

343. The telephone system of Canada is almost entirely in the hands of the Bell Telephone Company of Montreal, which has 325 offices, 18,114 sets of instruments in use, 4,497 miles of poles, and 17,489 miles of wire. The number of messages sent was about 37,137,450. The above figures do not include Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island or British Columbia, all of which are worked by separate companies, particulars of which are not at hand. The longest distance in which audible speaking has been accomplished by the telephone is between New York and Chicago, over one thousand miles, and the next longest distance, between Paris and Marseilles, 562½ miles.

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