

The

ADT

TRANSMITTER

vol. XXIII, no. 5 — MAY — 1951



• LETTERS •

Feeling of Security

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

Once again we wish to thank you for your competent service. Twice within as many months ADT service at our place of business saved us from large losses.

In both instances your service was so prompt that the men attempting to break in were caught by the police before they had an opportunity to handle as much as a single piece of merchandise.

With your protection we leave our business at night with the feeling of security and the knowledge that upon opening in the morning we will find nothing disturbed.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMS

Williams Loan Company
Portland, Maine

Protection Pays Off

AMERICAN DISTRICT TELEGRAPH CO.:

Reporting on the fire of April 3 in the cab of one of our freight elevators, we are happy to say the loss was quite small due to the quick response of our own trained fire brigade plus the general fire department.

All alarms were in perfect order and there were no lost motions anywhere along the line. This could have developed into a real loss had the flames reached our stock floors, as you know.

ADT protection certainly pays off on occasions of this kind.

W. L. KITES

Butler Brothers
Minneapolis, Minn.

On the Cover

Covered with chemical foam, these firemen presented a grotesque appearance during fire-fighting operations at April 24 blaze on bulkhead at Pier 32, Erie Basin, Brooklyn. Fire started in newly unloaded shipment of naphthalene and spread to 400 tons of cork. Black smoke, rising 1,000 feet into the air, could be seen for miles. Two firemen were injured.

Another photo of the fire appears on page 6. N. Y. Herald Tribune 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.

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 •

The Solution Is Supervision

Automatic sprinkler systems, according to the National Fire Protection Association, have a long-time record of 96.1 per cent satisfactory performance in extinguishing fires or holding them in check until the arrival of fire-fighting forces.

The most frequent cause of unsatisfactory sprinkler performance, as revealed by N.F.P.A. sprinkler tables, is closed sprinkler control valves. These account for more than one-third of all the instances reported.

Valves are frequently closed to permit repairs or alterations and sometimes are forgotten. Often they are closed to prevent freezing or water damage. Occasionally a valve is closed to abet arson.

One of the largest cotton mill fires on record got its start because a sprinkler valve had not been opened again after being closed to permit minor repairs.

A common occurrence is premature closing of sprinkler valves by well-meaning persons who, thinking the fire has been extinguished, take it upon themselves to shut off the flow of water.

In New England last year a watchman smelled smoke and heard the sprinkler alarm bell ringing. Failing to locate the fire he closed the sectional valve controlling the sprinklers. Later, flames broke out of a wall opening and spread to the roof. The fire department, belatedly summoned, found the flames far beyond its control. The building was destroyed with an estimated loss of \$700,000.

There are innumerable fires on record in which the circumstances were similar and that might have been avoided if proper precautions had been taken. They illustrate the importance of keeping sprinkler valves open and summoning the fire department immediately and automatically whenever the sprinkler system operates.

The record of such fires strikingly stresses the need for continuous supervision of automatic sprinkler systems. When this is accomplished through Central Station Sprinkler Supervisory and Waterflow Alarm Service, the danger of delayed alarms, closed valves and other crippling conditions is at the minimum.

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The ADT TRANSMITTER

VOL. XXIII

MAY, 1951

No. 5

SPARK STARTS MILL BLAZE

Waterflow Alarm Summons Firemen as Sprinkler System Operates for Blaze Close to 30 Tons of Wood Shavings

Summoned to the Foster-Lothman Mill by an ADT waterflow alarm on the night of April 2, Oshkosh, Wis., firemen prevented possible heavy damage by extinguishing a roaring blaze in a dust collector and conveyor system before thirty tons of wood shavings could become involved.

A plant fireman, the only employee on duty at the time of the outbreak, was firing the boiler when flying sparks ignited the rafters above the boiler shortly after 10:00 p.m.

As the fireman attempted to notify the fire department by telephone, two sprinkler heads fused over the blaze, causing an ADT waterflow alarm which notified the firemen automatically.

