



SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE

OF

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1923.

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*Electric-line Regulations. — Telephone Exchanges, Telephone Services, Public Call Office Telephones, Toll Communications, Private-line Circuits, and Private Telephone-lines.*

JELlicoe, Governor-General.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Government House at Wellington, this 17th day of September, 1923.

Present :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

IN pursuance and exercise of the power and authority vested in him by the Post and Telegraph Act, 1908, and its amendments, and of all other powers and authorities enabling him in this behalf, His Excellency the Governor-General of the Dominion of New Zealand, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said Dominion, doth hereby make the regulations and fix the charges set forth in the Schedule hereto with respect to the management and control of telephone exchanges, public call office telephones, telephone toll stations, private-line circuits, and private telephone-lines; and doth order and declare that any regulations and charges of similar purport heretofore made are hereby revoked; and doth further order and declare that such revocation of the regulations, and charges hereby made and fixed, shall have effect on and after the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.

TELEPHONE REGULATIONS.

- Part I.—Telephone Exchange Service.
- Part II.—Auxiliary Services and Miscellaneous Equipment.
- Part III.—Intercommunication at Night at Exchanges with Restricted Attendance.
- Part IV.—Public Call Offices (Coin-in-the-slot).
- Part V.—Toll Service.
- Part VI.—Extended Toll Service at Exchanges with Restricted Attendance.
- Part VII.—Private-line Circuits for Direct Communication between Places of Business.
- Part VIII.—Private Telephone-lines not erected or maintained by the Department.

## DEFINITIONS.

1. IN these regulations, if not inconsistent with the context,—

- “Minister” means the Minister of Telegraphs.
- “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department.
- “Subscriber” means the person who is recognized by the Minister as the holder of a telephone-exchange connection.
- “Exchange” means a departmental telephone exchange consisting of one or more offices containing switching apparatus by means of which inter-communication between the various subscribers’ stations connected therewith may be given.
- “Main station,” as distinct from an extension station, means the subscriber’s main telephone set, or, in the case of a private branch exchange, the switchboard jack with which the subscriber’s circuit from the telephone exchange is normally connected.
- “Rental” means the annual amount which the Minister is authorized to charge for the use of the telephone equipment which forms part of a telephone-exchange connection.
- An “individual line” is a subscriber’s line connecting one subscriber’s station with a telephone exchange.
- A “party line” is a line connecting two or more subscribers’ stations with a telephone exchange.
- A “rural line” is a line connecting five to ten subscribers’ stations, all of which are situated beyond the base-rate area, with a telephone exchange.
- “Toll line” means any departmental line (as distinct from a subscriber’s line) connecting two toll stations for the use of which line a toll charge is made.
- “Toll communication” means a communication over a toll line or any communication from a toll station for which a charge is payable.
- “Toll station” means any office at which a toll line is provided for public use on payment of toll rates.
- “Private-line circuit” is a circuit erected and maintained by the Department, usually within town limits, for and on behalf of a person, company, or corporation, and used for some purpose other than that of a private telephone-line.
- “Private telephone-line” is a line used for telephonic or other approved means of communication, and as a general rule adapted for being linked up with the Department’s telephone system as provided by these regulations, but not erected or maintained by the Department.

## PART I.—TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SERVICE.

**Applications and Conditions of Service.**

2. All telephone services furnished by the Department at any time prior or subsequent to the 1st day of October, 1923, shall be subject to the conditions of the regulations set forth hereunder, or any amendments or extensions thereof.

3. All applications for telephone-exchange service shall be made on the forms supplied for that purpose.

4. A service connection fee of £1 shall be payable in respect of all new or additional connections (main stations), except that a service connection fee shall not be payable in the case of the temporary connections provided for in Regulation 47. The service connection fee shall be an initial charge only, and shall be payable at the time of application for service.

5. Except where temporary service is required as provided for in Regulation 47, all telephone connections must be rented for a period certain of one year; provided that in cases where an unusual amount of capital expenditure is required to provide a telephone connection, the usual term of contract shall be extended to ensure the Department receiving, by way of revenue, a reasonable return on the capital outlay.

6. The Secretary may, either before or after the acceptance of a telephone contract, and before or after the installation of a telephone connection, demand security, in such form and amount as he thinks necessary, for the payment of any telephone charges, and failing compliance with his demand may cancel the contract and cause the premises to be disconnected from the telephone exchange with which they are connected, and any telephone instruments and apparatus to be removed.

7. The Minister may, at his discretion,—

- (a.) Refuse to comply with an application for connection with any telephone-exchange system, or for the transfer of any existing telephone service, or for the construction of any telephone-line.
- (b.) Refuse to comply with an application for a telephone connection with an exchange other than the one situated nearest to the premises referred to in the form of application.
- (c.) Disconnect a subscriber’s telephone from one exchange and connect it with another exchange should he consider such action desirable.
- (d.) Discontinue giving service at any exchange having less than twenty-five paying subscribers’ main stations.

8. Except where otherwise provided in these regulations, telephone-exchange lines shall be used only by the subscriber, his family, guests, or employees, and exclusively on his affairs. Any breach of this regulation shall render the subscriber liable to have his telephone disconnected without prejudice to the right of the Minister to recover the rental and [or] other charges due under these regulations.

**Rating System.**

9. The system of rating for individual, two- and four-party line service shall consist of classifying the exchanges according to the number of subscribers’ stations connected therewith, and the hours of attendance allotted; defining for each exchange or network an area—known as the base-rate area—within which telephone service will be furnished on a flat-rate basis; and fixing for each class of exchange a schedule of rates covering an unlimited number of local calls.

10. For the purpose of these regulations exchanges or networks shall be classified in one or other of the following classes :—

- Class I.—Exchanges or networks observing continuous attendance and having more than 3,500 paying subscribers' main stations connected therewith.
- Class II.—Exchanges or networks observing continuous attendance and having 1,001 to 3,500 paying subscribers' main stations connected therewith.
- Class III.—Exchanges or networks observing continuous attendance and having 201 to 1,000 paying subscribers' main stations connected therewith.
- Class IV.—Exchanges or networks where the attendance is restricted.

11. When the number of paying subscribers' main stations connected with any exchange or network reaches 10 per cent. above the maximum or falls 10 per cent. below the minimum of the class in which the exchange is classified, the exchange shall be transferred to the next higher or lower class, as the case may be, and shall be subject to the base-rate area and the rates applicable to such class from the date on which the next half-yearly rental becomes due.

12. Any exchange in Class IV granted continuous attendance under the provisions of Regulation 56 shall be automatically transferred to Class III, and shall be subject to the rates and service applicable to that class from the date on which the continuous attendance commences.

**Base-rate Areas.**

13. (1.) The base-rate area in respect of any of the exchanges in Classes I and II shall not exceed 28 square miles and 20 square miles respectively, and shall comprise the area defined and [or] delineated on plans from time to time deposited at the relative telephone exchanges.

(2.) At Classes III and IV exchanges the base-rate area shall not exceed 13 square miles, and the boundary shall in each case, unless otherwise defined, be two miles distant by pole-line route measurement from the telephone exchange.

**Rates.**

14. Unless otherwise specified in these regulations, individual, two- and four-party line service shall be furnished to stations within base-rate areas at the annual rates prescribed hereunder :—

Class of Station.	Class I. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having more than 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.	Class II. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having 1,001 to 3,500 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.
	Annual Rates for Stations within Base-rate Area.	Annual Rates for Stations within Base-rate Area.
Individual line—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Business .. .. .	15 0 0	11 0 0
Residence .. .. .	8 10 0	7 10 0
Two-party—		
Business .. .. .	10 0 0	8 0 0
Residence .. .. .	7 0 0	6 0 0
Four party—		
Business .. .. .	.. .. .	7 0 0
Residence .. .. .	6 0 0	5 0 0

  

Class of Station.	Class III. Exchanges or Networks observing Continuous Attendance and having 201 to 1,000 Paying Subscribers' Main Stations connected therewith.	Class IV. Exchanges or Networks where the Attendance is restricted.
	Annual Rates for Stations within Base-rate Area.	Annual Rates for Stations within Base-rate Area.
Individual line—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Business .. .. .	10 0 0	8 0 0
Residence .. .. .	7 0 0	6 0 0
Two-party—		
Business .. .. .	7 0 0	6 0 0
Residence .. .. .	5 10 0	4 10 0
Four-party—		
Business .. .. .	6 0 0	5 0 0
Residence .. .. .	4 10 0	3 10 0

15. For the rates prescribed in the last preceding regulation the Department shall supply one copy of the telephone directory for each telephone provided, and shall provide and maintain all necessary exchange equipment, subscribers' lines, and where necessary one telephone wall-set per station ; desk telephones shall be 5s. per annum extra.

