



# Ericsson News

1929

English Edition

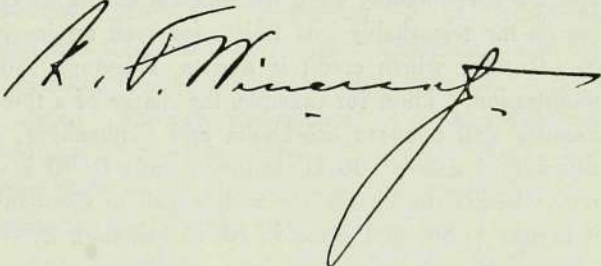
Managing Editor:

Woldemar Brummer

No. 1

*The hopes expressed at the beginning of last year concerning a continued strong advance for our associated enterprises have been fully redeemed. The situation at the present turn of the year is such that in all probability the expansion will be at least equally great during 1929.*

*I herewith beg to express a sincere thanks to all associates and members of the Ericsson organization to whose efforts this favourable result is due and wish them*

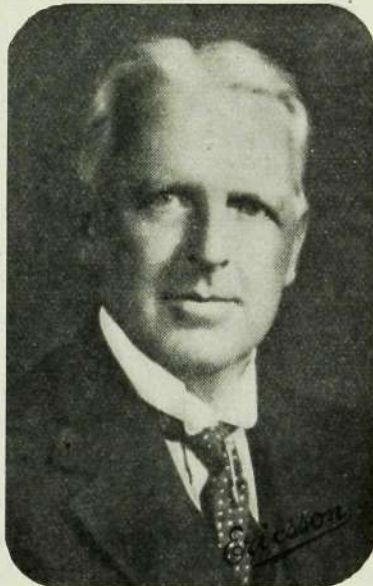
*A Prosperous New Year.* 

## The Royal Swedish Telegraph Department 75 years old.

On the 1st November 1928 the Swedish Telegraph Administration celebrated its 75th anniversary of existence. The activity comprehended in the beginning only the telegraph service. It was more than 30 years later that the telephone business was added, comprising at first only the long distance lines. The telephone service in Sweden, both in cities and the country districts and the interurban lines were afterwards successively taken over by the Government, and since 1918, when the telephone company which owned the network in Stockholm and surrounding district was acquired by the Government, the entire telephone service in Sweden is owned and administered by the Royal Telegraph Administration. In most recent years the Broadcasting service has been added.

The Swedish Telegraph Administration can look back on very successful results of its labour. These are for the most part concentrated to recent years, which in all parts

of the world have been characterized by immense progress in telephone technics. The favourable development attained in Sweden in regard to the telephone services in towns and suburban traffic is to a great extent, and in Stockholm for the most part, due originally to private initiative and private energetic and farsighted business policy, a policy which has been adopted and suited to modern demands and technical facilities by the Telegraph Administration. The latter, however, is entitled to the sole credit for the advances made in Sweden in the department of long distance telephone service. The men in charge in this work have in consequence become experts in the organization of international telephone services, whose opinion and advice is sought after in many countries when plans of this nature are proposed. In most recent time the automatization problem for urban telephone service has chiefly engaged the attention of the leading persons in the Administra-



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Count A. Hamilton, Director General  
of the Swedish Telegraph Administration.



tion. The automatization is proceeding rapidly in the cities, and in Stockholm nearly 40 per cent of the subscribers have already been provided with automatic telephones. Since August 1928 the first batch, numbering 8000, of subscribers in Gothenburg has been connected up to automatic exchanges, and the turn will next come to Malmö. It is the Ericsson system which was introduced in 1920 that has been adopted for the automatic service. Earlier the telephone services of a couple of cities had been converted into automatic services of other types but thorough tests have proved the superiority of the Ericsson system, which will be adopted for the entire automatization in Sweden.

In regard to long distance service the most notable feature apart from its exceptionally fine organization, unique utilization of the lines and handling of calls, and the exceptionally good transmission of the speaking, is the remarkably low tariffs for such service in Sweden, for which credit is due to Telegraph Administration. Thus, for example, the charge of a three minutes' call between Stockholm and Gothenburg, a distance of nearly 500 kilometres, is only 0:90 kronor, whereas the charge for such a call in Germany is kronor 1:89, in France 1:20, in Denmark 2:—,

in Norway 2:10, in England 4:95, and in the United States 5:78.

The interurban telephone network in Sweden includes a considerable number of earth cables, and Sweden is now connected by telephone cables with all the surrounding countries. In this way the international telephone connections from Sweden to the most distinct places on the Continent and overseas is practically secured against interruptions.

The broadcasting service in Sweden has shown a remarkable expansion in the course of a few years. One of Europe's most powerful sending stations is located at Motala, in the centre of Sweden, and a large number of substations are to be found in all parts of the country. In regard to the number of licenses issued to owners of receiving apparatus, Sweden leads with one license per 63 inhabitants.

