

• LETTERS •

Human Failure

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

On page 6 of the July number of the *Transmitter* you mention a fire in Buffalo and indicate that failure of a motor control switch was its origin.

My investigations show that the switch referred to was "tied" in the "on" position, thereby being prevented from cutting off current to the motor.

Perhaps you will agree that it was a "human failure" that caused the fire and resulting loss.

> ALVAH SMALL Vice-Chairman

Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. Chicago, Ill.

Prompt and Efficient

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH Co.: This will acknowledge your special service report covering your action in connection with the sudden illness of our guard on Sunday morning, June 6. We appreciate very much your prompt and efficient handling of the case.

R. H. BRANNAN

H. Allen

The Newberry Library Chicago, Ill.

Handled Quickly

American District Telegraph Co.:

Thank you for your letter of July 20 concerning the recent fire in our upstairs office.

Had you not handled the situation as quickly as you did, we might have sustained a much greater loss.

Geo. A. Hormel & Co. Dallas, Texas

On the Cover

Pittsburgh firemen battle to prevent spread of flames from office furniture warehouse in downtown Boulevard of Allies business district on July 1. An early estimate placed the loss at approximately \$50,000. Wide World Photo

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.

BURCLAR 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 •

An All-Out Program

One of the most successful Fire Prevention Week programs in recent years was conducted two years ago by the fire department of Benton Harbor, Mich. Almost every civic group participated with the result that the entire city became fire prevention conscious and the fire department gained in public opinion.

Not all cities are in a position to put on as elaborate a program, but for the benefit of those who are planning to observe Fire Prevention Week this year, here are a few highlights of the occasion.

(1) About 3,000 school children canvassed the community with fire prevention pledge cards. They obtained a total of 28,152 signed cards.

(2) Specially printed fire prevention money was distributed by seventy merchants to their customers. This money was saved for one week for a fire prevention auction sale at which the holders of the money bid on merchandise which was sold to the highest bidders. A slogan on the back of each bill brought home a lesson in fire prevention.

(3) A helicopter conveyed firemen and fire-fighting equipment to a baseball park where a fire-extinguishing demonstration took place, with speeches by the mayor, fire chief and others.

(4) Prizes were awarded to persons finding fire hazards in five different window displays. A total of twenty-six stores put on special fire prevention displays.

(5) The Board of Education held a kiddies' parade. Prizes were awarded for originality in depicting fire prevention.

(6) Junior fire chiefs and a junior fire marshal were elected in each of the twelve elementary schools. Fire drills and demonstrations and fire prevention talks were given at each school. Children memorized a fire prevention pledge and received coloring books when it was recited at the Central Fire Station. Prizes were awarded for posters and essays.

(7) Boy Scouts distributed posters and pamphlets to homes and business establishments.

(8) A big fire prevention parade concluded the week's program. Entries included sixty-two floats, five bands, thirty-seven horsemen, marching organizations, clowns and fire apparatus.

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VOL. XX

MURDEROUS BURGLAR SLAIN VID

Wounded Policemen Shoot Down Desperate Intruder Trapped in Liquor Store After Forcing Protected Door

Three St. Louis police officers were wounded and a burglar was killed in a blazing gun battle on the morning of July 6 following an attempt to loot a Silver Creek Liquor Company store.

Police Sergeant Owen P. Streuter, who was acting lieutenant at the Fourth District Station and was driving the captain's car, was the first to reach the store to investigate an ADT burglar alarm received at 2:22 a.m. Streuter found that a rear door had been forced open and, upon entering, apprehended a burglar in the tavern section.

Patrolmen William D. Samuels and William G. Lay then arrived and were instructed by Streuter to search the basement and cafeteria for other possible suspects. When the two officers had left, the burglar, who had shown no resistance, suddenly wrested Streuter's revolver from its holster, pressed it to the sergeant's abdomen and fired.

