

*The*

# **ADT TRANSMITTER**

vol. XXI. no. 4 — APRIL — 1949



**FIRE CHASING-THEIR HOBBY**

(See Page 2)

## • LETTERS •

### Well Compensated

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

It is a pleasure to acknowledge your letter of February 23 regarding the fire in our shipping department.

Words cannot express our great relief and satisfaction with the splendid service your good company rendered on this very critical occasion.

The resulting financial savings effected through the utilization of your service more than compensates us for the investment we have made with your company.

We are very happy, therefore, to recommend ADT as completely satisfactory.

BERNARD GREEN

B. Green & Company, Inc.  
Baltimore, Md.

### Watchman's Life Saved

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

On January 30 our watchman was stricken with a heart attack on one of his regular rounds.

We wish to thank the local ADT organization for the prompt and efficient service rendered in investigating and taking care of this emergency.

We believe there is no doubt that the fast service rendered saved the watchman's life.

J. F. DOLANSKY

Griffin Wheel Company  
Tacoma, Wash.

### On the Cover

Matty Lomasney of the New York Bell Club is shown tracing the activities of the New York Fire Department on a recent Saturday evening. His desk is a replica of the typical patrol desk found in city fire stations throughout the country.

As alarms are received on a tape register they are chalked up on the "station board" beside the desk.

The Bell Club is one of the many buff's organizations throughout the country described in our "Rostrum" article on page 7.

Photograph by N. Y. World-Telegram.

## 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 •

### Protecting the Priceless

Acting on more than a suspicion that many priceless collections and historic buildings are not as safe from fire as they should be, a committee of the National Fire Protection Association has recently published a pamphlet entitled, "Protecting Our Heritage," outlining what can be done to reduce the probability of loss or damage by fire.

Among the facts contained in the pamphlet is an analysis of 148 representative fires in libraries, museums and historic buildings which shows that 47 per cent of the fires resulted in total loss of buildings and contents. In 47 cases discovery was by outsiders or police and in only five cases was there any type of automatic protection.

Automatic fire protection is the foremost recommendation for prompt discovery of fire. It is especially pointed out that such protective systems should be so arranged that an automatic alarm is sounded locally and also is transmitted to fire headquarters, and that the operative condition of the systems should be under the constant supervision of organizations continuously staffed for such emergencies.

ADT Automatic Fire Protection Services, including Sprinkler Supervisory and Waterflow Alarm Service and Aero Fire Detection and Alarm Service, completely fulfill these requirements. These services provide for prompt detection of incipient fires and immediate notification of fire-fighting forces. In addition, they provide for continuous supervision, regular inspections and tests and complete maintenance, without which there can be no assurance that any protective signaling system will operate properly when an emergency arises.

Scores of historic buildings, museums and libraries are safeguarded by ADT Services. They include the well-known Williamsburg Restoration, Williamsburg, Va.; Monticello, Charlottesville, Va.; Chicago Historical Society and Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago; Oakland Public Museum, Oakland, Calif.; Roosevelt House and Fraunces Tavern, New York, and numerous other buildings which are of priceless historical value or contain irreplaceable objects.

**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. XXI

APRIL, 1949

No. 4

## ALARM BALKS BANDIT TRIO

### *Southwestern Desperadoes Captured by Heroic Policemen As Bullets Fly in Holdup of Detroit Jewelry Concern*

After a wild gun battle, during which several shots buzzed through the premises of the Swartz Brothers Jewelry

Proprietor Arthur Swartz, seated in an inner office, overheard the conversation and operated an ADT Police Call Device before McMackin and Wayne pushed the clerk into the office and forced him and Swartz to lie on the floor. Wayne kept them covered while McMackin prepared to tie them up.

Meanwhile, Wiseman had scooped up the watches on the counter and was trying to force open a large safe containing most of the store's large diamonds and other valuable jewelry when Patrolmen John Skeltis and Maurice Beaucond reached the outer door.

As Beaucond rushed in, Wiseman whirled and slugged him, but the officer grabbed the culprit and, using him as a shield, inched toward the inner office.

When McMackin and Wayne ignored the officer's orders to surrender, the patrolmen opened fire at the criminals.

The bandits returned the fire but surrendered quickly when eight more patrolmen emerged from an elevator and piled into the office with fists and gun butts flying.

