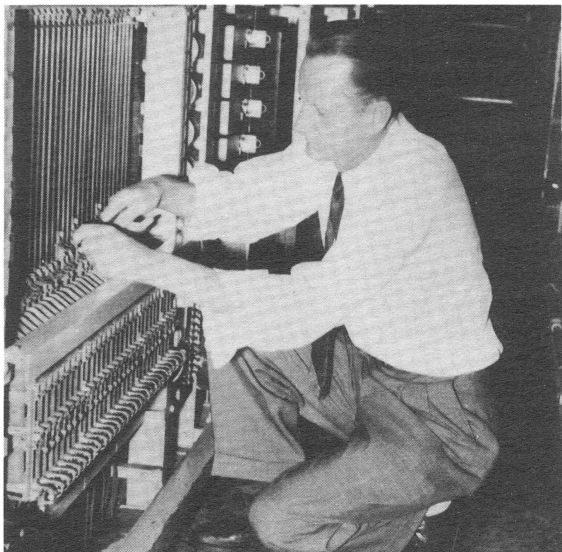


● WESTCHESTER REPLACES FIRST PANEL OFFICE

On June 21, 1959 at 12:01 A.M., the Westchester Area passed another milestone in our Company's continued efforts to provide more and better service to our customers. The milestone marked the cutover of the first #5 crossbar central office to replace an existing panel type dial central office. This new #5 crossbar unit, designated Mount Vernon 8 - Owens 9, replaced



DISTRICT FRAME

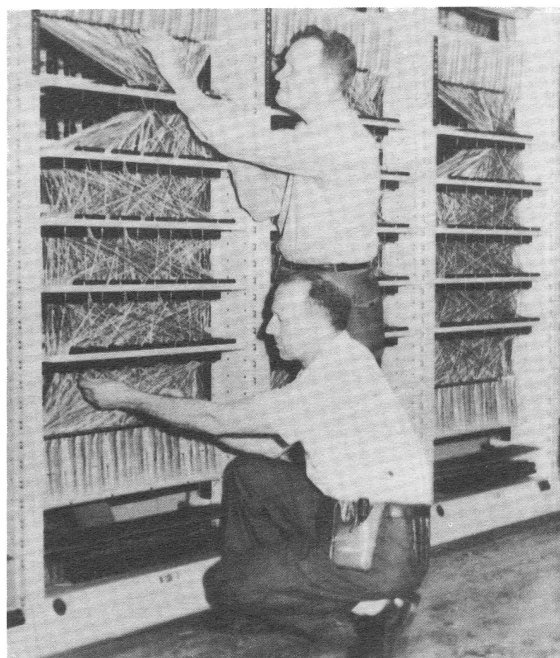
Mount Vernon 8, a two-digit translator type panel central office, which was the first panel unit to be retired in the New York Company.

The Mount Vernon 8 panel central office was the oldest panel unit in the Westchester Area and one of the oldest panel offices in the New York Company. It was cut into service on April 14, 1923, with the central office designation "Oakwood", after an installation period of approximately 23 months. At that time our dial central office equipment was assembled on the job rather than in the Western Electric Company shops as is the practice nowadays. The initial unit had a capacity of approximately 3000 terminals. Additions over the ensuing years increased its capacity to a full 10,000 terminals.

On March 8, 1942, just after the entry of the United States into World War II, a sister office Mount Vernon 7, a panel decoder unit, was installed. In order to provide uniform service in the city of Mount Vernon for our dial subscribers and because of the limited use of the two-digit senders in the Mount Vernon 8 translator office, it was decided to operate the

two units in common. In this manner message rate subscribers in both offices (Mount Vernon 7 and 8) were served on decoder type line equipment, thereby giving those subscribers access to the complete dialing area available at that time. Flat rate subscribers in Mount Vernon 7 and 8 were served on the translator type line equipment where the restrictions of the two-digit senders permitted only the dialing of points within the flat rate area. Calls to all other points were placed through the TDSA operator.

