

The *- Pg 3 out*
ADT TRANSMITTER

vol. XXIII. no. 11 — DECEMBER — 1951



• LETTERS •

Happy Over Service

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

Some weeks ago a used electric refrigerator on the first floor of our downtown store caught fire at about eleven-thirty at night.

ADT reported the blaze to the fire department and your representative reached the building before the fire department arrived, opened the doors and allowed the firemen to enter. Our building is sprinklered. Two sprinkler heads went off, immediately extinguishing the fire. We suffered no fire damage and comparatively little water damage.

Ours is a five-story building, a block long, full of merchandise. Except for the fact that our building was sprinklered and that your organization acted so promptly, we might have suffered a disastrous loss.

The purpose of this letter is to tell you how happy we are to be operating in a sprinklered building, and to thank you for the very efficient manner in which your organization operated.

DEAN S. PADEN

King Hardware Company
Atlanta, Georgia

On the Cover

Founded by a small group of Moravian missionaries on Christmas Eve, 1741, the city of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, annually attracts tens of thousands of Yuletide visitors.

With a kind assist from the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce and the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, the ADT TRANSMITTER is happy to reproduce a striking montage of the beautiful Yuletide decor in America's "Christmas City."

As a community service, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company lighting consultants have cooperated in the engineering, designing and progressive developments of this spectacular display.

The Pennsylvania Power & Light Company serves a population of nearly two million in Central Eastern Pennsylvania, including Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton. Many business establishments in this area are protected against fire, burglary and other hazards by ADT Central Station Services.

A NATION-WIDE ORGANIZATION

The Controlled Companies of American District Telegraph Company (ADT System) comprise a nation-wide organization specializing exclusively in the manufacture, installation, maintenance and operation of electrical supervisory and alarm systems for protection against fire, burglary, holdup and other hazards.

ADT Central Station Protection Services are supplied to subscribers in approximately 600 municipalities throughout the United States. Under Central Station Service, the protection system in the subscriber's premises is connected to the nearest ADT Central Station, which provides continuous electrical supervision, transmits alarms to fire and police departments and takes other appropriate action.

Outside of Central Station areas, ADT installs local alarm systems designed to give visual or audible alarm signals within the protected premises. When desired, such systems may include direct-wire connections to police or fire departments. In exceptionally large establishments, systems may be installed for operation through proprietary central stations on the premises.

Whether the system operates through an ADT Central Station or is of the local or proprietary type, ADT provides periodic inspections, systematic tests and complete maintenance by trained and experienced personnel. *Such specialized attention is essential to dependable operation.*

ADT PROTECTION SERVICES

SPRINKLER SUPERVISORY AND WATERFLOW ALARM SERVICE: Automatically detects waterflow and summons fire department. Maintains continuous automatic check on shut-off valves and other elements controlling water supply and distribution.

AUTOMATIC FIRE DETECTION AND ALARM SERVICE: Detects fire and automatically summons fire department.

WATCHMAN'S REPORTING SERVICE: Checks watchmen's patrols and investigates failures to signal Central Station.

MANUAL FIRE ALARM SERVICE: Provides Manual Fire Alarm Boxes on premises for prompt notification of fire department.

BURGLAR ALARM SERVICE: Automatically detects attempts to enter through protected points. Initiates prompt investigations of alarms.

HOLDUP ALARM SERVICE: Provides means for secret and silent notification of police in case of holdup or other emergency.

Also: Automatic Smoke Detection and Alarm Service; Automatic Heating and Industrial Process Supervisory Service.

• EDITORIAL •

Calling 'Doctor Red'

On October 24, Sister Alberta, Mother Superior in St. Paul's Hospital, Dallas, awakened suddenly at 12:15 a.m. and smelled smoke. She looked up to see a glowing red hole in the ceiling. Realizing that the building was afire, she notified the telephone operator who called the fire department.

The operator then plugged into the loud-speaker system and alerted every doctor and nurse in the hospital by the use of three words: "Emergency, Doctor Red." Again and again the code signal for fire announced the emergency to all employees in every part of the institution.

