

### **Canadian National**

# Installs New Type of All-Relay

A total of 57 switches 64 crossovers and 197 signals, on 9 road miles, throughout 11 zones are controlled from one central machine using a new form of polar code control

CONCURRENTLY with the development and construction of the Central station in Montreal, Que., the Canadian National made numerous track changes and additions throughout nine road miles and, as a part of this project, new interlocking facilities, including electric switch machines and searchlight signals, were installed throughout, a special feature being the central control from one machine which is of a new and novel design.

When the Canadian National Railways were formed in 1922, by the amalagmation of several railroads, two of these railroads had passenger stations in different sections of Montreal. The Bonaventure station, in the southern section of the city, served trains to and from points west and southeast. The Tunnel station, located centrally in the business section of the city at the south end of a 3-mile double-track tunnel under Mount Royal, was used by trains to and from the north.

The Canadian National Railways Central station, placed in service on July 14, 1943, was constructed on the same property as the old Tunnel station, the trains to and from the north using the tunnel the same as previously. In order that the trains which previously used the Bonaventure station could use the new Central station, a new section of railroad about 3 miles long was built south from the site of the new station to a wye, with one leg connected to the east-and-west main line at a point just west of the Victoria bridge, and the other leg connected to the main line near Point St. Charles station. All of this new line is elevated above street level, and crosses the Lachineize Victoria bridge to the Central station

canal on a new double-track lift bridge. As a necessary part of the project, a new coach yard was constructed near the Point St. Charles shops. A new double-track connection to this yard extends across the old east-and-west main line just west of the west end of the Victoria bridge.

#### **Electric Propulsion**

Electrical operation of trains was previously in service through the Mount Roval tunnel, and this same form of electrical propulsion was installed on the new connection from the Central station to the east-andwest line including the passenger tracks between the Victoria bridge on the east and Turcot yard on the west. All train movements into and out of the new station are operated by electric locomotives. Track layouts to change from steam to electric locomotives and vice-versa are located at Turcot yard and at a point just west of Victoria bridge. The distance from



## Interlocking at Montreal

is 2.3 miles, and the distance from Turcot yard to the new station is 4.7 miles.

A daily average of about 140 passenger train movements are made into and out of the Central station, including equipment trains to and from the passenger coach yard and multiple sections of certain trains, and about 95 freight trains which, although not using the Central station, comprise a major part of the traffic through the interlocker. Besides these, there are numerous moves connected with the changing of engines on inward and outward passenger trains, many light engine moves and the passenger and freight switching involving the main and station tracks.

Freight trains from the east and southeast, enter Montreal via the Victoria bridge and then move to the Turcot yard. These trains may be routed via the old double-track main line by way of Point St. Charles station, or over a new line, known as the Butler diversion which is south of the new coach yard so that these freights do not interfere with the operation of coach trains between the new coach yard and the new Central station. All these freight train movements, as well as hundreds of switching movements throughout the entire area, are all made by signal indication under interlocking protection. On the average, at least 800 train and switching movements are made daily in this interlocking area.

#### **Two-Unit Low Signals**

A total of nine road miles is included in the interlocking area. The number of main tracks vary from two to six as shown in the diagram, so that a total of 28 track miles is included in the interlocking. Each track is signaled for train movements in either direction.

Throughout the entire terminal project, the new interlocking signals are the two-unit low type. The reason for this practice is that they could be located as required, so as to utilize all the length of track available. The Dithe lever, must be depressed.

maximum speed of trains in this terminal area is about 35 m.p.h.

Each signal consists of two searchlight signal units, each capable of displaying red, yellow or green. Green-over-red is the "Clear" aspect, which indicates Proceed. Yellow-overred is the "Approach" aspect, which indicates Proceed prepared to stop at next signal. Red-over-yellow is the "Restricting" aspect, which indicates Proceed at restricted speed. This is the call-on aspect, displayed when one or more of the track circuits is occupied. Red-over-red is the "Stop" aspect.

Electric switch machines, rated at 110 volts d-c., are used at the interlocked switches. The main-line hand-throw switches are equipped with electric locks which are controlled from the interlocking machine.

