

The Cost of Extending Lines and Installing a Phone in 1927!

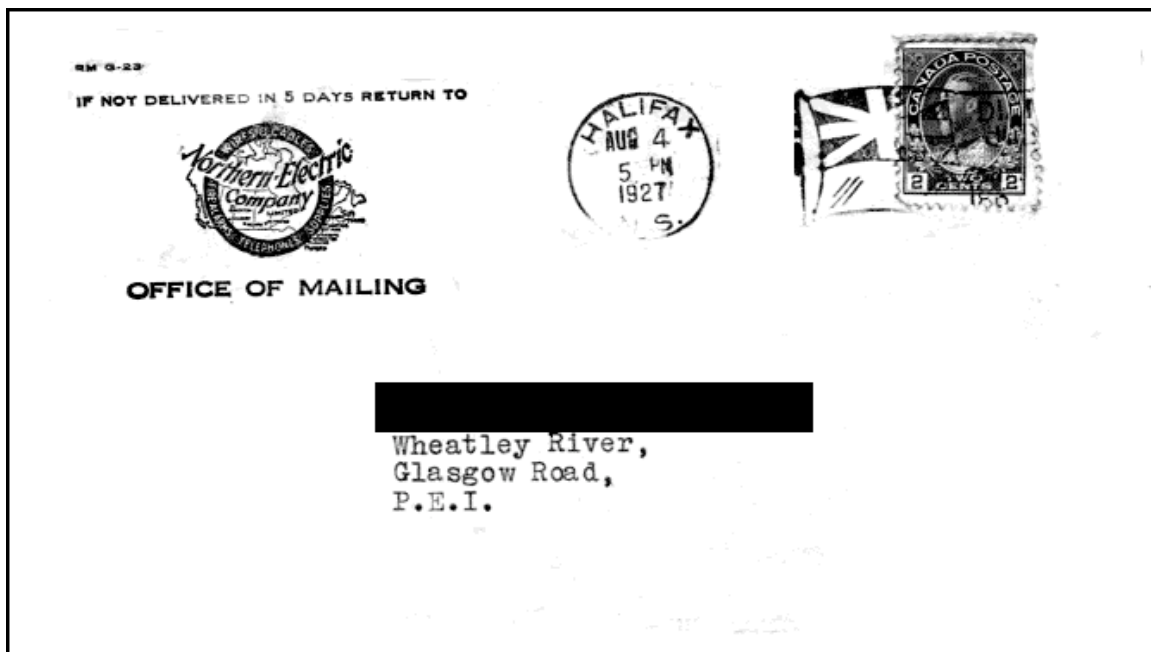
In 1927, a gentleman in Wheatley River, P. E. I. contacted Northern Electric in Halifax, requesting a quote on materials required for an extension of the lines to his home.

These were ordered and the telephone was apparently was installed in early 1928. It was too late for him to be included in that year's Directory, but he did have a copy of it, and was included in the 1929 and later directories, so this appears to confirm that he installed the line and phone that year.

This quote was for a one mile extension of the line, as noted at the top of page 2 of the quote. The usual spacing between poles in those days was 150 feet, which would mean 36 poles. Since 80 brackets were quoted, and it took 2 per pole, that would have been enough for just about a mile. Therefore that it must have been approximately one mile from his home to the end of the nearest operational line.

I have a number of this gentleman's phone bills and toll tickets - in 1948 he was paying \$1.50 a month for his phone service - by 1955, inflation had struck, and he was paying \$2.35 monthly.

What follows is the response to his query from Northern Electric, including cost of wires, insulators, and everything including the phone:



Northern Electric Company
LIMITED

86 HOLLIS STREET

HALIFAX, N.S.

August 4, 1927.

F. W. JOHNSON
DISTRICT MANAGER
F. S. BURNS
DISTRICT CREDIT MANAGER
J. C. SMITH
DISTRICT STORES MANAGER

GENERAL OFFICES:
21 SHEARER ST. MONTREAL.

