The Bell Telephone Company of Canada.

1897.

The Directors beg to submit their eighteenth Annual Report.

983 Subscribers have been added during the year, the total number of sets of instruments now earning rental being 30,445.

The Company now owns and operates 349 Exchanges and 261 Agencies.

35 miles of poles and 703 miles of wire have been added to the Long Distance system in 1897 : of these 5 pole miles and 209 wire miles are in the Ontario Department, and 30 pole miles and 494 wire miles are in the Eastern Department.

The Long Distance Lines, now owned and operated by the Company, comprise 16,567 miles of wire on 6,095 miles of poles.

Under authority of the Shareholders, $66,500 Bonds have been sold during the year, the premium thereon being 10 per cent.

Continuing the policy adopted in past years, your Directors have charged to Contingent Fund $150,000, that amount having been expended during the year on construction rendered necessary by the introduction of trolley and other strong current wires, but which has not increased the earning power of the plant.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT MACKAY,
Vice-President.

CHAS. F. SISE,
President.

MONTREAL, February 24th, 1898.

REVENUE ACCOUNT, 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

Exchanges		$ 862,319 29
Long Distance Lines		229,917 98
Private Lines		12,619 01
Miscellaneous		80,828 93
		$1,185,685 21

EXPENSES.

Operating	$ 825,038 94	
Legal	7,725 51	
Insurance	23,733 68	
Bond Interest	45,683 30	
Miscellaneous	3,752 21	
		$ 905,933 64
Net Revenue for 1897		$ 279,751 57
Less Dividends (inc. Jan. 15th, 1898.)		253,440 00
		$ 26,311 57
Balance Revenue from 1896		$ 56,052 60
Carried forward to 1898		$ 82,364 17

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

Stock Account			$3,168,000 00
Bond Account			940,000 00
Contingent Fund		$ 950,000 00	
Less transferred to Construction Account		150,000 00	
			$ 800,000 00
Revenue Account			82,364 17
Unearned Rental Reserve			163,541 66
Insurance Reserve			68,037 12
Accident Reserve			15,574 06
Bond Interest Reserve			11,750 00
Sundry Creditors			287,789 09
Bond Premium			6,650 00
			$5,543,706 10
Plant and Patents, 31st December, 1896		$4,202,567 79	
Purchase of Patents, 1897		1,767 00	
Construction, 1897	$341,214 09		
Less Contingent Fund	150,000 00		
		191,214 09	
Plant and Patents, 31st December, 1897		4,395,548 88	
Stores on hnnd		169,079 44	
Real Estate		649,295 73	
Stock in other Companies		164,731 50	
Sundry Debtors		40,897 87	
Due from Agencies		74,858 91	
Cash		49,293 77	
			$5,543,706 10

Audited and Verified,
P. S. ROSS & SONS,
Chartered Accountants.

CHARLES P. SCLATER,
Secretary-Treasurer.