

B.W. Gallagher, president of the Alabama Telephone Co., who decided to beat AT&T to the punch and install the nation's first 911 system. He read about AT&T's plan in the Wall Street Journal in January, and worked to obtain the necessary approvals for installing the system in Haleyville.

Robert Fitzgerald, inside plant manager of the Alabama Telephone Co., is at work inside the Fayette (Ala.) central office in 1968, the year he designed and helped install the gear for the first 911 system.