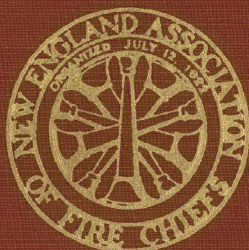


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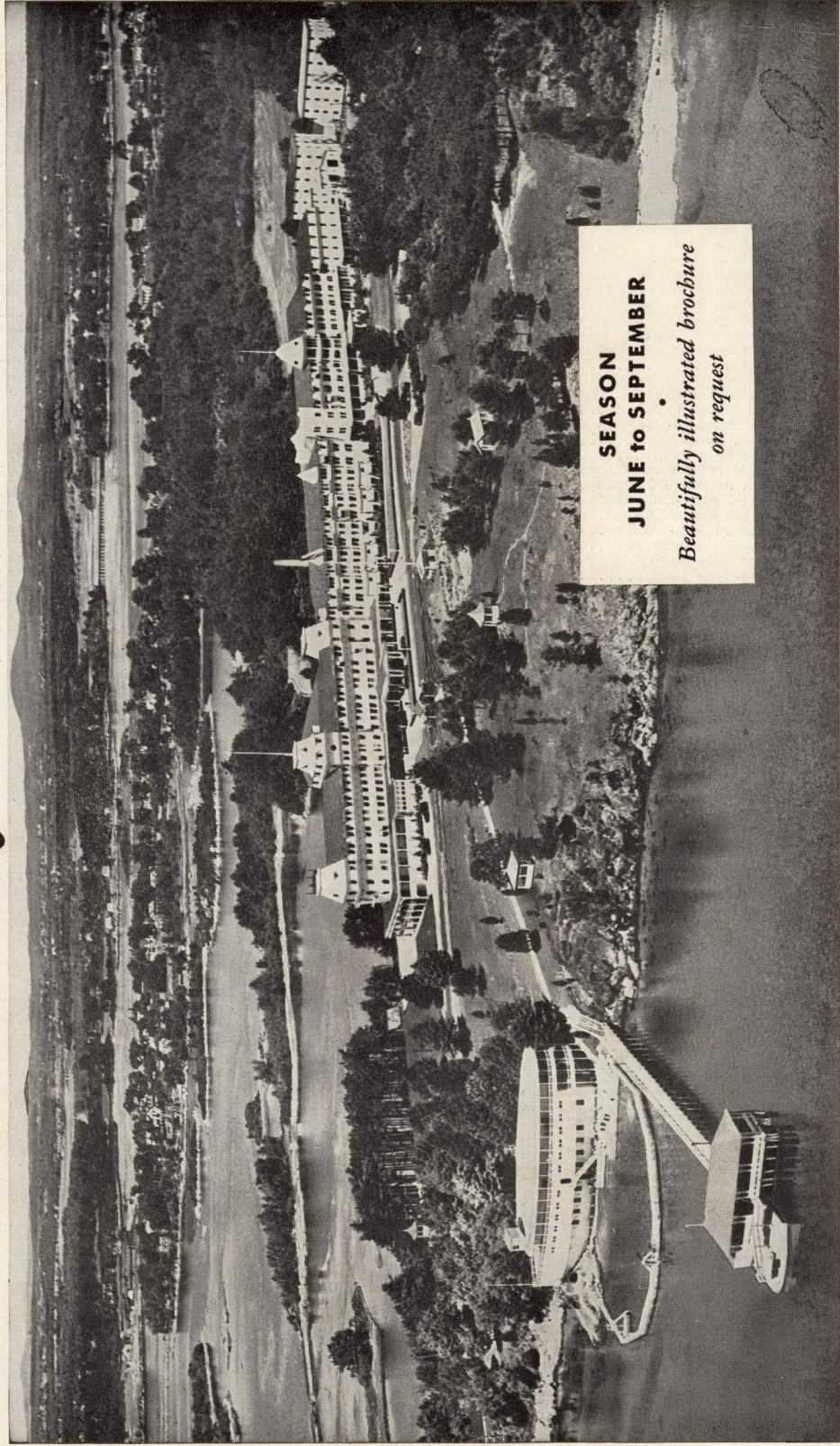
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PROGRAM



MONDAY, JUNE 20

Registration — All Day



TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 10:00 A.M.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE BY *President*,
Chief William H. Hill, Hotel Ballroom

INVOCATION BY Rev. Michael F. Collins, *Chaplain*
New England Association of Fire Chiefs

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME:

Major Kennard E. Goldsmith, *Aide-De-Camp*
Military Staff, Governor Sherman Adams
Mayor Cecil M. Neal, Portsmouth, N. H.
City Manager, Edward C. Peterson
Chief Chester T. Robinson, Suncook, N. H.
President, N. H. Fire Chiefs' Club
Chief George T. Cogan, Portsmouth, N. H.
Chief Haven W. Johnson, Newcastle, N. H.

RESPONSE TO ADDRESSES OF WELCOME:

Chief Henry G. Thomas, Hartford, Conn.

Memorial Exercises

Selection By The Chapel Quartette
Roll-Call of Deceased Members
Taps
Selection by Quartette

MEMORIAL ADDRESS:

Rev. John P. Fitzsimmons, Pastor, Plymouth Congregational Church
Belmont, Mass .
Selection by Quartette

BENEDICTION:

Rev. John P. Fitzsimmons

PROGRAM

Continued



TUESDAY AFTERNOON, 2:00 P.M.

Round Table Discussion

Conducted by Roi B. Woolley, Asst. Editorial Director, "Fire Engineering"



Suggested Topics

Hazards of Plastic Lighting Ornaments

Hazards of Television Reception Equipment

What Can Be Done to Improve Water Supplies?

Advantages of Small Hose

Hazards of Fluorescent Lighting Tubes

Other Topics From Floor

Topic: "Should Fire Insurance Companies Organize a General Inspection Bureau?" Kenneth H. Erskine, Local Mgr. Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co., Boston Office, Presiding.

Topic: "What More Can Be Done to Prevent Fires in Hotels, Hospitals, etc.?" Former Chief, Samuel J. Pope, Presiding.



TUESDAY EVENING, 7:30 P.M.

Round Table Discussion

Topic: "What Has Been Done to Reduce the Threat of Devastating Forest Fires in New England?"

Conducted by A. C. Hudson, Secretary New Hampshire Board of Underwriters.

Response by every New England State Forestry Department.

Topic: "Relation of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Chief."

Conducted by Fire Marshal Everett I. Flanders, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Response by every New England State Fire Marshal.

Address: Lieut. Col. David B. Parker, Army Gen. Staff, Washington, D. C., "Atomic Warfare" (With Pictures).

PROGRAM

Continued

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 9:30 A.M.

Address: Chief Andrew T. Callahan, Harrison, N. J., Past President, International Association, "What Can Be Done to Provide Greater Safety in Our Schools?"

Address: Mr. Percy Bugbee, General Manager, National Fire Protection Association. "Forward Progress and What the Fire Service May Expect as a Result of the National Fire Prevention Association 53rd Annual Meeting May 16-19, 1949."

Address: F. B. Philbrick, President and General Manager, Gamewell Fire Alarm Co. "New Improvements in Fire Alarm Transmission Equipment."

Address: Chief Henry G. Thomas, Hartford, Conn. "Techniques for Forcible Entry in Modern Construction, Tempered Plate Glass, Glass Blocks, etc."

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, 2:00 P.M.

Visit the Exhibits and Demonstrations.

Leave an Order—Register for Prizes.

3:30 Awarding of Exhibitors' Prizes at Exhibition Hall.

6:15 to 7:00 Cocktail Party, Main Ball Room.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, 7:00 P.M.

Annual Banquet

Toastmaster Selden R. Allen, Former Chief, Brookline, Mass.

Awarding of prizes.

Square Dancing, Main Ball Room. Under direction of Mr. Alfred Haines, famous "Caller".

PROGRAM

Continued

~

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 10:00 A.M.

Report of Officers and Committees
New Business
Election of Officers
Selection of Place of Next Annual Conference

ADJOURNMENT

12:00 Clam-Bake (Under Tent)

~

STATE FORESTRY AND FIRE MARSHALS' DEPARTMENTS PARTICIPATING IN ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Maine: A. D. NUTTING, Forest Commissioner
JOSEPH A. P. FLYNN, Director State Fire Prevention
New Hampshire: JOHN H. FOSTER, State Forester
AUBREY G. ROBINSON, Fire Marshal
Vermont: PERRY MERRILL, State Forester
CHESTER M. KIRBY, Deputy Fire Marshal
Massachusetts: RAYMOND J. KENNEY, Director and State Forester
EVERETT I. FLANDERS, Fire Marshal
Rhode Island: J. JOSEPH MACDONALD, Ranger
E. RALPH BONAT, Fire Marshal
Connecticut: MILTON C. STOCKING, Forest Fire Control Officer
CAPT. ROSS V. URQUHART, Dept. State Police

~

LADIES' COMMITTEE

MRS. SELDEN R. ALLEN, Chairman, Brookline, Mass.
MRS. WILLIAM H. HILL, Co-Chairman, Belmont, Mass.
MRS. WILLIAM H. CLIFFORD, 3rd, Cape Elizabeth, Maine
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MISS ROSE E. MCKENNEY, Allston, Mass.
MRS. WILLIAM J. DOOLING, Malden, Mass.
MRS. ANDREW P. PALMER, Woonsocket, Rhode Island
MRS. GEORGE C. GRAHAM, Bristol, Conn.
MRS. STUART M. POTTER, Greenwich, Conn.

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Fire Chiefs



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Twenty-Seventh Annual Report
OF THE
New England Association
of
Fire Chiefs



June 21-22-23, 1949

THE WENTWORTH, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Places and Dates of Past Conventions

- No. 1 BRIDGEPORT, Conn., June 20-21-22, 1923
PRES. CHIEF JOHN P. DOYLE, Wellesley, Mass.
- No. 2 BOSTON, Mass., June 24-25-26, 1924
PRES. JOHN C. MORAN, Hartford, Conn.
- No. 3 PITTSFIELD, Mass., June 23-24-25, 1925
PRES. PATRICK J. HURLEY, Holyoke, Mass.
- No. 4 MANCHESTER, N. H., June 22-23-24, 1926
PRES. DANIEL E. JOHNSON, Bridgeport, Conn.
- No. 5 PORTLAND, Maine, June 21-22-23, 1927
PRES. CHARLES H. FRENCH, Manchester, N. H.
- No. 6 BURLINGTON, Vermont, June 26-27-28-29, 1928
PRES. WILLIAM C. SHEPARD, Pittsfield, Mass.
- No. 7 NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 25-26-27, 1929
PRES. OLIVER T. SANBORN, Portland, Maine
- No. 8 RUTLAND, Vermont, June 24-25-26-27, 1930
PRES. LAWRENCE E. REIF, New Haven, Conn.
- No. 9 BOSTON, Mass., June 23-24-25-26, 1931
PRES. SELDEN R. ALLEN, Brookline, Mass.
- No. 10 NEWPORT, R. I., June 21-22-23-24, 1932
PRES. JOSEPH LAWTON, Newport, R. I.
- No. 11 LEWISTON, Maine, June 20-21-22, 1933
PRES. ALFRED H. KOLTONSKI, Rutland, Vt.
- No. 12 BURLINGTON, Vermont, June 26-27-28-29, 1934
PRES. DANIEL B. TIERNEY, Arlington, Mass.
- No. 13 NEW BEDFORD, Mass., June 25-26-27, 1935
PRES. JOHN S. PACHL, New Haven, Conn.
- No. 14 HARTFORD, Conn., June 23-24-25, 1936
PRES. DAVID H. DECOURCY, Winchester, Mass.
- No. 15 THE BALSAMS, Dixville Notch, N. H., June 22-23-24, 1937
PRES. CARL D. STOCKWELL, Burlington, Vt.
- No. 16 BURLINGTON, Vt., June 21-22-23, 1938
PRES. JOSEPH W. RANDLETTE, Richmond, Me.
- No. 17 PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 20-21-22, 1939
PRES. THOMAS F. BURNS, Bridgeport, Conn.
- No. 18 THE BALSAMS, Dixville Notch, N. H., June 25-26-27, 1940
PRES. SAMUEL J. POPE, Boston, Mass.
- No. 19 BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 18-23, 1941
PRES. THOMAS H. COTTER, Providence, R. I.
- No. 20 Cancelled because of the War
PRES. WILLIAM C. MAHONEY, Peabody, Mass.
- No. 21 RUTLAND, Vt., War Conference, June 22, 23, 24, 1943
PRES. WILLIAM C. MAHONEY, Peabody, Mass.
- No. 22 THE BALSAMS, Dixville Notch, N. H., June 27, 28-29, 1944
PRES. M. W. LAWTON, Middletown, Conn.
- No. 23 Cancelled because of the War.
PRES. ALLEN F. PAYSON, Camden, Maine.
- No. 24 THE WENTWORTH, Portsmouth, N. H., June 25-26-27, 1946
PRES. ALLEN F. PAYSON, Camden, Maine.
- No. 25. THE WENTWORTH, Portsmouth, N. H., June 24-25-26-1947
PRES. FRANK J. CALLAHAN, Central Falls, R. I.
- No. 26 THE WENTWORTH, Portsmouth, N. H., June 22-23-24, 1948
PRES. ARTHUR W. SPRING, Laconia, N. H.
- No. 27. THE WENTWORTH, Portsmouth, N. H., June 21-22-23, 1949
PRES. CHIEF WILLIAM H. HILL, Belmont, Mass.

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS



OFFICERS FOR 1949-1950

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BROOKLINE, MASS.

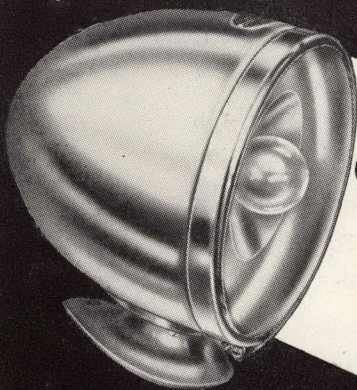
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Oscillating only—8" diameter	\$37.50
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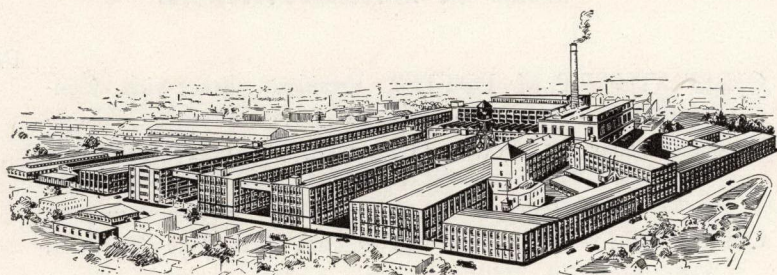
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Greetings to New England Fire Chiefs.



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27th ANNUAL REPORT NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 21, 1949

The 27th Annual Conference of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs convened at The Wentworth, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on June 21, 1949, at ten-ten o'clock, President William H. Hill, presiding.

PRESIDENT HILL: Ladies and gentlemen, as President of your Association I now declare the 27th Annual Conference of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs now in session. As the first thing on the program we will have invocation by our Chaplain Reverend Father Collins.

REVEREND FATHER COLLINS: This morning instead of giving the invocation myself, I am going to ask each and everyone of you to address your own prayer to the Almighty God in a minute of silence. No matter what your faith, you will pray to God. We have asked God in the past for many favors in our own way. This morning all of us are eagerly anxious for the success of our Conference. Let us ask God in our own way to make it a success.

You, or most of you, are here in order to bring back to your communities extra knowledge gained at this Conference. Let us ask God in our own words to give us this knowledge before we return. Many of you have problems which you hope to solve by discussing them with your friends and contemporaries. Let us ask Almighty God in our own words to enlighten our minds and to solve our problems. All the ladies who are anxious for the success of their husbands in their chosen vocation may ask Almighty God to help their own loved ones. In a moment of silent prayer let each of us ask God in our own way for the success in our few days. Amen.

(There was a moment of silent prayer.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Will the gentlemen in the rear take seats forward? There are plenty of seats up here. Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to introduce to you now, representing His Excellency, Governor Sherman Adams of New Hampshire, Major Kennard E. Goldsmith, Aide-De-Camp.

MAJOR GOLDSMITH: Mr. President, Father, distinguished officers, members and guests of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, it is a privilege and honor for me this morning to represent his Excellency, Governor Sherman Adams and bring you his best wishes and greetings from the State of New Hampshire. Governor Adams, due to the pressure of State business at this time, had to cancel his trip to the U. S. Conference of Governors at Colorado and has found it necessary to remain at the State House in Concord, as the State Legislature is still in session.

