Contents

List of Illustrations vii
List of Tables viii
Acknowledgments ix

1. Women in the Telegraph Industry 1
   The Entry of Women into the Telegraph Industry in the United States •
   Women Telegraphers in Canada and Europe • Women and the
   Telegraph in the Non-European World • Women in the Telegraph
   Industry in the Twentieth Century

2. Daily Life in the Telegraph Office 12
   Life in the Depot Office • Morse Keys and “Bugs” • Life in the
   Commercial Office • The Working Environment • Working Hours •
   Introduction of the Teletype • Occupational Hazards

3. Society and the Telegraph Operator 38
   Social Class • Ethnicity • Schooling • Reasons for Entering the
   Workforce • Demographic Composition of the Workforce • Social Life •
   Travel • Religious, Social, and Civic Organizations • Telegraphic
   Competitions • Family and Marriage

4. Women’s Issues in the Telegraph Office 79
   The Entry of Women into Telegraphy in the United States and the
   Debate in the Telegrapher • The Entry of Women into Telegraphy in
   Europe • Women’s Issues in the Telegraph Office in the United States in
   the 1870s • Gendered Behavior in the Workplace • Equal Pay • Women
   as Business Entrepreneurs • Office Politics: The Case of Lizzie Snow •
   Sex and Morality in the Telegraph Office
5. Women Telegraphers in Literature and Cinema
   Portrayal of Women Telegraphers in Literature • Women Telegraphers in the Cinema

6. Women Telegraphers and the Labor Movement
   The Telegraphers’ Protective League and the Strike of 1870 • Women and the Labor Movement in Europe • The Brotherhood of Telegraphers and the Strike of 1883 • Women Operators and the Women’s Movement • The Order of Railroad Telegraphers • The Commercial Telegraphers’ Union and the Strike of 1907 • The Strike of 1919 • The 1919 Strike in Austria • The Decline of the CTUA

7. Conclusions
   The Industrialization of the Telegraph Industry • The Closing of the Telegraph Age • Women Telegraphers as Technical Workers • In Pursuit of the Unwritten History • The Importance of Rediscovering History

Notes
Bibliography
Index