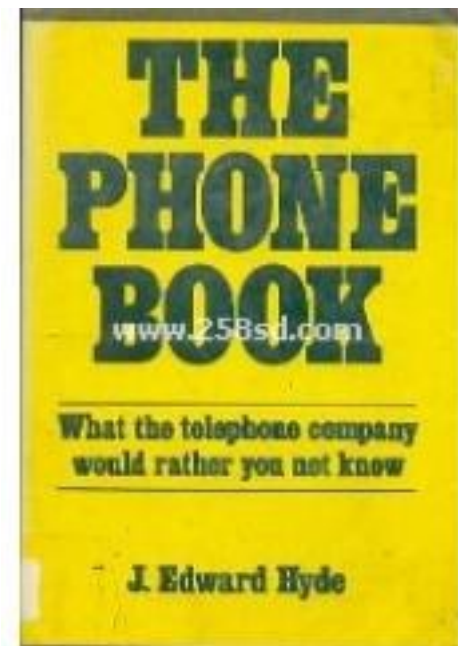


# The phone book: What the telephone company would rather you not know



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SIXTY BILLION DOLLARS equals the combined gross national product of Belgium, Denmark and Finland, or the cost of four years of bloodletting in the First World War, or the amount U. S. corporations paid in taxes over the past two years. In 1975 the Telephone Company had assets of just over sixty billion dollars....NINETY-THREE MILLION MILES is the distance from the earth to the sun. A ray of light traveling at 186,000 miles per second takes more than eight minutes to cover that distance. By 1974 the Telephone Company was using enough cable and wire to reach from the earth to

the sun and back again more than three times with several million miles to spare TWENTY-FIVE STATES lie between the Mississippi River and the Atlantic Ocean and enough plastic in the manufacture of telephone sets to cover all twenty-five with one quarter inch of high-impact unbreakable styrene IN FIVE YEARS 157,680,000 seconds of time pass into history. In 1973 the Telephone Company handled one long distance call for every second of time in a five-year period IN 1973 Chrysler & P R C A Phillips Petroleum S.S. Kresge Boeing International Harvester Woolworth Greyhound Firestone Litton and General Foods among others each reported annual profits of less than \$150,000,000. In that same year the Telephone Company wrote off mass being uncollectable--debts of \$150,000,000

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