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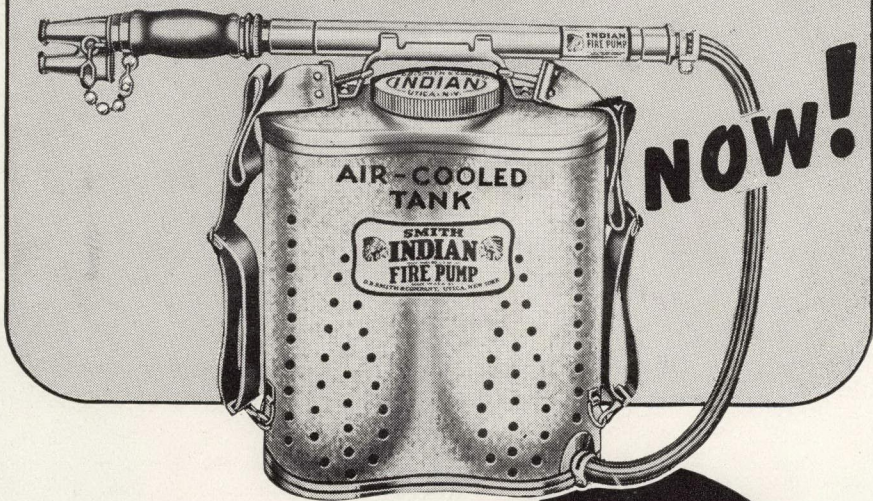
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I know if he were here this morning he would welcome you to this new-found terrestrial domain in the State of New Hampshire, The Wentworth-by-the-Sea. I know also that were he here he would want to tell you of the fine work that you are doing in your organization and also to thank you, who are members of this organization, who did such a splendid job for the State of New Hampshire in that serious emergency we had such a short while back. I don't believe he, nor anyone else in the State of New Hampshire, will ever forget the heroic work and the many, many hours put in for the welfare of the State of New Hampshire at that time.

I know he would want to thank those of you out of the State who kindly consented to come in and work day and night to alleviate the situation that existed at that time.

Without further ado, I want to say on behalf of his Excellency, Sherman Adams, we wish you God speed and good luck in the work ahead. Thank you. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Major. It gives me great pleasure now to introduce to you a gentleman who has been with us in the past, his Honor, the Mayor, Cecil M. Neal of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

MAYOR NEAL: President Hill, Major Goldsmith, City Manager Peterson, Father Collins, Fire Chiefs, past and present, members of the Conference and guests, once again I have the privilege and honor to tell you that we of Portsmouth are very happy to have you here. You will note that you have the weather which we ordered. We would be very happy to give you the key to the city but, in case you don't know, it is the "City of the Open Door" and the key has been thrown away.

I would like to say one word in regard to our own Chief, George T. Cogan. He is held in very high esteem, and when I say "George Cogan" it is symbolic of as good a Fire Chief as there is anywhere, for I don't believe there is any *best* Fire Chief, but George is as good as there is. I hope your deliberations are most successful and you have a sufficiently good time to come back again. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Now it gives me great pleasure to introduce another old face which we have had here over a period of years, City Manager of the City of Portsmouth, Edward C. Peterson.

MR. PETERSON: President Hill, Fire Chiefs, past and present, ladies and gentlemen, a City Manager shouldn't be up here expressing the wishes of a City. That is a job for the Mayor, but I would like to say this, that I want to go along with him and extend the well wishes of the City to you and your gathering, and in so far as what we can do at Portsmouth to help this conference along toward a successful end, we are more than pleased to do.

I want to add to what the Mayor said about Chief Cogan. You know when the City of Portsmouth swung over from a Mayor form of government to City Manager form, everybody said, "What is going to happen." Everybody was concerned in regard to jobs and George, I remember, came in and I said, "George, I have been kind of asking a lot of questions about you and what you can do. Now I am turning this Department over to you. You run it as you see fit and if you need any help come in here and I will give it to you." He stopped a minute and looked and then said, "Do you mean that? As long as I have been a Fire Chief nobody ever said that to me?" I have found generally that there is something about a Fire Department and



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a Fire Chief's organization that draws the members a little closer than other types of organizations. I think it is because in your line of duty there are times when you are dependent on the man behind you, and I think that is what makes everybody feel that way about the fellow next to him; in other words, you are not in there on your own.

I do think that these Conferences are good in the way that you not only see old friends and renew acquaintances, but discuss the techniques of fire fighting. In fact, I try to get down in that barn there and see what we used to call "the peddlers." I learn something every time I do it.

I wish to extend the greetings and assistance of the City of Portsmouth to you in your Conference and if there is anything the City can do in this line, we will be glad to help you out. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Next, I would like to introduce for a few words, the President of the New Hampshire Fire Chief's Club, Chester T. Robinson of Suncook, New Hampshire.

CHIEF ROBINSON: Mr. President, Your Honor Mayor Neal, Major Goldsmith, City Manager Peterson, members of the Clergy, Association members and invited guests, I will say in behalf of the Fire Chiefs' Club of New Hampshire that I wish to extend a hearty welcome to you and trust we may have a pleasant and instructive time. I think our various committees have a most varied and instructive program and I trust it will benefit us. We are having a training school—the New Hampshire State Fire Chiefs' Club—in Concord, July 30 and 31, and we invite all those that are interested to attend. I trust we will all have a pleasant and instructive time. Thank you. (applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Ladies and gentlemen, the next gentleman I would like to introduce to you is known over the State of New Hampshire. He has got a good publicity man; I don't know who he is. You probably see him sitting here. He has done a lot of work for the Association. I am going to ask George T. Cogan to stand up and say something. (Applause.)

CHIEF COGAN: Mr. President, Major Goldsmith, Mr. Peterson, Mayor Neal, ladies and gentlemen and the Chiefs of the New England Association, I am glad always to welcome you here, but a lot of you are getting old and don't remember when we started this at The Wentworth, we had a female for Mayor. We have a Mayor named "Neal" and I don't know whether he kneels to that female or not. (Laughter.) He had a hard job and when the City Manager came I just sat down in the corner and talked with him. He said I had better go over and see the City Manager. I said, "When he gets ready he can see me or call me." It was two or three weeks before he came and said, "I want to speak a little piece along what the Fire Chiefs of New England and the Country are doing."

I had a brother who passed away less than a year ago. The lawyer asked me who was living and I said there was a niece and a nephew in Minnesota. The nephew had left Minnesota and the niece had married and I didn't know what her married name was. I sat down and wrote one of the fellows and asked him to look up in the National Association directory, then I wrote to Chief Shettleworth in Minneapolis and in two weeks he had gone into my niece's husband's office and

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handed a letter. If you can't trace anybody, look up the Fire Chief. I hope you will continue to gather here and that you will have a good time. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: Is Chief Johnson of Newcastle here in the hall? Apparently he is not. In response to these addresses of welcome it is my pleasure to introduce to you one of our own New England members who will respond, Chief Henry G. Thomas of Hartford, Connecticut.

CHIEF THOMAS: Major Goldsmith, Mayor Neal, City Manager Peterson, Reverend Father Collins, Chiefs Cogan and Robinson, it is my pleasant duty on this occasion and I feel it is a special privilege to thank you on behalf of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs for your very cordial welcome this morning. This is our eighth visit to the State of New Hampshire and our fourth to The Wentworth.

It was just twenty-six years ago yesterday that this Association had its first conference in Bridgeport, Connecticut. The founders of this Association and the officers that followed them have built well and it is the duty, as we see it, of our present members to carry on the good work that this Association has been doing and to continue to keep the New England Association of Fire Chiefs on top of the heap where it has gained national recognition.

Your cordial greetings and the fine hospitality of our good friend, Major Smith, have endeared us to The Wentworth. Coming back here is much like returning home. We like you; we like your people and we like The Wentworth very much. Our deliberations here in other years have been fruitful and our moments of relaxation have been delightful.

Our New England Chief is keenly aware of the responsibility that is his with the increasing fire hazards, new types of construction and old buildings that are getting older. We feel, and sincerely believe, that to keep abreast of the times in an ever-changing world, we must study and must continue to learn like the doctor or any other professional person. After all, that is the purpose of these annual conferences. That is our objective and what these conferences bear or what good they may do for each and everyone of us is up to us, and by taking active part in the discussion, by meeting and exchanging ideas and experiences with our fellows, any Fire Chief will return home a better man.

To our good friends from New Hampshire for their continued cordiality and hospitality, we again say, with a great deal of gratitude, "Thank you." We hope to continue to come to New Hampshire and to The Wentworth, and in closing, we hope that you may find time in your busy life to drop in on our conferences once in awhile and to assure you that, like old friends, we will have for you here, open house. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT HILL: We will now proceed with our memorial service and I would ask that there be no smoking and that you refrain from applause, please. First a selection by the Chapel Quartette.

(The Chapel Quartette rendered a selection.)

PRESIDENT HILL: We will now have the Roll-Call of Deceased Members by our Secretary.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President, members of the Association, following is

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a list of those of our members who have passed away since the issuance of our last annual report:

A. L. HARRIMAN, Asst. Chief, Harrison, Maine; admitted June 24, 1946; died April 17, 1948.

JOSEPH M. WEINBERG, Boston, Mass.; admitted July 20, 1938; died Sept. 8, 1948.

GEORGE D. STALKER, Fire Comm., Holyoke, Mass.; admitted June 23, 1936; died Sept. 23, 1948.

CHESTER L. DONNELL, Chief, Walpole, Mass.; admitted May 31, 1924; died Oct. 26, 1948.

FRANK J. CALLAHAN, Chief, Central Falls, Rhode Island; admitted Apr. 17, 1936; died Nov. 25, 1948.

LAWRENCE E. REIF, Former Chief, New Haven, Conn.; admitted Apr. 16, 1926; died Feb. 7, 1949.

SAMUEL DAOUST, Chief, Marlboro, Mass.; admitted Feb. 19, 1930; died Feb. 11, 1949.

LAWRENCE CAROLAN, Melrose, Mass.; admitted June 25, 1929; died Feb. 16, 1949.

HARRY G. CAVANAUGH, New York; admitted March 7, 1938; died Apr. 12, 1949.

EDWARD L. BOURNE, Former Chief, West Bridgewater, Mass.; admitted Dec. 4, 1939; died Apr. 18, 1949.

JOHN H. McNAMARA, Chief, Danbury, Conn.; admitted June 26, 1934; died May 3, 1949.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President, as a tribute to these members who have answered the last Roll Call since our 26th Conference, I submit the following resolution prepared by our Chaplain, Reverend Father Collins which will be inserted in the records of this meeting.

Resolutions New England Fire Chiefs Convention—1949.

WHEREAS: Since our last Convention Our Divine Lord, who alone has the power over life and death, has seen fit, in His Wisdom, to call unto Himself members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, and

WHEREAS: During their lifetime we were privileged to know them, work with them and come to respect and honor them, and—

WHEREAS: Now that they have gone to their eternal reward the words of Holy Scripture come to our minds—"Have pity on me, at least you my friends, for the hand of the Lord has touched me."

BE IT RESOLVED: That we, the members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, assembled here in annual Conference, realizing that we have sustained a great personal loss in their passing, and

BE IT RESOLVED: That we extend to their families and to the Community that they served so well and faithfully, our sincere sympathy on their loss, and—

BE IT RESOLVED: That now, as always, we will keep their memory fresh and we will profit from the inspiration of their deeds.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may their souls rest in peace. Amen.

REV. MICHAEL F. COLLINS, *Chaplain*.

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Taps: SERGEANT D. E. MEARS, Marine Detachment, United States Naval Prison, Portsmouth, followed by selection by The Chapel Quartette.)

PRESIDENT HILL: We will now have the Memorial address by our Chaplain, Reverend John P. Fitzsimmons.

REVEREND FITZSIMMONS: What a rare opportunity; what a great privilege it is to pay tribute and homage to men who have helped make our Nation great. The men whose names you heard read this morning were great Americans. Their names have seldom reached the headlines. It was not very often they found themselves in the spotlight unless it was the spotlight of danger and their memories must repose in our minds and their memories must be kept fresh in our hearts, for these men are the unheralded heroes of our day—men who make everything we hold dear possible, whether it is in the home or school or church or in the community.

I say they never make the headlines, but they were the power behind the headlines; they made the headlines possible. I often think that one of the rarest virtues a man can possess is that of playing the second fiddle, that of being the person who moves the scenery while the actors get the applause.

The Fire Chiefs very seldom get the tribute that is truly owed to them for the work that they are doing in a preventive, safety and restorative method and some day we, who love these men, pay tribute to them and we would desire to keep their memories fresh by erecting for them a permanent memorial, and what could that permanent memorial be except that we continue in the same tradition that they have set for us, that we thank God for the heritage and the privilege that they have left with us.

I claim again, they were great Americans, the unheralded heroes, the unknown soldiers who continue to keep our flag bright and our Nation great, and what were some of the attributes we wish to keep fresh in our minds—the attributes they possess in great pressure.

The first one thing we all need to keep our Nation great and to remember these men, is discipline. No Country can long stand without discipline. It will turn to discipline from without before it turns to chaos, and there are two types of discipline. One is from without and that lays the groundwork for dictatorship, and there is another discipline that comes from within, that makes possible the freedoms that we enjoy and this America that we love. These men knew what it meant to have discipline of mind and body.

Firemen have to be disciplined. They have to be mentally alert and keenly alert at all times to the situations that they have to face. No horse will ever go very far unless first it is harnessed. No engine will ever be driven unless first you confine the steam and gas within that engine. No Niagara will ever produce power and light until first you tunnel that Niagara. No great river ever amounted to anything or ever became great in the first place unless it was tunneled and focused and dedicated, and we in this organization must dedicate ourselves to an external discipline—the discipline that will keep us alert to new problems, and we can help keep their memories afresh by keeping that discipline alive.

And another tribute that we should remember as we remember these men, is the attribute of tolerance, of understanding and respecting the man of a different faith. Just five years ago this June I held a service on the hillside of a little town called "Kweiyang" in Yunnan Province, China, and there I participated in a service rather unique and yet, in a measure, not too unusual. A Mitchell bomber was returning

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to its base. There were five men on this Mitchell bomber. Two of them had been listed on the personnel records as Protestant; one was a Catholic and one a Jew. One man had checked that every morning the personnel records and he checked all religions. It is my hope he meant that he believed in the fundamental principles underlying all great religions and that is a belief in God, a faith in God and a respect for all God's children.

These men died together in this bomber and Father Kelly, a Jewish Rabbi and I held a service. One service, I say, and yet there were three services, each one distinct and different, each one with a beginning and an ending, but the same congregation honoring these men for they had been trained together. They lived together; they played together; they fought and worked and were buried together as Americans, and that is an underlying principle of our American democracy.

That is one of the reasons I love this Association, because we place precedence first on what a man does because of his belief, not what he says, and it is underlying in the respect we want to pay to these men who have gone on to their reward, the tolerance they not only believed in, but as they lived in association with their friends.

Another attribute we must remember in erecting this permanent memorial is that these men were God-fearing men. It is rather unusual, Chief Hill, that in an Association like this, proceedings open with a prayer and a Memorial Service. It pays tribute to your foresight and your vision. These men were God-fearing men and because they were God-fearing men they loved to serve their fellowmen, their brothers.

One of our early fire fighters was a man named Paul who was constantly combating the fires of hell. He wrote one time a letter and in that letter he put these words: "Salute for me Priscilla and Aquilla for, for me they risk their own necks." Because they so loved Paul they were willing to risk their necks, because men who have given their lives with little compensation and little reward, others have had an opportunity to continue their lives. May we remember this as we honor these men. They gave of their lives just as freely as if they had fought on the battle fields of Europe or Asia. May we continue to serve God and our fellowmen, and in closing may I remind you that there is reward—I verily believe—a reward of eternal life with God our Father. Our world needs no more today than at any other time, perhaps, but certainly it needs today tidings of immortality, news of life eternal.

For many of us life has shrunk to pretty small proportions because of events that have been crashing down upon us during the last few years. Life has been cheapened for many and when life is cheapened we are being defrauded because life should be a thing of great beauty and joy. How can we return to these lost meanings of our existence? Simply by going back and remembering these men we have honored, that God is our Father and there is a great end in view, a return home to Him. More homelike seems the vast unknown because they have entered there. Although they are no more, they remain with us as we seek to live for them and by their principles of living.

(Selection, the Chapel Quartette)

Benediction: REVEREND JOHN P. FITZSIMMONS: Eternal God, our Father, by Thy compassion and by Thy guidance, still to us Thy children, be it fire by night and the clouds by day, for only in Thee do we find our eternal rest and peace. God grant unto us Thy blessings now and forever more. Amen.

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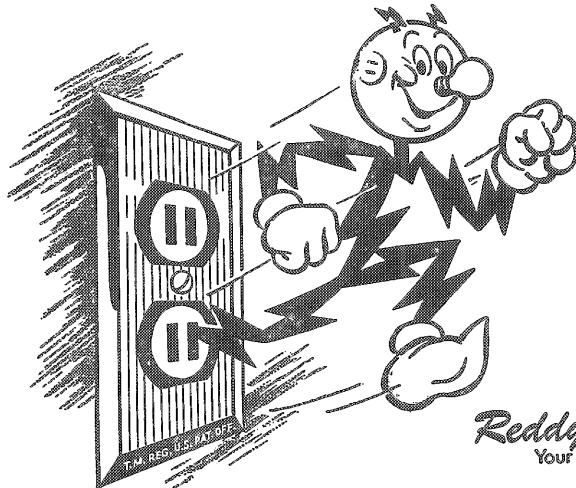
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PRESIDENT HILL: I would just like to ask that the men be on time so we can start our Conference early at two o'clock. The ladies are very well taken care of with entertainment this afternoon and evening. The meeting will now stand adjourned until the afternoon session.

