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THE BELL TELEPHONE CO. TO SPEND MILLIONS.

A \$44,000,000 construction program of State-wide proportions is planned by the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania for 1930, according to an announcement by Leonard H. Kinnard, president of the company.

This prospective expenditure represents an increase of \$10,000,000 over the tentative construction budget for 1929 fixed by the company's engineers a year ago.

"Not only does our new 1930 budget exceed by \$10,000,000 the earlier estimate for construction expenditures next year, but our plans call for a \$215,000,000 telephone expansion program during the next five years," Mr. Kinnard said. "This new five-year construction budget exceeds by \$50,000,000 the appropriation tentatively decided upon for this period when we considered the subject about a year ago.

"These upward revisions of our construction budgets for 1929 and the succeeding four years are evidence of our faith in our State and its prosperity."

Although a large portion of the Bell Company's 1930 appropriations will be devoted to extension of central office facilities, nearly one-third of the total will be spent on "outside plant." This constitutes the equipment and apparatus outside the central offices, including such items as poles, cross arms and aerial and underground cables. In round figures the outside plant expenditure will be \$16,200,000.

Approximately \$8,750,000 of this amount will be spent for the construction of underground and storm proof aerial cable. The magnitude of the cable construction program to be carried out in this State next year is shown by the fact that 685,000 miles of wire in storm proof cable is scheduled for construction under the company's 1930 budget. These storm-proof cables are encased in lead and provide so great a degree of protection against adverse weather conditions that service interruptions due to storm

conditions are reduced to a minimum. It is the policy of the Bell System to extend the use of storm proof cables wherever the volume of business makes their installation economical.

Nearly \$6,000,000 is to be spent for new building construction. This will include major additions to several existing offices and the construction of new offices throughout the State.

Construction of two central office buildings in Philadelphia, and the erection of a large new central office structure in Pittsburgh is called for in the company's building programs for the State's two largest cities.

Telephone engineers have estimated that there will be about 78,000 telephones added to the Bell network in this State during the year. In arriving at this net figure they predict that approximately 336,000 telephones will be installed and that about 258,000 will be disconnected because of the removal of subscribers to other neighborhoods or towns, and other causes.

The daily average of local telephone calls in the State during 1929 has been, on the basis of figures now available, 5,370,000. During 1930 it is estimated that local calls will total 5,730,000, an increase of 300,000 a day.

An average of 281,000 out-of-town calls was made daily by telephone users in Pennsylvania during 1929. This figure also will be increased, according to the estimates of telephone engineers, to 306,000 calls a day.

PIERRE S. DU PONT BUYS GIANT ORGAN

A seven-manual pipe organ, said to be the most complete ever made, has been completed at the Garwood factory of the Aeolian Company. Designed and built especially for Pierre S. du Pont, this organ, which cost approximately \$250,000, will be shipped next week to Mr. du Pont's Longwood Conservatories, Kennett Square, Pa.

The instrument is sixty-five feet long, forty feet wide and twenty-five feet deep. It has 10,874 pipes and more than 200 stops, and can do at one time everything a military band a symphony orchestra and several organists can do. It can be played both manually and automatically. Three hundred employes have been at work upon it since last April.

—Read the Watchman for the news

1930 CENSUS WILL BE BOOK OF MANY FACTS.

After the 1930 census is completed and published, parts of it may look as though the files of the war and navy were lifted from the government printing presses and put in the city directory.

The reason? Next year, for the first time since the taking of the first United States census nearly 140 years ago, the law requires that every war veteran be listed, with the facts of his service, when it began, when it ended, what war or wars, on land or sea and so forth.

Briefly, it will have the war record as best remembered by millions of veterans throughout the United States, and William C. Steuart, of the Census Bureau in Washington, has asked veterans' organizations of Central Pennsylvania to "give the little enumerators a big lift by writing out your war record for the census."

This new departure comes along with other innovations that will be a part of the 1930 census—now regarded as the biggest venture of its kind ever undertaken by a Government.

Mr. Steuart calls attention to the 1930 census as it affects business, large and small. Every business in the country, from the greatest corporations to the smallest country stores, must be covered.

And for the first time a census will disclose to the country the actual facts as to employment and unemployment everywhere and in all industries.

It will include, as new features, the enumeration of more than 120,000,000 people, the sex, race and age of each of them who are of working age; tabulation of the home owners and of the basic facts of American agriculture insofar as the ownership of land is involved.

Another important task assigned to the 100,000 enumerators who will begin their work next April is to ascertain, as nearly as possible, the number of persons of foreign birth or alien parentage in every State of the Union.

"No one need fear that his personal or business secrets will ever be disclosed to friend or foe. The oath of the enumerator requires that he or she keep secret the answers to confidential queries," Mr. Steuart says.

"If he or she does not, the enumerator is guilty of a crime, and if detected there is not the slightest doubt as to what will happen. The law will be invoked and enforced to the limit.

"It will be noted that for the first time there will be an enumeration of about 6,500,000 American farms.

"The census of agriculture for 1930 will call for replies to more than 300 questions, pertaining to acreage, tenure of operators, crops, livestock, mechanical equipment, whether or not the property is encumbered, and many other queries the answers to which we hope will aid in the work now under way to make farm life in America more attractive as well as more profitable.

"In 1920, there were 24,000 tractors reported on American farms. The five years that followed saw the number increase to approximately 585,000. There is no question that this latter figure will be doubled, if not tripled, in the returns of the 1930 census.

"All the indications are that the forthcoming enumeration is going to be a real 'count' such as was never before made in this or any other country."

There have been fourteen censuses of the people of the United States, but never one on so great a scale as the one now being planned.

There was a time when it required more than a year to count the American people. That was when there was about one-twentieth of our present estimated population.

"Can you tell now, approximately, what the population of the United States will be when the 1930 census is completed?" Mr. Stewart was asked.

"It will be," he said, "more than 121,000,000 and less than 125,000,000. We are certain as to this, because we know that the population of the continental United States is now increasing at the rate of 1,400,000 persons each year, or, to put it another way, at the rate of one person every twenty seconds.

"These totals are made up of the annual excess of births over deaths, which amounts to about 1,150,000, and the excess immigration over emigration, which gives us an additional 240,000 each year.

"Our 1930 census will show that there are thirty times as many people as were in the country in 1790 and nearly twice as many as in 1890, or only forty years ago."


History, said Mr. Steuart, records no instance in which population has so rapidly increased as has been the case in the United States.

Neither is it of record, he added, that the increase in population has anywhere else been accompanied by so great an improvement in the comfort and well being of the people generally.

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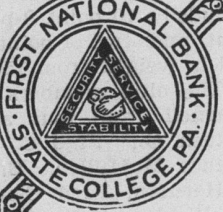
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