1949 Was Another Good Year for Telephone Users

More People—Nearly 2,000,000 new rural telephones were added by the Bell System in 1949. This meant not only 1,300,000 added since the war—enough to give every rural home telephone service. But it also increased the value and usefulness of your own particular telephone. You can call many more people—and many more can call you. There are now more than 50% more Bell telephones than at the end of the war.

Better Local Service—The over-all quality of telephone service continued to improve in 1949 and it keeps right on getting better. There’s faster, clearer, more accurate service on millions of local calls.

275,000 New Rural Telephones were added by the Bell System in 1949. 1,300,000 have been added since the war—a truly remarkable record of rural development by the Bell System. Great gains were made also in the quality of service. Fewer parties on the line. Many thousands of new-type telephones put in. A higher proportion of our farmers have telephones than in any other country in the world.

Contribution to Prosperity—All of this expansion and improvement in telephone service provided work and wages for many people outside the telephone business.

Improvements in Long Distance—Long Distance grew steadily better in 1949. The average time to complete out-of-town calls is now down to little more than a minute and a half. Nine out of ten calls go through while you hold the line. Over many routes, the Long Distance operator dials the distant telephone direct. It’s faster, friendly, courteous service all the way.

Bell Telephone System—The best and the most telephone service at the lowest possible price.