Patrolmen Lay, who had been searching in the basement, bounded up the stairs at the sound of gunfire. The burglar whirled and shot Lay in the head just as the officer reached the top of the stairs. Blinded by blood which flowed over his glasses, Lay refrained from returning fire through fear of striking the other policemen. He threw his pistol to Sergeant Streuter who was lying on the floor seriously wounded.

The crazed burglar then attempted to flee the premises, only to be confronted by Patrolman Samuels who grappled with him at close quarters. The intruder fired once, hitting Samuels in the abdomen, and ran toward the rear door.

Streuter and Samuels then opened fire simultaneously and the burglar collapsed in an alley about fifteen feet





Heroic officers who brought down burglar despite serious wounds sustained in surprise gun fight. (above) Patrolmen William D. Samuels and William G. Lay, and (left) Sergeant

Owen Streuter

from the rear entrance of the liquor store. At the Homer G. Phillips Hospital he was pronounced dead of a bullet wound in the spine. Another bullet had struck him in the left arm. The officers were taken to City Hospital.

More than twenty police officers, including several detectives, scoured the area around the store for more than an hour to make certain that the slain burglar had no accomplices.

The dead man was identified by his fingerprints as D. L. Regans, 31, who had served six months in the City Workhouse in 1941 on a charge of larceny.

Owner Isadore Moulton, who arrived at the premises at 3:00 a.m., reported that \$96.17 had been taken from the cash register. Police recovered \$68.00 of this from the dead man's pockets.

The three heroic officers, all of whom have returned to their homes, are veterans on the force. Sgt. Streuter has been in the department since April 1923, Patrolman Lay since October 1911, and Patrolman Samuels for the past twelve years.

VIDEO SETS OVERHEAT

A television set which inadvertently had been left in operation overnight in a Los Angeles department store burst into flames at 3:45 on the morning of August 9.

Fortunately, the building was protected by an ADT-supervised sprinkler system which went into operation at once—to put out the blaze and to send a fire alarm signal to the ADT Central Station.

Responding firemen raced to the scene, which was on the 10th floor of the building, and quickly put an end to the unscheduled performance. Due to the fast alarm, both fire and water damage were held to a minimum.

A similar fire in an overworked television set was reported from an Akron, Ohio department store on July 6. In this case, however, the apparatus was in a show window where it had been operating all day. Here too, the ADT-supervised sprinklers functioned quickly. A sidewalk audience watching the television program remained to witness the show put on by the sprinklers and the local fire department.

FALL GUY

Independence Day, 1948, meant just the opposite for one Sam Ware, a Salt Lake City burglar, who fell into the hands of the police by falling through an ADT-protected skylight while attempting to loot a tailor shop.

Sam had climbed to the roof of the Mitchell-Ware tailor shop when he slipped and fell through a skylight window, breaking a protection screen in his abrupt descent and causing an alarm at 10:30 p.m.

Guards Judd and Davis were immediately dispatched to the scene where they came upon Ware lying on the floor in a semiconscious condition.

BURGLARY

PATIENCE UNREWARDED

Pawnshop Prowler Sends Double Alarm Despite Basement Bivouac

A burglar who concealed himself in a Kansas City pawnshop for five hours in order to loot the place after closing



time, succeeded only in actuating two ADT alarms the moment he came out of hiding.

When ADT Guard E. H. Hoke answered an alarm from the Hub Loan Company at 6:14 p.m. on July 22, he

John Sherwood

found no exterior signs of disorder but summoned Mr. Albert Hurst, the owner.

Upon entering the premises, they discovered that two cash registers had been opened and a sum of money removed. Hoke then searched the building and found the intruder, later identified as John Sherwood of Ravenna, Ohio, hiding behind a door.

The burglar admitted concealing himself in the basement from 1:00 p.m. until closing. When he ascended to the first floor, shortly after 6:00 p.m., he intercepted an ADT Invisible Ray Device, which caused the alarm. While in the process of removing \$157.56 frcm the cash register he unknowingly sent in a holdup alarm. Then he scooped up three rings and a wrist watch which were recovered later by the police.

