

company, as president of the Edison Industries in 1926. The company had not had a chairman of the board of directors since the death of Thomas A. Edison in 1931. Mr. Ritter has been a director of the company since October 1, 1946, and



Henry C. Ritter, III

chairman of the executive committee since January 1, 1949. He is senior partner of Ritter & Company, New York investment banking firm and chairman of the board of the Copperweld Steel Company, Glassport, Pa.

R. B. Elsworth, retired signal engineer, New York Central System, Buffalo and East, has been awarded a contract by the state of New York to act as consulting engineer for the State Public Service Commission with duties as assigned.

E. B. Bright, signal inspector on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy with headquarters at Chicago, has been promoted to signal supervisor on the Alliance, Sterling, Casper and Sheridan Divisions, with headquarters at Alliance, Neb., a newly established position.

Dean S. Holton, regional supervisor of communications, Baltimore & Ohio, with

headquarters at Cincinnati, Ohio, has retired after more than 40 years of service. He is succeeded by Howard O. O'Neal, regional supervisor of communications at Pittsburgh, Pa. Harold B. McGuane succeeds Mr. O'Neal.

## OBITUARY

B. J. Schwendt, assistant signal engineer, Big Four district, New York Central System, with headquarters at Cincinnati, Ohio, died on May 9. Mr. Schwendt was born on July 25, 1884, at Green Springs, Ohio, and received his higher



B. J. Schwendt

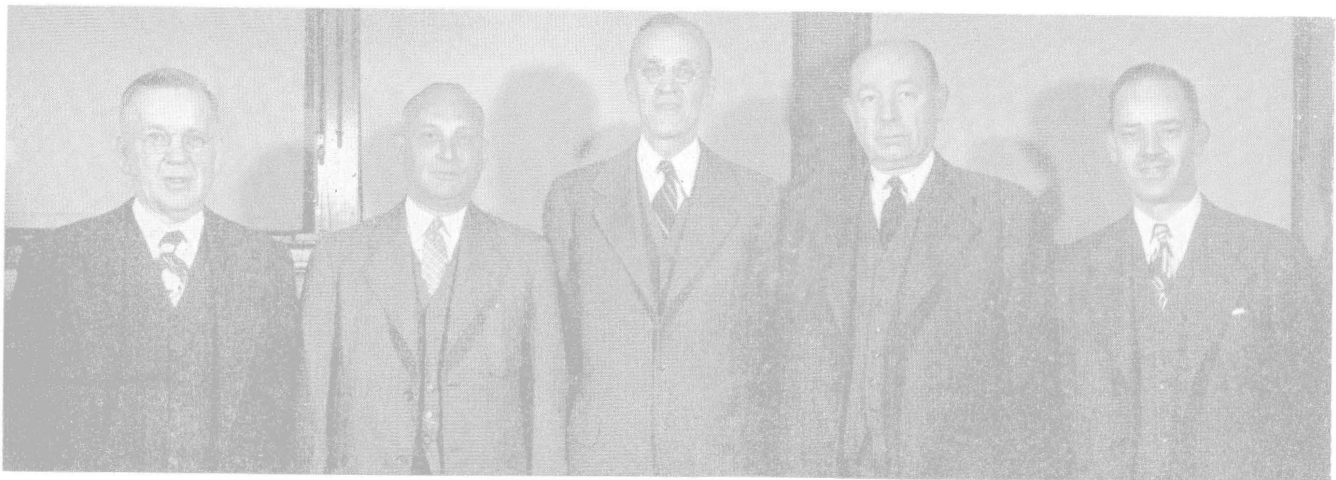
education at Ohio State University, obtaining a degree in mechanical engineering in 1907 and in electrical engineering in 1936. Prior to attending college he served in various capacities with the Great Northern, and during the summer months while he was going to Ohio State he was employed with the Bullock Electric Company (now Allis-Chalmers Company). Upon graduation he joined the Union Switch & Signal Company, being engaged in the installation of electric and mechanical interlockings and automatic signals on the Pennsylvania, Lines West, the Balti-

more & Ohio and the Erie. In 1909 he became supervisor of signals for the Hocking Valley (now part of the Chesapeake & Ohio), Toledo & Ohio Central, Kanawha & Michigan, Kanawha & West Virginia, Zanesville & Western and Gauley & Eastern (now all N.Y.C.). Three years later he was appointed signal engineer and electrical engineer of the Ohio Central Lines (part of the N. Y. C.) From 1915 to 1925 Mr. Schwendt served as superintendent telegraph and signals and electrical engineer with the same lines except for the period of federal control when his jurisdiction was extended to include also the H. V. He held the position of assistant signal engineer from 1925 to 1937 with the N. Y. C. Lines West, Ohio Central Lines, Indiana Harbor Belt, Chicago Junction and Chicago River & Indiana. Subsequently he was promoted to assistant signal engineer, Big Four district, New York Central System.



R. D. Moore

R. D. Moore, retired signal engineer of the Southern Pacific, died recently in Berkley, Calif. Mr. Moore was born at Topeka, Kan., on January 29, 1884, and entered the service of the S. P. as a signal apprentice in January, 1900, being ad-



The Simplex Wire & Cable Co., Cambridge, Mass., has announced the following changes in personnel: G. L. Roberts, sales manager at Cambridge, elected vice-president, remaining in charge of the sales activities of the company; G. A. Grauer, appointed to succeed Mr. Roberts as sales manager; E. W. Davis, chief engineer, advanced to director of engineering; G. J. Crowdes, appointed to succeed Mr. Davis, and E. J. MacKenzie, appointed advertising manager.