Office of the Attorney General Washington, D.C., December 19, 1913 Mr. N.C. Kingsbury, Vice President American Telephone and Telegraph Company 15 Dey Street, New York City

Dear Sir:

Permit me to acknowledge, with expressions of appreciation your letter of December 19, outlining the course of action which the telephone companies composing the Bell System obligate themselves to follow in the future.

Your frank negotiations in respect of these matters compel the belief that what you propose will be carried out in good faith; and it seems to me clear that such action on your part will establish conditions under which there will be full opportunity throughout the country for competition in the transmission of intelligence by wire.

May I take this occasion to say that the Administration earnestly desires to co-operate with and to promote all business conducted in harmony with law; and that, without abating the insistence that the statutes must be obeyed, it will always welcome opportunity to aid in bring about whatever adjustments are necessary for the reestablishment of lawful conditions without ligation.

Very truly yours,

J. C. McReynolds, Attorney General