16. Any business station on a four-party line connected with a Class I exchange shall be charged £2 10s. per annum in excess of the rate for a residential station similarly located.

17. Where two or more main stations are required by a subscriber in connection with the same establishment and on the same premises, the annual rental in respect of each main station in excess of one shall be 10 per cent. less than the prescribed rate.

18. For the purpose of these regulations business stations shall comprise warehouses, shops, offices, boardinghouses, or any premises, including a private residence, which bears *prima facie* evidence of being utilized for business purposes or is listed in the telephone directory or advertised as such.

#### Extra Mileage Rates.

19. When a subscriber's station for which individual, two-, or four-party line service is furnished is situated outside a base-rate area, the annual rates therefor shall be those specified for stations within the base-rate area of the exchange with which the station is connected, plus the extra mileage rates prescribed in the next succeeding regulation.

20. The extra mileage rates for individual, two-, and four-party line stations situated outside a base-rate area shall be computed on the pole-line route measurement between the subscriber's premises and the boundary of the base-rate area at the following rates:—

*Individual Lines.*—Per furlong or fraction thereof beyond the boundary of the base-rate area, 10s. per annum.

*Two-party Lines.*—Per subscriber, per furlong or fraction thereof beyond the boundary of the base-rate area, 5s. per annum.

*Four-party Lines.*—Per subscriber, per furlong or fraction thereof beyond the boundary of the base-rate area, 2s. 6d. per annum.

Except that, where the stations on a party line are so distributed that the total mileage charges do not produce the equivalent of a return of at least 7s. 6d. per furlong or fraction thereof in respect of that portion of the circuit for which extra mileage rates are charged, the subscribers liable for extra mileage charges shall each be required to contribute on a flat-rate basis such additional amount as will produce in the aggregate, by way of extra mileage charges, a return of 7s. 6d. per furlong or fraction thereof, of such circuit.

21. The extra mileage in respect of two- and four-party line stations shall be calculated separately for each station, and shall be the pole-line route measurement between the subscriber's premises and the boundary of the base-rate area.

22. In localities adjacent to a base-rate area where in the opinion of the Minister the number of subscribers within a definite area warrants the installation of telephone cables, a reduced extra mileage rate may be fixed for such area by special regulation.

#### Poles on Private Property.

23. All poles in excess of one on private roads or private property within or beyond a base-rate area shall be supplied, erected, and renewed at the cost of the subscriber or subscribers concerned, except that no charge shall be made in this respect (a) when the pole line forms part of a route to be used in serving subscribers in general, (b) when the pole line is used for other departmental purposes, (c) when there is an alternative route by public road; or in exceptional cases where the Secretary so directs.

#### System of Payment.

24. The rental payable in respect of any telephone service shall be charged from the date on which the service is ready for use. The first instalment shall be payable within seven days of the date on which the service is made available, and shall be in respect of the period (if it exceeds two months) elapsing between the date the service is made available and the date on which the next half-yearly rental becomes due. If the period is not greater than two months the first payment shall also include the rental for the half-year next ensuing. In the event of the authorized charges being increased during the period for which rental has been paid in advance, the additional amount due to the end of the half-yearly period shall be payable within seven days after a written demand therefor has been delivered to the subscriber. All subsequent payments shall be payable in advance on the first day of the half-yearly periods of each and every year, as set out hereunder:—

For connections with all exchanges in the postal districts of Blenheim, Greymouth, Nelson, Wanganui, and Westport: Half-year commencing 1st day of January and 1st day of July.

For connections with all exchanges in the postal districts of Dunedin and Invercargill: Half-year commencing 1st day of February and 1st day of August.

For connections with all exchanges in the postal districts of Gisborne, Napier, New Plymouth, and Thames: Half-year commencing 1st day of March and 1st day of September.

For connections with all exchanges in the postal district of Wellington: Half-year commencing 1st day of April and 1st day of October.

For connections with all exchanges in the postal districts of Auckland and Hamilton: Half-year commencing 1st day of May and 1st day of November.

For connections with all exchanges in the postal districts of Christchurch, Oamaru, and Timaru: Half-year commencing 1st day of June and 1st day of December.

#### Non-payment of Rental.

25. If any subscriber fails to pay, within seven days after demand, rental or other charges due by him under these regulations, the service may be discontinued and, if necessary, the telephone, fittings, &c., removed from the subscriber's premises without prejudice to any proceedings for the recovery of any rental due under the conditions of contract, or any other charges due under these regulations.

#### Restoration of Service.

26. In the event of any subscriber's service being discontinued in accordance with the last preceding regulation, a reconnection fee of 5s., in addition to all other amounts due, shall be payable by the subscriber before the service is restored. If the instruments at the subscriber's premises have been removed, or if any portion of the circuit has been dismantled, a request or application for restoring the circuit shall be treated as an application for a new connection.

**Refund and Adjustment of Rental.**

27. Should a subscriber discontinue the renting of a service during the currency of a period for which rental has been paid in advance, a refund of rental shall be granted in respect of each complete month or multiple thereof of the unexpired term; except that no refund shall be granted in respect of any portion of the period covered by the contract.

28. (1.) In the event of the number of subscribers' stations connected with a party line being decreased by the withdrawal of one or more of the subscribers during the currency of a period for which rental has been paid in advance, the amended rates in respect of the remaining stations shall take effect on the due date of payment of the next half-yearly rental.

(2.) In the event of the number of subscribers' stations connected with a party line being increased during the currency of a period for which rental has been paid in advance, the new or additional subscribers shall pay rental from the date of their connection at the rates prescribed for the amended number of stations connected with the line; but no alteration shall be made in the rentals of the original stations until the due date of payment of the next half-yearly rental.

(3.) Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation a decrease in the number of subscribers' stations connected with a party line shall not affect the rental of a subscriber under contract until the period of contract has expired.

**Rural-line Service.**

29. Persons residing in rural areas may be supplied with telephone-exchange service by means of multi-party lines, known as rural lines. Rural-line service shall be furnished on a five-, six-, seven-, eight-, nine-, or ten-party basis, and shall be available only to persons whose premises are situated beyond the boundary of a base-rate area. For all other purposes in connection with rural-line service the base-rate area shall be disregarded.

30. Rural-line service shall not be established until contracts have been secured for at least five subscribers' stations to be placed on the same circuit. In the event of the number of subscribers' stations connected with a rural line, by reason of the withdrawal of one or more subscribers, falling below five, the remaining subscribers shall, from the date on which the next half-yearly rental is due, pay the rates prescribed for four-party line connections until such time as one or more additional stations is [are] connected with the line.

31. Rural-line service shall not be available at Class I exchanges.

**Rural-line Rates.**

32. Subject to the provisions of Regulation 36, the annual rental of a rural-line station shall be determined by multiplying the subscriber's pole-line distance from the exchange by the relative rural mileage rate as prescribed in Regulation 34, and adding thereto the service rate applicable to the class of exchange with which the subscriber's station is connected: except that in no case shall the rental of a rural-line station be less than £3 per annum.

