

# THE TRANSMITTER

Published Monthly by Controlled Companies of American District Telegraph Company  
155 Sixth Ave., New York, N. Y.

VOLUME II

NOVEMBER, 1930

NUMBER 11

## Five Safe Blowers Captured at Chicago Frustrated by A. D. T. Emergency Call Box

*A fool-proof electrical device and the radio were ingredients in a successful recipe for the capture of five burglars in Chicago recently. The other ingredients were the promptness and reliability of A. D. T. protection service, speedy police action, and a watchman's ingenuity.*



HENRY W. MULBERRY,  
Signal Operator

Five Chicago yeggs were captured red-handed early on November 1, when their well-laid and daring plans were completely frustrated by an A. D. T. Emergency Call Box.

At 3:20 A. M. an Emergency Call from the Star Cleaners and Dyers establishment was received at the Central Station by Signal Operator Henry W. Mulberry. He immediately notified the police, and dispatched Roundsman Peterson to the premises at 2417-21 N. Western avenue. The police sent the call out over their new radio system, with the result that three Ford squads of police, two Bureau squads, the police patrol and four plain clothes men in private automobiles drew up at the place just as Peterson arrived.

The next scene in this early morning drama was action—and nothing else but!

The police immediately pounced upon one of the burglars who was trying to make a getaway by sprinting down the street. The second culprit was taken in hand after a policeman had chased

him down an adjoining alley and had fired one shot at him.

Peterson and the police then started to enter the premises. The watchman opened the door for them, having just freed himself of the ropes with which the burglar had tied him up.

Peterson and the police made a quick survey of the place and saw three men jumping over a wall in the back courtyard. The custodians of the law followed in hot pursuit, and chased the yeggs through a florist shop and to the street, where the police stationed outside welcomed them—but not in the manner of a Mayor's Reception Committee. After a brief but spirited tussle, the burglars were overcome and hastily carried off to jail.

A thorough search of the premises was then made and a gun, a pinch bar and a bag full of modern safe blowing tools were discovered. The



FRED E. PETERSON,  
Roundsman

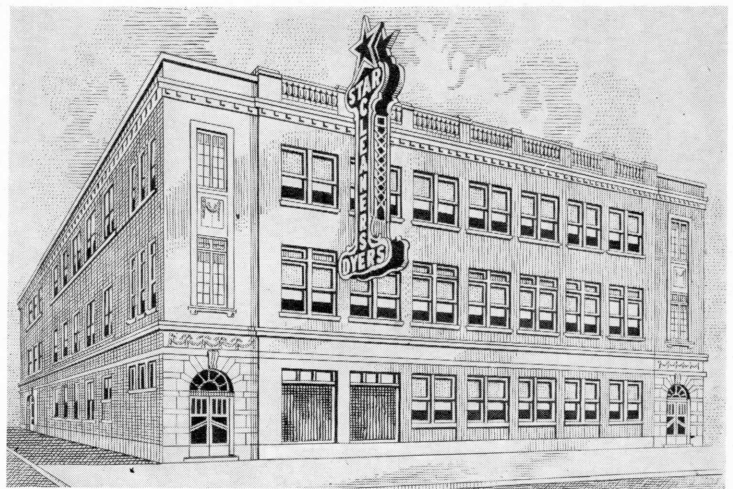
yeggs had two high-powered Cadillacs parked a block away, and all of their safe-cracking apparatus was of the same high calibre of efficiency as their automobiles. It was certainly a "good catch" on the part of the Chicago authorities.

Entrance to the premises had been gained by forcing a window open on the ground floor. The burglars had then overpowered and beaten the watchman. After tying him up securely, they asked him when he had to make his rounds.

