## GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS SERVICED BY BELL AND INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE/Office of Telecommunications

## GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS Serviced by bell and INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES

B. A. HART


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Frederick B. Dent, Secretary
OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS John M. Richardson, Acting Director

This paper was prepared by a staff member of the Institute for Telecommination Sciences for and under the direction of the Policy Support Division of the Office of Telecommunications, U.S. Department of Commerce. It is one of a series of such reports prepared in support of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, Executive Office of the President. This particular study was undertaken because there was no single source of information on geographic coverage of individual telephone companies in the United States and because ready access to such information was required in several on-going studies. Since the information may be useful to the industry and other government agencies, it is being made available through the medium of this report.

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## ABSTRACT

The geographic coverage of all telephone companies in the U.S. is presented in a series of maps. These consist of (1) U. S. maps of operating areas served by the major companies and (2) individual state maps depicting the operating areas served by Bell and each of the various Independent Companies. State by state listings of over 1500 telephone companies and their headquarters are also given.







Geographical Areas Serviced by Bell and Independent Telephonc Companies in the United States

Telephone companies in the U. S. are divided into two major categories, Bell and Independent. The principal subsidiaries of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. (more commonly called the Bell System) are listed in table 1 and the general operating areas are designated in figure 1. All non-Bell companies are referred to as "Independent" telephone companies.

On January 1, 1972, the total number of telephones in the U.S. was $125,156,400$. Table 2 gives the relationship, state by state, of tne number of Independent phones to Bell phones. There were 11,002 Independent exchanges ( 1805 telephone companies) and 6761 Bell exchanges (24 companies) reported in Telephony's Directory, 1972. Although the Independent industry owns only $17 \%$ of the total phones, it is estimated that they cover about $1 / 2$ of the total U. S. geographic area. Table 3 (from USITA, 1972) lists the top 25 Independent telephone companies. U. S. maps showing the general geographic coverage for the five largest of the companies are given in figures $2-6$; the se maps are copies or adaptations of maps supplied by the individual companies and are valid only for the year they were issued.

To establish a better understanding of the geographic areas covered by the individual companies within the two major systems, maps were prepared of the telephone company operating areas for each of the 50 states (Figs. 7-56). Included in each map, as a location reference, are the interstate highways with their number identifications. Solid lines denote completed highways as of December 31, 1971, and dotted segments show portions which are under construction or in a preliminary status (Department of Transportation, 1972).
Table 1
Principal Subsidiaries and Associated Companies of the

Headquarters
No. of Company Telephones $5,298,904$
$11,331,424$ $11,331,424$
$2,067,435$ $4,859,784$ $6,387,094$ $n$
$\cdots$
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$n$ $6,703,113$
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0
$\cdots$ $6,202,765$
$4,140,330$ $10,993,366$
$4,446,179$
 $10,895,908$
(see Note) San Francisco, Calif. (see Note) Note: Wholly owned subsidiary of Pacific-Telephone and Telegraph Company. Telephones for this company are included in the totals for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company.

> Table 2: Number of Telephones in the United States-wDistribution by States (January 1, 1972)

> Bureau 1970 Population U. S. Census 3,444, 165 عLI'20\& $N$
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32.500 N N N 0
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Min
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N 10,700 100
 Independent
$1,387,600$
$1,022,700$
668,100
$10,816,200$
$1,445,000$
$2,111,800$
387,400
914,100
$3,071,000$
$2,217,000$
304,000
$6,087,300$
$1,989,300$
$1,176,000$
$1,120,400$
$1,100,500$
$1,755,200$
466,500
$2,588,200$
$3,635,300$
$4,724,100$
$1,921,000$
908,500
$2,348,400$
314,400

Alabama


District of Columbia Florida Ceorgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa sesury Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minne sota Mississippi Missouri Montana
\#Partially abstracted from Telephony's Directory, 1972.
Number of Telephones in the United States--Distribution by States

203, 184, 772 17.1


|  | (January 1, 1972) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Bell | Independent | Ind. \% of total | Population <br> U. S. Census <br> Bureau 1970 |
| Nebraska | 543,700 | 382,800 | 41.3 | 1,483,791 |
| Nevada | 125,300 | 237, 100 | 65.4 | 488,738 |
| New Hampshire | 431,100 | 21,300 | 4.7 | 737,681 |
| New Jersey | 4,882,600 | 89,000 | 1.8 | 7, 168, 164 |
| New Mexico | 464, 200 | 66,400 | 12. 5 | 1,016,000 |
| New York | 11,302, 000 | 1, 039,800 | 8.4 | 18, 190, 740 |
| North Carolina | 1,341,400 | 1,186,600 | 46.9 | 5,082,059 |
| North Dakota | 234,700 | 101,800 | 30.2 | 617,761 |
| Ohio | 4, 905, 200 | 1,473,100 | 23.1 | 10,652, 017 |
| Oklahoma | 1,370,500 | 184, 000 | 11.8 | 2,559, 253 |
| Oregon | 976,600 | 283,400 | 22.5 | 2,091,385 |
| Pennsylvania | 6,387, 500 | 1,327,800 | 17.2 | 11, 793,909 |
| Rhode Island | 552,400 | - -- | 0.0 | 949,723 |
| South Carolina | 926,400 | 321,300 | 25.8 | $2,590,516$ |
| South Dakota | 284,600 | 65,900 | 18.8 | 666,257 |
| Tennessee | 1,740,500 | 327,500 | 15.8 | 3,924,164 |
| Texas | 5,567,700 | 1,112,600 | 16.7 | 11,196,730 |
| Utah | 614,000 | 21, 200 | 3.3 | 1,059,273 |
| Vermont | 217,900 | 31,900 | 12.8 | 444,732 |
| Virginia | 2,100,200 | 552, 100 | 20.8 | 4,648,494 |
| Washington | 1,577,800 | 470, 200 | 23.0 | $3,409,169$ |
| West Virginia | 691, 100 | 101,600 | 12.8 | 1,744,237 |
| Wisconsin | 1, 787,800 | 691, 200 | 27.9 | 4,417,933 |
| Wyoming | 193,000 | 12,800 | 6.2 | 332.416 |
| TOTAL | 103, 698, 200 | 21,458,200 | 17.1 | 203,184,772 |


| 543,700 | 382,800 |
| ---: | ---: |
| 125,300 | 237,100 |
| 431,100 | 21,300 |
| $4,882,600$ | 89,000 |
| 464,200 | 66,400 |
| $11,302,000$ | $1,039,800$ |
| $1,341,400$ | $1,186,600$ |
| 234,700 | 101,800 |
| $4,905,200$ | $1,473,100$ |
| $1,370,500$ | 184,000 |
| 976,600 | 283,400 |
| $6,387,500$ | $1,327,800$ |
| 552,400 | - |
| 926,400 | 321,300 |
| 284,600 | 65,900 |
| $1,740,500$ | 327,500 |
| $5,567,700$ | $1,112,600$ |
| 614,000 | 21,200 |
| 217,900 | 31,900 |
| $2,100,200$ | 552,100 |
| $1,577,800$ | 470,200 |
| 691,100 | 101,600 |
| $1,787,800$ | 691,200 |
| 193,000 | 12,800 |

103,698, 200
$21,458,200$
Telephony's Directory, 1972.
пlag

## Table 2 (continued)

$$
1971
$$

\% of Total



 $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered}m \\ m \\ m \\ c \\ \infty\end{gathered}\right.$ Number
of
Telephones 000 '500 ○ O
 $1,030,000$
560,000 8.8
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(2L6I
Central Telephone Utilities Corp., Lincoln, Neb.
Mid-Continent Telephone Corp., Hudson, Ohic

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Rochester Telephone Corp., Rochester, N. Y } \\
& \text { Puerto Rico Telephone Co., San Juan, P. R. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Lincoln Telephone \& Telegraph Co. , Lincoln,
Commonwealth Telephone Co., Dallas, Pa. $\begin{array}{r}40,300 \\ \quad 40,400 \\ \hline 17,954,600\end{array}$
z

[^0]Continental plans to acquire the se companies in the near future. Florida Telephone Corp., Ocala, Fla. Allied Telephone Co., Little Rock, Ark. Illinois Consolidated Telephone Co., Mattoon,
 Indiana Telephone Corp., Seymour, Ind.
 Lorain Telephone Co., Lorain, Ohio. Anchorage Telephone Co., Anchorage, Alaska.....
Telephone Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. Export, Pa.
The Concord Telephone Co., Concord, N. C. ......
Telephone Utilities Inc., Ilwaco, Wash. .............
Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. .... Anchorage Telephone Co., Anchorage, Alaska.....
Telephone Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. Export, Pa.
The Concord Telephone Co., Concord, N. C. ......
Telephone Utilities Inc., Ilwaco, Wash. .............
Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. .... Anchorage Telephone Co., Anchorage, Alaska.....
Telephone Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. Export, Pa.
The Concord Telephone Co., Concord, N. C. ......
Telephone Utilities Inc., Ilwaco, Wash. .............
Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. .... Anchorage Telephone Co., Anchorage, Alaska.....
Telephone Utilities of Pennsylvania Inc. Export, Pa.
The Concord Telephone Co., Concord, N. C. ......
Telephone Utilities Inc., Ilwaco, Wash. .............
Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. ....
 Century Telephone Enterprises, Inc., Monroe, La. Tidewater Telephone Co., Warsaw, Va. ${ }^{\ddagger}$......... Newark Telephone Co., Newark, Ohio
New York,


The key to the shading and lettering found on the maps is given on the code sheet preceding the maps. Seven states are serviced by two Bell companies; these are designated as No. 1 and No. 2, with No. 1 being the primary serving Bell Company. The independent companies have been arbitrarily divided into classes, $X, Y$ and $Z$. Class $X$ companies are found in at least 20 states, and each controls at least one million phones. The three Class $X$ companies are designated by standar dized shadings on the state maps. Class $Y$ are found in at least 10 states, and each controls at least $1 / 2$ million phones. Two companies fall within this class and are designated as $C$ and $D$ on the state maps. Class $Z$ contains the smaller Independent companies. It was impossible to identify each of the se companies on the state maps, but the two largest Class $Z$ companies within each state are designated as $A$ and $B$ on the maps, (with all others designated as E) and an alphabetical listing of each company in each state is given in table 4. Undesignated areas within a state are labelled with the letter, U. These undesignated areas may include natural features such as large lakes, deserts, and mountainous terrain; it may also include special bounded areas such as military reservations and national parks and forests, or it may represent unfranchised or unassigned territory.
U. S. telephone service areas are given in figures 2-4 for the three Class $X$ companies and are shown in figures 5 and 6 for the two Class $Y$ companies. However, a comparison of the individual states within the se maps with those in figures 7-56 will reveal some discrepancies because, as stated before, figures 2-6 were adapted from company maps that are updated in multiple year intervals, rather than every year.

To provide some idea of the size differences between the various Class $Z$ companies, the two desicnated as $A$ and $B$ in each state map) with the lerqest number of top ones are scarri, and the number of phonos opuried by each of these two companies is indicaled in parenthesis following
the company name and headquarters listing in table 4. (Most of the se data were abstracted from Telephony, 1971). It can be noted that in six states (Ark., Fla., N. Car., Ohio, Pa., and Wis.) both A and B are included in the top 25 Independent companies. (The actual number of total telephones listed in table 4 and table 3 disfer because the figures in table 3 are more recent.)

The preparation of maps of telephone service areas was not a simple task; many of the maps had to be pieced together from diverse scattered sources of information and their reliability is dependent upon the accuracy and recency of the preparation of the local data. State maps for Alaska, Hawaii, Maine, North and South Dakota, Texas and upper Michigan had to be constructed almost completely from the telephone exchange data found in Telephony's Directory, 1971. The Arkansas and Iowa exchange locations were supplemented by toll station maps. Telephone company coverage rnaps in various forms, some very sophisticated, other rudimentary, some as current as May, 1972, and others four or five years old, were available from the other states. These were provided by the state Independent Telephone Associations, various Bell Telephone headquarters, the state public service and utilities commissions, and BellIndependent relations offices. A list of the se sources are available on request from the author. However, most of the organizations who supplied the maps pointed out that many of the boundary lines were approximate and could not be used as legal boundaries.

Attompting to delineate the telephone service areas in those states where no previous map was available in any form presented the most challenging task. Texas, which does not have a state public utility office, was especially difficult with its 906 Independent exchanges and 325 Bell exchanges (including 106 suburban zones). These exchanges were located and classified as to telephone company on a large detailed U. S. Geological Survey Map; then twelve different Bell and Independent offices
in Texas and the headquarters of the three Class $X$ companies were contacted by mail and phone to try to determine approximate telephone company operating areas.

Every attempt was made to insure that the boundaries for the company operating areas within each state were as accurate as possible. For example, all the companies and their exchanges were updated to the April, 1971, cutoff date of the 1971 Telephony's Directory. When discrepancies were found, this directory was used as the final authority. (The 1972 Telephony's Directory is now available, but this study was near completion when the 1972 directory was published, and time did not permit the inclusion of the changes in company ownership revealed in this more current issue.) Because the boundaries fluctuate from year to year due to various company mergers and purchases, and because these boundaries are subject to various interpretations and limitations, it is suggested that the telephone company operating areas in each state be submitted periodically to interested organizations and associations within that state for review and revision.

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Ferminia Ulibarri who typed the text,
Dennis Holt and Richard Martin who assisted in the analysis and organization of the data,
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Figure 1. Operating Areas Served by Bell Telephone Companies (See Table 1).



Figure 4. Continental Telephone Corporation operating areas (courtesy of USITA).



Figure 6. Telephone operating areas served by Mid-Continent Telephone Corporation (from annual 1971 report).

## KEY TO TELEPHONE COMPANY STATE MAPS

## Bell System :

No. 1
No. 2
$\square$
T10

## Class $X$ independent componies:

General Telephone and Electronics Corp.
United Telecommunications, Inc.
Continental Telephone Corp.

Class $Y$ independent companies:
Central Telephone and Utilities Corp.
C
Mid - Continent Telephone Corp.
D

## Class $Z$ independent companies :

No. 1 within stote
A
No. 2 within state
B
All others within state
E

Undesignoted areas within state


A Southland TeI. Co.
B Farmers Tel. Co-Op., Inc.
Figure 7

ANVdWOJ ヨNOHdヨ7ヨ1 S $\forall S N \forall Y Y \forall$
OPERATING AREAS

Figure 10


Figure 11
COLORADO TELEPHONE COMPANY

CONNECTICUT TELEPHONE COMPANY





$=$

9



Figure 19

## INDIANA TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS


IOWA TELEPHONE COMPANY

KANSAS TELEPHONE COMPANY
OPERATING AREAS

Southwestern Bell Tel. Co.
A The Pioneer Tel. Assn., Inc.
B Craw-Kon. Tel. Co-Op.
Figure 22



MARYLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY
OPERATING AREAS


S



Michigan Bell Tel. Co.
A Southern Tel. Co.
8 Central Tel. Co.


Figure 29

## MISSISSIPPI

 TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREASFigure 30
TELEPHONE COMPANY
OPERATING AREAS

MONTANA TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS

Figure 32
nebraska telephone company

Figure 33


## NEW HAMPSHIRE TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS

$\square$ New England Tel. and Tel. Co.

A Kearsarge (Tel, and Data Systems,
B Chester Tel. Co.


## NEW JERSEY TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS

$\square$ New Jersey Bell Tel. Co.
A West Jersey Tel. Co.
B Hillsborough and Montgomery Tel. Co.

Figure 36


[^1]
NORTH CAROLINA TELEPHONE COMPANY
OPERATING AREAS

Figure 39



Figure 41

OREGON TELEPHONE COMPANY
OPERATING AREAS
Pacific Northwest Bell Tel. Co.

Figure 43
Mountain States Tel.and Tel. Co.
Telephone Utilities, Ilwaco, Wash.

PENNSYLVANIA TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS

Fingure 44

## RHODE ISLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS


$\square$ New England Tel. and Tel. Co.


Figure 45

SOUTH DAKOTA TELEPHONE COMPANY

TENNESSEE TELEPHONE COMPANY

IID South Central Bell Tel. Co.
A Twin Lakes Tel. Co-Op.
B Ben Lomand Rural Tel. Co-Op., Inc.


UTAH TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS


Figure 50

## VERMONT TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATING AREAS






Figure 55


Table 4: Class Z Independent Telephone Companies, with Headquarters, Listed Alphabetically by State

## Alabama

Ardmore Tel. Co., Ardmore, Tenn.
Blountsville Tel. Co., Blountsville
Brindlee Mountain Tel. Co., Arab.
Butler Tel. Co., Inc., Butler
Castleberry Tel. Co., Castleberry
Cherokee Tel. Co., Inc., Cherokee
Coosa Valley Tel. Co., Pell City
Elmore Coosa Tel. Co. Eclectic
*Farmers Tel. Coop. Inc. Rainsville $(8,745)$
Florala Tel. Co., Inc., Florala
Fruitdale Tel. Co., Inc., Fruitdale
Gra-Ceba Tel. Co., Ashford
Goshen Tel. Co., Inc., Goshen
Grayson Tel. Co., Grayson
Grove Hill Tel. Corp. , Grove Hill
Gulf Tel. Co., Foley
Hayneville Tel. Co., Hayneville
Hopper Tel. Co., Altoona
Interstate Tel. Co., West Point, Ga.
Lamar County Tel. Co., Inc., Millport
Leeds, Tel. Co., Inc., Leeds
Millry Tel. Co., Millry
Mon-Cre Tel. Coop., Inc.., Ramer
Monroeville Tel. Co., Monroeville
Moundville Tel. Co., Inc., Moundville
New Hope Tel. Coop., New Hope
Oakman Tel. Co., Oakman
Oneonta Tel. Co., Inc., Oneonta
Peoples Tel. Co., Inc., Leesburg
Pine Belt Tel. Co., Inc., Arlington
Ragland Tel. Co., Inc. Ragland
Roanoke Tel. Co., Roanoke
*Southland Tel. Co., Atmore $(9,021)$
Tri County Tel. Co., Ashland
Union Springs Tel. Co., Inc., Union Springs
Valley Tel. Co., Inc., Langdale
*Footnote for all asterisk listings is given at end of Table 4.

## Table 4 (continued)

Alaska
*Anchorage Tel. Utility, Anchorage $(55,480)$
Bush-Tell Inc., Anchorage
Copper Valley Tel. Coop., Glennalle
Cordova Public Utilities, Cordova
*Fairbanks Municipal Utilities System, Fairbanks $(21,547)$
Greater Anchorage Borough Telecommunications Co., Inc. GirdwoodInterior Tel. Co., Inc., Anchorage
Ketchikan Public Utilities Co., Ketchikan
Matanuska Tel. Assn., Inc., Palmer
National Utilities, Inc., Port Townsend, Wash.
North State Tel. Co., Anchorage
Sitka Tel. Co., Sitka
Southeastern Tel. Co., Sitka
Teller Tel. \& Power Co., Inc., Teller
Wakefield Fisheries, Inc., Seattle, Wash
Whittier Tel. Co., Whittier
Yukon Tel. Co., Tanana
Arizona
Arizona Tel. Co., Phoenix
*Citizens Utilities Co., Stamford, Conn
Citizens Utilities Co., Kingman $(10,782)$
*Navajo Communications, Inc., Grandview, Tex. (4, 203)
South Central Utah Tel. Assn., Inc., Escalante, Utah
Southwestern Tel. Co., Salome
Universal Tel., Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.
Universal Tel. Co. of Arizona, Keams Canyon
Valley Tel. Coop., Inc., Willcox

Table 4 (continued)

Arkansas
*Allied Tel. Co., Little Rock, Arkansas $(43,414)$
Allied Tel. Co. of Arkansas, Inc., Little Rock
Allied Utilities Corp., Little Rock
Boone County Tel. Co., Harrison
Arkansas Tel. Co., Clinton
Central Arkansas Tel. Coop. Inc., Donaldson
*Century Tel. Enterprises, Monroe, La. $(7,417)$
Liberty Tel. \& Comm., Inc., Hardy
Liberty Tel. Co., Inc., Hardy
Union Tel. Co., Junction City
Cleveland County Tel. Co., Inc., Rison
Decatur Tel. Co., Inc., Decatur
Lavaca Tel. Exch., Lavaca
Lincoln-Desha Tel. Co., Inc., Dumas
Madison County Tel. Co., Inc., Huntsville
Magazine Tel. Exch., Magazine
Mountain Home Tel. Co., Inc., Mountain Home
Mountain View Tel. Co., Mountain View
Northern Arkansas Tel. Co., Flippin
Perco Tel. Co., Perryville
Prairie Grove Tel. Co., Prairie Grove
Redfield Tel. Co., Redfield
Rice Belt Tel. Co., Inc., Weiner
E. Ritter Tel. Co., Marked Tree
South Arkansas Tel. Co., Hampton
Southwest Arkansas Tel. Coop., Inc., Texarkana
Tri-County Tel. Co., Inc., Everton
Walnut Hill Tel. Co., Lewisville
White River Tel. Co., Elkins
Wickes Tel. Co., Inc., Wickes
Yelcot Tel. Co., Yellville
Yell County Tel. Co., Inc., Danville

Table 4 (continued)
California
Bryan Tel. Co., Paicines
Calaveras Tel. Co., Copperopolis
*California Pacific Utilities Co. San Francisco (21, 981)
Capay Valley Tel. Co., Guinda
*Citizens Utilities Co., Sramford, Conn. $(24,798)$
Citizens Utilities Co, of California, Redding
Colfax Tel. Exch., Colfax
Dorris Tel. Co., Dorris
Ducor Tel. Co., Ducor
Evans Tel. Co., Patterson
Farmers Exchange, No. 1, Sultana
Foresthill Tel. Co., Inc., Foresthill
Happy Valley Tel. Co., Anderson
Hornitos Tel. Exchange, Hornitos
Kerman Tel. Co., Kerman
Kingsburg Tel. Co., Kingsburg
Livingston Tel. Co., Livingston
Mariposa County Tel. Co., Oakhurst
Moraga Community Tel. Association, Moraga
Ponderosa Tel. Co., O' Neals
Redwood Empire Tel. Co., Santa Rosa
Roseville Tel. Co., Roseville
Sierra Tel. Co., Oakhurst
Siskiyou Tel. Co., Fort Jones
Sylvan Tel. Co., Modesto
Tuolumne Tel. Co. Tuolumne
Volcano Tel. Co., The, Volcano
William Butts Tel. Co., Paicines

## Table 4 (continued)

## Colorado

Agate Mutual Tel. Co., Agate
Bennett Tel. Co., Bennett
Bijou Tel. Coop., Byers
Blanca Tel. System, Blanca
Columbine Tel. Co., Moffat
Deer Trail Tel. Co., Deer Trail
*Delta County Tel. Co., Paonia $(3,852)$
Eagle Valley Tel. Co., The, Eagle
*Eastern Slope Rural Tel. Inc. Hugo (3, 055)
El Paso County Tel. Co., El Paso
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Pleasant View
Grover Tel. Exch., Grover
Mathe son Tel. Co., Matheson
Nucla-Naturita Tel. Co., Nucla
Nunn Tel. Co., Nunn
Peetz Cooperative Tel., Peetz
Phillips County Tel. Co., Holyoke
Pine Drive Tel. Co., Beulah
Plains Cooperative Tel. Assn., Inc., Joes
Ramah Tel. Exch., Ramah
Rico Tel. Co., Rico
Roggen Tel. Coop. Co., Roggen
Rye Tel. Co., Inc., Rye
Simla Tel. Exch., Simla
Stoneham Coop. Tel. Co., Stoneham
Strasburg Tel. Co., Strasburg
Sunflower Tel. Co. Inc., Dodge City, Kan.
Universal Tel. Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.
Universal Tel. Co. of Colorado, Pagosa Springs
We stern States Tel. Co., Phoenix, Ariz.
Wiggins Tel. Assn., Wiggins
Willard Tel. Co., Willard

Table 4 (continued)
Connecticut
*W oodbury Tel. Co. $(9,376)$

Delaware
(No Class $Z$ companies)

## Florida

*Florida Tel. Corp., Ocala $(107,685)$<br>Gulf Tel. Co., Perry<br>Indiantown Tel. Co., Indiantown<br>Northeast Florida Tel. Co., Inc., MacClenny<br>Orange City Tel. Co., Orange City<br>Quincy Tel. Co., Quincy<br>St. Joseph Tel. \& Tel. Co., Port St. Joe<br>West Florida Tel. Co., Marianna<br>*Winter Park Tel. Co., Winter Park $(15,866)$

Georgia

Alma Tel. Co., Inc., Alma
Atlas Utilities Co., Sapeloe Island
Blue Ridge Tel. Co., Blue Ridge
Brantley Tel. Co., Nahunta
Bulloch County Rural Tel. Coop. Inc., Statesboro
Camden Tel. \& Tel. Co., Inc., St. Marys
Chickamauga Tel. Corp., Chickamauga
Citizens Tel. Co., Inc., Leslie
Coastal Utilities, Inc., Hinesville
Commerce Tel. Co., Commerce
Darien Tel. Co., Darien
Ellijay Tel. Co., Ellijay
Empire Tel. Co., Comer.

