



Mark H. Hovey
Started magazine 1908



John H. Dunn
Editor 1924-1958



Robert W. McKnight
The new editor

Six Editors in 50 Years

When the "Signal Engineer" was started in 1908, L. B. Mackenzie, one of the two founders of the magazine, had the title of managing editor, but no one was appointed editor. In January 1909 A. D. Cloud became associate editor. In January 1910 he was promoted to editor, the first person to hold that title on this magazine. In January 1912 H. H. Simmons became associate editor. In April 1914 Mr. Cloud was succeeded by Harvey White. A short time later he was succeeded by Kenneth L. Van Auken, who served as editor until June 1915, when Mr. Simmons was promoted to editor. In 1918, K. E. Kellenberger, who had been a signal supervisor on the Chicago & North Western, was appointed editor. He continued in that capacity five and a half years. Thus in the first 16 years, five different men served as editor.

In January 1921, Mr. Kellenberger hired me as associate editor. Prior to that I was a signal inspector on the Milwaukee Road, with other experience on railroads dating back to 1913. When Mr. Kellenberger resigned in June 1924, I was appointed editor of this magazine, and have served in this capacity for nearly 34 years. Thus, in railroad work, in school and as editor, I have been a part of this field throughout 45 of the 50 years that this magazine has been published to date. I have enjoyed every one of these years. Difficulties and constant pressure to meet press dates have been offset by appreciation expressed by numerous readers.

And now, having completed the

writing of the feature articles in this, the Fiftieth Anniversary Issue, it seems an appropriate occasion for me to turn over the editorship to a younger man. For the remaining seven months of 1958, I will be working as western editor to secure feature articles on western railroads, with my headquarters in Chicago.

Robert W. McKnight, now 35 years old, is to succeed me as editor, effective with the May issue. After serving in the Army in World War II, Bob completed a course in electrical engineering at Clarkson College, Potsdam, N.Y., in 1950. Then he studied journalism for one and a half years at Syracuse University before he became associate editor in September 1951.

During the seven and a half years since that time, Bob has aptly learned the many routine labors involved in producing the editorial pages of this magazine. He has made numerous trips on railroads, inspecting new installations and studying improved operations. Thus, with reference not only to signaling, but also communications, he has learned a great deal, and he has a mind and a willingness to learn more as time rolls on. He knows how to make pictures and write descriptive articles to report new developments. Thus he is qualified to edit this magazine, as a technical engineering journal that will report developments to you currently. I feel confident that you will find in him a ready exponent of good practices. I bespeak for him the same friendly cooperation which I have enjoyed, and which has enabled this magazine to attain

that measure of success which has been accorded it.

Editors alone do not make a magazine. The extent to which Railway Signaling and Communications has been a service to its readers is due primarily to the wholehearted cooperation of railroad men and manufacturers. This cooperation has included invitations to editors to make inspection trips to see new projects, to take pictures, and secure information for articles. Railroad men have also written a number of feature articles as well as many "Kinks" and discussions for the "What's the Answer" department, all of which has been appreciated, not only by the editors but also by the readers.

Because the number of manufacturers is relatively few in these fields of signaling and communications, the railroad readers are fortunate to have this independent technical engineering journal to report developments currently. As editor, I hereby express my sincere appreciation to the manufacturers, who have, by their advertising, made it possible for us to continue publication of this magazine throughout the years, both fat and lean. In numerous instances, representatives of manufacturers have aided me in my editorial work, supplying helpful information and engineering counsel, without dictating editorial policy.

Cordially,

John H. Dunn

Editor