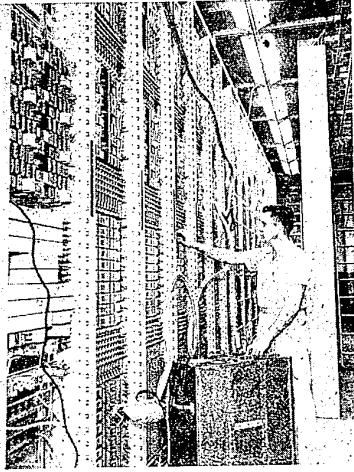




**LAST MINUTE** preparations for the coming of dial telephone service August 21 include plenty of paper work in the Farmington business office. Here, left to right, Mrs. Carol



**WESTERN ELECTRIC** employee, Frank Huber, makes final tests at the "trunk relay rack" which is part of the massive array of equipment in the new Michigan Bell Telephone Company dial office building at Powers Road and Grand River.



**OUTSIDE PLANT** forces of Michigan Bell are busy too as the date for inauguration of dial service here approaches. Splicers, Lee Jones (left), and Richard Pilon are checking circuit continuity before closing a large splice in cable to new building.



**IN THE OLD** operating room, to be taken out of service with the coming of dial service early Sunday morning, Miss Rosemary Comfort, chief operator, and Mrs. Twila Hogan, review plans for discontinuing the manually-operated switchboards.



**IMPOSING ARRAY** of batteries in the basement of the new dial office building stands final inspection by Michigan Bell's Paul Robbins in preparation for inauguration of dial service at 2:01 a.m., August 21.

## Michigan Bell Prepares For New Dial System

### Farmington Will Tie Into Nationwide Scheme When Converted August 21

Telephone numbers in Farmington will become part of a nationwide scheme when the exchange is converted to dial service at 2:01 a.m., August 21, according to R. D. Maurer, area manager for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

He explained a nationwide uniform numbering system becomes essential when an exchange is converted to enable telephone users to dial many long distance calls themselves.

He said the plan calls for division of the United States and Canada into about 90 numbering plan areas, each having a three-digit code.

The State of Michigan, for example, has been divided into three areas. The southeastern section of the state has been assigned the code number 313. The remaining eastern half of the lower peninsula has been assigned the 317 code. All the western half of Michigan and the Upper Peninsula

have been assigned the 616 code. Within each code area — 313 here — customers have been assigned telephone numbers with non-conflicting office names, Maurer explained.

When the new dial system begins working here early Sunday morning, August 21, Farmington one- and two-party customers will be dialing many long distance calls direct to telephones around the country, Maurer indicated.

He cited the case of a Farmington customer placing a call to San Francisco, California. The user would merely dial the code 415 as listed in the information booklet he received in the mail.

By dialing "415" the customer will reach the San Francisco area. Then it is only necessary to dial the first two letters of the central office name (any of thirty-one listed in the booklet) and the five numerals to be connected to the San Francisco telephone.

Maurer said the system automatically selects the most direct route to the called telephone. If all circuits in the first route are busy, the equipment can test a predetermined network of alternate routes and select an available circuit in about one second.

No amount of ability is of the slightest avail without honor.

### Selection Of Exchange Name Poses Complex Problems For Michigan Bell

The selection of the name that goes with a telephone number is accepted readily enough by telephone users but poses some different problems for Michigan Bell Telephone Company engineers.

Designations like that assigned here, "Gleeneleaf," are the result of careful selection by engineers who not only must consider the immediate area but the effect of the numbers in the telephone scheme as a whole, state and national.

In the first place, the sequence of name and numbers is very important since the seven dial pulls from a number each set in motion a series of actions by the dial switches in the central office. These switching actions must accurately reflect the dialing of the user to establish a connection with the line being called.

The first two letters — "GL" for Gleeneleaf — are considered numbers by Bell engineers. The entire seven-digit number is established first, then the first two are converted into letters of the assigned name. So the first two letters must then be completed with other letters to make up an understandable word.

Suggested word lists are provided by experts of the Bell System headquarters in New York who are concerned with the development of a uniform numbering system applicable throughout the United States and Canada.

All of the Bell companies are using words from this list when ever possible.

The lists were assembled from suggestions made by telephone offices in various cities and sent to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

There are only about 500 usable

### FEW PRECAUTIONS COULD PREVENT MANY HOME FIRES

No homeowner or family can take too many precautions to prevent the outbreak or spread of fire which, in the U. S. alone takes a toll of more than 10,000 human lives annually; the financial loss for the year 1953 was well over \$600,000,000.

Statistics show there is a steady increase in fire losses in the United States since 1938; from 1938 to 1942 the increase was gradual, then it moved up sharply until 1949. In that year and again in 1950 a decline in losses appeared only to resume rising again in 1951.

These staggering figures could be greatly reduced if the housewife and the members of her family would adhere to the following simple rules:

- Never allow rubbish, such as paper, rags, old clothing, boxes, etc., to accumulate in closets and unused rooms.
- Never run stove pipes through a wooden partition or through the roof without proper protection.
- Never allow furnace, steam or hot water pipes to come in contact with wood.
- Never put up gas brackets so they can be swung against wooden window casings or close to curtains.
- Never put ashes in a wooden receptacle.
- Never allow smoking in proximity to inflammable materials.
- Never take an open light to examine a gas meter or into a closet.
- Never smoke in bed or read in bed by candle or lamp light.
- Use sand and not water to extinguish an oil fire, water spreads it.
- When gasoline, benzene or naphtha are used, keep same in approved safety cans.

### New Library Hours To Be Initiated

The Farmington Library Board announced this week that longer library hours will be initiated beginning September 1. The change is being made to meet requests from various residents for longer hours of service so that all might have an opportunity to make use of the library's facilities.

The library will be open at a variety of hours so that all may be served. Hours will be as follows:

FARMINGTON LIBRARY HOURS	
Monday	10:00 to 9:00
Wednesday	10:00 to 9:00
Thursday	10:00 to 9:00
Friday	10:00 to 9:00
Saturday	10:00 to 5:00
Effective September 1, 1955	

### FLYING DUTCHMAN

"The Flying Dutchman" is a name given by sailors to a phantom ship said to cruise in storms off the Cape of Good Hope. According to legend a Dutch sea captain, bound homeward from the East Indies, met, with heavy headwinds and storms as he attempted to round the Cape. Begged by his men to turn back he stubbornly refused to do so, swearing an oath that he'd "beat around the Cape if he had to beat there till the Day of Judgment." He was taken at his word and doomed to forever beat against four winds in storms off the Cape.

WATCH For The



of Another **BLUE BELL Super Market** at 27600 West 8 Mile Road  
Former National Food Store