33. Subject to the provisions of Regulation 36, the service rates in respect of rural-line stations shall be as follows:—

Class of Exchange.	Service Rates.	
	Business Stations.	Residential Stations.
Classes II and III exchanges .. .. .	£ s. d. 3 10 0	£ s. d. 2 0 0
Class IV exchanges .. .. .	3 0 0	1 10 0

34. Rural-line mileage rates shall be as specified hereunder:—  
Per station, per quarter-mile or fraction thereof—

	Per Annum.
	s. d.
5-party line .. .. .	4 0
6-party line .. .. .	3 4
7-party line .. .. .	2 10
8-party line .. .. .	2 6
9-party line .. .. .	2 3
10-party line .. .. .	2 0

35. The mileage in respect of rural-line stations shall be calculated separately for each station, and shall be computed on the pole-line route measurement between the subscriber's premises and the exchange with which the line is connected.

36. In cases where the stations are so distributed that the aggregate rental of a rural line, computed on the basis prescribed in Regulation 32, is estimated to produce less than the equivalent of a return of £1 5s. per quarter-mile or fraction thereof, the service rate payable by each subscriber shall be increased on a flat-rate basis by such an amount as will produce in the aggregate a return of £1 5s. per quarter-mile or fraction thereof of circuit.

**Special Conditions of Party-line Service.**

37. Party-line service shall be provided in base-rate areas only when the subscribers desiring to be connected with the same line can conveniently be served from the same point of distribution, or when the subscribers are located within a reasonable distance of each other or of the line. The reasonableness shall be determined by the Department in each case.

38. The Minister may regroup the subscribers on any party lines, and [or] may make additional connections to party lines without the consent of the existing subscribers, but in such case the existing subscribers shall not be required to pay a higher rate of rental.

39. The rates prescribed under these regulations shall be for code-ringing party-line service. Selective party-line service shall be provided only at exchanges equipped with suitable apparatus.

40. A conversation over any party line shall not exceed six minutes in duration if the line is required by any other subscriber connected with the line.

41. When in the opinion of the Minister the number of calls originated by any subscriber connected with a party line is sufficient to warrant it, the Minister may require the subscriber either to rent an individual line or to be transferred to a line with which there will be a lesser number of parties connected.

#### **Private Telephone-lines connecting with Departmental System.**

42. Persons who construct, own, and maintain private telephone-lines to a pre-arranged point of connection with the departmental system may be furnished with individual, two-, four-party, or rural-line service by paying the rates specified for those services. (See Regulations 143-148.)

43. For the equipment of a private telephone-line which forms part of a telephone-exchange circuit the Department shall supply for each station a telephone, lightning-arrester, earthplate, and inside wiring free of expense to the subscriber, but these shall remain the property of the Department, and shall not be maintained except at the expense of the subscriber, nor shall the Department maintain any part of the private telephone-line. The Department will, however, upon application, supply material for renewing batteries, and will also repair or replace a defective telephone if it is sent in to the telephone exchange by the subscriber. Otherwise such subscriber shall have all the privileges of ordinary subscribers. No extra telephones or items of equipment, other than those for which rental is being paid, shall be connected with a private telephone-line.

44. Where an exchange line is metallic circuit, any private telephone-lines connecting therewith must also be metallic circuit, except in cases where in the opinion of the Secretary private telephone-lines may be used without detriment to the service, in which case the subscriber shall pay the cost of transformers or other apparatus as may be necessary to enable the connection to be made.

#### **Telephone Connections with Street Stands and Wharves.**

45. (1.) A telephone-exchange connection with a street stand over which a local authority has jurisdiction shall be made only on the application and at the charge of the local authority controlling the street. In such cases the telephone connection shall be entered in the telephone directory by stating the situation of the stand and the class of vehicle, &c., using it. Authority to sublet such telephone connections to the users of the stand shall be vested in the local authority concerned, except that certain conditions regarding the accommodation and use of the telephone may be imposed by the Department.

(2.) Harbour Boards or other local authorities controlling wharves may have telephone connections installed on wharves for the purpose of providing steamers, &c., berthed thereat with means of telephone communication on payment of the usual charges for individual lines, and any additional charges for miscellaneous equipment. Authority to sublet such telephone connections to shipping companies shall be vested in the local authority concerned.

#### **Telephone Connections with Public Hospitals and Charitable Institutions.**

46. Public hospitals and benevolent and charitable institutions, having for their object the relief of poor, destitute, or afflicted persons in New Zealand, and which are supported wholly or partly by voluntary subscriptions, or from the funds of a local body, may, with the Minister's approval, be charged the rates prescribed for residential stations.

#### **Temporary Telephone Service.**

47. Temporary telephone service shall be granted provided the applicant pays, in addition to the estimated cost of the labour and any perishable material involved in establishing the service, a charge *pro rata* equal to 50 per cent. greater than that for a permanent connection, with a minimum charge of 15s. for the first fortnight and 7s. 6d. for every subsequent week. The estimated cost of establishing the service, and the minimum charge shall be payable at the time of application, and after the first fortnight the rental shall be payable weekly in advance. In the event of the subscriber ultimately deciding to have the temporary service converted to an ordinary permanent one, the usual contract shall be executed, and the prescribed charge shall take effect from the date of completion of the contract. In such a case the cost of making the connection shall be refunded, but the usual service connection fee must be paid.

#### **Joint Use of Telephone.**

48. Any subscriber may, with the approval of the Secretary, obtain the right to allow the use of his telephone instrument to any person occupying an office in the same building, or occupying the same private residence, within which the telephone instrument is placed, upon payment to the Department, in addition to the prescribed charges for an exchange connection, of a fee of £3 per annum in the case of each connection for which business rates are charged, and £2 per annum in the case of each connection for which residential rates are charged in respect of each person having the joint use of his telephone. In such cases the subscriber shall sign the contract and be responsible for all service charges and toll accounts, but may charge to the person or persons having the joint use of the telephone any agreed portion of such charges. The fee of £3 or £2 per annum shall include the free insertion of the joint subscriber's name in the telephone directory. If additional instruments are required, subscribers shall pay the rates prescribed for party lines.

#### **Removals.**

49. Subject to the approval of the Department, subscribers may have their telephones and apparatus removed to other premises, or the positions of their telephones and apparatus altered, upon giving notice as follows: (a.) For the removal of telephones to other premises, fourteen days; (b) for altering the position of telephones or apparatus within the same premises, three days; and paying in advance the fees specified hereunder.

Removal to other premises within the base-rate area, 17s. 6d. for each main-station telephone and 10s. for each extension telephone; except that in cases where the period of contract has not expired the subscriber shall pay, in addition to the foregoing fee or fees, the estimated cost of the labour involved in erecting any new wire required to establish a connection between the exchange and the new premises.

Removal from one room to another in the same premises, 12s. 6d. per telephone. Removal from one position to another in the same room, or substitution of a desk telephone for a wall set or *vice versa*, 10s. per telephone.

Removal of extension bell or any other item of miscellaneous equipment which involves labour in fitting, 5s. per instrument.

50. When a subscriber removes to premises in which a telephone is already installed and no change of location is required, a charge of 5s. shall be made to cover the cost of changing the wires and records at the exchange.

51. For removals beyond the base-rate area the subscriber shall be required to pay in advance, in addition to the charges prescribed in Regulation 49, the estimated cost of the workmen's travelling time and expenses beyond the boundary of the base-rate area.

52. In the event of a subscriber removing from, or giving up possession of, the premises in which the telephone is situated, without paying in advance the cost of removing the instrument, or making other arrangements approved of by the Secretary for the removal of the telephone or discontinuance of the service, the Secretary may disconnect the telephone and remove any instruments and fittings, and notwithstanding such disconnection and removal may recover from the subscriber the rental and other charges payable to the end of the term agreed upon, or which are due under these regulations.

#### Transfer of Connection.

53. A fee of 5s. shall be payable for the transfer of an existing exchange connection whether the transfer necessitates a removal or not. In all cases the proper form of transfer, containing the transferor's consent to the transfer, shall be executed, and all outstanding toll fees paid before the transfer is granted. Any rental held by the Department in respect of the period subsequent to the date of transfer shall be credited to the account of the transferee. The transfer of a telephone to another person involving its removal shall be granted only in exceptional circumstances or where the transfer is in respect of a connection still under contract, and on payment of the additional charges prescribed for removal.

