

The

ADT

TRANSMITTER

vol. XX. no. 4 — APRIL — 1948



• LETTERS •

Praise from A & P

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

In regard to the alarm which was sounded from our automatic fire alarm system on March 8, we wish to advise that the services rendered by your company and the Baltimore City Fire Department were prompt, efficient and entirely satisfactory in every respect.

J. V. Mariner

The Great Atlantic & Pacific

Tea Company,
Baltimore, Md.

Justly Proud

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

We want to thank you for the efficient manner in which you answered the hold-up alarm originating from our premises on Thursday, February 5, at 8:20 p.m.

We have used ADT for the past thirty years and it is the first time we have had to use the burglar alarm. It is especially gratifying to know that due to the efficient service the burglar was captured.

The American District Telegraph Company has once again handled a case in a manner of which they can be justly proud.

I. SOBER

Anton Horvat,
Baltimore, Md.

Right on the Job

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

We desire to take this means of expressing our appreciation to you for your wonderful service rendered us at the time of the fire in our store last week.

Your promptness in investigating the burglar alarm resulted in the police sending in a fire alarm and prevented this store and building from suffering a heavy loss from fire damage. As it was, the damage was very small—we suffered no stock loss from fire or water.

Your men were right on the job, and we had the burglary protection back in operation within an hour or so.

J. B. NIERMAN

Novin-Nierman,
Galveston, Texas

A NATION-WIDE ORGANIZATION

The American District Telegraph Company (A.D.T.), founded in 1873, is the only nation-wide organization specializing exclusively in the manufacture, installation, maintenance and operation of electrical supervisory and alarm systems for protection against fire, burglary and intrusion, watchman supervision, etc.

A.D.T. Central Station Protection Services are available in more than 350 cities and towns in the United States. In this type of service the protection system in the subscriber's premises is connected to an outside A.D.T. Central Station which provides continuous electrical supervision, transmits alarms to the fire and police departments and investigates trouble and other emergency signals.

Outside of Central Station areas, A.D.T. installs protection equipment for owner operation, with visual or audible signals within the protected premises and, when desired, direct-wire connections to police or fire departments. In exceptionally large establishments, systems may be installed to operate through owner-operated proprietary central stations on the premises.

Whether the system operates through an A.D.T. Central Station or is of the local or proprietary type, A.D.T. provides periodic inspections, systematic tests and complete maintenance by an organization trained and experienced in this type of work. *Without this specialized attention there is little assurance that any protective signaling system will operate when an emergency arises.*

A.D.T. Protection Services include the following systems:

SPRINKLER SUPERVISORY AND WATERFLOW ALARM: Summons fire fighting forces when sprinkler operates. Maintains a continuous automatic check on shut-off valves and other points controlling water supply.

AERO AUTOMATIC FIRE DETECTING AND ALARM SYSTEM: Detects fire and summons fire department automatically.

WATCHMAN SUPERVISORY AND MANUAL FIRE ALARM: Investigates any failure to signal Central Station. Includes Manual Fire Alarm Boxes to summon the fire department quickly and accurately.

BURGLAR ALARM: Automatically detects unlawful entry or intrusion and initiates immediate investigation.

HOLDUP ALARM: Summons police in case of attack by bandits and in other emergencies.

Also: Automatic Fire Control for Air Duct Systems; Heating System and Industrial Process Supervision and other miscellaneous supervisory services.

• EDITORIAL •

Fire Losses Hit New High

During 1947 fire losses in the United States reached the all-time record total of \$692,635,000, according to the final loss estimates of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

This figure was greater by \$131,148,000 or 23.3 per cent than the 1946 figure of \$561,487,000. The previous all-time high mark was set in 1926, when the total fire losses were estimated at \$561,980,000.

The 1947 record total makes the sixth year of steadily rising fire losses which began in 1942 with an annual total of \$314,849,000. During January of this year the losses increased 10.2 per cent over the losses in January 1947, indicating a continuing upward trend.

An analysis of the 1947 fire losses made by the National Fire Protection Association reveals that 202 large-loss fires accounted for \$223,330,000 or about 30 per cent of the total.

The outstanding factors contributing to these large-loss fires are reviewed on page 7 of this issue. Of particular significance is the fact that there were belated discoveries or delayed alarms in more than half of the total. Analysis of the thousands of smaller fires during the year reveals that in many cases these same factors were present.