'TAIN'T FUNNY, McGEE!

A young Chicago delinquent who on two occasions tried to burglarize the same department store has been placed far beyond the reach of further temptation.

James McGee, 16 years old, first became attracted to Schiff's Department Store on the morning of July 9 when he smashed a rear basement transom, transmitting an ADT burglar alarm at 5:51. McGee was still earnestly trying to enter the premises when apprehended by police and ADT Guard Smith. After receiving a lecture in Juvenile Court, he was released on probation.

On July 26 McGee was back at his

old stand outside the department store, this time trying to effect entry through a plate glass window in a side alley. ADT Guard Krull took McGee into custody shortly after an alarm was received at 5:30 a.m.

At his second hearing in a little over two weeks, McGee was sentenced to serve one year at the Juvenile Home.

WORST POSSIBLE CHOICE

The height of criminal audacity was attained in Baltimore on June 24 when four youths attempted to burglarize the plant shop of the American District Telegraph Company.

The alarm sounded at 2:12 a.m. when 18-year-old Fred Pencil intercepted an invisible beam shortly after hurdling a fence surrounding the plant. ADT Guard B. Jockisch and police sped to the scene and arrested Pencil as he was attempting to flee.

Two of Pencil's accomplices were apprehended in a stolen car as they awaited his return at a short distance from the plant. Subsequent information led to the arrest of the fourth member of the gang when he arrived at his home at 5:30 a.m.

The four are being held for the Grand Jury in \$2000 bail each on charges of felonious entry and automobile larceny.



Wide World

COLD CASH—Burglars recently dragged this heavy safe into the meat cooler of a Buffalo supermarket before smashing it and removing \$5500 in cash and checks. Police believe the "cool customers" wished to muffle the sound of hammering

Young Vandals Captured

Quartet Seized in Liquor Agency After Looting Candy Warehouse

A night of vandalism ended suddenly for four Camden, N. J., youths on June 12 when ignorance of the purpose of an ADT protection screen resulted in their arrest.

The boys, ranging in age from 13 to 16, had already ransacked an unprotected warehouse of a confectionery concern when they undertook to enter the premises of Galsworthy, Inc., liquor distributors. After climbing to the roof, they succeeded in removing a skylight, but in descending to the main floor they broke through a protection screen.

Police and ADT Guard Joseph Beebe, who rushed to the warehouse in response to a burglar alarm received at 11 p.m., heard footsteps on the roof. The young burglars endeavored to flee by means of a fire escape but they were confronted by the officer and taken into custody.

Investigation disclosed that the confectionery warehouse had been looted of considerable quantities of candy. Office files had been upset, telephone wires cut, candy cartons slashed and a trap door to the basement forced open. The loss was estimated at \$3000.

The boys, all from Camden, also confessed the stealing of two automobiles, presumably to have been used for hauling stolen goods. The four were taken to a detention home to await a hearing on burglary charges.

PERSEVERANCE PAID OFF

Persevering police officers and ADT guards recently captured two young burglars in Akron, Ohio, after a preliminary investigation failed to uncover any trace of the intruders.

Responding to a burglar alarm from Mayflower Terminals, Inc., at 6:14 p.m. on July 20, Guards A. Ulman and R. Negley summoned the police when they noticed an unprotected rear window open and an inside basement door ajar. A flashlight beam inside the plant was further evidence that the premises had been unlawfully entered.

Four cruisers and two detective cars arrived and the officers proceeded to make an extensive search of the building. Their efforts had been virtually abandoned when two youths, ages 16 and 17, were finally discovered hiding behind a sliding door.

The boys had entered the store next door and had stolen three flashlights which were being used to explore the warehouse. No loss was reported.