In the bandits' car, which police found parked near by, were suitcases, stolen Michigan auto license plates and three pairs of high-heeled Texas boots.

In a subsequent police line-up, McMackin was identified as one of the two bandits who held up a Detroit fur concern in January and made off with approximately \$20,000 in furs.

Inspector Walter Wyrod, of the Holdup Squad, said that if Swartz had been unable to sound the alarm, the bandits probably would have escaped with most of the company's \$40,000 stock, which would have amounted to the largest local holdup in recent years.



*Detroit News*

*Happy heroes Skeltis (left) and Beaucond*

Company, three Texas desperadoes succumbed to the onslaughts of ten Detroit policemen about noon on February 12.

Under arrest when the smoke cleared were: William Wayne, 32, a fugitive from justice since 1942 when he escaped from a Texas prison; William Wiseman, 34, wanted by authorities in Texas where he escaped from the State Penitentiary while serving a robbery sentence; and John McMackin, 30, wanted for armed robbery in California.

The trio arrived in Detroit early in the morning and singled out Swartz Brothers as a likely looking object of attack. With wide-brimmed hats pulled low over their brows, they went up to the third floor and stepped inside the wholesale jewelry establishment.

While McMackin and Wayne posted themselves at the door, Wiseman approached the lone clerk in the shop and asked to see a selection of watches. As the clerk complied, Wiseman whipped out a revolver and warned him against making an outcry.



*Detroit Free Press*

**TOUGH GUYS TAMED** — Resignation, dejection and defiance describe Wiseman, McMackin and Wayne after losing gun duel to Detroit police. Patrolman Joseph Skeltis, who assisted in dramatic capture, looks over well-battered badmen

# BURGLARY

## SAFE-CRACKER SNARED

### *Yegg Subdued by Camden Police Suspected of Other Large Hauls*

A recent outbreak of safe robberies in the Camden, N. J., area is believed to have been checked with the capture of a young burglar in the Scott-Smith Cadillac agency on the morning of February 15.

The intruder, identified by his captors as 19-year-old James DeNinno, entered the building by breaking an unprotected window in the rear of an adjoining garage. After ransacking several desks, DeNinno helped himself to a large electric drill, crowbars, chisels, hacksaws and hammers from the agency repair shop and made his way to the front office.

Working for almost an hour, DeNinno pried the combination off the safe and had one corner of the door almost open before he unwittingly tripped an ADT Burglar Alarm Device, which transmitted an alarm to the Central Station at 2:21 a.m.

Detectives William Kelly and Stanley Bobiak responded and met ADT Guard James Rahn in front of the building. While Bobiak stood guard at the front entrance, Kelly and Rahn entered by



*Wide World*

*A career of crime halts abruptly*

means of a passkey and almost immediately saw DeNinno dive through an office window and head for the rear of the agency.

Failing to scale the rear wall which led to an open window, the youth reversed his field and attempted to "bull"

his way through the front door but was dropped in his tracks by Detective Kelly.

The officers recovered 200 pennies in a cloth bag which DeNinno admitted taking from the top of a file cabinet in the office. When captured, he was wearing white gloves and protective goggles.

Police stated that, had not the concealed Burglar Alarm Device betrayed his presence, DeNinno would almost certainly have gotten away with the contents of the safe.

Detective Sgt. John Trout, who conducted an immediate investigation, said the attempted robbery resembled "identically" those executed in recent months in several Camden buildings and he believes DeNinno is responsible for the previous jobs.

## FAST FADE-OUT

At the conclusion of a busy Saturday in the basement of a Los Angeles department store recently, a lone bandit walked up to the cashier and demanded that she turn over the day's receipts.

The lady took one quick look down the barrel of a revolver and promptly passed out. Irked over the lack of cooperation on the part of his intended victim, the bandit departed empty-handed.

Fellow employees thereupon operated an ADT Police Call Device and proceeded to revive the "heroine" who had thwarted the holdup attempt. Responding police found no trace of the bandit.

## JAILER ASSISTED

Pounced upon by a dangerous criminal who was attempting to escape from custody on February 12, the jailer at the Pierce County Courthouse, Tacoma, Wash., operated an ADT Police Call Device to summon outside assistance which probably saved his life.

