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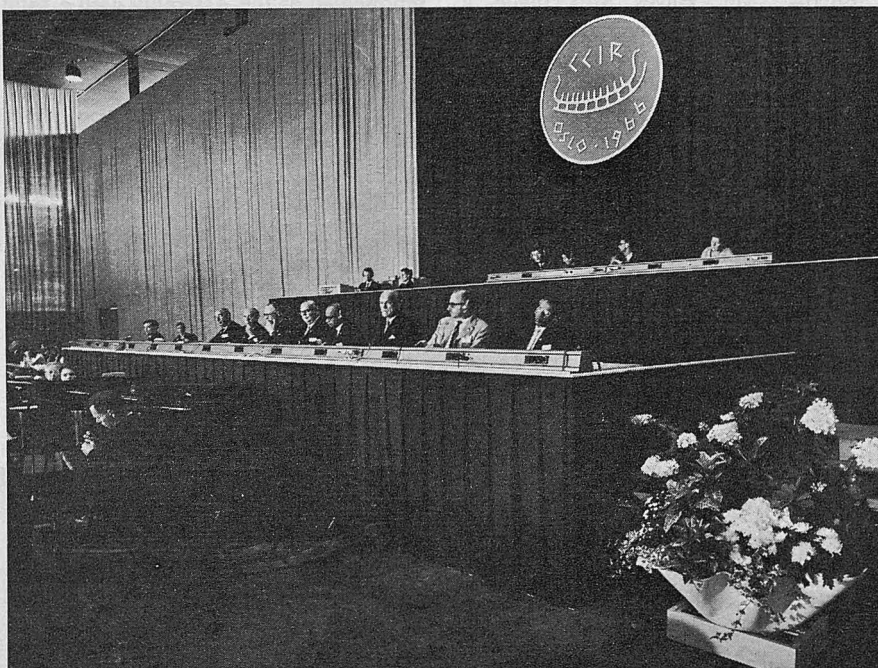
## CCIR PLENARY ASSEMBLY OPENS IN OSLO

**T**he XIth Plenary Assembly of the CCIR opened at 11 a.m. on 22 June in the Plenary Meeting Hall of the *Norges Varemesse* in Oslo. Mr. Leslie W. Hayes, the Director ad interim of the CCIR, opened the meeting by recalling that under the Convention the Chairman of the Plenary Assembly was appointed by the inviting Government and therefore requesting Mr. Leif Larsen, head of the Norwegian delegation, to take the Chair.

After welcoming the delegates, Mr. Larsen proposed that the Plenary Assembly should honour the memory of Dr. Ernst Metzler, the former Director of the CCIR, who died in June 1963. The Assembly rose to its feet and observed one minute of silence. Later in his address the Chairman said: "We are very glad that so many have come here to participate in this XIth Plenary Assembly of the CCIR. The number of participants exceeds that of any previous CCIR meeting, perhaps of any previous ITU meeting."

The Plenary Assembly also heard an address of welcome from H.E. H. Kyllingmark, Norway's Minister of Transport and Communications. In the course of his speech, Mr. Kyllingmark said: "Radio and electronics represent a patrimony of incalculable value to mankind. There is no need for me to list before this Assembly all the uses radio is put to. You know more about it than I do. I must admit that I am impressed by some of the spectacular

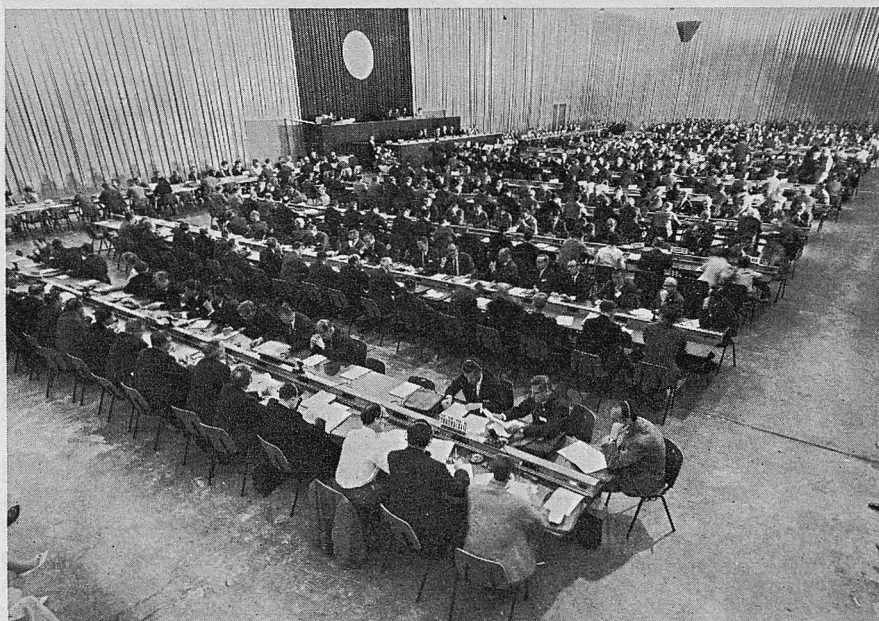
uses made of radio in recent years, in space for instance, thinking of communication satellites, radiocommunications with space vehicles, radio astronomy, but there are other fields where radio gives us a precious medium for communication; I am thinking, for example of what radio means for the safety of life at sea and in the air. On the basis of old, well-known techniques, new services are also created. One under study now, I understand, is telex service with ships,



The presidential table

(Knudsens Fotosenter)

A general view of the hall



which, to a seafaring nation like ours, is of considerable interest. Radio waves know no frontiers."