NEWS TO HIM

"Someone gave me a bad steer" explained 24-year-old Robert Blagg after an ADT burglar alarm had led to his arrest in Salt Lake City on the morning of June 17.

Despite a generous application of adhesive tape on an ADT-protected rear window of the National Department Store "to insure a quiet entry," Blagg's intrusion was "heard" a quarter of a mile away in the ADT Central Station when he actuated the Burglar Alarm by smashing a pane of glass.

ADT guards V. E. Doty and W. G. Andrus converged on the premises from front and rear and quickly apprehended the attacker who was attempting to hide behind a box. While one guard covered Blagg, the other summoned the police by means of the two-way radio in the ADT patrol car.

Blagg readily confessed breaking the window with intent to steal whatever money he could find inside the store. When asked why he smashed the window when the ADT protection was clearly visible, his naive reply was that he "didn't know anything about burglar alarms."



KILN OVERHEATS

Firemen Win Three-Hour Battle Against Blaze Between Floors

A fire which recently broke out above an overheated kiln at the plant of Peerless Potteries in Evansville, Ind., was fought by firemen for nearly three hours before it was brought under control.

The blaze was discovered at 7:13 p.m. between the false ceiling of the kiln room and the second floor. Kiln temperature at the time was 2200 degrees.

Firemen, called to the plant by the



GROUNDED—Charred engine and landing gear are all that remain of one of fifty airplanes which burned during recent half-million-dollar fire at Teterboro (N. J.) Airport. Twisted steel girders of hanger attest to heat of the blaze

operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box, had to cut through the ceiling and remove heavy insulating material in order to reach the blaze.

The fire fighters were hampered by dense smoke, steam and the excessive heat of the furnace, but succeeded in getting the flames under control by 8:15 p.m. It was 11:00 p.m., however, before the firemen completed their work. A pumper crew remained at the plant all night to prevent a possible rekindling.

The plant was almost totally destroyed by a \$200,000 fire about a year ago.



CLOSE CALL—Fireman (bottom right) crouches as section of burning roof of Del Mar Beach (Calif.) Hotel collapses during July 11 blaze. Despite hazardous fire-fighting operations, there were no casualties in the five-story structure

WATCHMAN THUNDERSTRUCK

A lightning bolt struck a sawdust shed on the premises of the Franklin Lumber & Fixture Company in Columbus, Ohio, on June 29, starting a fire which might have caused considerable damage had it not been promptly detected and reported by the Aero Automatic Fire Alarm System.

The alarm was received at the Columbus Central Station at 7:04 p.m., and the fire department arrived at the premises a few minutes later. So swift was the automatic detection of the blaze that the plant watchman had no opportunity to observe the flames and was amazed when he saw the firemen entering the building.

The outbreak was quickly brought under control and the loss was held to approximately \$800. Officials of the firm expressed their appreciation and stated that considerable quantities of paints, lumber and fixtures were saved.

DRUGSTORE OUTBREAK

When Guards A. Lauritis and S. Krull responded to a burglar alarm from Oberman's Pharmacy, Chicago, early on the morning of July 4, they discovered dense smoke issuing from the premises and immediately notified the Central Station which summoned the fire department.

Responding firemen found a blaze caused by the overheating of a motor on a refrigerator in the rear of the store. Investigation revealed that smoke had intercepted the beam of an ADT Invisible Ray Device, causing the burglar alarm signal.

SPRINKLERS DOUSE BLAZE

A discarded cigarette was believed to have started a fire in a Baltimore warehouse of the National Can Company on the afternoon of June 30.

A company employee noticed the fire among cartons of finished cans at the north end of the plant and operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box at 1:00 p.m. The fire department sped to the scene but not before forty-three sprinkler heads had fused.

Fire damage was slight, but losses through water were est mated at \$10,000.