Police officers, arriving at the courthouse at 10:06 p.m., subdued the prisoner, Thomas Griffin, and removed the injured jailer to a hospital for treatment.

Griffin, who had been sentenced to a term of 21 years for armed robbery, has since been sentenced to life imprisonment as a habitual criminal and committed to the Washington State Penitentiary at Walla Walla.

## SHARED THE SPOTLIGHT

### *Photographer Assists Police in Trapping Bandit Team on Roof*

An alert free-lance photographer led Syracuse police to the capture of two young hoodlums as they were attempt-



*Wide World*

*One down—one on the way*

ing to loot Weinstein's jewelry and sporting goods store on the morning of February 7.

The photographer, George Brush, was tuned in on his car radio when he picked up a call beamed to police patrol cruisers that an ADT burglar alarm had been transmitted from Weinstein's at 1:32 a.m.

Arriving on the scene simultaneously with nine police officers, Brush trained a spotlight on the building and spotted the culprits on the roof. The officers shouted to the pair to stay in the beam and descend by way of the fire escape.

When captured, the youths had no merchandise in their possession but a search of the roof turned up two new .38-caliber revolvers and two used revolvers. With the firearms were two boxes of shells. Police stated that all of the loot had been taken from Weinstein's.

## IN THE LION'S DEN

When Baltimore police captured a lone burglar in the storage yard of the American District Telegraph Company on the night of February 5, it brought to five the number of imprudent intruders apprehended on the premises in the past eight months.

Edward Williams, 18 years old, interrupted the beam of an Invisible Ray Device at 8:16 p.m., shortly after he had entered the yard by scaling a surrounding fence. Guard Keller and police closed in quickly to make the arrest.

## UN-SUITED

Overconfident, overdressed and overwhelmed aptly describe the conditions in which two Chicago burglars found themselves in rapid succession on February 11.

With poor judgment and great zeal the pair attacked the ADT-protected shop of Jacob The Tailor, cutting through the rear door and removing heavy crossbars. Even before they had accomplished this much of their mission, police were on the way.

In amusement and amazement the officers found themselves face to face with one of the culprits emerging from the shop, his arms heavily laden with suits, and three hats stacked upon his head.

Inside the store they found a strictly bottom-drawer secret—his pal, evidently no claustrophobia sufferer, completely concealed in a large drawer.

## FIRE

### HOTEL FIRES CHECKED

#### *Property Damage Negligible As Fast Fire Fighting Halts Blazes*

Heavy fire damage to hotels in three different sections of the country was recently averted by the efforts of firemen responding to ADT fire alarms.

On the morning of January 25, the switchboard operator of a Miami hotel operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box upon receipt of a telephone call that smoke was coming from a ninth-floor room. Firemen easily extinguished the incipient blaze which was confined to an overstuffed chair. The damage was held to \$100.

An accumulation of grease in a kitchen flue of a San Francisco hotel became ignited on the afternoon of February 9. An employee operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box which sent firemen racing to the scene where they succeeded in keeping the blaze from spreading. Damage to the flue was estimated at \$5,000.

A short circuit in a radio ignited a near-by window curtain and shade in a second-floor room of an Omaha hotel on February 12. An ADT waterflow alarm signal was received at 10:32 p.m. when

the supervised automatic sprinkler system went into action. Firemen easily completed extinguishment of the outbreak. The cost of redecorating the room amounted to \$200.

### GROCERIES SAVED

Investigation of an ADT burglar alarm from the wholesale grocery establishment of B. Green & Company, Baltimore, on February 23, resulted in the discovery of a fire which, though it caused considerable damage, was extinguished before it could involve the entire building.

Guard Thorn, who reached the premises at 3:56 a.m., discovered smoke coming from under the large loading doors and immediately notified the fire department. Firemen forced open an office door and found the entire shipping department in flames. After a long battle the blaze was brought under control.

A checkup revealed that the burglar alarm had been automatically transmitted when smoke intercepted the beam of an ADT Invisible Ray Device.

Although damage to the shipping department was reportedly heavy, operations were partially interrupted for only twenty-four hours. It is believed that the plant would have been completely destroyed had discovery been further delayed.