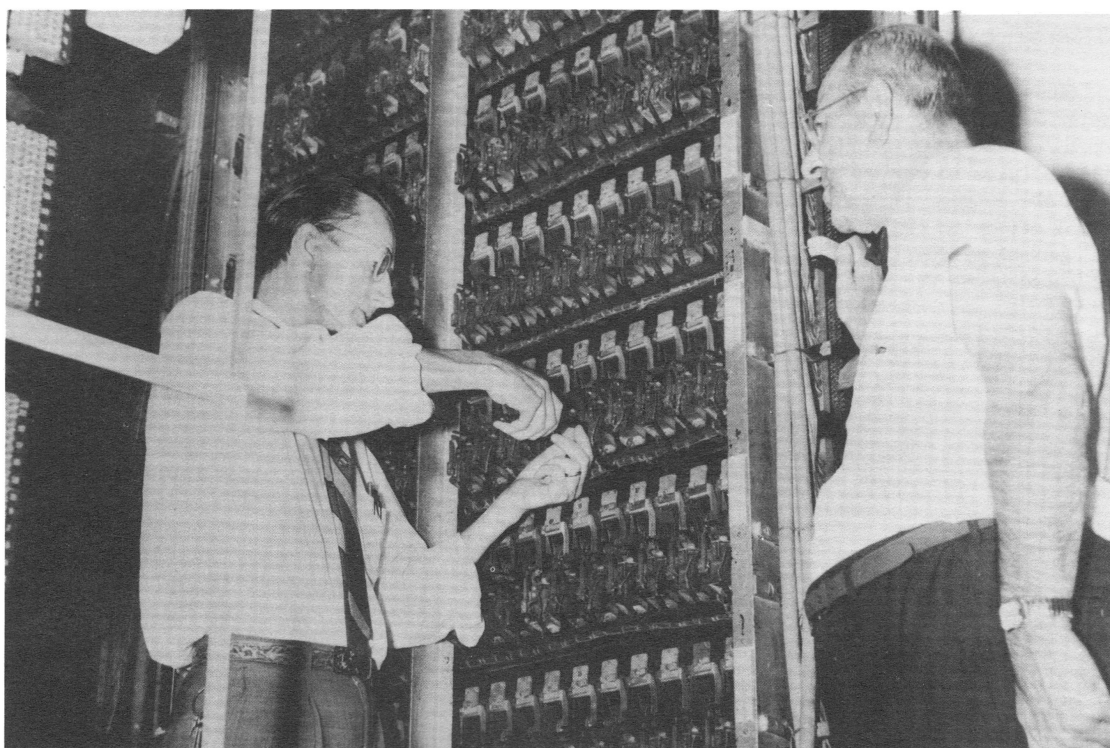
These equipment arrangements served to make the retirement of the translator office much more difficult. Prior to the #5 crossbar unit cutover, it was necessary to rearrange the office cabling plan to allow for a separation and to provide a means of removing the frames associated with the translator equipment from service. After the cutover of the #5 crossbar unit, and prior to the complete retirement of the panel unit, it was necessary for the Plant Department



W. E. INSTALLERS TESTING NEW 2000 LINE TRANSLATOR FRAME

to transfer approximately 4000 flat rate subscribers in the Mount Vernon 7 Office from translator type line equipment to decoder type line equipment. Coincident with this step, all flat rate one and two party subscribers were given access to complete Metropolitan Exchange Area facilities.

