

# 1949 Was Another Good Year for Telephone Users



**MORE PEOPLE**— Nearly 2,000,000 to the Bell System in 1949. This meant more people who did not have a telephone before 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.



**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.



**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.

More than \$1,000,000,000 was put into new facilities. Western Electric — the manufacturing unit of the Bell System — bought from 23,000 different concerns in 2500 cities and towns throughout the country.



**BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM** — The best and the most telephone service at the lowest possible price.