## Table 4 (continued)

Georgia (continued)

Fairmount Tel. Co., Inc., Fairmount<br>Georgia Tel. Corp., Blakely<br>Glenwood Tel. Co., Glenwood<br>Hart County Tel. Co., Hartwell<br>Hawkinsville Tel. Co., Hawkinsville<br>Interstate Tel. Co., Westpoint<br>Loco Tel. Co., Lincolnton<br>Nelson-Ball Ground Tel. Co., Nelson<br>Pembroke Tel. Co., Inc., Pembroke<br>Pineland Tel. Coop. Inc., Metter<br>Planters Rural Tel. Coop. Inc., Newington<br>Plant Tel. \& Power Co., Inc., Tifton<br>Progressive Rural Tel. Coop., Rentz<br>Public Service Tel. Co., Reynolds<br>Quincy Tel. Co., Quincy, Fla.<br>Ringgold Tel. Co. Ringgold<br>South Georgia Tel. Co., Inc., Sylvania<br>*Standard Tel. Co. Cornelia $(19,102)$<br>State sboro Tel. Co., State sboro<br>*Thomaston Tel. Co. . Thomaston ( 0,896 )<br>Trenton Tel. Co., Trenton<br>Utelwico. Inc., The, Talbotton<br>Walker County Tel. Co., LaFayette<br>Waverly Hall Tel. Co., Waverly Hall<br>Wilkes Tel. \& Electric Co., Washington<br>Wilkinson County Tel. Co., Irwinton

Hawaii
(No Class Z companies)

## Table 4 (continued)

Idaho
Albion Tel. Co., Inc., Albion
Cambridge Tel. Co., Inc. Cambridge
Custer Tel. Coop., Challis
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Fruitland
Filer Mutual Tel. Co., Filer
Inland Tel. Co., Gifford
Lemhi Tel. Co., Salmon
Midvale Tel. Exch., Midvale
Mud Lake Tel. Coop. Assn., Dubois

* Owyhee Tel. Co., Homedale $(2,944)$

Potlatch Tel. Co., Kendrick
*Project Mutual Tel Coop. Assn., Inc., Rupert $(5,813)$
Rockland Tel. Co., Rockland
Silver Star Tel. Co., Inc., Freedom, Wyo.
Tel. Utilities, Ilwaco, Wash.
Gem State Util. Corp., Grandview
Troy Tel. Co., Inc., Troy

## Illinois

Adams Tel. Coop., Golden
Alhambra-Grantfork Tel. Co., Alhambra
Cambridge Tel. Co., Cambridge
Cass County Tel. Co., Virginia
Chandlerville Tel. Co., Chanderville
C-R Tel. Co., Ransom
Clarksville Mutual Tel. Co., Clarksville
Crossville Tel. Co., Crossville
Depue Tel. Co., Depue
Easton Tel. Co., Easton
Egyptian Tel. Coop. Assn., Steeleville
El Paso Tel. Co., El Paso
Equality Tel. Co., Inc., Equality
Flat Rock Mutual Tel. Co., Flat Rock
Geneseo Tel. Co., Geneseo
Glasford Tel. Co., Glasford
Grafton Tel. Co., Grafton
Gridley Tel. Co., Gridley
Hamilton County Tel. Coop., Dahlgren

## Table 4 (continued)

Illinois (continued)
Hardin County Tel. Co., Rosiclare
Harrisonville Tel. Co., Waterloo
Henry County Tel. Co., Geneseo
Hindsboro Mutual Tel. Co., Hindsboro
Home Tel. Co., St. Jacob
*Illinois Consolidated Tel. Co., Mattoon (82, 011 )
Inland Tel. Co., Champaign
Intra State Tel. Co., Galesburg
Kinsman Mutual Tel. Co., Kinsman
LaHarpe Tel. Co., Inc., LaHarpe
Lakeside Tel. Co., Champaign
Leaf River Valley Tel. Co., Leaf River
Leonore Mutual Tel. Co., Leonore
McDonough Tel. Coop., Colchester
McNabb Tel. Co., McNabb
Madison Tel. Co., Hamel
Marseilles Tel. Co., Marseilles
Metamora Tel. Co., Metamora
Mid Century Tel. Coop., Inc., Canton
Midland Tel. Co., Champaign
Montrose Mutual Tel. Co. Inc., Dieterich
Morrison Tel. Co., Morrison
Moultrie Independent Tel. Co., Lovington, Ill.
Mt. Pulaski Tel. \& Electric Co., Mt. Pulaski
New Windsor Tel. Co., New Windsor
*Northwestern Tel. Co., Freeport $(32,921)$
Odin Tel. Exch., Odin
Oneida Tel. Exch. Oneida
Orion Tel. Exch. Assn. Orion
Prairie Tel. Co., Champaign
Reynolds Tel. Co., Inc., Reynolds
Rossville Tel. Co., Rossville
Schuyler Tel. Co., Rushville
Sharon Tel. Co., Sharon, Wis.
Staunton Tel. Co., Staunton
Timewell Tel. Exch., Timewell
Tonica Tel. Co., Tonica
Viola Home Tel. Co., Viola
Wabash Tel. Coop., Inc., Louisville
Woodhull Community Tel. Co., Woodhull
Yates City Tel. Co., Yates City

Indiana
Bloomingdale Home Tel. Co., Bloomingdale
Brazil Tel. Co., Inc., Brazil
Camden Coop Tel. Co., Camden
Canaan Mutual Tel. Co., Canaan
Carroll Tel. Co., Inc., Delphi
Central Indiana Tel. Co., Inc., Brookston
Citizens Tel. Co., Fairmount
Citizens Tel. Corp., Warren
Clay County Rural Tel. Coop. Inc., Cloverdale
Colfax Tel. Co., Inc., Colfax
Craigville Tel. Co., Craigville
Crandall Tel. Co., Inc., Crandall
Cutler Coop. Tel. Co., Cutler
Daviess-Martin Co., Rural Tel. Corp., Montgomery
Elnora Tel. Co., Inc., Elnora
Freelandville Tel. Corp., Freelandville
Garrett Tel. Co., Garrett
Greetingsville Tel. Co., Inc., Greetingsville
Hancock Rural Tel. Corp., Maxwell
Hendricks Tel. Corp., Roachdale
Home Tel. Co. of Pittsboro, Inc., The,Pittsboro
Home Tel. Co., Inc., Waldron
*Indiana Tel. Co., Seymour $(42,246)$
Kirksville Tel. Co., Inc., Princeton
Liberty Center Tel. Co., Liberty Center
Ligonier Tel. Co., Ligonier
Merchants \& Farmers Tel. Co., Hillsboro
Midwest Tel. Co., Inc., Petersburg
Monon Tel. Co. Inc., Monon
Monrovia Tel. Corp., The, Monrovia
Mulberry Cooperative Tel. Co., Mulberry
New Elberfeld Tel. Co., Inc., Elberfeld
New Lisbon Tel. Co., New Lisbon
New Paris Tel. Inc., New Paris
Northwestern Indiana Tel. Co., Inc., Hebron

## Table 4 (continued)

## Indiana (continued)

Odon-Madison Township Tel. Co., Odon Patoka Tel. Co., Inc., Wickliffe
Perry-Spencer Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Tell City
Poseyville Tel. Co., Inc., Poseyville
Prairie Tel. Co., Inc., Brookston
Princeton Tel. Co., Princeton
Public Tel. Corp., Greensburg
Pulaski-White Tel. Coop., Star City
Rochester Tel. Co., Inc., Rochester
S. \& W. Tel. Co., Inc., Sandborn

Smithville Tel. Co., Inc., Ellettsville $(15,748)$
Pleasantville Inc., Tel. Co., Pleasantville
Southeastern Indiana Rural Tel. Co. Inc., Dillsboro
Springport Rural Tel. Co., Springport
Sulphur Springs Tel. Co., Sulphur Springs
Sunman Tel. Co., Sunman
Swayzee Tel. Co., Inc., The, Swayzee
Sweetser Tel. Co., Inc., Sweetser
Thorntown Tel. Co., Thorntown
Tipton Tel. Co., Inc., Tipton
Tri-County Tel. Co., Inc., New Richmond
Wadesville Tel. Co., Inc., Wadesville
Washington County Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Pekin
Waterloo Tel. Exch. Inc., Waterloo
West Point Tel. Co., West Point
Yeoman Tel. Co., Inc., Yeoman

Table 4 (continued)

## Iowa

Ace Tel. Assn., Houston, Minn.
Amana Society Tel. Co., Amana
Andrew Tel. Co., Andrew
Arcadia Tel. Coop., Arcadia
Atkins Coop. Tel. Co., Atkins
Ayrshire Tel. Co., Ayrshire
Baldwin-Nashville Tel. Co., Baldwin
Barnes City Coop. Tel. Co., Barnes City
Bernard Tel. Co., Inc., Bernard
Breda Te. Corp., Breda
Brooklyn Mutual Tel. Co., Brooklyn
Burt Tel. Co., Burt
Butler-Bremen Tel. Co., Plainfield
Cascade Tel. Co., Cascade
Casey Mutual Tel. Co., Casey
Center Junction Independent Tel. Co., Center Junction
Central Scott Tel. Co., Eldridge
Chester Tel. Co., Chester
Citizens Mutual Tel. Co., Bloomfield
Clarence Tel. Co., Inc., Clarence
Clear Lake Ind. Tel. Co., Clear Lake
C-M-L Coop. Tel. Assn., Meriden
Colo Tel. Co., Colo
Coon Creek Tel. Co., Blairstown
Coon Valley Coop. Tel. Assn., Menlo
Cooperative Tel. Co., Victor
Cornbelt Tel. Co., Wall Lake
Cumberland Tel. Co., Cumberland
Danville Mutual Tel. Co., Danville
Deep River Mutual Tel. Co., Deep River
Defiance Tel. Co., Defiance
Dixon Tel. Co., Dixon
Dumont Tel. Co., Dumont
Dunkerton Mutual Tel. Co., Dunkerton
Earling Mutual Tel. Co., Earling
East Buchanan Tel. Coop., Winthrop
East Union Swbd. Co., Thayer
Ellsworth Coop. Tel. Assn., Ellsworth

# Table 4 (continued) 

## Iowa (continued)

Ely Cooperative Tel. Assn., Ely
Emeline-Iron Hill Co., Emeline
Farmers \& Business Mens Tel. Co., Wheatland
Farmers Cooperative Tel. Co. Dysart
Farmers \& Merchants Mutual Tel. Co., Wayland
Farmers Mutual Coop. Tel. Co., Harlan
Farmers Mutual Coop. Tel. Co., Inc., Moulton
Farmers Mutual Tcl. Co., Jesup
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Nora Springs
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Shellsburg
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Stanton
Farmers Tel. Co., Batavia
Farmers Tel.Co., Essex
Farmers Tel. Co., Riceville
Fenton Coop. Tel. Co., Fenton
Ft. Atkinson Tel. Co., Ft. Atkinson
Gilman Tel. Corp. Gilman
Goldfield Tel. Co., Goldfield
Graettinger Coop. Tel. Assn., Graettinger
Grand Mound Cooperative Tel. Assn., Grand Mound
Grand River Mutual Tel. Co., Grand River
*Grand River Mutual Tel. Corp. , Princeton, Mo. $(5,461)$
Griswold Cooperative Tel. Co., Griswold
Hancock Tel. Co., Hancock
Haverhill Tel. Co., Inc., Haverhill
Hawkeye Tel. Co., Hawkeye
Heart of Iowa Tel. Cooperative, Union
Hills Tel. Co., Inc., Estherville
Hinton Tel. Co., Inc., Hinton
Hospers Tel. Exch. Hospers
Hubbard Coop. Tel. Assn., Hubbard
Huxley Cooperative Tel. Co., Huxley
Iamo Tel. Co., Coin
Interstate " 35 " Tel. Co., Truro

Table 4 (continued)
Iowa (continued)
Jefferson Tel. Co., Jefferson Jordan Soldier Valley Tel. Co., Soldier Kalona Cooperative Swbd. Co., Kalona Kelley Cooperative Tel. Assn., Kelley Kellogg Cooperative Tel. Assn., Kellogg Keystone Farmers Cooperative Tel. Co., Keystone Killduff Tel. Co., Killduff Kiron Tel. Co., Kiron Lake Mills Tel. Co., Lake Mills La Porte City Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., La Porte City Laurel Tel. Co., Laurel
Lehigh Valley Coop. Tel. Assn., Lehigh Lidderdale Tel. Co., Lidderdale Lone Rock Co-op. Tel. Co., Lone Rock Lost Nation-Elwood Tel. Co., Lost Nation Lynnville Community Tel. Co., Inc., Lynnville McCausland Coop. Tel. Assn., McCausland Mabel Coop. Tel. Co., Mabel, Minn. Manilla Tel. Co., Inc., Manilla Marne \& Elk Horn Tel. Co., Elk Horn Martelle Coop. Tel. Assn., Martelle Massena Tel. Co., Massena Mechanicsville Tel. Co., Mechanicsville Miles Cooperative Tel. Assn., Miles Miller Tel. Co., Miller Minburn Tel. Co., Minburn Minerva Valley Tel. Co., Inc., Zearing Modern Cooperative Tel. Co., South English
Montezuma Tel. Co., Montezuma
Morley Tel. Co., Inc., Morley
Mutual Tel. Co., Mediapolis
Mutual Tel. Co., Sioux Center
Mutual Tel. Co. of Morning Sun, Morning Sun
Nevinville Tel. Co., Nevinville
New Market Tel. Exch. , New Market
North Central Tel. Co., Badger
Northeast Iowa Tel. Co., Monona
North English Coop. Tel. Co., North English
Northern Iowa Tel. Co., Sioux Center

## Iowa (continued)

Northwest Iowa Tel. Co., Sloan
Northwest Tel. Coop. Assn., Havelock
Norway Rural Tel. Co., Kanawha
Ogden Tel. Co., Ogden
Olin Tel. Co., Inc., Olin
Onslow Cooperative Tel. Assn. Onslow
Oran Mutual Tel. Co., Oran
Otter Creek Tel. Co., Inc., Otter Creek
Palmer Mutual Tel. Co., Palmer
Palo Cooperative Tel. Assn., Palo
Panora Cooperative Tel. Assn., Inc., Panora
Peoples Tel. Co., Aurelia
Postville Farmer Tel. Co., Postville
Prairie Tel. Co., Inc., Yale
Prairieburg Tel. Co., Inc., Prairieburg
Preston Tel. Co., Preston
Radcliffe Tel. Co., Inc., Radcliffe
Readlyn Tel. Co., Readlyn
Reasnor Mutual Tel. Assn., Reasnor
Ringsted Tel. Co., Ringsted
Rockwell Cooperative Tel. Assn. Rockwell
Royal Tel. Co., Royal
Ruthven Tel. Co., Ruthven
Sac Co. Mutual Tel. Co., Odebolt
Sanborn Tel. Co., Sanborn
Scenic Ridge Tel. Co., Ossian
Schaller Tel. Co., Schaller
Scranton Tel. Co., Scranton
Searsboro Tel. Co., Searsboro
Sharon Tel. Co., Hills
Shell Rock Tel. Co., Shell Rock
South Slope Cooperative Tel. Co., Norway
Southwest Tel. Exch. Inc., Emerson
Springville Cooperative Tel. Assn., Inc., Springville
Stanhope Cooperative Tel. Exch., Stanhope
Stratford Mutual Tel. Co., Stratford

## Table 4 (continued)

## Iowa (continued)

Sully Tel. Assn., Sully
Superior Tel. Coop. Superior
Templeton Tel. Co., Templeton
Terril Tel. Co., Terril
Titonka Tel. Co., Titonka
United Farmers Tel. Co., Everly
Van Buren Tel. Co., Keosauqua
Van Horne Cooperative Tel. Co., Van Horne
Van Wert Rural Tel. Co., Van Wert
Ventura Tel. Co., Ventura
Villisca Farmers Tel. Co., Villisca
Wallingford Tel. Coop., Wallingford
Walnut Tel. Co., Walnut
Webb-Dickens Tel. Corp., Webb
Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Tel. Assn., Gowrie
Wellman Cooperative Tel. Assn., Wellman
West Branch Tel. Co., West Branch
West Iowa Tel. Co., Remsen
West Liberty Tel. Co., West Liberty
*Western Iowa Tel. Assn., Lawton $(5,881)$
Westside Tel. Co., West Side
Wilton Tel. Co., Wilton JunctionWinnebago Cooperative Tel. Assn., ThompsonWoodward Mutual Tel. Co., WoodwardWoolstock Mutual Tel. Assn., WoolstockWyoming Mutual Tel. Co., Wyoming

Table 4 (continued)

Kansas

Assaria Tel. Exch. Inc., Assaria
Barnes Tel. Co., Barnes
Bison Tel. Co., Inc., Bison
Blue Valley Tel. Co., Inc., Marysville
Burdett Tel. Co., Inc., Burdett
C B Tel. Co., Inc. Mission
Center Township Tel. Co. Inc., Olpe
Columbus Local Tel. Co., Columbus
Council Grove Tel. Co., Council Grove
*Craw-Kan. Tel Cooperative, Girard $(9,808)$
Cunningham Tel. Co., Inc., Glen Elder
Edna Tel. Co., Girard
Elkhart Tel. Co., Inc., Elkhart
Farmers \& Citizens Tel. Co., Munden
Ford Mut. Tel. Co., Ford
Golden Belt Tel. Assn., Inc., La Crosse
Gorham Tel. Co., Inc., Gorham
Grainfield Tel. Co., Inc., Grainfield
H. \& B. Communications Inc., Holyrood

Haviland Te1. Co., Haviland
Home Tel. Co., Inc., Galva
J. B. N. Tel. Co., Inc., Wetmore

Jetmore Tel. Co., Dodge City
KanOkla Tel. Assn., Inc., Anthony
Kansas State Tel. Co., Baxter Springs
LaHarpe Tel. Co., LaHarpe
Larkinburg Tel. Co., Larkinburg
Linn Rural Tel. Co., Linn
Little River Mutual Tel. Co., Little River
Madison Tel. Co., Madison
Mahaska Tel. Assn., Mahaska
Mo. -Kan. Dial Co. Inc., Louisburg
Moundridge Tel. Co., Moundridge
Palmer Rural Tel. Co., Palmer
Peoples Mutual Tel. Co., LaCygne
*Pioneer Tel. Assn., Inc., Ulysses ( 10,922 )
Pleasanton Tel. Co., Pleasanton
Rainbow Tel. Coop. Assn., Inc., Everest
Republic Tel. Co., Agenda

Kansas (continued)
Roxbury Tel. Co., Inc., Roxbury
Rural Tel. Service Co., Inc., Lenora
S. \& A. Tel. Co. Inc., Allen
S. \& T. Tel. Coop. Assn., Brewster

Salemsborg Tel. Co., Salemsborg
South Central Tel. Assn., Inc., Medicine Lodge
Southern Kans. Tel. Co., Inc., Clearwater
Sunflower Tel. Co., Inc., Dodge City
Totah Tel. Co. Inc., Ochelata, Okla.
Tri-County Tel. Assn. Inc., Council Grove
Twin Valley Tel. Inc., Miltonvale
United Tel. Assn., Dodge City
Vinland Mut. Tel. Co., Vinland
Waco Tel. Co., Asbury, Mo.
Wamego Tel. Co., Inc., Wamego
Wheat State Tel. Co., Inc., Udall
Wilson Tel. Co., Inc., Wilson
Zenda Tel. Co., Inc., Zenda

Kentucky

Ballard Rural Tel. Coop., Corp., Inc., La Center
Brandenburg Tel. Co., Brandenburg
Cumberland Tel. Co., Cumberland
Duo County Tel. Coop. Inc., Jamestown
Echo Tel. Co., Inc., Shepherdsville
Evarts Tel. Co., Inc., Evarts
Foothills Rural Tel. Coop., Corp., Staffordsville
Harold Tel. Co., Inc., Harold
Highland Tel. Cooperative Inc., Sunbright, Tenn.
Leslie County Tel. Co., Inc., Hyden
Lewisport Tel. Co., Inc., Lewisport
Logan Tel. Coop. Inc., Auburn
Mountain Rural Tel. Coop., Corp. West Liberty
North Central Tel. Cooperative Inc., Lafayette, Tenn.
Peoples Rural Tel. Coop., Corp., McKee
Salem Tel. Co., Salem
*So. Cent. Rural Tel. Coop., Corp., Inc., Glasgow (12, 841)
Thacker-Grigsby Tel. Co., Hindman
Uniontown Tel. Co., Uniontown
*West Ky. Rural Tel. Coop., Corp., Inc. Mayfield $(10,566)$

Cameron Tel. Co., Sulphur
Campti-Pleasant Hill Tel. Co., Pleasant Hill
Central Louisiana Tel. Co., Jena
*Century Tel. Enterprises Inc., Marion $(12,863)$
Athens Tel. Co., Inc., Athens
Century Tel. Co., Inc., Greenburg
Coastal Tel. \& Electronics Corp., Breaux Bridge
Northwest La. Tel. Co., Inc., Rodessa
Plain Dealing Tel. Co., Inc., Plain Dealing
Union Tel. Co., Junction City, Ark.
United Tel. Co. of La., Inc., Marion
Chatham Tel. Co., Chatham
Delcambre Tel. Co., Inc., Delcambre
*East Ascension Tel. Co., Inc., Gonzales (10, 169)
Elizabeth Tel. Co., Inc., Elizabeth
Four States Tel. Co., San Angelo, Tex.
Kaplan Tel. Co., Kaplan
LaFourche Tel. Co., Inc., Larose
Northeast La., Tel. Co., Inc., Collinston
Reserve Tel. Co., Reserve
Ringgold Tel. Co., Inc., Ringgold
Star Tel. Co., Inc., Maringouin

## Table 4 (continued)

Maine
Bryant Pond Tel. Co., Bryant PondCenter Lincolnville Tel. Co., LincolnvilleChina Tel. Co., South ChinaCobbosseecontee Tel. Co., West GardinerHampden Tel. Co., Hampden
Jonesboro Tel. Co., Jonesboro
*Lewiston Greene \& Monmouth Tel. Co., Winthrop $(4,330)$
Mount Vernon Tel. Co., Mount Vernon
Oxford County Tel. \& Tel. Co., Buckfield
Pine Tree Tel. \& Tel. Co., Gray
Poland Tel. Co., Raymond
Saco River Tel. \& Tel. Co., Bar Mills
*Somerset Tel. Co., North Anson $(4,524)$
Standish Tel. Co., Standish
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Hartland \& St. Albans Tel. Co., Hartland
Union River Tel. Co., Aurora
Union Tel. Co., Union
Unity Tel. Co., Unity
Warren Tel. Co., Warren
Weld Tel. Assn., Weld
West Penobscot Tel. \& Tel. Co., Corinna
Maryland
*Armstrong Tel. Co., Kitanning, Pa. (2, 713)
Massachusetts
Elizabeth Islands Tel. Co., Woods Hole
*Granby Tel. \& Tel. Co., Granby ( 1,890 )
*Richmond Tel. Co., Richmond (640)

Table 4 (continued)

## Michigan

Alba Tel. Co., Alba
Allendale Tel. Co., Allendale
Amble Tel. Co., Amble
Au Gres Tel. Co., Au Gres
Augusta Tel. Co., Augusta
Banfield Tel. Co., Banfield
Baraga Tel. Co., Baraga
Barry County Tel. Co., Delton
Blanchard Tel. Assn., Blanchard
Bloomingdale Tel. Co. Inc., Bloomingdale
Brimley Tel. Co., Brimley
Camden Rural Tel. Co., Camden
Carr Tel. Co., Carr
*Central Tel. Co., Chesaning (5, 996)
Chatham Tel. Co., Chatham
Clayton Tel. Co., Clayton
Climax Tel. Co., Climax
Concord Tel. Co., Inc., Concord
Deerfield Farmers Tel. Co., Deerfield
Drenthe Tel. Co., Drenthe
Drummond Island Tel. Co., Carney
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co. of Chapin, Chapin
Hadley Tel. Co., Inc., Hadley
Hickory Tel. Co., Hickory Corners
Hillsdale County Tel. Co., Pittsford-Os seo
Island Tel. Co., Beaver Island
Kaleva Tel. Co., Kaleva
Kingsley Tel. Co., Kingsley
Lennon Tel. Co., Lennon
Me sick Tel. Co., Mesick
Midway Tel. Co., Kenton
Midwest Tel. Co. Lansing
Morenci Home Tel. Co., Morenci
Munising Tel. Co., Munising
Northern Tel. Co., Mesick
Ogden Mutual Tel. Co., Ogden Center
Ontonagon County Tel. Co., Ontonagon
Parma Tel. Co., Parma
Peninsula Tel. Co. Old Mission

## Table 4 (continued)

## Michigan (continued)

Pigeon Tel. Co., Pigeon
Public Service Tel. Co., Montrose
Sand Creek Tel. Co., Sand Creek
Shiawassee Tel. Co., Perry
*Southern Tel. Co., Brooklyn $(7,277)$
Springport Tel. Co., Springport
Twining Tel. Co., Twining
Upper Peninsula Tel. Co., Carney
Waldron Tel. Co., Waldron
Westphalia Tel. Co., We stphaila
Winn Tel. Co., Winn
Wolverine Tel. Co., Millington
Minne sota
Ace Tel. Assn., Houston
Albany Mutual Tel. Co., Albany
Arvig Tel. Co., Pequot Lakes
Aure Farmers Cooperative Tel. Assn., Pinewood
Bena Tel. Co., Bena
Benton Cooperative Tel. Co., Rice
Blackduck Tel. Co., Blackduck
Blue Earth Valley Tel. Co., Blue Earth
Bricelyn Mut. Tel. Co., Bricelyn
Bridgewater Tel. Co., Monticello
Callaway Tel. Co., Callaway
Cannon Valley Tel. Co., Morrestown
Citizens Tel. Co., Maynard
City of Barnesville Tel. Co., Barnesville
Clara City Tel. Co., Clara City
Clements Tel. Co., Clements
Consolidated Tel. Co., Brainerd
Cotton Twp. Tel. Sys., Cotton
Danube Tel. Co., Danube
Darling Tel. Co., Darling
Deer River Tel. Co., Deer River
Delavan Tel. Co., Delavan
Deuel Tel. Coop. Assn., Clear Lake, S. D.

