

## The Development of the Telephone in Woodhull Illinois

In 1900 or earlier, the first telephone was installed in the Sherwood Drug Store by a company who built a line from Keithsburg for toll service only.

Dr. N.H. Lowry installed a telephone at his home, built a line to the store Dr. F. J. Kellogg and installed one there, about the same time.

Soon after the Clover Chapel community was organized by John Shattuck lines were built into Woodhull, and a small switchboard was installed.

High Point then was organized by L. J. Stiers, and other communities followed.

As the citizens of Woodhull started to buy their own telephones and connect their lines to the small switch board the service became limited and unsatisfactory.

Telephone lines were built in 1901 and '02, and soon everyone in town and country had telephones installed. It really was a convenience to be able to call your neighbors and have pleasant chats, as well as conduct business. At that time dues were \$4 per year if you owned your own "rights". In 1956, the dial system was installed, and a fine new brick telephone office built on Main Street.

The first telephone office was on the second floor in the J.D. Bell building. Later the Mrs. Christine Roselle house was purchased and remodeled and the office was moved there and rooms provided for living quarters for the operator.

