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THE COOPERATIVE COURSE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

For the past year the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the General Electric Company have conducted a cooperative course in electrical engineering, which has proved unusually successful. In this course, a logical working out of the underlying principles has led to several interesting innovations in the conduct of the work. In brief the scheme is as follows:

The course covers a total of five years, the first two being identical with the regular course in electrical engineering at the institute, the last three being divided between instruction in theory at the institute and practice at the Lynn works of the General Electric Company. The instruction at the institute during the first four years of the cooperative course is similar in method and content to the general course in electrical engineering at the institute with certain omissions and abridgments for which equivalents are provided at the works. The work of the final or fifth year comprises postgraduate research work and training in design. Training at the works is also conducted with a primary view to its educational value and is closely correlated with the instruction in theory. During the final year of this course considerable latitude may be exercised by the students in the selection of their line of work, assignments being made either to shop management in the works' office or to research in the company's research laboratories, depending upon the aptitudes and preferences of the individual students.

The schedule of the cooperative years, *i. e.*, the last three years, is as follows:

The year (12 months) is divided into four three-month periods, the students spending