## Table 4 (continued)

Minnesota (continued)
Dunnell Tel. Co., Inc., Dunnell
Eagle Valley Tel. Co., Clarissa
Easton Tel. Co., Easton
East Otter Tail Tel. Co., Perham
Eckles Tel. Co., New Prague
Emily Tel. System, Emily
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Cerro Gordo
Federated Tel. Cooperative, Chokio
Felton Te1. Exch., Felton
Freeborn Tel. Co., Freeborn
Frost Tel. Co., Frost
*Garden Valley Tel. Co., Erskine (11, 114)
Gardonville Cooperative Tel. Assn., Brandon
Granada Tel. Co., Granada
Halstad Tel. Co., Halstad
Hancock Tel. Co., Hancock
Harmony Tel. Co., Harmony
Hills Tel. Co., Hills
Hohman Tel. Co., Pelican Rapids
Home Tel. Co., Grand Meadow
Hutchinson 1'el. Co., Hutchinson
Johnson Tel. Co., Remer
Kasson \& Mantorville Tel. Co., Kasson
K M P Tel. Co., Kerkhoven
Lakedale Tel. Co., Annandale
Lake Region Tel. Co., Pelican Rapids
Lake Shore Rural Tel. Co., Braham
Lismore Cooperative Tel. Co., Lismore
Little Crow Tel. Co., St. Paul
Lonsdale Tel. Co., Lonsdale
Lowry Tel. Co. Inc., Lowry
Mabel Cooperative Tel. Co., Mabel
Madelia Tel. Co., Madelia
Manchester-Hartland Tel. Co., Manchester
*Mankato Citizens Tel. Co., Mankato $(31,189)$
Mid-Commun. Inc., Mankato
Maple Ridge Rural Tel. Co., Stanchfield
Mazeppa Tel. Co., Mazeppa
Melrose Tel. Co., Melrose

Minne sota (continued)
Midwest Tel. Co., Parkers PrairieMinne sota Lake Tel. Co., Minnesota LakeMinnesota Valley Tel. Co., FranklinNew Ulm Rural Tel. Co., New Ulm
Norman County Tel. Co., Inc., Ada
Northland Tel. Co. Inc., Hill City
Osakis Tel. Co., Osakis
Park Region Mutual Tel. Co., Underwood
Paul Bunyan Rural Tel. Coop. Bemidji
Pelican Tel. Co., Pelican Rapids
Peoples Tel. Co., Big Fork
Pine Island Tel. Co., Pine Island
Racine Tel. Co., Racine
Red River Rural Tel. Assn., Abercrombie, N. D.
Red Rock Tel. Co., St. Paul
Redwood County Tel. Co., Redwood Falls
Rock Dell. Co., Rock Dell
Rothsay Tel. Co., Inc., Rothsay
Runestone Tel. Assn., Hoffman
Sacred Heart Tel. Co., Sacred Heart
Scott Rice Tel. Co., Prior Lake
Sherburne County Rural Tel. Co., Big Lake
Sleepy Eye Tel. Co., Sleepy Eye
Spring Grove Cooperative Tel. Co., Spring Grove
Starbuck Tel. Co., Starbuck
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Mid-State Tel. Co., Spicer
Twin Valley Ulen Tel. Co. , Twin Valley
Universal Tel. Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.
North Star Tel. Co., Mountain Lake
Upsala Cooperative Tel. Co., Upsala
Valley Tel. Co., Browns Valley
Viking Tel. Co., Hanska
Watertown Township Rural Tel. Co., Crosslake
Wawina Township Tel. Line, Wawina
West Central Tel. Assn., Sebeka
Western Tel. Co., Springfield
Wikstrom Tel. Co., Karistad
Winnebago Coop. Tel. Assn., Thompson, IowaWinsted Tel. Co., Winsted

## Table 4 (continued)

Minnesota (continued)
Winthrop Tel. Co., Winthrop
Wolverton Tel. Co., Wolverton
Woodstock Tel. Co., Ruthton
Wykoff Tel. Co., Wykoff
Zumbrota Tel. Co., Zumbrota

Mississippi

Ackerman Tel. Co., Inc., Ackerman Artesia Tel. Co., Artesia
*Bay Springs Tel. Co., Inc. Bay Springs $(5,857)$
Bruce Tel. Co., Bruce
Calhoun City Tel. Co., Inc., Calhoun City
Century Tel. Enterprises, Inc., Marion, La.
Home Tel. Co., Olive Branch
Mississippi Tel \& Communications, Inc., Mound Bayou
Crawford Tel. Co., Crawford
Decatur Tel. Co., Decatur
Delta Tel. Co., Inc., Louise
Franklin Tel. Co., Inc., Meadville
*Fulton Tel. Co., Inc., Fulton (4, 709)
Georgetown Tel. Co., Georgetown
Glen Allan Tel. Co., Glen Allan
Hughes Tel. Co., Inc., Bailey
Mid-South Tel. Co. Inc., Rienzi
Mississippi Tel. Corp., Leakesville
Noxapater Tel. Co., Inc., Noxapater
Sherwood Tel. Co., Merigold
Sledge Tel. Co., Sunflower
Smithville Tel. Co., Inc., Smithville

Table 4 (continued)

Missouri
*Allied Tel. Co., Little Rock, Ark. (11, 340)
Allied Tel. Co. of Mo., Inc., Dixon
Liberal Tel. Co., Liberal
Milan Tel. Co. Milan
Southern Tel. Co., Purdy
Vandalia Tel. Co., Vandalia
Alma Tel. Co., Alma
Bourbeuse Tel. Co., Gerald
Carter County Tel. Co., Van Buren
Chariton Valley Tel. Corp., Bucklin
Citizens Tel. Co., Higginsville
Deerfield Tel. Co., Deerfield
Doniphan Tel. Co., Doniphan
Eastern Missouri Tel. Co., Bowling Green
Ellington Tel. Co., Ellington
F \& M Tel. Co., Farber
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Fairplay
Fidelity Tel. Co., Sullivan
Goodman Tel. Co., Goodman
Granby Tel. Co., Granby
*Grand River Mutual Tel. Corp. , Princeton (14, 101)
Green Hills Tel. Corp., Breckenridge
Halltown Switchboard Service, Halltown
Iamo Tel. Co., Coin, Iowa
Indian Grove Tel. Co., Mendon
Inter-County Tel. Co., Albany
K L M Tel. Co., Rich Hill
Kingdom Tel Co., Auxvasse
Lakeland Tel. Co., Bolivar1
Lathrop Tel. Co., Lathrop
Le-Ru Tel. Co., Stella
Mark Twain Rural Tel. Co., Hurdiand
McDonald County Tel. Co., Pineville
Mid-Missouri Tel. Co., Cilliam
Miller Tel. Co., Inc., Miller

Mo-Kan Dial Co., Inc., Louisburg, Kansas<br>Myrtle Tel. Co., Myrtle<br>New Florence Tel. Co., Inc., New Florence<br>New London Tel. Co., New London<br>Nodaway Valley Tel. Co., Maltland<br>Northeast Missouri Rural Co., Green City<br>Northwest Nodaway Tel. Corp., Burlington Jct.<br>Orchard Farm Tel. Co., Orchard Farm<br>Oregon Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Oregon<br>Peace Valley Tel. Co., Peace Valley<br>Rock Fort Tel. Co., Rock Port<br>Seneca Tel. Co., Seneca<br>Steelville Tel. Exch. Inc., Steelville<br>Stoutland Tel. Co., Stoutland<br>Verona Tel. Co., Inc., Verona<br>Waco Tel. Co., Asbury<br>Webster Co. Tel. Co., Marshfield<br>Wheeling Tel. Co., Wheeling

Montana

Big Pine Tel. Co. Great Falls Blackfoot Tel. Coop. Inc., Missoula
Hot Springs Tel. Co., Hot Springs
Hysham Tel. Co. Hysham
InterBel Tel. Coop. Inc., Eureka
Intermountain Tel, \& Power Co., Custer
Lemhi Tel. Co., Salmon, Ida
Lincoln \& Helena Tel. Co., Lincoln
Mid-Rivers Tei. Cooperative, Circle
Nemont Tel. Cooperative, Inc., Scobey
Northern Tel. Cooperative, Inc., Sunburst
*Pacific Power \& Light Co., Kalispell $(20,056)$
Range Tel. Cooperative, Forsyth
Ronan Tel. System, Ronan
Southern Montana Tel. Co., Wisdom
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. Project Tel. Co., Inc., Worden
3 Rivers Tel. Coop. Inc., Fairfield
*Triangle Tel. Coop. Assn., Inc., $\operatorname{Havre}(5,940)$
Universal Tel. Inc., Milwaukee, Wis. Madison Valley Tel. Co., Ennis
Valley Rural Tel. Coop. Assn., Inc., Glasgow

## Table 4 (continued)

Nebraska
Arapahoe Tel. Co., Arapahoe
*Arlington Tel. Co., Blair $(22,091)$
Arthur Non-Stock Cooperative Tel. Assn., Arthur
Benkelman Tel. Co., Inc., Benkelman
Bingham Tel. Co., Bingham
Blair Tel. Co., Blair
Boyd County Tel. Corp., Lynch
Cambridge Tel. Co., Cambridge
Capitol Tel. Co., Hickman
Central Nebraska Tel. Co., Blair
Chrisp's Tel. Co., Paxton
Clarks Tel. Co., ClarksConsolidated Tel. Co., Lincoln
Cozad Tel. Co., Cozad
Craig Tel. Co., Craig
Curtis Tel. Co., Curtis
Dalton Te1. Co., Dalton
Diller Tel. Co., Diller
Eastern Nebraska Tel. Co., Blair
Elsie Mutual Tel. Co., Elsie
Eustis Tel. Exch., Inc., Eustis
Extension Tel. Co., White Clay
Farmers Tel. Co. of Dodge County, North Bend
Funk Tel. Co., Inc., Funk
Glenwood Tel. Membership Corp., Blue Hill
Gurley Tel. Co. Gurley
Hamilton Tel. Co., Aurora
Hartington Tel. Co., Hartington
Hartman Tel. Exch., Inc., Danbury
Hemingford Cooperative Tel. Co., Hemingford
Henderson Tel. Coop. Co., Henderson
Hershey Cooperative Tel. Co., Hershey
Home Tel. Co., of Nebraska, Brady

Nebraska (continued)
Hooper Tel. Co., Hooper $\mathrm{K} \& \mathrm{M} \mathrm{Tel}. \mathrm{Co.}, \mathrm{Inc.}$, Keystone-Arthur Tel. Co, Keystone
*Lincoln $T$ \& $T$ Co., $\operatorname{Lincoln}(215,252)$
Lodgepole Tel. Co., Lodge Pole
Maywood Tel. Co., Maywood
Nebraska Central Tel. Co., Gibbon
Nebraska Tel. Co., Blair
Northeast Nebraska Tel. Co., Jackson
Northeastern Tel. Co., Blair
Northern Tel. Co., Blair
Panhandle Tel. Co., Dix.
Petersburg Tel. Co., Petersburg
Pierce Tel. Inc., Pierce
Plainview Tel. Co. Inc., Plainview
Rock County Tel. Co. Inc., Plainview
Rock County Tel. Co., Blair
Rodeo Tel. Membership Corp. , Burwell
St. Bernard Tel. Co., St. Bernard
Sodtown Tel. Co., Ravenna
Southeast Nebraska Tel. Co., Falls City
Stanton Tel. Co., Stanton
Tryon Tel. Co., Tryon
Union Tel. Co., Blair
Walnut Tel. Co., Walnut
Wauneta Tel. Co., Wauneta
Nevada
*Calif. -Pacific Utilities Co., San Francisco, Calif. (6, 769)
Central Tel, and Utilities Corp., Lincoln, Nebr.
Central Tel. Co., Las Vegas
*Churchill Co. Tel. \& Tel. System, Fallon (5, 075)
Lincoln County Tel. Sys., Inc., Pioche
Moapa Valley Tel. Co., Overton
Nevada Tel. \& Tel. Co., Tonapah
Rio Virgin Tel. Co., Mesquite

New Hampshire

Brenton Woods Tel. Co., Philadelphia, Pa.*Chester Tel. Co., Weare ( 1,990 )
Chichester Tel. Co., Chichester
Dixville Tel. Co., Dixville NotchDunbarton Tel. Co., Dunbarton
Hopkinton Tel. Co., Contoocook
Meriden Tel. Co., Meriden
Merrimack County Tel. Co., Warner
*Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. $(3,354)$
Kearsarge Tel. Co., New London
Tuftonboro Tel. Co., Melvin Village
Union Tel. Co., Farmington
Wilton Tel. Co., Wilton
New Jersey
Delaware Valley Tel. Co., Milford, Pa.
*Hillsborough \& Montgomery Tel. Co., Bellemead (5, 190)
Warwick Valley Tel. Co., Warwick, N. Y.
*West Jersey Tel. Co., Belvidere $(8,552)$
New Mexico
Corona Tel. Co., Corona
E. N. M. R. Tel. Coop., Clovis
La Jicarita Rural Tel. Coop. Assn., Mora
Laughlin Tel. Co., Capulin
Leaco Rural Coop., Inc., Lovington
Maxwell Tel. Exch., Maxwell
Mogollon Mts. Tel. Co., Cliff
*Navajo Communications Co. Inc., Grandview, Tex. $(1,650)$
Penasco Valley Tel. Coop., Inc., Artesia
*Roosevelt County Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Portales (1, 329)
Universal Tel. Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.
Pecos Tel. Co., Pecos
Suburban Tel. Co., Zuni
Valley Tel. Corp. Inc., Willcox, Arizona

Table 4 (continued)

New York
Addison Home Tel. Co., Addison
Au Sable Valley Tel. Co., Inc., Keeseville
Berkshire Tel. Corp., Kinderhook
Cape Vincent Tel. Co., Inc., Cape Vincent
Cassadaga Tel. Corp., Fredonia
Champlain Tel. Co., Champlain
Chautauqua \& Erie Tel. Corp., Westfield
Chazy \& Westport Tel. Corp., Westport
Citizens Tel. Co., Hammond
Clymer Tel. Co., Inc., Clymer
Columbia \& Rensselaer Tel. Corp., Chatham
Copake Tel. Co., Copake
Crown Point Tel. Corp., Crown Point
DeKalb Tel. Co., DeKalb Junction
Delaware Tel. Co., Inc., Walton
Delhi Tel. Co., Delhi
Deposit Tel. Co. Inc., Deposit
Dunkirk \& Fredonia Tel. Co., Fredonia
Edwards Tel. Co., Inc., Edwards
Empire Tel. Corp., Prattsburg
Fishers Island Tel. Corp., Fishers Island
Germantown Tel. Co., Inc., Germantown
Hancock Tel. Co., Hancock
*Highland Tel. Co., Monroe $(23,989)$
Macomb Tel. Co., Macomb
Margaretville Tel. Co., Inc., Margaretville
Middleburgh Tel. Co., Middleburgh
Newport Tel. Co., Inc., Newport
Nicholville Tel. Co., Inc., Nicholville
Odessa Tel, Co., Odessa
Ogden Tel. Co., Spencerport
Oneida County Rural Tel. Co., Holland Patent
Ontario Tel. Co. Inc., Phelps
Oriskany Falls Tel. Corp., Oriskany Falls
Pattersonville Tel. Co., Rotterdam Junction
Port Byron Tel. Co., Port Byron
Red Hook Tel. Co., Red Hook

Table 4 (continued)
New York (continued)

*Rochester Tel. Corp., Rochester (511, 959)<br>Seneca-Gorham Tel. Corp., Holcomb<br>State Tel. Co., Coxsackie<br>Summit Tel. Co., Summit<br>Sylvan Lake Tel. Co. Inc., Hopewell Junction<br>Township Tel. Co., Chaumont<br>Trumansburg-Home Tel. Co., Trumansburg<br>Vernon Tel. Co. Inc., Vernon<br>Walden Te1. Co., Walden<br>Warwick Valley Tel. Co., Warwick

North Carolina

Atlantic Tel. Member Corp., Shallotte
Barnardsville Tel. Co. Barnardsville
Chapel Hill Tel. Co., Chapel Hill
Citizens Tel. Co., Brevard
*Concord Tel. Co., Concord $(56,151)$
Ellerbe Tel. Co., Inc., Ellerbe
Heins Tel. Co., Inc., Sanford
Lexington Tel. Co., Lexington
Mebane Home Tel. Co., Inc., Mebane
Norfolk \& Caroline Tel. \& Tel. Co., Elizabeth City
North Carolina Tel. Co., Matthews
*North State Tel. Co., High Point $(64,106)$
Old Town Tel. System, Winston-Salem
Piedmont Tel. Membership Corp., Lexington
Pineville Tel. \& Electric Co., Pineville
Randolph Te1. Co., Inc., Liberty
Randolph Tel. Membership Corp. , Asheboro
Saluda Mountain Tel. Co. Saluda
Sandhill Tel. Co., Aberdeen
Service Tel. Co., Fair Bluff
Skyline Tel. Membership Corp., West Jefferson
Star Tel. Membership Corp., Clinton
Surry Tel. Membership Corp., Dobson
Tri-County Tel. Membership Corp. , Pantego
Wilkes Tel. Membership Corp., Wilkesboro
Yadkin Valley Tel. Memb. Corp., Yadkinville

North Dakota
Absaraka Cooperative Tel. Co., Absaraka BEK Tel. Mutual Aid Corp., Steele
Consolidated Tel. Coop., Dickinson
Curlew Tel. Co., Glen Ullin
Dakota Central Rural Tel. Cooperative Assn., Carrington
Dickey Rural Tel. Mutual Aid Corp., Ellendale
Gilby Tel. Co., Gilby
Griggs County Tel. Co., Cooperstown
Inter-Community Tel. Co., Nome
Midstate Tel. Co., Stanley
Moore \& Liberty Tel. Co., Enderlin
Nemont Tel. Coop. Assn., Scobey, Mont.
Noonan Farmers Tel. Co., Noonan
*Northern States Power Co., Tel. Dept., Minot $(19,587)$
Northwest Mutual Aid Tel. Corp., Ray
Polar Rural Tel. Corp., Park River
Red River Rural Tel. Assn., Abercrombie
Reservation Tel. Coop., Parshall
*Souris River Tel. Mutual Aid Corp., Minot $(11,695)$
United Tel. Mutual Aid Corp. Langdon
West River Mutual Aid Tel. Corp. Hazen
Wolverton Tel. Co., Wolverton, Minn.
York Tel. Co., Stanley

## Ohio

Arthur Mutual Tel. Co., Arthur
Ayersville Tel. Co., Ayersville
Bascom Mutual Tel. Co., Bascom
Benton Ridge Tel. Co., Benton Ridge
Buckland Mutual Tel, Co., Buckland
Camden Rural Tel. Co., Camden, Mich.
Champaign Tel. Co., Urbana
Chillicothe Tel. Co., Chillicothe
Citizens Mutual Tel. Co., McClure
Columbus Grove Tel. Co. Columbus Grove

Ohio (continued)
Community Tel. Co., LeipsicConneaut Tel. Co., ConneautContinental Tel. Co., Continental
Doylestown Tel. Co., Doylestown
Farmers Mutual Tel. Co., Okolona
Fayetteville Tel. Co., Fayetteville
Ft. Jennings Tel. Co., Ft. Jennings
Germantown Independent Tel. Co., Germantown
Glandorf Tel. Co., Inc., Glandorf
Harlan Tel. Co., Butlerville
Home Tel. Co., Middlefield
Kalida Tel. Co., Kalida
Kingsville Tel. Co., Kingsville
*Lorain Tel. Co., Lorain $(63,111)$
Middle Point Home Tel. Co., Middle Point
Minford Tel. Co., Minford
*Newark Tel. Co., Newark $(38,949)$
New Bavaria Tel. Co. New Bavaria
New Knoxville Tel. Co., New Knoxville
North Creek Mutual Tel. Co., North Creek
Nova Tel. Co., Nova
Oakwood Mutual Tel. Co., Oakwood
Old Fort Mutual Tel. Co., Old Fort
Orwell Tel. Co., Orwell
Ottoville Mutual Tel. Co., Ottoville
Pattersonville Tel. Co., Pattersonville
Ridgeville Tel. Co., Ridgeville Corners
Sherwood Mutual Tel. Assn., Inc., Sherwood
Sycamore Tel. Co., Sycamore
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Arcadia Mutual Tel. Co., Arcadia
Tel. Service Co., Wapakoneta
Vanlue Mutual Tel. Co., Vanlue
Vaughnsville Tel. Co. Inc., Vaughnsville
Wabash Mutual Tel. Co., Wabash
West Ohio Tel. Co., Covington

Oklahoma
*Allied Tel. Co., Little Rock, Ark $(17,495)$
Allied Tel. Co. of Oklahoma, Inc., Roosevelt
Oklahoma Allied Tel. Co., Poteau
Atlas Tel. Co., Welch
Beggs Tel. Co., Inc., Beggs
Bixby Tel. Co., Bixby
Bromide Tel. Co., Fittstown
Canadian Valley Tel. Co., Crowder
Carmen Tel. Co., Inc., Carnegie
Central Oklahoma Tel. Co., Davenport
Cherokee Tel. Co., Calera
Chickasaw Tel. Co., Ardmore
Chouteau Tel. Co., Chouteau
Cimarron Tel. Co., Mannford
Cross Tel. Co., Warner
Dobson Tel. Co., Inc., Cheyenne
Elmore City Tel. Co., Elmore City
Grand Tel. Co., Jay
Hinton Tel. Co., Hinton
Hydro Tel. Co., Hydro
KanOkla Tel. Assn., Inc., Anthony Kan.
Lavaca Tel. Co., Inc., Lavaca, Ark.
McLoud Te1. Co., McLoud
Madison Tel. Exch., Madison
Medicine Park Tel. Co., Medicine Park
Midwestern Tel. Co., Inc., Sentinel
Oklahoma Tel. \& Tel. Inc., Dustin
Okla. -Western Tel. Co., Clayton
Panhandle Tel. Coop., Inc., Guymon
Pine Tel. Co., Inc., Broken Bow
*Pioneer Tel. Coop., Inc., Kingfisher (25, 941)

Table 4 (continued)

Oklahoma (continued)

Pocasset Tel. Co., Pocasset<br>Pottawatomie Tel. Co., Inc., Earlsboro<br>Salina-Spavinaw Tel. Co., Salina<br>Santa Rosa Tel. Coop. Inc., Vernon, Tex.<br>Shidler Tel. Co., Shidler<br>Sooner State Tel. Co., Oklahoma City<br>South Central Tel. Assn., Medicine Lodge, Kan.<br>Southwe st Oklahoma Tel. Co., Duke<br>Sulphur Tel. Co., Inc., Sulphur<br>Terral Tel. Co., Terral<br>Totah Tel. Co., Inc., Ochelata<br>Universal Tel., Inc., Milwaukee, Wisc Mid-America Tel., Inc., Fittstown<br>Valliant Tel. Co., Valliant<br>Wickes Tel. Co., Inc., Wickes, Ark.<br>Wyandotte Tel, Co., Wyandotte

## Oregon

Asotin Tel. Co., Asotin, Wash.
Beaver Creek Cooperative Tel. Co., Beavercreek Blue Mountain Tel. Inc., Spray
Calif. -Pacific Utilities Co., San Francisco, Calif.
Canby Tel. Assn., Canby
Cascade Utilities, Inc., Estacada
Clear Creek Mutual Tel. Co., Redland
Colton Tel. Co., Colton
Columbia Tel. Co., Corbett
Creswell Tel. Co., Creswell
Eagle Tel. Co., Richland
Eastern Oregon Tel. Co., Pilot Rock

# Table 4 (continued) 

## Oregon (continued)

Fossil Tel. Exch., Fossil
Gervais Tel. Co., Gervaiz
Haines Tel. Co., Haines
Halsey Tel. Co., Halsey
Helix Tel. Co., Helix
Home Tel. Co., Condon
*Linn County Tel. Co., Lebanon $(12,877)$
Molalla Tel. Co., Molalla
Monitor Cooperative Tel. Co., Monitor
Monroe Tel. Co., Monroe
Mt. Angel Tel. Co., Mt. Angel
Nehalem Tel. \& Tel. Co., Nehalem
North State Tel, Co., Dufur
Oregon Tel. Corp., Mt. Vernon
Owyhee Tel. Co., Homedale, Idaho
Pcoples Tel. Co., Lyons
Pine Tel. System, Halfway
Pioneer Tel. Cooperative, Pnilomath
Redwoods Tel. Co., Cave Junction
St. Paul Cooperative Tel, Assn., St. Paul
Scio Mutual Tel. Assn., Scio
Stayton Cooperative Tel. Co., Stayton
*Tel. Utilities, Ilwaco, Wash. $(7,483)$
Aurora Tel. Co., Aurora
Beaver State Te1. Co., Lakeview
Depoe Bay Tel. Co., Gleneden Beach
Deschutes Tel. Co., Maupin
Ǩnappa Tel. Co., Knappa
Rose Valley Tel. Co., Scappoos
Umpqua Tel. Co., Inc., Elkton
Yoncalla Tel. Co., Yoncalla

Table 4 (continued)

## Pennsylvania

Beallsville Tel. Co., Beallsville Bentleyville Tel. Co., The, Bentleyville
Blacktown Tel. Co., Blacktown
Breezewood Tel. Co., Breezewood Buffalo Valley Tel. Co., Lewisburg Canton Tel. Co., Canton
Centerville Tel. Co., Centerville Citizens Tel. Co. of Kecksburg, Mammoth
Citizens Utilities Co., Stamford, Conn.
Big Run Tel. Co., New Bethlehem
Citizens Utilities Co. of Pennsylvania, New Bethlehem
Clearfield \& Cambria Te1. Co., Coalport
*Commonwealth Tel. Co., Dallas (130, 377)
Conestoga Tel. Co., Birdsboro
Coopersburg Tel. Co., Coopersburg
Denver \& Ephrata Tel. \& Tel. Co., Ephrata
Emmaus Tel. Co., Emmaus
Enterprise Tel. Co., New Holland
Freeport Tel. \& Tel. Co., Freeport
Hickory-Woodrow Tel. Co., Hickory
Ironton Tel. Co., Ironton
Lackawaxen Tel. Co., Rowland
Lakewood Rural Tel. Co., Bärnesville
Laurel Highland Tel. Co., Stahlstown
Leesport Rural Tel. Co., Leesport
Lewisberry Tel. Co., Lewisberry
Mahonoy \& Mahantango Tel. Co., He rndon
Marianna-Scenery Hill Tel. Co., Marianna
Midway Mutual Tel. Co., Midway
Murdocksville Tel. Co., Murdocksville
North Eastern Pennsylvania Tel. Co., Forest City
North Penn Tel. Co., Roseville
North Pittsburgh Tel. Co., Gibsonia
Oswayo River Tel. Co., Shinglehouse
Otto Tel. Co., Inc., Duke Center
Palmerton Tel. Co., Palmerton
Pennsylvania Tel. Co., Oval

Table 4 (continued)
Pennsylvania (continued)

Pymatuning Independent Tel. Co., Transfer<br>Saltillo Tel. Co., Orbisonia<br>South Canaan Tel. Co., South Canaan<br>Sugar Valley Tel. Co., Loganton<br>Sullivan County Tel. Co., The, Estella<br>*Tel. Utilities of Pennsylvania, Inc. , Export $(44,915)$<br>Brookville Tel. Co., Export<br>Enon Valley Tel. Co., Export<br>Huntingdon \& Centre County Tel. Co., Export Murraysville Tel. Co., Export<br>Venus Tel. Assn., Venus<br>West Branch Tel. Co., Muncy<br>Westford Independent Tel. Co., Jamestown<br>West Jersey Tel. Co., Belvidere, N. J.<br>Yukon-Waltz Tel. Co., Yukon

