty Farms) is doing its patriotic part by offering free courses in dairy work to women and girls during the winter season. A special appeal is made to High School girls to enlist for the Saturday classes in butter and cheese making and in general dairy instruction. There are also a few vacancies for women above eighteen to take special courses in milking, milk-testing, and more advanced

dairy work. By application to Miss Alison Ransford, the dairy instructor at the farms, further particulars may be had, and arrangements may be made with her.

The Speakers' committee of the farms will send speakers on this topic to Women's clubs, War Emergency meetings, or meetings of High School student bodies, upon application to Mrs. V. K. Spicer, Kenilworth, Illinois.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES

TO PATRONS OF THE CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY.

The Chicago Telephone Company hereby gives notice to the public that it has filed with the State of Illinois, Public Utilities Commission temporary schedules which will change the rates for local telephone exchange service in its Winnetka Exchange Area in Cook County, Illinois, and that the said change of rates involves an increase for all classes of local exchange service offered to the public and covered by its rate schedule as now filed and in effect.

All parties interested in this proceeding may obtain information as to time and place of hearing upon this matter, by addressing the Secretary of the Public Utilities Commission at Springfield, Ill.

CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY
A. R. BONE,
General Commercial Superintendent.

VILLAGE OF WINNETKA.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.
GENERAL NUMBER 339467.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois, having ordered the improvement of Essex Road from the north line extended of Warwick Avenue north for a distance of ninety-one (91) feet, being the Essex Road frontage of the south ninety-one (91) feet of Lot thirteen (13) Block one (1) of Tempel's Resubdivision, by excavating, grading, preparing the subgrade, constructing a Portland

cement concrete integral curb, constructing a reinforced Portland cement concrete pavement, joints and edges protected by steel, asphalt felt filled protection plates; all in the Village of Winnetka, County of Cook and State of Illinois, the ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the Village Clerk of said Village, and the said Village having applied to the Superior Court of Cook County, Illinois, for an assessment of the cost of said improvement, according to the benefits, and an assessment therefor having been made and returned to said Court, General Number 339467, the final hearing thereon will be held on the eighteenth day of November, A. D. 1918, or as soon thereafter as the business of the said Court will permit. All persons desiring may file objections in said Court

before said day, and may appear on the hearing and make their defense. Said ordinance provides for the collection of said assessment in four (4) annual installments with interest thereon at the rate of five per centum (5%) per annum.

Dated, Winnetka, Illinois, November 1, A. D. 1918.

HARRY I. ORWIG,
Person appointed by the President of the Board of Local Improvements of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois, (and such appointment approved and confirmed by the Superior Court of Cook County, Illinois) to make said assessment.

FREDERICK DICKINSON,
Village Attorney.

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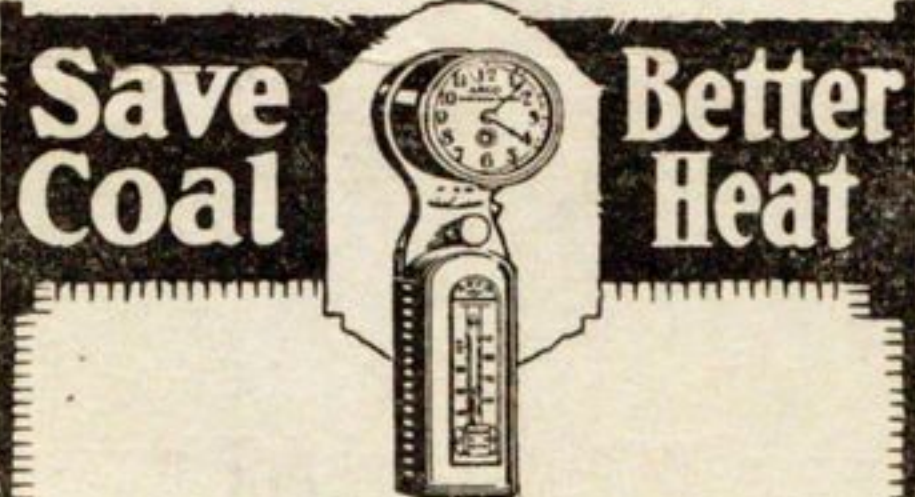
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