When the first piece of apparatus arrived, flames were raging in the attic above the fifth floor of the west wing. The lives of 325 patients in the institution were in immediate danger but hospital employees had already sprung into action and were removing the sick to safety. They also removed all oxygen, anesthetics and other hazardous materials. Firemen finally extinguished the blaze which was confined chiefly to the fifth floor.

Orderly evacuation of the building was made possible because the hospital authorities, who have a long-established record for being fire and safety conscious, had heeded the advice of fire prevention engineers who visited the institution as part of the nation-wide fire-safety inspection program conducted last year under the supervision of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. When the fire broke out, the employees, following an established evacuation plan, knew exactly what to do and performed magnificently.

The National Board reports that after their inspections, hundreds of hospitals instituted similar evacuation programs and adopted other recommended fire-safety measures, including in many cases, means for automatic detection, reporting and extinguishment of fires.

It has been demonstrated on numerous occasions in ADT-protected hospitals, that such systems detect fires at their start. They automatically summon fire-fighting forces to the scene so quickly that usually the blaze can be extinguished without the patients knowing of its existence.

THE ADT TRANSMITTER:—R. K. Hyde, Editor. A periodical published in the interest of better protection against fire, burglary, holdup and other hazards, by A.D.T. Company, Inc., 155 Sixth Avenue, New York 13, N. Y.; E. A. Ward, President; E. F. Gaston, Vice President; J. A. MacDonald, Vice President and Secretary; C. R. Rippo, Treasurer; each of whom may be addressed at 155 Sixth Avenue New York 13, N. Y. Please notify editor of failure to receive your copy, change of address error in name or address, or receipt of duplicate copies.

PAGE 3 MISSING

PAGE 4 MISSING

DROPPED ON TRACKS

Police Bullets Cut Down Ex-Con Who Tried to Crack Office Safe

An Oklahoma City badman, whose long police record includes an arrest for assault with intent to kill, fell before police officers' bullets while attempting to flee from the Norris Tobacco & Specialty Company on October 9.



Jack Hathcox

The prisoner, 29-year-old Jack Hathcox, whose brother was executed last July for the killing of a plant guard who was formerly a policeman, received treatment at Mercy Hospital for his wounds.

Hathcox entered the building through an unprotected skylight shortly before 9:00 p.m. Making his way to an office, he decided to crack open a safe. When he moved the safe from the wall, he unwittingly transmitted an ADT burglar alarm to the Central Station.

Upon the arrival of police a few minutes later, Hathcox sprinted from the building. When he ignored their command to halt, the officers opened fire. Hathcox fell across railroad tracks at the rear of the building, an artery in his arm having been severed by a bullet.

FIRE

TOPS IN TEAMWORK

ADT Alarms Summon Firemen As Plant Men Fight Magnesium Fires

On two occasions recently, fires in magnesium shavings were checked by alert plant personnel and fire departments responding to signals from ADT Manual Fire Alarm Boxes.

The application of hard-flaked pitch by quick-thinking employees of the Wesel Manufacturing Company, Scranton, Pa., was effective in extinguishing a blaze which broke out in a pile of magnesium chips on October 23.

The fire started on the first floor at about 10:20 a.m. when a die cutter became overheated and ignited magnesium particles which had fallen nearby.

Trained to act quickly in such an

emergency, the employee on the die cutting machine coolly operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box and then attacked the blaze.

Hard-flaked pitch resembles black sand. When it is applied to a magnesium fire it forms a thick tar-like crust over the fire, smothering the blaze.

The fire department arrived promptly, but so successful were the employees' efforts that the firemen had little to do.

In Louisville, Kentucky, employees of the Shuler Axe Company, the automatic sprinkler system and the fire department cooperated to control a blaze involving magnesium shavings on the floor of the machine shop. One workman operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box while others attacked the blaze with a commercial product which is a powder-like substance specially prepared for use on magnesium fires.

A wall of the shop became involved but the automatic sprinkler system operated to check the spread of the flames.