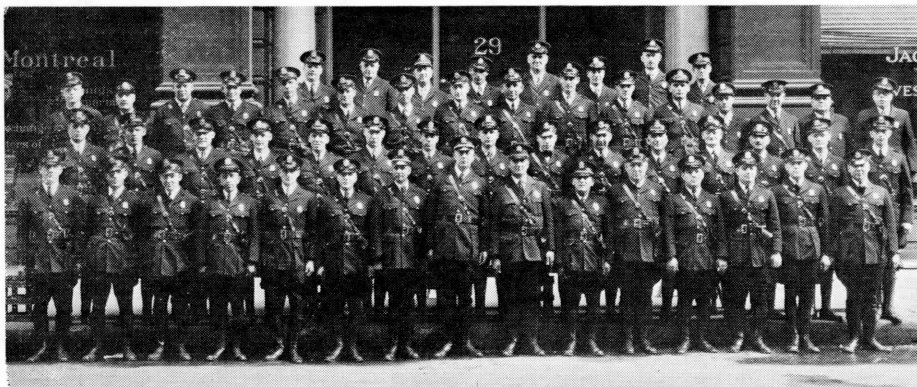
"Right now," the watchman answered.

"How many boxes have you to pull," they queried.

"Seven," he answered—and that mystic word seven, long regarded as an omen of good luck by the superstitious, sealed the doom of the law-breakers. For the seventh box was not one of the watchman's regular tour boxes. It was

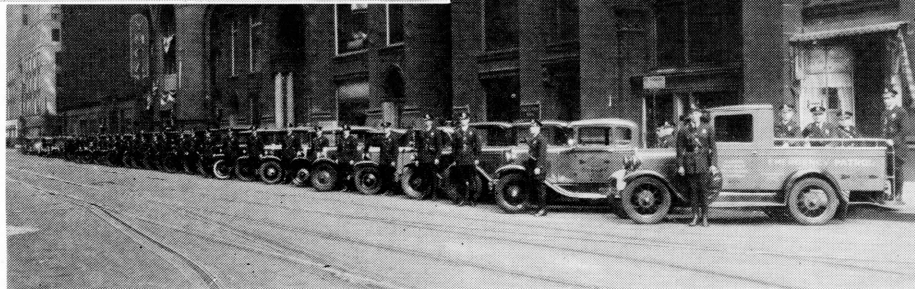


Plant of the Star Cleaners and Dyers at Chicago Where the A. D. T. Emergency Call Box Was Used to Trap Five Burglars.



*At left—This trimly attired emergency police force of the A. D. T. at Chicago, responds to Burglar Alarms and investigates all other signs of trouble recorded in the A. D. T. Central Office.*

*At right—This fleet of cars, including the special emergency patrol, enables the A. D. T. emergency police force at Chicago to make investigations with speed and effectiveness.*



an Emergency Call box, and a signal transmitted over it receives the same sort of attention that a general riot call does.

The watchman started his tour, two of the five burglars accompanying him, prodding him in the back with drawn guns. The other three busied themselves with the safe, hoping to get the \$1,400 reposing within.

"If you skip any boxes, we'll plug you," one of the burglars threatened, digging his gun into the watchman's ribs.

Several minutes passed. The regulation signals went out to the A. D. T. Central Station.

"You've pulled six already, buddy, and don't forget the seventh or you'll get burned," one of the yeggs muttered.

"It's O. K. with me, boys," said the watchman. His key went into the Emergency Call box. One short turn—and the wheels of organized protection went into action, to the complete consternation of the yeggs.

All of the five men were alleged to have long records as safe blowers and cracksmen, and it is believed that they were of the more intelligent and crafty type of burglars. They tried to outwit the A. D. T.—and they failed.

Adolph Roth, President of the Star Cleaners and Dyers, expressed his admiration of the service rendered, as follows:

"I wish to congratulate your company for the manner in which it han-

dled the attempted robbery at our plant last Saturday morning, at which time five burglars were captured, all of them with previous records against them.

"It would have been a physical impossibility to have captured these safe-blowers if it were not for your service. We have been using your service for the past ten years, and we feel amply repaid for the ten years' expense by last Saturday's results."

When asked to express their opinion of the case, several of the A. D. T. executives stated that they believed it to be "a very exceptional case, proving the reliability of the service, and at the same time demonstrating how complete co-ordination on the part of the watchman, the operator, the roundsman and the police brought the desired results."