Of equal significance is the ADT performance record in guarding against belated discovery, delayed alarms and other conditions which contribute to destruction by fire.

During the past ten years all types of properties protected by ADT Watchman's Reporting and Manual Fire Alarm Service experienced an average immunity from fire losses of 99 96/100 per cent.

Properties protected by ADT Sprinkler Supervisory and Waterflow Alarm Services experienced an average immunity from fire losses of 99 97/100 per cent.

On the Cover

An interested onlooker peers through hole in 14-inch brick wall made by burglars who battered their way into a Chicago safe deposit vault by knocking a hole in an outside wall of the building. See page 3 for details. *Chicago Daily News photo.*

THE A. D. T. TRANSMITTER: A monthly news-magazine of outstanding events and features concerning fire, burglary and holdup. Published monthly by the American District Telegraph Company, 155 Sixth Avenue, New York 13, N. Y.—R. K. HYDE, Editor . . . Edited and distributed for the information of employees, subscribers and other interested persons. All articles printed are the individual opinions of the authors. To insure delivery of your copy of THE A. D. T. TRANSMITTER each month, kindly notify the editor of any change in address.

The ADT TRANSMITTER

VOL. XX

APRIL, 1948

No. 4

THIEVES RAID CHICAGO VAULT

Loot Unprotected Safe Deposit Boxes of \$50,000 After Cutting Through 14-Inch Wall in Daring 2-Hour Attack

Safe deposit boxes containing an estimated \$50,000 in cash as well as a large quantity of negotiable securities were looted on February 16 by Chicago burglars who broke through a brick wall to force their way into the vault of the Bernard Realty Co.

The realty company, whose vault contained 165 rented boxes, was not protected by any kind of burglar alarm system. In spite of the fact that neighbors heard the loud noises made by the burglars, the theft was not reported to the police until an hour and a half after the burglars left.

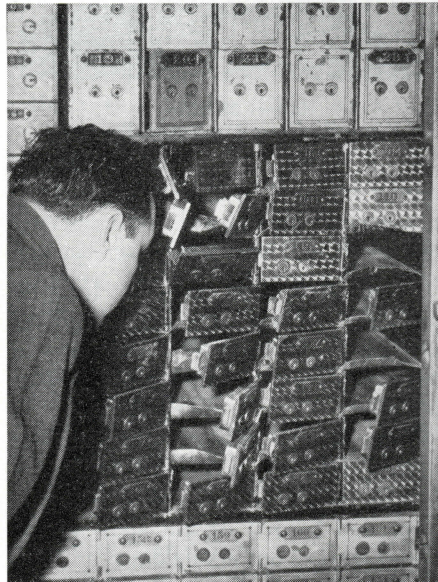
The burglars began their attack at 3:00 a.m., and worked uninterruptedly for two-and-a-half hours, even though their operations aroused five of the six residents on the second floor.

The occupants of the building had no telephone with which to call police, and were afraid to leave the building because a lookout for the burglars stood just outside the doorway.

Desperately, they resorted to pounding on the floor and radiator pipes in an effort to frighten off the thieves. The burglars continued working and did not leave the premises until 5:30 a.m., long after they first attracted the attention of the tenants. The burglary was finally reported to the police by a next door resident who was leaving for work at 7:00 a.m.

The culprits, who knocked a two-foot hole through a 14-inch brick wall, took nothing but jewelry and cash. They threw looted boxes with the remainder of their unwanted contents—stocks, war bonds, etc.—into an adjoining alley.

The burglary was committed within a block of the Kensington police station, and in clear sight of passersby on what ordinarily is a fairly busy street.



International
AFTER THE HAUL—An unidentified man examines empty deposit boxes in vault of Joseph A. Bernard Realty Co.

HOTEL FIRES CONTROLLED

Smoking in bed—which accounts for many hotel fires—was believed to be the cause of a recent outbreak in a Jacksonville, Fla., hotel.

Firemen responding to an alarm at 9:49 a.m. from an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box on the second floor, found a mattress ablaze but quickly got the situation under control.

A fire occurred in another hotel in the same city a week later when a pile of trash in the basement became ignited from an unknown cause. Firemen, summoned by operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box on the same floor, promptly extinguished the blaze.

In both cases, the buildings were old and of combustible construction.

OVERPLAYED HIS HAND

His hand dripping blood, a window-smashing jewelry thief literally was caught “red-handed” by police and ADT guards outside the Edwards Jewelry Co., Toledo, Ohio, near dawn on March 7.