(Whereupon the morning session adjourned at eleven o'clock.)

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 21, 1949

The Tuesday afternoon session convened in the Ballroom at two-fifteen, with President Hill, presiding.

PRESIDENT HILL: Will the meeting please come to order? First on the program this afternoon I am going to ask Mr. Anderson of the Motorola Sales Company to make a report which he has on rules and regulations which have been sent to this organization from the F. C. C. in Washington. I think it would be to your advantage to get the low-down on some of these regulations. It was originally given to Superintendent O'Banion of Boston, but since he was not able to be here, I am going to ask Mr. Anderson to give you a short resumé.

MR. ANDERSON: On May 6 the F. C. C. issued proposed rules and regulations to be adopted July 1949. These rules were very broad in so far as police and fire services are concerned. Part 10, Public Safety Radio Services, under which comes fire; the first part of it means that under the public services for police, the fire departments can go in the coordinated services with police. It means any police department no matter how small or large can give service to fire departments. No agreement has to be made or anything, just purchase equipment. If the fire department wants to license their own, they can, or the police can do it for the fire department.

There is no discrepancy in that ruling, which is this: The police are in control of the radio system. Remote control of part of that radio must be at police headquarters. There is a dispatch point at fire alarm headquarters, wherever dispatching is done. This means that the dispatch point uses the police radio, but it can be cut off at any time by the police because they have control of the transmitter. The rules and regulations state there can only be one control point, but a number of dispatch points, but the services won their point inasmuch as they can have free use of the radio.

The fire services are very lenient indeed. Any fire department, regardless of whether they are volunteer or municipally owned, state or county owned or even private individual fire departments such as plant fire departments where manufacturing is done, camp site fire departments, all can have two-way radio. There are restrictions on number, one station in one mobile unit,—also if you go into a coordinated system such as a number of volunteer fire departments. I don't believe there are too many in Massachusetts or North of Massachusetts, but in Rhode Island, for instance, there are a lot of volunteer fire departments; also in Connecticut.

There can be one main station for all of the departments around that and each and every department may pay toward that main station. There can be no profit made on the station, but you file with the F. C. C. that you want to share the cost and the F. C. C. grants the license.

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I want to stress that point because that is one thing the police did for the public safety radio services, so that everybody can use any frequency that is needed. That means you can still plan mutual aid with the towns already operating. F. C. C. has gone one step further inasmuch as it is authorizing the use of two-way radios between towns for mutual aid. Before, you could operate from a land station to a mobile, or between mobile stations, but it was not legal to operate between two fixed stations. Today it is legal. If you are on different frequencies you can operate by a receiver on each other and have communication between your two towns. You can have a mutual-aid group up some highway or through some valley.

Fire departments usually work within themselves. You can go on all the same frequency there. It is being recommended, however, that you operate on one frequency rather than two. Two-frequency operations have some advantages, but nowhere near the advantage of single frequency. It means mobile units can go from your town to the next and still remain in contact with your own station and also talk with the mobile units of another town.

With two frequencies you have to go back to your main station and rebroadcast to the other units, so the F. C. C. permits single frequency operations to operate anywhere you see fit.

When you make application there is one situation the F. C. C. requires as far as frequency assignment. You must get letters from every fire department operating on radio within a radius of seventy-five miles and make a mutual agreement to operate on the frequency you choose. In lieu of that, you may have an allocation committee to pick these frequencies, to allocate them to you and the other towns, and that is done by mutual agreement, so immediately when requesting a frequency, you can call or write to these allocation committees and they will tell you the frequency that has been chosen to make up a fire net.

We have in New England a strong organization in the National Municipal Signal Association, in which A. L. O'Banion is in charge. He has worked very diligently the last four years. He has written letters to Washington, got many men together and got a well-organized and planned system for fire operation. It is probably as good as any in the Country and I am willing to bet it is better than in almost any area we have. He is going all out for the Fire Chiefs, studying their problems and using frequencies to the best of advantage. They do not have all channels available today because of equipment, but inside of a few months you will have the equipment that will double the usual channels today.

The fire departments can also operate with forestry departments and have a net for a whole State, if they wish. They can have one mobile unit, so it is up to

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the Fire Department now, if they want to hold these frequencies, to go after them. If you don't, you will lose them. That is not a threat; it is a very definite fact. It is hard to say, but if you don't do something you are not going to keep it.

I have one thing I would like to bring out. The American railroads today are petitioning for a hearing before the I. C. C. because they didn't get enough frequencies. Public services have got quite a few—nineteen to be exact—and I have an open letter to the American railroads which I will leave with the Resolutions Committee so that they may understand all the problems they have had with the F. C. C., and I urge that the Fire Chiefs definitely get a Resolution out before the end of this week, but by all means before the first of July, which is the deadline for recalling their petition for a hearing. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Andy. Just before I turn the meeting over to Roi B. Woolley, if any Resolution is to be presented before the end of the session, I wish it would be turned over to Chief Thomas who is chairman, Chief Scanlon of Lynn, Chief Green of Concord, and Chief Boyd of Manchester, Connecticut to act as a courtesy committee with him.

It gives me pleasure to turn the meeting over to your good friend who has come here from New York to help Fred Shepperd out—Roi B. Woolley. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Ladies and gentlemen, members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, it is a little late and so we are going to start right in and try to make up a little lost time. I think we have enough men here interested in the subject to answer questions and propound others, but first I would like to make one or two points.

I think one point is particularly important today for you gentlemen and this to me, is almost more important than any panel discussion. New England is at the cross roads economically and otherwise, in this nation. I don't have to say that you folks reading Dun and Bradstreet and other economic literature know very well that industry has been moving out of this section of the Country and it hasn't been replaced as you would like. At the same time, you are losing by fire certain industries which don't seem to renew. Forty out of one hundred industries who suffer severe fires don't renew. It is tragic when you figure the nation almost started in New England and we were the backbone of the nation.

I don't hesitate to say that all my ancestors came from here and I am very proud of the fact that one of the Woolleys one hundred years ago was a fire fighter in this particular area, but if you permit fire to destroy industries at the rate it is destroying them now, that, coupled with the normal movement of industry away from an area, whether for labor or whatever may be the cause, if the industry moves or burns, gentlemen, it has a very direct effect on you here in this room, today.

It has this effect. It means that the taxpayers left in the area, the wage earners, etc., must foot the bills for the industry that has moved, and it means that you and your budgets will feel the repercussions that are bound to happen, and so I am very happy that this organization has turned out, that it shows the interest in the business side of fire protection that it is showing here, and if there are reporters in the room, I would like to have them stress the fact that this is not altogether a social gathering here at The Wentworth, but it is certainly a business one and these men are here to see what can be done to preserve industry at a time when it should be preserved in this particular area. I wanted to get that over because to me it is very important.

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We have a number of subjects offered by the Program Committee, some of which are more important than others. I think we want to elaborate on the more important and sidetrack some of the lesser. At the same time I believe if the panel is to do any good, we should introduce subjects bothering us in our own localities at home.

New England was really the home of the "Hot Stove League." It was the old meeting place of New England centuries ago that this nation really used to its own advantage, and it made New England. It seems to me fitting that we should recreate these good old-fashioned meetings where if you want to tell the Chairman what you think about it or about the Association, you will feel free to do it. If you do it too great a length, I will turn the light on you. In order to speed it up, the Chairman asks one thing, try in your questions and answers to make them right to the point and as short as possible. If any speaker through over enthusiasm continues beyond the point already made, I will take the liberty of turning the green light on, and if he continues beyond the point he should, I will have to give him the red light.

With the permission of your good President, that reminds me of a store in Maine near Sullivan where the proprietor only kept the store because he had a good time in life. He played with the boys in the winter, playing checkers. He was going pretty good on one occasion, had jumped a King, and his opponent said. "There is a customer in there." He replied, "Keep quiet, you darn fool, she will go away." I hope none of you will go away until we get the game finished.

The first topic listed here is the "Hazards of Plastic Lighting Ornaments." Perhaps some of you know the situation that existed down in Connecticut last year. Just before coming up here I had a long discussion with Matt Brady of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, who tells me they have a committee that is trying to bring about some arrangement with the plastic manufacturers that will eliminate hazards of these toys and other Christmas tree ornaments highly inflammable, and in some cases, almost explosive. You saw last night some pictures demonstrating the inflammability of some kinds of plastics. Let me give you one thought. If you take it home with you it might be some fun for you and profit for your community. Go down to the five and dime, spend a few dollars and go to various counters and pick up samples of merchandise on the counters. Start with women's nail polish and all that. Pick up a few bottles of nail polish; take it away. Go to the counter where there are toys. I have a fire engine at home and I applied a match to one end and I haven't much toy left. Go to the frilly counter where they have lace work, cotton batting, etc. Go down the line and see how many highly inflammable products you can have. Lay them out on the table and it will make an astounding presentation to see what people are buying.

I will give you one example and we will get into the questions. At White Plains, New York, last summer we had an alarm and the fire department responded. It was 94 in the shade. There was no fire but the backyard was littered with garbage and papers against the back of this house. Upon investigation it was found that one woman had an acetate-base nail polish and after using half of it had thrown it into the garbage pail. It built up the vapors and there was a flash which dumped the garbage all over the landscape.

In Mamaroneck, New York, a woman is suing for \$100,000. She took a bottle of polish and put it on the range to warm it. Her face was too near and was torn to ribbons in the explosion. Is Chief Frank Scully here from Waterbury? (No response) I guess there is no one from Waterbury here. Will someone lead off giv-

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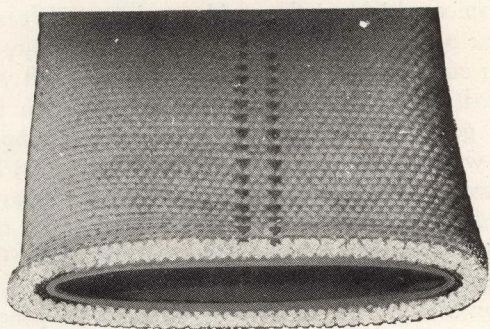
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ing us the problems they may have had? Will someone break the ice on this topic? I sound like an auctioneer. Henry Thomas, you have been flirting around with N.E.P.A. How does the situation stand to date in that neighborhood?

CHIEF HENRY G. THOMAS, Hartford: I can't tell you.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: I would like to have someone.

CHIEF JOSEPH C. MOWRY, Attleboro: I have the plastic hazards and, we will say, lighting fluid in bottles. Now years ago we had a law and I think it still is in Massachusetts Department of Safety Laws, that no inflammable liquid should be put in a jug. Then they come out with an oil burner and give you a two or three-gallon jug in glass, and I have had fires from them. What I am getting at is this. We are supposed to inspect every drug store where they have lighter fluid, where there are any inflammables and go into five and dime stores where they sell things that we know are plastic inflammable. I have had one fire where a leg on a woman's stocking burned and you couldn't see through that leg of plastic. It was inflammable. If you could see through it, it was noninflammable I am speaking for all the Chiefs in my territory. The place for that is at the production end. I have numerous inflammable liquids through a distributor and I am on the railway line and they come from there too. If we could only control the distribution of that so it would be in tin cans instead of glass jugs, it would be much better.

I have four big distributing plants in a manufacturing jewelry place and I go to Bill Reynolds and I say, "Look, you haven't a license." They haven't got one from the City Council. "I don't want any of that in glass jugs. What have you got to say about it?" They are kind of tough. The place to begin in fire prevention is at the distribution point that sells the five and dime? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: I don't want to have us confused, if we can help, between the distribution of inflammable oils or liquids as compared with plastics. This subject is one of plastics and I brought in the five and dime because that happens to be a distribution center. I would like to bring out that point and I think it is a smart idea you have presented, that we must give attention to distribution as well as the final outlet of it. Does anyone else want to cover that topic?

CHIEF MOWRY: I have a professional engineer, or whatever you want to call him, dealing in plastics. We wanted to inspect his room, but we weren't allowed in there. He was a smart guy. If it let go, it would go up the roof. What about the people working downstairs? I brought it up with the State Fire Marshal, Mr. Flanders. What could we do about it? He was experimenting.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: You bring out a point about which I think there is no argument here. I think it is a matter of local ordinances plus state supervision. We saw what happened at Effingham Hospital where the Fire Marshals were unable to bring about improvements that normally should be made. If it is a fact your local ordinances do not permit you to inspect or correct obvious hazards, nothing more need be said. On the other hand, the N. F. P. A. have worked out as nearly as possible, rules governing the production and distribution of inflammable products that are toxic and highly inflammable and explosive. The standards have been set up and we should all know them. They can be had and I suggest this organization



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get them, but we are going a little bit astray and I would like to get back on the beam if I can.

The thought was Christmas tree lighting. There are several hundred thousand dozen sets of Christmas tree ornaments not sold last year because of fear on the part of the manufacturers that there would be trouble. I don't mean Japanese lamps. I mean the bubble lights. Those will flood this market again and very quickly unless something is done about it. They are a hazard. They can develop heat to the point where they can practically drip fire. They probably will not ignite by direct contact, but they can set fires indirectly. Does anyone want to speak on that topic? I want it covered.

CHIEF ALBERT W. KIMBALL, Hingham: Chief Gorman had a fire in the City of Quincy from plastic ornaments that went over the electric lights on the Christmas tree and he immediately notified the stores in the South Shore radius, made a survey and called them off the counter. They would actually melt and drip almost molten plastic down.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Very often the fire department gets report of a possible fire of a Christmas tree because it found ornaments smoking. Chief Weisher in Milwaukee found a number of calls where there was actually no fire but found the ornaments had reached the point in heat propagation where they were smoking and evidence it would start off a fire. Have any of you experienced that?

CHIEF CHARLES G. DALTON, Northampton: We got a call to go to a Christmas tree and there was a yellow bird like a canary where it had burned a hole in the fir as it dropped down.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Was anything done locally?

CHIEF DALTON: The five and ten-cent stores were notified, but I understood they had sold about 2,000 of those birds.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Probably it was too late to collect the 2,000 that had gone out. We hope another year they won't take off again.

CHIEF HUGH L. EAMES, Reading: I don't see Chief Jacobs from Wakefield, but he had a similar experience, a sort of flower that went around the light bulb on the Christmas tree. He responded to a call and found it smoking and melted. He contacted the store where it came from and I believe it came from the city of Boston.

CHIEF JOHN F. McDONOUGH, Boston: About lights, there isn't a day goes by that we don't have a globe on the street light burning and that runs right down the pole, molten fire. Every day we have alarms in different parts of the City from street lights. They have a plastic globe.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much. Another avenue of approach none of us thought about, does anyone happen to know the type or name?

CHIEF McDONOUGH: We might get O'Banion, and that should be distributed to members.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Now we are getting some constructive ideas and I would like to keep the pace going while we are at it.

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CHIEF THOMAS GORMAN, Quincy: During the Christmas tree season I got notice from one of the citizens that on leaving her dwelling she noticed one of the ornaments smoking. Naturally she called us. We found from the heat of the bulb it had started to brown up and smoke and burn. On bringing it to the attention of several stores selling that particular type, they immediately took it off the market. What disposition they made of it, we don't know. We are under the impression they sold it to some stores located in another section where there might be less restriction, but there was no other follow-up—on that outside of the fact they took them off the counters during that season. They agreed if they were a hazard they didn't want to handle them.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much, Chief. I don't know whether any of you were at the Board of Directors' meeting, but Chief Weisher brought from Milwaukee a box of ornaments partially consumed. It was interesting to look them over and all of them were connected with Christmas tree ornaments or lights. Where light had no ventilation, where lamp bulb was in contact with defective fixture which was plastic, and no possible air permitted between the two, you had everything set for a pretty good start for a fire, and in talking with Mr. Braddock of the National Board, he wanted me to make that point to you, that if you would check with your department and five and ten-cent stores as to the type and kind of ornaments to be sold, whether the old or the new type which are fairly safe, they would like very much if you would supply them with any evidence of the inflammability or the product as a whole, or the components separately as they want concrete data to present.

Talk about some of them wanting radio frequencies, if you ever saw the lobby work, it is the good old plastic industries' lobby. Some of you remember Nashua, New Hampshire, where Roi Woolley was taken for a beautiful ride.

I think we have pretty well covered that part of the program. The President asks what about plastic curtains and shower curtains. Has anyone had any experiences with them?

CHIEF GORMAN: We did have a complaint from a woman living in an adjoining town who had a complaint about a plastic apron from her own city. Her husband was upset. We notified them through the radio and presently we had a complaint on it and we notified the local merchants. Some are marked "approved" on the package and some are not, and after tests submitted to the Fire Marshal's office, most of them were not any more inflammable than a cotton dress.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: If you get caught with anything of that kind you have a right to have it distributed over the radio.