## Emergency Box Again Effective

The A. D. T. emergency call box was again brought into use on the morning of November 2, at 2:32 A. M., when a signal was received from the Crosby Frisian Fur Company at Rochester, N. Y. Upon the arrival of the A. D. T. roundsman and the police a man was found attempting to break in the front door. He stated that two others were with him but had escaped. The watchman, who is supervised by the A. D. T.,

operated his emergency box as soon as the attack was made and this enabled the roundsman and police to effect the capture. The owner stated "The promptness with which your men responded is certainly a source of satisfaction to this company."



## A. D. T. Guards Millions In Aetna Life Vault

On Sunday, October 27, approximately \$260,000,000 of securities were transferred from the Aetna Life Insurance Company's vaults in their old building to the vault in the Company's new building which was described in the November, 1929, issue of THE TRANSMITTER.

That these securities will be safe is without question as the vault is constructed of heavily reinforced concrete and is completely protected by the A. D. T. Phonetalarm system. In addition, seven watchmen are constantly on duty guarding the vault and these men are supervised by the A. D. T. Central Office through the use of the Watchman's Compulsory Tour System.

The Aetna Life Insurance Company's vault is described as the largest of its kind ever constructed, being 57 feet in length, 28 feet in width, and two stories high.

# Subscribers Express Their Appreciation of Many Outstanding A. D. T. Performances

Space will permit the recording of but few of the outstanding performances by the A. D. T. during the past month. There are many others equally as interesting. The following, however, are typical and serve to outline the exceptional value of A. D. T. protection.

## FIND WATCHMAN DEAD

The A. D. T. Watchman's Supervisory System was instrumental in detecting the death of the watchman at the Continental Wirebound Box Company at Houston, Texas, on the night of October 23, when he failed to signal at the regular time.

The watchman was due to report to the Central Office at 3:30 A. M., and when no signal was received an investigation was started immediately. A roundsman was dispatched to the premises and after a brief search found the watchman, who had apparently died of indigestion.

The subscriber expressed his appreciation of the service rendered and stated "It is very gratifying to know that you are guarding our property and that we are protected at all times as we were in this instance."

## OFF DUTY—CAPTURES BURGLAR

Although he was not officially on duty at the time, Roundsman Gorden of the Detroit office, was responsible for the capture of a window smasher who attacked the premises of the Gerson Jewelry Company at midnight on September 26. Mr. Gorden was returning home from the theatre on his evening off and while driving past the Gerson Jewelry Company heard a crash of glass. As his car slowed down, he saw a man walk from the entrance to the store which is back in a lobby, some distance from the street. The lobby is lined with show-windows and on this particular night was quite dark.

As the man walked away from the building Mr. Gorden sized him up carefully and then turned and drove quickly to the police sub-station a short distance away when he picked up the policemen

on duty. They drove back until they caught up with the suspect, who was proceeding at a leisurely pace down the street. One of the policemen remained at the store with the captive while Mr. Gorden phoned the A. D. T. Central Office and requested the chief operator to call Mr. Gerson, who came to the store at once.

The captive was turned over to the police and Mr. Gorden guarded the store until Mr. Gerson arrived. He also temporarily boarded the broken window. This window was not pro-

tected by the Burglar Alarm system but because of Mr. Gorden's timely arrival and prompt action no loss was sustained except the damage to the window itself.

## POLICE RADIO HELPS

The use of the new short wave radio receiving sets installed in police cars in many cities are proving to be of much assistance to the A. D. T. in obtaining cooperation of the police in rounding up burglars. This was demonstrated well on October 14, when burglars attacked the Palace Pharmacy at Louisville, Ky.

In addition to dispatching a roundsman to the premises, the alarm was forwarded to the police, who immediately broadcast it over the radio. This sent the nearest police car speeding to the premises at once. The police were met by the A. D. T. roundsman and upon investigation it was found that the burglar had made a hasty retreat.

Nothing was taken from the store, the robber evidently having been frightened away by the quick approach of the investigators. The subscriber was particularly pleased with the service and said "I have always felt that when I closed the store at night and hear the assuring ring from the alarm that it was the same as having a watchman on the premises. I now feel even more assured that you are on your toes."