Police and ADT guards raced to the scene when the man smashed an ADT-protected show window at 4:55 a.m. The culprit, nursing a badly cut hand, was taken into custody across the street from the store. On the sidewalk were ten watches and two rings which the man had discarded when he realized capture was inevitable.

A waitress working in a near-by restaurant identified him as the window smasher. The proprietor, who had been called to the scene, identified the rings and watches as comprising the entire loot.

WORKMEN'S CLOTHING BURNS

Greasy overalls and other apparel stored in a wooden locker in the boiler room of the United Iron Works, Oakland, Calif., burst into flame from an unknown cause shortly after midnight on March 6.

Watchman Wilson, returning from his patrol, discovered the outbreak and immediately summoned the fire department by operating an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box. The flames charred the rafters and destroyed the locker, but quick fire-fighting action prevented further damage.

Workmen's clothing also was damaged in a fire on February 24 at the West Street Castings Company, Cleveland. Clothes hung too near a gas stove blazed up at 2:10 a.m., igniting the wooden wall and setting the sprinkler system in operation.

The outbreak was held in check until the arrival of the fire department, summoned by an ADT waterflow alarm. Officials of the plant estimated the loss at approximately \$200.

BURGLARY

'THAT WAS NO LADY . . .'

Police Discover Old Offender Trying to Hide Behind New Look

What at first appeared to ADT guards and police to be a woman peering from behind a clothes rack of the Jack Denowitz clothing store in Kansas City, Mo., proved, upon closer scrutiny, to be a "clothes-horse" of a different gender.

When police and ADT guards who had responded to a burglar alarm at 9:32 p.m. on February 13, pulled the grotesque character from his hiding place, they stared into a pair of glassy eyes sunken in the emaciated face of a man wearing a woman's coat over his own overcoat and clutching a woman's suit in his tenuous fingers.

Taken into custody, he soon was identified as Robert Maloney, 48 years of age, a known drug addict with a record of more than forty arrests in the past twenty years.

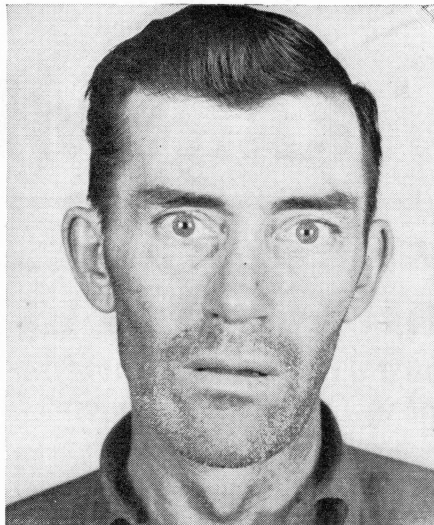
THIEVES TRAPPED

Police and ADT guards who arrived at the Ravine Night Club, Toledo, Ohio, in response to a burglar alarm signal received at 3:18 a.m. on February 14, saw a man emerge from a coalhole opening.

An officer's gun spoke, and the shadowy figure darted back into the hole. Police and guards entered to investigate. Inside, they nabbed two badly frightened intruders hiding in the basement and cowering beneath a table. The pair had revealed their presence when they opened the ADT-protected coal hole door.

Taken into custody, the two men admitted forcing open a cash register and breaking into money boxes in the club. Both admitted police records and that they had stolen the car which police found parked outside the club, its motor still running.

Mr. G. Horvath, proprietor, who was called to the scene, stated that all the loot had been recovered. Police retained as evidence fifty dollars found on one of the culprits.



Robert Maloney
Fantastic Figure in Fancy Finery

DELIVERY DELAYED

Police and ADT guards literally scotched the plans of a thief who was attempting to "expedite" the delivery of a new car from the Meyer Motor Co., Richmond, Va., on February 28.

Responding quickly when the intruder disturbed an ADT Burglar Alarm Device on a rear double door at 8:56 p.m., police and guards caught sight of the thief scurrying out a side door.

They ordered him to halt, but the man continued to run. After several warning shots in the air, a policeman stopped him with a bullet in the hip.

In a rear alley, the officers found a shiny new car—all set to roll—which the thief had removed from the showroom.

HATCHET MAN

An ex-convict, released from prison last November after serving four years for burglary, is behind bars again as the result of falling prey to an ADT Burglar Alarm System.