54. A person who has entered into the occupation of any premises having a telephone service shall not be entitled to make use of the telephone until he has obtained a transfer; and if such person makes use of the service before obtaining a transfer he shall be deemed to have assumed the service, and (without prejudice to any liability of the subscriber or any right or power of the Department) shall be liable for all amounts owing in respect of the service at the time he entered into occupation of the premises, as well as amounts which become payable in respect of any use of the telephone after that time.

55. (1.) A subscriber shall not sell or offer for sale his telephone service; neither shall a subscriber accept a monetary offer for the transfer of his telephone except as provided for in these regulations.

(2.) If any subscriber violates this regulation, or any telephone connection is obtained by the violation of this regulation, the Minister may require the telephone service in respect of which the offence is committed to be forfeited, and may disconnect the premises from the telephone exchange with which such premises are connected, and may remove any telephone instruments and apparatus therefrom.

(3.) Nothing in this regulation shall prevent the transfer of a telephone service to a new or existing subscriber, with the consent of the Department, upon or in connection with a *bona fide* change of the occupancy of the premises in which the service is installed.

#### Hours of Attendance at Telephone Exchanges.

56. The number of hours during which telephone service shall be ordinarily available to subscribers at the various exchanges shall be determined on the basis of the number of paying subscribers' main stations connected with the exchange.

##### *Basis of Attendance.*

At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations does not exceed 50	The period of attendance shall not exceed eight hours per week-day, usually from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 50 and does not exceed 100	The period of attendance shall not exceed fourteen hours per week-day, usually from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 100 and does not exceed 200	The period of attendance shall not exceed eighteen hours per week-day, usually from 6 a.m. to midnight, and two hours on Sundays and holidays.
At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 200 and does not exceed 1,000	The period of attendance shall be continuous— <i>i.e.</i> , all day and all night: Provided that not less than two-thirds of the business subscribers and not less than two-thirds of the residential subscribers express in writing to the Secretary their desire that the telephone-exchange attendance be so extended; such expression to be operative until reversed by an expression of the desire of not less than two-thirds of the business subscribers and two-thirds of the residential subscribers that the period of attendance be reduced to eighteen hours per week-day and two hours on Sundays and holidays.
At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 1,000	The period of attendance shall be continuous— <i>i.e.</i> , all day and all night.

*Extra Attendance.*

57. Any attendance in excess of that prescribed in the last preceding regulation shall be deemed extraordinary attendance, and shall be granted on the conditions, and on payment of the extra attendance charges, specified hereunder :—

- (1.) That not less than three-fourths of the paying subscribers to an exchange express in writing to the Secretary their desire that the period of attendance be extended.
- (2.) That satisfactory arrangements can be made by the Department for the extended hours of attendance.

At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 50, and does not exceed 100—

An attendance not exceeding eighteen hours per week-day and a two-hour attendance on Sundays and holidays shall be granted upon payment of an extra-attendance rate of £1 per annum in respect of each main station.

At exchanges at which the number of paying subscribers' main stations exceeds 100 and does not exceed 200—

Continuous attendance shall be granted upon payment of an extra-attendance rate of £1 10s. per annum in respect of each main station.

**Telephone Directory Listings.**

58. For each subscriber's main station one free entry shall be published in the telephone directory. Such entry shall consist of the number, the name of the subscriber (or his nominee), his business (if a business connection), and the address. One line only shall be given free of charge for each entry. In cases where the title of the firm is sufficiently descriptive, a description of the business shall be inserted only on payment of the fee prescribed for an extra entry. In a private-residence entry the only word permitted in addition to the title and address shall be the word "residence" or an abbreviation of that word.

59. An agent desiring the insertion of the name of the firm or firms he represents must furnish satisfactory evidence that he is a *bona fide* agent of such firm or firms.

60. The charge for the insertion of any entry beyond the free entry permitted under Regulation 58 shall be 5s. per line for each issue of the directory. Such charge shall be payable from the date on which the entry first appears in the directory.

61. On payment of the fee prescribed, the following extra entries may be inserted in a telephone directory :—

- (a.) The title of each firm when a firm or corporation carries on business under two distinctive titles and the same officials control both businesses.
- (b.) The designation of both firms when a firm or corporation takes over the business of another firm or corporation : provided that the written consent of the firm or corporation taken over is submitted.
- (c.) The names of the partners in a partnership firm.
- (d.) The names of departments, officials, or the names and residence numbers of its officials, of a firm or corporation. In such cases the extra entries may be inserted under the firm's main entry.

62. An irregular combination or arrangement of the legal name of a corporation, partnership, or individual shall not be permitted, nor will any phraseology be allowed to designate the trade or business of the subscriber for the purpose of securing a particular position out of its regular order in the alphabetical list published in the directory.

63. A subscriber who pays the fee prescribed in Regulation 123 for switching-service to another exchange after hours may, on payment of the extra entry fee, be given an entry in the central-exchange directory in addition to the entry in the directory of the exchange with which he is ordinarily connected.

64. A subscriber with a business connection who desires that telephone calls after his business is closed be received at a telephone located elsewhere may, on payment of the extra entry charge, be given an entry in the directory, "Night calls," or "Night, Sunday, and holiday calls," in connection with such telephone, provided that the connection to which the calls are to be diverted is an individual line station. The extra insertion may be indented under the regular entry.

**Rural Telephone Companies' Private Exchanges.**

65. Rural telephone companies which own and maintain private exchange systems may obtain intercommunication with the subscribers at the nearest departmental exchange, and one directory listing and one directory for each of its subscribers, on payment of the charges specified hereunder :—

A mileage rate of £1 5s. per annum in respect of each quarter-mile of departmental circuit, or fraction thereof, used in connecting the departmental exchange with the rural telephone company's trunk wire or wires, the minimum charge for the departmental line being the relative business rate for individual stations within the base-rate area ; together with a service rate as specified hereunder in respect of each private-exchange subscriber's station connected with the rural company's system :—

When a private exchange system is connected with a—

Class II departmental exchange, the service rate shall be £2 per annum.

Class III departmental exchange, the service rate shall be £1 10s. per annum.

Class IV departmental exchange, the service rate shall be 15s. per annum.

66. In cases where the telephones for the use of the private-exchange subscribers have been supplied at the expense of the Department the service rates prescribed in the last preceding regulation shall be 10s. per annum extra.

67. A private exchange system shall not be connected with any Class I departmental exchange.



### Supply of Equipment and Inspection thereof.

68. All telephone lines, instruments, and fittings in connection with the telephone-exchange system, except where otherwise provided by these regulations, shall be supplied and erected by the Department, and no person except an employee of the Department provided with proper means of identification shall interfere with or make any additions or alterations to any wire, instrument, or fitting under the Department's control. In the event of any such interference by any unauthorized person, the subscriber concerned shall be liable to have his service discontinued.

69. Employees of the Department provided with proper means of identification shall at all reasonable times have free access to the premises of any subscriber for the purpose of inspection, removal, or replacement of the departmental apparatus therein.

70. The Minister shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent damage or injury to subscribers or their premises from fire or other cause by reason of the installation of telephone apparatus, but he shall not be liable for any damage or injury which may arise from the failure of any such precautions.

### Damage to Equipment.

71. (1.) In the event of any instrument, battery, or equipment on the premises of a subscriber being wholly destroyed or partially damaged by any cause whatever (other than fair wear and tear), the subscriber shall pay to the Department, on demand, the cost to the Department of replacing or repairing the instrument, battery, or equipment, except that no charge shall be made in respect of any instrument, battery, or equipment accidentally destroyed or damaged by fire.

(2.) This regulation shall apply notwithstanding that there has been no negligence on the part of the subscriber or any person for whom he is responsible, and notwithstanding that the destruction or damage may have arisen from some cause not due to the act or default of the subscriber.