## A WATCHMAN'S DOWNFALL

An outstanding demonstration of A. D. T. effectiveness in watchman supervision took place on the morning of October 26 when the watchman in a wholesale meat establishment at Boston failed to signal the Central Office as usual.

Upon investigation it was found that the watchman had been indulging in intoxicating liquor and in attempting to make his tour had fallen and injured himself so that he was unable to perform his duties. The porter in the premises was also found to be in an intoxicated condition and upon the situation being reported to the management both men were discharged.

## A SCREEN "MISS"

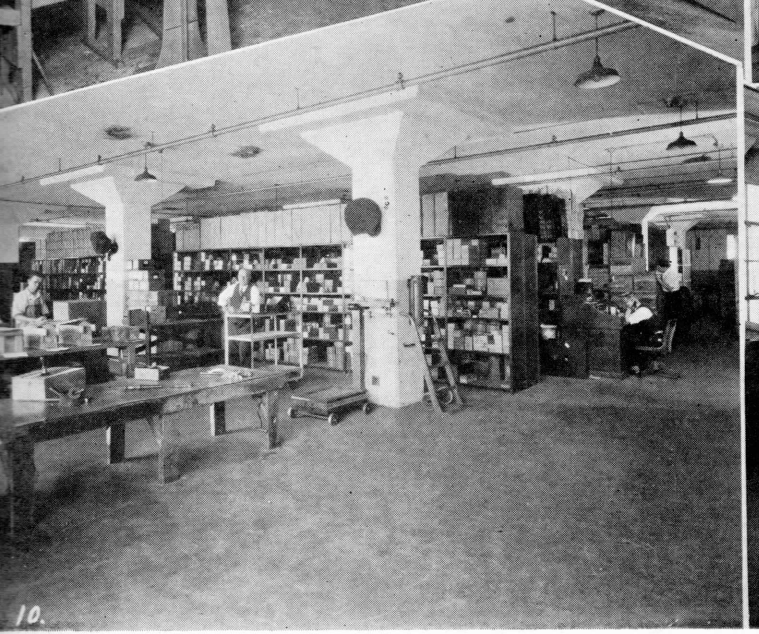
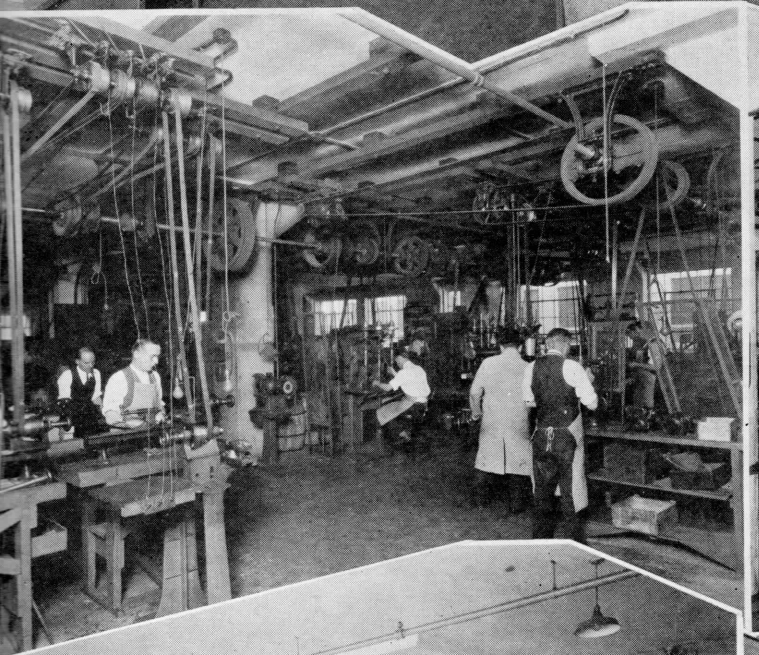