Chicago police who responded to an alarm from Jerry's Coffee Shop at 10:58 p.m. on February 28, found the man hacking at the ADT-protected entrance door with a hatchet after having broken a padlock on an outer gate.

The officers quickly collared him and took him to the police station where his record was revealed.

SHORT ORDER

Attempted Bank Holdup Fizzles as Amateur Bandit's Courage Fails

A none too impressive looking man entered the National Bank of Commerce in Seattle, Washington, at about 1:45 on the afternoon of February 10. Stepping up to a cashier's cage, he handed the teller a note demanding money.

There was a tense moment as the teller read the note. Unobtrusively, he operated a hidden ADT Emergency Police Call Device and decided to stall for time. On the other side of the cage, however, the false courage of the would-be bandit was giving way to a bad case of the jitters. Suddenly he turned on his heel and fled from the bank. The teller shouted to a bank guard who pursued the man and captured him just outside the door.

At that moment four cars of policemen arrived and took the culprit into custody. At headquarters he identified himself as Robert Truett, 41, an unemployed cook. This, he declared, was his first try at crime and the worst kettle of fish he had ever cooked up.

TAKE TWO IN WAREHOUSE

"Food for thought" was about the sum total gained by two young burglars who broke into the wholesale grocery



Robert Hutchinson

Harry Lord

warehouse of the Frank & Davidson Corporation in Detroit on February 15.

When a burglar alarm signal was received in the ADT Central Station at 12:26 a.m., police sped to the warehouse. They found Harry Lord and Robert Hutchinson on the first floor.

The men had broken into the premises by forcing a trap door to the roof. Police officers recovered \$19 which the culprits had taken from a cash box.

POSSUM IN THE PAWNSHOP

A feeble attempt by an alleged burglar to fool the police by feigning sleep, failed completely on February 4 when officers investigating a burglar alarm from the loan shop of Samuel Fried in Bridgeport, Conn., found Richard Wilbur Davis reposing on a pile of papers on the second floor.

When the officers turned a spotlight on the building at 2:09 a.m. they discovered that an unprotected attic window had been broken by someone who had ascended to the roof of an adjoining building.

Inside they soon found Davis "the dreamer." Hidden near by, was a rifle that had been removed from a rack on the second floor. Three dowels in a Burglar Alarm Screen at the top of the attic stairs had been broken, causing the alarm.

When accosted, Davis proved to be very much awake. He was held on a charge of breaking and entering.

HE WHO HESITATES . . .

A burglar who climbed to the roof of the Zeeman Clothing Company's store in Los Angeles on the night of February 8, spent so much time in sizing up the situation that he completely upset his plans and wound up in the toils of the law.

The culprit removed the glass from four skylights and tried to enter through one of the openings, but gave up the effort when he saw that it was a considerable distance from the roof to the floor of the store. He went far enough, however, to sever the Burglar Alarm Wiring protecting the skylight opening.

His next attempt was at the front of the store where the drop was not so great. Success seemed in sight; but at that moment he heard the sound of sirens and before he could make a further move he was confronted by police officers responding to the burglar alarm.

KNEW WHEN TO LEAVE

A one-inch hole punched in a hallway wall recently gave evidence of a large-scale attempt to loot Al & Harry's liquor store in Chicago.

Police, responding to an ADT burglar alarm at 3:06 a.m., found an 18-inch crowbar on the floor of the hallway.

An examination of the wall revealed that the tool had pierced the ADT Protection inside the store.

Apparently the burglars realized their mistake and made a hasty retreat before they could be apprehended.

FIRE

AMMONIA BLAST

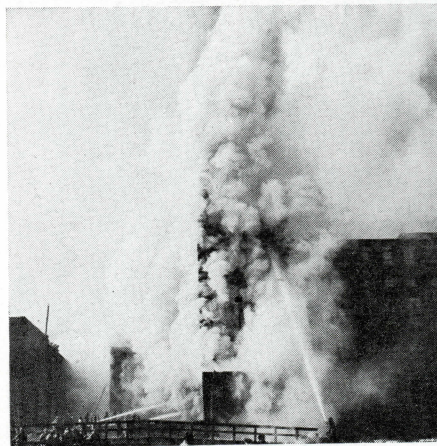
Twenty-three Injured as Welder's Torch Ignites Escaping Fumes

Twenty-three employees of the Page Dairy Co., Toledo, Ohio, were injured in an explosion of ammonia fumes on February 20.