#### New Type of Interlocking Control Machine

The control machine for this entire interlocking is located in a tower on the west side of the track just north of the new lift bridge over the Lachine canal. The controls are of the allrelay type; i.e., the locking is accomplished by interconnections of circuits, so that there is no mechanical locking between levers or any electric lever locks.

The interlocking machine is something new and different from any used previously. The levers and accompanying indication lamps are in a steel panel 44 in. high which is mounted on a slope at an angle of 30 degrees. The lower edge of the panel is 30 in. above the floor, so that the levers on the panel are all easily reached by a man standing at the machine. The total length of the machine panel is 12 ft. 6 in., the end sections being set at an angle.

The levers are of the miniature type and of a special design as shown in a close-up view in one of the accompanying illustrations. The part of the lever which a leverman grasps between the thumb and forefinger is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in high and 1 in. long. In order to operate a lever, it must be pushed down about 1/8 in. against spring pressure, thus releasing a catch, after which the lever can be rotated on a vertical shaft through the face of the panel. A switch lever can be rotated 90 deg. from the normal to the reverse position or vice versa. A signal lever normally stands on center and can be rotated 45 deg. to the right or to the left to control corresponding signals. In order to control a signal to display the call-on, Restricting aspect, red-over-yellow, the signal lever must be positioned and also a button on the panel below

The movement of a switch lever will not interfere with an established signal control for a route over the switch. Switch controls cannot be stored; i.e., in order to be effective, the lever must be thrown when the electric locking, as applying to that switch, is unlocked. If the switch lever is moved when the switch is locked, a flashing light will appear above the lever to inform the operator that the switch cannot be operated and that the lever should be restored to its original position. If the switch lever is moved when the switch is unlocked, a steady light will appear

a second train until the lever is placed normal and again moved to the position required. When a signal is put to stop by a train movement, an indication is transmitted to the tower to extinguish the "clear" signal indication on the illuminated diagram and then cause the lamp above the lever to be flashed, thus indicating that the lever should be restored to its center position. When the lever is so positioned, the flashing light changes to a steady light. At the same time controls and indications are transmitted to check that the aspect displayed by the signal corresponds lever until such time as the approach locking stick relay associated with the signal became energized. Thus, if the approach locking were effective because of a train on the approach to the signal which was put to stop or if time locking was involved, the steady light would persist until the time release operation was concluded. after which it would be extinguished. thus indicating that the control and indication elements associated with the signal lever are normal.

If a signal lever is cleared when an opposing signal is clear, or when a route is incomplete or conflicting.



above the lever until the switch moves into agreement with the lever, when the light will be extinguished. The absence of a light above the switch lever thus indicates that the switch agrees in position with its switch lever.

When a signal lever is moved to an R or an L position, a steady white light appears above the lever, and this light will continue to burn until the signal clears and an indication to that effect is transmitted to the control machine, at which time the lamp above the signal lever is extinguished, and a lamp is lighted in the symbol representing that signal on the illuminated track diagram.

The top signal units are stick controlled; i.e., they will not clear for

to the position of the lever, where upon this steady light above the lever is extinguished.

If the signal were put to stop by placing the lever on center, controls and indications would follow successively and the clear indication on the track model would be cancelled upon the receipt of an indication that the signal had gone to stop. Upon movement of the lever to center, a steady light would appear above the

the indicat	ion lamp above that	t signal
lever flash	nes to warn the op	perator.
Restoring	the lever to cent	ter ex-
tinguishes	the flashing light.	

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Lachine Canal

4100

#### Switch Lock Levers

The hand-throw main-line switches within the entire interlocking territory are equipped with electric locks, which are controlled by levers in the interlocking machine. The lamp above each electric lock lever is normally extinguished. When the lever is reversed, a steady-burning light will appear above the lever if circumstances in the field are such that the lock can be released. These conditions are that the lever-controlled signals governing over the switch must be at stop,

Zone	Single Switches	Cross- overs	Main Line Derails	Switch Machines	Bridge Locks	Signals	Electric Locks on Hand-throw Switches	
1	0	2	0.	4	0	4	0	
2	10	4	0	18	0	18	1	
3	Train Starting System							
4	8	9	0	26	0	27	0	
5	6	5	4	20	1	16	0	
6	4	5	0	14	0	19	0	
7	11	8	0	25	0	36	3	
8	5	5	0	15	0	23	6	
9	4	3	4	14	1	13	2	
10	1	10	0	21	0	13	0	
11	8	13	0	34	0	28	1	
		-	-				<u> </u>	
TOTAL	57	64	8	191	2	197	13	

spi

(swing

their associated approach locking relays must be energized, and the track sections in the route which include the switch must not be occupied by a train moving toward the lock, except that after the track section in which the switch lock is located has been occupied for a pre-determined time, a release may be obtained automatically to permit the switch to be unlocked.