*The young lady in this photograph is pointing to a broken Burglar Alarm screen which caused an alarm to be received in the A. D. T. Central Station at Milwaukee on November 4, when a burglar attempted to enter the store of the Famous Tailoring Company. The siren on the police car, which responded within a few minutes, alarmed the burglar and caused him to leave before he could effect an entrance.*



**A VISIT TO THE GENERAL HEADQUARTERS AT  
155 SIXTH AVENUE IN NEW YORK**

1. A partial view of the large General Offices.
2. The well-appointed and busy office of President Johnson.
3. The office of the Engineering Department.
4. The Experimental Laboratory of the Engineering Department, where new and improved equipment is developed.
5. The Engineering Department is particularly proud of this large and well-lighted Draughting Department.
6. The Test Room, where A. D. T. equipment is subjected to rigid inspections and tests.
7. A section of the Manufacturing Department, situated on the fifth floor of the building.
8. Another view of the Manufacturing Department.
9. The office of the Supply Department.
10. Shipping Department and Stock Room.
11. Another view of the Shipping Department.



## THE TRANSMITTER

VOL. II. NOVEMBER, 1930 No. 11

A monthly magazine published by the Controlled Companies of the American District Telegraph Company, 155 Sixth Ave., New York, N. Y.

R. K. HYDE.....Editor

The columns of THE TRANSMITTER are open to all A. D. T. employees, and the articles printed are the individual opinions of the authors.

## THE EMERGENCY CALL BOX

The importance of Emergency Call systems in modern industrial protection hardly needs emphasis at this time. A. D. T. equipment of this type has proved its efficiency in many places and on many occasions, with the result that today it rightly deserves its splendid reputation. It merits serious consideration by every executive who plans to have his plant or building protected adequately.

The case of the Star Cleaners and Dyers establishment, which is featured in this issue of THE TRANSMITTER, gives such a convincing demonstration of the service rendered by the Emergency Call box, however, that no opportunity should be lost in putting it into more extensive use.

We ask everyone to read the story for himself and then attempt to answer this single question:

"What would have happened if there had been no Emergency Call box to pull?"

The answer is obvious. And the decision of the modern executive is just as obvious when he hears of such cases as this. He wants an Emergency Call box because he knows he cannot afford to gamble.

Therefore, let every commercial representative and every member of the A. D. T. organization "talk up" the Emergency Call box to present and prospective subscribers in the interest of better protection.



## HOW FAR CAN A DOG RUN INTO THE WOODS?

It was a big room. It was a big table. They were big men—fifteen of them gathered there for a directors' meeting of a large and prosperous company. Most of them wore long, long faces.

They were talking about the business depression, and some were making dire predictions. Finally, a keen-eyed, white-haired chap at one end of the table arose a little impatiently.

"Gentlemen," he said, "if you will kindly pardon my falling into the vernacular of the day, you fellows with your talk about business going to the dogs gives me a pain. I want you to answer just one question. How far can a dog run into the woods?"

The chairman looked non-plused and was about to administer a reproof for such frivolity, when the speaker resumed:

"The answer is just this, gentlemen—when the dog has run half way into the woods, from then on he is running out."

When did the dog start in?

The speaker then pointed out that the so-called business depression didn't start with the stock market crash of last October, that it really started almost a year ago. That it was late in June or early in July, 1929, when this dog started into the woods. Most of us didn't know that he had gone—but he had.

And because he started earlier than we realized, the keen-eyed speaker pointed out, he is also coming out sooner than we expect.



## A PISCATORIAL ALLEGORY

A naturalist divided an aquarium with a clear glass partition. He put a

lusty bass in one section and minnows in the other. The bass would strike every time a minnow approached the glass partition. After three days of fruitless lunging, which netted him only bruises, he ceased his efforts and subsisted on the food that was dropped in.

Then the naturalist removed the glass partition. The minnows swam all around the bass, but he did not strike at a single one. He was thoroughly sold on the idea that business was bad. Moral: Take another shot at the glass partition. Maybe it isn't there any more.