The blast occurred when a workman accidentally dropped an ammonia tank being used to refill the refrigeration system. The tank burst and the escaping gas ignited from a welder's torch.

The force of the explosion blew out four large windows and caused considerable damage to the building and automobiles parked outside. Fire broke out, but it was quickly extinguished by the fire department, which had been summoned by operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box.

All of the injured were taken to a hospital by police and fire department rescue squads. Damage to the building and its contents was estimated at \$12,000.



Press Assn.

BAG COMPANY BLAZE—A huge column of smoke rises from the Leader Bag Co. in Minneapolis as firemen put up a stiff battle. The fire, which broke out on January 1, caused a loss of \$100,000

GLASS PLANT THREATENED

Two large bottle-making machines, wiring, motors and other equipment at the plant of the Chattanooga Glass Com-



Chattanooga Times

Firemen fight flames through ventilator

pany, Chattanooga, Tenn., were damaged on February 20, as the result of a fire caused by a leaky gasoline line on one of the machines.

The fire spread from the machines to accumulations of grease in the exhaust ducts and on the rafters of the building, which made it difficult to handle.

Firemen, called to the plant at 1:58 p.m. by an alarm from an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box, fought the flames from outside and inside the building and succeeded in confining the outbreak to the vicinity of the machines.

HOMEMADE HEADLINES

Fire in a seven-story ventilating duct in the annex of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin provided a spectacular display of flames on the evening of February 17.

Officials of the newspaper said an accumulation of paper dust and ink mist in the duct became ignited by hot gases from the stereotype room in the basement. The flames shot out of openings on two floors and in the roof.

Fire damage was prevented by operation of the automatic sprinkler system on the fourth floor. An ADT waterflow alarm summoned the fire department and insurance patrol.

Most of the loss, estimated at \$5,000, resulted from damage to paper stored on the fourth floor. The final edition of the newspaper was only slightly delayed.

COSTLY CURE

In order to prevent dust from falling on newly painted products, a Cleveland concern attached large sheets of paper to the ceiling of their spray room. In overcoming the dust menace, however, they unwittingly created a more serious one in the way of a fire hazard.

On February 4, the paper became ignited from some unknown cause. The blaze quickly spread to paint residue around the booth. One sprinkler head opened, checking the flames until the arrival of the fire department, summoned through operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box.

Water from a 2-inch hose line completed the extinguishment. Finished parts and equipment suffered only slightly, most of the damage being to the ceiling.

EFFECTIVE FIRE FIGHTING

Defective wiring was blamed for a fire on February 11 which started in a conveyor and attacked the woodwork and floors on the third and fourth floors of the Vine Street building of George D. Ellis & Sons, Inc., can manufacturers, Philadelphia.

There was no one in the building when the blaze started at 12:22 a.m.

The heat, however, fused seven heads on the automatic sprinkler system, checking the fire and causing an ADT water-flow alarm which called the fire department and insurance patrol into action.

Four hose lines were run into the building to extinguish the flames, while more than thirty salvage covers were spread to protect stocks.

The loss was not large considering the type of building and the nature of its contents.

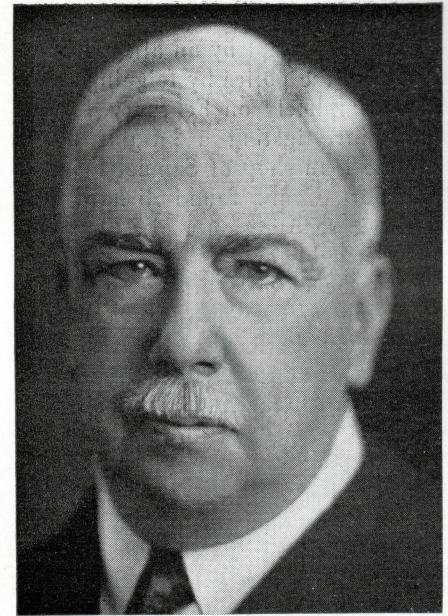
ORGANIZATION

M. W. RAYENS DIES

Beloved ADT Official Long Active In Business and Public Affairs

Michael W. Rayens, vice president of the ADT Company, Inc., died in St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City on April 1, following a rather long illness.

Mr. Rayen's entire business career was spent in the telegraph and electric protection field. Mr. Rayens became a messenger boy for the Western Union Telegraph Company as a lad in his early teens. He soon became a telegraph



Michael W. Rayens

operator and advanced to station manager, district manager, and general superintendent in charge of messengers. In the latter capacity he standardized the blue uniform which identified Western Union messengers for many years.