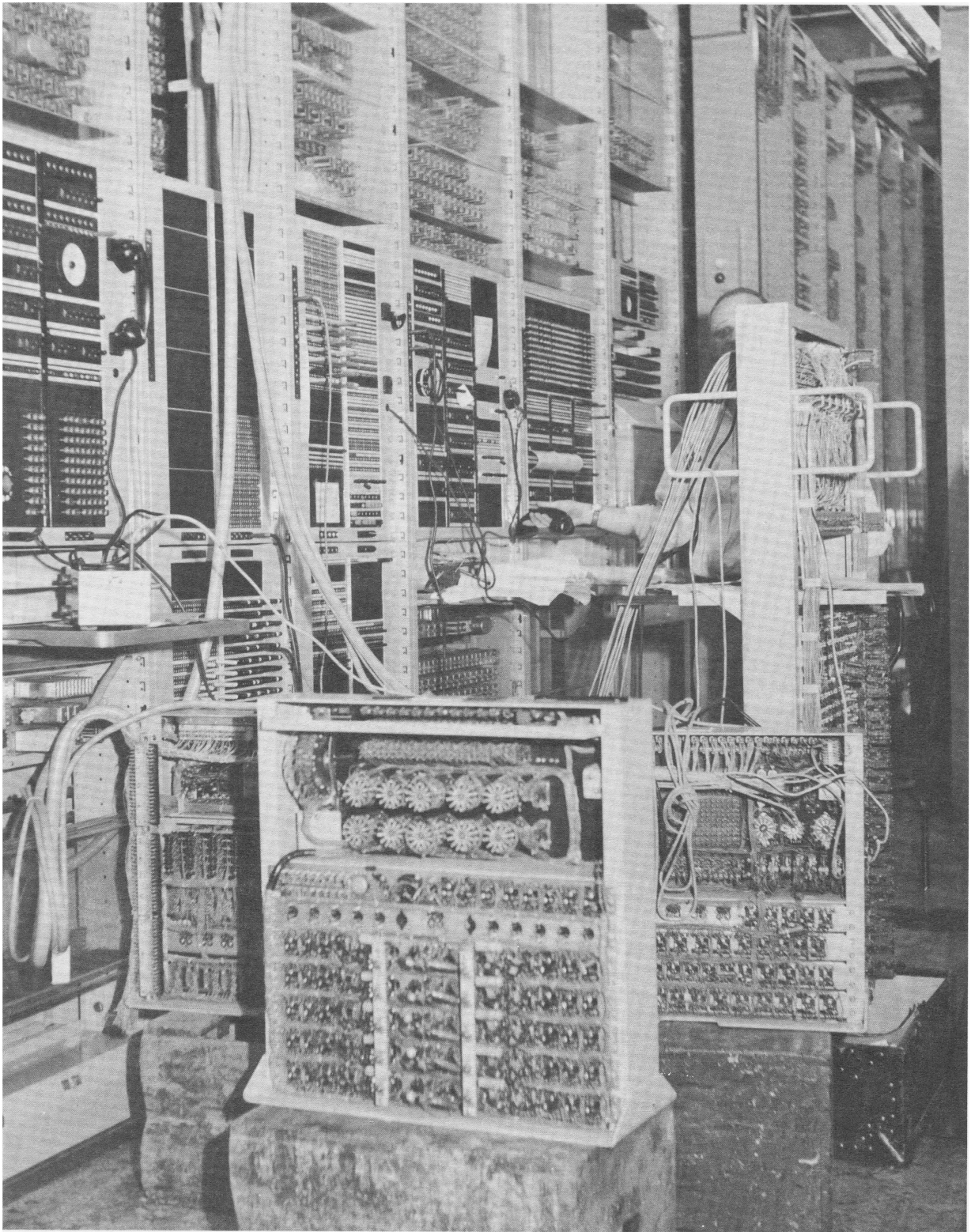
Closely allied with the cutover was the



TWO-DIGIT SENDER SELECTOR FRAME (THE MESSRS. WARD & KONRAD OF PLANT)



THE MESSRS. DANN, DE BUTTS, KURRISS, O'BRIEN, MC EVOY, PEROTA, AIRES, MC CAHILL



MAINTENANCE CENTER SHOWING WESTERN ELECTRIC LOAD TEST APPARATUS

four-party reduction program for the Mount Vernon and Beverly central office districts.

