

Here's How To Extend The Welcome Mat To Burglars



BOOKS FOR GHANA — Illinois State Senator Fred Smith (right) receives copies of the 19-55-56 Illinois Blue Book from Secretary of State Charles F. Carpenter (left) which are to be sent in the newly-independent nation of Ghana. Carpenter points to the land of Lincoln in signa as he hands books to the senator. A copy of a resolution introduced by Sen. Smith congratulating the new nation on the books. (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

Five Important Points Tell How To Safeguard Your Home

CHICAGO — (AP) — Have you ever welcomed a burglar to your house? Better think before you answer because if you've ever gone to a show, put the cat out, locked the windows and doors and snipped off the lights, then you have just extended the welcome mat to any "plumbeous-loving" burglar that might venture near your parlor. As a matter of fact, according to police tips on protection against burglary, you couldn't have done a better job if you'd have written the burglar a letter letting him know when you'd be away for a few hours. Police pass the word on that many burglars go out on special "cruises" between dusk and 9 o'clock looking for a nice house with no lights on.

Figure it for yourself. In this day of TV, radio, and home movies who goes to bed early? Very few persons. So the professional burglar's tip are tailor-made when he spies a dark house.

To make sure he merely rings your doorbell to see if you're home, if someone's there, he politely asks

for "John Riggamarelli" or someone you never heard of. If there's no answer, you can just about forget the family jewels because they won't be there when you return.

Other ways to invite a burglar is when you take off for the hills on vacation leaving behind your uncancelled newspaper subscriptions, milk deliveries and piles-ups of mail. This to a burglar is as sweet as it comes. He knows you're gone.

An empty doghouse tells the burglar that you're either taken on vacation or you've got a neighbor keeping him. When the society columns of the local newspaper tell the world that you're going to a party, here's another haul for the burglar.

Alas, but don't despair. There

are some ways of protecting yourself against our creeping menace. They are:

1. Keep your home occupied at all times if possible. If not, keep someone checking your place.
2. Leave a light on at all times when you go out.
3. If you are fleeing to hills on vacation and throwing your cares to the wind, give a neighbor your keys and have him switch the light from

room to room every day. A light on in one room only is the biggest of give-a-ways.

Post Office hold your mail. Do not release any information to the press that you are leaving. Inform them only when you return.

If the above precautions are not enough then your best bet is to install a burglar alarm of buy a trailer home so you can take it with you.

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