### STOVE STARTS BAD BLAZE

An overheated stove set fire to the walls of an office in the plant of the Nickel Plate Foundry Company in Cleveland on February 21, causing damage to the building and its contents estimated at \$3,000.

At the time of the outbreak the plant was completely closed down with only a watchman on the premises. When the fire broke out the watchman operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box which summoned firemen to the scene shortly after 11:00 a.m.

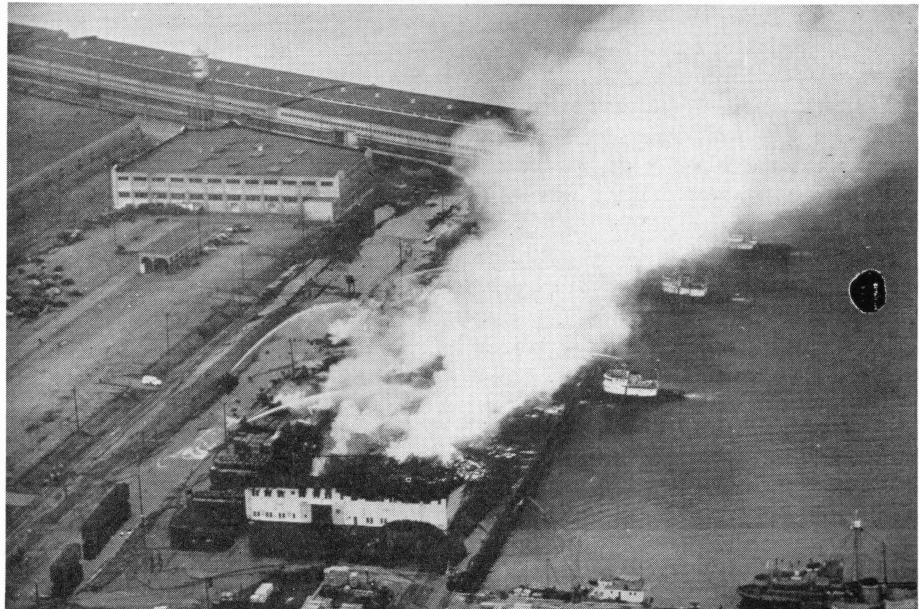
Office furniture and materials stored on the second floor were slightly damaged before responding firemen were able to gain control of the flames.

### OF MICE AND (FIRE)MEN

Mice and matches are blamed for a fire which swept a closet in the third-floor cafeteria of the Cudahy Packing Company in Kansas City on the evening of January 15.

The operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm at 11:12 p.m. summoned firemen who quickly extinguished the blaze. All the evidence indicated that the blaze started when a carton of matches became ignited by the scratching or gnawing of mice.

Damage to towels and canned goods was estimated at \$450.



**ARMY SUFFERS LARGE LOSS** — Smoke still pours from the Army's huge supply depot and pier at Oakland, Calif., several hours after a mysterious fire broke out shortly after midnight on March 15. As Army officials launched an investigation, the damage was unofficially estimated at over a million dollars

Wide World

## ARSON SUSPECT HELD

An employee of a Minneapolis shoe store was held by police on charges of arson after having allegedly started two fires in the basement of the store on the evening of February 15.

The first outbreak occurred at 9:23 p.m. in cellophane decorative material. Two sprinkler heads fused, causing an ADT waterflow alarm. Firemen who responded attributed the outbreak to spontaneous ignition.

At 10:58 p.m. Central Station operators again dispatched firemen to the scene in response to an ADT waterflow alarm and, following extinguishment of the blaze, the fire fighters uncovered definite evidence of arson.

The arson squad began an immediate investigation and placed the employee under arrest a short time later. No damage resulted from either fire.

## KING SIZE LIGHTER

Sparks from a motor on the roof started a potentially serious blaze on February 17 at the plant of the Ronson Art Metal Works, Newark, N. J., manufacturers of the famous Ronson Lighters.

The sparks ignited fumes in a ventilating duct leading from a fifth-floor spray room, causing the flames to back-fire into the building. An employee immediately operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box. Three minutes later thirty-one sprinkler heads fused, initiating an ADT waterflow alarm.

Central Station operators promptly dispatched the fire department which extinguished the blaze with little difficulty. Fire and water damage was estimated at \$2750.