In 1904 Mr. Rayens became president of the United Electric Service Company and continued in that capacity until he joined ADT in 1931.

Mr. Rayens was president of the New York chapter of the Morse Telegraph Club of America, almoner of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, treasurer of the Columbian Order, member of the American Irish Historical Society, charter member of New York Lodge No. 1, B.P.O.E. and member of the National Democratic Club.

During his long career Mr. Rayens well earned a host of fond friends and was one of the most widely known and best-liked personalities in the City of New York. Thousands benefited from his innumerable, quiet acts of charity and helpfulness and from his sound advice and wise counsel. He was affectionately known as "Uncle Mike" to his thousands of friends and admirers.

"Uncle Mike's" passing is sadly mourned and leaves a deep void in the lives and hearts of his fellow workers in ADT and the thousands of others to whom he meant so very much. His was a long and full life, rich in experiences, well-lived and filled with the joy of giving and doing for others.



Wm. C. Peck

SUB-ZERO AT SUBMARINE BASE BLAZE—Firemen fought a long, cold battle with the stubborn fire in the headquarters of Rear Admiral James Fife, commander of the Atlantic Fleet Submarine Base at New London, Conn. The outbreak was discovered at 1:05 a.m. on February 11. Despite the concentrated efforts of all available fire-fighting equipment and man power at the Base, the fire soon spread out of control threatening other buildings in the area. Eight pieces of apparatus sent by neighboring towns aided in the desperate battle which lasted through the next day

THE ROSTRUM

Devoted to Open Discussion of Protection Problems

LARGE-LOSS FIRES FLOURISH

Review of 1947's Record Total of Disastrous Outbreaks Discloses a Startling Absence of Automatic Protection

While we ponder over the fact that the national fire loss for 1947 was 75 per cent greater than Great Britain's total damages in *two years* of the Nazi blitz, we should also give thought to the fact that the number of large-loss fires was the greatest on record.

There were 202 in the quarter-million-or-over category—an increase of 48 per cent in five years—the first time in history that the number has ever exceeded the 200 mark. In the NFPA's annual analysis of these large-loss fires, a number of significant facts stand out which need very little elaboration:

A total of 135 of these "fires that hurt" occurred in the manufacturing, warehouse and mercantile fields.

The number of bad fires in "fire-proof" buildings jumped 50 per cent.

Watchmen reported only twenty-four, or about 12 per cent of all the outbreaks—outsiders or passersby reported *almost 39 per cent* of them.

No automatic protection was available in 84 per cent of the properties where such protection was applicable.

There was delayed detection of fire in 105 cases—more than half of the total. In fifty-five of the fires there was delay in transmission of the alarm, including twenty-four times when employees tried unsuccessfully to fight the fires themselves.

These factors were rendered more serious by the fact that inferior construction was listed in 112 cases and lack of fire divisions in eighty-four more. On top of this, quick-burning contents were involved 101 times and excessive stock concentration in a single fire area, eighty times.

In exactly half of the 202 large loss outbreaks the plant was not in operation at the time, a favorable factor from the viewpoint of the life hazard, but an obvious contributor to belated discovery in these defenseless establishments.

In short, it is the same old story that

is told with very little variation year after year: we still build to burn. There were something like 900,000 other fires in the United States last year in which much the same conditions applied.

The ones we are talking about now are not in flimsy frame dwellings, but in buildings pretentious enough to suffer fire losses ranging from \$250,000 to many millions. And when you consider that these big fires, relatively few in proportion to the grand total, accounted for about 30 per cent of the year's fire loss, the true significance of the situation becomes apparent.

The whole problem was well summed up in a statement made several years ago by the National Board of Fire Underwriters in its Special Interest Bulletin No. 228:

"It is not the multitude of small fires which is of grave concern, but the prevention of conflagrations: the stopping of a fire which has involved an important industry upon which a community's welfare depends, or the safeguarding of the lives of people in the