DISTRIBUTING HOUSES:
HALIFAX QUIDERC
MONTREAL OTTAWA
TORONTO LONDON
HAMILTON WINDSOR
WINNIPEG REGINA
CALGARY VANCOUVER

IN REPLY
REFER TO

WHC 8-W

[REDACTED]
Wheatley River,
Glasgow Road,
P.E.I.

Dear Sir:-

Mr. Low has asked us to give you some prices on Telephones, and we are therefore attaching a list showing your cost f.o.b. Halifax on telephones, telephone wire and other telephone equipment.

Any of this material can be shipped immediately from Halifax stock, and if there is any information we can give you on the construction of your line, we would be very glad to hear from you.

Yours truly,

WHC:KJ


SALES ENGINEER

**LIGHTNING LINE MATERIAL
 ESTIMATED QUANTITIES AND PRICES
 FOR BUILDING ONE MILE OF POLE LINE**

April 15, 1927

<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>QUANTITY REQUIRED</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
#12 B.W.G. Galv. Iron Telephone Wire	330 lbs.....	\$6.56 Clbs.
1-3/4 x 2 x 12" Oak Brackets	80	6.50 C.
#12 B.W.G. Steel Splicing Sleeves	3	5.50 C.
#0 D Nails	5 lbs.	6.00 Clbs.
#0 B Nails	10 lbs.	6.00 Clbs.
#354 Pony Glass Insulators	80	6.23 C.

Approximate shipping weight of one mile line material as above - 450 lbs.

Above price on Iron Wire is for small quantities. Special prices will be quoted where two miles or more of line is being built. 330 lbs. is approximately exact quantity required for 1 mile metallic circuit. A little extra should be allowed for ties, waste, etc., and to make sure enough is on hand.

FOR INSTALLING EACH TELEPHONE SET

<u>MATERIAL</u>	<u>QUANTITY REQUIRED</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
Telephone Sets #117-C	1 Less than 5	\$22.90 ea.
	5 and over	\$1.80 ea.
Lightning Protectors #6-B	1 Less than 1081 ea.
	10 and over79 ea.
Northern Telephone Batteries	3 Less than 50	37.50 C.
#20 Style "C" 3 Cond. Inside Wire	15 Feet	1.75 Cft.
#16 Style "B" 2 Cond. Drop Wire	50 Feet	2.00 Cft.
#16 Substation Ground Wire	15 Feet	1.40 Cft.
Iron Ground Rod 6" x 5/8" dia.	1	48.25 C.
#-1/2 Solid Porcelain Knobs	4	2.10 C.
#16 - 3" Flat Head Wood Screws	401 ea.
Nike Insulated Staples 3/4"	8050 C.
Porcelain Tubes 4" x 1/2"	2	2.25 C.
Falmestock Spring Connectors (Iron to Copper) 215 ea.

Approximate shipping weight one telephone and accessories as above - 30 lbs.

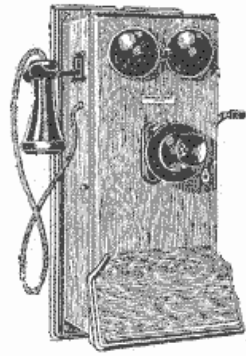
Above prices are net f.o.b. Halifax, sales tax included, subject to change without notice. Shipment can be made immediately from Halifax stock.

We have helped hundreds of Rural Telephone Companies to build and operate satisfactory lines. We have interesting booklets and valuable information free for the asking.

Always specify exactly when ordering; never fail to give catalogue number when possible; when ordering telephone Sets give the residence of the Ringer if you cannot find the catalogue number which is usually found on the inside of the case. If you have not got our latest catalogue send for one postage prepaid.

IMPORTANT! Give name of Company, name and address of Secretary and be sure to give the name of Railroad Station to which material is to be shipped.

NORTHERN TELEPHONE COMPANY LIMITED.



1317 Phone As Quoted Above

The Telephone on P.E.I. - <http://www.islandregister.com/phones/phones.html>