## Rhode Island

(No Class Z companies)

South Carolina

Bluffton Tel. \& Appliance Co., Inc., Bluffton
Chesnee Tel. Co., Inc., Chesnee
Chester Tel. Co., Chester
Edisto Tel. Co., North
*Farmers Tel. Coop., Inc., Kingstree $(18,548)$
Fort Mill Tel. Co., Fort Mill
Hargray Tel. Co., Inc., Hilton Head Island
Home Tel. Co, Inc., Moncks Corner
Horry Tel. Corp. Conway
Jackson Tel. Co,, Jackson
Lancaster Tel. Co., Lancaster
Lockhart Power Co., Lockhart
McClellanville Tel. Co., Inc., McClellanville
Norway Tel. Co., Inc., Norway
Palmetto Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Walte rboro
Piedmont Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Laurens

Table 4 (continued)
South Carolina (continued)

Pond Branch Tel. Co., Gilbert Ridge Tel. Co., Inc., Ridge Spring Ridgeway Tel. Co. Inc., Ridgeway<br>*Rock Hill Tel. Co., Rock Hill $(22,901)$<br>St. Matthews Tel. Co., St. Matthews<br>St. Stephen Tel. Co., St. Stephen<br>Sandhill Rural Tel. Coop., Jefferson<br>West Carolina Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Abbeville Williston Tel. Co., Williston

## South Dakota

Armour Independent Tel. Co., ArmourBaltic Cooperative Tel. Co., Baltic
Beresford Municipal Tel. Co., Beresford
Bristol Township Tel. Co., Bristol
Brookings Lake Tel. Co., Brookings
Camp Crook Tel. Exch., Camp Crook
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Tel. Co., Eagle Butte
Citizens Tel. Co., Plankinton
*City of Brookings Municipal Te1. Dept. , Brookings $(8,102)$
Colton Tel. Co., Colton
Dakota Cooperative Tel. Co., Inc., Irene
*Deuel Tel. Cooperative Assn., Clear Lake $(4,858)$
Garretson Cooperative Tel. Assn., Garretson
Golden West Te1, Coop. Inc., Wall
Great Plains Tel. Co., Keystone
Hanson County Tel. Co., Alexandria
James Valley Cooperative Tel. Co., Groton
Jefferson Tel. Co., Jefferson
Kadoka Tel. Co., Kadoka
Kennebec Tel. Co., Kennebec
McCook Cooperative Tel. Co., Salem
Midstate Tel. Co., Kimball
Peoples Tel. \& Tel. Co., Hot Springs
Pettigrew Tel. Line, Oelrichs
Roberts County Tel. Cooperative Assn., New Effington
Rosefield Tel. Co., Marion
Sanborn Tel. Coop., Woonsocket
Sioux Valley Te1. Co., Dell Rapids

## Table 4 (continued)

## South Dakota (continued)

Stockholm-Strandburg Tel. Co., Stockholm
Sully-Buttes Tel. Coop., Inc., Highmore
Tri-County Mutual Tel. Co., Emery
Twin Buttes Tel. Co., Academy
Union Tel. Co., Hartford
Valley Tel. Cooperative Assn., Inc., Herreid
Vivian Tel. Co., Vivian
Walworth County Tel. Co., Selby
Western Tel. Co., Faulkton
West River Cooperative Tel. Co., Bison
West River Mutual Aid Tel. Corp., Hazen, N. D.
Wood Community Tel. Co., Wood

Tennessee

Adamsville Tel. Co., Adamsville
Ardmore Tel. Co., Ardmore
*Ben Lomand Rural Tel. Coop. , Inc., McMinnville (12, 531 )
Bledsoe Tel. Cooperative, Pikeville
Bruceton-Hollow-Rock Tel. Co. Inc., Bruceton
Claiborne Tel. Co., New Tazewell
Concord Tel. Exch., Inc., Concord
Crockett Tel. Co., Inc., Friendship
DeKalb Tel. Coop., Alexandria
Englewood Tel. Co., The, Englewood
Highland Tel. Coop., Inc., Sunbright
Humphreys County Tel. Co., New Johnsonville
Loretto Tel. Co., Inc., Loretto
Millington Tel. Co., Millington
North Central Tel. Coop. , Inc., Lafayette
Oltewah-Collegedale Tel. Co., Collegedale
Peoples Tel. Co., Inc., Erin
Powell Tel. Co., Powell
Tellico Tel. Co., Tellico Plains
*Twin Lakes Tel. Coop., Gainesboro $(13,327)$
United Tel. Co., Chapel Hill
West Kentucky Rural Tel. Coop. Corp., Mayfield, Ky.
West Tennessee Tel. Co., Bradford
Yorkville Tel. Coop., Yorkville

Table 4 (continued)

Texas

Allied Tel. Co., Little Rock, Ark.
Nocona Tel. Co., Nocona
Avery Tel. Co., Avery
Big Bend Tel. Co., Alpine
Blossom Tel. Co., Blossom
Brazoria Tel. Co., Brazoria
Brazos Tel. Coop., Inc., Olney
Byers-Petrolia Tel. Co., Byers
Cameron Tel. Co., Sulphur, La.
Cap Rock Rural Tel. Cooperative, Inc., Spur
Central Tel. Co., Inc., Decatur
Century Tel. Enterprises, Inc., Marion, La.
La Del Tel. Co., Argyle
Marietta Tel. Co., Marietta
Central Texas Tel. Coop., Goldthwaite
Clifton Tel. Co., Clifton
Coahoma Tel. Co., Inc., Coahoma
Coastal Tel. Co., High Island
Coleman County Tel. Coop. Santa Anna
Colme sneil Tel. Co., Colmesneil
Colorado Valley Tel. Coop., Inc., LaGrange
Comanche County Tel.Co., Inc., Comanche
Community Tel. Co., Windthorst
Cranfills Gap Tel. Co., Cranfills Gap
Cresson Tel. Co., Cresson
Cumby Tel. Cooperative Inc., Cumby
Dell Tel. Coop., Inc., Dell City
Eastex Tel. Coop., Inc., Henderson
Electra Te1. Co., Electra
Etex Tel. Coop., Inc., Gilmer
Five Area Tel. Coop., Inc., Mule shoe
Ft. Bend Tel. Co., Rosenberg
Frio Canyon Tel. Co., Leakey
Ganado Tel. Co., Inc., Ganado
Garrison Tel. Co., Inc., West Columbia
Garwood Tel. Co., Garwood
Gary Tel. Co., Gary

Texas (continued)

Glen Flora Tel. Exchange, Glen Flora
Gorman Tel. Co., Gorman
Guadalupe Valley Tel. Coop., Inc., Smithsons Valley
Hill Country Tel. Coop., Inc., Ingram
Home Tel. Co., Humble
Hooks Tel. Co., Inc., Hooks
Hopkins County Tel. Co., Inc., Greenville
Industry Tel. Co., Industry
Justin Tel. Co., Inc., Justin
Karnack Tel. Co., Karnack
Keller Tel. Co., Bridgeport
Kerrville Tel. Co., Kerrville
Knippa Tel. Co., Knippa
Lake Dallas Tel. Co., Inc., Lake Dallas
Lakeside Tel. Co., Whitehouse
Laward Tel. Exch. Laward
Lipan Tel. Co., Lipan
Livingston Tel. Co., Livingston
Lueders Tel. Co., Inc., Lueders
*Lufkin-Conroe Communications Co., Lufkin (30, 960)
Merkel Tel. Co., Inc., Andrews
Mid-Plains Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Tulia

* Mid-Texas Communications Systems, Inc., Killeen $(28,067)$

Mid-State Tel. Co., Killeen
Mid-Texas Tel. Co., Killeen
United Tel. Co., Inc., Killeen
Montague Tel. Co., Montague
Muenster Tel. Corp. of Texas, Muenster
Mustang Tel. Co., Port Arkansas
Navasota Tel. Co., Navasota
Nome Tel. Co., Nome
O' Donnell Tel. Co., Inc., O'Donnell

## Table 4 (continued)

Texas (continued)
Palestine Tel. Co., Tyler
Palo Pinto Tel. Co., Inc., Palo Pinto
Peeples Tel. Co., Inc, Coolidge
Peoples Tel. Coop., Inc., Quitman
Poka-Lambro Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Tahoka
Rhome Tel. Co., Rhome
Riviera Tel. Co., Inc., Riviera
Rockspring \& Nueces Canyon Tel. Co., Rockspring
Romain Tel. Co., Inc., Plains
Saint Jo Tel. Co., Saint Jo.
San Marcos Tel. Co., Inc., San Marcos
Santa Rosa Tel. Coop. , Inc., Vernon
Sheffield Tel. Co., Midland
South Plains Te1. Coop., Inc., Lubbock
Sugar Land Tel. Co., Sugar Land
Sweeny Old Ocean Tel. Co., Sweeny
Tatum Tel. Co., Tatum
Taylor Tel. Coop., Inc., Merkel
Telephones Inc., Andrews
Texas Midland Te1. Co., Grandview
Tri-County Tel. Co., Inc., Garrison
Trinity Valley Tel. Co., Winnie
Valley Tel. Cooperative, Inc., Raymondville
Valley View Tel. Co., Valley View
Warren Tel. Co., Warren
West Texas Rural Tel. Coop. Inc., Hereford
Wes-Tex. Tel. Coop., Inc., Stanton
XIT Rural Tel. Coop., Inc., Dalhart

Table 4 (continued)

Utah

Central Utah Tel. Co., Inc., Fairview
Emery County Tel. Assn., Inc., Orangeville
Gunnison Tel. Co., Gunnison
Kamas-Woodland Tel. Co., Kamas
Manti Tel. Co. , Manti
Silver Beehive Tel. Co. Inc., Reno, Nev.
*South Central Utah Tel. Assn., Inc., Escalante (1, 205)
*Uintah Basin Tel. Assn. , Roosevelt (1, 291)
Union Tel. Co., Mountainview, Wyo.
Utah-Wyoming Tel., Co., Sait Lake City

## Vermont

Cornwall Tel. \& Tel. Co., Shoreham
Crandall Farm Tel. Co., Berlin
Franklin Tel. Co., Franklin
Ludlow Tel. Co., Ludlow
Shoreham Tel. Co., Shoreham
*Telephonc \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. $(2,510)$
Northfield Tel. Co., Northfield
Perkinsville Serv. Corp., Perkinsville
Topsham Tel. Co., East Corinth
*W aitsfield-Fayston Tel. Co., Waitsfield ( 1,524 )

## Virginia

Amelia Tel. Corp., Amelia
Buggs Island Tel. Coop., Chase City
Burke's Garden Tel. Co., Burke's Garden
Citizens Tel. Cooperative, Floyd
Clifton Forge-Waynesboro Tel. Co., Staunton

* Commonwealth Tel. Co. of Va., Manassas $(39,668)$
Deerfield Tel. Co., Deerfield
Merchants \& Farmers Tel. Co., Montpelier
Mountain Grove-Williamsville Tel. Co., McDowell
Mutual Tel. Co. of Highland, Inc., Monterey
New Hope Switchboard Assn., New Hope
Norfolk \& Carolina Tel. \& Tel. Co. of Va., Great Bridge
North River Tel. Co., Mt. Solon
Pembroke Tel. Cooperative, Pembroke
Peoples Mutual Tel. Co., Gretna
Pledmont Tel. Co., Haymarket
Prince George Tel. Co., Disputanta
Roanoke \& Botetourt Tel. Co., Daleville
Scott County Tel. Cooperative, Inc., Gate City
Shenandoah Tel. Co., Edinburg
*Tidewater Tel. Co., Warsaw $(38,361)$
Virginia Hot Springs, Inc., Hot Springs
Washington
Asotin Tel. Co., Asotin
Cowiche Tel. Co., Cowiche
East Peninsula Tel. Co., Quilcene
*Ellensburg Tel. Co., Ellensburg $(13,926)$
Evergreen Tel. Co., Morton
Fall City Tel. Co., North Bend
Hat Island Tel. Co., Langley
Hood Canal Tel. Co., Union
Inland Tel. Co., Roslyn
Inter Island Tel. Co., Friday Harbor
Kalama Tel. Co., Kalama
Lewis River Tel. Co., La Center
McDaniel Tel. Co., Salkum
Mashell Tel. Co. Inc., Eatonville
Peninsula Tel. \& Telegraph Co., Forks


## Washington (continued)

Pioneer Tel. Co., LaCrosse
Pouisbo Rural Tel. Assn., PoulsboPrescott Tel. \& Tel. Co., Roslyn
St. John Tel. Co., St. John
*Telephone Utilities, Inc. , Ilwaco $(33,217)$
Cascade Tel. Co., North Bend
Cheney Tel. Co., Cheney
Columbia Basin Tel. Co., Connell
Evergreen Tel. Co., Morton
Ilwaco Tel. Co., IlwacoInland Empire Tel. Co., SpangleIsland Empire Tel. Co., Gig Harbor
Lopez Tel. Co., Lopez
Olympic Tel. Co., Kingston
Orting Tel. Co., Inc., Orting
Puget Island Tel. Co., Puget Island
Rainicr Tel. Co., Twisp
Sound Tel. Co., Lakebay
Timberland Tel. Co., Montesano
Vashon Tel. Corp., Vashon
Tenino Tel. Co., Tenino
Toledo Tel. Co., Toledo
Western Wahkiakum County Tel. Co., Deep River
Whidbey Tel. Co., Langley
Yelm Tel. Co., Yelm
West Virginia
Armstrong Tel. Co., Hamlin
Circleville Mutual Tel. Co., Circleville
Daybrook Tel. Co., Daybrook
Hardy Tel. Co., Inc., Mathias
North Fork Mutual Tel. Co., Macksville
Preston County Light \& Power Co.. Masontown
*Ritchie Tel. Co., The, Harrisville $(3,203)$
*Tel. Utilities of Pa., Export, Pa. (9,731)
Short Line Tel. Co., Hundred
Tel. Utilities of W. Va.. Inc.. Marlinton
United Farmer's Tel. Co., Cameron
Tygart Valley Tel. Co., Mill Creek
War Tel, Co., Charleston
West Si de Tel. Co., Morgantown

Table 4 (continued)

## Wisconsin

Almond Tel. Co., AlmondAmberg Tel. \& Tel. Co., WausaukeeAmery Tel. Co., Amery
Amherst Tel. Co., Amherst
Baldwin Tel. Co., Baldwin
Belmont Tel. Co., Belmont
Bergen Tel. Co., Bergen
Bloomer Tel. Co., Bloomer
Boscobel Tel. Co., Tomah
Bruce Tel. Co., Bruce
Casco Tel. Co., Casco
Chequamegon Tel. Coop., Inc., Cable
Chibardun Tel. Coop., Inc., Dallas
Citizens Tel. Coop., Inc., New Auburn
Clear Lake Tel. Co., Clear Lake
Cochrane Coop. Tel. Co., Cochrane
Coloma Tel. Co., Coloma
Coon Valley Farmers Tel. Co., Coon Valley
Crandon Tel. Co., Crandon
Cumberland Tel. Co., Cumberland
Dahlberg Light \& Power Co., Iron River
Dickeyville Tel. Corp., Dickeyville
Fair Water-Brandon-Alto Te1. Co., Brandon
Farmers \& Merchants Te1. Co., Coleman
Farmers Independent Tel. Co., Grantsburg
Farmers Tel. Co., Lancaster
Footville Tel. Co., Footville
Greenwood Tel. Co., Inc., Greenwood
Hager City Tel. Co., Hager City
Headwaters Tel. Co., Rhinelander
Hillsboro Tel. Co., Inc., Hillsboro
Lakefield Tel. Co., Newtonburg
Lake shore Tel. Co., Cecil
LaValle Tel. Coop., LaValle
Lemonweir Valley Tel. Co., Camp Douglas
Luck Tel. Co., Luck
Madeline Island Tel. Co., LaPointe
Manawa Tel. Co., Manawa

## Table 4 (continued)

Wisconsin (continued)
Maple Tel. Coop., Inc., Maple
Marquette-Adams Tel. Coop., Inc., Oxford
Mid-Plains Tel. Inc., Middleton
Milltown Tel. Co., Milltown
Milton Tel. Co., Tomah
Mondovi Tel. Co., Mondovi
Mosinee Tel. Co., Mosinee
Mt. Horeb Tel. Co., Mt. Horeb
Nelson Tel. Coop., Durand
Niagara Tel. Co., Wittenberg
Northeast Tel. Co., Pulaski
*North-West Tel. Co., Tomah (36,041)
Northwestern Tel. Co., Freeport, Ill.
Novy's Tel. Co., Kendall
Oconto Rural Tel. Co., Abrams
Ogdensburg Tel. Co., Ogdensburg
Peoples Tel. Co., Randolph
Platteville Tel. Co., Platteville
Preston Tel. Co., Inc., Weyerhauser
Price County Tel. Co., Phillips
Rhinelander Tel. Co., Rhinelander
Rib Lake Tel. Co., Rib Lake
Richland-Grant Tel. Coop., Blue River
Rock River Tel. Co., Johnson Creek
St. Croix Tel. Co., New Richmond
Sharon Tel. Co., Sharon
Shell Lake Tel. Co., Shell Lake
Siren Tel. Co., Inc., Siren
Somerset Tel. Co., Inc., Somerset
Southeast Tel. Co., Waterford
Spring Valley Tel. Co., Spring Valley
State Long Distance Tel. Co., Elkhorn
Sullivan Tel. Co., Sullivan
*Telephone \& Data Systems, Inc., Chicago, Ill. $(34,543)$
Badger State Tel. Co., Inc., Neillsville
Black Earth Tel. Co., Black Earth
Bonduel Tel. Co., Bonducl
Burlington Brighton and Wheatland Tel. Co., Burlington

## Wisconsin (continued)

Central State Tel. Co., Madison Dodge County Tel. Co., Reeseville Fennimore Tel. Co., Fennimore Midway Tel. Co., Medford Mosel and Centerville Tel. Co., Cleveland Mt. Vernon Tel. Co., Verona Peoples Tel. Co., Mt. Hope Scandinavia Tel. Co., Scandinavia
Stockbridge and Sherwood Tel. Co., Sherwood
Valders Tel. Co., Valders
Waunakee Tel. Co., Waunakee

Tenney Tel. Co., Alma
Thorp Tel. Co., Thorp
Tri-County Tel. Coop., Strum
Turtle Lake Tel. Co., Turtle Lake
Union Tel, Co., Plainfield
United Tel, Co., Monroe
Universal Tel., Inc., Milwaukee, Wisc.
Chippewa County Tel., Inc., Jim Falls
Cream Valley Tel. Co., Hawkins
Cuba City Tel. Exch. Co., Cuba City
Forestville Tel. Co., Brussels
Gleason Tel. Co., Inc., Gleason
Hammond Tel. Co., Hammond
Larsen Tel. Co., Larsen
Monroe County Tel. Co., Sparta
Ogema Tel. Co., Ogema
Readfield Tel. Co., Larsen
Universal Tel. Co. of Northern Wisc., Inc., Manitowish Waters Urban Tel. Co., Clintonville
Vernon Tel. Coop. , Westby
Viroqua Tel. Co., Viroqua
Wayside Tel. Co., Wayside
West Winconsin Tel. Coop., Inc., Downsville
Weyauwega Tel. Co., Weyauwega
Wittenberg Tel. Co., Wittenberg
Wood County Tel. Co., Wisconsin Rapids

W yoming

Chugwater Tel. Co., Chugwater<br>Cokeville Tel. Co., Inc., Cokeville<br>Dubois Tel. Exchange, Inc., Dubois<br>Eden Valley Tel. Co., Rock Springs<br>Medicine Bow Electric Co., Tel. Dept., Medicine Bow<br>Range Tel. Coop., Inc., Forsyth, Mont.<br>Silver Star Tel. Co., Inc., Freedom<br>Tri-County Tel. Assn., Inc., Basin<br>*Union Tel. Co., Mountainview (1, 115)<br>Valley Tel. Co., Braggs<br>*Wyoming Tel. Co., Inc., Pinedale (1,785)

*No. 1 and No. 2 Class Z Independent companies (indicated as A and B on figures 7-56).

# THE POSTAL CRIIIS: THE POSTAL FUNCTION AS A COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE 


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / Office of Telecommunications

# THE POSTAL CRIIIS: THE POSTAL FUNCTION AS A COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE 

DONALD R. EWING ROGER K. SALAMAN


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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS <br> <br> STATEMENT OF MISSION 

 <br> <br> STATEMENT OF MISSION}

The mission of the Office of Telecommunications in the Department of Commerce is to assist the Department in fostering, serving, and promoting the nation's economic development and technological advancement by improving man's comprehension of telecommunication science and by assuring effective use and growth of the nation's telecommunication resources.

In carrying out this mission, the Office

- Conducts research needed in the evaluation and development of policy as required by the Department of Commerce
- Assists other government agencies in the use of telecommunications
- Conducts research, engineering, and analysis in the general field of telecommunication science to meet government needs
- Acquires, analyzes, synthesizes, and disseminates information for the efficient use of the nation's telecommunication resources.
- Performs analysis, engineering, and related administrative functions responsive to the needs of the Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, Executive Office of the President, in the performance of his responsibilities for the management of the radio spectrum
- Conducts research needed in the evaluation and development of telecommunication policy as required by the Office of Telecommunications Policy, pursuant to Executive Order 11556


## PREFACE

Many papers have summarized the immediate, first-level issues that surround the postal problem. Rather than recapitulate these issues, an attempt has been made in this paper to present the concepts and data which underscore the basic questions that must be addressed if there is to be a viable, long-term solution to the present problems of the Postal Service.

The fiscal crisis in the Postal Service is but a symptom of a broader issue -- the changing nature of communications in America. Over the past two hundred years, new modes of communication have been introduced -telegraph, telephone, radio, television, and digital networks. As new technologies have been introduced they have created new markets, but often they have also usurped some of the markets previously served by older technologies. While each change has brought flexibility in the way information and ideas can be shared, each change has also put pressure on older services to adjust. A classic example is the adjustment made by radio after the advent of television.

Today we are undergoing a particularly strong current of change in communications. New transmission technologies carry more information -farther, quicker, and at less expense. Computer technology has radically increased the flexibility and speed of much of our communications system and opened up a whole new market of computer data transmission.

The postal service is one character in the modern cast of communications services. It too is finding it difficult but necessary to adjust to change and to reassess its role in the communications market. In the wake of these changes, policy-makers must reexamine the traditional regulatory and policy framework for the postal services.

It is important to address the issues of postal policy within the larger context of this nation's changing communications opportunities. This report attempts to view the present postal dilemma in this context.

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# THE POSTAL CRISIS: THE POSTAL FUNCTION AS A COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE 

by
Donald R. Ewing and Roger K. Salaman

This report is distinctive in that the postal function is viewed in the context of the modern communications industry. Continuing technological advances make this broader perspective mandatory in order to derive lasting solutions to the problems of postal service. An historical perspective is developed, and options for future postal service are analyzed.

Key Words: Electronic mail, mail, personal communications, postal service, postal subsidy.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The opportunity for Americans to post a letter dates to colonial times (Priest, 1975). In 1775, because of the trend toward war, the Continental Congress acted to establish a postal delivery organization that was secure, and therefore necessarily under government control. It was not, however, until after the war in 1782 that Congress enacted a statute which gave the Federal Government "sole and exclusive" postal power. For the first time, the post office operated at a profit in 1783. The Federal Postal System was needed at that time to maintain communications with the states and to supply revenues for the army.

The Constitution, ratified in 1789, endorsed the principle of a government postal service by stating "Congress shall have power ... to establish postal office and post roads," but did not mandate "sole and exclusive right" of Congress to establish and regulate post offices as stated in the previous Articles of Confederation.

This same year, however, the 1782 statute was reenacted by the Congress. The Constitution does not view postal service as a right, nor does it deem

[^2]monopoly as necessary to effect mail delivery. The government postal monopoly was maintained as a legislative mandate rather than as a constitutional necessity.

Postal monopoly profits were used to subsidize western expansion after 1792. By 1800 the service reached the full extent of the western and southern frontiers and began lateral expansion to serve all of America. The number of postal offices essentially doubled every 10 years from 903 in 1800 to 8,450 in 1830 (Fuller, 1972). After 1832, the expansion decreased because of the smaller growth of postal revenues. Postage rates at this time were higher (relative to costs of other goods and services) than postal rates are today. Because of high postal rates, customers began to support the emergence of a private delivery industry, particularly for the rapid delivery needs of newspapers and investment companies. In spite of Congressional actions to tighten the monopoly provision of earlier legislation, postal sales had declined sufficiently by 1841 that expansion of postal routes was constrained. Court cases brought by the post office for violation of monopoly rights were not acted upon in their favor.

In 1843 and 1844, Congress failed to pass legislation to further strengthen the postal monopoly. By 1845, postal reform had become a major issue. With strong sympathy in Congress for the plight of the post office, legislation was enacted in 1845 that reflects essentially the structure and philosophy of the postal operations we have today. It both lowered postage rates and prohibited competition in the carriage of letters. Congressional debate elicited general agreement that: (1) the post office could not economically compete with private carriers, (2) service should be provided to unprofitable rural areas, and (3) losses for frontier routes should be subsidized with profits from more populated routes. In addition, subsidization of newspaper and government mail by the urban area profits were allowed to continue.

Thus, within 50 years of the birth of the nation, the postal industry was well established, but competition threatened the postal monopoly because of high postal rates and deficiencies in service. Legislation was required to maintain the monopoly. The postal service was not a natural monopoly in 1845 in the sense that it would not serve as a predominant supplier if
subject to the competitive marketplace; the monopoly was forced through legislation. The 1970 Postal Reorganization Act continued the enforced monopoly.