The steady light above the switch lock lever in the control machine continues to burn until the switch lock in the field is operated, when a light will appear on the track model in the vicinity of the switch lock symbol, thus indicating that the switch is unlocked. When the switch is relocked in the normal position, the light on the track model will be extinguished, at which time the steady light will appear above the lever indicating that the lever does not agree with the lock and that it should be restored to its normal position.

If a switch lock lever were moved when conditions in the field, as outlined above, are not correct for the lock to be released, then a flashing light appears above the switch lock lever, thus indicating to the leverman that the lock cannot be released at that time.

#### **Illuminated Track Diagram**

The illuminated track model is 4 ft. 6 in., high and 34 ft. 6 in., long, and is mounted on pipe posts to bring the bottom of the model 5 ft. 9 in., above

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Zone No. 8

6.125

Wellington st.



St. Charles coach yard

floor level and 3 ft. 10 in., to the rear of the interlocking control machine. At this location the track diagram, as well as the indication lamps, are plainly visible to the men operating the machine. From the pictures shown herewith, it will be noted that one half the track diagram is on the upper half of the model board, and the other half of

the track diagram is on the lower half. In a corresponding manner the levers in the upper half of the panel of the interlocking machine correspond with the tracks on the upper half of the track model, and the levers on the lower half of the panel of the interlocking machine correspond to the tracks on the lower half.

The model board has lamps to indicate track occupancy, which are lighted when a train occupies the corresponding track sections. As previously mentioned, when a signal clears, a lamp on the model board is lighted in the symbol representing that signal. Likewise, when an electric lock on a

Digitiand-throw switch is released, a lamp



on the model board is lighted near the symbol representing the electric lock on the corresponding track switch.

#### Interlocking Divided Into Eleven Zones

Insofar as the men in charge of the control machine are concerned, the interlocking on the entire 9 road miles is controlled as one large interlocker.

From a signal engineering and construction standpoint, however, the interlocking is divided into eleven zones.

At a central point in each zone, there is a concrete house known officially as a bungalow. Conventional direct-wire control circuits extend from each bungalow to the switch machines, signals and track circuit connections in that zone, just the same as if there were a conventional type interlocking control machine in the bungalow. The novel feature of this extensive interlocking at Montreal is that the entire eleven zones are controlled from one machine, which, as previously discussed, is located in a tower near the new lift bridge.

The control of so many switches, signals and electric locks over such an extensive area, involving 9 road miles, would, of course, require too many wires if conventional direct wire circuits were used. On the other hand, line code control, as ordinarily used in centralized traffic control, would not be entirely practicable as applied for the control of such a large number of switches and signals. For these reasons the Type-S Form 508 polar code control system was applied.

In this system of interlocking, controls are transmitted from the control machine to each bungalow on three wires and indications are transmitted from each bungalow to the control machine on three other wires, the two three wire arrangements being entirely independent so that controls to, and indications from a bungalow can be transmitted simultaneously.

With direct lines between the con-

trol machine and each bungalow, the only code required is to select between the controls for the different switches and signals. Basically the polar code system may be discussed as follows: When any of the levers controlling signals and switches in a certain zone is thrown, a series of impulses, known as a code, is transmitted over the three wires to the bungalow. Each impulse in the code is for the control of a certain signal or switch.

#### Schematic Principle of Operation

A schematic diagram, Fig. 1, pictures, in a simplified form, the basic principles of the Type-S Form 508 polar code control system. It shows how a number of levers are connected one at a time, through a line circuit, to control the associated relays into corresponding positions.

