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CONTENTS

The Life and Works of

A. K. Erlang _____

By _____

E. Brockmeyer, _____

H. L. Halstrøm _____

and _____

Arne Jensen _____



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THE COPENHAGEN TELEPHONE COMPANY

THE LIFE AND WORKS
OF
A. K. ERLANG

BY

E. BROCKMEYER, H. L. HALSTRØM
AND ARNE JENSEN

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1948

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PREFACE

The Directors of the Copenhagen Telephone Company wish to publish the present work in memory of the late scientific collaborator of the Company, Mr. *A. K. Erlang*, M. A., as "Le comité consultatif international des communications téléphoniques à grande distance" (C. C. I. F.) at its plenary meeting at Montreux in October, 1946, has decided that the name of Erlang shall be connected with the International Unit of Telephone Traffic. The publishing is further occasioned by the fact that Mr. Erlang would have attained the age of 70 on the 1st January, 1948.

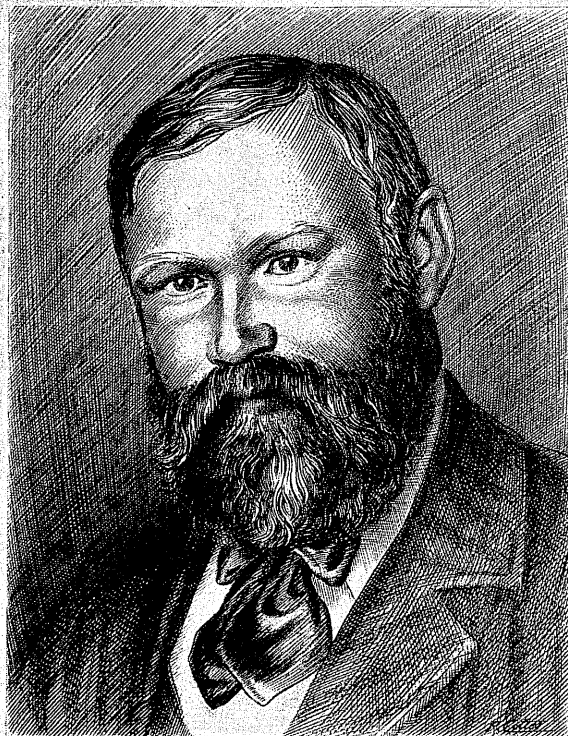
The publication of this work is intended to meet a desire, expressed from various quarters, of a complete edition of A. K. Erlang's principal works which have been available hitherto in the form of articles in Danish and foreign journals only. The present collection of Erlang's works has been edited by 3 members of the staff of the Telephone Company, *viz.* Mr. *E. Brockmeyer* and Mr. *H. L. Halstrøm*, telephone engineers, MM. Sc., and Mr. *Arne Jensen*, actuary. Furthermore, Mr. Brockmeyer and Mr. Halstrøm have written a biography of Erlang and a commented survey of his works, and Mr. Arne Jensen has written a paper, in which Erlang's works on the theory of probabilities are recapitulated and elucidated on the basis of the theory of stochastic processes. Mr. *Poul Reppien*, sworn translator, has performed the translation into English.

The Directors of the Company wish to extend their best thanks to the "*Academy of Technical Sciences*" for its kindness in including this work among its "Transactions".

It is their hope that this book may serve to make A. K. Erlang's important scientific achievements — especially those pertaining to the theory of telephone traffic — known and appreciated to an even greater extent than before.

The Copenhagen Telephone Company, Ltd.

G. Irming.



AGNER KRARUP ERLANG
1878 - 1929

This portrait of *A. K. Erlang*, which originally appeared in the *Journal des Télécommunications*, December 1947, is here reproduced by kind permission of *Le Bureau de l'Union Internationale des Télécommunications*.