The Royal Swedish Telegraph Administration can thus regard with pride and satisfaction the work accomplished in the 75 years it has been in existence, and great credit is due to its leading men for the wide-awake interest they have devoted to the progress made in weak-current electrical engineering for the benefit of the country and her people.

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— **Four year old international patent fight decided in favour of the L. M. Ericsson Co.**

An important patent suit of international scope between the L. M. Ericsson Telephone Company in Stockholm and the Automatic Electric Company of Chicago, U. S. A., has now been decided by the Magistrates Court of Stockholm giving a verdict in favour of the Swedish company. The Chicago Automatic Co. in 1924 brought suit against the Swedish concern for infringement of a patent for a coupling device with automatic line-selection, used in cases where a subscriber is connected with the central exchange by several lines but has only one call number (see *The L. M. E. Review*, Vol. I, Nos. 11—12, page 133). The investigation now made of this patent showed that it is not valid, owing to the fact that these automatic arrangements were previously known through descriptions published in technical publications in England and America. The Court in

its verdict found that for this reason the patent in question is void and should not have been granted by the Swedish patent office, and the American concern was ordered to defray the costs of the Swedish company by 9.000 kronor. In addition to the annulment of the patent, effected through a countersuit brought by the Swedish company against the American one, the L. M. Ericsson proved that even if the patent had been declared valid there would have been no infringement of the same as it had not been used by the Swedish company.

— **The Consul General of the Republic of Ecuador** in Sweden, Dr. Antonio Pons, has written a report to his Government on the 26th June 1928 headed "*A few observations and data regarding the commercial relations between Ecuador and Sweden*". This report was subsequently published in the August number of the official monthly journal of the Ecuador Ministry of Commerce, which has afforded the Editor



of Ericsson News an opportunity to read Dr. Pons' article in which he writes *inter alia*:

"Recently Sweden has succeeded in making itself known in Ecuador through the contracts concluded with the Agfa concern, which represents the Swedish Match Company and the L. M. Ericsson Company. The latter is represented in Quito and Guayaquil by the prominent Swedish gentleman, Baron Stael von Holstein, who is worthy of all the attention given to him by our commercial and social institutions. The



R 1146 Dr. A. Pons.

Ericsson Company is the contractor of the new telephone service in the Capital, and it is to be wished that all other important cities in the country, namely Guayaquil, Riobamba, Cuenca, Ambato, and others will be placed in a position to enjoy the advantages offered by an automatic telephone service for the benefit of our people, both in regard to interurban and local telephone services, and for the benefit of agriculture in our country."

— **Telephone connection with Argentina.** On the 21st December 1928 the telephone connection between Argentina and Europe was opened from Buenos Aires by the "Transradio International Co."

This telephone connection has now been extended also to Sweden. The line was tested on the 8th February 1929, and on the following day the official opening took place. The connection runs via Germany, first over the usual line Stockholm—Berlin, and then by cable to the short-wave wireless sending station at Nauen. This station transmits the messages to Villa Elisa outside of Buenos Aires. From the latter station the connection is made by cable to the capital of Argentina. In the opposite direction the connection is made from the Argentine transmitting

station Monte Grande to Geltow in Germany, and thence by the same cable connection as mentioned above. The wireless connection alone is 12 000 kilometres long, and operates on a wave length of about 15 metres with half a metre's difference in the two directions. Including the cable connections the distance between Stockholm and Buenos Aires is about 13 000 kilometres, the hitherto longest telephone distance opened for public service. To begin with the only towns in Sweden which for the present have access to the service are Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö. The charge for a three minutes' period is Kronor 119: 40.

The first official conversation from Stockholm to Buenos Aires was held at the instance of the Argentine Minister to Sweden, Sr. Labougle, who spoke from his residence in Stockholm in the presence of the Swedish Minister to Argentina, Mr. E. Ekstrand, who was temporarily on a visit to Stockholm, and the Argentine Consul General in Stockholm, Sr. Carlos Galaree. The call was coupled in to the Argentine Minister of Foreign Affairs in Buenos Aires, and afterwards to the Swedish Legation, where the first secretary, Mr. Paulin, took the message.

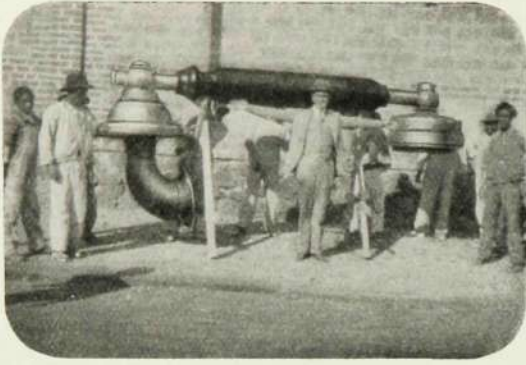
The connection was also tested by the Foreign Office in Stockholm, Mr. Hennings, the Permanent Secretary of Foreign Affairs, calling up Mr. Paulin in Buenos Aires. All parties declared that the strength and distinctness of the transmission was excellent.