Let us imagine that at each transmitter and receiver location there is a multiple-point switch, with several View of track layout for changing locomotives just west of the Victoria Bridge

out energy. The transmitter is connected to the receiver by a line circuit, which carries polarity impulses as energized by a mid-tap battery. Both transmitter and receiver switches are on their zero points when not coding.

When a code is started, through a suitable mechanism, the transmitter switch drives the receiver switch and maintains synchronism on all points. When both switches are simultaneously on point 1, lever A is connected to relay A. Lever A in the left position transmits a positive impulse to relay A and positions it normal. (If relay A is already in the normal position it remains normal.) When both switches advance to point 2, lever B is connected to relay B. Lever B to the left transmits a positive pulse to position relay B to normal. On point 3, lever C is connected to relay C. Lever C to the right transmits a negative pulse to relay C and positions it to reverse. On point 4 lever D is connected to relay D. Lever D to the left transmits a positive pulse to position relay D to normal. This action continues for as many points as the number of levers and relays require. When the sequence has completed, both switches return to their non-coding zero positions.

It is apparent that at any given instant there is obtained a direct-wire circuit between a certain lever and its associated relay. The code action



Fig. 1-Schematic diagram of operating principles

points to obtain circuit selection. The transmitter points connect to lever contacts and the receiver points connect to relays. These relays are of the polar-stick type, which operate to normal or reverse by an impulse of proper polarity and remain in position with. merely provides an operating impulse for each instance and transfers the use of the same line circuit from one control combination to the next.

polar-stick type, which operate to normal or reverse by an impulse of proper polarity and remain in position with of synchronized drive illustrated

#### January, 1944

above is obtained by groups of relays. The following explanation will show how these groups of relays perform their functions.

#### Line Circuit

The line circuit serves as the means of relaying information from the transmitting station to the receiving station. It includes contacts of the transmitter unit and repeating relays in the receiver unit.

The line relays (L0, L1, L2, L3) are of the biased polar type. They close their normal contacts when en-



Electric lock on hand-throw switch

ergy flows through the coils from left to right, and return to their reverse contacts if the current is interrupted or reversed. The normal (non-coding) condition of the line circuit is shown in Fig. 2, which is the starting point for all codes. All three line wires are energized.

Battery flows through one coil of relay LO, keeping it normal. With 3T front contacts closed, current flows out line L3 and through both coils of relay L3, keeping it normal. The current then divides, one-half flowing through one coil of relays L1 and L2 in one direction, the other half flowing through the other coil of relays L1 and L2 in the opposite direction. The magnetic effect due to these opposing currents is neutralized and relays L1 and L2 remain in their reverse positions. The current then returns on lines L1 and L2, over 3T front contacts to common. (Arrows marked on the wires show direction of current flow.

During coding, line L3 is de-energized, while lines L1 and L2 carry current in one direction or the other. This current is interrupted to form pulses so as to obtain alternate energization and de-energization of the ber of signals and switches in a zone to be controlled from one bungalow. The code impulses operate at the rate of approximately 30 per second. None



lines L1 and L2. Relay 3T opens to de-energize all three lines and relay L3 goes reverse. Relay L0 remains normal by a stick circuit through its second coil with battery through 1T and 2T back contacts and TP front contact, which closes at the start of the code. When a positive pulse is to be sent, relay 1T picks up to energize the line by battery through relay L0, 1T contact, line L1, relay L1 coils in the positive direction and relay L2 coils in the negative direction, and returns over line L2, 1T contact, to common. Relay L1 goes normal. The stick circuit for relay L0 is opened by 1T. The positive pulse is followed by all lines being de-energized by 1T releasing. Relay L1 reverses. When a negative pulse is to be sent, relay 2T picks up and energizes the same circuit explained for the positive pulse except that battery flows on line L2 and returns on line L1. Relay L2 goes normal. The negative pulse is also followed by de-energized lines, and relay L2 reverses. This action continues to the end of the code, when 3T picks up to re-energize all three lines, as at the start, and relay L3 goes normal, with relays L1 and L2 reverse.

Relay L0 acts as a check relay on the pulses. Any time a transmitter relay picks up, the line circuit should receive energy. Failure to do so would cause the transmitter to become out of synchronism with the receiver, which would receive an incorrect code. When 1T or 2T pick up, they open stick battery to relay LO. Unless the line receives energy, no current flows through the line coil of relay L0, so L0 releases to stop transmission.