## FLAMES FILL STREET

A veritable "river of fire" flowed down a San Antonio street after a carelessly discarded cigarette ignited a quantity of gasoline near a service station early on the morning of February 19.

The gasoline was being transferred from a truck to underground tanks when it overflowed into the street. The blazing liquid flowed along the street, spreading flames thirty-five to fifty feet high over a half-block area.

As the fire reached the warehouse

of the Merchants Transfer & Storage Company, employees hurriedly closed the loading doors but the heat was so intense that it caused the Aero Automatic Fire Alarm inside the premises to operate at 7:48 a.m. Responding firemen employed foam which brought the blaze under control.

Six large trailer trucks, parked outside the warehouse, were burned and badly damaged by the fast-spreading flames. An awning and the loading dock were slightly damaged, but warehouse merchandise remained untouched.

Officials of the storage company estimated that the loss sustained was approximately \$10,000.

## WATCHMEN

### BANK WATCHMAN DIES

Failure to receive a scheduled reporting signal from a watchman at the Title Guarantee & Trust Company, New York, on the morning of January 25, revealed that the man had suddenly passed away between rounds.

Guards dispatched to the building at 2:20 a.m. were unable to enter, but looking through the window they saw the watchman slumped over in a chair. Officials of the firm were notified and an employee was dispatched to admit the guards.

A doctor, summoned from nearby Beekman Hospital, pronounced the watchman dead of a heart attack.



*Associated Press*  
**AUDITORIUM SILENCED** — *Flames engulf auditorium and dormitory building of Virginia Teachers College, Farmville, early on the morning of March 6*

## JANITOR FOUND DEAD

J. S. Grant, a janitor employed by the J. D. Wallace Company, Chicago, was found dead on the night of February 27 by ADT Guard Cowell, who went to the premises at the request of Mrs. Grant when her husband failed to return from his work.

Mr. Grant's duties at the store ended at 3:00 p.m., and when he did not put in an appearance late in the evening his wife telephoned the ADT which protects the store with Burglar Alarm Service. The janitor's body was found lying on the floor of the office.

Police said that the man had suffered a heart attack and had been dead for at least four hours.

## TIMELY RESCUE

Tacoma ADT guards, who rushed to the plant of the Griffin Wheel Company on the night of January 30 to rescue a company watchman who had suffered a heart attack, are credited with saving the man's life.

The watchman, W. J. Felix, had been delinquent in transmitting his signal due at 5:12 p.m. Guards dispatched to the plant discovered Felix lying on the roof exposed to freezing temperatures and snow flurries. They promptly summoned a police ambulance to take the ailing watchman to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Doctors stated that the watchman probably would have contracted pneumonia if he had been exposed for any length of time.

## ORGANIZATION

### FAREWELL DINNER

J. P. Sullivan, a member of the ADT organization for more than fifty-five years, retired on April 1, according to a recent announcement by the Benefit Fund Committee.

Mr. Sullivan, who was manager of the Dayton, Ohio, office, entered the service of ADT on October 19, 1893.

At a testimonial dinner given in his honor on March 24, Mr. Sullivan was presented with a travelling bag by his ADT associates in Dayton and surrounding cities.

## THE ROSTRUM

*Devoted to Open Discussion of Protection Problems*

### FIRE CHASING—THEIR HOBBY

*“Buffs”, Young and Old, The Country Over, Get a Thrill  
In Following the Activities of the Local Fire Service*

By JERRY DALY

Now and then you read or hear of “fire buffs.” Some folks smile. Others enthuse. Many do not understand. Throughout the land there are about a score of buff, box, bell and fire-fan clubs. Members of these organizations are sort of “married” to the fire service. They are wholeheartedly devoted to their local fire department first and to the fire-fighting world thereafter. They are zealots in the cause of prevention, protection, extinguishment and general welfare. They are morale builders for blaze-beaters.

Thousands of casual buffs and fans throughout the country are just as devoted to the fire service as are the organized buffs of the cities. Some of the well-known fire-buff organizations are: Friendship Fire Association which meets on the top floor of Engine 31 in the nation's capital. It takes its name from the fact that George Washington was a member of Friendship Fire Company of Alexandria, Va. The Golden Gate has the Phoenix Society of San Francisco. Its president, Bob Schaefer, was invited by the Mayor to join the Board of Fire Commissioners, and he did!