CHIEF HILL: I am having the State investigate a fire we had in a residence last week. They have an idea it could have been caused by curtains in the boy's room—the maid going up and lighting two wall lights and laying the curtains over them and going out. The only other possibility the State had was a cigarette. I discounted that and think that either rayon or plastic-type curtains could have caused this fire. It is something that has got to be regulated in the near future.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: One of the choiest ones which came to my attention is the matter of the toilet seat that went off with a bang. It really happened and

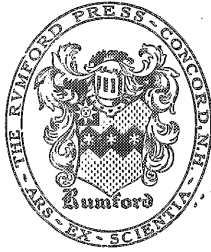
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strangely enough when a person puts a cigarette on them it is just too bad. The department responded to this fire and the bathroom was thoroughly scorched and the toilet seat consumed. It was a pure plastic seat with an acetate base. We have been unable to find the name of the manufacturer but it really went to town, and I am not kidding. It shows the extremes to which the plastic hazard can be distributed. For fear our Secretary thinks I am going overboard, is there one more question on the matter of plastics?

CHIEF CLARENCE H. GREEN, Concord: I want to ask in just what position would the Fire Chief be without city ordinances or rules and regulations if he goes into a place and ordered anything off the counter. They say it is a hardship for business, so can a suit be brought?

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That is a question the Chairman cannot answer fully and I would like to have some of the brighter minds answer it.

CHIEF PAUL F. HEINZ, New Haven: I think the whole answer is closer cooperation between insurance inspector's office and the fire chief. I find that if the insurance company will cancel a risk where materials are sold, the people will darned soon get rid of them. If the Fire Chief tells them, they will laugh it off. There ought to be greater cooperation and understanding between the insurance inspection division and the fire chiefs. You have to be careful about how you order people about and their constitutional rights.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That is one thought to keep in mind. Remember one thing, Chiefs, all of you—this is not a public relations talk but you always have the power of your department behind you. When a matter of that kind arises where there is a very fine distinction of the law—the question of public responsibility—the fire department responsibility is related very closely to public education and it happens very often that a chief who is on his toes can get the desired results by simply saying he don't want legal fights over entanglements. It isn't a strict interpretation of the law, but a matter of customers' knowing what you are selling. In our own work we have found the merchants of this nation generally willing when you go to them and show them their product is inflammable or toxic to cooperate.

THEODORE W. GUNN: A toaster sat on this article, (indicating) and the heat caused that burning. Chief Berquist of Berlin contributed it.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: (Reading a label on the article) "Lustro-Ware Serving Tray—warp-proof—rust-proof—alcohol-proof." There is nothing about fire-proof. It is interesting to read over a lot of literature on these plastic products.

CHIEF MOWRY, Attleboro: I do believe the Fire Chiefs have plenty of work on their hands. We have plenty of laws to enforce but I still do say if our State Department of Public Safety had a little responsibility they could stop it at the manufacturing point and not wait until it gets on the five-and-dime counter. I had fireworks imported last winter from Delaware and through the I. C. C. they couldn't deliver them until they had my permission. When I found there were two-inch crackers, etc., I said, "nothing doing". Why doesn't our State organization Department of Public Safety stop those things at their sources? I have a factory

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that manufactures glasses—eye glasses—and they make them out of celluloid—and good Lord “bing”—that is what it means. I have no control over them. There is no State law. The Bay State Optical Company, where my boy works, uses highly inflammable plastic for eye-glass frames and I have no control over it because there is no State law to control it. We are faced with a lot of responsibility in Massachusetts, but why should we take the rap?

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much. Is Chief Adams, Marblehead, back there? I believe you are on a committee on State regulations. Have you given any thought to this sort of thing on regulating matters at the source?

CHIEF JOHN S. ADAMS, Marblehead: The Committee of the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations have issued regulations covering the handling and storage of plastic, and those copies may be secured from the Fire Marshal's office at 1010 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Does that in any way help you, Chief, in the answer?

CHIEF MOWRY: I am acquainted with Adams and Flanders. They send us our copies of rules and regulations, but what do they do to help us, out? What have we got a State organization for if they don't stop it at the source? They don't go to the five and dime or the ladies' dress goods store where they show stockings on inflammable plastic legs. They shouldn't be allowed to be manufactured in our state or come into it.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: This is a big nation and there are a good many plants in production throughout the country. If any of you worked in Washington or with different economic boards during the war, you know how hard it is to find out what they make and under what conditions they sell it and how it is designed. That thought has long ago been given by Fire Service and I am of the personal opinion it would be impossible. You cannot prevent the manufacture of a product until it is out and you know what it is. You cannot have a Board which will pass upon all designs in drawings and blueprints in this nation of free enterprise. Unfortunately we can't go quite as far down the line to the source, but I do think with the standards of safety which are being set up in this Country in N. F. P. A. and the National Board, that something further could be done. I think we all agree on that.

I just saw Sam Pope on the edge of his chair. Sam, during your term as President of the International, that sort of thing came up.

Ex CHIEF POPE: I wasn't going to say anything, Roi, but you have put me on the spot. A few years back there was a great deal of controversy about the hazards of brushed rayon and I was on a committee which sat down with some of the large manufacturers and it got to the point that the I. C. C. was going to establish some very rigid regulations relative to the transportation of this material, and while we were in session it so happened that a couple of boys in a park, wearing one of these Gene Autry suits, in walking through a small brush fire lost his life. The industry was so concerned about the possibility of the very stringent regulation on transportation that they took it upon themselves (they felt they could regulate themselves) and came out with certain types of brushed

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rayon and brushed cotton that was no more inflammable than the ordinary cotton, and I think Chief Mowry was partially right when he said it could be controlled by the manufacturer. The minute they feel there is going to be any restriction on transportation, they will soon correct and remedy their own house.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much, Chief Pope.

CHIEF MILTON C. ANDREWS, New Bedford: Would there be any value in making it compulsory that manufacturers submit their products to the Underwriters' Laboratory for approval or disapproval and then through some publicity, if disapproved, present it to the dealers in your community? Would that have any value?

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: You have a State Fire Marshal's Department in most states. You have your National Board and your Standards. On nearly all products of a highly combustible nature or have the threat of explosiveness, that can be pretty well controlled. It could be stopped almost as soon as the first one reaches the market, but where it is a product that finds general use, a broad use like aprons, it sometimes takes a catastrophe to uncover the damage. I believe the National Board has fought on that point and been unable to get anywhere in regulating production down to that fine point. If there is anyone from the National Board who would like to speak on it, I would be very grateful.

MR. THEODORE W. GUNN: The Canadian government has stopped the manufacture of brushed rayon in all of their Provinces. If you Chiefs do not know what it looks like, one of the ladies wearing it at this convention smokes. I have been tempted to speak to her. She could get terribly burned by some other party brushing up to her. It is just a flash.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: There were ten burned in California and three lost their lives in the District of Columbia. The production has been stopped.

Let me give you another point in question in fluorescent lighting. It took only a brief expose of beryllium poured in fluorescent tubes to stop the manufacture. That has been stopped by G. E. and Westinghouse, so I am going to skip over that topic when I get to it. It does show if prompt action is taken by the local Chief consulting immediately with the Fire Marshal and the National Board, together with the interest at stake, you can get those results, but unless and until you produce the evidence, they are licked and we can't do much in the matter of plastics until we get concrete evidence. It is all right to say ornaments are a hazard, but you have got to go into Court with more than your statement and just a piece. We are giving quite a bit of time to this one topic.

CHIEF MOWRY: I don't want to criticize my Department of Safety nor their agents at all, but I do feel they should be relieved from a little pressure if only we had State laws to keep those inflammable materials, which are hazards, out.

MR. POPE: I don't propose to be a textile chemist or anything of that sort, but I sat in Washington for a week with some of the chemists from J. C. Penney Company and many other large wholesale drygoods stores at the Bureau of Standards. That is where the meetings were held and they definitely proved down there they

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can manufacture both brushed rayon and brushed cotton which would not be any where near as inflammable as that previously manufactured.

CHIEF JOSEPH E. SCANLON, Lynn: I don't mean to take issue with anyone, but Chief Mowry should read Chapter 148, Mass. Law, which regulates solids and compounds. A license must be obtained.

CHIEF HUGH L. EAMES: I went into a store in an adjacent town. The proprietor informed me of what had happened. He had a display of six screw drivers with plastic handles on a card. A man with a cigarette picked up the card and they all went up.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That sort of thing is going to happen in a five and dime store some day and you are going to kill a lot of people. It is a tragedy that we continue to have these catastrophes, and it is going to happen in a crowded five and dime store and somebody is going to scream, "Fire." Somebody brought me up a bit of steel wool and I have been asked to light it. I don't think this will explode, but I am told you get an idea—our good friend the Marshal. I don't know whether you would call that highly inflammable, Mr. Marshal. It doesn't smell toxic to me.

MR. GUNN: I am sorry but I am not a Fire Marshal. I am with the Fire Underwriters. You have compressed that. You didn't have the whole ball there. On a gas stove, a four burner plate, in the middle you have a little pilot light. The lady pushes the button and turns the lever. On top is a cast iron grid. The lady cleaning the grid with good old steel wool that is perfectly harmless for furniture polishing, when it came in contact with the pilot light of the gas flame, and this is what happened.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much. Your Chairman wasn't so hot as a demonstrator. I would hate to have my wife monkeying around the kitchen with that kind of stuff.

CHIEF WALTER R. MURRAY, Weymouth: Around last Christmas period we went to stores and bought samples of different articles for Christmas tree decorations. They were inflammable. They were taken off the counter. They were taken off at our request with the cooperation of the storekeeper. Now Chief Scanlon has brought out that the control of these articles is taken care of under Chapter 148. That is true about certain quantities, certain weights. Many of these stores have quantities of this material that would be far below that amount in weight. Therefore, I don't see where that Chapter applies. It has been suggested that possibly we could work in cooperation with the insurance companies. Well, that might work out, but nevertheless, the insurance companies are taking over the handling. I don't see that that has cured the Fire Chief's problem. It also has been suggested that you can do it through a veiled threat to the storekeeper; in other words, not on fire hazard knowledge, but on customers' sales angle.

We are Fire Chiefs. We should approach the problems not by scaring the business man to death on loss of his customers. It appears to me there is only one cure. Now various communities have local ordinances. We have found that in the oil burner industry there is complaint after complaint that this community is different from that, and there is all the time trouble. I think local ordinances would

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result in the same thing. It appears to me the only cure would be a State law that we can all follow in a uniform manner.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much, Chief. To sum up very quickly, it is obvious to me, at least there is a difference in opinion, and somewhat of a lack of information on this subject, and since those two are related, it would seem to me that this is a pretty good project for this organization, which represents all of the States to consider, just as you are considering State-wide fire protection in forestry, and I would certainly make the recommendation to you, Mr. President—and you have a committee already organized for that purpose—that they explore this fully, check with the authorities and come back, if possible, with a report to all your members, either through the proceedings or through your good Secretary, in any such way as you see fit. I don't care whether you make a motion to that effect, but we have it spread on the books and I think that is as far as we could go with that particular question.

Let's jump quickly on to this one, "Hazards of Television Reception Equipment." I find one or two very interesting things happening in that field. We had our good friend, Chief Stackpole, tell us about a studio fire which, while they were not sure it started in the studio, it originated near there and took the whole building. It couldn't be laid to the television set but there was evidence it might have been charged to that. We have had other Chiefs say they have a fire hazard in television, particularly in barrooms when left on a long period of time and the air currents of ventilation cut off. Two cases have come to point and I have heard of a third I am passing to you quickly for discussion; that is, show window fires where magnifiers are used in displays, the type to enlarge the image of your picture in the television set. The sun striking those produces a hot point of contact, with the result you have a fire. Two show windows in good-sized department stores went up as a result of that only recently.

Has anyone here encountered a fire which is attributable to a television set? Then I don't think we need to worry too greatly. I don't believe a television set is going to be too great a hazard.

CHIEF MURRAY, Weymouth: I did have a fire caused by a television set. The sun reflected on the lens and on to a cushion.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That was the point I was trying to bring out. The cathode tube is being increased in size and the heat is being increased, there is no question but that there will probably be more fires in television sets than there have been unless some regulatory measures are taken.

We next come to the question of antenna. Have any of you had local ordinances passed covering the question, or do you feel it is not enough of a hazard to warrant any attention being paid?

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: We took it up with the Wire Commissioner and he has made it a standard practice of at least eight feet, so if someone is working on the roof he won't get it on his neck and knock him off the roof.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: A number of communities have had ordinances passed to prevent multiple antennas on a roof. We had a man almost decapitated because of too low an aerial. If there is nothing more to be said on that, I think we can

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go on then to the question of "What can be done to improve water supplies?" Here we do leave the door wide open for some ideas and some disputed ideas. I would like to call on Stuart Potter to say a word.

CHIEF POTTER, Greenwich: Every water system has some of the older sections which are inadequate. Many companies operating them at the present time inherited them from former owners. I believe they are earnestly endeavoring to correct matters. Basically, we have two systems—one municipal and one privately owned. In the case of the municipal, it is a matter to be settled between municipal officials, but in the privately-owned companies it is a different problem. They are out to make a profit for their stockholders and they don't spend money unless they have to. There is one thing a privately-owned public utility company cannot stand, and that is adverse advertising, and I believe one way to get them in line is to make flow tests out in the open and show the inadequacies, and you will soon have inquiries as to what is going on.

Don't we have enough water pressure? Of course most people erroneously use water pressure for water volume and when you have a neighborhood aroused to the fact that the water system is inadequate for fire protection, you are going to have some staunch backers for correction of the condition. Maybe they will take the bit in their teeth and go to the private company and get the situation straightened out. That is one practical approach to an inadequate water supply.

CHIEF MOWRY, Attleboro: Do you want to mention standardization after that?

CHIEF MOWRY: I only brought that up. It is a very good subject and all I know is what I read in the newspapers, but I do believe East Providence and Barrington, R. I., run hose over the bridge and there is quite a difficulty between privately-owned waterworks and public, and I was hoping the Chief was here to tell you about it.

CHIEF ELPHEGE SMITH, West Warwick, R. I.: What is the best method to bring pressure to make many stop using six-inch mains?

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Has anyone an answer to that? We haven't the Editor of Waterworks Engineering here and I know the former head of the American Waterworks has wrestled with that question and never seemed to get the results. It is a matter of public indignation, public relations, advertising, etc., and I haven't the answer. I would like to have some Chief give us the answer. I would be glad to pass it back to your own good organization.

CHIEF MOWRY: We suggest eight-inch water main, at least. The Superintendent of the Waterworks is looking for a job today, not tomorrow or the future. You can't do anything about it.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Anyone else on that subject? It is one of these topics on which we could spend all afternoon and when we are through someone will say we have got to wait for it to come about. One of the things I would recommend is that the Fire Chief in the community spend a little more time in their end of the fire protection service on the subject of increase in size of water-mains in that area. Unfortunately, it is the same situation that exists between Fire Alarm Bureau

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and Fire Chief where they have not seemed to see eye to eye and I would recommend very definitely that a lot of cultivation be spent on superintendents of water supplies as well as our Fire Alarm Bureau. Frankly, I think that is the first place to begin. Has any one of the Underwriters' representatives here in the New England Exchange got a word to say? They have sat in on this problem.

MR. T. W. GUNN: If it is privately owned, it is the man's own job and the point involved is they can get six inch cheaper and that carries through. It is only pressure that can be called to go from eight and above.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much. Two of you have given a fairly clear answer to that question.

The next one calls for quite some consideration, and that is "Advantages of small hose." I want to stick my neck out right here and then I am through talking. Two months ago some of you may have read a story on coordinated attack and shortening fire cycle. Fred Shepard and several of us believe it is time for the fire service to begin to give serious consideration, not alone to individual improvements in our own fire service and technique, but to consider using them in tandem, jointly.

You speak about masks; you speak about small hose and the Chiefs say "sure". You speak about fog nozzles and some say "sure" but if you tell them to really get into it quick and knock the fire down and subdue it with the use of small hose and the use of the booster in taking the water to the fire, having an ample supply which through small lines using moderate pressures, that means some kind of respiratory protective equipment. I can give Chapter and Book of cities like Kansas City where and when in sight of the fire they get into that so fast, using 150-gallon booster lines very quickly without having to wait to find out, where you can get a self-contained air or oxygen equipment with maybe only a five-minute supply if you have plenty of respiratory equipment on you. There is the thought I want to leave with you and it paves the way to this discussion of perhaps the most important element, and that is the use of small lines. We have had questions from New England up here on matters of hydraulics where they are planning to put a couple of thousand feet of 1½ inch line onto tankers and pumpers and expect to pump through lines 1200 feet and up, so I would like to have you right here and now give some ideas on the proper and improper use of what some of you men think of getting at these fires with light lines, etc.

I would like to call on two Chiefs up front, but I am afraid my neck is way out now. Chief Travers, have you a thought on that?

CHIEF HERBERT TRAVERS, Worcester: I think they are very definitely a part of our present steps in progress. Fire loss is one of the greatest problems of our profession and certainly the small fire line is the answer to it, and by "small line" we mean the smallest line for the type of fire you are fighting. In Worcester we are doing everything we can to work toward that point. We are advancing the use of 1½ inch line to a maximum degree and we use it everywhere we can and are very happy we can put out every fire in Worcester with 1½ inch and smaller. It is reaching the point where 2½ inch is reserved for what we call a pretty good fire. That is our program. That is our belief and we are doing everything we can toward that objective, and the final analysis of it all is cutting down fire loss.

