

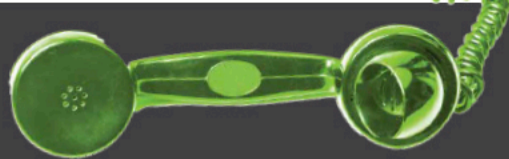
# Pandemic Phoning

A sampling of the  
Spanish flu's impact  
on telephone use.

**October 13, 1918** Hyattsville, Maryland—A headline from the *Washington Post*: “‘Flu’ Cripples Telephone Force.”

**October 18, 1918** The *Washington Post* reports that Boy Scouts who have the flu are still selling war bonds over the telephone.

**October 22, 1918** New York City—The New York Telephone Company emphasizes that calls should be restricted at this time.



**November 26, 1918** A headline from the *Los Angeles Times*: “Stay at Home; Shop by Phone.”

**January 29, 1919** Long Beach, California—Long Beach originates a novel innovation, teaching by telephone, as a measure to beat the flu quarantine.