

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Weekly for North and South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Vol. XXV. No. 37.

RALEIGH, N. C., SEPTEMBER 17, 1910.

Weekly: \$1 a Year.

Why Not Build a Telephone Line For Your Neighborhood?

WE have said so much about the convenience and the satisfaction which result from having a telephone in the house that we scarcely think it necessary to discuss that feature of the matter again. But we do wish to call your attention to the fact that you can build your own telephone line at a comparatively small cost—a wonderfully small cost compared to its value to you—and that this is a splendid season for you and your neighbors to get together and establish a telephone system of your own. You can then connect it with other lines, and be right in touch with the business and social activities of the world.

The Western Electric Co., issues a free booklet telling just how to go about this work, and the following details of construction are taken from it:

"A telephone line should run past or as near as possible to the buildings in which telephones are to be placed. It is not necessary, however, to run the main line past each of these buildings, as branch wires may extend from the main line to each building, saving wire and simplifying construction.

"For substantial and economical line construction poles of good stock, such as chestnut or cedar, are best on account of their lasting qualities. For a line of light construction a pole twenty-six feet in length and five or six inches in diameter at the top represents good practice and allows for re-setting if it becomes necessary through decay below the surface of the ground.

"The cross-arms familiar on all long distance lines are not necessary when one is considering the first principles of rural construction. Only two strands of wire are needed by such a system, and these are usually supported by twelve-inch painted oak brackets nailed securely to the pole before it is set into the ground. On each bracket should be screwed a glass insulator for attaching the wire, with a view to preventing leakage of current down the pole or from one side of the circuit to the other.

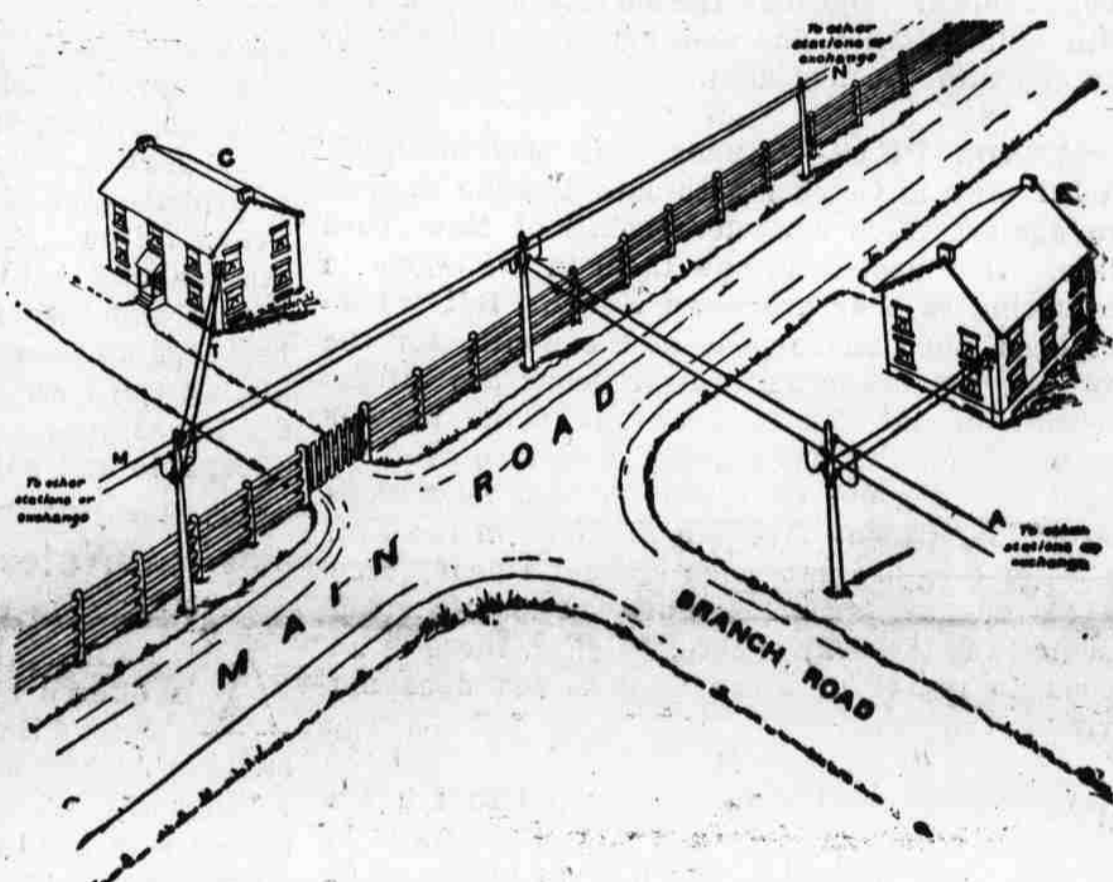
"Galvanized iron wire of No. 12 B. B. gauge is most suitable for rural lines on account of its toughness and ability to withstand the action of the weather.

