



Benson Telephone Company (Linn County, Mo.) Records (C4428)

Collection Number: C4428

Collection Title: Benson Telephone Company (Linn County, Mo.) Records

Dates: 1899-1956

Creator: Benson Telephone Company

Abstract: A selection of correspondence, fiscal records, and legal materials surrounding the Benson Telephone Company and its connection to the Bucklin Telephone Exchange in Linn County.

Collection Size: 0.3 cubic feet
(3 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Benson Telephone Company (Linn County, Mo.) Records* (C4428); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Emily Krumm on August 6, 1992 (Accession No. CA2913).

Processed by: Aleksandra Kinlen on June 9, 2021

Historical Note:

The Benson Telephone Company operated through cooperation with the Bucklin Telephone Exchange and the Ethel Telephone Exchange in Linn County. The company was founded in 1899 and worked within Bucklin and the surrounding area until 1956.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Records

Scope and Content Note:

The Records Series contains correspondence regarding the State Highway Commission application for permission to maintain telephone pole lines along Route K in Linn County (1934); a Bucklin citizen petition to the US Secretary of Agriculture to restore the quality of phone service in the area (1940); and the census of telephones by the US Department of Commerce (1937).

The contents also include fiscal records for telephone services in Bucklin, such as payments due to the Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation (1955-1956), the Ethel Telephone Exchange (1936), and the Bucklin Telephone Exchange (1914, 1917, 1918, 1920, 1930-34, 1941, 1943, 1946). There is also an inventory of telephone repair supplies (1920) and usage information regarding the Benson Telephone Company line (1916).

This collection also consists of several copies of the constitution and bylaws of the telephone company and contracts with Hokan Hanson (n.d.), the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company (1899), George W. Lineberry (1907), the Bucklin Telephone Exchange (1907), and the Macon Electric Cooperative (1939).

The contents further include a journal and an account's ledger (1899-1956), the former of which contains a copy of the company's constitution and bylaws and a handful of "articles of agreement" allowing use of their telephone lines. These contracts are with John Bolin (1905), Fred Berquist (1906), H. T. Bundy (1907), Fred S. Olson (1915), Frank E. Johnson (1916), George Woodruff (1916), and Rolla Baird (1919). These are followed by minutes from shareholder and executive committee meetings from 1899 to 1956. The ledger consists of names of customers, amount due, and dates of service covered.

Container List:

f. 1	Benson Telephone Company Records, 1899-1956
f. 2	Journal
f. 3	Account's ledger

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Index Terms	Folder	Image
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Bucklin Telephone Exchange	1	
Bucklin, Missouri	1	
Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation	1	

Index Terms	Folder	Image
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Telephone companies	1	
Telephone exchanges	1	
Telephone lines	1	
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