

Hello. HELLO!... Oh -- what's the matter with this phone? --
HELLO. HELLO --

SFX: *SLAMS PHONE*

SOUND: *PHONE RINGS ONCE AND STOPS*

AGNES: (*Picking up phone instantly*) Hello? Hello ... Oh, for
heavens sake -- who is this? Hello -- hello. HELLO.

SFX: *SLAMS PHONE. PICKS UP PHONE AND DIALS OPERATOR*

AGNES: (*To herself*) Who is trying to call me? What are they
trying to do to me?

SFX: RINGING

OPERATOR: Your call, please?

AGNES: Hello, Operator -- I don't know what's the matter with
this telephone tonight, but it's positively driving me crazy.
I've never seen such inefficient, miserable service ... Now, look!
Look, I'm an invalid, and I'm very nervous -- and I'm not
supposed to be annoyed, but if this keeps on much longer...

OPERATOR: What seems to be the trouble?

AGNES: Well, everything's wrong! I haven't had one bit of
satisfaction out of one call I've made this evening! The whole
world could be murdered for all you people care. And now my
phone keeps ringing and ringing and ringing and ringing every
five seconds or so and when I pick it up there's no one there...

OPERATOR: I am sorry. If you will hang up, I will test it for
you.

AGNES: I don't want you to test it for me! I want you to put
that call through, whatever it is, at once!

OPERATOR: I'm afraid I cannot do that, I...

-AGNES: You can't! And why? Why may I ask?

OPERATOR: The dial system is automatic. If...

AGNES: (*OHHH! Frustrated*)

OPERATOR: ...someone is trying to dial your number, there is no way to check whether the call is coming through the system or not...

AGNES: (Arghh)

OPERATOR: ...unless the person who is trying to reach you complains to his particular operator.

AGNES: Well, of all the stupid...and meanwhile I've got to sit here, in my bed, suffering every time that phone rings. Imagining everything...

OPERATOR: I will try to check the trouble...

AGNES: Check it!! Check it!!!

OPERATOR: ...for you m'am.

AGNES: Oh, what's the use of talking to you! You're so stupid!

SFX: SLAMS PHONE DOWN.

AGNES: I'll fix her.

SFX: FRANTIC DIALING, RINGING

AGNES: How dare she speak to me like that. How dare she speak to me like that.

OPERATOR: Your call, please.