A. D. T. Specifications  
Now in Sweet's

The 1930 edition of Sweet's Architectural Catalog is now in process of distribution and should be in the hands of all architects by December 15. The American District Telegraph Company is represented in the catalog this year by an increased number of pages describing its equipment for Central Station and Proprietary systems. These include detailed specifications for the principal systems and there are also specifications for Proprietary Central Office equipment.

The catalog this year is in four enlarged sections, many of which include pages comprising complete catalogs of the various advertisers.

New Capture Club Record Established  
By Wholesale Capture at Chicago

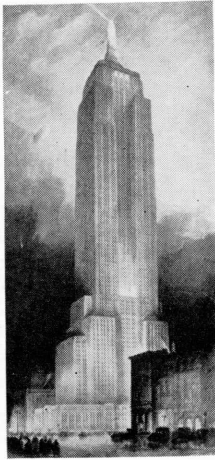
The number of captures made during the past month decreased materially due to fewer attacks. A new record was established and the total for the month was increased appreciably by the wholesale capture credited to F. E. Peterson of the Chicago office who investigated the emergency alarm received from the Star Cleaners & Dyers, as described on page one of this issue.

The figures in parentheses indicate the number of captures made by each man to date.

Subscriber	Roundsmen	Burglars Captured
Central Loan Office, Cincinnati, O.	P. J. Kelly (4).....	2
La Biche & Graff, New Orleans, La.	S. J. McCarthy (2), L. A. Dering, M. G. Guggenheim.....	1
Block Bros. Jewelry Co., Akron, O.	R. Negley, H. C. McCurdy (4)...	1
Missouri District Telegraph Co., St. Louis, Mo.	J. J. McGowan (2), H. P. Frank (4) .....	1
Jeffrey Jewelry Co., Chicago, Ill.	J. Hlavacek, R. D. Hall (6)....	2
Goodman Loan Co., Kansas City, Mo.	L. K. Lucas, R. A. Hatfield.....	2
Yunker Bros., Inc., Des Moines, Ia.	D. L. Phillips, A. Thompson.....	1
K. J. Miller Co., Columbus, O.	R. Lewis (2).....	1
Star Cleaners & Dyers, Chicago, Ill.	F. E. Peterson.....	5
American Fur Co., Cincinnati, O.	P. J. Kelly (4), J. Huesing (4)..	1
	TOTAL .....	17

## Fire in Empire State Building Tests A. D. T. Temporary Protection

The temporary A. D. T. protection provided the new Empire State Building, New York City, as described in the February, 1930, issue of THE TRANSMITTER, proved its value on November 5, when a fire occurred on the forty-seventh floor.



EMPIRE STATE  
BUILDING

A wooden cafeteria, the only inflammable structure in the building, caught fire and burned with a roar of flames and a great deal of smoke that blackened the steel columns and the white stonework.

The alarm was sent in from the nearest A. D. T. fire alarm box and the firemen

who responded extinguished the fire within twenty minutes after two sets of elevators had carried them and their hose to the scene of the blaze.

The fire department pumps were attached to the water supply plugs outside the building and forced water up at a pressure of 200 pounds per square inch. It carried, however, only to the fortieth floor—seven stories below the fire. At that point the building's emergency fire pumps were hooked on and the pressure mounted so rapidly that the lines were almost torn out of the hands of the firemen. The hose was carried as far as the fortieth floor in one elevator and then transferred to another that carried the firemen to the forty-seventh floor.

The firemen said afterwards that the fire fighting arrangements in the Empire State Building are highly satisfactory which is a credit to those whose original planning provided for just such an emergency.

## Emergency Box Used At Des Moines

An A. D. T. Emergency Call box was the means of bringing the police to the premises of Younker Brothers, Inc., of Des Moines, Iowa, at 5:34 A. M. on October 2, when the watchman discovered a negro who had apparently hidden himself on the premises.

At 1:15 A. M. on the same day an intruder was seen entering the store through a second floor window. The police were called out but no one was found on the premises except the building porter who should have finished his work two hours before. The police took him to the police station for questioning.

