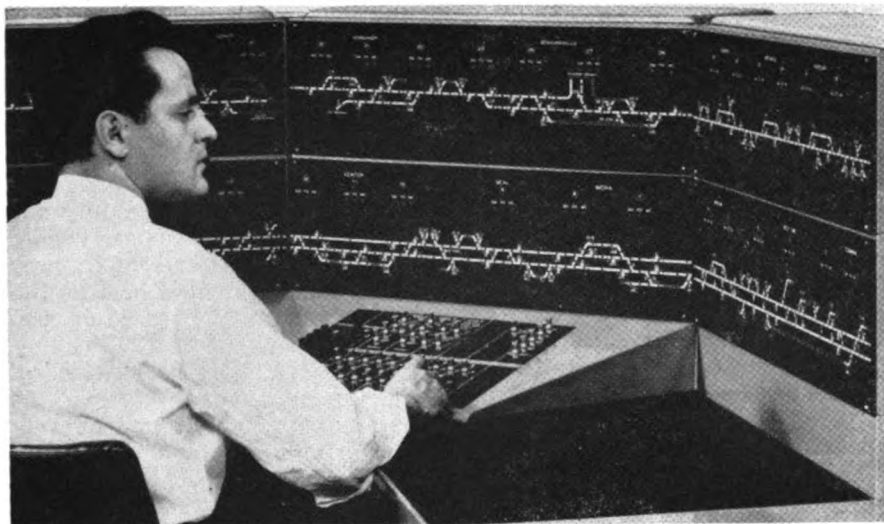


Product News



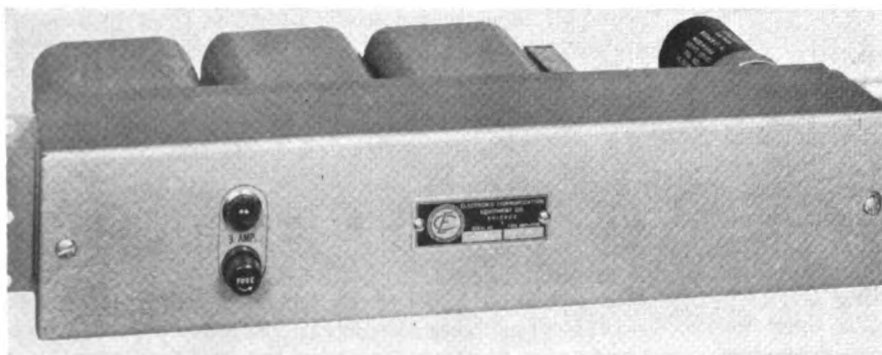
Compact Control Center

A compact control center, for either CTC or interlockings, has been placed on the market by the Union Switch & Signal Division, WAB. In conventional Style "C" machines, made by this manufacturer, the levers are in two horizontal rows below an illuminated track and signal diagram on the panel of the control machine. Levers are spaced horizontally at 2-in. centers. Thus the number of levers was the controlling factor which made the control machine long. For a CTC territory ranging 200 miles or more, three panels, each 5 to 7 ft long, might be required.

Compactness of the new Union machine was attained by applying two practices. One set of four push-buttons, by selective control, can

be used to control the switch and signals at any one of all the field stations, such as an end of a siding, on an entire territory of 200 miles or more. The entire arrangement of control and selector buttons is concentrated on a 13-in. by 14-in. sloping control console. This console is on the flat top desk section of the control machine.

With no levers on the front plate, it has been made much shorter. The track diagram is made up of standard units 3 ft long, which can be assembled to suit requirements. The diagram shown in the picture is made up of six sections in two rows. The overall result of the concentrated selective button manipulation and miniaturized diagram is that a dispatcher can effectively control much more territory than previously possible, and do it without moving from his chair.



Telegraph Power Supply

A new magnetically regulated multi-range telegraph power supply featuring new compact silicon rectifier units has been announced by Electronic Communications Equipment Company. This power

supply occupies only 3½ in. of 19-in. relay rack space. Any one of three standard output voltages (110, 130 or 160 volts) are available from this unit by simple changes of strapping. Output voltages remain constant (within 3 per cent) despite

changes in load from no load to the maximum rated load of ½ amp. Hum level at rated output is less than 0.20 per cent. This regulation is accomplished without the use of tubes, transistors or moving parts, thus assuring trouble-free service and dependable operation. For further details write Electronic Communication Equipment Company, Dept. RSC, 1249 W. Loyola Ave., Chicago 26, Ill.

Electronic Data-Transmitting System

The General Railway Signal Company announces Data-Tran, a new telemetering system designed specifically for railroad or other heavy-duty use. Data-Tran accurately transmits, over existing line wire between a remote location and a central office, any type of analog data which may be represented as a varying voltage. Included are such data as temperatures (for example, of journal boxes as measured by a hot-box detector—RS&C March 1958 p. 40), pressures, liquid levels, voltages, currents, rates of flow, train speeds, and wheel counts. As many as seven independent variables can be handled simultaneously by a single transmitter-receiver installation. Data-Tran makes the use of special wayside measuring devices more practical, economical, and convenient.

Data-Tran uses a carrier frequency within the range of 13 to 33 kilocycles, superimposed on available line. The signal is modulated by tones when data is to be transmitted. A separate tone is assigned to each wayside function handled at a given location. The function, expressed as a voltage, is fed to a modulator which applies a tone frequency to the carrier signal. The magnitude of the applied voltage determines the exact tone frequency. Continuously variable data, expressed as continuously variable voltages, produce corresponding shifts in the tone frequency. The modulated carrier signal, containing data from all devices, is transmitted over the line to a central office.

At the central office, a carrier receiver receives the signal. A demodulator extracts and separates the individual tone channels, each of which produces an output voltage, determined by the tone frequency, which is of the same magnitude as that fed to the modulator at the field location. These voltages can be used to drive pens in recorders or to give other desired