

**RUTHVEN, IA.**—The Ruthven Telephone Exchange Company has been incorporated with \$20,000 capital stock.

**OTTUMWA, IA.**—The Iowa Telephone Company has a site for the erection of a modern central exchange building.

**CHARTER OAK, IA.**—The Crawford County Telephone Company will establish a first-class local and long distance system.

**DES MOINES, IA.**—The Mutual Telephone Company will arrange to expend \$100,000 to \$150,000 in improvements to its system.

**ALGONA, IA.**—The Burt Telephone Company has recently added three short rural lines to its system. Its patrons now number 149.

**DES MOINES, IA.**—From West Point, the German-American Telephone Company will build lines to Lowell, Montrose and Fort Madison.

**SHELBY, IA.**—Amended articles of the Shelby Independent Telephone Company have been filed, increasing the stock from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

**WATERLOO, IA.**—The council has granted the desired franchise for the Iowa Telephone Company which will proceed to rebuild its local system.

**MUSCATINE, IA.**—Plans have been prepared by H. W. Zeidler, architect, for a building for the Iowa Telephone Company, which will cost \$6,000.

**DAVENPORT, IA.**—The capital of the New Independent Telephone Company has been increased to \$150,000. Extensive improvements will be made and the line may be extended to St. Louis.

**IOWA CITY, IA.**—Manager A. J. Presson, of the Johnson County Telephone Company, is interested in a \$500,000 transaction. The money must be secured by the Cedar Valley Telephone Company for the prosecution of various improvements, to be contemplated by the big organization.

**DODGE CITY, KAN.**—The Dodge City Telephone Company is extending its line.

**ATCHISON, KAN.**—Theodore Gary has purchased a controlling interest in the exchange at Atchison, Kan. The Atchison exchange has 1100 telephones now in use. The company, of which Mr. Gary is president, will spend \$25,000 in improving and extending the service within the next four months.

**COVINGTON, KY.**—Bids have been advertised for the sale of a franchise for the construction of a telephone and messenger system in the city of Covington, the franchise to run for twenty years.

**FRANKFORT, KY.**—The Independence Telephone Company, of Kenton County, with \$5,000 capital, has filed incorporation articles with the Secretary of State. John M. Chambers, W. T. Loomis, Alvin Perry, C. M. Perry and John L. Vest are the incorporators.

**PORTLAND, ME.**—The Cumberland Telephone Company has been organized at Portland for operating telephones and telegraph lines; capital stock \$50,000; paid in, \$200. President, M. H. Kelley, Saco, Me.; treasurer, Alex Speirs, Westbrook, Me.

**SWAN'S ISLAND, ME.**—The Swan's Island Telephone & Telegraph Company has been formed for constructing and operating telephone and telegraph lines. Capital \$5,000, of which \$350 is paid in. President, W. B. Lindsay; treasurer, A. C. Smith. Directors: W. B. Lindsay, Carlisle, Pa.; A. C. Smith, Swan's Island; H. W. Joyce, L. W. Stinson, L. E. Joyce and H. W. Small, of Swan's Island, Me.

**PORTLAND, ME.**—The United States government is to connect all of its forts by telephone and work has been commenced on the system which will be an extensive one, as well as a very expensive piece of work. Fort Leavitt, on Cushing's island, Fort Preble, at South Portland, Fort Williams, at Portland Head, and Fort McKisley, on Great Diamond island, will be joined by private wires, having no connection whatever with the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company's system which has just been installed on Peaks and Great Diamond islands.

Telephone Company in Wyoming, extending from Cody to Meeteetse and Basin. Negotiations are on for the purchase of lines in Montana embracing Red Lodge and Billings points. The new lines of the Bell people will enable one to talk from Butte or Salt Lake to Cheyenne and Denver.

**FREMONT, NEB.**—The Nebraska Telephone Company will spend about \$10,000 in improving its plant at Fremont. It will put in a board with 1,000 drops, among the new improvements.

**NORFOLK, NEB.**—The Elkhorn Valley Telephone Company has filed articles of incorporation, the principal place of business being at Norfolk. The incorporators are I. S. Mahan, G. B. Christoph, and G. A. Luikhart. The capital stock is \$100,000.

**LINCOLN, NEB.**—Articles of incorporation of the Virginia Telephone Company, Gage County, have been filed at Lincoln by the incorporators, Messrs. John A. Dobbs, William Holm, W. H. Stambaugh, Joel Dobbs, W. J. Kiser, Joseph Mangus and J. A. Erickson. The capital stock is given as \$4,000.

**VERDIGREE, NEB.**—Mr. Emil Shiem, president; Mr. J. B. Bates, vice-president, and Mr. B. Stevenson, secretary and treasurer, are the officers of the Verdigrée Telephone Company, which has been organized, with a capital of \$1,000, for operating a telephone line between Verdigrée, Armstrong and Pischelville, Neb.

**FREMONT, NEB.**—On the morning of August 17 linemen of the Nebraska Telephone Company (the Bell company) cut the wires connecting the Farmers' and the Hooper exchanges. This action of the Nebraska Company was taken to enforce its contract with the Farmers' system, which prohibits the latter from connecting with exchanges other than those of the Bell company. Four wires running southwest from Hooper were cut.

**OMAHA, NEB.**—The York County Independent Telephone Company has connected lines with the Fillmore County Independent Company, and also with the independent lines at Beaver Crossing, Milford and Friend, Neb. The local independent company at York has also built east to Utica, where it expects to connect with independent lines giving connection with Lincoln. North it has built into Stromsburg, where it is connected with the local independent company, and in a short time will have connection as far East as South Omaha.

**TRENTON, N. J.**—At an expense of nearly \$50,000 the Fire Committee of Common Council is placing the wires of Trenton's police and fire-alarm systems in underground conduits, hoping thereby to overcome frequent interruption to the service by reason of storms and other unfavorable conditions.

**HAMMONTON, N. J.**—The officials of the Interstate Telephone Company are securing the right of way through Hammonton to erect their trunk lines from Atlantic City to this place, where they will connect with the Eastern Telephone Company, which will rebuild from Camden to this point. The former company has secured from the Board of Freeholders of Atlantic County a franchise to build lines throughout Atlantic County, while the Eastern Company has similar privilege through Camden County. This will give long distance telephone service between Atlantic City and Philadelphia, in opposition to the Bell Company.

**SYRACUSE, N. Y.**—The Syracuse Telephone Company is considering the expenditure of \$300,000 in the improvement of its system in this city.

**MILFORD, N. Y.**—The Westville Telephone Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$1,000, to build and operate a line from this village to South Valley. Directors: Frank Green, J. M. Cady, E. B. Coats and others.

**SODUS, N. Y.**—The Empire State Telephone Company has decided to develop its system in this section. For the benefit of Rochester, Williamson, Sodus and Wolcott patrons a direct line of two copper wires is being in-