

● SEABOARD AIR LINE has just placed an order for 21 hotbox detectors. When installed, they will bring the road's total to 59 detectors, 49 with a radio-relay feature for line-of-road use, and 10 for yard inspection. In the radio-relay type, the location of a detected hotbox is automatically radioed to the train crew by means of a tape recorder (RSC July 1961, p. 22). The radio-relay, or "talking" portion of the detector system was invented by J. R. DePriest, superintendent communications and signals for the SAL. The rights for this radio-relay system have been purchased by the Servo Corp. of America, which has supplied all of the SAL's hotbox detectors. As received, the line-of-road detectors are equipped to transmit only a "beep" when a hotbox is indicated. These will be converted to the "talking" type as fast as the voice equipment becomes available. The detectors for yard inspection use carrier to bring the heat signals to a penograph recorder in the yard office.