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# CWA Local 4340

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## Mobilization 2008

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June 16, 2008

Welcome to the first installment of our reproduction of the Communications Workers of America publication "CWA History – A Brief Review"

As we move further into this latest millennium, it is becoming increasingly critical that we, as Union members, unite and become active participants in our future. In honor of those that have paved the way, here is the first segment of a glimpse into our collective past...

### **1910 – 1919: Early Organizing Efforts in the Telephone Industry**

**Unionization of the telephone industry during the first three decades of this century was confined to a few scattered pockets of organized workers. The first union to attempt to organize telephone workers by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) achieved limited success during these years. These early organizing efforts did not include women who worked in the telephone industry. It was not until 1912 that the IBEW accepted telephone operators – generally women – as members. In 1919, IBEW's telephone department claimed 200 telephone locals with 20,000 members.**

Please share this email with any interested members and encourage them to contact the Local with up-to-date contact information so we can reach as many as possible. We can be reached via email at [mobilize4340@aol.com](mailto:mobilize4340@aol.com) or by telephone at 216-635-4340.

Keep an eye out for a new 'Mobilization/Communication Data Form' at your workplace. Please complete the form and return it as directed so that we can keep you up to date with the latest information.

Thank you for your continued support and watch for more of our CWA History installments. This will be an important year for all of us in CWA so frequent updates will be headed your way.

Mobilization Committee  
CWA Local 4340  
[www.cwa4340.org](http://www.cwa4340.org)