Other features of the actual circuits not here discussed are, the code starting circuit, the actual transmission circuit, the half-cycle group, the counting chain, the function registry, code check and reset.

The number of impulses required in a code depends on the total num- Digitized Track relay and transformer

of the codes on the Montreal project require as much as two seconds. The relays used in this polar code



system are the Type-K designed to operate very quickly. These relays are mounted on vertical panels, and are the plug-in type, keyed to permit only the proper relay to be inserted into an assigned space. These relays are of two types, KN neutral and KP polar, shown by the accompanying illustration.

The KN relays possess 6 front and 3 back independent contacts, and close their front contacts when energized. The KP polar relays are of two varie-ties. The biased KP relay closes its normal contacts when positive energy is applied to the left side of either of two coils. This relay closes its reverse contacts either when de-energized or when energized by reversed polarity. It has 2 normal and 2 reverse independent contacts. The stick KP relay closes its normal contacts when positive energy is applied to the left side of either of two coils and closes its reverse contacts when negative energy is applied to the left side of these coils. The contacts remain closed in their last-operated position when energy is removed from the relay. These relays possess either 2 normal and 2 reverse independent contacts or 4 normal and 4 reverse nonindependent contacts. All these relays can have coils of various resistance values.

Some KN and KP biased relays

are bridged by means of snubbing rectifiers when it is desired to retard their release on de-energization. Retion of a function without changing its position. He can depress the concerned lever without changing its po-



Type K relays in a rack

sistors are used in some relay circuits for current limiting. The code equip-ment functions on 24 volts direct current.

The operator can check an indica-



Plug-in type relays on a rack in the tower

sition, thus issuing a control code which will recall an indication code of the function.

#### **Field Construction**

At a central point in each of the eleven zones, there is a bungalow for housing the relays, batteries, etc. These bungalows are of concrete construction, the floors, walls and roofs being poured in place. The houses are 12 ft. wide inside, and vary from 22 ft. to 25 ft. long, depending on the amount of equipment at the various locations.

The relays used in the line code system, as previously discussed, are the Type-K and are mounted in racks. All other d-c. relays, such as control relays, lock relays, etc., are the plug-in type and are mounted in racks. The track relays are the two-element a-c. vane type, mounted on shelves, and are equipped with quick-detachable plug couplers. The track transformers and track relays are all housed in the bungalows.

#### Single-Rail Track Circuits

The electric propulsion is at 2,400volts direct-current, using an overhead trolley and one rail throughout as a return. This practice permits the use of single-rail track circuits, the advantages being that no impedance bonds were required, and that less expense and trouble were involved in locating the insulated rail joints.

In consideration of the fact that Digitized by GOOGLE

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Relay racks on ground floor of the tower are typical of the racks in the various bungalows

most of the track layout is beyond the view of the towerman, special efforts were taken to provide complete track circuit protection to the exclusion of trap circuit arrangements. At the diamond west of Victoria bridge where the double-track coach yard track crosses a double-track main line and two side tracks, the diamonds are insulated as shown on an accompanying plan so that the track circuits are carried through. The signal rails are also insulated from all steel bridge decks.

#### **Power Switch Machines**

The switch machines are the Style-M2 for operation on 110 volts direct current. The switch ties are framed so that the base of a switch machine is 3 in. below the level of the base of the rail. Tie plates 1 in. thick and 7 in. wide extend and are bolted to the switch machine so that there is no lost motion. Adjustable rail braces are used on three ties at each switch.

The 110-volt d-c. power is distributed on bus circuits to the various machine locations. The operation of each switch machine is controlled directly by a Style DP-25 relay which



will open the feed to the motor if the switch points are obstructed so that the motor takes 12 amp. for 4 sec.

#### **Battery Supply**

In the bungalow for each zone, there is a switch operating battery consisting of 55 cells of 120-a.h. storage battery. The code equipment for the zone is fed by 12 cells of 54-a.h. battery, and the relays and signals are



Diagram of track circuit through railroad crossings

is housed in a cast-iron case mounted on a concrete foundation near the switch. Also included in this case is a Style OR-11 overload relay which

fed by 6 cells of 120-a.h. battery. These various batteries are of the lead type and are on floating charge to each station track, there are, in a through rectifiers. Each bungalow in-<sup>Dig</sup>vertical row from top to bottom, three

cludes a power switch-board panel including meters for checking the voltage and current input or output from the various batteries.