Meanwhile, a draft pulled the fire into

a dust collector and conveyor system which leads to a sawdust storage vault. The vault contained thirty tons of highly flammable wood shavings, a by-product of the mill's woodworking operations. The shavings were stored in the vault and used for firing the boiler in combination with wood blocks or coal.

As the blaze struck the almost full vault, seven more sprinkler heads opened, temporarily checking the advance of the flames. When the fire fighters, under the direction of Chief Leo J. Girens, arrived on the scene, several men removed nearly a carload of shavings from the vault while others took up positions on the roof and in the boiler room.

Heavy streams of water were played

on the dust collector and conveyor system from many different directions. At one point the firemen appeared to have gained control of the outbreak only to see it flare up again at another point along the conveyor system.

At 12:44 a.m., the blaze was finally declared out and the last company returned to its station. During the long fire-fighting operation, one fireman was injured and had to be removed to Mercy Hospital for treatment.

Back at the mill, Foster-Lothman officials, summoned to the scene by ADT operators, estimated that the damage caused by fire and smoke was only a few hundred dollars.

PORKHOUSE HAUL HALTED

Less than three minutes after a couple of St. Louis burglars forced an ADT-protected door of the Laclede Porkhouse shortly after midnight on April 2, several police officers arrived on the scene and made the capture.

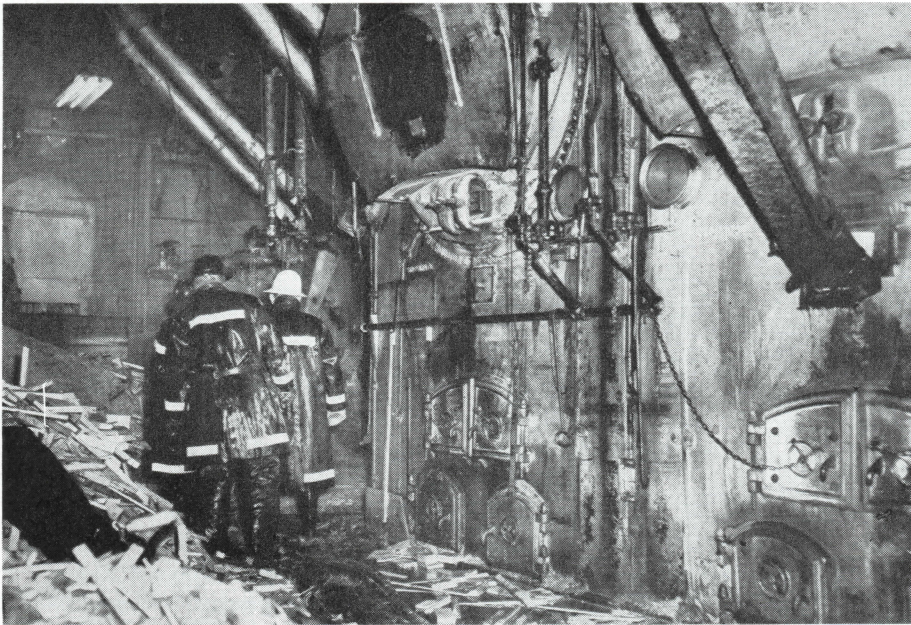
When confronted by the police, the burglars, their pockets bulging with silver, quickly surrendered. An investigation revealed that small quantities of cash and liquor were missing, leading the police to believe that a third person took part in the burglary.

FOURTH-ESTATE FIRE

Employees of the Portland (Ore.) Journal unwittingly cooked up some "hot news" on the morning of April 6.

While a number of grease-covered lead plates were being placed in a large kettle, the contents of the pot ignited. Flames were drawn through an overhead vent to the roof which soon became involved.

As the pot blazed up, one of the men quickly operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box. Responding firemen checked the blaze without difficulty. The roof was only slightly damaged.