### Defaulting Subscriber.

72. (1.) If a subscriber becomes a defaulter in respect of any charges due under the conditions of contract, or any other telephone charges due under these regulations, he shall not be furnished with telephone service of any kind until he has discharged his liability to the Department.

(2.) If the Secretary is satisfied that any service is being obtained by a person, either in his own or any other name, which person is, in the opinion of the Secretary, a defaulter in connection with any telephone service furnished by the Department, the Secretary may, without notice, cancel the contract, disconnect the telephone from the exchange, remove the name of the subscriber from the telephone directory, remove all wires, instruments, and fittings, and apply any surplus rental paid in connection with the service in reduction of the liability of that person to the Department.

### Illegal or Improper Use of Telephone.

73. The Minister may refuse to connect with a telephone exchange, or may disconnect from a telephone exchange, any place of business, house, or premises which in the opinion of the Minister is or are used for any illegal, immoral, or improper purpose, and may, either with or without previous notice, exclude from a telephone exchange any subscriber who allows the telephone instruments in his custody or control to be damaged or destroyed, or to be put to any improper use, and may remove or cause to be removed any instruments allotted to the use of such subscriber. No person shall have any claim for damages or otherwise whatsoever in consequence of the refusal of the said Minister to connect any place of business or house or premises with an exchange for any of the causes aforesaid, or in consequence of the removal of any instrument, or the exclusion of any subscriber aforesaid.

74. (1.) Telephone messages shall not contain language of an objectionable, obscene, or offensive nature, or of a character calculated to provoke a breach of the peace; nor shall any telephone service be mischievously used for the purpose of irritating any person, or of conveying fictitious orders or instructions or fictitious messages of any kind.

(2.) Any violation of this regulation by a subscriber or any member of his household, or by any person using the subscriber's telephone, shall render the subscriber liable to have his telephone disconnected and any instruments and fittings belonging to the Minister removed, without prejudice to the right of the Minister to recover the rental and [or] other charges due under these regulations.

### Interruption of Service.

75. The Minister or any officer of the Department shall not be liable to any action, claim, or demand for compensation for interruption of telephone service arising from any cause whatsoever; except that, when a subscriber removes from one part of a town to another, and the Department is unable to provide him with telephone service within seven days, an allowance shall be made of the amount of the rental corresponding to the number of days during which the subscriber is deprived of telephone service.

### Overloaded Lines.

76. With a view to reducing the number of "ineffective" calls due to overloaded lines the Minister may require any subscriber on whose line or lines the number of such calls exceeds 25 per cent. of the number of effective incoming calls to rent an additional circuit, in default of which telephone service may be refused.

### New Exchanges.

77. Petitions for the establishment of telephone exchanges should be addressed to the Minister, and be accompanied by a list of the persons undertaking to become subscribers. Under ordinary circumstances an exchange will be opened if the estimated annual revenue is sufficient to cover the estimated annual expenditure.

78. The Minister may decline to establish a telephone exchange at any place at which, in his opinion, telephone-exchange service may be obtained from an existing exchange at a reasonable cost.

79. After the establishing of a new exchange is authorized, and before the work is commenced, each intending subscriber shall pay the prescribed service connection fee and enter into a contract with the Department in the approved form to rent a connection for a specified period.

PART II.—AUXILIARY SERVICES AND MISCELLANEOUS  
EQUIPMENT.

**Private Branch Exchanges.**

80. Private branch exchanges may be provided by the Department for the purpose of affording intercommunication between extension stations located within the premises of a subscriber, and also between such stations and the central exchange.

81. The annual charges in respect of extension stations associated with a private branch exchange shall be as follows:—

- (a.) In cases in which the switchboard or switching-apparatus is provided and renewed at the expense of the Department—
- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Automatic .. .. . | £3 5s. per station.  |
| Manual .. .. .    | £2 15s. per station. |
- (b.) In cases in which the switchboard or switching-apparatus is provided and renewed at the expense of the subscriber—
- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Automatic .. .. . | £2 10s. per station. |
| Manual .. .. .    | £2 5s. per station.  |

The foregoing charges are for wall telephones; desk instruments shall be 5s. per annum extra.

82. In addition to the annual charges prescribed in the last preceding regulation, the subscriber shall be required to pay the cost of labour involved in installing the switchboard (or switching-apparatus) and the various extension stations.

83. The equipment of a private branch exchange shall include a switchboard or switching-apparatus of sufficient capacity to provide accommodation for all trunk lines and extension stations required by the subscriber, together with the necessary batteries, ringing-devices, fittings, and one telephone or operator's set for each switchboard position. The cost of power for charging and recharging any secondary batteries associated with a private branch exchange shall be borne by the subscriber.

**Extension Telephones and Miscellaneous Equipment.**

84. Extension telephones and other miscellaneous equipment required within the same building or upon the same premises as the main station shall be furnished and maintained by the Department upon payment in advance of the installation charges and the annual rates prescribed in Regulation 91.

85. The term "same premises" is held to cover various buildings detached from one another but on the same section of land as the main premises and part of the same establishment. In no case shall an extension telephone, bell, &c., be allowed where the wires thereto cross a public street or road, or another person's property.

86. Except as provided in the next succeeding regulation, not more than two extension telephones shall be joined to any automatic-exchange connection.

87. A subscriber having two individual lines and two main stations may have switching-key equipment installed for the purpose of switching extension telephones to either line; and if service conditions permit, a maximum of four extension stations common to both lines may be so arranged.

88. In cases where one extension telephone may be connected to two or more lines by means of a switch or switches, the annual rate for the extension telephone shall be £1 10s. for a wall telephone and £1 15s. for a desk telephone for connection with the first line, and 10s. per annum less for connection with each succeeding line, plus the annual rate for the switch or switches.

89. An extension telephone shall not be installed in a subscriber's business premises if the main station with which it is associated is of residential status.

90. Where an extension telephone or any other item of miscellaneous equipment is required in a position exposed to the weather the subscriber shall pay, in addition to the installation charges and annual rates prescribed in the next succeeding regulation, the cost of a suitable box for the protection of the instrument.

91. The following shall be the installation charges and annual rates for extension telephones and miscellaneous equipment:—

Equipment.	Installation Charge.	Annual Rate.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Extension telephone (including wiring up to a length of 110 yards), within same premises as main station—		
Wall type .. .. .	0 15 0*	1 10 0
Desk type .. .. .	0 15 0*	1 15 0
Switching-key (single) for use in connection with extension telephone, and for cutting out bells, gongs, &c. .. .. .	..	0 2 6
"Secret" automatic switch for use in connection with automatic extension telephones .. .. .	..	0 5 0
Switching-key (double) for connecting an extension telephone with either of two lines .. .. .	..	0 5 0
Jack equipment with associated wiring up to a length of 110 yards (for plugging in portable telephones) located in same premises as main station (for each point) .. .. .	0 10 0	0 15 0
Portable telephone without bell, equipped with cord and ending in plug, for use in connection with jack equipment .. .. .	..	1 5 0
Bell for use in fixed position in connection with jack equipment and portable telephone .. .. .	0 12 6*	0 7 6
Extension bell, ordinary type, including wiring up to a length of 110 yards .. .. .	0 12 6*	0 7 6
Battery gong, annunciator drop and battery, including wiring up to a length of 110 yards—		
When gong does not exceed 4 in. in diameter .. .. .	1 0 0*	1 10 0
When gong exceeds 4 in. and does not exceed 10 in. in diameter .. .. .	1 0 0*	1 15 0
For wiring in excess of 110 yards required to connect extension telephones, bells, gongs, &c.—		
For each 110 yards of wiring or fraction thereof .. .. .	..	0 5 0
Second receiver for use with hand micro-telephone .. .. .	0 2 6	0 2 6
Head receiver as auxiliary to hand receiver .. .. .	0 5 0	0 7 6
Breastplate transmitter and head receiver .. .. .	0 5 0	0 12 0
Cord for desk set, for each 6 ft. or fraction thereof in excess of the 6 ft. usually provided .. .. .	0 5 0	0 2 6
Adjustable telephone-bracket for supporting automatic desk telephone .. .. .	0 5 0	0 5 0

\* Includes cost of installing any switches and [qr] any wiring in excess of 110 yards.