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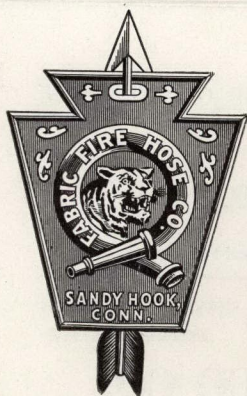
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CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That is the viewpoint of a Municipal Fire Chief with a number of companies, and it is right to the point. It has been said that many of the old-line Municipal Chiefs dislike exceedingly this emphasis on smaller lines. A number of them are coming around to see it and cities like Washington and others are placing 1½ inch on trucks as standard equipment. I want to jump to a small community. Let's take a couple of smaller communities. Is Chief Fred Smith here? Would you either bark out loud or come up here and give it?

CHIEF FRED SMITH, Turn of River Fire Department, Stamford: We are using 1½ inch to go into the fire, using 2½ inch as a back-up line.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Here you have volunteers using Scott air pack, using oxygen masks and saving time and knocking down fires. What would it be with a municipality where you have fewer men on the equipment. Chief Travers didn't bring out the point that we are short in manpower today on these rigs. It is a very serious matter to bring large hose into play and I have yet to see a company go out today with divided wagon body and 2½ inch lines.

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: In Boston it has been the practice to run small lines, a ¾ inch line or a booster line going into the building backed up by a big line. If a company has a big line in it will run 1½ inch with adaptor equipment but bear this in mind, an analysis of some fires will show 1½ inch line lost a good many buildings, so don't put too much dependence on it. When you are going in you don't know what you have got. If you go in with 2½ inch, you have got something. You don't have to open it full.

Another thing is the growing use of fog. We are not using it half enough. With an adaptor going in there you are keeping down water damage and putting out fires. The growing use of fog is with us now.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much. I would like to hear from Chief Pope.

CHIEF POPE: I hope Selden Allen is in the room. I don't think any Fire Chief whether old or young ever used any larger line on a fire than he really thought was necessary. In the olden days he had the chemical and later the booster, but I remember some years ago Chief deCoursey of Winchester at one of the Massachusetts Association meetings argued that there was no fire in a dwelling house, even an apartment house, that could not be put out with 1½ inch line. At that particular time Boston did not carry any 1½ inch hose, but one of the most pleasant evenings I ever spent at a fire was at 710 Beacon Street and I went up there on the third alarm. The first company in was the company from Brookline, and Brookline, being much more progressive than Boston, was equipped with 1½ inch line. It started in the rear stairway on the second floor, had involved the entire stairway and had mushroomed on the two upper floors and one of the best fire captains in Brookline in charge of the first company immediately ran in his 1½ inch line. Engine 37 came in later with the 2½ inch line and succeeded in controlling the stairway. Selden Allen came in a short time later and he was going to be very proud because he felt quite certain his company would have the stairway under control. Needless to say his company with the 1½ inch was in the street and the captain was transferred the next day.

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CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: I wonder if Seldon might expatiate on that. We get silence and very little else out of Seldon. We are beginning to get some thoughts here. We are finding right out here in our own displays, equipment with 1½ inch lines and with boosters, equipment prepared to deliver either high pressure or low velocity which takes enough water to a fire to give you three minutes of good fire fighting and maybe much more, and we never had that sort of equipment at these conventions before. It would seem to me some of us who get around a bit, some fire departments using that equipment are making almost phenomenal stops.

The users of the gun-type high pressure nozzles are crazy about them and we can't laugh them off. Those fellows using fog and applicators are going places and are going fast. To use them in combination we have only heard one Chief stand up here. Those Chiefs who are trying to use equipment in combination hold up their hands.

(There was a small showing of hands.)

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Maybe six or eight out of the entire aggregation. I think it is well to take back the thought to your selectmen and say, "Look, gentlemen, we haven't enough masks, not enough small hose, not enough small nozzles; we haven't got wet water." I think you should and that is why that article was written to enable you to take it back. We have had tremendously interesting replies from Chiefs to get increased budgets. You heard the tunnel disaster story. We have had many fires where you could have used more fog nozzles. Let's have an idea from somebody. Is anybody using wet water?

CHIEF JOHN C. LANE, North Brookfield: I have a 750-gallon pumper and a 500-gallon pumper with a 400-gallon tank and a 300-gallon booster tank on it and in the last two years the major fires, so-called, were put out with booster lines in combination with straight fog nozzles. True enough, we use wet water in the tanks and, as I understand, we have detectors now we can put on the pumpers and I can see a vast step we are taking in fire fighting service and being a volunteer outfit the men can hit it faster and in five minutes put in lines from hydrants, the source of supply, to booster tanks. They have done a wonderful job. The water damage is way down. The fire loss is way down.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Is Chief Holden in the room? I guess he is out right now. Chief Heinz, that is next to your heart.

CHIEF HEINZ, New Haven: I want to leave one more thought about getting to the scene of the fire quick. You mentioned the light line, breathing apparatus and fog. One additional fact which is very important is quick and automatic ventilation. If you try automatic ventilation with other things, I think you have the answer. The old timers say, "never ventilate until you have a water line." If you ventilate immediately at the highest point, by the time the truck is there they won't have to put the ladder way up. I think it is lack of ventilation that makes the small fire a big fire in the upper story, but if you can ventilate quickly—and I think the future holds good possibilities in connection with the sprinkler.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That is a Utopia about to be desired, but I am afraid it is a long way off. It is like having the same Utopia that prevents fire from starting. Automatic fire detection and extinction is that Utopia, and until we get to that

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point which applies to cities rather than small communities where the cost of automatic vents would be so prohibitive they couldn't do it, but at the present time to attempt to control these small fires while they are small by getting in quickly, I would like to leave that thought with you that if we can use more breathing equipment and use small lines as is being done in many of your departments and change your technique entirely to use fog, I believe you are going to be agreeably surprised at the results. That will apply particularly to smaller communities and I happen to be of a small town and it takes time and trouble to get a volunteer to see things that way.

I have time for about two questions or not more than three.

CHIEF McDONOUGH: I wish to be a little at variance with Chief Heinz, my brother there, in regard to ventilation. I want to stress it to every Fire Chief. Delay ventilation until you have your lines. You may have all your breathing apparatus but if a fire goes upstairs it is not much good. I have seen delayed ventilation save a building, where if the roof opened up we would have have a three-story building afire, so watch your ventilation and have your lines ready before you ventilate.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: Thank you very much, Chief. There seems to be a little bit of difference of opinion. Like applying any medicine, it should be applied with a little bit of caution.

CHIEF LANE, North Brookfield: On Brother Heinz's viewpoint, that probably is all right in cities, but definitely when you have to make five or six mile runs out to rural areas, if we had automatic ventilation I don't think we would have much of a building left. For instance, two years ago we had a barn sixty feet long and thirty feet wide. Everything was closed tightly and the owner was standing in front of the door—God's honest truth—with a pitchfork, defying any man to open it until we were ready to lay lines and put water on it. We rolled up with 100 gallons of water ready to protect the place, 2½ inch lines laid and the barn is standing today in New Braintree, Massachusetts. It was in a hay mow and if the place had been ventilated automatically I don't believe the barn would have been standing. It took us over twelve minutes to get there, to say nothing about laying the line.

CHAIRMAN WOOLLEY: That is an intelligent, well-presented argument, and I can see what Chief Heinz had in mind. I believe this goes back to Brother Dougherty's day in New York when he worked on vent systems to relieve the terror in the tenements and out of that grew the type of overhead ventilation which the Fire Service began to practice. Also, I think Paul had in mind hospitals and places of public assembly where the life hazard is high. It is Utopia and it may be one of those things that eventually may happen. I do question its happening out in those areas.

If any of you are interested in staying over, I have a photograph which will demonstrate the use of wet water on a barn fire that was a \$100,000 loss. It involved breaking one aerial ladder and one gravely hurt (crippled for life). One dropped into the barn and the man who had the pipe fell into the barn. It is the only picture I have actually seen, but what saved the man was that prior to the use of 2½ inch hose they had used 1½ inch with wet water from 1½ inch nozzle and it cooled that particular spot in which the fellow fell, so they went in and got him out and he was hardly burned at all. I think we have all had some benefit from

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this. If any of you feel you haven't and have a question for the board of experts, I will try to hold some of them here later.

I want to say to you in closing that you have been a great group and if there has been any difficulty, it has been the fault of the Chairman. Thank you and God bless you all. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: We have another topic to be discussed. Will you please remain out of courtesy to the speakers? We have here a topic which will interest you all: "Should Fire Insurance Companies Organize a General Inspection Bureau?" This is to be given by Mr. Kenneth H. Erskine, Local Manager, Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company, Boston. Mr. Erskine.

MR. ERSKINE: Representing the Bay State Club, I want to tell you first, we are very proud and happy to be a part of this program. Our own meetings with the Fire Chiefs' organization each Fall is one of the high spots in our business life and I take this opportunity of urging all of you to attend next Fall.

The topic today was submitted anonymously, and when I asked Chief O'Hearn what he wanted me to do, he said, "You preside, and read this challenge, and, then duck". I now read the topic suggested for discussion.

"The nation's fire loss has reached an all time peak. Much has been said about this steady increase that we are having, but, actually, very little effective work has been done to reduce the fires in the homes where one of the greatest amount of loss of property and lives occur.

These losses can be reduced now, by the cooperation of all of the Fire Insurance Companies doing business in the United States if they would but act in a body. Today fire business is issued far too easy. A few simple questions are asked and the policy is granted. It can be compared to receiving a "Blank Check" for a "Service Charge". There are no specific responsibilities or requirements that are binding on the home policy holder to make them do their part to remove existing hazards or prevent new hazards from forming which would help to prevent many of the unnecessary fires from starting.

Consider this fact for a moment; before a bank will grant a loan or a mortgage on a home, they first inspect it to see if the property warrants their consideration. If they do grant it they require their investment to be fully protected by Fire Insurance. Still, the organization that takes this risk usually does not even look at the property before insuring it. They do not know its actual condition inside or the amount of the furnishings it contains.

Fire Insurance Companies alone have it in their power to stop a large portion of these unnecessary fires now. This could be done by having the insurance companies form a "General Inspection Bureau", to be supported by funds from all of the various Fire Insurance Companies in direct proportion to the amount of the policies that they write or re-new. After the bureau is established it could become self-supporting by charging a "service fee" for the inspections which would be paid for by the person purchasing the insurance.

This inspection bureau would inspect all types of homes and other property as it came up for insuring. By having one bureau do all of this work it would not reflect back on any one company and it would hold the cost to a minimum. Each type of property would have a "set of standards" to pass. Failure to pass or meet the requirements would mean that NO insurance company could write any insurance

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on that property or that section of the property that did not pass. This in itself should be enough to make anyone do their part to help prevent unnecessary fire hazards, and to make the necessary corrections when requested.

If inspections did not pay, the several large companies that now maintain such a service would discontinue it. Most of these home inspections would be made every 3, 5 or 7 years depending on the life of the policy. Even at that the inspections would be able to eliminate a large number of unnecessary fire hazards. Most communities do not have a home fire inspection program. This certainly would produce the results and get the home-makers to take an active part in the "Fight against Fire". Many homes have been converted into 2, 3 or more families which nobody knows about until there is a fire. It is then that the unexpected fire and life hazards present themselves. This is one way to help prevent such happenings.

In order to make Fire Prevention more binding and make the home owners or the occupants more fire conscious of doing their part, when they do have a fire that starts from carelessness on their part they could be penalized. This could be worked out on a percentage basis depending on the cause.

A penalty for such things as covering up fire hydrants with snow or rubbish should also be invoked.

A safety program such as this would also help save a number of lives from being lost due to fires and maybe the Life Insurance Companies would be willing to help as it would lower their losses.

This program may seem a bit drastic, but with the conditions as they are something drastic must be done to curtail this continual loss of life and property and a program along these lines would at least accomplish the desired results".

SECRETARY'S NOTE: *This topic was submitted for round-table discussion by Lieutenant Lawrence N. Clark, Newton, Mass., Fire Department, a member since April 8, 1931.*

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: The Factory Mutuals do just as you read there. Before they take factory buildings into their association they send their inspector out who combs a building from top to bottom. They then suggest corrections.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: That's right, and with that thought let me help clarify the discussion. Both the Factory Mutuals and the stock companies comprising the Factory Insurance Association insure what we call "superior" risks, generally high valued, fully sprinklered, manufacturing risks. They are first inspected to see if they are acceptable, then periodically reinspected to make sure they are being properly maintained, and the hazards safely cared for. But the number of risks insured by these two organizations is only a small part of the total number insured and inspected by the insurance companies.

All other manufacturing and mercantile establishments are inspected here in New Hampshire by the New Hampshire Board of Fire Underwriters, and throughout the rest of New England by The New England Fire Insurance Rating Association. The primary purpose of inspection is, of course, to determine an adequate and non-discriminatory charge for fire insurance; but hazards not properly safeguarded, are called to the attention of either the building owner, or tenant, and oftentimes an aftercharge is made in the rate to secure correction.

Now, it is probable with some knowledge of this very important inspection

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service rendered by the insurance companies, and of the fact, that about 70% of the building fires which occur each year are in dwelling properties, for example, of 360,000 building fires in 1947 more than 252,000 were in residential properties, that the propounder of this subject asks "Cannot the insurance companies do the same thing with the dwellings throughout the country, thus reducing the tremendous fire waste and saving countless lives in the bargain?" How do you gentlemen feel about this?

CHIEF MOWRY, Attleboro: I think that would be a wonderful thing. I think it is a good idea. It would take a little load off the Fire Chief. I think it would certainly cut down our fire losses, and loss of life, in this country.

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: I think the insurance companies are to blame in a way for this loss. Some years back Mayor Curley was in office—A much younger man—and we had had a lot of fires in certain areas of the city, most of them in clubs. An adjuster came in bringing a fur coat and said to me, "I pulled this fur coat out of the closet; paid \$500 for it. How can you do business with a person like that?" He limited fires in closets to \$25 and Box 1345 which had been the most popular, wasn't pulled for months. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Such action can definitely bring about good results. Immediately following the Chicago fire that city was being rebuilt in the same fashion it was before, subject to another conflagration. The local authorities couldn't or wouldn't, do much about it until the insurance companies banded together and told them that unless they adopted a new building code the companies would withhold all insurance. The city fathers then got busy. The city of Rochester is another instance where the fire insurance companies took joint action in threatening to withhold insurance facilities with good results.

Now, I refuse to duck. The Chief says the insurance companies are to blame for this loss. Let's say, instead, they are not without blame. No business is. Not all firemen are good firemen. Not all adjusters are good adjusters. A good part of the criticism directed at the insurance business is due to a lack of understanding of that business.

Our primary object is to provide protection for loss from fire, sometimes other hazards. That means to financially reimburse a policyholder for loss to his property as contracted, the terms of the contract, or policy, having been drawn by the state legislatures, not the companies.

We must provide this protection at a cost to the policyholder that is both reasonable and non-discriminatory, and at the same time, adequate to the company. This question of proper cost has brought about a development of schedules by which manufacturing, certain non-manufacturing and mercantile risks are rated. It is primarily in the rating of these risks that they are inspected. There are, however, types of risks, dwellings for example, that do not warrant rating by schedule as the average value is insufficient, and the rate obtainable too low to justify the expense. We therefore apply to this class so-called minimum rates which are based on a few classifications of construction, occupancy and protection.

The line between profit and loss is pretty thinly drawn. The average profit for all stock fire insurance companies, on a country wide experience over a long period of years, is only about 2%, or 2 cents out of the premium dollar. In 1947

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the companies operated at an underwriting loss of 1.4%. The year before at a loss of 1.3%, and the year before that at a loss of 1.2%. I haven't the actual figures for 1948, but the loss ratio country-wide is estimated at 53.3% and the expense ratio 43.1%. If these figures are correct the underwriting loss for 1948 will again be 1.4%.

You might be interested in knowing how the premium dollar is spent. Taking the 1948 figures:

Losses took 53.3 cents.

Claims expense 2.9 cents.

Commissions, cost of reinsurance, etc., 26.2 cents.

Field supervision—salaries, rent, travel, etc., 3.3 cents.

General administration, home office expense, salaries, rent, telephone, postage, etc. 10 cents.

Taxes, 3.3 cents.

Inspections and bureaus, 2.4 cents. This included the cost of such organizations as the New Hampshire Board of Fire Underwriters, The New England Fire Insurance Rating Association, The Factory Insurance Association and other similar rating and inspection bureaus throughout the country. You will see from this the companies are already spending 2.4 cents on inspections.

CHIEF GORMAN, Quincy: It would appear somewhat that you have an answer in the paper you have just read. You say a man comes in and wishes to take so much insurance on his contents or dwelling, if he is the owner; and, without too much further ado, he is insured for the amount he wishes to take, and, you say you don't inspect it. It would appear that you have got to decide whether you want to spend enough to examine the premises or not. A good many times I have had inspectors from insurance companies say they have been to certain premises, and, although more insurance is being sought, they ask that we inspect the property. He does not say, "in view of the facts we have found we will not insure him further" and take the insurance away until he corrects the existing conditions.