Oshkosh Daily Northwestern

START OF THE "SAWDUST TRAIL" — Fire Chief Leo J. Girens (white helmet) and two assistants shown inspecting boiler room of the Foster-Lothman Mill following blaze on April 2. Sprinklers opened to check flames and ADT waterflow alarm summoned firemen before fire could feed on thirty tons of sawdust

BURGLARY

ON THEIR WAY 'HOME'

ADT Alarm Paves the Way Back To All-Too-Familiar Prison Cells

Alerted by an ADT burglar alarm, Lincoln police officers captured a pair of middle-aged habitual criminals intent



Rollin Curtis

Lou Wilson

on looting the yard of the Northwestern Metal Company on the night of March 15.

Shortly before 9:00 p.m., the men, later identified as Lou Wilson and Rollin Curtis, drove up to the yard in a truck. In forcing their way through an ADT-protected opening in the fence, they transmitted a burglar alarm.

Cruising in the immediate vicinity when the alarm came in, a pair of police officers made the arrest without difficulty. The culprits were ready to drive off with a quantity of aluminum, copper tubing and old iron when the police arrived.

Wilson, who revealed that he had spent little more than thirteen of his fifty-nine years out of jail, was sentenced to five years in the Nebraska State Prison. Curtis, 55 years old and a four-time loser, received a similar sentence.

BARRED FROM BAR-X

Putting the finishing touches on an all-night drinking bout recently, one tipsy but still thirsty citizen of Salt Lake City pushed his way through the front door of the Bar-X Inn and pounded the counter for service.

When none was forthcoming, the slighted customer muttered something about taking his business elsewhere and was just about to leave when he found himself surrounded by the law.

He identified himself to the officers as "Charley." He didn't take the news that

he had caused an ADT burglar alarm as hard as he took the information that the bar was closed, even though the door had inadvertently been left unlocked.

When the owner, Jack Tedesco, arrived on the scene and reported that nothing had been disturbed, Charley was dropped off at his home with instructions to sleep it off.

'FOWL' PLANS FIZZLED

Although they were never more serious, Elbert Gibson and David Johnson appeared to be a couple of April Fool's Day practical jokers as they sprinted down a Kansas City alley near Don Gaines' Poultry Store with seven dressed turkeys slung over their shoulders.

There was, however, no humor in it for police officers who had been alerted by an ADT burglar alarm from the market at 2:02 p.m. Spotting the fleeing pair sprinting down the alley, the officers fired a single warning shot and the burglars pulled up short.

After returning the displaced gobblers to the refrigerator, the police reconstructed the attempted burglary. The burglars had hammered out a hole in an unprotected rear wall and made their way to the refrigerator. In opening the refrigerator door, they unknowingly transmitted the alarm.

NOVEL ALARM

When St. Louis police officers responded to an ADT burglar alarm from the Morris Novelty Store on the night of April 10, they discovered the front window smashed and an unoccupied automobile among the debris.

An investigation revealed that the car belonged to a fellow police officer who was off duty at the time. He had stopped at a red light when a holdup man approached and demanded his cash.

When the officer reached for his pistol, the gunman opened fire, a bullet striking the policeman in the leg. Despite his wound, he opened the door and attempted to chase the culprit.

Its brakes off, the unmanned car rolled down a slight grade and crashed through the ADT-protected store window. No one was injured when the car demolished the window. No loss of merchandise was reported.

CIGAR MONEY SAVED

Prompt response to an ADT burglar alarm by an ADT guard and Seattle police officers on a recent morning was credited with saving the owners of the Spring Wholesale Cigar Company a considerable amount of money.

When the alarm signal registered in the Central Station at 2:46 a.m., police were notified and Guard Johnson was dispatched to the plant. Johnson and one of the officers quickly captured a young boy in the act of stuffing a quantity of money into a cigar box. A few minutes later a second youth, his pockets bulging with cash, was found under a desk in a back room.

An investigation disclosed that the youths, both 16 years old, had forced open a strongbox containing more than \$2,400. The boys had gained entrance by forcing an ADT-protected door.