Boston has Box 52 Association and also Boston Sparks Association—both long active in fire affairs of the “Hub” of New England and environs. Worcester, Mass., has Box 4.

In Philadelphia, Box 1776 Association was named for the number of the alarm box in Independence Hall. The Quaker City also has the Second Alarmers. Baltimore has Box 414; Dayton, Ohio, has Box 7 and Box 2; Cincinnati has Box 13 Associates and the Extra Alarm Fire Association.

Detroit's Box 12 is headed by its founder, Paxton Mendelssohn, lifelong benefactor of fire fighters. An ardent buff, he gave the Detroit Fire Department two ambulances in memory of his mother. He is a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners without salary.



*“THIRD ALARMERS” — Organized during the war as auxiliary firemen, this New York organization of buffs responds to all 3-alarm fires to assist in manning the ultramodern fire department field kitchen shown above. Robert Oberfelder and Al Baer, two ardent buffs, flank regular member of fire department enjoying welcome refreshments*

He did not seek the office. Detroit's No. 1 buff is also Chairman of the Fire Alarm Signal Committee and the Apparatus Board of the fire department.

St. Louis has Box 8; Milwaukee, the MFD Emergency Corps—an outgrowth of the wartime volunteer auxiliary; Bay City and Lansing, Mich., have Boxes 65 and 23, respectively.

Most clubs take an alarm box number for a name for one of two reasons—it is the box that was used for some great fire or it is the lowest box number in the city.

In New York, the Bell Club, in its tenth year, is favored with official status by fire and police through portfolio of the Fire Commissioner, who authorized fire line badges for its members.

Another active buff club in New York is the Third Alarmers. They are the stewards of the coffee and sandwich van maintained by Local 94, I. F. F. A.

The Brooklyn counterpart of the Bell Club is the 7-7 Club which takes its name from the preliminary signal indicating that the fire is in Brooklyn or Queens.

Brooklyn also has the 255 Club—named for the fire company in which the buffs served as auxiliaries during the war. They take over as the stewards

when the firemen's coffee van crosses an East River bridge to a major alarm in “Dodgerland.” In Trenton, N. J., it's the 2-2 Club that serves up the Java.

The New York Firemen's Cycle Club is the oldest of its kind in the world. Organized in 1896 by a score of fire officers and men who took to bicycle riding as a hobby, the club later admitted fire buffs. Today, its one hundred odd members are either fire fighters or buffs. The “janitor” is Dr. Harry Mortimer Archer. He'll be 81 on April 23—dean of the fire buffs of the world.

Montreal has its Auxiliary Firemen's Association. Others are Box 212, Lexington, Ky.; Mystic Sparks of Medford, Mass.; Box 44, Reading, Mass.—just to mention a few more.

It has been said that a fire buff is a frustrated fireman! Not many buffs become firemen in proportion to the number who remain buffs for life or as long as health can endure. To a buff the fire service is a sort of religion. Some buffs border on fanaticism.

Origin of the word “buff” is frequently the subject of argument. One story has it that “buff” is a contraction of “buffalo.” In the era of volunteer fire companies in New York, each station had its fringe of buffs. They “belonged” but devoted their activities to running for the firemen—fetching food, beverages or tobacco, arranging for “hospitality” at meetings, and performing other services. They came to the firehouse in winter garbed in buffalo skin coats. Firemen called them “buffaloes,” which was later shortened to “buff.”

The late Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York was a buff in his boyhood. He liked to recall that “When I was a buff with Engine 32, she was first due at Fulton Fish Market.” Quite a number of successful public officials were inspired with civic interest while serving as buffs during their youth.

The golf widow may not be a night owl, but the wife of an inveterate fire buff often awakens to learn that she has been alone for hours—hubby having quietly sneaked off to a fire. He comes home for breakfast, bedraggled, unshaven and worn, insisting that he was not in danger at any time and that he isn't a bit tired. He shaves, showers and dons business clothes. Then off to the job that he is paid to do—

His day starts both right and bright. He was at a fire half the night.