Therefore, it would appear, sometimes, that the insurance company is satisfied to take a dollar, even though it is not satisfied to take a chance on two dollars. If they think they can get one dollar out of the customer, they take it and leave it up to the fire department to force whatever regulations they can. I don't take that as a point of issue, because you also, have your problems. You represent a company making a profit. It is a business with you, also, the state laws in a good many cases give more protection than the fire department, and the burden or the blame for the loss comes more on the fire department than the insurance company. Whether the answer is wholly in the paper you have read, I don't know. I am not fully versed on the subject. From my experience it would appear that you are satisfied the man wants so much, or wants so much more, without further inspection.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Please, Chief, do not charge these statements to me, I merely read them. And, moreover, I don't think anyone is, or has ever blamed the fire fighting service for the heavy losses that this country experiences year after year. You do exceedingly well with what you have to do with. You are doing an increasingly effective job in fire prevention, which you will all admit is starting to pay off. The question is how can we all do more?

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CHIEF EAMES, Reading: In cases of over-insurance or if the insurance company were obliged to pay the full face value of the policy, would they not be more careful in their acceptances?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: You mean to follow, more or less, the New Hampshire valued policy? Mr. Hudson, can you tell us how your New Hampshire policy works out?

MR. A. CLIFFORD HUDSON: We are blessed with a valued policy in New Hampshire. Theoretically, we do have a little more control than elsewhere. Under our law there is a penalty for overinsurance, but I don't think the valued policy is the answer, although it helps a little. I don't have the figures, but my loss ratio is rather good for dwellings in comparison with manufacturing plants and shoe factories which run about 800 per cent. What I think we should bring out is not the number of fires, but the actual loss per individual policy.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: That is a very interesting point. The dwelling class from an insurance point of view is not as unprofitable as other classes of risks.

CHIEF TRAVERS, Worcester: I think a happy medium would be something the Fire Chiefs would all be pleased to have, namely, a very moderate sized inspection bureau, backed up 100 per cent by the insurance interests, on whom they could call on special occasions. We don't want to forget the fire department is doing a very fine inspection service in practically every community. We do lots of inspecting and prevent countless fires from occurring, but if we, when we came to tough ones, felt we could go to the insurance people and say, "This is a tough one and we would like to have you back us up in this one," we would be very happy. The insurance companies would not need nearly as many inspectors from the standpoint of its being costly or a large undertaking. It could be very, very nominal in size and expense, but if we had really good backing just on special cases, it would help a tremendous amount. Thank you.

CHIEF POPE: I think, Mr. Speaker, the question resolves itself into an economic one. If the insurance companies felt very definitely they were going to reduce the number of fires by having an inspection bureau to take care of dwellings no fire chief or anybody else would ask them to do it. I think they are just as anxious to reduce the number of fires as we are.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: First, Chief Travers, you have ably demonstrated an efficient and sustained fire prevention and inspection service is not only possible but more than pays for itself. It would also seem to me that perhaps you hit on a happy solution of the problem. The fire insurance interests will be willing to cooperate with you in the manner you suggest, I know.

And Chief Pope—you have hit the nail on the head. If it were economically feasible for the companies to inspect every dwelling they insure, they would have done so long ago—and without being urged.

It is was under Sam Pope that the Boston Fire Department wages its first effective fire prevention campaigns. He will remember how discouraged he became at his inability to secure the cooperation of the other city department, for example the Building Department in tearing down conflagration breeders uncovered by his Fire Preven-

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tion Inspectors. This was not a case of needing new laws, but of having existing laws enforced. Perhaps the same condition applies in your city.

Before we get too far away from the economic aspect of this situation, let me give you some figures. The New England Fire Insurance Rating Association with 285 employees, inspected 145,000 risks in 1948. They published 130,000 rates. When you consider the paper work that goes with this, as well as the servicing of agents, brokers and insureds, the checking of policies and endorsements, of which there were 456,000,000, you get some idea of what it takes and costs to run such an organization.

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: If I insure my house, which I have, I have never seen an inspector there. Is that right?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: If you say so, yes.

CHIEF McDONOUGH: Whom would you want to inspect my house?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Yours is the last house we should have to inspect. But, seriously, why should we inspect your house? In my town there are about 7,500 dwelling units and in 1948 there were only 60 fires in dwellings. Do you honestly feel that an inspection by the insurance companies of all the dwellings in Watertown would have prevented any of those 60 fires—or reduced the amount of loss to any great extent? Would it have justified the expense? Now analyze your own city of Boston—and the other cities and towns represented by the other chiefs present. It's plain mathematics.

CHIEF McDONOUGH: It is true in New York that thousands of insurance was granted on a table lamp, a table and a couple of chairs?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: It could be.

CHIEF McDONOUGH: I don't think it is good business for an insurance company to put money out without knowing what they are doing.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: I thoroughly agree but I think I can throw a little light on the subject. Insurance is handled largely through agents. An agent or broker will send in an application or possibly write the policy himself. These agents are licensed by the State. Presumably they know more or less about the insurance business, types of coverages and types of risks acceptable. By and large, they are capable and conscientious, but once in awhile we run up against some one who isn't. Result, a couple of chairs and a lamp. We can't afford to inspect all risks to catch a few instances.

Mr. Hudson spoke of the profit we make on dwellings. Protected dwellings are, for the most part, profitable, though dollars-and-cents wise we don't make too much money on them. As a rule companies not only don't inspect them, they don't even map them unless in excess of \$7,500, because the class is reasonably profitable. With rising costs it is a matter of economics, and we are still making money on it.

CHIEF GORMAN, Quincy: Maybe I missed a point, the defense of the position you find yourselves in from criticism you have met with from the fire service.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Not of what we have done, but haven't done. The

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suggestion is that by establishing an inspection bureau we could cut down dwelling losses.

CHIEF GORMAN: The point is, the inspection has either got to be set up by the insurance companies or fire departments.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: That is the thought.

CHIEF GORMAN: Are you offering as a defense from the figures available to you from the break-down of your dollar, whether you can afford to do it or not?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Not as a defense but as a possible reason for arguments pro and con, so far they have been mostly pro. I would like to hear a couple of con arguments. Jack Duffy, the field representative of Springfield Fire and Marine.

MR. DUFFY: I am from Boston and happened to live in Brookline. Chief Travers brought up the happy medium. It is the happy medium we hope we are attaining now. We are always open to suggestions and for that reason we would like to compliment the Chief who brought out the paper. He spent a lot of time and thought on it and we are hoping to tell our side of the story from the economic standpoint as to why haven't we thought of it before.

Ken Erskine has gone over it pretty thoroughly. This is an economic world. In spite of the loss of life and injuries, the individual is interested more in the dollar than in anything else or he wouldn't be buying plastic or other inflammable decorations for night clubs. So when we do business, we have got to do it on the dollar-and-cent basis. Loss of life is still more important, but what to do?

Chief McDonough of Boston thinks we ought to inspect everything. We work on the theory that most people are honest—999 out of 1,000—and if one person wants to insure two chairs for \$1,000., we hope to catch him when he tries to make his claim. That is our protection. We don't want to charge the honest people an extra dollar or two, in extra costs when that charge is not justifiable on the present experience.

The suggestion was that we might accomplish something by having the companies get together.

That is the first stumbling block because there are very many different types—stock, mutual, direct-writing and reciprocal—and trying to get them all together we feel would be almost impossible. The only time that was ever accomplished was during the war on a patriotic basis. We are competing against each other and trying to get business, and I think it is logical some particular group of companies thinks it could do better without such an inspection bureau. I don't want to bring up the difficulty of trying to get together, but they are there.

There is another point we might get into—that insurance is the background or support of the whole credit structure. Most businesses are dependent on credit and that goes for the home owner. He goes to the bank to get a mortgage and the bank is willing to loan money because it gets an insurance policy. The bank is not interested in whether or not the building is a good one—or the hazards severe. They are only interested in the credit standing of the borrower. Their influence has not always been a good one insurance-wise. Those are all the points I would like to cover now, Ken.

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CHIEF GEORGE C. GRAHAM, Bristol, Connecticut: Why in our inspections when we find a hazard that is a real hazard, can't we get insurance companies to cancel the insurance until such time as the hazard is cleaned up? I had a case of that kind and couldn't get any action. I went to the insurance broker who, in turn, got in touch with the insurance company and they sent an engineer out to look the thing over. We didn't get anywhere very rapidly until the insurance company gave him ten days to get rid of the hazard or cancel \$38,000. worth of insurance. We got the action. Wouldn't that be good in most cases?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: I think you have hit the nub of the whole thing—closest cooperation between the insurance companies and the Chiefs. We have had numerous occasions where we have pointed out to fire departments hazardous conditions in their town, and they usually have been pretty good about having them corrected. The power of the uniformed fireman is pretty impressive to most property owners. Where Chiefs have called our attention to bad conditions we have had to go to the extreme of cancelling our policy before getting any action but that is a long-term proposition, a matter of at least ten days.

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: We have found terrible rubbish conditions and couldn't do anything. We have notified the insurance companies and the alleys were kept pretty clean after that.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: One of the best weapons the insurance companies have is to slap on a charge for the conditions criticised. Property owners feel that argument.

CHIEF ERNEST LAFLAMME, Chicopee: We have heard a lot of talk on dwelling fires. Are we talking of one-family or apartment houses?

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: All residential properties.

CHIEF LAFAMME: I don't believe we have a right to go into a two-family dwelling unless we go in under a complaint. A majority of losses have occurred in private dwellings or two-family apartments, and there is not much the Fire Chief can do to help out. I have had the experience in my few years on the department of giving estimates of fire losses at the end of fires. When adjustment had been made it has been made way over the figure given the newspaper reporters. Therefore, I do not give any more reports to newspapers because of the fact that where you claim a thing is \$5,000. or \$10,000. loss, they might get \$50,000.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: That is an extreme situation, I hope, although I have heard the complaint before. Sometimes adjusters feel the Chiefs modified estimates for their own records. By and large, loss adjustments are becoming better all the time; at least it is our firm intention that they do.

What I am to tell you now, I have purposely withheld for fear of abruptly ending all discussion.

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strued to be in the nature restraint of trade, or of boycott, or coercive, or intimidative, or unfairly discriminatory.

Before coming here I asked a prominent attorney, who has followed this situation closely, if such an inspection organization as has been suggested, were possible. In his opinion it could not be as the elements of boycott, coercion and intimidation, as well as restraint of trade would all be present.

I assure you, however, the suggestion has been pleasantly received and seriously considered. Although we intend to send a transcript of this discussion on to higher authorities for further study, we feel the day well spent for having had this interchange of ideas. Thank you.

MR. HURST, of the Bay State Club: I think we ought to pledge to the Fire Chiefs that any inspection they make necessitating cooperation from the fieldmen and companies throughout New England, they get it for the asking.

CHAIRMAN ERSKINE: Agreed.

CHIEF McDONOUGH, Boston: I move a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Erskine. *This motion* was duly seconded by several, and was carried.

CHIEF LAFHAMME, Chicopee: Have we in the organization any records as to fires in private or two-family homes?

PRESIDENT HILL: You can get that from the State Fire Marshal's office. Before we close this afternoon I would like to have you all realize these gentlemen are all members of our organization, all who have participated. They have taken a vital interest in our organization, especially in the New England Association and I know they are perfectly willing to go just as far as they can to help each and every Fire Chief.

The paper Chief Pope was going to give has been put over until tomorrow morning. This evening we shall have a vital program with the State Foresters and the State Fire Marshals. I hope all the members can be here.

The party down in the ship is for the ladies. No prizes will be given to the men. I have seen to that. You fellows wanted a Round Table Discussion. You have asked for it for the last two years. I hope you will all be here.

(Whereupon the Tuesday afternoon Round Table Discussion adjourned at four-fifty o'clock.)

TUESDAY EVENING SESSION, JUNE 21, 1949

PRESIDENT HILL: The meeting will please come to order. It is now a little past eight o'clock, so let us get going with tonight's topic. The subject matter, as you know from your program, is of vital importance to all, especially during the dry season that we are having, and I think that these men have a vast knowledge of what can be expected under the new Compact Law, which has been accepted by a number of States, and I believe that we have practically every State Forester here in New England, with us.

It gives me great pleasure to turn this meeting over to Mr. A. C. Hudson, Secretary of the New Hampshire Board of Underwriters, who will conduct this Session of our program. Mr. Hudson!

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CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Now, I imagine that the majority of you wonder why I have this assignment of conducting this program. As I recall it, a year ago, we were discussing the forest fire situation, so that I, as a spokesman for a group, was asked what was being done to avert the future disaster, having in mind the situation we have in New Hampshire, where we had certain towns that had left their towns entirely unprotected, to go to other areas.

My thought was that we could develop a program, in case of disaster, so that we would know what to do, so that we could dispatch the right equipment, but not over-dispatch.

With that comment, I want to say that I am very fortunate to have experts from five States here who are well qualified to tell you what has happened to the various States, and what is being done in regard to inter-state coordination.

Now, I don't want to be accused of playing favorites. I could put the names in a hat and follow through, but the printer has taken care of my problems in that respect, so that I am going to call on these men, State-by-State, as they appear on the back of the program.

I am happy to introduce, as our first speaker of the evening, Mr. A. D. Nutting, Forest Commissioner of the State of Maine, who will tell you what has happened in Maine since 1947. Mr. Nutting!

MR. A. D. NUTTING: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I shall be very glad to review briefly what has been done in Maine since 1947, as far as the forest fires are concerned.

Starting in 1948, we thought one of the first things that should be done was to acquaint as many people in the State as possible with the problem, and to get their ideas.

With that in mind, a series of meetings were held by the Maine Forest Extension Service. There were eighteen in number, which covered every section of the State. Mr. Allen of Sanford represented the Fire Chiefs' group, to talk on the building fire problem and the Maine Forest Service handled the forest fire problems.

I believe that we got a great deal from that series of meetings, from the standpoint of general ideas of people, what they wanted in the way of a forest fire program.

We followed that series of meetings with training schools of our own personnel. We had the United States Forest Service come in to give forest fire training to the supervisory force of the Maine Forest Service. We followed that with a series of training schools, largely by counties, for all Town forest fire wardens and others who wanted to attend. We suggested that not over two attend from each town, and about 75 per cent of the towns sent representatives. I think that that speaks very well for the interest there was, when you consider that in Maine, a very large percentage of the towns are very small and we still had at that time several towns that did not have a fire chief or a fire warden.

Following these meetings, about the next thing that confronted us was a very dry season, in 1948, and we worked out with the governor, the fire chiefs and various other people, an emergency set-up, for the fall of 1948, trying to find out as much as possible about equipment, personnel, etc., that would be available in case of emergency, and how it would operate. We had to do it, as far as the organized towns of Maine were concerned, on a cooperative basis, because we had no legal authority,

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and no one in the State had legal authority unless the Governor declared an emergency.

We were very fortunate in 1948 forest fires, for we got through the season very well; even though we had a dry year, the wind and other factors helped to keep down the number of fires and also the size of the fires.

At the same time, we were trying to prepare for the 1949 State Legislature. We knew that we had to be prepared a long time ahead, and in Maine, we have a number of different groups to consider. For a long time, northern Maine has had a State forest fire set-up, known as the Forestry District. In fact, we started back in 1909 when, by special land tax, the landowners went to the Legislature asking that a tax be imposed upon them for forest fire prevention and protection. We had that group of people to consider all over the state, and also the general public, the small landowners through the organized town areas. We knew that we had to have united support of all groups if we were going to be able to put a program through the Legislature. We had a great deal of help during that period from many of the fire chiefs throughout the State, in speaking before groups, discussing it.

In October, we were ready to go before a number of civic groups, volunteer fire departments and county fire organizations, and explain the program which we were proposing, asking for suggestions, as far as they were concerned, changing here and there, and we got a great deal of help from the series of meetings that we held at that time.

We continued holding those meetings through the fall and winter, and during the time the Legislature was in session. We came out of the Legislature, I believe, with a good program.

It has been generally said in Maine that in comparison with other programs, we fared exceptionally well. I think that when you consider it from a money angle, which is very important, because all fire chiefs know that you have to have money in order to have a department and that is one of the essential things, in the organized towns in 1947 and 1948 we had an appropriation, plus money that we got from the Governor's Council, making up about \$100,000, and in 1949 and 1950 we are going to have nearly \$300,000, and the year following about \$30,000 less. So that we think when you are able to sell a Legislature, and especially an economy-minded Legislature, a big increase that is needed, I think it has to have the very near unanimous support of everybody in the State in order to put it across.

We had hearings throughout the whole time. Much credit should go to many of the fire chiefs, who led the fight on that score.

In addition to the increase in money available in the organized towns, there has been an increase in tax through the Legislature to \$135,000 to the Forestry District, and up to a current annual income of approximately \$300,000. So that we do have, in comparison with times past, a sizeable amount of money to operate a forest fire program in Maine.

I should like to point out, here, that we do have a big problem in Maine, with roughly 30 million acres of forest land in New England, and we have about 17 of them, so that even with what we now have, we have a skeleton organization, and we do require the help of every fire organization there is in the State, in order to make it a good, going proposition.