NOT ON THE MENU

Because of the prompt operation of the Aero Automatic Fire Alarm System, no appreciable damage resulted when a fire of unknown origin broke out in the basement kitchen of Marty's Restaurant in Baltimore on October 12.

At the height of the evening dinner hour, flames suddenly flashed through an overhead ventilating duct and into an adjacent alley. Firemen, dispatched to the scene upon receipt of the Aero alarm, made short work of the flames.



Dallas Times Herald

NOCTURNAL CRISIS — St. Paul's Hospital in Dallas is silhouetted against the sky as flames erupt from the fifth floor, just after midnight on October 24. All 325 patients, including many new-born babies, were safely evacuated

FORTUNATE DISCOVERY

An ADT Burglar Alarm System was recently credited with preventing serious damage to a fur storage room in the basement of a ladies' apparel shop in the midwest.

The alarm was received at the Central Station at 9:27 p.m. ADT guards were immediately dispatched to the shop where they discovered that the storage room was full of steam. They summoned the building superintendent who immediately shut off the gas furnace.

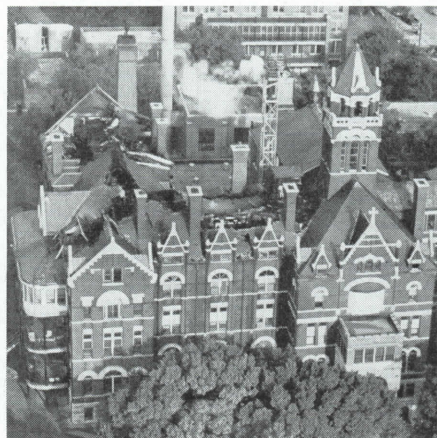
An investigation disclosed that a cap on the steam system clean-out trap had popped off, releasing the steam into the room. The alarm was transmitted when condensation grounded the ADT Burglar Alarm wires.

The owner of the shop credited ADT with having prevented a large loss.

ELECTRIC IRON STARTS FIRE

One of the largest department stores in New Orleans escaped serious fire damage when an electric iron, left on after the store closed on the night of October 26, ignited merchandise in the second-floor millinery department.

When the outbreak occurred, at about 6:10 p.m., two sprinkler heads operated almost immediately, automatically transmitting an ADT waterflow alarm. Reaching the scene a few minutes later, firemen found that the sprinkler had checked the blaze, which was easily extinguished before it could grow to serious proportions.



Dallas Times Herald

CAME THE DAWN—and the damage to the upper floors of St. Paul's was clearly visible. Because of splendid rescue work by hospital personnel, fire and police departments and other agencies, no casualties were reported

ROOF BLAZE BEATEN

A defective motor on an exhaust fan in the roof of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Brake Beam Company plant started what might have been a serious blaze on the morning of October 5. Fast operation of the Aero Automatic Fire Alarm System, however, applied the "brakes" to its progress.

The fire occurred in a section of the roof just above the brake beam shop shortly after 8:00 a.m. The fire quickly spread along the roof and ceiling, but not before the Aero System transmitted an automatic alarm.

Buffalo firemen performed a commendable job in confining the blaze to a 100-foot section of the roof. In view of the nature of the outbreak, the loss was considered low.

MILL BLAZE CHECKED

A fire of undetermined origin recently caused slight damage to the top floor of a mill operated by the Puritan Mills, Atlanta, before being extinguished by firemen responding to an ADT water-flow alarm.

Several sprinkler heads fused when the fire broke out shortly after 5:30 a.m. Aided by the sprinkler system, the firemen had little trouble in gaining control of the outbreak. Most of the damage was to burlap bags stored in the mill.

WATCHMEN

WISE WATCHMAN

While making his rounds in the Richmond plant of the Philip Morris Company on a recent afternoon, Watchman Richerson discovered a fire around a motor on the third floor.

Wasting no time, Richerson operated a nearby ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box and admitted the firemen when they arrived a few minutes later.

The fire, which was quickly extinguished by the fire fighters, was of undetermined origin. The loss was slight.