# RECENT EVENTS SHOW BURGLARS AND BANDITS BUSY



**HIGHEST HONOR** — Detroit police Commissioner Harry S. Toy presents the department's highest honor to Patrolmen Maurice Beaucond and Joseph Skeltis for capturing three fugitives from justice during bandit raid on a jewelry store. Inspector Arthur Heidt witnesses the ceremony.

Answering an ADT holdup alarm signal from the Swartz Brothers Jewelry Store shortly after noon on February 12, Beaucond and Skeltis broke up what might have been one of the largest jewelry hauls in the annals of Detroit crime.

Using fists, gun butts and bullets, the heroic young officers subdued the desperadoes after a wild scramble. The bandits, identified as William Wayne, William Wiseman and John McMackin, are reported to be wanted by authorities throughout the southwest. McMackin was subsequently identified as one of the men who recently took part in a \$20,000 fur haul in Detroit.

(Story on page 3)

Detroit Free Press

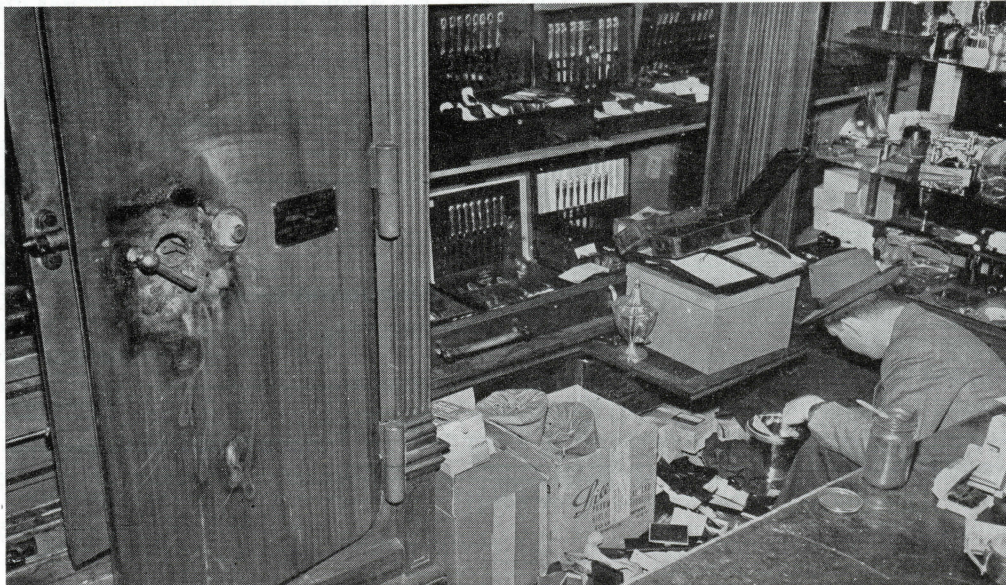
**DEFLATED DEBUT** — Four overcoats and a salt and pepper set comprise the entire "take" of young William Lindriet, a Chicago modern-day "Raffles" who set about to rid high society of its best in furs, jewels and cash.

Policeman Vincent McAleer, who captured Lindriet in the home of a prominent jeweler after the youth had unwittingly transmitted an ADT burglar alarm signal, looks over guns, flashlight, pliers and screw driver, the tools with which Lindriet hoped to crash high society in the Windy City.

Police stated that the widely publicized exploits of Gerard Graham Dennis, debonair jewel thief recently apprehended in New York, first gave Lindriet the idea of seeing how the other half lives.

When captured, he had in his possession a detailed list of his intended victims, showing when each would be away on winter vacations.

Chicago Sun-Times



**HALF-MILLION HAUL**—Cracksmen applied acetylene torches to the vault door of a leading Richmond, Va., jewelry store on the night of February 12. They made off with gems valued at \$481,195.

The yeggs entered the premises through a skylight and, after hanging a large tarpaulin to shield their operations from passersby, they proceeded to burn through the main safe, a secondary protection door and finally a case-hardened steel interior drawer where the most valuable pieces of jewelry were kept overnight.

Neither the premises nor the safe were protected by an approved burglar alarm system, which made it easy for the burglars to conduct their operations.

The owners revealed that the huge loss was insured up to only about 10 per cent of its worth. The jewelry haul was the nation's largest in ten years.

Richmond News-Leader