LOOKOUTS LIGHT OUT

While two young accomplices remained outside as lookouts, a 14-year-old Long Island City lad entered the A. L. Beerman Jewelry Store early on the morning of February 17. The next persons he saw were several police officers and ADT guards.

The officers raced to the scene when an ADT burglar alarm was received in the Central Station at 3:58 a.m. The two lookouts promptly vanished, leaving their "pal" to shift for himself.

The youngster told police that he and two other boys had used a sledge hammer and crowbar to smash a hole through an unprotected rear wall.

What he didn't know was that while prowling about the store, he had betrayed his presence by passing through the beam of an ADT Invisible Ray Device.

UNCHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

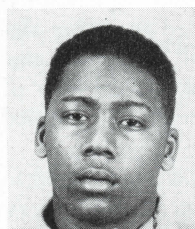
An attempt to rob the ADT-protected poor box in St. Mary's Church in Nashville on the night of March 31, was thwarted by police officers who were parked outside when the alarm registered in the Central Station.

When the last parishioner had left the church, the thief approached the poor box. At 10:26 p.m. the alarm was transmitted and at 10:27 the culprit was on his way to police headquarters.

'OLD PRO' TRIPPED UP

Commits 29 Burglaries in Month; ADT Protection Thwarts 30th Job

After committing twenty-nine burglaries in the Akron area in less than a month, 19-year-old Harold Sanford



ran into a snag on his thirtieth attempt. On the morning of March 21, Sanford went through an unprotected window of the Hopkins & Kipp Auto Electric Company and started prowling around. A minute later he inadvertently actuated an ADT Burglar Alarm Device. Almost before he knew it, nine policemen and three detectives had converged on the scene.

Realizing that the building was surrounded, Sanford wisely surrendered. When questioned, he told the amazed officers that, in addition to his twenty-nine recent thefts, he had been arrested twenty-three times on burglary charges as a juvenile.

As a climax, he had been sent to a state hospital for a year's treatment. He was released last December. Sanford said that he had resumed his criminal activities because he had been unable to find a job.

FIRE

LAUNDRY LOSSES LIGHT

Troubles 'Ironed Out' by Firemen After Watchmen Transmit Alarms

The prompt operation of ADT Manual Fire Alarm Boxes by two Los Angeles watchmen was credited with preventing possible heavy damage to their respective buildings when fires broke out recently in quantities of linen.

On the evening of March 30, the watchman of the American Linen Company lost no time in making use of an ADT Box when he smelled smoke at about 8:30.

Firemen who responded discovered a blaze under a rear canopy involving ten baskets of soiled linen. They succeeded in putting out the blaze in quick time. The linen was destroyed but there was only minor damage to the building. It

is believed that spontaneous ignition was responsible for the outbreak.

While making his rounds in the Craig Laundry on the morning of April 10, the watchman operated an ADT Box when he discovered a fire in a pile of linen on two tables on the first floor.

Employees used a hose line to douse the outbreak until firemen arrived.

BLIND STUDENTS SAFE

Students at the Michigan Blind Institute in Saginaw had little cause for concern when a fire broke out in a straw-curing room on February 8.

When the fire occurred, it was immediately detected and reported by the ADT Aero Automatic Fire Alarm System. Firemen who responded made short work of the outbreak.

PARKCHESTER PROTECTED

Residents of the forty-million-dollar Parkchester housing development of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in the Bronx, N. Y., witnessed an efficient fire-fighting operation on the evening of April 1 when a blaze broke out in a first-floor apartment.

The firemen, summoned by the operation of an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box, raced into the apartment and removed a flaming sofa before the blaze could spread.

LOCKER ROOM OUTBREAK

A carelessly discarded cigarette was believed to have started a blaze in a women's locker room on the third floor of the Pillsbury Mills, Buffalo, shortly before midnight on March 28.

The outbreak occurred in a metal waste basket which had been placed close to the locker room wall. When a single sprinkler head fused, transmitting an ADT waterflow alarm, firemen were quickly dispatched to the scene.

Employing a single booster line, the fire fighters made short work of the flames. There was slight fire damage to the wall, and some water damage to flour and grain on the floor below.