Some of the other things that we got through in the way of legislation were these. We got the authority to district the State, and to have some full-time men

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in the organized towns, and we had very few of those in the past. We believe that will be very helpful in our program, from the standpoint of the winter months. For we have had to put on men to work just about the time the fire season was starting, in the spring, and we have had to take them off in the fall, as soon as the last fire danger was over.

We will have seven full-time men working in the organized towns after August 6th of this year. We are also going to add to the seasonal personnel, and I think that we will have a skeleton organization that will allow us to carry on the program, which we call a step-up program from town-to-state, leaving a maximum of responsibility and authority with the local community. In towns that have good fire departments, we believe we will have very little need to go into those areas. We are expecting and hoping, certainly, that they will be able to take care of themselves to a great extent. But, we are preparing a set-up, which will provide for them, as well as for the small communities, if they need that help.

In 1947, our State set-up didn't provide for paying beyond one per cent of the town's valuation. Any forest fire fighters, any equipment, or anything else used, was given, beyond that point, as, unfortunately, some people from New Hampshire known only too well. For it was passed in the last Legislature that the individual town or community shall be responsible for one-half of the cost on forest fires, up to two per cent of their valuation, the State paying the other half; anything beyond two per cent of the town's valuation will be borne by the State. And we believe that that is an extremely important step forward. We believe that it will be very helpful to our fire chiefs who assist on fires with their men, in towns other than their own, because it will assure them of their pay.

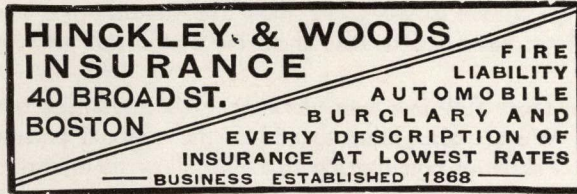
We are also going to pay each town forest fire warden \$50.00 a year. That is a retainer fee to allow him to attend training school and go ahead with a forest fire plan, which are the two requisites for obtaining the \$50.00.

We think that it will be extremely helpful, and especially in the very small towns. We still have many of those, and where we have had very little forest fire protection in the past, we know that this will be helpful.

I have very briefly outlined a few of the things that I think will be very helpful in our program here in Maine during the next years ahead, and I think that we will, with the help of the fire chiefs in our states and the help of the industrial people, we will put on a really good program.

Of course, we are going to have many problems, and we are not going to be able to solve all of them. However, as people work and cooperate together, I think that we can do it.

We were very much pleased that we were one of the first states to pass the Northern Compact on Forest Fires. We think that it can very helpful to us. We are in hopes that New Brunswick and Quebec will come in, as well as the other States, because as far as Maine is concerned, they are even more important than aid from the States, for we are surrounded, pretty nearly by New Brunswick, and we touch Quebec, as well as having a sizeable portion of our State bordering on New Hampshire. We may have to go farther than that to bring in some of the other States as well. I think that it will be very helpful, and I hope that all of the northern states will come into the Compact, and that we will all cooperate together! (Applause)



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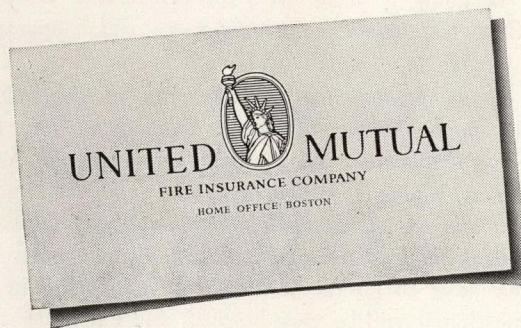
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CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. Nutting. I was very much pleased to hear him speak of the cooperation of the fire services. A few years ago, during the Civilian Defense programs, we used to think that there was very little tie-in between the forest fires and the city and town protection. But, through cooperation of the next speaker, in New Hampshire, we were fortunate in developing what we thought was a good Civilian Defense program, with equal emphasis on the cities and towns and the woodland fires. But, I certainly think that this group is very much impressed with the fine turn-out tonight; this is more or less a guinea-pig session, for this is the first time that we have had a business session at night. It is, I know, of great interest to the fire chiefs.

I know that when I have a problem on forest fire protection in New Hampshire, I turn to one man, John H. Foster, the State Forester, and at this time I am happy to introduce Mr. Foster to you. (Applause)

MR. JOHN H. FOSTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are not a great way from home, and I want to say that we are very happy to have so many visitors who come from all over New England. I have seen a few of our fire chiefs, but I am afraid that a great many of them are not here. At any rate, I am going to tell my little story as briefly and as accurately and as fully as I think you would like to have me give it to you.

I might add a word or two as preliminary, to indicate that Maine and New Hampshire, and all the other States, so far as their forest fires are concerned, have had in the past very little relationship with one another, but we have all, individually, had a great deal of relationship with our Uncle Sam's forest service. In fact, we get a portion of our support from the so-called Scott-McNary Act, which is no New Deal measure; it was passed long before that term was ever invented, and it has been in effect ever since.

Our relationship with the Federal Government is that of being helped, financially, in the manner of a reimbursement, after we have spent our money or while we are spending our money, on the basis of our area and our need and our expenditures and certain other qualifications. I think that all of the States, with very few exceptions, where they have no organization, obtain benefits in that way, under the Scott-McNary Act.

I would like to have some of the money that our good friend, Al Nutting, gets from Maine, but, of course, Maine is a good many times larger than New Hampshire, and consequently they get more.

On the other hand, we get more than money. We get fine cooperation. We get aids and training from probably the best forest fire fighting element in the country, men who have had experience in the great forest fires of the west, men who are Federally employed on the National Forest Service. I will speak in a moment or two about some meetings we have had here in New Hampshire.

In our State, we differ somewhat from Maine. We have our own forest fires procedures. Maine, of course, has its own, and so does Massachusetts and the rest of them.

We, in New Hampshire, cooperate with the towns, and I mean the towns as municipalities, and we count upon the towns to work with us. Each of the towns has a warden and as many deputy wardens as they need, and, where the towns have

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fire departments, we are hungry and eager to work with them, just as Al Nutting is in Maine.

There are relatively few of our fire wardens in the larger places who are not the fire chiefs of the fire companies if they have them. Now, there are, of course, even in a small State such as New Hampshire, many, many thousands of acres, hundreds of thousands of acres of all of our territory which is either unorganized or so slightly organized, I mean so rural, that they don't even have a fire department, and, of course, our function is to work with all sections of the State and, consequently, our responsibilities at times are more difficult in the rural areas than in the more densely populated metropolitan areas.

To us, it is a great privilege to feel that the fire chiefs of our cities and larger communities, or even in some of our smaller communities, are our forest fire wardens. When they have a fire in the community in which they are, they are the boss, whether it a building fire or a forest fire. When we get out into the rural districts, of course, we have wardens who have had no experience with building fires, and who have had nothing to do with them. When a building gets burning out in the distant forests, it probably burns, or maybe it doesn't; but, at any rate, we each have our fields.

As far as our forest fire work is concerned, it started back in 1909, and it has built up through the years by gradual processes into what we believe now is a reasonably fair example of the organization in the more easterly states.

We don't spend so much money; we may not have so much equipment, and we may not have so many intricate and difficult problems, but we do our work.

So forest fires are something, in themselves, that a person has to learn about, just the same as a building fire is something that a person has to learn how to take care of.

As to the forest fires, of course, we need equipment. We need, too, man power, and a lot of it. But, we have to contend with another element, which at times is most difficult to contend with, and that is the weather. For there are certain elements in Nature that make conditions bad or good. For instance, when we have periods of drought, with the soil's moisture gone, with a low water table as the scientists says, and then we have low humidity, and we have high temperatures with good, hot days, and then on top of that, perhaps high winds, then the forest fire fighters have something on their hands. And, that is what we all had in our laps in October of 1947.

I have very few, although some, apologies for what happened in 1947. I am not going to talk about that any more, because I wasn't asked to talk about that.

However, following the 1947 fire period, of course there were a lot of things that were said and there were a lot of things attempted and a lot of things were done.

We held some interesting meetings in Boston, sponsored by some of you Boston fire chiefs and New England fire chiefs and by the Massachusetts Council of Interstate Relations, and little later, we had brought in the Councils of the State governments, the Eastern Division, with headquarters in New York.

The first two or three meetings were attended by a goodly proportion of fire chiefs and a few foresters, and we talked all about what we were going to do to safeguard ourselves from those particular calamitous occasions such as happened in October of 1947. We found out pretty soon, though, that the fire chiefs had their particular problems, and we had ours. We found out that the fire chiefs were pretty much agreed upon the fact that they wanted to get a certain relationship of

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inter-town and inter-state people brought about so that compensation could be obtained in the case of injuries, and, in the first place, that allowances could be made or permission could be obtained for a fire company to go into another state, as well as into another adjoining town.

The result of that has been a bill which I understand and I think Cliff said, has already passed our State Legislature in New Hampshire. We, foresters, at the same time, and during the 1947 and 1948 years, held more meetings, and with the counsel of State governments as a guiding angel from New York, with a great proclivity for working out problems and putting them in good order, we worked up the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact and I am glad to say that a goodly number, most of the Northeastern states, including New York, have accepted that, and I think that New Hampshire is going to do so before the Legislature is adjourned, and we are going to be feeling all right about it.

Now, the purpose of that Compact, if I may add a word or two more than Mr. Nutting did, I regard to be three-fold. One, is to establish closer relationships between the states in the manner of attacking and controlling forest fires. Secondly, we want to work on a more or less unified system of fire planning, and some states are better than others in this respect, because some of them have very good procedures and others are not so good.

Now, fire planning, as conceived in our Compact proposals, starts with the local communities. We want to know all about that local community, as far as its man-power, its equipment, the names of leading persons, the names of men you can call upon when needed, as well as the first defense, second defense and third defense, and what the condition of our equipment is in, etc.

That is the foundation of fire planning.

Then, we go from that to a district, because we all work on the district principle. In New Hampshire, we have nine forest fire districts, making up the State, and in each one of those, we have a District Fire Chief. The District Fire Chief should have all the communities in his district in his mind and the information in his pocket, so that he is prepared to know how many men his town can contribute and how many men this town and that town in a certain locality can contribute, when he needs more man-power. So that in that way, we get next to the State level, and we can have flexibility on the state level. They look after the district.

But, after all, the State headquarters, itself, can't fight the forest fires, and the fighting of forest fires must be done in the District on the town levels. So that we simply exercise the supervisory general necessities, and that would be the top of our planning, until we are going to have this Compact. Our states are going to be brought closer together, and, as that is accomplished, and at the present time it is ahead of us and not yet under way, we will have the means whereby we can send a hundred men from northeastern or northern New Hampshire, into northwestern Maine, if they need it, and vice versa, or into any other locality, to fight forest fires in the back country.

In the same manner, the procedure would be handled if it were in more settled communities, under the set-ups that we now have or propose to have in the Compact.

You understand, then, that our proposals for forest fire mutual aid are that we are working with forest fire equipment, with larger numbers of men in the back country, and where we have the need and the arrangements made, eventually to help mutually, just the same as you fire chiefs are working now, and we will have the

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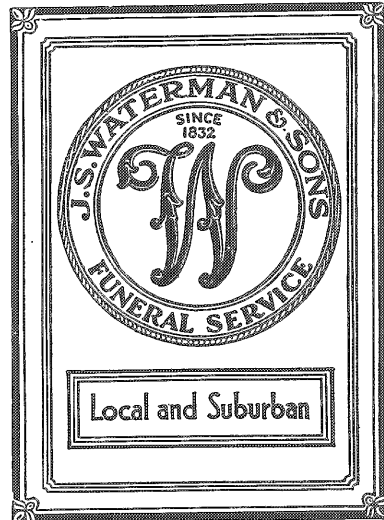
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means of sending the fire equipment into the adjoining towns, whether in your own State or in another State, and be protected as to the costs and losses, etc., just as if you were working in your own communities.

Now, I have been asked what we have done since 1947.

Fire training is very, very important. It is important to you, and well do we know it. It is very important to us, and we have a great need for it, more need, perhaps, than you do, because you have, perhaps, more of it. But, at any rate, we have had fire training in New Hampshire for a great many years, in fighting forest fires, but in the beginning, it used to consist of getting the fire warden and the deputy wardens in the various towns together. I can remember when we had them all together in one hall, that means a lot of them. At least, it would be, if they all attended. We have 240 towns, and we have a warden and several deputies in each town, besides our deputies and others.

Well, we broke that down when we organized the districts, so that we held those meetings once a year in the districts, and now, more lately, we have held a number of meetings in each district, so that we could get firemen together who didn't have to travel so far, and we could get more attention and more interest and more results.

That is our policy, now, as regards our warden conferences.

We have done another thing. I don't want you to think that this is news, because it isn't. But, we have done another thing that is new. We have organized key men. We have reached out into private industry, into every walk of life, where we can find and where we have found ten good men in each of our nine districts, or ninety men who have agreed to serve the State in an emergency when called, no matter whether they work in a factory or in an office or for a lumber company or what they are doing; for they have the authority to leave and attend to State business on a serious, going-fire, when called upon. That started in early 1948, and we have had, since then, training conferences, lasting three and four days with those men in 1948, and again this spring in March, 1949.

There have been some changes since last year; but, I am prouder of that accomplishment than anything else that I could mention here tonight. These men are good, and if they hadn't been good, we wouldn't have them. They are ready to serve; they have served.

We have, in the past two years, used about four to ten of those specially-trained, special key-men for emergency purposes, on fires. We may use them as a fire boss, at fire headquarters, to relieve the warden or to relieve the District Chief, if he is running the fire. We may put these men on night work; we may use them as scouts, and especially if they are adapted to that work, to report and keep us informed as to the progress and condition of that fire. We may use them to look after the equipment and to see that the pump crews are placed where they should be and to see that everything is functioning, and we will also use these men in other ways.

That is the purpose of those special emergency key men.

We pay those men in the same manner, if we use them on a fire, as we would the other fire bills. Perhaps I should say in passing that all of these fire bills are, in our State, first paid by the community which has the fire, unless they are bankrupt, and they can't pay the price, and then the State normally reimburses that community for one-half of the cost, up to one-half of one per cent, and then after that, we pay the entire cost by the State.

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A third kind of training that I will mention in passing is the training held this spring, representing all of the New England Forest Fire Fighting Agencies. I think that some of them from the other states are present here tonight. We held a training meeting period of two or three days in New Hampshire, again because it was central to the other New England States, and New York came in on that. They sent their key men, and we had some of the key men from the National Forestry Service, men who had wide experience in western conditions, to tell us how they did the job out there. Those meetings were extremely valuable, and we gained a lot out of them, and I presume that they will be continued.

I am not going to say much about radio, but I am going to mention it because some of the things that I am going to talk about now are hard luck stories. We played with radio for a number of years, but we haven't gotten very far with it. We have worked with the Fire Departments in radio. We had the same frequencies as some of the departments, and yet we haven't been able to get the money, and we haven't been able to make the progress in building up the kind of radio work that we intend to have some day.

For one thing, we are going to have a change in our frequency; we will have to have a change in our frequency from the AM to FM field, and perhaps it will be good, ultimately. But, we have been held up, partly on account of difficulties that do not relate to us, partly because we spent so much money in 1947 and 1948 that we didn't have money enough to go very far. So that while we have radio going on, and we use it successfully, we do not have the second step, which we feel is essential, and that is to have some connection with the district men at home and at headquarters, who can reach the look-out fire stations on the mountains and the hill-tops and communicate back and forth whenever they need to do so.

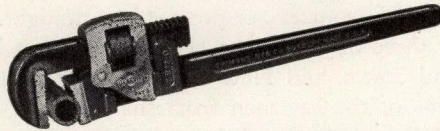
That is our next objective.

In that field of work, we have not made progress as yet.

I haven't much more to say except that I am going to tell you that my Legislature has not been too good to us. You gentlemen read many of the newspapers, and you get a lot of the news in New England, including New Hampshire, and you know some of the reasons for it. In the first place, we are in debt, and we are trying to crawl out of it. And, we are trying to give certain agencies the idea of thinking that they need a whole lot of money, and yet the agencies of the State have been rather economical in making requests for budgets and appropriations. They feel that perhaps we can get along for a couple of years, if we don't have anywhere near all we ask for. At any rate, in our forest fire field, I am just going to say that we asked for each of the next two years, 1950 and 1951, \$46,000 and \$42,000 respectively more money than we had in 1949. We are not going to get it. That money would be spent in three or four ways, and I want to mention them because I am trying to tell you the kind of work that we have ahead and the progress that we are making. We want to spend some of that money on building up stronger districts in our nine districts. We may make ten districts. And, we may make more, eventually. But, we want assistance for our district men, because they cannot do other kinds of work and do fire work and be out all of the time and attend to office work, too, unless they have more help. Beginning recently, we have already given two of our districts additional men, as assistants. So that we are making some progress.

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munities. Our principle in New Hampshire is to spend all the money that we have available for equipment, for small tool equipment, and turn it over to the towns and the communities for one-half of what it costs the State. That is a fair proposition, and we have done it for a long while, and we have built up many, many thousand dollars' worth of goods in small equipment. We cannot furnish power pumps, because that is beyond our pocketbook, but we do everything that we can in the small tool grade.

