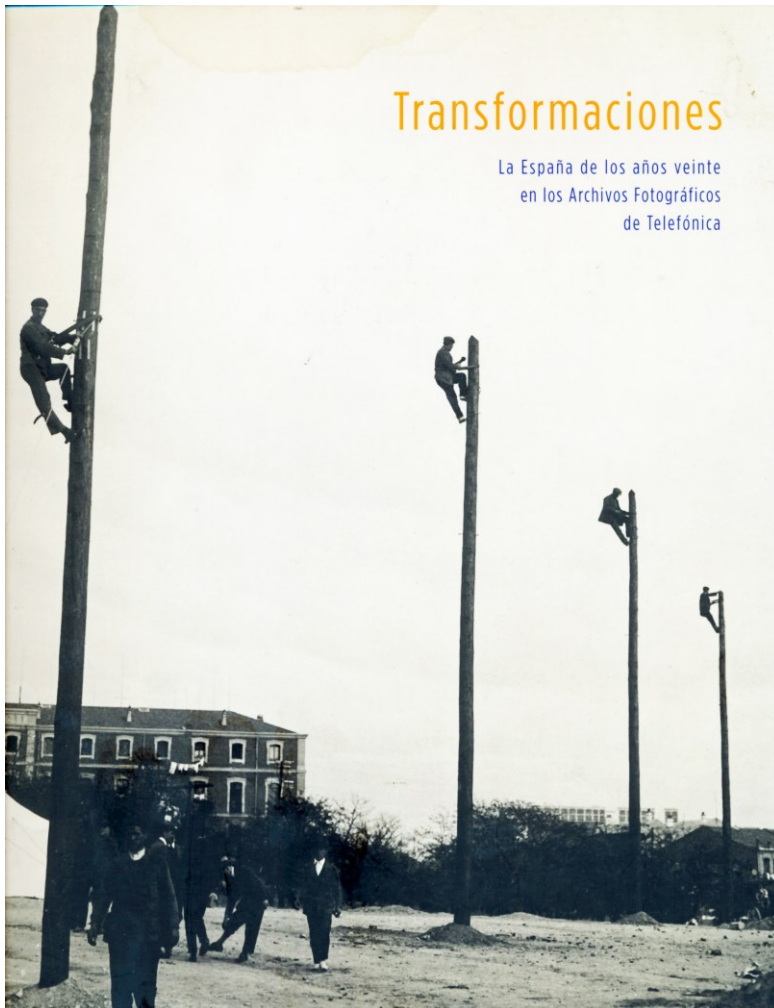


# Telephone wiring in Spain in the 1920s

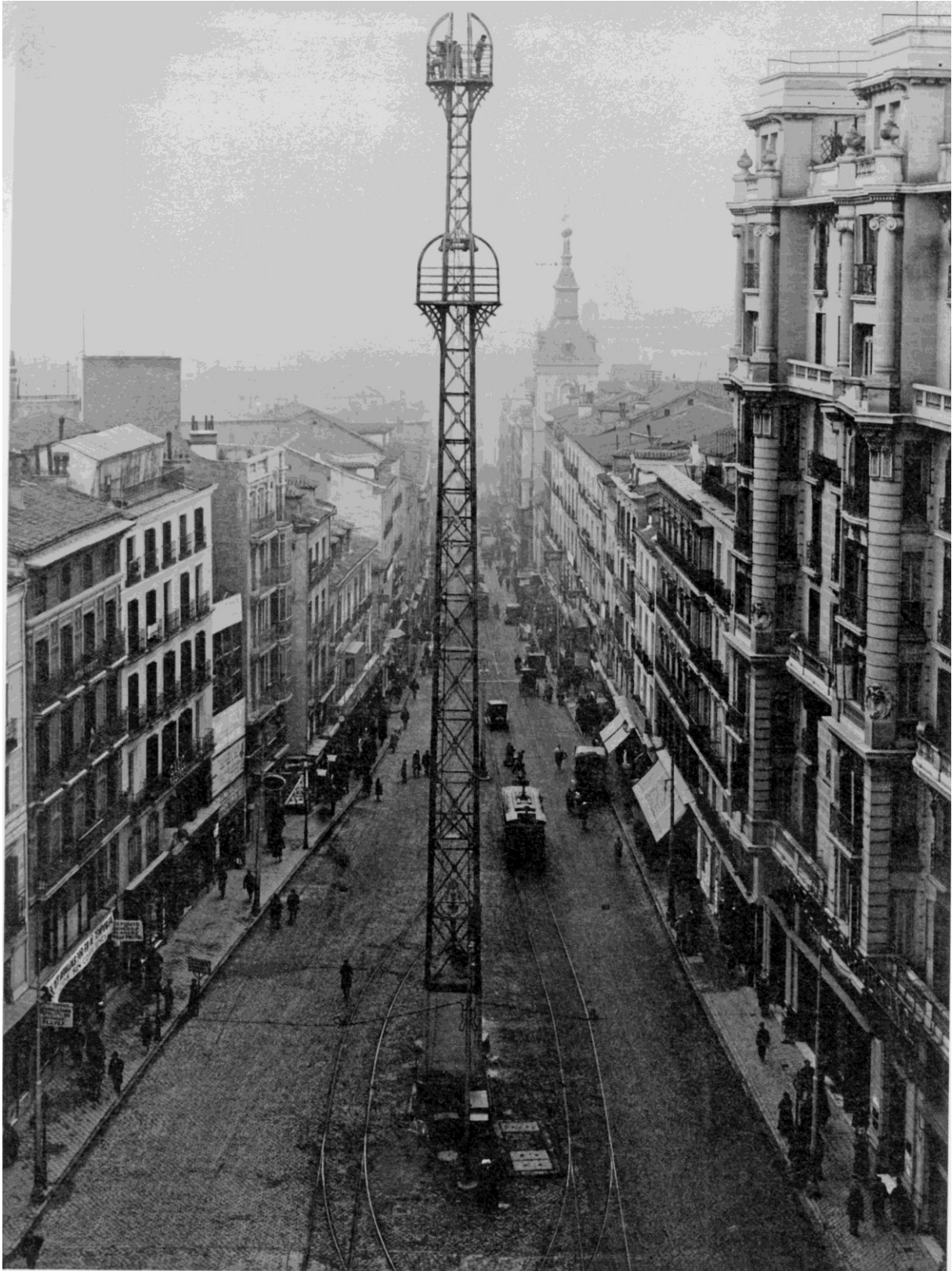
By Jan Verhelst, Belgium

In the Spring issue 2022 of the THG-journal, I wrote an article "History of Telephony and Wiring Through Old Postcards." This described the method of bringing telephone wiring from the exchange to the subscribers' homes, using derricks and tall distribution poles. To our knowledge, this system had only been used in Belgium and the Netherlands in the early decades of the 20th century.



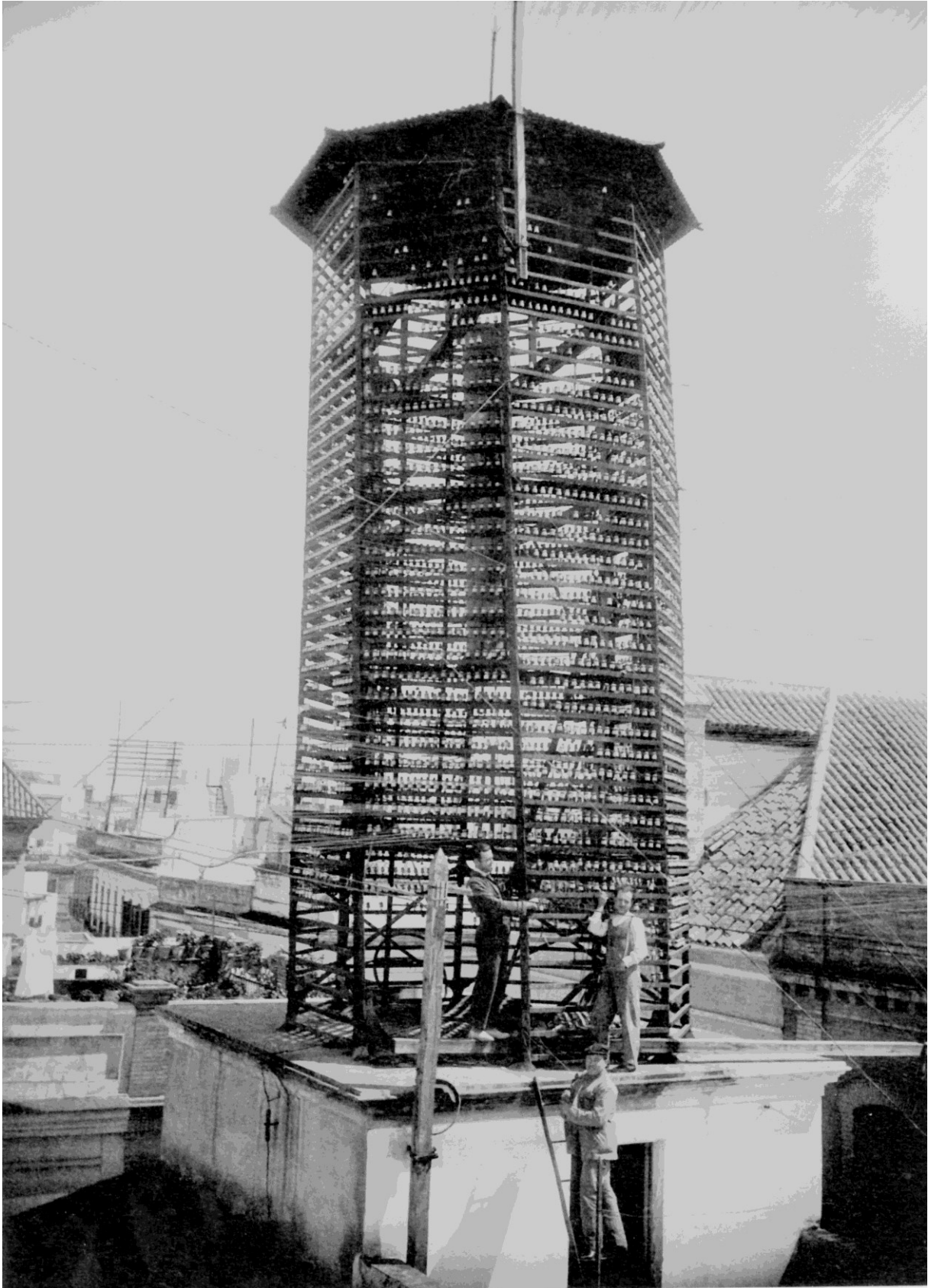
*Figure 1: Spanish book made with archive pictures of the National Telephone Company "Telefonica"*

Arnold Abels of the Van Houwelingen Museum in Rotterdam (the Netherlands) provided us with photos from the 1920s from an old Spanish book, made on the basis of the archives of the Spanish telephone company Telefonica. The title translated: "*Transformations: Spain in the 1920s in the Telefonica Photographic Archives*". This shows that this system of derricks and high iron distribution poles was also used in important Spanish cities such as Bilbao, Seville and Madrid.



*Figure 2: Destruction of an Iron distribution pole in Madrid, Spain (1925)*





*Figure 3: Derrick in the city of Sevilla, Spain (1928)*



*Figure 4: Iron distribution pole in Bilbao, Spain (1928)*