FIRE BETWEEN FLOORS

The five-million-dollar plant of the Libbey Glass Company in Toledo was saved from a disastrous fire on June 1 when twelve sprinkler heads fused to control an outbreak between the ceiling and the roof of the fifth-floor decorating department.

The Toledo Fire Department was summoned to the scene at 8:54 p.m. by an alarm transmitted from the plant by the operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box.

The fire is believed to have been caused by ignition of paint fumes which had accumulated between the ceiling and the floor above.

WATCHMEN

SUFFERS SEVERE INJURIES

Prompt action by an Oakland, Calif., ADT guard on the night of July 4 probably saved the life of Watchman F. Malcom of the Spark Stove Company.

When Malcom failed to signal the completion of his 11:00 p.m. round, Guard Varner was dispatched to investigate. Arriving at the plant, Varner could not gain entry to the premises and President H. B. Naylor was summoned. After a long search, they discovered

<image>

NEW LOOK for British firemen being inspected by exponents of prewar (left) and wartime type of uniform. Ultramodern operational dress is of waterproof material and features one-zip fastener for speedy dressing during emergencies Malcom lying at the bottom of a stairway leading to the third floor. He was bleeding from severe lacerations and it was evident that immediate hospitalization was urgent.

Varner notified the police department which dispatched an ambulance to take the injured man to a hospital. An examination revealed that Malcom had suffered, in addition to superficial cuts, several broken wrist bones, fractures of the knee and hip and spinal injuries.

Police believed that Malcom had lost his balance and toppled over the guardrail of an external stairway of the fire escape type.

STRICKEN ON DUTY

When the watchman failed to transmit his usual signal from the Newberry Library at 5:00 a.m. on June 6, Chicago ADT guards hurried to the building where they found the man unconscious on the basement floor.

Police officers, who were immediately summoned, removed the stricken watchman to Henrotin Hospital in compliance with instructions received from E. Erickson, a library official.

The watchman passed away the following morning from what was diagnosed as a cerebral hemorrhage.

RESCUE TRAPPED WATCHMAN

Martin Goodman, a watchman for the Cleveland firm of Wood & Spencer, was saved from possible serious injury on June 11 by ADT Guard Danculovic, who rushed to the plant when Goodman failed to transmit his 1:30 a.m. signal.

When Danculovic arrived he heard the watchman calling for help, but could not enter the building as he was without keys. Using the two-way radio in the ADT patrol car, he summoned the police who assisted him in entering the building through an unlocked window. Inside, the officers found Goodman on the main floor with his right forearm caught between an elevator floor and the ceiling.

He was promptly removed to Mt. Sinai Hospital where an examination revealed no broken bones, but, as Goodman expressed it, "Only the Lord knows what would have happened to me had it not been for the ADT man."



BUSY LINE

Memorial Day, 1948, will live long in the memory of ADT Installer C. T. Humphrey of Utica, N. Y.



and catch

While fishing in the Black River below Lyons Falls, N. Y., Humphrey hooked a 15-inch trout and for a moment it looked like just another "routine" catch.

But suddenly a Great Northern Pike appeared on the scene and completely devoured the trout while Humphrey was reeling in his line. A 45-minute tussle followed before both trout and pike were hauled in.

What may turn out to be the prize Great Northern Pike catch of the year was made more remarkable by the fact that Humphrey accomplished the feat using a four-pound line and leader.

W. C. EVANS RETIRES

The Benefit Fund Committee has announced the retirement on pension of W. C. Evans of the New York Commercial Department, effective July 1, 1948.

Mr. Evans started his career as a lineman and telegrapher with Western Union in Philadelphia. He has been in the employ of the ADT organization since March 1, 1908, when he was appointed manager and sales representative in Newark, N. J.

Subsequent assignments in Atlanta and New York led to his appointment in 1919 as commercial manager in charge of sales activities in all of the Middle Atlantic states.