"The pictures show the method of attaching wires to the house and leading them in for connection to the instrument inside, and the method of connection from main line to house.

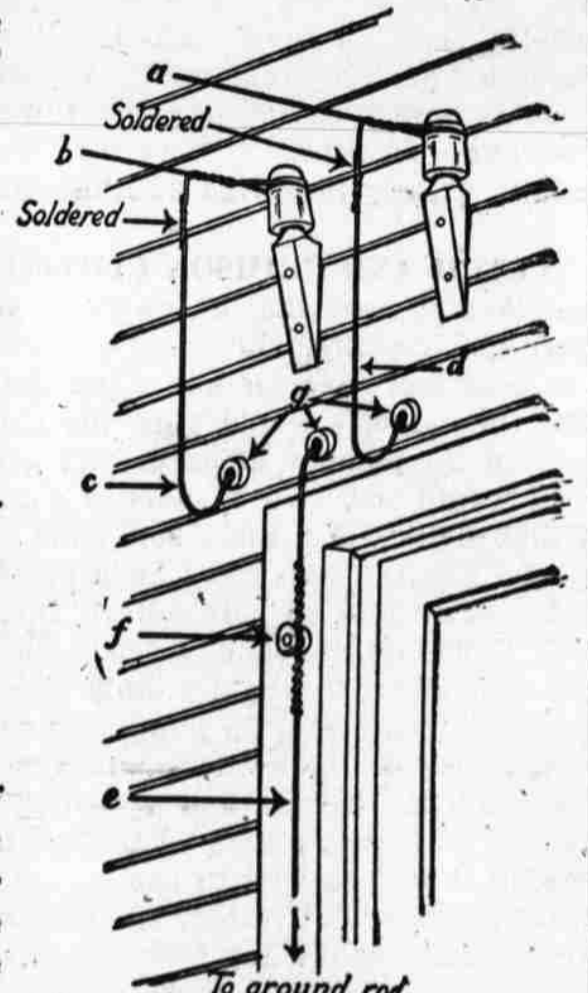
"Provided that the line is kept free from tree limbs and maintained in good condition, a large number of instruments may be connected on one pair of wires. It must be remembered, however, that the greater the number of telephones connected the less available they are at certain busy times. If calls are too frequent and the wires become heavily loaded—especially if there is a prospect of obtaining more subscribers—it may be advisable to run another pair of wires on the same set of poles. This not only lessens the call on the one wire, but it provides facilities for development and the handling of an increase of the number of subscribers. In case two sets of lines are used, a small switching station, located in some central house, must then be arranged, to allow for connection of one line with the other.

"The cost of one mile of line construction, exclusive of poles and labor, for a grounded system approximately twelve miles long and using thirty poles to the mile is about \$7. For a full metallic system the cost is approximately \$14. The cost of each subscriber's instruments and incidental equipment is approximately \$13 more."