SUFFERS PAINFUL INJURY

When Watchman Hamilton tripped over a railroad switch while making his rounds outside the plant of the Bar-

rett Company, Struthers, Ohio, early on the morning of October 23, a piece of upright steel, approximately an inch square, punctured his left leg. Despite the painful injury, Hamilton managed to notify the Youngstown ADT Central Station of his condition.

Guard Stevenson and a city ambulance raced to the plant where Hamilton was given immediate first aid and removed to a hospital. A relief watchman continued the rounds of the plant for the remainder of the morning.

At the hospital, several stitches were required to close the wound in Hamilton's leg. He was released later in the day and was able to return to duty in about a week.

INJURED IN FALL

Thanks to the vigilance of Allentown ADT Central Station operators, Watchman Moser of the Northampton National Bank, Easton, Pa., received prompt medical attention after he had fallen down a flight of stairs while making his 1:50 a.m. patrol of the bank on November 4.

When Moser's scheduled reporting signal became overdue, Easton police were notified and a bank official was summoned. After a short search, Moser was found at the bottom of the stairway, unable to walk.

The injured watchman was removed to a hospital and a relief man took over the patrol of the institution for the rest of the morning.



Wide World
'WHOLESALE' DESTRUCTION—Philadelphia firemen battle recent spectacular blaze which involved eighteen business establishments in wholesale produce district. Loss was \$1,000,000

DIDN'T NEED SPLINTS

ADT guards rushed to assist a Detroit watchman when he notified the Central Station that he had slipped and broken his artificial leg while making his rounds early on October 15.

One of the guards remained on the premises until arrangements were made for a relief watchman to patrol the plant until opening time.

ORGANIZATION

SERVICE EMBLEMS AWARDED

As of December 31, the following sixteen members of the ADT organization will have been awarded diamond emblems in token of twenty-five years of continuous service with the company:

H. BARANN, New York, Mat'ls. & Mfg.

C. A. FALLENTINE, San Francisco, Coml.

H. F. FERBER, Scranton, Oper.

F. GERNER, New York Acct'g.

M. HIBBITS, St. Louis, Plant.

W. L. HILLIGOSS, Lincoln, Oper.

E. MACHNIK, Chicago-Main, Oper.

J. H. ROGERS, Nashville, Oper.

W. D. ROLLISON, Springfield, Ohio, Oper.

C. A. ROSSER, Detroit, Plant.

MRS. H. K. SCHULTZ, New York Acct'g.

MRS. A. STARCKE, New York, Exec. Coml.

A. R. THEIN, Cleveland, Plant.

F. E. WALKER, Atlanta, Oper.

E. ZANDER, New York, Oper.

MISS B. ZERECKI, Detroit, Oper.

ANNOUNCE RETIREMENTS

Ellen A. Kimble, joint ADT-Western Union clerk in the Oshkosh, Wisc., office, has retired on pension effective September 1, according to an announcement by the Benefit Fund Committee.

Miss Kimble, who joined the organization on September 9, 1918, resides at 48 Jefferson Avenue in Oshkosh.

The Committee also announced the retirement on pension of Robert O. Liess, ADT commercial representative in Chicago, effective October 1.

Mr. Liess joined ADT on November 1, 1931. He now lives at 2611 West Agatite Avenue, Chicago 25.

THE ROSTRUM

Devoted to Open Discussion of Protection Problems

SANTA CLAUS IN REVERSE

*St. Nick's Traditional Route Only Too Often Presents
An Invitation for a Devastating Raid by the Fire Demon*

By LEROY BRONSON

This is the time of year when the chimney figures prominently in happy fiction. In the famous words of Clement Moore: "The stockings were hung by the chimney with care." And they still are, in virtually every home in the nation.

Unfortunately, however, the "care" seems to stop right there. The majority of chimneys and flues receive very little attention, despite newspaper accounts of tragic fires in which they also figure prominently.

In spite of legislation in many communities, prohibiting the use of hazardous materials and methods, defective chimneys, flues and heating equipment continue to cause numerous tragic fires.

