

Wapakoneta Telephone Company, of Wapakoneta. Since Judge Quail rendered his decision against the Delphos company, it has been the chief topic of discussion among the Independent men throughout the entire State, and the general sentiment among the local companies, both large and small, is that this will be of substantial advantage in clearing up the somewhat complicated relations which have begun to develop in certain quarters, and will be of general benefit to the Independent business.

A typical statement is that which General Manager J. H. Ainsworth, of the Home Telephone Company, of Dayton, Ohio, made to a representative of the AMERICAN TELEPHONE JOURNAL. He called attention to the great development of the Independent business, which was made possible by the building of long distance lines of the United States company under the guarantee afforded by the 99-year exclusive contracts. Mr. Ainsworth referred to Delphos and other exchanges which have attempted to use the Bell lines, some of which are already slated for proceedings in the courts similar to those instituted with respect to the Delphos contract. He said that "this is the first case of the kind decided, and it means much to the Independent telephone people of Ohio as well as to the general public. Competition in the telephone business is recognized as a benefit, and this decision certainly presages the failure of attempts to break it down."

Induction from Traction Lines High Tension Alternating Current Causes Removal of Telephone Wires

Reference was made in these columns some weeks ago to the troubles experienced on a toll line between Decatur and Fort Wayne, Ind., as a result of the operation of a three-phase high-tension alternating current traction line.

The induction was so severe that conversation over the toll lines was impossible, and service was discontinued. Now men are at work building between the two cities a new line sufficiently far removed from the traction line to avoid the possibility of further trouble.

Our local correspondent states that the situation is arousing a great deal of interest and discussion in Indiana at present.

It is understood that negotiations are being carried on with respect to the adjustment of damages to the telephone company, but if these fail the courts are likely to be called upon to settle the question.

Telephone companies in a number of places have been obliged to abandon their lines and build a mile or more away from the wires of traction companies using the three-phase, alternating-current system, and this trouble is likely to be experienced in many localities in the future. In Indiana, especially, officers of telephone companies hope that before long a case may come up in the courts which will establish their rights under such circumstances.

Service Troubles in Louisiana's Capital

Telephone users in Baton Rouge, La., are reported to be up in arms over the failure of the Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Company to give connections with the West Side. It seems that a submarine cable connecting the two sections of the city is out of commission, and the company has announced that it will be four months before a new cable can be obtained and laid across the Mississippi to restore connections. At the same time, it is found that the company gives connections with pay stations on the other side of the river, routing messages in a roundabout way over toll lines. This discovery has increased the dissatisfaction with the present conditions.

Educational

The University of Minnesota has recently issued a bulletin listing the various courses given in the College of Engineering and Mechanic Arts. The length of the engineering courses has been increased from four to five years. This is done for the purpose of adding to the amount of general culture work and also for rearranging and increasing the technical work. A degree of Bachelor of Science will be given upon the completion of four years' work, and the degree of Electrical (or other) Engineer given when the full five years' course is finished.

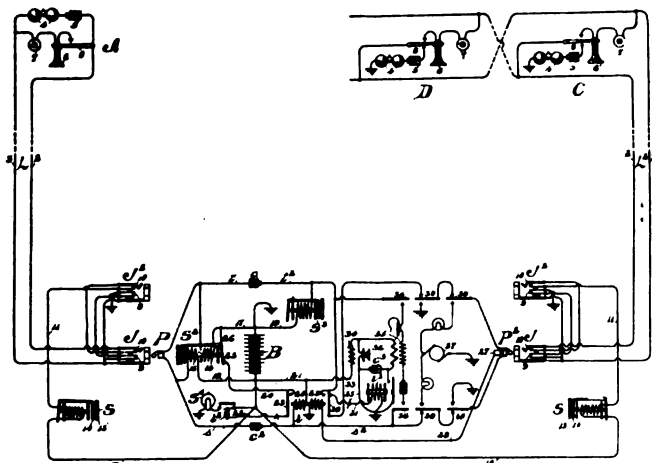
Telephone Patents

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

William W. Dean, Chicago, Ill., patent 895,166, Aug. 4, 1908

This invention relates to supervisory signals employed in the cord circuits of a multiple switchboard.

Supervisory signals S^2 and S^4 of the mechanical type are associated with each end of the cord circuit, and are negative in



character; that is, they become inert when the receiver is restored to the switchhook at the termination of the conversation. A pilot supervisory lamp S^4 , controlled by relay r^2 , is positive in action, becoming illuminated when the other supervisory signals

are rendered inert. The mechanical signals S^2 and S^4 may be replaced by relays and lamps at any time in case the mechanical type of signal is not desired.

TOLL COLLECTING BOX.

George A. Long, Hartford, Conn., patent 894,388, July 28, 1908.

This invention covers a toll collecting box provided with a system of safety devices intended to resist all attempts to gain access to its contents. The collector of the company has a key which will permit him to remove the box from the telephone and replace it with another. The treasurer's office is provided with a key which will open the box, permitting the coins to be removed. The safety devices are then reset and the box is ready for use.

INCANDESCENT LAMP.

William W. Dean, Chicago, Ill., Patent 894,193, July 28, 1908.

This invention relates to improvements in the incandescent lamps used for signaling on telephone switchboards. The terminals of the lamp, which are of thin sheet metal, are curved transversely to fit the curvature of the bulb so as to form practically an inclosing cylinder. At the base of the lamp the terminals are extended so as to form a wedging surface. The space between the projecting terminals is filled with insulating cement or some other insulating material. Longitudinal ribs are formed upon each side of the center line of the terminals to provide engaging surfaces for the jack springs.