At 5:30 A. M. the watchman was on the first floor when he heard a noise. He turned and saw a negro coming upstairs from the basement. The watchman had no gun but put his hand in his hip pocket and ordered the negro to walk in front of him until he reached the A. D. T. Emergency Box. A signal was sent in, which brought the police and A. D. T. roundsmen within a few minutes. When searched several stolen articles were found on his person.

## Holdup Causes Trouble For Nebraska Bank

A bank holdup may result in serious consequences as was the case when armed bandits attacked the Lincoln National Bank and Trust Company, Lincoln, Nebraska, on September 17. Shortly afterwards, the bank was taken over by the Continental Bank, one of the units of the Northwest Bancorporation, owing to questions by the depositors regarding the safety of the bank.

A statement issued by the president of the Lincoln Bank, says in part: "Since the robbery on September 17 the officers and directors of the Lincoln National Bank have realized the shock to the public and to the bank. The result of this robbery has been such that it raised questions as to the safety of the depositors' money deposited in the Lincoln National Bank."

The new management immediately took steps to provide the highest type of protection against holdup—Central Station Police Call has now been installed. Any future attacks by bandits in this location are likely to result disastrously for those who attempt it.

## Who's Who in the A. D. T. Roster

### L. T. Haugh

The Chicago district organization of the American District Telegraph Company is under the direction of L. T. Haugh, general manager, who directs the activities of all departments in Chicago, Duluth, Green Bay, Hammond, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Oshkosh, Racine, Rockford, St. Paul, Superior and Wausau. Mr. Haugh holds a



L. T. HAUGH

heavy responsibility inasmuch as Chicago is the largest city where all forms of A. D. T. service are rendered.

The rapid growth and extent of the Burglar Alarm business in Chicago has made necessary the development of a large and specially equipped organization in that city. This work has been performed so well by Mr. Haugh and his able assistants that Chicago now points the way for other cities in the

(Continued on page 8)

### VALUES WHO'S WHO

W. W. Browne, district superintendent at Cincinnati, writes to praise the "Who's Who" column in THE TRANSMITTER. He states that these biographies are avidly read and appreciated because they apply to each man's individual aspirations and picture the many opportunities that are ahead in this large and important organization for those who are willing to work and strive for advancement. Mr. Browne believes that much good is accomplished by presenting in this manner the life stories of A. D. T. officials and department heads who have risen from minor positions by strict application to business.

The editor thanks Mr. Browne for his comments and assures him that the "Who's Who" column will be continued for some time to come.

## WHO'S WHO

(Continued from page 7)

efficiency of its performance. The photographs of the emergency police force appearing elsewhere in this issue provide a general idea of what has been accomplished.

Mr. Haugh first entered the employ of the A. D. T. in 1911 as local manager of the Buffalo office. In 1913 he was transferred to Rochester, where he served in the same capacity. He remained there until 1916 when he was again transferred and made manager of the Baltimore office.

On January 1st, 1919, Mr. Haugh was appointed to the position of district superintendent with headquarters at Baltimore, but later he was transferred back to Buffalo to serve as district superintendent in that section. He remained there until 1926, when the rapid growth of the company made necessary the introduction of more systematic methods in various offices throughout the country and Mr. Haugh was assigned to that work under the direction of the vice-president.

In 1929 Mr. Haugh was appointed general manager in direct charge of the company's important organization and interests in the Chicago district. He is ably assisted by a corps of department heads whose wholehearted cooperation has made it possible to accomplish most effective results.



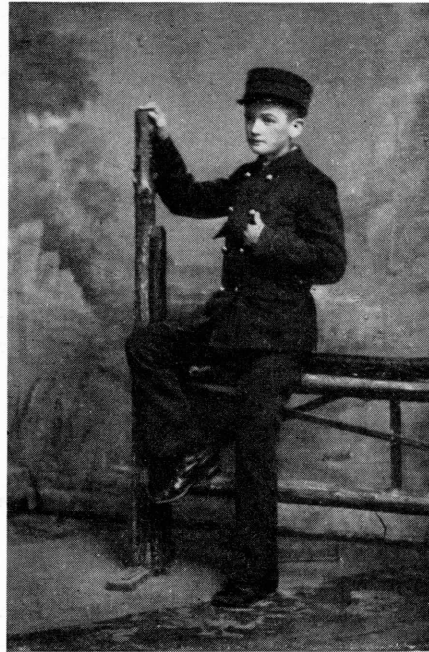
The A. D. T. Local Mercantile Burglar Alarm proved effective on October 15, when at 2 A. M. an attempt was made to enter the premises of F. W. Uhlman, Monroe, Michigan, by making a hole in the rear basement door. When the burglar alarm screen was broken the alarm bell on the front of the store started to ring, which brought the policeman on the beat to the store, and before the burglar could get away he was captured.