SPONTANEOUS OUTBREAK

A few hours before the plant of the Valley Shoe Corporation in St. Louis opened its doors on a recent morning, a blaze broke out in bales of waste paper outside of the shipping room.

Firemen were quickly dispatched when a sprinkler head located in the shipping room opened at 5:10 a.m., automatically transmitting an alarm to the ADT Central Station. The prompt action of the fire department prevented serious damage. Most of the reported loss represented charring of the shipping room doors.

An official stated that the outbreak was caused by spontaneous ignition.



FIRE FATAL TO WATCHMAN — Chicago firemen with help of passersby did their best to fight this hot blaze which consumed the frame building of a metal flower box manufacturer on April 15. The company watchman perished in the fire

Wide World

PERILOUS REPAIRS

Sparks from a drill started a blaze which flashed across the ceiling of the garage building of Glendenning Motorways, Inc., St. Paul, on the afternoon of April 6, but firemen, summoned by an ADT waterflow alarm, succeeded in preventing heavy damage.

Workmen were using the drill to repair a leaky gasoline tank when the gasoline ignited. Employees fought the blaze with hand extinguishers but they were unable to prevent the fire from spreading. Operation of fifty-six sprinkler heads caused an ADT waterflow alarm, automatically notifying the fire department.

The fire fighters laid two hose lines before bringing the outbreak under control. Officials of the trucking concern announced that the loss was less than \$1000.

HOTEL BLAZE HALTED

Smoking in bed was responsible for a blaze which destroyed a mattress and caused slight damage from smoke and water in a second-floor room of a Chicago hotel on the afternoon of April 4.

Noticing smoke pouring from the room, an employee operated an ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box to summon the fire department. The careless guest escaped unharmed.

COTTON BALE BLAZES

When a bale of cotton accidentally fell against a wall switch in the plant of the Stover Bedding & Manufacturing Company in Salt Lake City on March 20, the switch, through some defect, short-circuited and the cotton burst into flames.

A quick-thinking employee ran to the nearest ADT Manual Fire Alarm Box and turned in an alarm. Firemen were on the scene within a few minutes and prevented serious damage.

BURGLAR ALARM PINCH-HITS

When Minneapolis police and ADT guards responded to a burglar alarm from the plant of the Physicians & Hospitals Supply Company just after midnight on February 18, they discovered that the building was full of smoke.

A police squad car immediately ra-

died for the fire department. Firemen found that the blaze had been caused by the backfiring of an oil-burning furnace in the basement.

A pipe leading from the furnace to the chimney and several bricks in the chimney had been blown out. The explosive force broke the ADT-protected windows, transmitting a burglar alarm to the Central Station.

The flames shot up a ventilating shaft behind the furnace, emerging at the roof. The fire department laid three hose lines and put in a tough one-hour battle before the blaze was completely out.

WATCHMEN

SUFFERS FATAL ATTACK

While talking with a cleaning woman in the plant of the City Lumber Company, Bridgeport, Conn., early on the morning of April 3, Watchman Lawrence McBride suddenly collapsed.

Unable to rouse the stricken watchman, the woman notified the ADT Central Station which summoned the police and dispatched Guard Arthur Morrill to the scene.

Police officers called for an ambulance, but the doctor from Emergency Hospital upon his arrival pronounced the 67-year-old McBride dead of a heart attack.



Acme Photo
A REAL "CORKER"—Naphthalene and cork combined to provide some fancy fuel for a blaze that broke out in a storage yard behind Pier 32, Brooklyn, on April 24. Firemen fought the unusually smoky fire with chemical foam

STRICKEN IN ELEVATOR

Watchman Stanley Rasim of the P. Lorillard Company, Jersey City, suffered a fainting spell while operating an elevator on a recent evening, causing it to stall between the third and fourth floors.

Guards dispatched to investigate when the watchman's scheduled reporting signal to the ADT Central Station became overdue found him lying on the floor of the elevator and immediately notified the police.