The 1845 legislation did not consider the possibility of other means of exchanging messages over long distances, for there were none. ${ }^{1}$ In terms of the number of messages communicated (letters vs. telephone calls), the telephone exceeded the mails by 1926 (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1976, p. 783 (Series R9-R12), p. 804 (Series R169)). Today, $80 \%$ of the nation's personal and business messages are carried by telephone, and only $20 \%$ by mail. ${ }^{2}$ While it must be recognized that the telephone does not provide a direct substitute for the mail, one must grant that the growth of the telephone has played a major part in slowing the growth of the mail service (see Figure 1). One researcher estimates that the telephone reduced mail volume by 2.4 billion pieces in 1975, which is $4.7 \%$ of the first class mail and equivalent to $\$ 240$ million in postal revenues (Business Communications Co., 1976, p. 49).

Today again, as in the 1840 s, there is a challenge to the postal monopoly, this time caused in part by new technologies. Electronic communications threaten the economic viability of the traditional carriage of letters. Previously, the concern was with competition from private carriers who might offer to accept, transport, and deliver letters. Now, in addition, there is concern about new electronic communications services that may substantially reduce the need to physically deliver letters. Today's reduction is partially attributable to the decreased relative cost of communications service, but more importantly, to the use of electronic communications rather than mail in personal, business, and government financial transactions. Seventy percent of the first class mail is financial transactions, including invoices, bills, payments, statements, orders, and financial papers (U.S. Postal Service, 1976, p. 13). For example, the U. S. Department of the Treasury estimates that by 1981 there will be 216 million fewer government checks moving through the mails annually, and postal officials expect an overall 4\% decline in mail usage (Boulder Camera, 1976).

[^3]

Because electronic communications significantly affect postal service revenues, one can no longer consider the postal industry separate from the effects of electronic communications. It is necessary today to analyze the need for postal service from the broader perspective of "exchange conmunications. ${ }^{3}$ For the first 200 years of the nation's development, it was perhaps

[^4]adequate to analyze the postal and electronic communications industries as independent entities. This will no longer suffice.

In the development of this paper, a conscious attempt was made to avoid a simplistic process of collection and rearrangement of statistics and opinion. First, the report attempts to probe the nature of the postal crisis, with a degree of empathy for the plight of the United States Postal Service (USPS). The problem of postal service demands thoughtful probing from a broader perspective. This was approached by developing a historical perspective, by placing the function of postal service in the broader context of exchange communications, and by comparing the issues of postal service with those of telephone service. In addition, Appendix $D$ highlights the analysis needed before one can seriously debate the industry structure required to meet our communications demands and to understand the realities of any transition under consideration.

## 2. THE NATURE OF THE POSTAL CRISIS

The postal crisis is often viewed in terms of the fiscal problem of the United States Postal Service. While the fiscal problem must be understood, it is only symptomatic of more encompassing needs in the structure of the communications industry.

### 2.1 The Fiscal Crisis

In 1967, President Johnson established a Commission on Postal Organization, ${ }^{4}$ chaired by Frederick R. Kappel. The opening words of the resulting report of that Commission are, "The United States Post Office faces a crisis." The Kappel Commission viewed the United States Post Office as an industry unresponsive to the needs of its customers, with inadequate service quality, in critical need of better conditions and pay for its employees, and in need of improved management incentives and practices. The Commission believed

[^5]the Post Office was so inefficient that a $20 \%$ savings in expenses would be possible under a management comparable to a well-run business (President's Commission on Postal Organization, 1968, p. 155). The Commission's recommendations were therefore an effort to structure the system toward that end.

Many of the recommendations of the Kappel Commission were incorporated into the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, wherein the United States Postal Service was established as an independent agency within the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. The Postal Service conmenced operations on July 1, 1971.

The USPS is governed by an eleven-member Board of Governors, including nine Governors appointed by the President, a Postmaster General selected by the Governors, and a Deputy Postmaster General selected by the Governors and the Postmaster General. Decisions on changes in postage rates are recommended to the Governors by the independent Postal Rate Commission after a hearing on the record under the Administrative Procedures Act. The Commission also recommends decisions for changes in mail classification to the Governors. Decision of the Governors is final, subject only to judicial review (U.S. Government, 1976, Appendix p. 921).

The hopes of the Kappel Commission and the authors of the Postal Reorganization Act have not been fulfilled. The five-year record of the Postal Service reveals as many problems as its predecessor faced. In a speech before the Economic Club of Detroit on March 8, 1976, Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin Bailar stated that the Postal Service faces a "financial crisis," and he later indicated that the Postal Service is "heading for a potential disaster." There have been some important changes in the intervening years, but the overall condition of the postal service has not changed; the crisis continues.

The crisis today is precipitated by a combination of causes. No single factor can be isolated as the sole cause. However one might simplistically, but yet accurately, perceive the plight of the USPS and its predecessor by noting that operating expenses perennially exceed operating revenues by significant amounts (see Figure 2). The Postal Service has operated at a deficit every year since 1945. For the years prior to the Postal Reorganization Act, the operating deficit (i.e., the operating income less operating expense) was considered an expense of the Post Office Department, similar to


Figure 2. Postal Operating Income and Expense
the expense of any other department of the Executive Branch. This deficit was in reality, of course, a subsidy to the mail-using public from the taxpayers. ${ }^{5}$ While it is true that many people are both mail users and taxpayers, there is indeed a subsidy benefiting those who use the mall out of proportion to their tax.

The Postal Reorganization Act specified two classes of subsidy: Public Service and Revenue Foregone. The Public Service subsidy was intended to allow the USPS time to become self-sufficient (by 1984). The amount of Public Service subsidy was specified at $\$ 920$ million for each of the years

[^6]from 1972 until 1979, then it was to decrease by $\$ 92$ million each year through 1984. The Public Service subsidy can be considered a general subsidy to the mail-using public much as the operating deficit of the Post Office was before the reorganization. Some would also consider the Public Service subsidy a subsidy of the Postal Service.

The Revenue Foregone subsidy is an appropriation to allow certain classes of mail to be carried at free or reduced rates. This allocation allows free mail service for the blind and reduced rates for certain subclasses of second, third, and fourth class mail (U.S. Senate, 1975, pp. 1461-1466). The Revenue Foregone allocation is intended to ease the transition to more cost-related rates for these classes.

The operating deficit has increased dramatically since the Postal Reoganization Act. ${ }^{6}$ Table 1 shows the magnitude of these federal appropriations and the impact they have on the operating deficit (Public Service and Revenue Foregone appropriations are not included in the operating revenue). In the 1976 and 1977 estimates, $\$ 500$ million has been added to the Public Service amount to reflect additional subsidy recently appropriated by Congress.

Besides postage revenue and federal appropriations, the other significant source of income for Postal Service has been from borrowing. The Postal Reorganization Act authorizes a maximum debt of $\$ 10$ billion, with yearly limit of $\$ 2$ billion. However, the USPS is limited to using no more than $\$ 500$ million of these borrowed funds annually for operating expenses (U.S. Government, 1976, Appendix p. 921). Other federal appropriations, which may appropriately be termed "transitional," are not considered "operational", but nevertheless are part of the overall subsidy when considered in the long term. In 1975, for example, $\$ 285$ million was made available to the U. S. Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund on behalf of the Postal Service (U.S. Government, 1976, Appendix p. 964).

## 6

See Table A-1, Appendix A which lists the operating deficit from 1945-1975.
Table 1. A Summary of the Postal Operating Deficit
(millions of dollars)
Federal Operating Subsidy

| Operating Deficit |
| :---: |
| less |
| Federal |
| Operating Subsidy |

340
210
441
497
497
613
603
485
920
920
920
920
1420*
1420*

$\stackrel{8}{4}$
$\stackrel{4}{4}$
$\stackrel{0}{0}$
920

* Includes $\$ 55$ million recently appropriated by Congress. Sources: Estimates for 1972-1975 are from the Annual Report of the Postmaster General $\frac{\text { for }}{\text { Fiscal }}$ Year
1975, page 49 . Estimates for 1976 and $1977 \frac{\text { Re }}{\text { are from }}$ The Budget of the United $\frac{\text { States }}{} \frac{\text { Government }}{}$,
Fiscal Year 1977 , Appendix, page 921 .


### 2.2 Limitations on Options

The Postal Service is limited in options which could rectify the situation. It is 1 imited in power to cut operating expenses. The service currently spends $86 \%$ of its expenses for salaries and benefits, and contracts with postal unions contain "no layoff" clauses. Further, postal salaries have increased significantly since the reorganization. To reduce postal salaries now, however, would only be to invite a postal strike -- a situation which would be unpleasant for many. As mentioned above, the Postal Service is $l$ imited to the amount it can borrow -- though this is not one of its prime limitations -- and in the amount of debt which may be applied toward operational expenses. It is limited by public opinion as to how fast postage rates can rise, and it is limited by the economic fact that if rates are carried too high, the volume of mail will fall to the point of diminished revenues.

Recently, the Postal Service has considered actions to reduce such basic services as the frequency of residential delivery (to three days per week), and they have studied the cost savings associated with the closing of unprofitable offices (U.S. Postal Service, 1976, pp. 38, 46). While the estimated savings derived from the reduction of these services are significant, and three-day delivery may satisfy the needs of most households, such proposals are in opposition to established traditions of uniform and full service. We have come to expect continued or expanding flexibility in our communications -- not a reduction of service.

The Postal Service has automated many of its offices with letter sorting machines and experimented with optical address readers to more fully automate the sorting of mail (Mennis, 1976). Currently it is investigating electronic transmission of mail. While these recent attempts toward automation may eventually prove successful, major areas of the postal operation remain manual and the technologies are not yet established, nor proven to be cost effective. Local distribution, for example, remains highly labor intensive. Transportation technology has had tremendous impact on postal services, but to date the cost savings of the sorting technologies have been insufficient to eliminate the postal deficit.

Perhaps the easiest way "out" of the postal situation is the one which was recently adopted -- that of an additional subsidy from the Federal Government. However, this is really no different a solution than has traditionally been taken, for departmental expenses before the reorganization were federal subsidies also. While this solution may be the most expedient from year to year, it is not the solution which was sought at the time of the reorganization (President's Commission on Postal Organization, 1968, p. 6 ). It does not solve the problem of the general mail-users' subsidy, and it does not solve the problem of inefficiency.

### 2.3 Regulatory Barriers

The Postal Service of the 1970s is a type of regulated monopoly, the monopoly portion of the business being that of first class mail. The Postal Service today is in a position not too unlike that of the American Telephone and Telegraph (AT\&T) Company in the electronic communications industry. A portion of both markets are monopolistic, but competitive inroads are being made to those monopolies. Both industries must have their rates approved by a commission. Both use price averaging and there are subsidies from high traffic areas to low traffic areas. The Postal Service is in effect a common carrier; it cannot choose to serve only the profitable high traffic routes, yet it is criticized for overpricing when competitors charge lower rates in some of the more profitable markets. Both AT\&T and the Postal Service are accused of subsidizing their competitive markets from their monopoly markets. It should be pointed out that AT\&T, unlike the Postal Service, is rate-of-return regulated; that is, AT\&T stockholders are allowed a specified rate of return on equity. In contrast, the Postal Service, not being a private corporation with stockholders, is "rate regulated" in that the primary regulatory tool is the setting of postal rates.

A number of restrictions are placed upon the Postal Service. Postal rates are set so that the prices are relatively constant over wide variations in markets. This presently restricts the Postal Service's ability to meet

[^7]competition in areas where cost is significantly below current postal rates. This "price averaging" tradition of the Postal Service cannot stand up under competitive pressure. A further restriction imposed by regulation is that of "regulatory lag." The rate increase proposed in 1974 did not go into effect until January 1, 1976. The resulting loss of revenues contributed substantially to the operating deficit of 1975.

While there are restrictions placed upon an industry by regulation, there are also benefits, notably the power granted by monopoly. Although the monopoly on first class mail has historically seemed quite pervasive, threats to this monopoly power seem to be gaining momentum. For example, a number of utility companies are using their employees to deliver utility bills. ${ }^{8}$ Potentially more important, however, are threats posed by new electronic methods of communication. ${ }^{9}$

### 2.4 An Unreasonable Expectation for the Postal Service

The creation of the United States Postal Service from the Post Office Department by the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 was an effort to put the Postal Service on a more business-like foundation. Included in the expectations of the Postal Service was that it should become self-sufficient by 1984. That is, there should be no general government subsidy, only the Revenue Foregone subsidies specifically provided for in the Act to benefit specific classes of users. It was hoped that by increasing postal rates and decreasing postal expenses the Postal Service could simultaneously eliminate the annual deficit, improve the workers salaries, and improve the quality of service. Unfortunately, the postal rate increases have been absorbed by higher postal salaries and the deficit has continued. Postal productivity has increased for the past few years but efficiency (the number of pieces of mail which are handled for each postal dollar) has declined. ${ }^{10}$

[^8]Assistant Postmaster General James V. Jellison says the Postal Service is meeting three of the four goals set for it when it became a quasi-private operation in 1971. These goals were: (1) to improve postal workers' pay and working conditions, (2) to modernize and mechanize to improve service quality, (3) to keep postal rates among the lowest of any industrialized nation, and (4) to become self-supporting (Spokane Chronicle, 1976). The last objective has not been met, and in addition, a recent study indicates that "service today is not as good as it was before postal reorganization" (General Accounting Office, 1975, p. 3).

It is not only a decline of internal efficiency which has contributed to the postal crisis, but also the expectation placed on the Postal Service by the Reorganization Act contributes in a major way. The expectation of self-sufficiency is an expectation which is extremely difficult to fulfill considering our tradition of subsidy of postal functions. The inertia of this tradition is difficult to overcome.

The totality of demands and expectations has proved to be unreasonable. A study by the Postal Service Staff (U.S. Postal Service, 1976, p. 33) expresses the crisis as follows: "It is unrealistic to expect the Postal Service to produce economically rational results, given economically irrational constraints and expectations."

Is there a postal crisis? It may be that a historian thirty years hence will feel the term "crisis" is a bit strong to describe the present plight of the Postal Service, but to Mr. Bailar, and to those government officials responsible for insuring the availability of postal services, and indeed to the mail-using public, the term "crisis" seems appropriate. Postmaster General Bailar in a speech to the Detroit Economics Club in March 1976 predicted that by 1984 the Postal Service would be bankrupt unless rather major actions were taken to correct the situation.

If the crisis is of such significance that patchwork solutions will only emphasize the problem, then we will ultimately need to fase some difficult questions? How badly do we want which postal services, and how much are we willing to pay for them? Is the industry structured correctly?

Should it be regulated differently? Should competition be allowed? The increasing urgency has been expressed by one observer (Myers, 1975) as follows:

Each additional month that postal related issues remain unresolved the more traumatic their necessary, inevitable, and final resolution. As taxpayers, we have a tremendous stake in the proper sorting out of the mails, both in terms of our pocketbooks and in terms of the service we receive. It is imperative that we face up to the present postal crisis and determine which way to go from here.

## 3. POSTAL SERVICE IN PERSPECTIVE

### 3.1 A 30-year Perspective

The purpose of this section is to analyze postal trends of the past 30 years to gain a perspective of the causal elements of today's so-called crisis. First, how is the Postal Service of today different from the Post Office of 30 years ago? An attempt has been made to remove the distorting factors of inflation and population growth in the following analysis. Table 2 summarizes the most significant trends.

The amount of mail carried, as measured by the number of pieces, has increased by 135\% over the past 30 years (see Figure 3 ). By weight this increase amounts to $62 \%$. This is not too surprising as the population of the United States has also grown tremendously in this time. However, while the population has grown by only $60 \%$, there has been a $48 \%$ per capita increase from 284 pieces in 1945 to 419 pieces in 1975. The pieces of mail per capita were highest in 1973 with an average of 428 pieces of mail per person. This statistic, like a number of others, seems to be peaking in the 1970s. It is probably too early to determine whether this phenomenon is temporary or a genuine indication of the future. ${ }^{11}$

To handle the increased volume of mail, the number of postal workers has increased $61 \%$ from 436,000 to 702,000 (see Figure 4). Here the peak was reached in 1970 with 741,000 postal workers. The postal work force as related to the overall United States work force has, however, remained relatively constant at approximately $0.8 \%$ of the work force.

[^9]Table 2. Thirty-Year Trends in Postal Service

| Mail Volume per Capita |  |  | Postal Salaries |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Total Pieces of Mail per Capita) |  |  | (Thousands of 1975 Dollars) |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1945 \\ & 1975 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 284 \\ & 419 \end{aligned}$ | Up 48\% | $\begin{aligned} & 1945 \\ & 1975 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.9 \\ 15.4 \end{array}$ |  | 161\% |
| $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Min}(1946) \\ & \operatorname{Max}(1973) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 258 \\ & 427 \end{aligned}$ | Up 66\% | $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Min}(1948) \\ & \operatorname{Max}(1975) \end{aligned}$ | 5.5 15.4 |  | 182\% |

First Class Volume per Capita
(Pieces of First Class Mail per Capita)

| 1945 | 164 | Up 51\% |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1975 | 247 |  |
| Min(1946) | 148 | Up 70\% |
| Max(1971,1974) | 251 |  |

Productivity
(Thousands of Pieces of Mail per Postal Man-Year)

| 1945 | 95 | Up $36 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 1975 | 129 |  |

$\begin{array}{lrr}\operatorname{Min}(1946,1947) & 85 \\ \operatorname{Max}(1973) & 131 & \text { Up } 54 \%\end{array}$

## Efficiency

(Pieces of Mail per 1975 Dollar)

| 1945 | 11.2 | Down $37 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 1975 | 7.1 |  |
| $\operatorname{Min}(1975)$ | 7.1 | Down $37 \%$ |
| $\operatorname{Max}(1945)$ | 11.2 |  |

Operating Deficit per Piece
(Operating Deficit per Piece in 1975 Cents)

| 1945 | -1.3 |
| :--- | ---: |
| 1975 | 2.9 |
| $\operatorname{Min}(1945)$ | -1.3 |
| $\operatorname{Max}(1971)$ | 3.5 |

Labor Intensity
(Percent of Postal Expense Attributable to Labor)

| 1945 | 76.0 | Up 13\% |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1975 | 85.9 |  |
| Min(1951) | 69.6 |  |
| Max(1975) | 85.9 | Up 23\% |

Postal Work Force per Capita
(Postal Workers per Thousand Population)

| 1945 | 3.27 | Up $0.6 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1975 | 3.29 |  |
| $\operatorname{Min}(1956)$ | 3.03 |  |
| $\operatorname{Max}(1968,1969)$ | 3.67 | Up 21\% |



Figure 3. Postal Volume Per Capita


Figure 4. Exchange Communications Employees

There are conflicting trends in (labor) productivity and (institutional) efficiency; productivity is measured in terms of pieces of mail per man-year and efficiency measured in pieces of mail moved per dollar. Productivity has increased but efficiency has decreased. In 1945 each man-year accounted for 94,900 pieces of mail whereas in 1975 this figure increased by $35 \%$ to 128,600, as shown in Figure 5. However, this increase in productivity is not reflected in efficiency even when measured in 1975 dollars. Efficiency decreased from 33.1 pieces per dollar to 7.1 pieces per dollar. Even in 1975 dollars the decrease is from 11.2 to 7.1 pieces per dollar, a decrease of efficiency of $37 \%$ (see Figure 6). The average cost per piece of mail ${ }^{12}$ has increased $58 \%$ in 1975 dollars (see Figure 7).


[^10]


Figure 7. Cost Per Piece of Mail

To properly evaluate the trends in productivity and efficiency, one needs to compare the postal industry with other industries. From 1945 to 1970, AT\&T increased productivity from 86,650 messages per employee to 174,400 messages per employee, an increase of $101.3 \%$. During that same time period AT\&T increased its efficiency from 12.6 messages per 1975 dollar to 13.8 messages per 1975 dollar, an increase in efficiency of $9.7 \%$. It is hardly adequate however to compare the Postal Service to only one other industry, especially when that industry is one amenable to advances in electronic technology such as the telephone industry.

Perhaps the most important statistic is the rise in the average postal salary, as shown in Figure 8. The rate of increase in postal salaries has surpassed those of many other classes of workers. The average postal salary has increased $161 \%$ over 1945 using 1975 dollars ( $671 \%$ in actual dollars). Total expense for postal salaries increased $320 \%$ in 1975 dollars reflecting not only the increase in average salary, but also the growth in the postal labor force. Labor expenditures in postal service have increased at a faster rate than have total postal expenditures, causing the labor intensity to increase from a low of $70 \%$ in 1951 to $86 \%$ in 1975 (see Figure 9).

The income of the Post Office, exclusive of government subsidy, has increased $158 \%$ using 1975 dollars, slightly less than the average salary increase of $161 \%$, while overall postal expense increased $272 \%$. The postal operating deficit per piece increased from an average of $0.7 \$$ per piece in the late 1940s to $2.2 \$$ per piece in the early 1970s. This is a $60 \%$ increase in deficit per piece even when we discount the effects of inflation by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). ${ }^{13}$ The trend of increased deficit per piece appears to be accelerated in the early 1970s (see Figure 10).

The ratio of operating deficit to operating expense has no recognizable trend over the past 25 years, though there is considerable variability from year to year. In 1975 this ratio was about $20 \%$, which is near average over that period. ${ }^{14}$
${ }^{13}$ The operating deficit per piece is tabulated in Table A-3, Appendix A.
${ }^{14}$ See Table A-2, Appendix A.




Figure 10. Postal Operating Deficit per Piece of Mail

### 3.2 Significant Trends

The last section gave a picture of trends in the Postal Service over the past 30 years. This section is intended to survey significant trends since the Postal Reorganization Act. Current trends are important in that they are indicators of today's postal situation; they are dealt with in order to effect corrective changes.

### 3.2.1 Repressed Volume

In 1975 the total postal volume decreased for the first time since 1946, causing the Postal Service to worry about the possibility of major volume losses. Postmaster Bailar predicted that the 1974 volume would be the all-time high and expects that over the next five years this volume will fall from a high of 90 billion pieces per year to 83 or 84 billion pieces per year. It remains to be seen whether this short term trend is temporary or long range. The volume decline of recent years is caused by a combination of factors and it is unclear how important each factor is in the overall decline. Four factors which can cause volume repression are discussed below.
(1) Recession. Postmaster Bailar indicates that the combined effects of inflation and recession have hurt the postal volume. If one compares gross national product (GNP) per capita in 1975 dollars with the pieces of mail per capita, as in Figure 11, one notices a strong correlation. This correlation of mail volume with GNP leads one to view the current decline as a temporary phenomenon, for if this correlation continues to hold in the future, we can look to an increase in mail volume when the effects of the recession ; ? over. ${ }^{15}$


Figure 11. Comparision of Gross National Product per Capita with Pieces of Mail per Capita

[^11](2) Substitute Services. Historically, most substitutes for first class mail have used electronic technology such as telegraph, telephone, and electronic data transfer. The number of telephone conversations per person has grown at a faster rate than has mail volume. ${ }^{16}$ From 1945 to 1974, local telephone calls per person increased by $240 \%$ while toll calls increased $398 \%$. In the same period the pieces of first class mail per person increased 153\%. From 1970 to 1974, local telephone calls per capita increased by 14\%, toll telephone calls per capita increased by $30 \%$, while first class mail volume per capita increased by $2 \%$ as did the overall volume of mail per capita. Replacement of first class mail by the telephone has been enhanced in recent years by the increase in postal rates relative to telephone rates. Another substitute for first class mail is derived from the nation's electronic communications system, called "electronic mail." Seventy percent of first class mail is transactional, including such items as utility bills, mortgage payments, and fund transfers between banks. Because these kinds of transactions are often generated by a computer they are especially amenable to digital transmission techniques.

There are a number of alternatives to third class mail (advertising) including radio, television, and magazines and newspapers which are not carried through the mails. The volume of third class mail has changed little in the last decade, indicating a decline of third class mail per capita and the importance of electronic substitutes.
(3) Competition. As mentioned earlier, the United States Postal Service has a monopoly in first class mail only. Air parcel post must compete with air express and airline package services, second class mail must compete with private delivery of magazines in densely populated areas, third class mail must compete with private delivery of unaddressed circulars and newspaper inserts, and postal money orders must compete with other money order services.

However, the major competition has appeared in fourth class mail where the United Parcel Service (UPS) is the major competitor. The volume of fourth class mail has decreased from a maximum of 1.26 billion pieces in
${ }^{16}$ See Tables $A-2$ and $A-14$, Appendix $A$.

1952 to 0.80 billion pieces in 1975, indicating the portion of the market captured by UPS. Handling slightly more than $50 \%$ of the parcel trade (Rocky Mountain News, 1976), United Parcel Service does over \$1 billion worth of business annually.
(4) Rate Increases. Two primary points should be made concerning the impact of rate increases on volume. First, a rate increase suppresses volume relatively little. In economic terms, there is little price elasticity of demand. Elasticity is a measure of the relationship between rate increase and volume suppression. When the elasticity is between -1 and 0 , we say that demand is inelastic. This simply means that the percentage of volume decrease is less than the percentage of rate increase. The closer the elasticity is to 0 , the less effect a rate increase has on volume. Demand for postal services is quite inelastic, especially for first and second class mail. ${ }^{17}$ For example, if first class mail has elasticity -0.1 as has been estimated, ${ }^{18}$ a $30 \%$ rate increase will cause only $3 \%$ decrease in volume.

Secondly, when demand is inelastic, a rate increase will result in increased revenues in spite of reduced volume. In the above example, revenues will increase by $26.1 \%$, overcoming the $3 \%$ decrease in volume; thus the fiscal position of the Postal Service is improved by rate increases. However, it is worth noting that eventually, with repeated rate increases, revenues will decrease, and simultaneously demand will become elastic.

Of secondary importance in analyzing the effect of decreased volume on the fiscal position of the Postal Service is the fact that lower volume means lower cost to provide the services. Thus a rate increase serves to increase revenues and lower costs simultaneously. This combined effect is the subject of a model developed in Appendix C. To continue our example we will assume that costs can be reduced proportionately $30 \%$ as much as volume is reduced. In our example, a $30 \%$ rate increase results in a $27.2 \%$ improvement in the revenue cost ratio. When the revenue cost ratio is 0.8 , a $30 \%$

[^12]rate increase would mean that revenues would slightly exceed costs, since the new revenue to cost ratio would be $(0.8)(1.272)=1.018$. As we can see the cost reduction factor is only of secondary importance, and we are ignoring many factors which accompany a rate increase.

