

GAMEWELL DIAPHONE

SINCE the first volunteer fire department was organized there has always been a need for a satisfactory public alarm. In the old days a steel railroad tire was pounded vigorously with a sledge hammer. Then church bells, steam gongs, and air whistles were used, and finally the Diaphone was invented.

Our experience dates back to the days of the railroad tire, and we had a hand in all of these various improvements. Today we furnish all of these forms of alarms with the sole exception of the railroad tire.

Sixty years' experience with public alarms in towns and cities of all sizes and with all manner of topography proves that the Diaphone is the most generally effective form of public alarm. It has three important advantages.

A Shrill, Distinctive Tone

The Diaphone shrieks f-i-r-e in an unmistakable tone. There is never a danger of confusing it with some whistle, never a question as to whether or not it is the fire alarm.

Great Carrying Qualities

The Diaphone was first developed for use on lighthouses and other dangerous seaboard points. All along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, all along the River St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes, the Diaphone is used because it can be heard at a greater distance than any other form of alarm. The distance that it can be heard on land varies with the topography of the country, but it is certain that one of the two types described will give sufficient carrying power.

Sounds Definite Numbers

The Diaphone sounds a definite number which gives the location of the fire and allows certain of the volunteer firemen to go direct to the fire. If you install a public alarm it should be one which gives the location of the fire and not one that simply sounds a general alarm with consequent delay.

No Steam Necessary

Many cities are turning to the Diaphone because the plant on which their fire whistle was located does not have steam available days and nights, Sundays and holidays. The Diaphone is

operated by compressed air and no steam is required.

One hundred cubic feet of compressed air will produce a volume of sound with a Diaphone that can be equaled only by five or six hundred cubic feet of compressed air when an ordinary air whistle is used. Even then the ordinary whistle will not have the piercing, penetrating tone of the Diaphone. One air reservoir will take the place of two or three needed with the older style, saving considerable space.

What the System is

The Diaphone Horn is placed on or near the roof. The motor compressor and compressed air reservoirs are usually located in the basement connected with the Diaphone by the necessary piping. Power for running the motor compressor can be supplied by the electric light, trolley company, or other local sources of power.

How it is Operated

The Diaphone can be used whether or not your city has fire alarm boxes. In cities with such a system the Diaphone is connected directly to the fire alarm circuits. If there is no box system the Diaphone can be operated by a transmitter box located in some convenient place. The town or city is divided into sections and a number given for each section. When the alarm comes in, the number wheel representing that district is placed on the transmitter and the proper number sounded. Even though your city now has no boxes, the public alarm should be selected so that a box system can be installed later if desired.

Made in Two Sizes

The Type "B" Diaphone has been used for nine years as a fire alarm, and hundreds are in service throughout the country. It has a carrying power that is more than sufficient for the average city.

Certain cities, however, with peculiar local conditions, wanted an even louder sound, and the Type "C" has been developed for these cities. It is the same in principle as the Type "B," but the Diaphone Horn has twice the capacity, and the air reservoirs, motor compressor, pressure reducer, auxiliary reservoir, etc., are correspondingly larger.