After the elevator had been raised to the fourth-floor landing, Rasim was removed by the police officers and placed in an ambulance which took him to the Medical Center Hospital.

Although the watchman was in a state of shock when rescued, it was reported that his condition was not critical.

TRAPPED IN SCRAP

While patrolling the I. J. Fox Building in Cleveland early on a recent morning, the company's watchman heard a noise in the basement and quietly notified the ADT Central Station.

A few minutes later, police officers cautiously descended the cellar stairs, with guns poised for action. Curled up in a basket of scrap fur was their quarry, a vagrant who obviously was in no mood to resist.

Looking for a comfortable place to spend the night, he had entered the building through an unprotected opening in the basement and promptly settled down.

The "visitor" was removed to headquarters where he was booked on a charge of vagrancy.

CRIPPLING ACCIDENT

After taking some target practice outside the Z. C. M. I. Warehouse in Salt Lake City on a recent Sunday afternoon, Watchman Earl Miller accidentally shot himself in the leg when he replaced the pistol in its holster.

Painfully making his way back to the warehouse, Miller notified the ADT Central Station of his condition. Operators immediately dispatched police officers who applied first-aid treatment and removed Miller to a hospital.

An examination revealed that the .32-caliber bullet had entered the thigh and emerged above the knee.

THE ROSTRUM

Devoted to Open Discussion of Protection Problems

THE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE

Properly Designed Fire Walls and Fire Doors Often Are Effective in Halting the Advance of a Raging Blaze

By WILLIAM EVANS

At an Army Base in Oakland, Calif., a soldier doing guard duty felt the impulse to touch his cigarette lighter to a burlap sack. The result of this bit of whimsy was a \$4,153,000 conflagration involving stores of clothing, food, drums of oil, solvents, paint and other highly combustible materials.

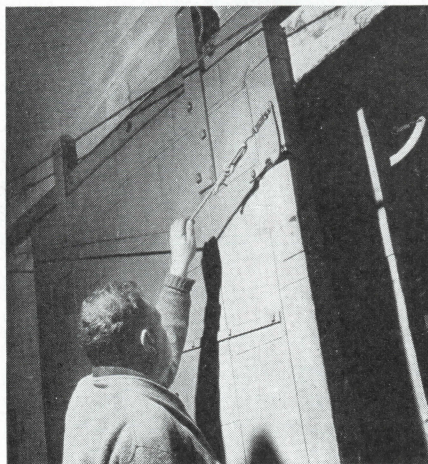
This was clearly no case of belated discovery. But because of the total lack of fire walls and sprinklers, the 151,200-square-foot floor area of the building rapidly became one mammoth bonfire which burned for four days despite the efforts of twenty-one engine companies and seven fire boats.

This is one of the classic examples of the fallacy of excessive undivided areas, yet there are thousands of instances on a lesser scale where the lack of fire walls or other barriers has made it possible for the fire to gain widespread proportions.

Time and again the reports of large-loss fires mention this point: \$659,000 loss in a bonded warehouse in Seymour, Tex.—\$595,00 loss in a fruit packing plant in Cashmere, Wash.—\$575,000 loss in a corn shelling plant near Champaign, Ill.—\$1,255,000 damage to a metalworking plant in Detroit when 44,800 square feet of floor area became involved—and so on *ad infinitum*.

As a matter of record, out of 218 fires involving losses of \$250,000 or more, analyzed by the National Fire Protection Association, "inadequate fire limitation" was a vital factor in 188 cases. In most instances belated discovery and the absence of automatic fire protection gave the fire its start. But in the final analysis, the hopeless extent of the blaze upon the firemen's arrival was due to the enormous amount of fuel upon which the flames had to feed.

In some of these large-loss fires the value of adequate fire walls has been graphically demonstrated. A terminal



IMPORTANT PORTALS — are your fire doors. They should be inspected regularly to be sure that they are not jammed or their paths obstructed in any way. Fusible link between rope and hook on door should never be removed

warehouse in Buffalo, N. Y., suffered a \$445,000 loss from an outbreak which started on a loading dock. However, this was only a fraction of what the loss might have been had not a good fire wall confined it to a 400-foot section of a 2,200-foot-long building.