If mail volumes decrease, without a concurrent rate increase, the effects on the Postal Service can be traumatic. For example a $10 \%$ decline in overall mail volume would decrease revenues by approximately $\$ 1$ billion or a $15 \%$ reduction in first class mail alone would have this same effect. If a volume decline occurs quickly, which is possible with an economic recession, these revenue losses increase the deficit by nearly the same amount; that is, there are essentially no cost savings because of the reduced volume. If, however, volume declines gradually, as is presumably the case when it declines because of mail substitutes, then costs can be reduced somewhat and the loss is ameliorated.

### 3.2.2 Postal Salaries

Another significant trend since 1970 concerns postal salaries. A postal career has traditionally been viewed as being secure, but relatively low paying. However, not only has the Postal Reorganization Act with its provision for collective bargaining brought about definitely higher postal salaries, but postal salaries have increased at a higher rate than has the salary of the average American worker. The average American salary has increased only $1.2 \%$ relative to the consumer price index over the years from 1970 to 1974 whereas the average postal salary has increased $14.2 \%$ relative to the CPI over the same period. The average postal salary has increased relative to the consumer price index for some time. It took 10 years from 1960 to 1970 to obtain a $28 \%$ increase, but only 5 years since 1970 to obtain a similar increase.

If postal salaries had maintained their 1970 level relative to the consumer price index, postal expenses in 1975 would be reduced by $\$ 2.4$ billion and the Postal Service would have had a slight surplus for that year. This indicates the very significant impact of changes in postal salaries.

Another way of seeing the effect of increased salaries is to look at the increased mail revenues as compared to increased expenses for salaries and benefits as shown in Table 3.

Table 3
POSTAL REVENUE AND LABOR EXPENSE, 1970-1975 (millions of dollars)

| Year <br> 1970 | Mail Revenues | Postal Salaries \& Benefits |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1975 | $\$ 8273$ | $\$ 8853$ |
| Increase | 9645 | 10805 |
|  | 1372 | 1952 |

Thus we see that the increased postal salaries more than took care of increased revenues comparing 1970 to 1975, in spite of the fact that during this period the postal work force decreased from 721,000 to 702,000 and mail volume increased from 85 billion to 89 billion pieces. The trends of employment, volume, and postal rates serve to deemphasize the effects of increased postal salaries, but even so, their impact on postal finances is clear.

Although it is clear that the Postal Service has not succeeded in holding the line with respect to salaries, we cannot say whether this could have been accomplished under the old United States Post Office Department. Certainly a continuation of salary increases will serve only to exacerbate the postal crisis.

### 3.2.3 Postal Rates

It is tempting to claim that one can solve the postal crisis by simply increasing postal rates to the point where revenues and costs roughly coincide. If, for example, the rate for first class postage were raised from $13 ¢$ to $17 d$, about $\$ 2$ billion would be added to the revenues which would greatly ease the current crisis; however, there is growing public sentiment against continued rate increases. Not only do many remember
the time when a stamp cost $3 \phi$ or $4 \phi$, but even when one compares postal rate increases with the consumer price index, it is quickly seen that new highs are being reached in postal rates (see Figure 12). Rates for first class mail decline relative to the consumer price index from 1945 until 1958 when the rate went from $3 \phi$ to $4 \phi$. In 1963, when postage went from $4 \phi$ to $5 \phi$, cents, rates relative to the consumer price index were about the same as they were at the end of World War II. Since 1963, continued rate increases have pushed first class mail rates ever upwards relative to the CPI until today at $13 \phi$ this rate is approximately $37 \%$ higher than it was in 1963.


Figure 12. First Class Postage in 1975 Cents
The Postal Service and the unions point out that postal rates in the United States are not high in comparison to other countries, but public opinion depends more on recent history than on postal rates in other countries.

Continual increases in postal rates stimulate substitutes. If postal rates for first class mail increase as projected to $21 \%$ by 1981, the cost will be approximately the same as for a one-minute transcontinental nighttime
telephone call. Although it is very difficult to measure the amount of the market captured by telephone, increased postal rates can only accelerate the replacement of certain types of mail, and will make traditional postal delivery more costly to the consumer.

It seems clear that alternatives other than rate increases should be carefully considered to ease the postal crisis. This is apparently the position of the Postal Service also, because their projected increases from the present $13 \phi$ for first class postage to $17 \$$ in April of 1977, to $19 \$$ in October of 1979, and $21 \$$ in October of 1981 are based upon an estimated increase in the consumer price index of $5.5 \%$ per year (Congressional Budget Office, 1976). These rate increases would keep prices fixed relative to the consumer price index, though many consumers would not view the increases this way. If inflation continues, it seems inevitable that rate increases will be necessary to keep pace with the consumer price index.

### 3.2.4 Parcel Post

Although all classes of mail except first class are subject to competition, it is fourth class mail (parcel post) that has been the most competitive. In fact, the Postal Service presently controls only about half the market. Maximum volume in parcel post was achieved in the early 1950s; since then the Postal Service has lost $36 \%$ of its previous business in terms of the number of parcels ( $51 \%$ in terms of weight). The major competitor is United Parcel Service, although Greyhound Package Express and local truckers also compete for the parcel business. The pricing practices of the Postal Service have allowed competition to obtain this sizeable portion of the market, but it is difficult to know to what extent the Postal Service is using fourth class mail to subsidize other services since costs are not clearly identified. The UPS rates are lower for most weights and distances, although there are a few exceptions (Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, 1974. p. 4-1185). Apparently in response to the competition in parcel post, the Postal Service has invested approximately $\$ 1$ billion in region centers with modern parcel handling equipment (Reader's Digest, 1975). Even with these regional centers, there is much criticism because the new technology incorporated into these regional centers has not provided an
increase in the quality of the service. Indeed, because of routing procedures, the time delay is often longer than before the regional centers were introduced, and there have been many cases of packages being damaged by machines.

If the current trend continues -- and there is no indication otherwise -- parcel service will be only a small part of the postal business. However, the impact of the loss of parcel business on the United States Postal Service is not known since cost data are not available. Apparently the only way to reverse this trend is for the Postal Service to improve its quality of service and set its rates to underprice the competition.

### 3.2.5 Regulatory Lag

Because the Postal Service must have its rates approved by the Postal Rate Commission and the Board of Governors, decisions are often delayed causing significant "regulatory lag" costs. This trend was especially critical in the 1974 hearings for rate increases which went into effect January 1, 1976. Had these rates been approved earlier, much of the deficit in fiscal year 1975 would have been avoided. Only deregulation can completely avoid regulatory lag, but tying postal rate increases and postal salaries to some price index could concentrate the debate on rate differentials between classes of service as opposed to overall postal rates.

### 3.2.6 Electronic Mail

Certain parts of the postal market are being subjected to inroads by electronic mail (see Footnote 9). In the immediate future two forms of electronic message transmission will significantly impact the Postal Service -- the telephone and electronic financial networks. Switched telephone service has several advantages over first class mail. First, in terms of time delay, the response time is nearly simultaneous in telephone service, while response time via the postal service is measured in days. Communications may take several iterations by mail, whereas one telephone call can process an exchange in a matter of minutes, multiplying the cost advantage of a telephone call over communication by letters. A second advantage of the telephone involves preparation cost: there is very little cost in
preparing for a telephone call whereas studies have shown the preparation of a letter to involve many times the price of a postage stamp.

One significant advantage of the mail is that a letter is inherently a permanent record, whereas a telephone conversation is difficult to record; it requires explicit permission by the called party and special equipment. A less well-recognized advantage of the mail is that it forces the sender to be more precise.

Even though there are undoubtedly cross-elasticities from postal service to telephone service, it is difficult to measure the extent of the substitutability because the two services are far from identical. During the period from 1970 to 1974, however, first class postal messages increased $6 \%$ in volume while telephone messages increased by $18 \%$ on a local basis and $38 \%$ on a toll basis. With current trends in postal and telephone rates, the trend from mail to telephone will continue, but the effects on the fiscal policy of the postal service are largely unmeasured at this time.

The other type of electronic mail which is making significant inroads into the postal market is "electronic funds transfer" and accounting via special electronic networks. Again, there is difficulty in measuring the effects on the Postal Service, for many of the users are large corporations and the number of messages transacted are often not available. Further, messages are not so easily quantified as are telephone messages and letters.

The Postal Service has reacted to the threat posed by electronic mail by planning an electronic mail network to compliment its traditional document transfer system. If the Postal Service should assert its dominance over electronic mail by attempting to have the definition of "letter" extended (thus extending their monopoly), a fundamental issue will have been raised with profound implications for the communications industries, and for the structure of American communications.

### 3.3 The Importance of Postal Subsidy

Most of the debate regarding postal service centers on subsidy in one form or another. Nearly all agree that significant subsidies exist, even though there is wide disagreement on the exact magnitudes. Sometimes there is even disagreement on the direction of subsidies.

Debate seems inevitable in any multiservice monopoly with significant common costs, however, for there is no universally accepted theory for the measurement of subsidy in this case. Only when a service is priced below marginal cost is it widely agreed that the service is being subsidized.

Not only is there a long history of debate on the amount of subsidies and confusion as to the identity of benefactors from each, but there has also been a long-term disagreement as to their appropriateness. The underlying philosophy of subsidy is equally important as its measurement. Many feel that the various subsidies are in the public interest, but many take the opposite view and claim that as a minimum subidies should be made explicit.

What kind of subsidies are we talking about? Basically there are three kinds: (1) interclass subsidy, (2) urban-rural subsidy (which can also be thought of in terms of high-trafffic/low-traffic subsidy), and (3) government subsidy of the Postal Service in general.

### 3.3.1 Interclass Subsidy

It is widely accepted that first class mall subsidizes other classes. Postal Service statistics support this viewpoint. In order to make this determination, costs are allocated to the various postal services according to the requirement that "each class of mail or type of mail service bear direct and indirect postal costs attributable to that class or type. . ." ( 39 USCA 3622 b3). The costs which are attributable in this manner to the various classes of mail constitute about $45 \%$ of total postal expenditures, leaving the majority of expenditures common to all classes of mail. 19

Some of the discussion in the 1974 postal rate hearings concerned how these attributed costs should determine postal rates. However, based on these allocated costs, the Postal Service can calculate the contribution that each class of service makes to institutional (unallocated) costs. The Postal Service reported (U.S. Postal Service, 1974) that first class mail contributed $4.3 \phi$ per piece to institutional costs, second class $-1.3 \phi$

[^13]domestically and overall $-1.9 \phi$, controlled circulation $2.8 \$$, third class $1.8 \$$, and fourth class $26.0 \$$. The fourth class contribution varied widely among subclasses: parcels (zone rate) $47.6 \$$; catalog, catalogues, $16.9 \$$; special fourth class rates $1.1 \$$; library rate -17.36 . The contribution for government mail was $11.7 \$$ per piece, while free mail for the blind was $-13.7 \$$ per piece. International mail contributed $14.0 \$$, while special services mail contributed 26.3\&, although again in special services there was variation in the contribution by subservice. Thus we have a first cut at subsidy, provided the allocation of cost is reasonable.

A study completed during the 1974-1975 postal rate increase hearings reports findings in a different manner (Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, 1974); however, we get some idea of the amount and extent of cross subsidy according to this study also. At that time, the first class mail rate was $10 \phi$ per ounce and the study recommended downward adjustment to $8-1 / 2 \phi$ to bring rates more in line with costs. It was recommended also that the price of postcards be reduced from $8 \phi$ to $5 \phi$, that airmail letter rates be increased from $13 \phi$ to $15 \$$ an ounce, but that airmail postcards be reduced from $11 \$$ to $10 \$$. The largest rate increase to bring rates in line with costs was proposed for parcel post delivery, a proposed increase of $57 \%$. Judge Wenner recommended that second class rates be increased to a point five times what they were in 1971 (Time, 1975), and that third class bulk mail rates be increased 7\%. It is interesting to note here that Judge Wenner condemned the Postal Service management for failing to carry out the directives of the United States Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia in an earlier rate case. In that decision, the court held that the Postal Service had improperly attributed costs to various types of mail, with Wenner saying that the rate increases proposed for first class perpetuate this allegedly illegal procedure. He obviously felt that first class mail users bear an unfair share of the overall Postal Service costs. In August of 1975, the Postal Rate Commission overruled the recommendation of Judge Wenner and opened the way for the Postal Service to raise first class rates from $10 \$$ to 13申, effective January 1, 1976 (New York Times, 1975).

A quite simple analysis can help shed light on interclass subsidies, without doing a formal cost allocation as in the studies referred to above. This is based on the fact that two quite important determinants of postal cost are volume (pieces of mail) and weight. Volume largely determines important handling costs such as sorting, while weight determines transportation and delivery costs to a significant extent. If postal rates are to be consonant with cost, and cost is in fact largely determined by volume and weight, then the percentage of total postal revenues for each class should fall somewhere between the percentage of total volume and the percentage of total weight. However, as Figure 13 shows, this is not the case for first, second, and third class mail. The implications are that first class mail subsidizes second and third class mail.

There are serious considerations regarding the total elimination of interclass subsidy even if we knew how to do this. For example, in the early days of the nation, that portion of the mail carrying newspapers and articles (now second class mail) was intended to be subsidized in order that diverse opinions could be expressed to the public. This has had important implications for First Amendment rights (Rutgers Law Review, 1975). A Congressional Committee during President Washington's administration explained, "The circulation of political intelligence is. . . justly reckoned among the surest means of preventing the degeneracy of a 'free government'" (Time, 1975).

### 3.3.2 Urban-Rural Subsidy

The second subsidy exists because postal rates are uniform throughout the nation whereas costs of providing these services are not. Usually, this subsidy is agreed upon in direction, but not in magnitude. First, let us note that there is a high concentration of mail volume in the large post offices; $13.2 \%$ of the post offices carry $93.9 \%$ of the mail and $3.8 \%$ of the post offices carry 83.5\% of the mail (U.S. Post Office Deparmment, 1966, p. 30). There is tremendous concentration of postal activity in the very large offices. This is further evidenced by the fact that $0.23 \%$ of the post offices have $50 \%$ of the employees, $56 \%$ of the mail volume, and $40 \%$ of mail revenues (President's Commission on Postal Organization, 1968). While

traffic concentration does not necessarily imply a subsidy from high traffic areas to low traffic areas, this is likely proyided that there are economies of scale (Merewitz, 1971). Some hints of economies of scale are given in Postal Service estimates of savings if a large number of small post offices were closed. A recent study by the General Accounting Office indicates that $\$ 100$ million could be saved by closing 12,000 offices, and that this action would not affect service (General Accounting Office, 1976, p. 88).

Note that the Reoganization Act of 1970 does require "uniform common nationwide rates for each class of mail." However, Congress "seems to have given its imprimateur to the setting of postal rates for each mail category equal to cost" (Priest, 1975). Thus the intent of Congress in the Reorganization Act seems to be to avoid subsidy between classes of mail. Congress apparently did not, however, intend to reduce or eliminate the high traffic, low traffic subsidy, for the Postal Service is still required to provide service to thinly populated areas where losses will be incurred. Congress promised to reimburse the Postal Service by annual appropriations for the losses it suffers by providing a nationwide service (Priest, 1975).

### 3.3.3 Federal Subsidy

The long-term operating deficit represents a subsidy of the general postal enterprise by federal funds ${ }^{20}$ and benefits those who use the mails out of proportion to their taxes. Over the past 30 years, this subsidy has averaged approximately $20 \%$ of postal operating expenses. ${ }^{21}$ The Postal Reorganization Act expected that the public service portion of this subsidy would cease to exist by 1984. However, few now feel this to be realistic under the present structure since the history of the first five years after the Reorganization lends no support to this expectation.

[^14]
### 3.4 The Comparison with the Telephone Industry

The postal and the telephone industries are the two major exchange communications industries. The purpose of this section is to contrast these industries to gain better perspective; there may be lessons to be learned by the experience of the telephone industry that could help in shaping the postal industry. The telephone industry is young ( 100 years old this year), while the postal industry is centuries old with antecedents millenia older. The similarities of the two industries are: (1) they are vital communications industries; (2) they are regulated; (3) they offer several services, but one service dominates; (4) the physical systems are "switched" to allow large numbers of people to communicate; and (5) each is dominated by a huge firm which holds monopoly power over the dominant service and is vitally interested in maintaining its monopoly powers.

### 3.4.1 Market Characteristics, Industry Structure and Regulation

Until 1971, the United States Post Office was a department in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. At that time it became an independent agency. The purpose of this change was to provide a structure for the Postal Service which would emulate a private firm, in the hope that this change would also allow the Postal Service to operate in a less political environment. With this change, the regulatory structure of the Postal Rate Commission and the Board of Governors was established.

In contrast, the telephone industry has been in the private sector except during the First World War when it was nationalized. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), established in 1934, is the federal regulatory body over the telephone industry. The telephone industry, unlike the postal industry, is regulated on a two-tiered system, with the FCC having jurisdiction over interstate communications while state public utilities commissions have jurisdiction over intrastate communications. This two-tier regulatory structure for the telephone industry has been the cause of non-uniformity in rate structures and perhaps has been inefficient in the deciding of some policy issues. However, some would argue that the structure provides for balanced decision making.

Few suggest that state public utilities commissions establish jursidiction over intrastate mails. Perhaps this is because mail service is not considered a public utility and because the Postal Service is still a Federal agency.

The primary service offered by the telephone industry is a switched voice communications service. Because of pricing conventions, we usually break this into two subservices, local service and long distance service (termed message telephone service by the industry -- MTS). The industry does, however, offer a number of other services such as a variety of private line offerings, data communications channels, video channels, mobile telephone service, and a variety of terminal equipment. The monopoly held by the telephone industry is on local service and MTS at the present time, although in the last ten years there have been increasing probes into the extent of the monopoly. Before 1956, virtually all services and ancillary functions were monopolistic, but the Hush-a-Phone decision (238 F. 2d 266,269) in 1956 followed by the Carterfone decision (13 FCC 2d 420) in 1968 began a process which allowed larger portions of the telephone services to be competitive. Competitive inroads have been primarily in the provision of long-distance, private-line services and in the provision of terminal equipment. To date, however, the vast majority of these competitive markets are still held by the established carriers, and the message toll service is under exclusive control of the established telephone industry.

The established telephone industry consists of the Bell Telephone System (American Telephone \& Telegraph) together with several hundred independent telephone companies. Each telephone company maintains a monopoly over the geographical area in which it provides local telephone service. Because there is little if any competition between telephone companies, the established telephone industry is often united on policy issues. The established telephone industry has used the arguments of universal service, natural monopoly, system integrity, and price averaging in order to maintain monopoly control over the market.

The postal literature shows a similar situation, since once again there is a monopoly portion of the market and a dominant firm controlling that monopoly. The major question raised in the postal industry is whether
competition should be allowed in first class mail, leaying the industry competitive with no monopoly sector.

### 3.4.2 Pricing

Telephone rates are based on "value of service" rather than cost of providing service. A classic example of value of service pricing is that business telephone rates have historically been approximately double those of the residential user, whereas the cost of providing service to business users is probably only slightly more than the cost of providing service to residential users. Traditional pricing has held that rates should be largely independent of location. Unit cost of telephone service is cheaper between areas which have a high traffic density than along low traffic routes, but this cost differential is not reflected in rates. Thus, we find a subsidy in telephone service from areas of high traffic density to areas of low traffic density, as we do also in postal service.

In telephone service, it is charged that monopoly services subsidize competitive services. For example, local telephone service and message telephone service are thought by some to subsidize such competitive services as long-distance, private-line service. However, even if it were decided that the provision of the various telephone services should be based on their costs, this decision would be difficult to implement.

Competition in the telephone industry is far from the economic ideal of "pure competition." There are relatively few suppliers, and the competitive suppliers are dominated by the huge established carrier. Rate changes and new service offerings must be approved by the appropriate regulatory bodies, resulting in a slowly responsive market. Further, the several services are characterized by a large percentage of common cost and there has been no universally agreed upon method of allocating those common costs to the services. As a result, there is no standard methodology for determining telephone cost-based rates for various services. This is especially a problem because of the fact that there is competition in certain services while other services remain under the control of a monopoly. The result has been termed "regulated competition" by some. Regulated competition is deemed necessary because of the potential of predatory pricing on the part of the established telephone carriers.

While the telehone and postal industries share the problem of cost allocation and the market structure appears comparable in many ways, the pricing structures of the two industries are quite different. First class postage is flat rate (i.e., independent. of distance); however, it does depend on weight, and in this way, depends on message length. In comparison, telephone pricing is more complex since most telephone pricing structures in the United States consist of a fixed monthly charge for local service plus charges for long distance calls, which depend both on the length of the message (time) and distance. ${ }^{22}$ Thus, in reality, the local telephone charge includes access to the toll service network and might be considered a composite of network access and local usage prices. Postal pricing structure is quite simple, at least for first class mail where pricing is completely insensitive to distance and there are no costs which could be considered access charges. ${ }^{23}$

### 3.4.3 Physical Systems

The physical systems which perform the communications functions for the postal and telephone industries are conceptually similar. Messages must be "delivered" from any user to any other user, and the nature of the delivery systems are comparable. Both systems have three primary components: (1) a local gathering and distribution function, (2) a switching function, and (3) a long distance transportation function. In classical network terminology, a message travels by a local "link" from the terminal to the node or "switch," then is transported by a series of long distance links to a final switch, and the message is delivered via a final link to the receiving terminal. There are, of course, vast differences in the physical systems which perform these two forms of communications since one is electronic while the other is

[^15]mechanical and manual. The Postal Service delivers physical objects in the forms of envelopes or packages, while the telephone industry transfers messages electronically; the messages must be coded and decoded for transmission by electrical means. The speeds of transmission are vastly different.

## 4. OPTIONS FOR POSTAL SERVICE

The United States Postal Service in 1976 faces a fiscal crisis because postal expense exceeds postal income by record amounts. Alternative fiscal solutions are to increase rates, to borrow heavily, to appropriate significant amounts from the United States Treasury, or a combination of these. These options may satisfy immediate needs; but the postal crisis in not short-term and should not be dealt with by devising short-term methods to make the Postal Service pay. Further, the convergence of other communications techniques may eventually force broader solutions to the problem. Specifically it is necessary to examine alternative industry structures which will provide a spectrum of communication functions, including, but not limited to, letter and parcel delivery.

This chapter briefly outlines postal alternatives with some indication of the implications of each. What is really needed is a careful analysis of what exactly is central to the postal function, a delineation of possible structural alternatives, and the impact of each alternative on specific user groups.

Central to consideration of alternatives is the question of "natural monopoly" in the provision of postal services. A monopoly can be "natural" in the following ways (which are not mutually exclusive): (1) if there are technological reasons for one service provider, (2) if significant economies of scale exist, or (3) if a dominant firm would emerge in the absence of governmental controls.

The postal function, unlike the provision of communications or utilities, seems to have no overriding technological reasons for monopoly. Whereas provision of utilities by multiple firms would usually require multiple conduits for provision of services, this is not the case in the same sense for the postal function. Several postal companies could use the streets
without the magnitude of inconvenience to the public that would be the case of multiple providers of power or sewage, for example. Indeed, milk delivery, trash pickup, and newspaper delivery have many of the postal delivery characteristics, without a need for monopoly. Thus the first reason for monopoly appears, on the surface, not to be compelling in the postal case.

The second reason for monopoly (economies of scale) has been studied, but the studies are somewhat inconclusive. We must remember that many production functions exhibit at least some scalar economies. For example, the manufacture of clothing or shoes no doubt exhibits economies of scale, but the American tradition is that the advantages of competition predominate in the absence of overwhelming evidence for the need of monopoly.

The third consideration for monopoly (that one firm would tend to dominate the market, naturally exerting monopoly power) does not apply to the postal function since there is already significant competition in parcel delivery and strong indication of the desire to compete in first class mail.

In the absence of compelling reasons for maintaining monopoly over first class mail, alternatives will be considered which remove the monopoly structure of the postal function. Thus it is that alternative industry structures naturally fall into two categories, one where the postal monopoly in first class mail is retained, the other where the postal statutes are revised to allow competition in all aspects of the postal function.

### 4.1 Status Quo

It has only been five years since the United States Postal Service was established. This may not be adequate time to determine the success of the Postal Service in light of severe inflation and a recession which may be causing decreased volume. However, because such little progress is seen towards the objectives set out at the time of the reorganization, one wonders when progress will be made toward these ends. An advantage of maintaining the current structure is that there is no further reorganization cost.

Several approaches could be adopted. Rates could be increased over and above the growth in the consumer price index. Federal subsidy could become
permanent, without any expectation that the Postal Service should be selfsufficient. In addition, the public may have to accept reduced services. None of these alternatives are satisfactory to all concerned, but could be used to correct the current fiscal crisis.

There are major groups which are likely to favor retention of the status quo such as postal unions and industries which rely on present postal subsidies.

### 4.2 Reversion to the Post Office Department

In many ways there has been little difference between the Postal Service and the old Post Office Department. Perhaps the major difference has been the provision of collective bargaining on the part of postal unions. If federal subsidy of the postal function is to continue indefinitely, there seems to be little advantage of the Postal Service as an independent agency. However, neither does there appear to be a great advantage of the postal function being performed by an executive department, since it would be quite unlikely that collective bargaining could be avoided there either. Other distinctions appear to be of minor consequence. There is little to recommend this alternative.

### 4.3 Regulated Private Firm

Under this alternative, the monopoly on first class mail would be maintained, but the firm would truly be a private firm, entirely outside the Federal Government. Presumably it could be regulated as are the communications, utility, and transportation industries. The most common form of regulation today is rate-of-return regulation. This would provide that rates be set high enough to cover costs of providing service, plus a return for investors (shareholders). Sharply higher rates for the consumer would likely result from this alternative.

The difficulty in each of the alternatives where monopoly is maintained is the setting of postal rates (often the primary function of a regulatory body). Not only must the overall rate-of-return be determined, but the relative rates of various services in various sectors of the population must be determined. The experience in the telephone industry shows quite a
difficulty in being able to allocate costs to determine cost-based pricing; this problem is likely to continue in the Postal Service as well.

Presumably there would be a regulatory commission to oversee the Postal Service -- such as the Postal Rate Conmission, or even the Federal Communications Commission or the Interstate Conmerce Commission -- each alternative requiring appropriate changes in statutes.

