

OPINIONS AND DECISIONS
OF THE
RAILROAD COMMISSION
OF WISCONSIN

VOLUME XXXIII

JANUARY 2, 1930, TO DECEMBER 29, 1930

Compiled by
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Secretary



MADISON, WISCONSIN
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per quarter, \$2. **Fire-Protection Service.**—The city of Ladysmith shall be charged for fire-protection service the sum of \$5,800 per year, to cover the use of mains and hydrants up to and including the terminal hydrant and connection on each line of main existing on September 1, 1930. For all extensions of fire-protection service a charge of 8 cents per lineal foot of pipe shall be assessed per annum on the basis of the length of main put into use between hydrants placed, plus a fixed charge of \$8 per hydrant set for each hydrant added to the system. **Private Fire-Protection Service.**—2-inch connection—service charge, \$15 per year; 2½-inch, \$20; 3-inch, \$30; 4-inch, \$40. Emergency, building, and occasional service rates, and collection, disconnection and penalty rules to remain unchanged.

A customer or unit of service shall consist of any aggregation of space or area occupied for a distinct purpose, such as a residence, apartment, dwelling, flat, store, office, factory, etc., which is equipped with one or more fixtures for rendering water service separate and distinct from other users.

[U.—4023]

**IN RE APPLICATION OF THE SPIDER LAKE TELEPHONE
COMPANY TO INCREASE RATES**

Submitted September 12, 1930. Decided September 30, 1930

APPLICATION by Spider Lake Telephone Company for authority to increase its rate of \$25 per year, plus \$5 for toll switching, to \$36 per year for all service, *granted*.

The application in this case was made July 9, 1930, and the hearing was held at Koerner's Resort near Manitowish on Friday, September 12, 1930. The only appearance at the hearing was by the Spider Lake Telephone Company, *Mr. Alvin Koerner*. The present rates of this company, as filed with the Commission, are \$25, plus \$5 per year for toll switching for all subscribers, and the petition asks for authority to install a rate of \$36 per year for all service for all subscribers. Inasmuch as there were no appearances against the increase, it is to be assumed that the subscribers do not seriously object, and *Mr. Koerner* in his testimony stated that as far as he knew the subscribers were willing that the rate should be increased.

Mr. Koerner submitted the following statement of revenues and expenses under the increased rates:

Estimated Revenue

19 subscribers		
17 at \$36	-----	\$612.00
1 at \$5 switching service until 1932	-----	5.00
1	-----	No charge
		<u>\$617.00</u>

Estimated Expenses

6½ miles contact rental	-----	\$ 78.00
(30 cts. per pole—40 poles to mile)		
Depreciation, 5 per cent	-----	174.80
Operator's wages	-----	100.00
Maintenance expenses	-----	120.00
General expenses	-----	60.00
Taxes at 2½ per cent of \$617	-----	15.42
		<u>\$548.22</u>
Balance for return	-----	\$ 68.78

A check was made of the amount of property owned by this company and an approximate value of \$3,217 was arrived at.

There can be no question but what the statement of operating expenses is very reasonable, and inasmuch as the balance for return shown provides considerably less than 6 per cent of the value of the property, the Commission finds that the increase in rates applied for is reasonable and should be granted.

This telephone company has been in the habit of collecting the bills one year in advance for each subscriber at the time he is first given service, so that the date of collection may be at any time during the year for the various subscribers. In this case the new rates should apply for all service rendered subsequent to October 1, 1930, and the bills should be issued accordingly, and it is suggested that adjustment should be made and all the bills issued on January 1.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, That the Spider Lake Telephone Company is hereby authorized to discontinue its present rate of \$25 per year and \$5 for toll service, and to place in effect an annual charge of \$36 per year for all service for all subscribers.

This rate shall be applied to all the subscribers of the utility for service rendered on and after the first day of October, 1930.