Given a good fire wall, the next important thing is to protect any openings in it with adequate fire doors. There are numerous cases on record where heat has penetrated so-called fire doors to ignite combustibles on the other side. In these instances the doors obviously did not meet underwriters' specifications. And there are more cases where automatic doors failed to function—or where doors have been blocked open, thereby nullifying the whole purpose of the safeguard.

In Moro, Oreg., for instance, all of the employees of a grain elevator went out to lunch, leaving a fire door open in the feed room. Unfortunately, a fire started there at that inopportune moment. It swept into the elevator without opposition and the final score was \$329,000 in damages. Similarly, blocked-

open fire doors accounted for a \$350,000 loss in a mercantile establishment in San Rafael, Calif.—for a \$445,000 loss in Little Rock, Ark., and so on.

This bad habit is quite common in commercial and industrial occupancies—even in hotels—because employees do not like to open doors repeatedly in their comings and goings. However, it is significant that in just the three instances cited in the above paragraph this aversion cost \$1,124,000—a pretty fancy price to pay for such a small convenience.

The answer to this particular problem is simple: constant supervision and education, from the top down. In Wisconsin, one time, I complained to the manager of a hotel that the fire doors to an inside fire escape were blocked open on the floors above and below. He just gave me that withering look reserved for cranks, turned on his heel and went back to his office. Yet here was a good fire-retardant building rendered helpless in the face of fire by management itself!

As The Factory Mutual Record said recently, "fire walls are the last line of defense. When a fire is out of control, the only sure way to stop it is by an impassible barrier." For many years a twelve-inch brick wall was considered the minimum acceptable standard for such a barrier. The cost of erecting such walls has increased tremendously, however, and the trend is toward use of less expensive, more quickly erected materials such as concrete block, wherever their fire resistance is adequate for the particular installation.

Today accurate test data on the fire resistance of many other materials, more practical and less expensive, is available, making it possible to design walls to meet the estimated duration and intensity of any fire likely to occur.

It is quite evident from the records year after year that the absence of these fire barriers is a costly omission which, if the fire gets off to a good start, makes the fire department nearly powerless. It follows, therefore, "as the night the day," that the more excessive your undivided areas, the greater is the need for Central Station-supervised automatic sprinklers or automatic fire detection and alarm systems to combat the threat of belated discovery of fire or delay in notifying the fire department.

INDUSTRIES SUFFER AS FIRE LOSSES INCREASE!



Ed Heavey Photo
TIMBER WAS TINDER — as flames leaped skyward during spectacular blaze which swept the Lutz Lumber Yard in Brooklyn recently



Wide World
GETTING CLEAR FOR CRASH—Four Richmond, Ind., firemen deftly haul hose out of danger area as walls of fire-ravaged steel fabricating plant begin to topple. Blaze caused \$400,000 in damages before being extinguished



Houston Press
ALL PITCHED IN—to get paint out. Employees of the C. Jim Stewart & Stevenson Company in Houston removed potential fuel from the path of warehouse blaze on March 13



Acme
STARTED BY ARSONIST—Bryn Mawr, Pa., firemen put up a rugged battle to overcome this warehouse blaze on March 3. One volunteer fireman was hospitalized after a 40-foot fall. Police arrested man who admitted setting fire

Acme
QUITE A CONCOCTION—Beaver, Pa., firemen poured tons of water on blazing alcohol to control this roaring fire at the Kobuta Synthetic Rubber plant on March 8. The outbreak was touched off by an explosion of a tank containing butadiene, a gas used in the production of synthetic rubber. Two employees of the Koppers Company, which operates the factory for the government, suffered burns. Many townspeople assisted the fire fighters in bringing the stubborn blaze under control. Officials of the concern estimated that the damage to the fire-swept unit, one of four at the plant, would run into millions of dollars

