

Switchyard Television Facilitates Movement of Rolling Stock



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Small industrial-TV cameras and receiving systems may soon be used in major railroad yards to save wear and tear on both rolling stock and personnel. In a Chicago demonstration, three receivers were installed in a control room manned by supervisors and checkers. Views on two of the screens were picked up by cameras mounted on swivel bases atop a 60-foot tower, giving an over-all picture of the yard and a close-up of the tracks leading in. A checker sat before a third television screen and recorded car numbers as trains passed before an unattended track camera. The cable-connected system makes trips through the yard by the checker unnecessary and allows supervisors to move cars and engines along the shortest possible routes. The unit consists of a small, lightweight camera about the size of a 16-mm. home-movie device and a combination monitor, power supply and controller housed in a luggage-type case. Heart of the new industrial camera is a supersensitive tube only one inch in diameter and six inches long.

☛ More than 50,000 single-engine private aircraft are in use in the United States, compared with approximately 540 four-engine and 12 trimotored planes.

POPULAR MECHANICS