From 1922 to 1932 he covered New England on special commercial assignments, after which he returned to the New York office in a similar capacity where he remained until his retirement. THE ROSTRUM

Devoted to Open Discussion of Protection Problems

TEACH 'EM FIRE PREVENTION

Make Fire Prevention Week an Occasion for Instructing Employees in Proper Methods of Guarding Against Fire

According to the latest figures, about 600,000 fires occur in the United States each year. More than half of that number take place in business establishments and other places where the cooperation of employees is highly essential to the development and operation of fire prevention programs.

Fire Prevention Week, which will be observed this year during the week of October 3-9, is an ideal time to enlist the aid of employees in this important work and to train them in the duties of preventing and controlling fire.

The methods adopted will, of course, depend upon the type of establishment, number of employees and other conditions. Of first importance, however, in any establishment is a survey to check existing fire hazards. Self-inspection blanks for this purpose, applying to mercantile establishments, industrial plants, hospitals, restaurants, etc., are available from the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Many of these fire hazards doubtless can be corrected by management, but a substantial portion of them will require action to educate employees and to impress them with the seriousness of the situation and the value of taking proper fire prevention measures. Wherever possible the problems should be discussed in group meetings conducted by competent persons. In most cities fire department officials will be glad to assist. Effective results usually can be obtained if the talks are accompanied by demonstrations.

Group meetings and lectures should be supplemented by the use of fire prevention posters or placards bearing fire prevention messages, and the distribution of instructive pamphlets.

An easily understood folder for employee use is entitled "13 Ways Not to Burn Your Factory." This portrays in cartoon style 13 "do's" and "dont's." It is available through the National Fire Protection Association which also can supply other folders and posters for use in fire prevention campaigns.

"Stop Fires—Save Jobs" is the title of a 16-page booklet for employees published by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. This outlines in detail common and commercial fire hazards, how to overcome them, and what to do in case of fire.

Among the subjects to be discussed with employees is the function of automatic sprinkler systems. Checks often reveal that workers, unaware that they might cause trouble, have piled stock so high that it would prevent the proper distribution of water in case of fire. Employees should also be warned against closing sprinkler valves or otherwise tampering with the system.

Fire doors deserve particular attention, with special warnings against obstructions which prevent them from closing automatically in case of fire. Usually such trouble is caused by piling shipping cases or other goods against the door or deliberately blocking it open. Many large losses have been traced to just such conditions.

Misuse of electrical equipment and deterioration of wiring are among the most common causes of industrial fires. It is therefore important, not only to check all such equipment, but to instruct employees in its proper use. Prevention of overloaded circuits, overheating of motors and the elimination of sparks and arcs are primary objectives which can be attained through careful inspection and employee cooperation.

Special emphasis should be placed on the use of fire extinguishers and other first-aid fire-fighting equipment and the proper and prompt operation of fire alarm boxes. ADT managers will gladly cooperate in arranging demonstrations of ADT systems where installed or in providing instructions for their operation.



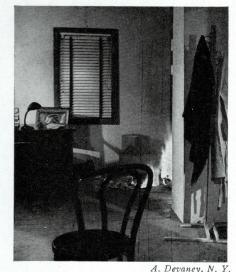
Three Lions

EXAMINE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT —Excessive arcing and loose connections may cause trouble. Avoid storing combustible material near switch boxes



Three Lions

DON'T OVERLOOK FIRE DOORS— Make certain that they are not obstructed and will close automatically when released by melting of the fusible link.



REMOVE RUBBISH—Here a lighted match or cigarette has ignited the contents of an overturned wastebasket.



the tune of \$2,252,000 a day. Such a record demands full-scale support of Fire Prevention Week by all citizens and civic groups. The poster, symbolizing the death-dealing menace of fires, reproduced above, pamphlets, etc., may be obtained from the National Board of Fire Underwriters, 85 John Street, New York 7, N. Y. Other appropriate posters and instructive printed matter can be secured from the National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston 10, Mass.