### 4.4 Competition

There are many similarities among the three alternatives where monopoly is retained. An alternative which is attractive to many, yet is by far the most extreme departure from status quo, is a structure which eliminates the monopoly status of the postal function. This could be done in several ways.

First, the Postal Service could be retained with its present structure. This would require little or no changeover costs. Moreover, certain postal services are subsidizing others, and subsequent rate changes to adjust rates closer to cost would be necessary. Under this structure, the Postal Service would still need to have its postal rates approved by the Postal Commission and the Board of Governors.

Alternatives to this structure (but still keeping the Postal Service regulated or controlled) include bringing the Postal Service more directly under government control as an executive department or, alternatively, regulating the Postal Service on some other basis (rate-of-return regulation, for example).

In great contrast to these options, a corporation might be formed from the Postal Service, a corporation which is unregulated in any manner. Arrangements would need to be made regarding the capital assets of the Postal Service and some would question whether the corporation would tend to dominate the industry -- essentially having monopoly power but without the checks required.

In each alternative where competition is allowed (in all services), there are questions which must be answered as to which groups would benefit and which groups would be hurt as a result of the introduction of competition. Early in this paper, we briefly discussed the subsidies involved in the postal service at the present time. There is little doubt that competition
would arise in the delivery of first class mail. As a result, rates for second and third class mail would increase markedly and those groups which are heavy users of second and third class mall would protest. There may be tremendous impact on the magazine industry and some newspapers which are delivered by mail. Likewise there would be impact on those businesses which advertise through the mails, and on non-profit groups which use bulk mailing. There are two other major groups which would oppose competition. The users from low traffic routes (specifically rural areas) would likely face higher postal rates, and in addition, the postal unions stand only to lose by the possibility of cheaper labor involved in mail delivery.

The claim for competition is that the profit incentive would encourage new kinds of service, new kinds of marketing, and open options in postal service which are not presently available. It is conceivable that private mail carriers would, for example, be innovative in using lower salaried personnel for delivery, or perhaps have mail pick up at grocery stores, gasoline service stations, etc. None of these options are given serious consideration today, and the cost differential which could come as a result is not known. In each case, it would be advisable to study the type and severity of impact before a decision is made. This would essentially involve making estimates of postal rates in these services after competition had brought rates into better relation with costs.

## 5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The five years experience with the United States Postal Service as an independent establishment of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government has been one of limited but significant change. The primary departure has not been changes in quality of service nor has it been the subsidy needed from the Federal Government in order to balance the postal budget, even though improvement of both were anticipated. The two significant trends have been higher postal rates and higher salaries for postal workers. These two trends have tended to balance each other out, rendering the desired improvements impossible. In fact, there has been a need for increased federal subsidy. It appears that increased postal rates and higher postal
salaries are long-term trends which are irreversible. The most likely option permitting reduced federal subsidy is for seryices to be curtailed. This is an option to which the public has voiced opposition.

The fiscal problems of the Postal Service are, to a significant extent, caused by changes in the nation's conmunications patterns and by options provided by electronic technologies. There will always be a demand for traditional postal services, although electronic conmunications with reduced costs and new modes of communication are certain to continue to impact on the postal business. It is wrong to think in terms of a postal market, for the market served by the Postal Service is not fundamentally "postal" in nature. Rather, it is the communications market which is fundamental to the postal problem, and any solution to the postal crisis which fails to consider the broader view is not likely to last.

There are two fundamental options for postal service, if in fact we are unwilling to accept reduced services or sharply higher postal rates. First, we might adjust to the fact that federal subsidies are needed in greater amounts than expected and change our expectations for a postal service which can meet its costs with revenues obtained through postal rates. An alternative (one which is extreme in some ways) is to open the postal function to competition and eliminate the monopoly which the Postal Service has traditionally held on first class mail. Though this would be an extreme change from an historical point of view, it would nevertheless be a move toward the American tradition of free enterprise and should be given careful consideration.

Prerequisite to a lasting solution of the postal crisis is consideration of alternative postal structures in the context of the entire communications industry. Alternative structures must be evaluated by their impact on specific user groups and by their flexibility in adapting to present and future communications demands.

Communications has greatly assisted the United States Government in providing Americans with life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; the postal function has played a major role in these communications. It is the intent of Congress ". . . to provide postal services to bind the Nation together. . ." (39 USC 101a). It is incumbent upon the Government to provide the structural opportunity for such expectations to be fulfilled.

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Table A-1. National Statistics

| Year | United States Population (Millions) | Employed Labor Force (Millions) | Total Salaries and Wages (\$Billions) | Consumer Price Index (Rel. 1967) | Inverse Consumer Price Index (Rel.1975) | Gross National Product (\$Billions) | GNP <br> (1975\$ <br> Billions) | GNP per Capita (1975\$) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1945 | 133.4 | 64.9 | 117.5 | 33.9 | 2.955 | 211.9 | 626 | 4695 |
| 1946 | 140.7 | 58.3 | 112.0 | 58.5 | 2.723 | 208.5 | 568 | 4035 |
| 1947 | 144.0 | 58.6 | 123.0 | 66.9 | 2.381 | 231.3 | 551 | 3823 |
| 1948 | 146.7 | 59.8 | 135.4 | 72.1 | 2.209 | 257.6 | 569 | 3880 |
| 1949 | 149.3 | 59.3 | 134.5 | 71.4 | 2.231 | 256.5 | 572 | 3833 |
| 1950 | 151.9 | 60.4 | 146.8 | 72.1 | 2.209 | 284.8 | 629 | 4143 |
| 1951 | 154.0 | 63.2 | 171.1 | 77.9 | 2.045 | 328.4 | 672 | 4361 |
| 1952 | 156.4 | 63.9 | 185.7 | 79.5 | 2.004 | 345.5 | 692 | 4426 |
| 1953 | 159.0 | 64.7 | 198.3 | 80.1 | 1.989 | 364.6 | 725 | 4560 |
| 1954 | 161.9 | 63.4 | 196.5 | 80.5 | 1.979 | 364.8 | 722 | 4459 |
| 1955 | 165.1 | 65.7 | 211.3 | 80.2 | 1.986 | 398.0 | 791 | 4788 |
| 1956 | 168.1 | 66.6 | 227.8 | 81.4 | 1.957 | 419.2 | 820 | 4880 |
| 1957 | 171.2 | 66.9 | 238.7 | 84.3 | 1.890 | 441.1 | 834 | 4869 |
| 1958 | 174.1 | 65.6 | 239.9 | 86.6 | 1.839 | 447.3 | 823 | 4726 |
| 1959 | 177.1 | 67.1 | 258.2 | 87.3 | 1.825 | 483.7 | 883 | 4984 |
| 1960 | 180.0 | 68.3 | 270.8 | 88.7 | 1.796 | 503.7 | 905 | 5026 |
| 1961 | 183.0 | 68.2 | 278.1 | 89.6 | 1.778 | 520.1 | 925 | 5053 |
| 1962 | 185.8 | 69.5 | 296.1 | 90.6 | 1.758 | 560.3 | 985 | 5302 |
| 1963 | 188.5 | 70.5 | 311.1 | 97.7 | 1.737 | 590.5 | 1026 | 5442 |
| 1964 | 191.1 | 72.0 | 333.7 | 92.9 | 1.715 | 632.4 | 1084 | 5675 |
| 1965 | 193.5 | 73.7 | 358.9 | 94.5 | 1.686 | 684.9 | 1155 | 5967 |
| 1966 | 195.6 | 76.0 | 394.5 | 97.2 | 1.639 | 749.9 | 1229 | 6283 |
| 1967 | 197.5 | 77.7 | 423.1 | 100.0 | 1.593 | 793.9 | 1265 | 6403 |
| 1968 | 199.4 | 79.5 | 464.9 | 104.2 | 1.529 | 864.2 | 1321 | 6626 |
| 1969 | 201.4 | 81.4 | 509.7 | 109.8 | 1.451 | 930.3 | 1350 | 6702 |
| 1970 | 203.8 | 81.7 | 542.0 | 116.3 | 1.370 | 977.1 | 1338 | 6567 |
| 1971 | 206.2 | 81.6 | 573.6 | 121.3 | 1.313 | 1054.9 | 1385 | 6719 |
| 1972 | 208.2 | 84.0 | 626.8 | 125.3 | 1.271 | 1158.0 | 1472 | 7071 |
| 1973 | 209.9 | 86.6 | 691.6 | 133.1 | 1.197 | 1294.9 | 1550 | 7383 |
| 1974 | 211.4 | 88.1 | 750.7 | 147.7 | 1.079 | 1397.3 | 1507 | 7129 |
| 1975 | 213.1 |  |  | 159.3 | 1.000 |  |  | 6664 |





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Table $A-5$. Weight (Millions of Pounds) by 12 Classes

| 1945 | 544 | -31 |  | 1423 |  | 378 | 4614 | 81 | 34 | 312 | 5 | 7 | 7430 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1946 | 493 | 24 |  | 1653 |  | 418 | 4565 | 195 | 17 | 252 | 3 | 9 | 7628 |
| 1947 | 546 | 29 |  | 1997 |  | 483 | 5294 | 366 | 3 | 223 | 4 | 10 | 8948 |
| 1948 | 551 | 32 |  | 2130 |  | 554 | 6430 | 472 | 4 | 180 | 4 | 9 | 10367 |
| 1949 | 608 | 45 |  | 2240 |  | 618 | 7501 | 415 | 5 | 178 | 5 | 11 | 11625 |
| 1950 | 620 | 53 |  | 2287 |  | 646 | 7370 | 340 | 5 | 183 | 5 | 12 | 11521 |
| 1951 | 667 | 63 |  | 2355 |  | 663 | 769/ | 259 | 6 | 183 | 4 | 12 | 11909 |
| 1952 | 702 | 78 |  | 2413 |  | 712 | 7115 | 246 | 6 | 211 | 4 | 14 | 11501 |
| 1953 | 749 | 77 |  | 2497 | 31 | 127 | 6652 | 236 | 7 | 205 | 6 | 19 | 11204 |
| 1954 | 749 | 82 |  | 2505 | 39 | 811 | 6404 | 194 | 7 | 189 | 5 | 20 | 11004 |
| 1955 | 804 | 85 |  | 2582 | 44 | 892 | 6035 | 170 | 7 | 201 | 5 | 20 | 10844 |
| 1956 | 874 | 91 |  | 2703 | 53 | 915 | 5904 | 163 | 8 | 194 | 5 | 20 | 10929 |
| 1957 | 905 | 95 |  | 2715 | 63 | 949 | 5931 | 170 | 9 | 206 | 5 | 23 | 11071 |
| 1958 | 921 | 92 |  | 2695 | 69 | 988 | 5861 | 165 | 9 | 289 | 6 | 24 | 11119 |
| 1959 | 920 | 97 |  | 2708 | 58 | 1156 | 5887 | 173 | 9 | 291 | 8 | 25 | 11332 |
| 1960 | 956 | 103 |  | 2883 | 63 | 1277 | 5879 | 179 | 10 | 305 | 9 | 26 | 11689 |
| 1961 | 996 | 112 |  | 2900 | 68 | 1280 | 5436 | 169 | 11 | 334 | 7 | 28 | 11342 |
| 1962 | 1061 | 122 |  | 2908 | 73 | 1396 | 5573 | 140 | 12 | 357 | 7 | 31 | 11680 |
| 1963 | 1082 | 128 |  | 2910 | 83 | 1527 | 5563 | 144 | 14 | 376 | 7 | 35 | 11868 |
| 1964 | 1130 | 137 |  | 3031 | 97 | 1601 | 5623 | 152 | 16 | 376 | 7 | 35 | 12202 |
| 1965 | 1200 | 155 |  | 3733 | 114 | 1705 | 5425 | 160 | 18 | 383 | 8 | 30 | 12330 |
| 1966 | 1290 | 182 |  | 3225 | 140 | 1812 | 5389 | 159 | 20 | 433 | 12 | 32 | 12694 |
| 1967 | 1403 | 229 |  | 3332 | 166 | 1949 | 5314 | 184 | 23 | 472 | 12 | 28 | 13110 |
| 1968 | 1438 | 89 | 247 | 3344 | 186 | 1892 | 5245 | 210 | 30 | 510 | 12 | 34 | 13238 |
| 1969 | 1483 | 79 | 347 | 3441 | 217 | 2018 | 5250 | 196 | 32 | 530 | 11 | 51 | 13656 |
| 1970 | 1562 | 74 | 370 | 3417 | 224 | 2033 | 4786 | 192 | 34 | 539 | 11 | 38 | 13281 |
| 1971 | 1623 | 73 | 391 | 3283 | 201 | 2157 | 4836 | 189 | 36 | 526 | 9 | 50 | 13373 |
| 1972 | 1572 | 72 | 412 | 3125 | 207 | 2290 | 4421 | 174 | 39 | 573 | 12 | 38 | 12936 |
| 1973 | 1669 | 75 | 423 | 3052 | 229 | 2384 | 4165 | 190 | 41 | 539 | 12 | 40 | 12820 |
| 1974 | 1706 | 78 | 452 | 2933 | 242 | 2365 | 3983 | 191 | 43 | 608 | 12 | 33 | 12646 |
| 1975 | 1681 | 65 | 440 | 2792 | 232 | 2283 | 3754 | 155 | 46 | 527 | 13 | 38 | 12025 |



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Table A－10．Volume（Millions of Pieces of Mail）by 6 Classes


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|  | First <br> Class | $\%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | 21886 | 57.7 |
| 1945 | 20775 | 57.2 |
| 1946 | 21437 | 57.3 |
| 1947 | 22744 | 56.5 |
| 1948 |  | 55.2 |
| 1949 | 24062 |  |
|  | 25353 | 56.3 |
| 1950 | 26672 | 56.9 |
| 1951 | 27893 | 55.9 |
| 1952 | 28687 | 56.7 |
| 1953 | 28555 | 54.7 |
| 1954 |  |  |
|  | 30181 | 54.6 |
| 1955 | 31564 | 55.9 |
| 1956 | 33044 | 55.9 |
| 1957 | 37653 | 56.0 |
| 1958 | 33642 | 54.9 |
| 1959 |  |  |
|  | 34590 | 54.3 |
| 1960 | 35742 | 55.0 |
| 1961 | 36878 | 55.5 |
| 1962 | 37378 | 55.1 |
| 1963 | 38448 | 55.2 |
| 1964 |  |  |
| 1965 | 39697 | 55.2 |
| 1966 | 42250 | 55.9 |
| 1967 | 44109 | 56.3 |
| 1968 | 45248 | 56.9 |
| 1969 | 48247 | 58.8 |
| 1970 | 50358 | 59.3 |
| 1971 | 51690 | 59.4 |
| 1972 | 50500 | 57.9 |
| 1973 | 52501 | 58.5 |
| 1974 | 53151 | 59.0 |
| 1975 | 52689 | 59.0 |
| 1975 |  |  | 1945

1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959

1960
1961
1962
1963
1964
1965
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
1974
1975
Table A-11. Postal Weight (Millions of Pounds) Dy 6 Classes

| Year | First ${ }_{7}$ <br> Class | \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { Second }_{2} \\ \text { Class }^{2} \end{gathered}$ | \% | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Third } \\ & \text { Class } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | \% | Fourth Class | \% | International | \% | Other | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1945 | 575 | 7.7 | 1423 | 19.1 | 378 | 5.1 | 4614 | 62.1 | 116 | 1.6 | 325 | 4.4 |
| 1946 | 517 | 6.8 | 1654 | 21.7 | 418 | 5.5 | 4565 | 59.8 | 211 | 2.8 | 264 | 3.5 |
| 1947 | 574 | 6.4 | 1991 | 22.3 | 483 | 5.4 | 5294 | 59.2 | 369 | 4.1 | 237 | 2.5 |
| 1948 | 583 | 5.6 | 2130 | 20.5 | 554 | 5.3 | 6430 | 62.0 | 476 | 4.6 | 193 | 1.9 |
| 1949 | 654 | 5.6 | 2240 | 19.3 | 618 | 5.3 | 7501 | 64.5 | 420 | 3.6 | 193 | 1.7 |
| 1950 | 673 | 5.8 | 2287 | 19.8 | 647 | 5.6 | 7370 | 64.0 | 345 | 3.0 | 200 | 1.7 |
| 1951 | 730 | 6.1 | 2355 | 19.8 | 663 | 5.6 | 7697 | 64.6 | 265 | 2.2 | 199 | 1.7 |
| 1952 | 780 | 6.8 | 2413 | 21.0 | 712 | 6.2 | 7115 | 61.9 | 252 | 2.2 | 229 | 2.0 |
| 1953 | 825 | 7.4 | 2527 | 22.6 | 727 | 6.5 | 6652 | 59.4 | 243 | 2.2 | 229 | 2.0 |
| 1954 | 831 | 7.5 | 2543 | 23.1 | 811 | 7.4 | 6404 | 58.1 | $<00$ | 1.8 | 214 | 1.9 |
| 1955 | 889 | 8.2 | 2626 | 24.2 | 892 | 8.2 | 6035 | 55.6 | 177 | 1.6 | 225 | 2.1 |
| 1956 | 965 | 8.8 | 2756 | 25.2 | 915 | 8.4 | 5904 | 54.0 | 171 | 1.6 | 219 | 2.0 |
| 1957 | 999 | 9.0 | 2779 | 25.1 | 949 | 8.6 | 5931 | 536 | 179 | 1.6 | 234 | 2.1 |
| 1958 | 1013 | 9.1 | 2764 | 24.9 | 988 | 8.9 | 5861 | 52.7 | 174 | 1.6 | 319 | 2.9 |
| 1959 | 1017 | 9.0 | 2766 | 24.4 | 1156 | 10.2 | 5887 | 51.9 | 182 | 1.6 | 324 | 2.9 |
| 1960 | 1058 | 9.1 | 2946 | 25.2 | 1277 | 10.9 | 5879 | 50.3 | 189 | 1.6 | 339 | 2.9 |
| 1961 | 1108 | 9.8 | 2968 | 26.2 | 1280 | 11.3 | 5436 | 47.9 | 180 | 1.6 | 369 | 3.3 |
| 1962 | 1184 | 10.1 | 2981 | 25.5 | 1396 | 12.0 | 5573 | 47.7 | 153 | 1.3 | 394 | 3.4 |
| 1963 | 1210 | 10.2 | 2993 | 25.2 | 1527 | 12.9 | 5553 | 46.9 | 158 | 1.3 | 418 | 3.5 |
| 1964 | 1266 | 10.4 | 3127 | 25.6 | 1601 | 13.1 | 5623 | 46.1 | 168 | 1.4 | 417 | 3.4 |
| 1965 | 1355 | 11.0 | 3247 | 26.3 | 1705 | 13.8 | 5425 | 44.0 | 178 | 1.4 | 421 | 3.4 |
| 1966 | 1471 | 11.6 | 3365 | 26.5 | 1812 | 14.3 | 5389 | . 42.5 | 179 | 1.4 | 478 | 3.8 |
| 1967 | 1632 | 12.4 | 3498 | 26.7 | 1949 | 14.9 | 5314 | 40.5 | 207 | 1.6 | 511 | 3.9 |
| 1968 | 1774 | 13.4 | 3530 | 26.7 | 1892 | 14.3 | 5245 | 39.6 | 240 | 1.8 | 556 | 4.2 |
| 1969 | 1909 | 14.0 | 3658 | 26.8 | 2018 | 14.8 | 5250 | 38.4 | 228 | 1.7 | 592 | 4.3 |
| 1970 | 2006 | 15.1 | 3642 | 27.4 | 2033 | 15.3 | 4786 | 36.0 | 226 | 1.7 | 589 | 4.4 |
| 1971 | 2087 | 15.6 | 3484 | 26.1 | 2157 | 16.1 | 4836 | 36.2 | 225 | 1.7 | 585 | 4.4 |
| 1972 | 2055 | 15.9 | 3333 | 25.8 | 2290 | 17.7 | 4421 | 34.2 | 213 | 1.6 | 623 | 4.8 |
| 1973 | 2167 | 16.9 | 3281 | 25.6 | 2385 | 18.6 | 4165 | 32.5 | 231 | 1.8 | 591 | 4.6 |
| 1974 | 2236 | 17.7 | 3175 | 25.1 | 2365 | 18.7 | 3983 | 31.5 | 234 | 1.9 | 653 | 5.2 |
| 1975 | 2186 | 18.2 | 3024 | 25.1 | 2283 | 19.0 | 3754 | 31.2 | 201 | 1.7 | 578 | 4.8 |

Table A-12. Revenue (Millions of Dollars) by 6 Classes

| Year | First ${ }_{1}$ <br> Class | \% | $\begin{gathered} \text { Second }_{2} \\ \mathrm{Class}^{2} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | \% | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Third } \\ & \text { Class } \end{aligned}$ | \% | Fourth Class | \% | International | \% | Other | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1945 | 697 | 60.1 | 29 | 2.5 | 75 | 6.5 | 232 | 20.0 | 124 | 10.7 |  |  |
| 1946 | 666 | 61.3 | 33 | 3.1 | 83 | 7.6 | 209 | 19.2 | 96 | 8.8 |  |  |
| 1947 | 681 | 60.2 | 39 | 3.4 | 96 | 8.5 | 235 | 20.8 | 80 | 7.1 |  |  |
| 1948 | 722 | 58.0 | 41 | 3.3 | 112 | 9.0 | 272 | 21.9 | 96 | 7.8 |  |  |
| 1949 | 771 | 55.7 | 44 | 3.1 | 136 | 9.8 | 356 | 25.7 | 78 | 5.6 |  |  |
| 1950 | 815 | 54.9 | 45 | 3.0 | 154 | 10.4 | 404 | 27.2 | 67 | 4.5 |  |  |
| 1951 | 880 | 55.4 | 49 | 3.1 | 158 | 9.9 | 431 | 27.2 | 70 | 4.4 |  |  |
| 1952 | 963 | 55.3 | 51 | 3.0 | 171 | 9.8 | 485 | 27.8 | 71 | 4.1 |  |  |
| 1953 | 1030 | 54.9 | 61 | 3.3 | 218 | 11.6 | 492 | 26.2 | 74 | 4.0 |  |  |
| 1954 | 1036 | 50.3 | 66 | 3.2 | 252 | 12.3 | 587 | 28.5 | 81 | 4.0 | 335 | 1.7 |
| 1955 | 1098 | 57.0 | 71 | 3.3 | 269 | 12.5 | 595 | 27.6 | 83 | 3.8 | 39 | 1.8 |
| 1956 | 1151 | 52.3 | 72 | 3.3 | 266 | 12.1 | 593 | 26.9 | 86 | 3.9 | 35 | 1.6 |
| 1957 | 1206 | 52.9 | 73 | 3.2 | 281 | 12.4 | 586 | 25.7 | 91 | 4.0 | 40 | 1.8 |
| 1958 | 1229 | 53.1 | 73 | 3.2 | 288 | 12.4 | 584 | 25.2 | 88 | 3.8 | 52 | 2.2 |
| 1959 | 1592 | 56.8 | 76 | 2.7 | 391 | 14.0 | 576 | 20.6 | 98 | 3.5 | 68 | 2.4 |
| 1960 | 1667 | 55.7 | 89 | 3.0 | 441 | 14.7 | 607 | 20.3 | 102 | 3.4 | 86 | 2.9 |
| 1961 | 1729 | 54.9 | 97 | 3.1 | 498 | 15.8 | 626 | 19.9 | 108 | 3.4 | 90 | 2.8 |
| 1962 | 1799 | 55.2 | 103 | 3.2 | 510 | 15.7 | 634 | 19.5 | 121 | 3.7 | 93 | 2.8 |
| 1963 | 2024 | 56.6 | 108 | 3.0 | 563 | 15.8 | 645 | 18.0 | 130 | 3.6 | 105 | 2.9 |
| 1964 | 2325 | 58.5 | 121 | 3.0 | 612 | 15.4 | 659 | 16.6 | 140 | 3.5 | 119 | 3.0 |
| 1965 | 2436 | 58.0 | 134 | 3.2 | 650 | 15.5 | 702 | 16.7 | 152 | 3.6 | 124 | 2.9 |
| 1966 | 2611 | 58.8 | 145 | 3.3 | 681 | 15.3 | 712 | 16.0 | 158 | 3.5 | 136 | 3.1 |
| 1967 | 2771 | 59.0 | 152 | 3.2 | 704 | 15.0 | 742 | 15.8 | 178 | 3.8 | 146 | 3.1 |
| 1968 | 3146 | 60.2 | 160 | 3.1 | 743 | 14.2 | 767 | 14.7 | 242 | 4.6 | 167 | 3.2 |
| 1969 | 3621 | 61.9 | 180 | 3.1 | 782 | 13.4 | 831 | 14.2 | $\stackrel{55}{ }$ | 4.4 | 182 | 3.1 |
| 1970 | 3775 | 62. 5 | 190 | 3.2 | 827 | 13.7 | 778 | 12.9 |  | 4.5 | 199 | 3.3 |
| 1971 | 4007 | 63.2 | 189 | 3.0 | 844 | 13.3 | 819 | 12.9 | 277 | 4.4 | 206 | 3.3 |
| 1972 | 4937 | 65.3 | 210 | 2.8 | 1006 | 13.3 | 810 | 10.7 | 298 | 3.9 | 294 | 3.9 |
| 1973 | 5143 | 64.2 | 223 | 2.8 | 1162 | 14.5 | 759 | 9.5 | 317 | 4.0 | 404 | 5.0 |
| 1974 | 5644 | 65.2 | 253 | 2.9 | 1214 | 14.0 | 732 | 8.5 | 343 | 4.0 | 471 | 5.4 |
| 1975 | 6428 | 66.6 | 277 | 2.9 | 1348 | 14.0 | 718 | 7.4 | 390 | 4.0 | 484 | 5.0 |

