

Mr. Hanback having presented the following resolution: Resolved, That the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice be, and is hereby, empowered to make full inquiry into any expenditure upon the part of the Government relative to the rights of the Bell and Pan-Electric Telephone companies; and for the purpose of this investigation, and to the end that the people may be fully advised, the committee is granted the right to send for persons and papers, all expenses to be audited and accounted for upon approved vouchers, and when so approved to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated--

At the end of line 12 on page 12 insert: ``Provided further, That no part of this appropriation shall be expended for telephone service in any post-office where the postmaster is required, by order of the Postmaster-General or otherwise, to use no other telephone service than that of the Bell Telephone Company or any of the telephone companies connected with or controlled, in whole or in part, by said Bell Telephone Company."

The paragraph under consideration contains an appropriation of \$225,000 ``for necessary miscellaneous and incidental items directly connected with first and second class post-offices." The Chair understands that under the statutes a part of this money may be expended for telephone service. The amendment offered by the gentleman from Minnesota provides that no part of the appropriation shall be expended for telephone service in any post-office where the postmaster is required, by order of the Postmaster-General or otherwise, to use only one kind of telephone. Now, the Chair would call the attention of the gentleman from Indiana, chairman of the Post-Office and Post-Roads Committee, to the fact that this amendment is not put in as a limitation upon the use of the entire sum appropriated in this paragraph of \$225,000. This limitation is merely a limitation upon the amount which the Postmaster-General may use for telephone services authorized by law, and this amendment simply says in effect, in order that this amount may be available, the Postmaster-General must refrain from saying to the postmaster that he must use one single telephone. The Chair therefore is of opinion that this amendment comes within the rule, and it is simply a limitation upon the expenditure of a part authorized by this paragraph for telephone services, and therefore the Chair overrules the point of order.

Sec. 5905 5905. To a bill relating to laying of conduits for telephone wires, an amendment relating to the prices to be charged for services was held not to be germane.--On May 26, 1902, the House was considering the bill (H. R. 12865) to provide for the removal of overhead telegraph and telephone wires in the city of Washington, for the construction of conduits in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, when Mr. Thetus W. Sims, of Tennessee, proposed the following amendment: Add to the bill a new section, to be section 8, to read as follows: ``Any telephone company operating under the provisions of this bill shall charge not to exceed \$50 per year for telephones."

5413. On March 19, 1900, the House was considering the bill (H. R. 9047) to incorporate the Washington Telephone Company, etc., and had ordered it to be engrossed and read a third time, under the operation of the previous question. The bill having been read a third time, Mr. William H. Moody, of Massachusetts, moved to recommit the bill with instructions. Mr. Joseph W. Babcock, of Wisconsin, moved that this motion be laid on the table.