During the same day a number of private calls were transmitted, among them by the Swedish Consul General at Montevideo, who called up the Consul General of Uruguay at Stockholm, Mr. John Blixén, and by the Director of Telefonaktiebolaget L. M. Ericsson, Mr. Hemming Johansson, who held a conversation with Mr. Grill at Cia. Sudamericana de Teléfonos L. M. Ericsson S. A. at Buenos Aires, the subsidiary company of the Ericsson concern in Argentina.

— **News from Mexico.** An exhibition in which Empresa de Teléfonos Ericsson took part was held at the National Theatre in Mexico City in honour of President Calles. The company was awarded the sole right to install telephones on the exhibition grounds. The exhibition was of important extent and was visited by about 10 000 persons each day.

We reproduce here a view of the Ericsson Company's stand at the exhibition and a few pictures from the work of installing the giant instrument seen in the background of the stand.

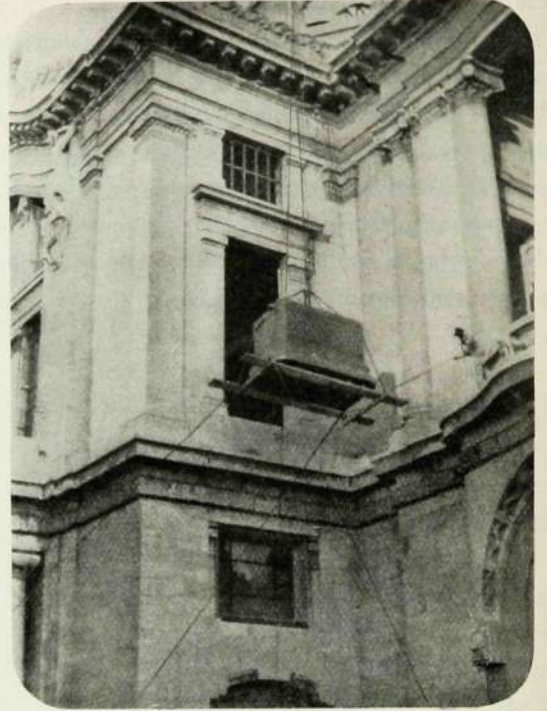




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R 1138 Photos taken during the installation of the giant Ericsson telephone instrument at the Exhibition in Mexico City.



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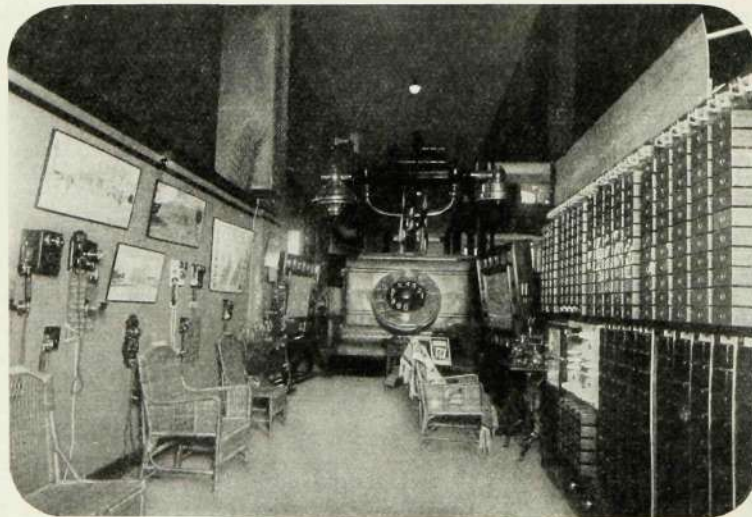
— **News from Czechoslovakia.** On the 7th November last year the telephone connection from Piestany to Stockholm, Oslo, Copenhagen was tested. The test gave the best results, which is of especial importance because the city in question is one of Europe's most notable watering places, especially well-known for its mud baths, and annually visited by a great number of Scandinavians.

— **Literature.** In the October number of last year of the "Annales des Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones" (Publishers Librairie de l'Enseignement Technique, 3 Rue Thénard, Paris 5:e) there is on page 932 an article entitled "Création d'un Bureau Régional à Paris" by R. Parésy & Boudinet, ingénieur et inspecteur des Postes et Télégraphes. This article contains a description, profusely illustrated and provided with plans and dia-

grams, of the exchange for short distance telephony delivered to the French Government by the subsidiary company of Telefonaktiebolaget L. M. Ericsson in France, "Société des Téléphones Ericsson", Colombes, which exchange was opened for traffic in 1927.

This exchange (see Ericsson News No. 2, 1928, page 3) handles the telephone service between Paris and its suburbs.

— The L. M. Ericsson Review No. 10—12, Swedish and German Editions, has been published and contains the following articles: "Signal Installations for Hotels, Sanatoria, Hospitals, Etc."; "Weak-Current Installations at a Modern Industrial Establishment"; "Fire Protection and Industry"; "Automatic Fire Alarm"; "Overhearing and Connected Problems".



R 1140 The Ericsson stand at the Exhibition in Mexico City.