PART III.—INTERCOMMUNICATION AT NIGHT AT EXCHANGES WITH RESTRICTED ATTENDANCE.

92. (1.) At telephone exchanges which are not open continuously, the Minister may agree to a group of two or more lines being joined together at the switchboard for the purpose of providing means of intercommunication outside the ordinary hours of exchange attendance, but no responsibility shall be incurred by the Department for any failure to make the desired connections.

(2.) Such connections shall be made only at certain approved exchanges at which the arrangement is authorized, and any approval may be withdrawn and the arrangement terminated without prejudice if and when a change of exchange equipment or system renders it impracticable to give such service.

93. The charges shall be as follows for each line so connected :—

At an exchange with 201 subscribers and over, 10s. per annum.

At an exchange with 200 subscribers or less, 5s. per annum.

The fee as aforesaid shall be payable half-yearly in advance, together with the ordinary telephone-exchange rental.

94. (1.) The number of subscribers' stations connected in one group shall not exceed ten in cases in which the whole of the lines so connected are individual lines, but if the lines connected together consist either partially or wholly of party lines the number of subscribers' stations shall not exceed fourteen.

(2.) No line shall be connected with more than one group.

(3.) Prior to the formation of a group, the approved form of agreement shall be signed by each of the subscribers desirous of being so grouped, and before an additional subscriber may be added to the group a fresh agreement shall be signed by all the parties.

(4.) A party line shall not be connected with a group unless every subscriber on the party line signs the agreement.

(5.) The Department shall allot to subscribers special code-calls to be used exclusively for intercommunicating outside the ordinary hours of exchange attendance with other subscribers of a group.

95. Notwithstanding the provisions of these regulations, if the Department considers such an arrangement practicable, an exchange subscriber may, in case of sickness or other like emergency, be connected outside the ordinary hours of exchange attendance with a local doctor or with a group of which the doctor's connection forms part, and such connection shall be free of charge. Such free night service shall be limited to the special requirements mentioned and to a period of one week.

PART IV.—PUBLIC CALL OFFICES (COIN-IN-THE-SLOT).

96. Public call offices may be installed at the discretion of the Minister in public streets and other approved places, for the purpose of affording the general public means of communicating by telephone with any subscriber's station connected with the network of the exchange with which the public telephone is connected.

97. The charges for calls from public call offices shall be as follows :—

When the line distance between the exchange and the public call office is—

Under two miles, the rate per call is . . . . . 1d.

Two miles or over and under four miles, the rate per call is . . . . . 2d.

Four miles or over and under six miles, the rate per call is . . . . . 3d.

Six miles or over, the rate per call is . . . . . 6d.

98. Telephones in public call offices shall be available only for communication with the subscribers' stations connected with the network of the exchange with which the call office is connected, and only during the hours that such exchange is open.

99. The time-limit for each conversation from a public call office shall be five minutes, except that when no other person is waiting to use the telephone the time may be extended by another five minutes by depositing a second fee in the machine.

100. The instructions in the public call office directing users as to the procedure to be followed to obtain connection shall be precisely observed, otherwise the connection shall not be made even if an assurance is given that the coin has been deposited.

101. At the type of machine in which the coin is deposited before the exchange is called, the wanted line shall be tested, and if the line is found to be engaged or faulty, the coin shall be returned by means of the "reject" apparatus. No refund shall be given if through inattention, absence, or other fault on the part of the wanted subscriber, the necessary communication cannot be obtained.

102. At the type of machine where the exchange is called, and the coin is afterwards deposited at the request of the attendant, the wanted line shall first be tested and if the line is disengaged and in working order, the attendant shall then request the user of the public telephone to insert the coin or coins. The attendant shall then call on the required subscriber's line, but if through inattention, absence, or other fault on the part of the wanted subscriber the necessary communication cannot be obtained, the money shall not be returned. If the wanted line is found to be engaged or faulty, the attendant shall advise the user of the public telephone accordingly, and no charge shall be made.

103. Should the attention of the wanted number be secured, but the person with whom it is desired to communicate not be brought to the telephone, the connection shall be paid for, having been completed as far as the Department is concerned.

104. No person other than an officer of the Department acting in the course of his duty shall use the telephone in any public call office without having deposited the prescribed fee as required by these regulations.

PART V.—TOLL SERVICE.

105. Except where otherwise specified in these regulations, all toll communications shall be station-to-station messages, the conditions of which are—

(a.) That the telephone subscriber's station called shall be specified either by telephone number, or by the name of the person, firm, or body under which the "called" telephone is listed.

(b.) That the message shall be regarded as effective when telephonic communication is established between the "calling" and the "called" subscribers' stations.

(c.) That for charging purposes the measurement of duration of a station-to-station message shall commence at the moment when telephonic communication is established between the "calling" and the "called" subscribers' stations or, in cases where a private branch exchange is involved, the private branch exchange switchboard-operator.

106. Any person making application for the use of a toll line shall give his name to the exchange attendant on request.

107. In cases in which the line is engaged, applications shall be recorded, and connections shall be made in order of priority of application.

108. The rates for ordinary toll communications shall be as follows:—

From 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.,—

Up to three minutes—

	s.	d.
For distances up to 20 miles	0	4
For every additional 5 miles or fraction thereof up to 100 miles	0	1
For every additional 10 miles or fraction thereof exceeding 100 miles	0	2

From 9 p.m. to midnight and from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. at exchanges which are open at any time between those hours,—

Up to three minutes—

	s.	d.
For distances up to 40 miles	0	4
For every additional 5 miles or fraction thereof up to 100 miles	0	0½
For every additional 10 miles or fraction thereof exceeding 100 miles	0	1

From midnight to 6 a.m. at exchanges which are open at any time between those hours,—

Up to six minutes—

	s.	d.
For distances up to 40 miles	0	4
For every additional 5 miles or fraction thereof up to 100 miles	0	0½
For every additional 10 miles or fraction thereof exceeding 100 miles	0	1

For every additional minute exceeding three between 6 a.m. and midnight, and for every additional minute exceeding six between midnight and 6 a.m., the charge shall be one-third of the initial rate. In calculating the charge for a toll communication all fractions of a penny shall be counted; but in the *total charge for a communication* fractions smaller than a halfpenny shall be excluded, and fractions in excess of a halfpenny counted as one penny.

109. (1.) The rates for urgent toll communications at any time during the day or night shall be double the rates shown under the heading "8 a.m. to 9 p.m." Urgent communications shall be given precedence over ordinary communications.

(2.) The special rates applicable to ordinary communications between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. shall not apply to urgent communications, and shall apply only to communications originating at telephone exchanges which are open at any time between those hours.

110. No extra charge shall be made for toll communications during the normal hours of attendance on Sundays and holidays.

111. Provided the attention of the toll stations concerned can be gained, toll communications may be arranged after the ordinary hours of attendance on week-days or Sundays on payment of a reopening fee of 1s. if the Postmaster is resident on the premises, or 2s. 6d. if not resident on the premises. In addition, if the attendance of any officer is required beyond a period of twenty minutes, such attendance shall be paid for at the rate of 1s. for every subsequent twenty minutes or fraction thereof.

112. When the completion of a toll communication is not effected owing to—

- The absence, inattention, or other failure to reply on the part of the subscriber's station with which it is desired to communicate;
- The person with whom it is desired to communicate not being a subscriber;
- The subscriber's station making the request failing to make use of the line, or to cancel the request before the line becomes available; or
- Failure to gain the attention of a toll station or telephone exchange, after the calling subscriber has been advised that the office he requires is closed—

a charge of one-third of the initial rate shall be made for the length of toll line utilized in attempting to complete the call, with a minimum of 4d. for every ordinary communication, and 8d. for every urgent communication.

113. A charge of 3d. shall be made for the delivery to a person within the usual radius of the free delivery of telegrams of any message that such person is required to attend at a toll station. For a similar request to be delivered to a person who resides beyond the radius of the free delivery of telegrams, a special charge shall be made according to the expense incurred in the delivery of the message.