A further speech of welcome came from Mr. Brynjulf Bull, Mayor of the City of Oslo, after which Mr. Yves Place, head of the French delegation, replied on behalf of the visiting delegations.

Dr. M. B. Sarwate, the ITU Secretary-General, then addressed the Assembly. After speaking at length of the organization of the CCIR's work and the contents of its documentation, he said: "Should the CCIR take a positive step to orient its work to meet the needs of new and developing countries? In answering this question, I would like to recall that the Xth Plenary Assembly, Geneva, 1963, was held, by coincidence, at the same time as the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the benefit of the less developed

areas. The main purpose of this Conference was to establish ways and means of exchanging and imparting knowledge on developments in science and technology which would be of benefit to the new and developing countries. The deliberations of the Conference clearly brought out the need for such exchange and the dangers of a widening gap between developed and developing countries in so far as science and technology are concerned. In the CCIR we may face the same problem, unless we take steps now to organize the work in such a way as to be of benefit to the Membership of the Union as a whole."

Finally, Mr. Hayes also made a statement which he described as "ad interim words" until the Assembly got

down to business in the afternoon.

As Vice-Chairmen, the Assembly elected Mr. A. Badalov (USSR), Mr. H. Kusakabe (Japan), Mr. T. Bouraima (Dahomey) and Mr. C. Núñez Arellano (Mexico). Apart from the Study Groups, it constituted four special Committees—the Finance Committee with Mr. Chaman Lal of India as Chairman, the Organization Committee with Mr. P. Bouchier of Belgium as Chairman, the Technical Co-operation Committee with Mr. B. Zerrouki of Algeria as Chairman and the Drafting Committee with Mr. Y. Place of France as Chairman.

There are in all ninety countries represented at the Assembly with a total of over 620 delegates. The Assembly is scheduled to last until 22 July.

for the transfer of register type signals.

From the studies made during 1965 it became clear that it would be preferable for all the System No. 6 signals to be routed over a common channel.

From another aspect, Study Group XI felt it inadvisable to abandon the study of a signalling system between modern-type registers which might open up additional operational prospects for Systems Nos. 4 and 5.

In following up the work there are thus two lines to be taken:

- the study of a signalling system for data transmission in which *all* the signals will be transmitted *via* the common signalling channel, to be known as System No. 6;
- the study of an inter-register signalling system which should lead to an improvement in the working conditions of Systems Nos. 4 and 5.

The following programme is planned for these studies:

- meeting of Working Party XI/I in Prague from 19 to 26 October 1966;
- second meeting of the Working

## CCITT MEETINGS IN NEW YORK

**CCITT Study Groups XI, XIII and Special B met in New York according to the following schedule:**

- Study Group XI (Telephone Switching and Signalling) under the chairmanship of Mr. W. J. E. Tobin (United Kingdom), from 14 to 22 April;
- Study Group XIII (Automatic and Semi-Automatic Telephone Networks) under the chairmanship of Mr. M. Lambiotte (Belgium), from 25 April to 3 May, and
- Special Study Group B (World-wide Telephone Network) under the chairmanship of Mr. E. C. Laird (United States) assisted by Mr. E. R. Banks (Australia), Vice-Chairman of the Study Group, from 4 to 6 May.

The meetings were held at the invitation of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T). Mr. L.F. Wingert, Vice-President of AT&T responsible for Long Lines, opened the first meeting.

As Mr. Rouvière, Director of the CCITT, pointed out, the New York meetings were an important event in the history of the CCITT for it was the first time that CCITT Study Groups had met in the United States, a top-ranking country in telephone progress.

The meetings were held in the Long Lines building. Any telephone engineer who has visited New York will know this imposing building with its twenty-five floors, containing what must be the largest single collection of telephone equipment in the world.

### *New international signalling system*

Study Groups XI and XIII took note of the report submitted by Working Party XI/1 following its two meetings, in Geneva (15-26 March 1965) and Stockholm (13-24 September 1965) (see the accounts of these meetings in the June and November, 1965 numbers of the *Telecommunication Journal*).



Mr. L. F. Wingert, Vice-President of AT&T opens first session of the CCITT meetings in New York. From left to right: Mr. W. J. E. Tobin, Chairman of Study Group XI, Mr. Wingert and Mr. J. Rouvière, Director of the CCITT.

The report by Working Party XI/1 showed how ideas had advanced concerning Signalling System No. 6 since the decision to study it was made in 1964. Originally, System No. 6 was to be a system having:

- a) a separate channel common to a number of speech channels used for the transfer of line and administrative type signals;
- b) individual speech channels used

Party in Geneva in March 1967,

- and the findings of the Working Party will be studied by Study Groups XI and XIII at the Tokyo meetings in May-June 1967.

One of the points to which Study Groups XI and XIII paid special attention in New York was the effect that the various possible methods for multiple-access satellite working might have on the conception of System No. 6