

JUNIOR SUPERVISOR MARY PAFTUCK REVISITS BURNED-OUT SWITCHBOARD AFTER A FIRE WHICH DESTROYED RIVER GROVE'S TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING

PHONELESS TOWN The people of River Grove, III. find their community life stalled when the switchboards burn out

The charred, useless telephone switchboard pictured above confronted the town of River Grove, Ill. last month with a fact of modern life few Americans appreciate: civilized man is virtually paralyzed without his mechanical contrivances.

The fire which burned out this switchboard left River Grove phoneless, and the town's commerce slowed to a walk. All transactions, from buying a pound of butter to a ton of coal, were performed by personal appearance only.

But while firemen were still hosing down the embers of the building, the Illinois Bell Telephone Company went right to work. A small switchboard

borrowed from a factory was set up in the nearby business office to service phone booths which were rushed into town (next page). A semipermanent office also was begun at once (p. 30). A messenger system was organized to deliver emergency notices and transport persons to the outdoor telephone booths. All this bustling efficiency, however, was not without its critics. A weary railroad switchman, welcoming the breakdown as a guarantee of a long sleep at home unbroken by emergency calls from the yard, went peacefully to bed. As he settled himself down, a telephone company messenger arrived with a message to get back to work.



### Benny's blots black out romance

Benny oughta know better! Blackheads hinder romance, no matter how sincere the heart is. And something can be done about these little obstacles to popularity that generally come from improper cleansing. Here's what to do:

Spread on a little Pompeian Milk Massage Cream. Massage vigorously. That clean-looking pink cream be-comes an oily dirt-grey. It removes the surface accumulation of oily dirt from pore orifices, and aids in the mechanical removal of blackheads and similar skin blemishes...leaving your skin glowing with life and color ... radiantly clean.

Less than 2c a treatment A Pompeian Massage costs less than 2c a treatment. At drug and toiletry counters everywhere.



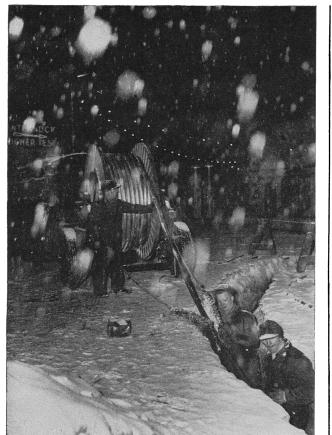
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#### Phoneless Town CONTINUED



IN 5° COLD a new cable is laid in a River Grove lumberyard for the new office. The equipment for it left a New Jersey factory a few hours after the fire.



**OUTDOOR BOOTHS** were rushed to River Grove and set up on street corners to provide emergency service. Some were operating three hours after blaze.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

#### **That's putting it MILDLY!**



Wouldn't have met my Waterloo if I'd thought it over with a pipeful of-



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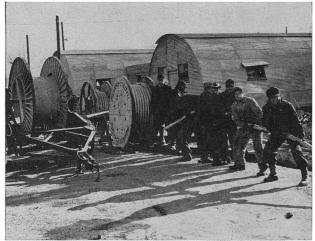


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#### Phoneless Town CONTINUED



**BUSTLING OFFICE** was temporarily set up in the company's business department two blocks away. The first lines ran to police and fire departments.



**QUONSET HUTS** in lumberyard housed a semipermanent telephone office that succeeded the one above. Full service was restored 11 days after the fire.



**1,400 WIRES** in one of main cables are spliced separately and by hand. This was probably the most exasperating repair job of all those that had to be done.