114. The delivery of any message, either written or spoken, other than a request for attendance at a toll station, is prohibited. Such a message shall be accepted only as a telegram.

115. Any person making a request at a toll station for a toll communication shall be required to deposit an amount equal to the charge for a three-minute conversation over the length of line on which it is desired to communicate.

116. When a private telephone-line connected with a toll station is used for the purpose of having communication on a toll line, the charges for the toll communication shall be the same as if the communication had originated or terminated at the toll station—i.e., the private telephone-line shall not be calculated in the toll-line mileage.

117. If any person desires to use the public telephone at a toll station or post-office for the purpose of communicating over a private telephone-line connected therewith, such communication shall be charged for as a toll communication.

118. All toll communications on official business from officers of Government Departments, other than the Post and Telegraph Department, or from postal officers on behalf of other Departments, shall be charged for at the prescribed rates.

119. Any person shall not use a toll line for more than six minutes at a time if another applicant is waiting to use it. Should the wire not be asked for, then the person using it may continue to do so at tariff rates.

120. The Department will not undertake to refuse toll communications from any subscriber's telephone, or to restrict in any way the hours, while the exchange is open, during which applications for toll communications may be made.

121. *Toll Accounts.*—Accounts for toll communications are payable to the Department on demand.

122. *Non-payment of Toll Charges.*—If payment of the charge for any toll communication is not made within seven days after demand, an exchange subscriber may be refused further toll communications until the outstanding amount has been paid, and if the amount is not paid within one month after demand the exchange service may be discontinued, without prejudice to any proceedings for the recovery of any moneys due under these regulations.

**PART VI.—TOLL FACILITIES AT NIGHT AT EXCHANGES WITH RESTRICTED ATTENDANCE.**

123. On payment of the undermentioned annual fee, and provided that the Department can conveniently make the necessary arrangements, individual and party lines connected with a telephone exchange that is not open continuously may, after the local exchange is closed, be bunched and switched through to another exchange that is still open.

	Annual Fee.
	£
Individual line .. .. .	2
Two-party line (fee to include all persons of a party) .. .. .	2
Three-party line .. .. .	3
Four-party line .. .. .	4
Five-party line .. .. .	5
Six-party line .. .. .	6
Seven-party line .. .. .	7
Eight-party line .. .. .	8
Nine-party line .. .. .	9
Ten-party line .. .. .	10

124. Any calls made by the subscribers shall be subject to the fees prescribed for toll communications. For the purposes of computing the charge for calls, the distance shall be calculated from the exchange with which the subscriber is ordinarily connected.

**PART VII.—PRIVATE-LINE CIRCUITS FOR DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PLACES OF BUSINESS.**

125. At the principal centres or other places specially approved, where, in the opinion of the Chief Telegraph Engineer, departmental circuits on existing poles or in telephone cables can conveniently be provided for signalling purposes, or for the purpose of establishing direct communication between places of business or other premises without obtaining connection through a telephone exchange, such circuits shall be leased and maintained by the Department at the annual rates specified hereunder:—

For the first mile of single-wire circuit, or where the total distance is less than one mile, £4 10s. per annum, and £1 2s. 6d. for every additional quarter of a mile or fraction thereof.

For the first mile of metallic circuit, or where the total distance is less than one mile, £6 10s. per annum, and £1 12s. 6d. for every additional quarter of a mile or fraction thereof.

126. All telephones, other instruments, and the inside wiring connected with private-line circuits shall be supplied, installed, and maintained by and at the cost of the applicant; or, as an alternative, telephones and other instruments may be installed at the cost of the applicant and leased and maintained by the Department at the following rates:—

For each telephone, including inside wiring not exceeding 110 yards in length—  
 Wall type, £1 10s. per telephone.  
 Desk type, £1 15s. per telephone.

For other items of miscellaneous equipment the charges prescribed in Regulation 91 shall apply.

127. If a private-line circuit or any portion thereof cannot be erected on any existing telephone-poles and therefore necessitates the erection of new poles, the applicant shall be charged, in addition to the annual rates specified in Regulation 125, the cost of the labour in erecting such poles, and also any other initial costs in connection therewith which, in the opinion of the Minister, the circumstances may warrant.

128. In the event of any poles being required on private property, such poles shall be supplied, erected, and renewed at the cost of the applicant.

129. The minimum period of lease shall in all cases be one year for each mile or fraction thereof of circuit leased.

130. No additional instruments shall be installed or any alterations made to any private-line circuit without the lessee first obtaining the approval in writing of the District Telegraph Engineer.

131. The lessee of a private-line circuit must use the circuit for his own *bona fide* business only, and must on no account, directly or indirectly, allow the line to be used for any purpose which might be construed as an attempt to deprive the Department of revenue.

132. In cases where private-line circuits and the telephones, &c., connected therewith have, prior to the commencement of these regulations, been provided and erected at the cost of the holder, such circuits, instruments, &c., shall remain the property of the person who paid for them; and such person shall continue to pay the maintenance fees hitherto charged and prescribed hereunder:—

For the first mile of single-wire circuit, or where the total distance is less than one mile, £3 per annum, and 15s. per annum for every additional quarter of a mile or fraction thereof.

For the first mile of metallic circuit, or where the total distance is less than one mile, £4 per annum, and £1 per annum for every additional quarter of a mile or fraction thereof.

For telephones of approved pattern—  
 Wall type, £1 per telephone.  
 Desk type, £1 5s. per telephone.

133. The maintenance fees prescribed in the last preceding regulation shall not cover the maintenance of poles required exclusively for the private-line circuit, which shall be maintained at the expense of the holder of such circuit.

PART VIII.—PRIVATE TELEPHONE-LINES NOT ERECTED OR MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

134. Private telephone-lines as heretofore defined may be used in the following respects:—

- (a.) For communication with a toll station.
- (b.) As an extension of a telephone-exchange subscriber's line.
- (c.) For communication between premises not connected with the Department's telephone system.

135. Private telephone-lines shall not be erected otherwise than pursuant to a license issued by the Department in accordance with the form in the schedule hereto.

136. Private telephone-lines shall not be used by any person or persons for hire or profit, or for any purpose which might be construed as an attempt to deprive the Department of revenue.

**Private Telephone-lines connected with Toll Stations.**

137. The party or parties desiring the connection of a private telephone-line with a toll station shall be represented by a duly appointed agent, who shall be responsible to the Department for the due observance of the provisions of the next succeeding regulation.

138. The conditions on which a private telephone-line may be connected with a toll station are as follows:—

- (a.) The line must be led into the toll station by or under the supervision of a duly authorized departmental officer.
- (b.) The apparatus required at the toll station shall be provided free of cost by the Department, but all other costs incidental to the installation shall be a charge against the owner of or the agent for the private telephone-line.
- (c.) For each private telephone-line connected with a toll station there shall be charged a maintenance fee of 10s. per annum to cover the cost of maintaining the apparatus at the toll station. Such fee shall cover routine maintenance carried out during the periodical visits of a departmental officer. If a special visit is requested, the travelling time and expenses of the departmental officer shall be charged to the agent making the request.

139. A private telephone-line shall not be connected with more than one toll station, except under special circumstances and by the written authority of the Secretary or Chief Telegraph Engineer.

140. (1.) When a private telephone-line is connected with a toll station in charge of a permanent officer a switching fee, payable in advance, of £1 10s. per annum for each telephone connecting therewith shall be charged for switching a private telephone-line to other private telephone-lines. The service of switching a private telephone-line to a toll line shall be performed free of charge.

(2.) Where a one-party private telephone-line is connected with a toll station in charge of a non-permanent telephonist a minimum fee of £2 per annum shall be chargeable for switching the line to another private telephone-line or to a departmental line, or *vice versa*. Where there is more than one party connected with a private telephone-line the minimum fee shall be £1 per annum per party for the like service. All such fees shall be paid by the owner of the private telephone-line to the telephonist.

