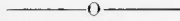


No. 4B.

PETITION.



To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia:

The petition of the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, Limited, humbly sheweth:—

1. Your petitioners were incorporated by an Act of the Legislature of British Columbia passed in the year 1886, being Chapter 30 of the Statutes of that year.

2. The first three sections of the said Act are as follows:—

“ 1. The said Company are hereby authorised and empowered to construct and maintain, and shall, subject to the provisions of the said Act of Incorporation and of this Act, have the right, liberty and privilege of constructing and maintaining a line or lines of Telephone from such point or points in the City of New Westminster, in British Columbia, by such route or routes to such point or points at Vancouver City, Hastings, English Bay, and throughout the streets thereof, and other places on Burrard Inlet, and throughout the streets thereof and on the way thereto by way of Vancouver City or otherwise, as the said Company may from time to time determine upon.

“ 2. The said Company are also authorised and empowered to construct and maintain such line or lines of Telephone from any such point or points as aforesaid, and in the vicinity of such place or places as now are or hereafter may be along any such route or routes, or in the vicinity of any such point or points as aforesaid, as the said Company may at any time or from time to time determine upon.

“ 3. For the purposes hereby authorised the Company may erect poles and other necessary appliances along the proposed line or lines of Telephone, and may erect and maintain such poles in the ground and upon bridges, and through, upon and in streets.”

3. Your petitioners, under the authority of the said Act, have established a telephone system in the City of Vancouver, and have been operating the same for about ten years.

4. About \$300,000 has been invested by your petitioners in the construction of the said system, the greater part of the said capital being owned by shareholders outside of the Province of British Columbia.

5. Your petitioners' plant, poles, wires, machinery and system generally is now in good working order and will not require, in the ordinary course, any alterations or repairs on any extensive scale for some years.

6. A Bill has been introduced on behalf of the Corporation of the City of Vancouver with the intention of amending the present Incorporation Act of the said City. Your petitioners respectfully represent that sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 of section 112 of the said Bill ought not to be allowed to become law, on the ground that the said City should not be allowed to enter into competition with your petitioners without first compensating your petitioners on equitable terms.

7. Your petitioners respectfully represent that sub-section 4 of section 112 ought not to become law, because the said section would not only operate unfairly against your petitioners but the same is in derogation of the powers conferred on your petitioners by the above mentioned Act of Incorporation, upon the faith of which your petitioners have invested the capital above mentioned.

8. Your petitioners further respectfully represent that sub-section 5 of section 112 should not become law, because the said sub-section is in derogation of the said powers, and because the same contains no provision protecting the rights of your petitioners.

9. Your petitioners further respectfully represent that sub-section 89 of section 112 should not be allowed to become law, because the same contains no limit to the amount of the licence fee which may be imposed under the said sub-section.

And your petitioners therefore pray that the section of the said Bill above mentioned should not be allowed to pass.

[L.S.] NEW WESTMINSTER & BURRARD INLET TELEPHONE CO., LD.
W. FARRELL,
Managing Director.