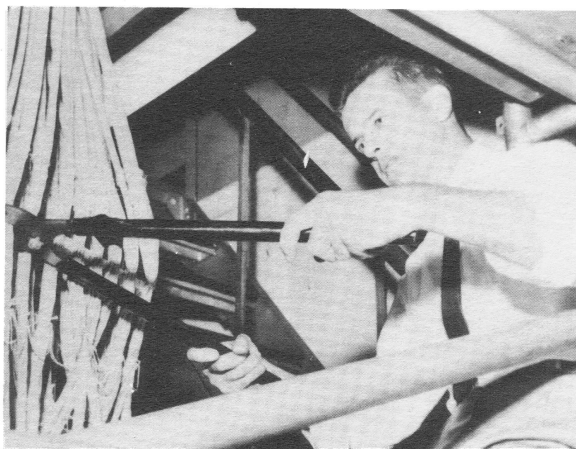
The new #5 crossbar unit at its cutover served approximately 9100 Mount Vernon 8 subscribers and 1100 Owens 9 subscribers. Prior to the cutover, subscribers in the Owens 9 unit were served in the Beverly 7 #1 crossbar central office as a theoretical office.

The new #5 crossbar marker group established a major first in the history of the Bell System. Namely, it was the first #5 crossbar office to be engineered for and installed with triple trunk link frame operation, the latest major equipment feature available for a wire spring type office. This enables it to handle an ultimate capacity of 30 trunk link frames and 60 line link frames.

The initial installation of #5 crossbar equipment consisted of 12,480 line equipments, and 14,000 terminals totalling 288 frames. In addition to the major items of frame equipment placed, the installation involved the placement of approximately 2400 feet of ironwork, 300,000 feet of cable and 600,000 wire ends.

As part of the overall coordinated project, a total of 15 related orders were placed with the Western Electric Company. These orders provided for work in the Mount Vernon 4 - Beverly 7 #1 crossbar office, the Mount Vernon 7 panel decoder office, the Repair Service Bureau, and the 15D Toll DSA Switchboard. In addition, extensive building alterations were necessary along with special provisions to relieve a badly congested MDF and blocked cable runs throughout the building. The latter items required several visits to the job by Western Electric Company ironwork and cabling engineers from the Hawthorne Works, Chicago, Illinois, to assure that the necessary new cabling would be placed in such a way that the cable associated with the replaced unit could be removed with a minimum of additional effort.

The trunking of this project not only involved work normally associated with a major cutover, but in addition, a necessary and extensive rearrangement of the trunking for all the offices in the building, prior to the cutover date. The two panel and two #1 crossbar offices employed, in part, common trunking facilities. It was necessary, therefore, to split out the offices before the cutover date, so that the translator office could be retired as soon as possible after cutover. This trunking rearrangement had to be done on an in-service basis, and as such, required very close coordination with the Western Electric Company installation schedule. In addition, along with the provision of Metropolitan Exchange Area dialing facilities



MR. JOHN FOLEY OF PLANT

for the Mount Vernon 7 flat rate one and two-party subscribers, it became necessary to provide message registers on these lines for billing purposes. Since these registers were previously required only on message rate line equipment, all message registers had been assigned on a flexible cross-connection basis. To eliminate this cumbersome arrangement, it was decided permanently to cable message registers on a per terminal basis. This again required extensive cross-connection rearrangements prior to the cutover date.

The cutover and equipment rearrangements outlined above called for the concerted effort and cooperation of all the departments of our Company and the Western Electric Company.

- J. J. Cassidy
Westchester Engineering

(Ed. Note - "The old order changeth, yielding place to new" - - - panel office replaced by crossbar unit - - - a new milestone is reached - - - cheers - - - but we suspect some of the old-timers are a bit saddened when they think back over the years at some of the mileposts they saw in passing - - - magneto replaced by common battery - - - common battery replaced by panel and step-by-step - - - thanks for the story, Jim - - - the sniveling is by us - - -.)

Unbidden guests
Are often welcomest when they are gone.

- William Shakespeare