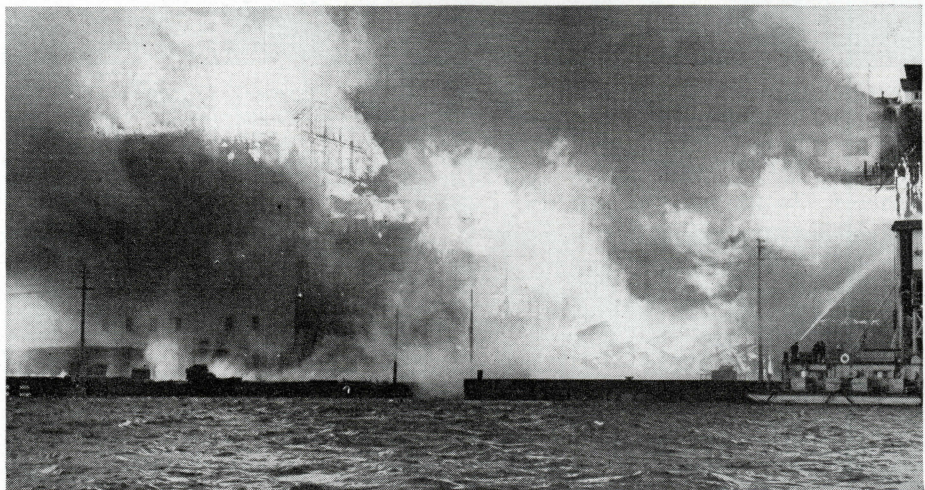
crowded conditions now existing."

The logic of this is evident from the fact that a mere one per cent of all our fires still accounts for 65 per cent of our losses. And it is not difficult to see where the responsibility for this situation lies when you realize that, aside from ten aircraft fires, 88 per cent of last year's large-loss outbreaks originated in strictly business properties.

This means, of course, that industry, more and more, is introducing into our communities concentrations of values and technical hazards that are far beyond the scope of local protection facilities. As a consequence, there is an increasing burden on the part of industry to provide its own safeguards for these special risks: adequate water supplies in the plant areas; private fire brigades; periodic inspections; reliable watch service, etc.

First and foremost, however, the crying need is for supervised automatic protection that will temper the flaws of construction and the hazards of contents by cutting down the curse of belated discovery and tardy action—that will hold the outbreak in check or at least give the alarm early enough to give public protection facilities the opportunity to go to work while there is still a chance.

We had our noses rubbed in that lesson 202 times last year. The tuition fee was a quarter of a billion dollars. Seems rather high for a bright nation, doesn't it?



FLOUR MILL FIRE COST \$2,800,000—A closed shut-off valve on the sprinkler system protecting the building in which the outbreak occurred was held responsible for the large-loss fire which destroyed the plant of the Centennial Flour Mills Company in Tacoma, Wash., on January 30, 1947. Employees vainly fought the flames for seven minutes before anyone thought to summon the fire department

FIRES STRIKE HOTELS, INSTITUTIONS AND WAREHOUSES



BLAZE BEGAN IN BASEMENT—Forty persons were carried to safety from the Hotel Martin in Milwaukee on February 24. Another 100 left the fifty-nine-year-old brick and stone structure by fire escapes and stairways. There was no panic as trapped guests waited at windows for firemen's help. Many were unconscious from smoke when rescued



SMOKE STEALS SHOW FROM SURF—Firemen had to work hard and fast to save the Delaware Hotel in Ocean City, N. J., on February 15. Fortunately there were no guests in the 175-room unsprinklered resort hotel when the smoky blaze broke out. A. D. Baggs, manager of the establishment, estimated that damage amounted to about \$150,000



REMARKABLE RESCUE WORK—Flames leap from the Iowa Lutheran Home for the Aged in Madrid, Iowa, on January 17. All sixty-three residents of the home, twenty of them bedfast and six of them over 90 years old, were safely removed. The structure was completely gutted



NEBRASKA PENITENTIARY BUILDING BURNS—Dense smoke enveloped the prison on January 11 when fire destroyed half of a seventy-two year-old building, the institution's oldest and one recently condemned as a fire hazard. A prisoner discovered the blaze and other inmates helped firemen combat it. During the fire, guards patrolled the walls, and planes circled overhead to prevent a possible break



← **BUFFALO BLAZE**—Twenty-nine fire companies were required to fight this stubborn four-alarm fire on January 12. The warehouse, formerly a Bell Aircraft Corporation plant on Buffalo's west side, was being used to store crated machinery held by the War Assets Administration

→ **WET WASH**—Firemen on March 4, poured tons of water into a blazing New York building which housed a laundry and warehouse. The four-alarm fire started in the laundry and quickly spread through the warehouse. \$200,000 worth of furniture and works of art were destroyed