We could have played Santa Claus to a host of needy children throughout the world with the money that was wasted because of such fires in the years 1946 to 1950. During that period, according to the National Fire Protection Association, there were 506,100 fires, attributed to "chimneys, flues, defective or overheated," "sparks on roofs," "defective or overheated heating equipment," which cost \$445,600,000 and thousands of lives!

This death and destruction, contrary to general belief, is not limited to private homes. It is a sad fact, however, that fires of this nature occur with the highest frequency in habitational occupancies.

Just to give you an idea: There were 600,000 building fires in the United States during the year 1950. And 310,000 of them occurred in homes. Of these, 21 per cent, or 65,100, were caused by defective flues or chimneys. Eighteen per cent of the 51,500 apartment house fires were attributable to the same cause; one-fifth of the 14,000 boarding and rooming house fires; one-seventh of the 11,500 hotel fires.

That's not all, either. There were



DEFECT CAUSED DISASTER—Nine Kenyon College (Ohio) students lost their lives on February 27, 1949, when a defect in this chimney allowed smoke and fire to enter floor and wall spaces of 122-year-old dormitory. Eventually a hole was burned through the first-floor ceiling and the blaze consumed the building in a matter of minutes

3,100 fires in churches, 44 per cent of which were caused by defective chimneys and kindred appurtenances; 2,900 school and college fires with 232 of them chalked up to chimneys. On the same slate belong 9 per cent of the 2,700 amusement hall fires, 15 per cent of the 1,500 hospital and institution blazes, 21 per cent of the club fires, 18 per cent of the blazes in prisons and asylums, besides well over one-fourth of all the fires which occurred in museums, art galleries, libraries and historic buildings.

Fire chiefs and safety engineers are keenly aware of the chimney and flue hazard. Bitter experience has taught them what the annual drop in mercury is sure to usher in. They look forward with apprehension to the fortnights before Christmas, knowing that this is the season when heating equipment will be overworked and that under such circumstances soot accumulations may ignite and structural chimney defects reveal

themselves—often too late for remedy.

Chimney fires are due primarily to accumulations of soot caused by incomplete combustion. They can be prevented for the most part by proper cleaning. This is best done by expert chimney cleaners using brushes or vacuum equipment. Chemicals applied directly to the fire are not effective nor recommended.

The four most common defects which permit chimney fires to spread beyond the chimney are: (1) falling mortar, which soon results in open joints and loose bricks; (2) cracks caused by settlement; (3) improper and loose-fitting smoke-pipe connections; (4) unused smoke-pipe openings left open or stuffed with flammable material.

What's the cure? First—proper construction through rigid enforcement of building codes, with emphasis on retroactive clauses to make existing chimneys safe. Second, proper maintenance, which means frequent inspections of chimneys and stacks—and periodic cleaning.

There are several simple tests which can be made to determine whether a chimney or flue is defective. One ready method is to hold the hand against the chimney while it is in use. If it is too hot for comfort, no combustible material should be permitted to touch the chimney walls.

If mortar has begun to fall out from between the bricks, openings may be expected to develop all the way through the wall. If an ice pick or other sharp instrument can be pushed all the way through, the chimney needs rebuilding.

Sometimes, however, chimney defects occur in out-of-the-way places, such as attics and basements, and often they are completely or partially concealed. On this account discovery may be difficult, even in well-regulated properties where inspections are frequent. Under such conditions the best safeguard is an automatic protection system that will give notification before the outbreak can become dangerous.

Such systems are invaluable in most types of commercial and industrial properties. They are vitally important in hospitals, hotels, orphan asylums, schools, colleges, churches, amusement halls and other places where lives must be protected. Incidentally, no such occupancy protected by ADT Central Station Service has ever experienced either serious damage or a loss of life from fire.



PEACE ON EARTH!

Though the Christmas message may seem out of place in today's world, all of us can do our part to make it come true by helping America's Defense Program. Join Payroll Savings and buy Defense Bonds! Remember—Peace Is for the Strong! Only by fighting inflation and helping to pay for our defense measures, can we *keep* America strong. So start on Payroll Savings today!