(3.) The service of transmitting and receiving telegrams on any private telephone-line shall be performed free of charge, but telegrams and toll communications must be paid for at schedule rates; the toll station with which the private telephone-line is connected being regarded as the originating station for toll communications.

141. If the owner of a private telephone-line connected with a toll station transfers his telephone connection to another person, the transferee shall in every case sign an application on the proper form before making use of the line. In all cases the transfer shall be subject to the approval of the Department, and of the telephonist in the case of a non-permanent office.

142. The Department shall, where practicable, repair telephones used for communication over a private telephone-line connected with a toll station upon application being made and upon payment of the expenses incurred, including the cost of any material used.

**Private Telephone-lines connected with Departmental Exchange Lines.**

143. Upon the establishment of a telephone exchange at a toll station all private telephone-lines connected therewith shall be converted to telephone-exchange connections or be discontinued.

144. Where a telephone exchange has been established, private telephone-lines may, as indicated in Regulation 134 (b), be connected with the exchange upon the owners signing the prescribed form of application and paying the service-connection fee and the charges prescribed for telephone-exchange connections. (See Regulations 42-44.)

145. When a private telephone-line is erected for the purpose of connecting with a departmental telephone-exchange line the Department shall decide at what point the private telephone-line may be connected with the Department's exchange lines.

146. When a telephone-exchange circuit composed partly of a private telephone-line becomes faulty, the Department may require that the owner of the private telephone-line shall first examine his section of the line and give an assurance that no fault exists thereon before the Department's portion of the circuit is examined.

147. If after receiving the assurance mentioned in the last preceding regulation the fault is found to be on the privately owned section of the line, the Department may charge the cost of examining its section to the owner of the private telephone-line.

148. By arrangement with the Department, a departmental lineman may be detailed to examine the privately owned section of an exchange line in order to remove a fault, provided that the services of the lineman can be spared, and that the owner of the private telephone-line undertakes to pay the whole cost of the work, including labour, travelling time and expenses.

**Regulations governing the Erection of Private Telephone-lines.**

149. Application for permission to erect a private telephone-line shall be made on the printed form "Application for License to erect Private Telephone-lines."

150. Every such license shall be in the form set out in the Schedule hereto. No fee shall be charged in respect of the issue of a license.

151. The construction or maintenance of private telephone-lines will not be undertaken by the Department, but where Engineers or other competent officers are available their services in a consultative capacity may be given free of charge.

152. The construction of a private telephone-line along a road shall be subject to the owner obtaining the consent of the Electric-power Board operating in the district, as well as the authority of the County Council, Road Board, or other local authority concerned; but such consent shall not abrogate the claims of the Department to the right of the road whenever such becomes necessary.

153. Any private telephone-line interfering with the construction or maintenance of any departmental line shall be liable to removal on the order of the Minister, notwithstanding that the erection of such private telephone-line may have previously been licensed.

154. The written consent to the erection of a private telephone-line, of the Electric-power Board, if any, operating in the district, and of each local authority concerned, shall be obtained by the applicant in the proper space upon the printed form of application before the form is forwarded to the District Telegraph Engineer.

155. A sketch showing the locality and route of the proposed private telephone-line shall accompany each application. If a freehand sketch does not make the position clear, a suitable map or maps should be obtained from the Lands and Survey Department.

156. Every point where the proposed private telephone-line will cross telegraph-lines, electric light and power lines, railway-lines or railway-track, shall be shown on the plan, and be mentioned on the form of application.

157. One side of every road shall be deemed to be reserved for telegraph-lines, and in running a private telephone-line along a road where no telegraph-lines exist the private telephone-line shall be kept to one side of the road.

158. Where one side of a road is occupied by a telegraph-line and the other side by a power line, a private telephone-line may, subject to the written consent of the District Telegraph Engineer being first obtained, and to such conditions as he may deem necessary, be placed upon the same side of the road as the telegraph-line.

159. When a private telephone-line is erected across or over a road it shall not be placed so low as to stop, hinder, or interfere with the passage for any purpose whatsoever along the road: provided that no stoppage, hindrance, or interference shall be deemed to be caused if the line is placed at a height of not less than 18 ft. above the crown of the road.

160. Where a private telephone-line crosses over or under any navigable waters it shall be placed in such manner as not to hinder or obstruct the navigation of such waters.

161. Where a private telephone-line crosses from one side of a road to the other the angle formed by the original alignment and the portion of the line crossing the road shall approximate as closely as practicable to a right angle, and shall not exceed 135°. The crossing span shall be as short as possible.

162. Where private telephone-lines intersect telegraph-lines the crossing, wherever practicable, shall be made at the telegraph-pole at the cost of the licensee, and in every case must be made in such manner as may be considered necessary by the District Telegraph Engineer.

163. Where private telephone-lines intersect electric lighting and power wires the crossing shall be made in such a manner as may be considered necessary by the Department.

164. Where a private telephone-line crosses any Government railway-track the minimum clearance above the rail-level shall be 18 ft.

165. No line of any nature shall be erected or constructed upon, over, or under any part of the Government railways unless it conforms with the Railway Department's regulations in regard to construction, and until the licensee has obtained the consent of the Minister of Railways thereto as required by section 4 of the Government Railways Amendment Act, 1910 (No. 2).

166. No person shall enter upon any land for the purpose of constructing or maintaining any private telephone-line unless with the consent of the owner or occupier of such land or his authorized agent.

167. In maintaining, repairing, altering, or removing any private telephone-line no unnecessary or avoidable obstruction shall be caused to the traffic along or the use of any road or navigable waters.

168. In cases of accident, and in emergencies such as breakdowns of lines, &c., authorized officers of the Post and Telegraph Department, the Public Works Department, or of the Railway Department shall have the right to cut in by means of portable telephones on any private telephone-line and make use of such line in the public interest.

169. Private telephone-lines shall be maintained by the owners in good order and condition. The Department may refuse to connect an inefficient private telephone-line with any circuit owned by the Department, or may disconnect an inefficient private telephone-line from any toll station or telephone exchange.

170. For the purpose of ascertaining whether these regulations are being complied with, the Minister or any person appointed by him in that behalf, may at all reasonable times enter on the lands or premises used by or in occupation of the licensee.

**Default and Penalty.**

171. (1.) If the licensee of any private telephone-line fails to observe any of the conditions or obligations imposed upon the licensee by Part VIII of these regulations, then in any such case it shall be lawful for the Minister to revoke the license and to order that the private telephone-line be dismantled by and at the expense of the licensee, and within such time as the Minister may determine.

(2.) If any such licensee commits a breach of any of the regulations in Part VIII hereof or of the terms of any license issued thereunder he shall be liable for any such breach to a fine not exceeding £20.

**Minister's Decision Final.**

172. The Minister shall be the sole judge of the fact whether the requirements of these regulations have been complied with; and he may from time to time cause inquiry to be made into any matter connected therewith or arising hereunder, in such manner as he thinks fit, and his decision shall be final, and the licensee shall comply with such decision; provided always that this clause shall not affect the right of any person, corporate body, or local authority in cases of damage or injury for which an action by such person, corporate body, or local authority may lie against the licensee.

**SCHEDULE.***Post and Telegraph Department.***LICENSE TO ERECT, MAINTAIN, AND USE PRIVATE TELEPHONE-LINE.**

Mr.

As the authorized agent of the signatory/signatories to an application dated the day of \_\_\_\_\_, 192\_\_\_\_, for permission to erect certain private telephone-lines, described in the schedule to the above-mentioned application, and proposed to be erected within the boundaries of the [*Insert names of local districts*], you are hereby advised that the signatory/signatories to the said application is/are hereby licensed to erect, maintain, and use such private telephone-lines in accordance with the regulations in force, or which may from time to time be made, under section 29 of the Post and Telegraph Amendment Act, 1919.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 192\_\_\_\_.  
(Signed)....., Secretary [or Chief Telegraph Engineer].

C. A. JEFFERY,  
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

By Authority: W. A. G. SKINNER, Government Printer, Wellington.

Price, 9d.]

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