



# **The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)**

*Robert MacDougall*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)

*Robert MacDougall*

**The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)** Robert MacDougall

The Bell System dominated telecommunications in the United States and Canada for most of the twentieth century, but its monopoly was not inevitable. In the decades around 1900, ordinary citizens—farmers, doctors, small-town entrepreneurs—established tens of thousands of independent telephone systems, stringing their own wires to bring this new technology to the people. Managed by opportunists and idealists alike, these small businesses were motivated not only by profit but also by the promise of open communication as a weapon against monopoly capital and for protection of regional autonomy. As the Bell empire grew, independents fought fiercely to retain control of their local networks and companies—a struggle with an emerging corporate giant that has been almost entirely forgotten.

*The People's Network* reconstructs the story of the telephone's contentious beginnings, exploring the interplay of political economy, business strategy, and social practice in the creation of modern North American telecommunications. Drawing from government documents in the United States and Canada, independent telephone journals and publications, and the archives of regional Bell operating companies and their rivals, Robert MacDougall locates the national debates over the meaning, use, and organization of the telephone industry as a turning point in the history of information networks. The competing businesses represented dueling political philosophies: regional versus national identity and local versus centralized power. Although independent telephone companies did not win their fight with big business, they fundamentally changed the way telecommunications were conceived.

 [Download The People's Network: The Political Economy of the ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The People's Network: The Political Economy of t ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society) Robert MacDougall**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Joshua McIntosh:**

The book *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. Why must we leave the great thing like a book *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)*? Some of you have a different opinion about e-book. But one aim that book can give many information for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer with your book. Knowledge or details that you take for that, you may give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* has simple shape however, you know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appearance the enormous world by open up and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

#### **Duane Zook:**

This book untitled *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* to be one of several books this best seller in this year, this is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retailer or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason to your account to past this guide from your list.

#### **Ella Straw:**

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book might be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the e-book untitled *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

#### **Richard Starkes:**

Do you have something that that suits you such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to choose book like comic, limited story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not striving *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by means of reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world better then how they react toward the world. It can't

be stated constantly that reading routine only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to become success person. So , for all of you who want to start studying as your good habit, you can pick The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society) become your starter.

**Download and Read Online The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society) Robert MacDougall #RP4T0Y8UDFA**

## **Read *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* by Robert MacDougall for online ebook**

The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society) by Robert MacDougall Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society) by Robert MacDougall books to read online.

## **Online *The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* by Robert MacDougall ebook PDF download**

***The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* by Robert MacDougall Doc**

***The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* by Robert MacDougall Mobipocket**

***The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age (American Business, Politics, and Society)* by Robert MacDougall EPub**