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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

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RESULTS OF INTRODUCING AUTOMATIZED PROCESSING OF TELEGRAMS

Vestnik svyazi [Communications
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The volume of telegram traffic at the Minsk Telegraph Center increases each year by approximately 10 percent. From 1949 to 1954 the volume increased by 70 percent. The well-timed and high-quality handling of the continually increasing telegraph traffic permitted automatization of telegraph communications and more rational organization of the entire process of handling telegrams.

It has already been reported in Vestnik svyazi (No 1 for 1951 and No 10 for 1954) how a complex brigade of rationalizers under the leadership of Comrade Golovanevskiy designed and constructed in 1954 an automatization attachment for the ST-35 [start-stop teletypewriter equipment and how in the same year all the telegraph center's teletypewriters were converted to this equipment, technological procedures in the instrument, technical, and non-instrument services were improved, the maintenance of records was simplified, and the organization of the work of telegraph operators was improved.

In 1950 16 ST-35 teletypewriters at eight inter-city communications centers were equipped with the automatization attachment, which in June of that year permitted the automatized processing of 3.3 percent of the total telegram traffic. In December of 1950 the volume of automatized communications had already risen to 11.5 percent of the total traffic; in 1951 this figure was an average of 23 percent, and in 1954 it was 85.4 percent.

The average output of the telegraph operators was 280 wph in 1950, 345 in 1951, 420 in 1952, 595 in 1953.

Beginning with 1953 the Minsk telegraph center introduced the method of automatized communications with the load for group 2 and even for group 1 being transmitted and received by a single telegraph operator. The mastery of this method by all the telegraph operators permitted bringing the average output for January 1950 up to 40 telegrams (970 words) per hour, while in individual cases this output was considerably greater.

Year	Percent of traffic increase over 1949	Percentage of automatized communication in total traffic	Output of single worker in basic activity (1,000 rubles)	Cost of 1,000 rubles of output (rubles)	Delay of telegrams in transmission(%)
1949	100.0	-	10.2	785	1.74
1950	113.5	4.9	11.4	713	2.04
1951	123.4	23.0	12.8	658	2.35
1952	142.9	35.1	15.3	550	1.98
1953	163.7	50.4	17.8	487	1.28
1954	170.5	85.4	19.5	473	0.79

Along with this, the working conditions of the telegraph operators were substantially improved, the quality of the processing of telegrams was increased and its costs was lowered. Message spoilage at transmission in the first quarter of 1955 was lower than at the Riga and Tallin



telegraph centers competing with out enterprise. It amounted to 0.16 percent of the total number of test telegrams as against 0.17 percent in the first quarter of 1949. The rate of handling telegrams through our unit has increased considerably. In 1952 within a 30-minute period only 35 percent of the test telegrams passed through the unit, but in 1954 this figure was raised to 58 percent. The delay of telegrams in transmission during this period was reduced by half, which can be seen from the foregoing table.

The rise in the productivity of labor outstripped the increase in the load, which made it possible to release 120 persons from the staff of the telegraph center. In 1955, due to an increase in the productivity of labor and the introduction of a number of organizational technical measures, 20 more persons were released. The yearly wages of all the released workers amounts to more than a million rubles.

Automatization of the transceiving of telegrams gives rise to no substantial increase in expenditures for operational materials. The high cost of perforator tape is somewhat offset by savings in other materials. Thus, in the processing of 1,000 telegrams in 1955 it is planned to spend on telegraph forms for manual processing 13 rubles 48 kopecks, for automatized processing 6 rubles; on starch gum 5 rubles 46 kopecks and 50 kopecks, respectively; on equipment records 2 rubles 50 kopecks, but on perforator tape in automatized processing 15 rubles 15 kopecks. Thus, in the manual processing of 1,000 telegrams 20 rubles 94 kopecks are spent on basic operational materials, and in automatized processing 22 rubles 15 kopecks.

It must be pointed out that the Minsk telegraph center uses a single control form made from printing waste. The simple method of fastening the perforated tape to the control form with a single punch (proposed by comrades Kotovaya and Misochenko, telegraph operators) eliminates the possibility of losing the tape in the conveyer.

Expenditures on technical servicing of the automatic attachments together with depreciation are also small, amounting to not more than 40,000 rubles per year. Due to the large savings in wages with such a small increase in expenditures for technical servicing, the cost of production is substantially lowered. Thus, the cost of 1,000 rubles of production in 1954 amounted to only 60 percent of the cost in 1949 and the savings resulting from this reduction exceeded 3.5 million rubles. It must be said that the cost of production at our telegraph center is considerably lower than at enterprises with manual processing of telegrams. For example, the cost of processing a received telegram at the Gor'kiy telegraph center in 1954 amounted to 74.6 kopecks and the planned cost for 1955 is 71.1 kopecks, while at the Minsk telegraph center the corresponding figures are 58 and 52.2 kopecks.

The personnel of the telegraph center, not content with the achieved results, are confronting the task of full automatization of the processing of telegrams, the reorganization and concentration of light-load communications, equipping an exchange for automatic transit (which will permit a further increase in the productivity of labor), reducing costs, increasing the rate of handling of telegrams from the sender to the addressee, and improving the quality of their processing.

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- 2 -