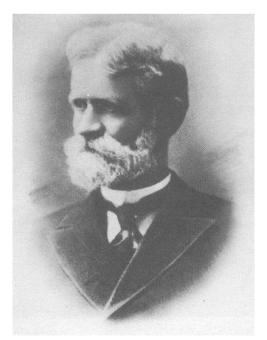
The Strowger Automatic System

This system was patented in 1891 by Almon B. Strowger, an undertaker in Kansas City, Missouri, and therein lies a tale! Learn about Mr. Strowger and the introduction of dial telephones through working Strowger systems. The dial telephone system spurred the growth of independent telephony and further spread the network westward and to villages and towns overlooked by Bell. The Strowger system, known as Step-by-Step in Bell Telephone parlance, was the mainstay of telecommunications for more than 100 years.



Almon B. Strowger

(public domain image)