



FIFTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

IN 1885, fifty years ago, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was formed.

There were few telephones then and service was slow, uncertain and limited to separate communities. In that year the largest number of telephones in any one city was 8400, in New York.

New York now has 1,500,000, Chicago 800,000, Philadelphia 350,000.

From your own Bell telephone you may talk with any one of

17,000,000 other telephones in this country and most of those in foreign lands. Today, 93% of all the world's telephones are within reach of the Bell telephone in your home or office.

This year marks also the Twentieth Anniversary of the opening of the first transcontinental line, from New York to San Francisco, and the Eighth Anniversary of

the opening of transatlantic service.

The work of improving Bell telephone communication is never ended . . . it goes on and on toward a constantly higher standard. Further improvements as important as those of the past half-century will come through Bell System research, manufacturing and unified operation.

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

To make your telephone service dependable, 94 per cent of the Bell System's 80,000,000 miles of wire is now in storm-resisting, lead-covered cable. Sixty-five per cent of it is buried beneath the ground.