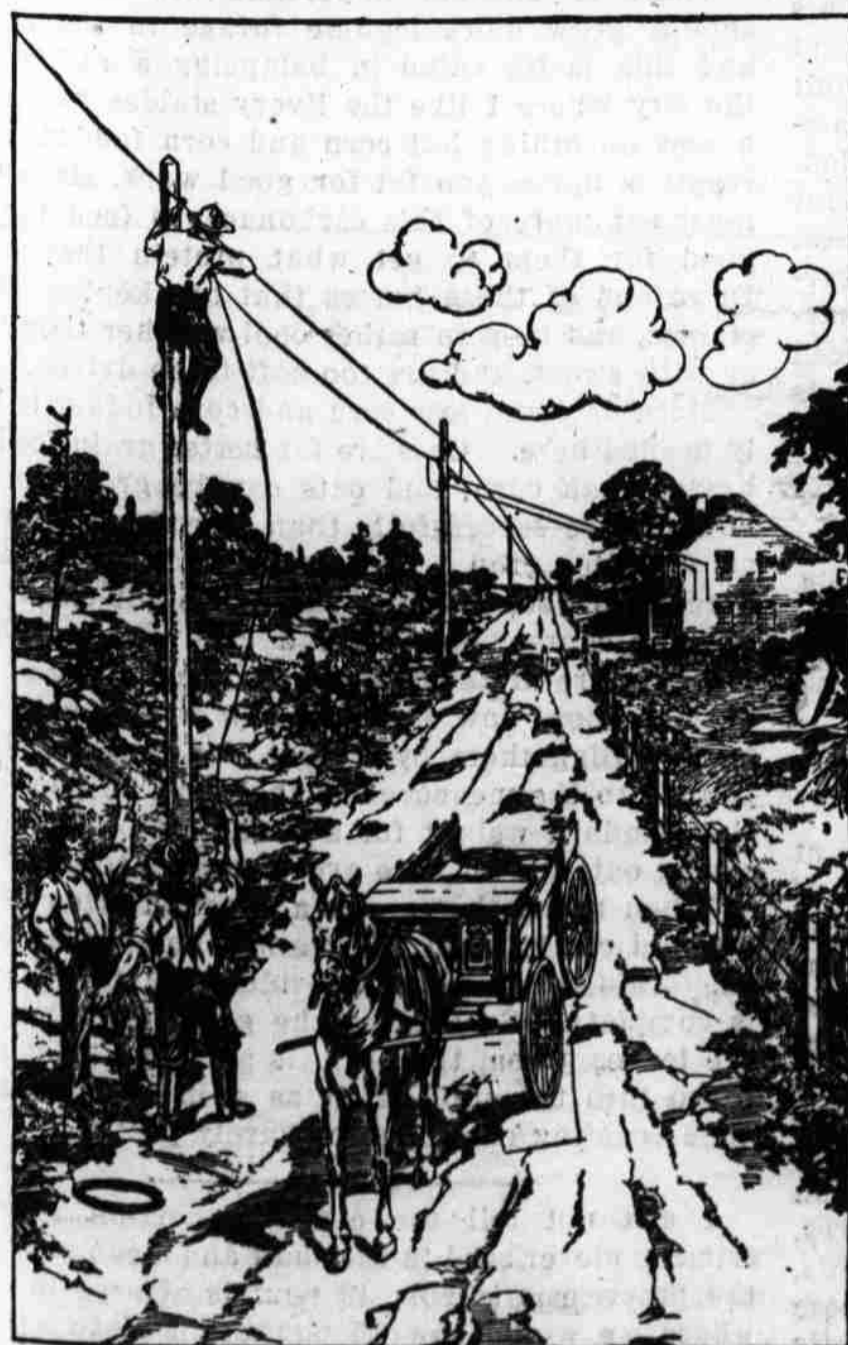
It will thus be seen that a telephone is easily within your reach, and once using it you will not be without it. Why not get busy and establish your line this fall?



HOW THE BRANCH LINE RUNS OFF FROM THE MAIN LINE.



HOW THE WIRES ARE FASTENED TO THE HOUSE.



BUILDING A RURAL TELEPHONE LINE.

FEATURES OF THIS ISSUE.

A Farmer Boy's Problems—II.	3.
A New Method of Curing Cowpea Hay....	7.
Feeding Children From One to Six.....	8.
How to Get Rid of the Cattle Tick.....	12.
How to Secure Better Seeds.....	3.
If You Need Help, Ask for It.....	10.
Lighting Systems for Farm Homes.....	6.
North Carolina Farmers' Convention.....	5.
Packing Apples for Fancy Prices.....	17.
Problems of the Southern Hill Country....	4.
Round the World Travel Letters—II.....	11.
South Carolina Farmers' Congress.....	19.
What Farmers Want to Know.....	2.