#### Wiring Distribution

For the most part, the circuit distribution is in underground cables. A nine-conductor No. 14 cable extends from a bungalow to each signal and to each switch. The track leads are No. 9 from the bootleg outlets to the bungalow or to junction boxes. The circuits between the control tower and the various bungalows are in cable No. 14 copper wire.

The wiring inside the control tower and in the bungalows is all flexible, No. 16 being used for all circuits, except No. 14 for track circuits and No. 9 for power circuits.

#### **Train-Starting System**

The new signaling includes a trainstarting indicator system by means of which the gateman in the passenger station, the train conductor on the platform, and the train director in the control tower, inform each other concerning the loading of a train before departure.

The train starting system control panel is on the train director's desk, in front of the interlocking machine in the tower. On this panel, applying



Train starting control panel in the tower

indication lamps and two control push buttons. On each train platform in the station there is a platform indication signal and a key switch. At each gate on the station level there is a yellow lamp indicator and a push button.

#### When a Train Departs

When a train on a given track is ready to load passengers, the conductor operates a key circuit controller to depart, the gateman closes the gate and allows time for passengers to descend the stairs and board the train. Then he presses his push-button, which extinguishes the yellow lamp on the gateman's indicator, on the platform indicator, and on the train director's desk, after which the green lamps on the platform indicator and on the train director's desk are lighted. The towerman then lines the route for the train and clears the signal to depart. The controls between the tower



The ties are framed so that base of machine is 3 in. below base of rail

on the platform for the direction the train is to move. This causes a red light to be established on the proper signal on the platform and also causes a control to be transmitted to the tower to light the red (ready to load) lamp on the station-starting control panel. When the towerman operates the acknowledgment button for that track, the red lamps on the station platform signal and on the towerman's cabinet are extinguished. Yellow lamps are lighted at both of the locations and at the gateman's indicator. The yellow light directs the gateman to open the gate.

As the time approaches for the train

and station for this train-starting indicator system are accomplished by polar code similar to that previously discussed.

#### **Plans and Construction**

This interlocking system was planned and installed under the jurisdiction of R. G. Gage, chief electrical engineer, Canadian National Railways, and under the direction of J. J. Ginty, superintendent signals. The plans and principal item of the interlocking equipment were furnished by the Union Switch & Signal Company, Swissvale, Pa.

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### T. & T. Statistics

(Continued from page 27)

telegraph between offices which regularly exchange any considerable volume of messages. Printer service is also used effectively on numerous roads for transmitting train consists to yards ahead of the arrival of those trains.

#### **Additional Circuits**

On account of the war traffic, the need for additional telegraph printer service is greater than can be supplied —this statement applying with refer-

SERVICE DU	RING 1943	
Railroad	Miles of Circuits	No. of Machine
A. T. & S. F.	1.465.0	18
C. N	3.891.0	.39
C. P	3.554.0	19
C. R. I. & P.	5.0	1
D. & R. G. W.	745.0	44
Erie	32.1	
B. & A	239.0	4
N. & W.	314.0	3
Penna	290.0	38
P. M	2.0	2
Reading	81.0	2
S. A. L	579.0	3
T. & N. O.		5
U. P	709.5	6
W. M		2

ence not only to the sending and receiving machines but also to circuits between offices. During 1943 the railroads installed printing telegraph on 11,980 circuit miles, and 186 printing telegraph machines were placed in service, these figures being comparable with 13,840 circuit miles and 160 machines in 1942. The circuits for printer operation were derived in various ways to avoid the installation of new line wire. For example. the A.T.&S.F. changed 247 miles from Morse to printer telegraph, and obtained 1,218 circuit miles by using new carrier channels. The Norfolk & Western installed printing telegraph service between Roanoke, Va., and Portsmouth, Ohio, by providing carrier current apparatus. The Union Pacific changed from Morse to printer operation on 709 circuit miles between Cheyenne, Wyo., and Rawlins. and between Portland, Ore., and Huntington.

