

## Symposium on Coordination of Power and Telephone Plant

### Closing Remarks \*

By B. GHERARDI

THE papers which have been presented here today bring out clearly the progress which has been made by the power and telephone companies in the study and development of methods for coordinating their facilities. It seems to me that this is an outstanding example of what can be accomplished through joint study and cooperative methods generally.

This work illustrates also the way in which the field of activity of the engineer is broadening. While the main duty of the engineer may still be the application of physical laws to accomplish the most satisfactory results in the most economical manner, the very organization of society which has resulted from these applications of physical laws, requires the engineer, if he is to play his full part, more and more to include in his considerations the broad economic and human factors which govern the success of social and business enterprises. In the work described in this symposium the approach has been not only the consideration of the complicated technical questions involved, but the working out as well of these questions on the basis of good business relations between two large utilities, having in mind that both have the responsibility for providing important services to the same public.

I would like to reiterate certain fundamentals which have played an important part in bringing about the present satisfactory situation. First, is that of getting together and getting acquainted, to the end that frank and friendly discussions will be promoted and misunderstandings avoided. Second, is the continued development of technical information for the coordination of power and communication systems adequate to keep pace with the rapid amplification and growth of these two services. Third, is a desire on the part of the companies concerned to work out each case in accordance with the best over-all engineering solution as though both utilities were under the same management. Where there is such a desire, the working out of the job is largely a matter of detail and results are assured which will be fair to all concerned.

We feel that the results of the cooperative work have been good from every point of view, and I want to express the appreciation of the Bell

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System people of the broad spirit of cooperation in which this matter has been approached by the power companies. I heartily join with Mr. Pack in his feeling of satisfaction for having taken part in the initial work which has brought about the present fine relations between the power and telephone companies and the effective handling of the various types of situation involving coordination.