The Omaha Bee








Only One-Fourth of American
Talephone Excliagges Are Bell Owad or Controlled
 exchanges in the United
States, only 5,40 or about
25 per cent, are owned by the Bell System.

Tho Bell System, composed of 37 associated companies, does not seek univer:al ownership of tha telephone. It doss,
however, encourage the connection of all the telephone sys. however, encourage the connection of all the telephone systems in the country with each othor ss that comninice
tween any two telcephones in the nation will be possible.

In addition to 9,129 Independent talaphone companies in the Unitcd States operiting 16,30 erch with $1,400,000$ rural telephones.

The Unit:d States today has over $11,700,000$ telephones. or more th:n all tis rest of ths worid combined, and the service is the lest and cheapest given anywhere.

No sincle tilephone organization can claim the credit for the magnificent showing mede in this country. Every telephone coinpany, large and small, Bell owned, indspencontly owned
tual association, is entitled to its full share of the credit.
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