The danger of installing a makeshift Burglar Alarm system was demonstrated recently when burglars entered an electrical supply store in South Bend, Indiana, and carried out the safe.

The store was protected by a Burglar Alarm which the owner had invented but the burglars made it ineffective by defeating it easily.

## DEPARTMENTAL NOTES



*How many of you will recognize this youth in uniform as M. F. (Mike) Bowler, now an A. D. T. commercial representative at Philadelphia, Pa. This photograph was made from a tintype taken when Mr. Bowler was a messenger boy for the Western Union, more than 40 years ago.*

### PLANT DEPARTMENT

How many men in the plant organization have ever heard of Muncie? Well, it is one of the smallest offices—in Indiana—and has come to life with a bang. Ten jobs were "authorized" at Muncie between September 20 and October 21—and all were finished and "on the books" on October 31. As Supt. Kling aptly says, "Here is a picture no artist could paint," but, as the Indianapolis boys would have it, they are thankful to the commercial department for "supplying the canvas," thus giving them an opportunity to try.

Neil Cavanah, who literally "worked himself out of a job" at Baltimore, has been promoted to the city foremanship at Boston. Neil, with his genial disposition and his hat full of hard-boiled business, came with the system as stationman at Evansville, Ind., the latter part of 1923. His application and general usefulness earned the commendation of his associates as well as of the President—and a new job as city foreman at Baltimore was the net result. Four years' service at Baltimore indicated that he was equal to still larger opportunities for service which are sure to present themselves in the very much more important Boston assignment.

W. T. Mulvey, repairman of the Boston plant, died on October 29, 1930, at his home. Death was due to a heart attack.

Mr. Mulvey was in the plant department for eighteen years, and had established one of the finest service records for attendance and freedom from illness and accidents. Those traveling the Boston district will miss Mr. Mulvey because he was one of the regular old stand-bys.

Dist. Plant Supt. Walker recently visited the executive office to discuss his work in connection with putting in some twenty sprinkler supervisory and valve alarm jobs. His stay in New York was notable for the time he spent in the office and for the little "kick" he got from the tall buildings.

Installations completed in October establish it as one of the "exceptional" months—or more accurately, the third biggest month on record. But it also appears to have been the best "clean-up" the plant ever made in any month.

All appreciate the tough row the commercial men have had to hoe through the year. In extending compliments on the unusual amount of work they have secured, the plant department would like to add its appreciation for making it construction-wise (to date) the biggest year yet.

And there is more to come! Get after those surveys and estimates, boys!

A. D. T. Watchman's Compulsory Tour and Fire Alarm service is being installed for protection of several large estates on Long Island. The latest installation of this type is being made on the estate of William Randolph Hearst, widely known magazine and newspaper publisher, at Sands Point, near Port Washington, L. I.

On the Pacific coast, an A. D. T. Burglar Alarm is being installed at Santa Monica, Calif., in the residence of Bebe Daniels (Mrs. Ben Lyon), popular film actress.

### OPERATING DEPARTMENT

It is with regret that we chronicle the death of Fred Hunt, a former employee at San Francisco. Mr. Hunt served the company for twenty-one years and a few years ago was retired on pension which was practically his only means of support. He died penniless and had no relatives or friends to give him a proper burial. J. F. Rawie, district superintendent at San Francisco, therefore asked President Johnson for permission to take charge of the body and provide a suitable resting place for this former employee. Permission was readily granted, in keeping with the spirit that the A. D. T. shall take care of its own.