Table A-13. Comparison of Percent Volume, Weight, Revenues, and

Table A-14. Telephone Statistics

Table $\mathrm{A}-15$. Telegraph and Exchange Communtcations Statistics

| Year | TELEGRAPH |  |  | EXCHANGE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MESSAGES |  |  | EMPLOYEES |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \% Telep | \% Teleg | \% Post | \% Telep | \% Teleg | \% Post |
| 1945 | 236 | 63 | 127 | 63.0 | 932 | 1962 | 64.9 | 0.2 | 34.7 | 46.4 | 6.8 | 46.8 |
| 1946 | 212 | 58 | 137 | 67.7 | 1097 | 2563 | 69.0 | 0.3 | 30.6 | 50.4 | 5.3 | 44.4 |
| 1947 | 214 | 54 | 139 | 72.5 | 1111 | 2825 | 70.2 | 0.3 | 30.0 | 52.8 | 4.8 | 42.4 |
| 1948 | 191 | 49 | 141 | 78.5 | 1165 | 3118 | 70.8 | 0.2 | 29.0 | 52.6 | 4.1 | 43.2 |
| 1949 | 175 | 42. | 126 | 82. 9 | 1148 | 3502 | 70.7 | 0.2 | 29.0 | 51.2 | 3.6 | 45.1 |
| 1950 | 179 | 40 | 117 | 87.8 | 1139 | 3624 | 70.9 | 0.2 | 28.9 | 52.5 | 3.6 | 44.0 |
| 1951 | 180 | 40 | 128 | 91.1 | 1167 | 3841 | 70.5 | 0.2 | 29.3 | 53.9 | 3.5 | 42.7 |
| 1952 | 152 | 40 | 127 | 94.2 | 1224 | 4361 | 70.2 | 0.2 | 29.6 | 53.9 | 3.3 | 42.8 |
| 1953 | 162 | 39 | 139 | 99.8 | 1216 | 4658 | 71.1 | 0.2 | 28.7 | 55.1 | 3.2 | 41.7 |
| 1954 | 153 | 37 | 138 | 102.3 | 1205 | 4797 | 71.9 | 0.1 | 27.9 | 54.9 | 3.1 | 42.1 |
| 1955 | 154 | 38 | 143 | 108.1 | 1252 | 5083 | 71.9 | 0.1 | 27.9 | 56.1 | 3.0 | 40.9 |
| 1956 | i52 | 38 | 154 | 114.7 | 1278 | 5548 | 72.3 | 0.1 | 27.5 | 57.2 | 3.0 | 39.8 |
| 1957 | 144 | 36 | 159 | 120.6 | 1295 | 5839 | 72.5 | 0.1 | 27.4 | 56.9 | 2.8 | 40.2 |
| 1958 | 132 | 34 | 154 | 125.9 | 1259 | 6146 | 73.2 | 0.1 | 26.7 | 54.6 | 2.7 | 42.7 |
| 1959 | 131 | 33 | 160 | 132.1 | 1262 | 6483 | 74.4 | 0.1 | 25.5 | 53.8 | 2.6 | 43.6 |
| 1960 | 124 | 33 | 165 | 138.9 | 1276 | 6760 | 75.0 | 0.1 | 24.9 | 53.3 | 2.6 | 44.1 |
| 1961 | 117 | 31 | 166 | 144.3 | 1278 | 7214 | 75.2 | 0.1 | 24.8 | 52.0 | 2.5 | 45.5 |
| 1962 | 112 | 30 | 168 | 152.5 | 1282 | 7447 | 75.7 | 0.1 | 24.2 | 51.8 | 2.3 | 45.9 |
| 1963 | 104 | 28 | 161 | 157.5 | 1291 | 7885 | 76.2 | 0.1 | 23.7 | 52.4 | 2.2 | 45.5 |
| 1964 | 97 | 27 | 161 | 164.5 | 1311 | 8366 | 76.6 | 0.1 | 23.4 | 53.4 | 2.0 | 44.6 |
| 1965 | 94 | 26 | 165 | 174.0 | 1350 | 9029 | 77.1 | 0.1 | 22.8 | 53.9 | 1.9 | 44.1 |
| 1966 | 93 | 27 | 180 | 184.5 | 1479 | 9826 | 77.1 | 0.1 | 22.9 | 52.5 | 1.8 | 45.6 |
| 1967 | 89 | 27 | 190 | 192.4 | 1531 | 10580 | 77.0 | 0.0 | 22.9 | 51.4 | 1.7 | 46.8 |
| 1968 | 86 | 27 | 197 | 201.2 | 1577 | 11443 | 77.5 | 0.0 | 22.5 | 52.9 | 1.7 | 46.3 |
| 1969 | 77 | 25 | 204 | 215.3 | 1652 | 12850 | 77.7 | 0.0 | 22.3 | 53.7 | 1.5 | 44.7 |
| 1970 | 70 | 24 | 209 | 227.5 | 1700 | 14313 | 77.8 | 0.0 | 22.1 | 55.0 | 1.4 | 43.6 |
| 1971 | 44 |  |  | 240.4 |  |  | 78.5 | 0.0 | 21.5 |  |  |  |
| 1972 | 40 |  |  | 249.8 |  |  | 79.8 | 0.0 | 20.2 |  |  |  |
| 1973 | 37 |  |  | 262.8 |  |  | 80.0 | 0.0 | 20.0 |  |  |  |
| 1974 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table A-16. Average Salary Comparisons

| Telephone |  |  | Telegraph |  | Postal |  | Exchange Communications |  | National |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | \$ | 19755 | \$ | 19755 | \$ | 19755 | \$ | $1975 \$$ | \$ | 1975\$ |
| 1945 | 2232 | 6596 | 1996 | 5900 | 1995 | 5897 | 2105 | 6222 | 1809 | 5347 |
| 1946 | 2437 | 6637 | 2381 | 6483 | 2216 | 6033 | 2336 | 6361 | 1922 | 5233 |
| 1947 | 2538 | 6044 | 2594 | 6177 | 2541 | 6051 | 2542 | 6054 | 2098 | 4996 |
| 1948 | 2827 | 6245 | 2877 | 6358 | 2471 | 5460 | 2675 | 5911 | 2265 | 5004 |
| 1949 | 3126 | 6974 | 3021 | 6741 | 2969 | 6624 | 3051 | 6808 | 2269 | 5063 |
| 1950 | 3161 | 6983 | 2889 | 6382 | 3230 | 7135 | 3181 | 7029 | 2431 | 5372 |
| 1951 | 3316 | 6781 | 3170 | 6483 | 3271 | 6689 | 3292 | 6732 | 2707 | 5535 |
| 1952 | 3508 | 7030 | 3186 | 6384 | 3662 | 7338 | 3564 | 7141 | 2897 | 5806 |
| 1953 | 3768 | 7493 | 3581 | 7121 | 3931 | 7818 | 3830 | 7616 | 3063 | 6091 |
| 1954 | 4018 | 7952 | 3716 | 7353 | 3949 | 7814 | 3980 | 7876 | 3099 | 6132 |
| 1955 | 4069 | 8082 | 3792 | 7532 | 4070 | 8085 | 4061 | 8066 | 3246 | 6447 |
| 1956 | 4302 | 8419 | 4069 | 7964 | 4418 | 8647 | 4342 | 8497 | 3420 | 6693 |
| 1957 | 4525 | 8551 | 4364 | 8247 | 4501 | 8505 | 4511 | 8524 | 3570 | 6746 |
| 1958 | 4858 | 8937 | 4581 | 8428 | 4931 | 9071 | 4882 | 8981 | 3655 | 6723 |
| 1959 | 5107 | 9319 | 4822 | 8798 | 5191 | 9472 | 5136 | 9372 | 3846 | 7018 |
| 1960 | 5357 | 9622 | 5038 | 9048 | 5245 | 9420 | 5300 | 9518 | 3967 | 7125 |
| 1961 | 5636 | 10021 | 5278 | 9384 | 5668 | 10078 | 5642 | 10031 | 4076 | 7246 |
| 1962 | 5896 | 10366 | 5605 | 9856 | 5718 | 10053 | 5807 | 10211 | 4260 | 7490 |
| 1963 | 6066 | 10537 | 5734 | 9962 | 6174 | 10725 | 6108 | 10610 | 4415 | 7670 |
| 1964 | 6255 | 10725 | 6056 | 10384 | 6545 | 11224 | 6380 | 10941 | 4636 | 7949 |
| 1965 | 6463 | 10895 | 6295 | 10611 | 6975 | 11758 | 6686 | 11270 | 4867 | 8204 |
| 1966 | 6601 | 10819 | 6624 | 10857 | 6692 | 10967 | 6643 | 10887 | 5191 | 8508 |
| 1967 | 6938 | 11052 | 7167 | 11417 | 6873 | 10949 | 6911 | 11010 | 5442 | 8669 |
| 1968 | 7220 | 11037 | 7419 | 11342 | 7289 | 11143 | 7255 | 11091 | 5850 | 8944 |
| 1969 | 7638 | 11082 | 8100 | 11752 | 7934 | 11510 | 7777 | 11284 | 6265 | 9089 |
| 1970 | 8171 | 11193 | 8615 | 11801 | 8721 | 11945 | 8417 | 11529 | 6634 | 9087 |
| 1971 | 8971 | 11782 |  |  | 10243 | 13452 |  |  | 7026 | 9227 |
| 1972 | 10156 | 12912 |  |  | 11538 | 14669 |  |  | 7458 | 9481 |
| 1973 | 10995 | 13159 |  |  | 12056 | 14429 |  |  | 7985 | 9557 |
| 1974 | 12573 | 13560 |  |  | 13580 | 13647 |  |  | 8523 | 9192 |
| 1975 |  |  |  |  | 15392 | 15392 |  |  |  |  |

## APPENDIX B: PRICE ELASTICITY OF DEMAND AND REDUCED DEFICITS

The Postal Service is currently concerned about the prospect of reduced demand for postal services. At the same time postal rates have increased which represses demand even further. As mentioned in Section 3.2.1, there are a number of possible reasons for reduced demand: recession, substitute services, competition, and rate increases. The effect that rate increases have on reducing demand and the effect both have on the profitability of the Postal Service will be modeled in this Appendix. An allowance is made for reduction of postal expenditures due to the reduced demand.

The demand for postal services is price inelastic. That is, if price is increased by $P$ percent, demand will decline, but the percent decline will be less than P. If demand is inelastic, a rate increase will result in increased revenues in spite of decreased volume.

The price elasticity of demand, defined by

$$
e_{D}=\frac{\Delta q / q}{\Delta p / p}
$$

where $p$ is price and $q$ is quantity, has been estimated for the various mail services. During the 1974-75 hearings before the Postal Rate Commission, Docket R74-1, there was considerable discussion about the price elasticity of demand for each service, since one major consideration for rate determination was to depend on these elasticities. The following, taken from pages 2-733 and 3-328 of Docket R74-1, gives estimates.

Price Elasticity of Demand

Officer of the Postal Commission

First Class Mail $-0.076 \quad-0.100$
Second Class Mail
Third Class Mail
-0.285
$-0.485$

United States
Postal Seryice
-0.058
-0.331
-0.645

Since the elasticities fall between 0 and -1 , a rate increase would mean an increase in revenue; thus volume decline caused by a rate increase helps the financial stature of the Postal Service.

The Postal Seryice characterizes its costs as having a large fixed component and a small variable component. That is, costs depend only slightly on volume; hence, they clatm a decline in volume has little effect on their costs. This seems a bit unusual since the service is so highly labor intensive. On the short-term, this may be the case, however. One would expect that if repression of demand is a long-term phenomenon, a higher portion of costs could be eliminated.

For the purpose of a model, the "volume elasticity of cost" will be defined as

$$
e_{C}=\frac{\Delta c / c}{\Delta q / q},
$$

where $c$ is cost, as a measure of variation of cost with quantity.
Let $k$ be the relative change of the revenue to cost ratio. If $P$ is the relative price increase, then it can be shown that

$$
k=\frac{P\left[1+e_{D}+P e_{D}-e_{D} e_{C}\right]}{1+P e_{D} e_{c}},
$$

which is tabulated in Table B-1. If the present revenue to cost ratio is assumed to be 0.8 , we can compute the revenue to cost ratio after a price increase $P$. These results are tabulated in Table B-2, where it is assumed $e_{c}=0.3$. Using this volume elasticity of cost means, for example, that if volume decreases $10 \%$, costs would decrease only $3 \%$. The tables show that the change in the revenue-cost ratio depends more strongly on $e_{D}$ and $P$ than on $e_{c}$.

According to this model, a rate increase of $20 \%$ would result in a revenue-cost ratio of $92 \%$ assuming the price elasticity of demand is -0.3 , whereas a $30 \%$ price increase would result in a revenue-cost ratio of $97 \%$ under the same conditions. Figure B-1 graphically portrays the effect of price increases on the revenue/cost ratio, assuming an initial ratio of 0.8 and a volume elasticity of 0.3.

It must be emphasized that many assumptions are made: (1) volume is repressed only br rate increases, (2) price elasticity of demand and yolume elasticity of cost can be given meaning for the postal seryices overall -not only as separate services, and (3) these elasticities do not change too greatly with price. The model is useful therefore only in a general way, but can give an idea of the relative dependency of the revenue-cost ratio upon rate increases, upon price elasticity of demand, and upon volume elasticity of cost.


Figure B-1. Improyement of the Revenue/Cost Ratio Due to Rate Increases, Where the Volume Elasticity of Cost is Assumed to be 0.3

Table $B-1$. Relative Change (\%) in Revenue/Cost Ratio Due to Price Increase P

| ${ }^{\text {e }}$ | 10\% | $\frac{\mathrm{P}}{20 \%}$ | 30\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $e_{c}=0.1$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | 9.01 | 17.84 | 26.48 |
| -0.2 | 8.02 | 15.66 | 22.94 |
| -0.3 | 7.02 | 13.48 | 19.37 |
| -0.5 | 5.03 | 9.09 | 12.18 |
|  | $e_{c}=0.3$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | 9.23 | 18.31 | 27.25 |
| -0.2 | 8.45 | 16.60 | 24.44 |
| -0.3 | 7.67 | 14.87 | 21.58 |
| -0.5 | 6.09 | 11.34 | 15.71 |
|  | $e_{c}=0.5$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | 9.45 | 18.79 | 28.02 |
| -0.2 | 8.89 | 17.55 | 25.98 |
| -0.3 | 8.32 | 16.29 | 23.87 |
| -0.5 | 7.18 | 13.68 | 19.46 |
| $e_{c}=0.7$ |  |  |  |
| -0.1 | 9.67 | 19.27 | 28.80 |
| -0.2 | 9.33 | 18.52 | 27.56 |
| -0.3 | 8.99 | 17.75 | 26.25 |
| -0.5 | 8.29 | 16.13 | 23.46 |

Table B-2. Revenue/Cost Ratio Resulting from Price Increase, P, Assuming the Initial Revenue/Cost Ratio is 0.8

| ${ }^{e} \mathrm{U}$ | 10\% | $\frac{p}{20 \%}$ | 30\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $e_{c}=0.1$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | . 872 | . 943 | 1.012 |
| -0.2 | . 864 | . 925 | . 984 |
| -0.3 | . 856 | . 908 | . 955 |
| -0.5 | . 840 | . 873 | . 897 |
|  | $e_{c}=0.3$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | . 874 | . 946 | 1.018 |
| -0.2 | . 868 | . 933 | . 996 |
| -0.3 | . 861 | . 919 | . 973 |
| -0.5 | . 849 | . 891 | . 926 |
|  | $e_{C}=0.5$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | . 876 | . 950 | 1.024 |
| -0.2 | . 871 | . 940 | 1.008 |
| -0.3 | . 867 | . 930 | . 991 |
| -0.5 | . 857 | . 909 | . 856 |
|  | $e_{c}=0.7$ |  |  |
| -0.1 | . 877 | . 954 | 1.030 |
| -0.2 | . 875 | . 848 | 1.020 |
| -0.3 | . 872 | . 942 | 1.010 |
| -0.5 | . 866 | . 929 | . 988 |

## APPENDIX C: BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CLASSES OF MAIL

## 1. FIRST CLASS

First Class - Letters, postcards, business reply mail, and parcels sealed against inspection (13 ounces or less)

Domestic Air - Letters, postcards, and air parcels
Priority
2. SECOND CLASS

Second Class - Periodical publications (magazines and newspapers), classroom publications, and non-profit publications

Controlled Circulations - Free circulations (issued regularly)
3. THIRD CLASS

Bulk rate circulars, bulk rate books, bulk rate non-profit mail, and miscellaneous advertising and small pieces
4. FOURTH CLASS

Parcel post, catalogues, books and records
5. INTERNATIONAL
6. GOVERNMENT

Penalty mail is that mailed by an agency of the U.S. Government. Penalty or frank privileges are available only to those agencies, officers, and individuals specifically named by statute.

## APPENDIX D: REQUIRED STUDIES

In the body of this report an attempt was made to analyze the postal industry in the context of the larger communication and information industries. This is in contrast to many recent studies which view the "postal problem" more narrowly as being one of deciding how to make the Postal Service pay its own way in some sense. The postal crisis was briefly analyzed and it was concluded that the basic structure of postal service, and more broadly of communications, must be seriously studied in order to affect anything other than a cosmetic solution.

While it may be pragmatic in the near term to investigate more limited solutions, studies of competitive postal service must be undertaken. Indeed, the single most important postal issue today is the question of retaining the monopoly in postal service. The competitive alternatives are radical without doubt, and to open all postal services to competition may allow for even more pervasive problems, but this alternative has not been seriously investigated. The reasons for postal monopoly, which at one time seemed compelling, are of questionable application today. At one time, it was apparently necessary to control communications during wartime and to facilitate an informed public, but because of the emergence of technologies which supplement postal service, these reasons for retaining monopoly no longer appear to be valid.

On the surface, competition provides an attractive alternative. However, fully competitive postal service is approached with uneasiness, since there are major areas of uncertainty associated with this alternative. Would low-density routes receive adequate service at reasonable price? Would the shortcomings of the present postal system be corrected by competition? Would open competition result in monopoly anyway, and would there be an abuse of monopoly power? Would industry regulation be required? What kinds of costs could be expected in the transition period? What are the advantages of competitive postal service in the long term with due consideration of new technologies? A number of these questions are amenable to quantitive analysis while others must be approached more qualitatively. But, in any case, it is the promise of alleviating some of the uncertainty
and simultaneously the promise of being enlightened by serious investigation that the following studies are recommended. The brief discussions are not intended to be comprehensive study descriptions, but rather to suggest the type of studies that must be conducted in the search for a solution to current postal and communications industry problems.

## Low Density. Service

Perhaps the most common fear is that competition in postal services will bring sharply higher postal rates to rural America and to those areas of low postal traffic. This fear is analogous to the fears of those opposed to telephone competition, and is succinctly worded by Lucien R. Smartt, writing in the 0ctober 7, 1976 issue of Public Utilities Fortnightly.

The Postal Service, as a quasi-independent institution which was created in the hope that it could be made to pay for itself, has gone in for the elusive goal of cost-based service rates. It takes no genius to perceive, however, that the inevitable result of such a policy, consistently carried to its logical 1 imits , in a nation of such diverse and far-flung components as ours, will be more advantage for those who already enjoy the advantages of residing or doing business in areas of concentrated and affluent population, and deprivation and further impoverishment of those who already have the least to lose. "The rich will get richer and the poor will get poorer" -- with a vengeance! This was perceived long ago and so the principle of averaged rates was made a cornerstone of both the U.S. mail service and the privately owned telephone industry.
It is unclear, however, exactly how much higher (if any) the services to rural America would be under a system of competition in postal service. Not only are cost studies needed, but because competition would surely devise alternative methods of mail delivery, some cost studies must anticipate these alternatives. For example, the possibility of delivering mail as an "add-on" to other delivery systems should be investigated. Also, it is conceivable that mail workers could be hired at lower pay levels which would result in cost savings. An estimate of cost should be made where there is no local delivery, but users must post and receive mail at a centralized location. In each alternative there will be cost trade-offs with quality.

## Postal Labor

The characteristics of the USPS labor force are a key to some of the present postal problems and must be understood in order to determine the appropriateness of present pay schedules in comparison to other industries, and ultimately to project the cost of alternative industry structures. What is the age distribution of postal workers? What is the attrition rate, and what factors appear to influence it most? How do postal salaries compare to workers in other industries with similar education and experience? How do employee benefits compare? Can productivity and service quality be linked to an employee profile? Would postal unions likely be strong in competitive postal firms? Will a transition to competitive postal service cause major employment dislocations?

## New Technology

Transportation technology has had great influence on postal service -from the pony express to the railroads, the automobile, and the airlines. Today, electronic technology is impacting postal service. Mailgram, a joint venture of Western Union and the Postal Service, is a hybrid system of softcopy (electronic) transmission and hardcopy (paper) delivery. The Postal Service has ongoing research toward more comprehensive "electronic mail." However, efforts to incorporate new technologies into the Postal Service over the past 10 or 20 years seem to have centered on the switching function of providing mail service, where there has been research and experimentation on machines to facilitate human reading of zip codes and research on optical readers and sorters.

This kind of technological progress may well be circumvented, however, if progress in the communications and computer industries can be adapted to provide the mail function. Little doubt exists that the efficient local and national distribution of hardcopy information is important to both business and the general public, in spite of the significant projection for electronic funds transfer and other new services. The distribution of softcopy information, however, such as voice, video, and data by electronic communications has become at least as important as that of hardcopy. In fact, the cost of electronic distribution is becoming sufficiently attractive that the economic viability of traditional letter mail service is seriously being questioned.

Further, there is now a definite technological trend towards the merging of computation and communication. In fact, the Federal Communications Commission has once again opened an inquiry attempting to distinguish between communication and computation, for they have regulatory jurisdiction only over communications. With this trend and the introduction of competition in the telephone industry, what can we foresee in the postal-communicationscomputation "mega-industry"? Will one firm tend to dominate the combined functions in time, or will there be forces to insure competition in the absense of regulation? Are there specific technologies on the horizon which will force a restructuring of the Postal Service?

The primary thrust of this study is to identify alternatives and innovations in technology which may erode the present postal market, but satisfy the underlying demand for communications.

## The Postal Contribution to the American Communications Infrastructure

Public Law 91-375 of August 2, 1970 states that "The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people." Communications is a vital cornerstone of our democratic process, and the ability to send mail is a vital link in this process. It is essential to understand the unique and duplicative, the competitive and monopolistic, the independent and the interdependent natures of our total communications services environment before singling out one industry for exclusive study. The need for a solution to the postal problem is well known; but just as important are the analogous questions in the telephone industry.

Just what function does the postal ability provide in relation to other communications functions? What is its uniqueness? Who does it affect? What are the social and economic costs in relation to our total communications service requirements? First-class letter demand has incurred a peak in the last 10 years as has the daily circulation of newspapers. In contrast, telephone messages have continued to increase at a substantial rate, as have the multitude of data message services. There are no
substantial studies of the social and economic interdependence of our communications infrastructure, and certainly not of their impact on postal services.

There have been sweeping improvements in electronic technologies. The unit costs of electronic devices continues to decrease, providing new incentives for the consumer to reevaluate his communications patterns. How do these cost trends influence our communications needs, both today and in relation to changes proposed for postal functions?

What standards have or can be established for traditional services and their subsidization? What goals have been laid forth such as in the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, the Communications Act of 1934, the Housing and Urban Development Act, or the Agricultural Act of 1970? Is it possible to articulate a set of common goals and expectations for communications as a guide to evaluate the benefits and constraints of alternative industry structures? There is little doubt that we are only beginning to realize the extent of the post-industrial revolution. But it is vitally important to have these trends before us as we contemplate a reexamination of our postal and communication industries.



[^0]:    Includes Boscodel Telepnone Co.

[^1]:    Figure 37

[^2]:    *The authors are with the Policy Research Division, Office of Telecommunications, U. S. Department of Commerce, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

[^3]:    ${ }^{1}$ The telegraph was not operational until 1844, the telegram in 1864, the telephone in 1876, and the radio after the turn of the century.
    ${ }^{2}$ See Table A-15, Appendix A.

[^4]:    ${ }^{3}$
    Exchange communications are characterized by message transfer, from one sender to one receiver. Thus exchange communications can be contrasted with mass distribution systems such as newspapers, books, radio and television broadcasting, and "to the occupant" mail; these latter systems are characterized by one sender and many receivers. The two dominant systems for exchange communications today are the telephone and the postal service, although there are a number of other systems for exchange communications such as citizens band radio, courier services, facsimile, telegraph, and computer "mailboxes."

[^5]:    ${ }^{4}$ Executive Order 11341, April 8, 1967.

[^6]:    ${ }^{5}$ Section 3.3 is devoted to a more detailed discussion of postal subsidies.

[^7]:    ${ }^{7}$ Section 7 of the Postal Reorganization Act called for a "study and reevaluation" of the postal monopoly. The Board of Governors of the USPS conclyded that the postal monopoly should be retained based on arquments of universal service and the desirability of rate averaging (Board of Governors, USPS, 1973).

[^8]:    ${ }^{8}$ The Private Express Statutes do not prohibit a firm from delivering its own mail. A firm cannot deliver mail for hire for another firm or for individuals, however.
    ${ }^{9}$ A working paper on this subject has been prepared by Gene G. Ax, Policy Research Division, Office of Telecommunications, U. S. Department of Commerce, Boulder, Colorado 80302.
    ${ }^{10}$ See the discussion in Section 3.1 on productivity and efficiency.

[^9]:    ${ }^{11}$ See Section 3.2 .1 for further discussion.

[^10]:    ${ }^{12}$ Note that the average cost per piece of mail is but the inverse of "efficiency."

[^11]:    ${ }^{15}$ Inflationary effects on the GNP tend to be removed by expressing the GNP in 1975 dollars.

[^12]:    ${ }^{17}$ See Appendix B for two estimates of price elasticity of demand for four classes of mail.

    18 Approximately the present value for the Postal Service.

[^13]:    ${ }^{19}$ See Table $A-2$, Appendix $A$.

[^14]:    ${ }^{20}$ See Section 2.1 for a brief discussion of the breakdown of such federal subsidy.
    ${ }^{21}$ See Table A-2, Appendix A.

[^15]:    ${ }^{22}$ The trend in telephony in the 1960s was to extend the local calling area, and some have predicted the time when the telephone would be based on one monthly charge without regard to number and destination of calls. However, the nature of telephone demand and cost precludes such pricing, and the trend today is to reduce the size of local calling areas and to make even local charges dependent on the number and length of calls.
    ${ }^{23}$ It may be reasonable, however, to consider the federal subsidy as an access charge for postal service. This amounts to approximately $\$ 3.00$ per month per household.

[^16]:    Includes Domestic Airmail and Priority Mail
    Includes Controlled Circulation Mail