Now, we are asking for more money for that, and we are getting some money. But, we give all that we can. Then, we call that fire equipment for re-sale to towns.

Then, of course, we want radio installations. We have asked for \$10,000 a year for radio. We have asked for \$10,000 a year for our increase in district organization. We aren't going to get all of that; but, at any rate, we are going to make a start. We will at least spend \$4,000 or \$5,000 a year, and this doesn't include our Federal money, which we use for various miscellaneous purposes, and so we hold back for emergency.

So that while we ask for \$46,000 in each of the next two years, we are only going to get about \$26,000 increase out of this next legislative year. So that I am not too happy about that. But, maybe we can get along.

There is one more thing that I want to mention. We have passed about eight or ten more new or changed laws. We have done a lot of things to strengthen our fire laws, both as regards clearance of slash along the highways and adjacent property. We now have a provision that no lumber slash or inflammable materials will remain within one hundred feet of any building. That is something that we did not have before. We have also passed a law, copied from Maine, which is in effect at this moment, and that is a stoppage of smoking, as far as we can in the woodlands, without keeping people out of the woods. Heretofore, we have always worked with the Fish and Game Department over what is commonly known as a woods closure, and in doing that, we have to stop the fishing, if the fishing season is on, and we have to stop the hunting, if the hunting season is on.

We are now in a very dry, serious period at the present time, except for the scattered showers that we have had over the state. We have had only one or two serious fires in the last three weeks. We had one right close to the White Mountain National Forest, and we had to lug water through power pumps up the mountains; but we are getting by, so far. We hope that we won't have to invoke a more serious ban.

I apologize ten thousand times for talking so long. Thank you very much! (Applause)

CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, John. You have heard a very comprehensive report about New Hampshire.

Our time is getting along, so that I am going to help speed up a bit by not telling a story about the next speaker; I am just going to introduce Raymond J. Kenney, Director and State Forester of Massachusetts!

Mr. Kenney! (Applause)

MR. RAYMOND J. KENNEY: Mr. Chairman and members of the Conference. For the benefit of the visiting brothers from Massachusetts, I want to say that when I left Boston late this afternoon, I did not leave as pleasant an atmosphere as we


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have here in New Hampshire, through the courtesy of John Foster! It was the hottest, most humid and driest day that I have experienced in a long time. So that I say accordingly, you had better stay here as long as you can.

Our situation, as you can imagine, is getting more serious by the hour, and the Governor has called a meeting of the Executive Council for ten o'clock tomorrow morning. If I can predict what may happen, I expect he will issue a proclamation, closing the woodlands as of noon tomorrow, and invoking other restrictions on the issuance of permits for all fires in the open air.

However, I, personally, am not too concerned, because they say that you can judge the future by the past, or at least it is some indication, and as we approach the subject as to what has been accomplished in the year or two just passed, I would point out to you that despite the fact that we have had drought periods in the last year or two, yet last year we had the lowest number of fires for a good many years, or approximately 1,500. That may sound like a lot of fires, but people cause fires, and when you crowd $4\frac{1}{2}$ million people into a little State like Massachusetts, with three million acres of woodland, you are bound to have fires. But, what is more important, and to me more significant, is the fact that last year, the acreage per fire dropped to about three acres per fire, where previously it was up to some eight or nine acres.

Where it is generally conceded that fires in dry periods are almost impossible to prevent, it is at least very significant that because of progress which we have made, and I mean you and all of us, we are reducing the acreage per fire by nearly one-third.

Now, with that situation, although we are in a critical position at the present moment, as we have had none of the scattered showers that the Northern New England States were favored with, yet I feel that we will have made enough progress that we will have no serious situation in Massachusetts.

Briefly, what has been the basis of our progress? Well, I think that first of all, through public relations, we have made our people more fire conscious. Above all, I think that we have erased this imaginary line where we used to see brush fires on one side and building fires on the other.

For years, I have advocated the fact that there should be one Fire Chief, in full charge of all fires in each community, because, as you men know better than I, when a fire of any description is under way in any community, then, it is the problem of every one to see that it is extinguished.

We have noted that there are more forest fires started in our state from burning buildings than there are buildings burned as a result of forest fires. That one fact, alone, indicates to me that you cannot separate this fire problem into different categories. But, I feel that our people are, today, fire conscious. I feel that if and when the Governor issues a proclamation closing the woodlands of Massachusetts, there will be an alertness that will be readily noticeable in the number of fires started.

Along that same line, we have received increasing cooperation from that group, the largest group that uses our woodlands; namely, the sportsmen. No longer do we fear the opening of the fishing season in the spring, and no longer do we fear the opening of the hunting season this fall. The sportsmen are organized and are conscious of the danger and of the personal loss which will ensue if fires are rampant.

Some of the thing that we have been doing in the last year or two that perhaps created this more satisfactory condition is the extension of our radio systems in our towers, the licensing of FM additional sets in the local fire departments, which has

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speeded up materially, not only the reporting of fires, but the subsequent handling of them.

We have added some new fire-fighting equipment.

We have extended our county patrols to some two counties this year, and by the county patrol, I mean cooperative arrangements with the county, where two full time men control the county in radio-equipped cars, also equipped to fight small roadside fires. There is more interest in local patrols. During a hazardous period, such as we are going through at the present time, as to the extent of educating the public to the danger and stopping incipient fires along the roadside, the local interest increases.

But, perhaps the most significant thing of all is the fact that town-after-town and city-after-city realizes the fact that a fire is not out until it is out, and they are spending additional time and money to patrol fires, particularly during the night and early morning hours, to see that they do not re-kindle. I don't have to tell you men that the real loss and the real danger comes from what is commonly called a secondary fire. There is, even on our worst fire days, not an extensive acreage included in the first day's fire. We have found that the attention to patrol, the attention to the job of keeping under control any fire, have probably done the most to step-up or perhaps I should say step down our fire record.

We have used extensively the wetting agents, such as drench and wet water and those things. Those have cut down, materially, the need for patrols, through actual practice in that these deep, burning ground fires are really extinguished, when you add these wetting agents to your water tanks, thereby making sure that they do not re-kindle.

Lastly, we have an organized plan for the mobilization of all the resources of the state, in the event that a situation arises which requires drastic action.

Now, I don't believe that outside of Massachusetts it will be considered an idle boast, if I say that it is my considered opinion that we have in Massachusetts the equipment, the manpower and the know-how, meaning the know-how that you men have acquired over years of service, to handle any forest fire situation which arises under any condition of the weather.

We have tried, in anticipation, to put on paper, and to be ready to activate at a moment's notice, the mobilization not only of the various local departments and the selecting of key fire chiefs in residential and in industrial communities where the forest fire problem is not extensive, but also the State's manpower and equipment, and lastly the military forces of the Commonwealth, into a well-rounded system of protection. That is more of an insurance, with the hope that it will not be called into play.

Now, the theme of this Conference is the Community or the New England aspect of forest fire fighting. Therefore, in conclusion, I will simply say that in Massachusetts, we are adopting the Inter-State Compact. I understand that it has gone through the Legislature, and will be on the Governor's desk within the week.

Another important step is the passage of a law which authorizes fire departments to send their men and equipment to adjoining states on the same terms, where heretofore they could send them to adjoining towns, which protects the men and the departments on the same basis, outside of a state, as within the boundaries of a state, or within their own towns.

I believe that looking at it from a New England angle, fire protection, like charity, begins at home. I think that the best contribution which we can make to New

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England is to make every effort to put Massachusetts first, in a position where we will not be confronted with a situation where we will be forced to call upon our good neighbors for help. And, secondly, to so handle our situation, so that if our good neighbors find that they are in any difficulty, we will have resources over and above our own needs that we can dispatch to them in the hour of their crisis.

So that working along those two general objectives, we hope that we will be in a position, should they ever need it, and pray that they will not, to add our little bit of assistance to our neighboring states, in the event of a forest fire emergency. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. Kenney. I heard one comment during that discussion with regard to wet water, and I know that that could develop into a very interesting subject, but in view of the time limits here tonight, we shall have to pass that up.

At this time, I am very glad to introduce as our next speaker, J. Joseph MacDonald, the Ranger from Rhode Island. Mr. McDonald!

MR. J. JOSEPH MACDONALD: Mr. Chairman, New England Chiefs and Guests. Probably a large part of the jobs that has been done in Rhode Island has been to help prevent fires. Our forest fire record has been one of cooperation.

The Rhode Island Fire Service, as it exists today, came into being shortly after the very disastrous forest fire that we had in 1942. I don't think it was through malice, but through not thinking it out too well, we probably didn't start off on the right foot.

Well, now, how to fight a fire? That is an important thing to do. I happen to know how a volunteer fireman feels about that. I don't think that anything wrong was meant there, but there was just a little over-enthusiasm.

In the past few years, we have done an about-face. There is no town in the State of Rhode Island that hasn't at least one organized fire department.

For our forest fire work, we rely on the volunteer fire companies and the other organized departments to put out the fires.

These fire departments are organized, as well as in their own departments, in the seven regional districts or leagues, and they comprise quite a few departments in each league. We have also a State Firemen's League and a State-wide Fire Chiefs' Club, which makes in all, nine fire leagues.

Two or three years ago, we conceived the idea of asking each of these leagues to send a delegate to meet with us and go over mutual problems, and see if we can work them out. The results have been more than satisfactory, and I do not think that any one could hope for more.

There have been pieces of legislation that we have introduced at various times that have been killed. Some have been killed through the fire departments and the fire leagues. They had reasons to object, and the bills did not go through.

However, we have introduced the same bills through the so-called Forest Fire Conference, and the delegates have gone back to their respective leagues and respective departments hashed it all out, and gone over it, and they came back with their objections, and changed a few words here and there, and the identical bills that were killed, were then passed.

Just this year, three bills were introduced concerning the forest fires; two of

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them passed, and one didn't. One of them, we more or less expected would not pass, and it didn't. We didn't hope too much for it.

Now, some people have wondered about the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact. That falls into the same category. We have no apology to make for not passing it. We didn't expect it to pass. We didn't introduce it; we didn't have time. We feel that before we introduced it, every fire department in the State should have a crack at it. The delegates from the leagues that have met with us have all received copies of the bill that will be drawn up; they will take it back and hash it out with their own members and friends, and we feel confident that when we do introduce the bill, the fire departments will back it one hundred per cent, and we will back it ourselves because we think it is a good thing, and there will be no opposition.

I think that it is better, in any state, to put a bill through with everybody behind it, than it is to have opposition to it, because opposition builds upon itself. If you tell a man that he has got to have something, whether he likes it or not, then he will never like it, and he is always going to object to it.

Now, the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact is an attempt at cooperation with everybody. I think that we have learned our lesson because we have learned it the hard way. It is far better to get along with you men, who are the fire chiefs, than it is to "buck" you. For after all, we are all out to do the same job—to prevent fires.

I will say one thing: I don't say that it is true of a good many or even a majority, but a good many times, you hear a Chief say that it is only a brush fire. Oh, boy, I'll say that there is nothing that is any more misleading than that statement. I know that in Rhode Island, the worst fire that we ever had in the State was a forest fire. I guess that is true in every State in this union. The worst fires are the forest fires. But, they don't start at forest fires; they start off as grass or brush fires. A tree starts burning from something else. So that when you pass a fire off as "only a brush fire" then I will say that some departments are looking for trouble and some departments have found it.

Most of the Chiefs, I think, recognize the danger in a brush fire or in a grass fire; it can spread and the more it spreads the more dangerous it therefore becomes that it will light up something else.

I think I can understand the reason for that being said, because originally, most fire departments were organized primarily to protect buildings. You have a small community, and when it gets large enough, you form a Fire Department, and the primary purpose is to protect your own buildings.

Now we, in forest fire work, don't think that a tree is more important than a home. We believe that first, in a fire, you should save life; next is to save property, and lastly, save a forested area. Nevertheless, if you ignore the forested areas, you may be headed for some homes. That has been proven before this.

We have all gone by the time allotted to us, and I am going to keep mine brief. I just want to say that I think our main thing in Rhode Island has been a system of cooperation. We, in the Rhode Island Fire Service do not think that we put out the fires; we are not expected to do so. We maintain the tower system, which is a great help to all of the towns. We operate more or less on the same procedure as the other New England States, in the matter of reimbursement to the towns, and that, of course, entails a certain amount of administration and office help, and we

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help them out with a certain amount of equipment. In some cases in Rhode Island, it is possible for a town warden to be the Chief, and in some cases, when the fire becomes too big for him to handle, he turns it over to the State; then a certain portion of the bill would be paid one hundred per cent by the State, instead of on a fifty-fifty basis.

We have 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island, and 34 of them have town forest wardens. Not all, but a good many of those town forest wardens, are also Chiefs and Deputy Wardens, under the Warden.

We have a condition in Rhode Island where sometimes you will have as many as seven or eight fire departments in one town. Each one has a Chief and each one is more or less independent.

If you can only pick one warden in the town, one chief is all that can be picked. In most cases, he will pick the other chiefs as his deputies under him. So we go along on that basis. I don't think that it is a perfect system; in fact, I don't think that you ever have a perfect system. But, this system works in Rhode Island, I believe. And, our forest fire record does get better. In fact, last year, it was the best that we have ever had in the State, and a large part of it was due to far better cooperation than before with the Chiefs.

Now, I know that most fire chiefs will realize that I am sincere when I say that when we get along with the Chiefs, we do a good job, and vice versa.

Thank you very much. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. MacDonald.

Last, but not least, we are going to hear from Connecticut, and it is a pleasure for me to introduce to you Mr. Milton C. Stocking, Forest Fire Control Officer of that State! Mr. Stocking! (Applause)

MR. MILTON C. STOCKING: Thank you, Mr. Hudson, and friends. Like the other speakers here tonight, I am going to try to make my remarks short. I could, perhaps, save a little time and simply second what most of the other speakers have said, because they have practically all said about the same thing, in somewhat of a different way, because we are all more or less leading along the same lines.

One of the things, of course, is the Northeastern Forest Fire Compact. That has been introduced in Connecticut, and passed by the House and the Senate and is waiting to be engrossed before it will actually be signed by the Governor. We are assured that there is no question but that it will be signed in a short time. We feel that that is certainly one step in the right direction. It is going to make provisions for dispatching men and equipment to any stricken areas.

In the past, we have worked with the adjoining states, somewhat, perhaps, illegally, but they have helped us out near the line, and we have in turn helped them out. We are accused, in Rhode Island, of chasing the bad fires into Rhode Island, and I am surprised that Mr. MacDonald didn't tell you that!

The uniform fire plan that has been mentioned earlier by a couple of the speakers is something that we believe is going to be a step in the right direction, because it will mean that instead of each state having its own fire plan which would be different, probably, than every other state plan, the states will have a uniform fire plan. It will mean that if any state gets into difficulty and needs help from an adjoining state, they will be able to get equipment and trained personnel to really be of assistance,

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because by each state having a similar fire plan, the men would be able to take over and do an effective job.

And so we believe that that is certainly a step in the right direction.

Now, there has been some mention made of training. Mr. Foster mentioned the training group that was held in New Hampshire in March; that was a worthwhile session, and, fortunately, we were able to send ten men from Connecticut, eight of our rangers, one district forester, and myself, and we came up here for two days, and we learned a lot about handling the large fires. We don't worry about the small fires, because in general we are able to take care of them pretty well. But, when a fire gets out of control, we have got to fall back on training, and really know what to do.

Along the same lines, we have been holding training sessions in Connecticut; we are having these small meetings, and these are generally set up for four meetings of each group, and we are picking out key fire wardens, and some of our key personnel, outside of our regular state forces.

The object there is this, and we learned this the hard way in the fall of 1947. We have help, in general, when we get a fire. Always, people are willing to come out and help us. They have been very, very helpful, and they mean well. But, they don't know quite what it is all about. For every three or four or six of the volunteer people, we should have one man who knows forest fire fighting. Where we fell down, and we found it out them, was that we were short of trained personnel, men who would be able to go in and take over a fire and act as a fire boss, as a line boss or a sector boss, and relieve some of our other district fire wardens and some of our state men. As I have said, we learned that in the fall of 1947.

Now, to offset that, we are holding and have held throughout the past two winters, these training meetings, scattered throughout the state in each ranger area, and we are trying to get twelve to fifteen and not more than twenty of these men and give them four training sessions on how to handle large fires, taking in strategy, fire behavior, communications, setting up of fire headquarters, and a few things of that kind.

Since we did that, we haven't had any large fires where we were able to use these men. I don't know whether there was any connection there. But, we expect sooner or later that we are going to get some big ones, and we are going to know where the men are really going to work and we are going to know the job that they are capable of doing.

In Connecticut, we have a different set-up than many of the other states, in that the State forest fire warden is charged by law with the responsibility of preventing and taking care of forest fires. That is set up by law. We feel that there is some advantage to that, in that there is no need, in Connecticut, in any town, for us to wait until we have an emergency. A fire doesn't have to be 500 acres, 800 acres or 1,000 acres. Just as soon as a fire starts, particularly if it is on a bad day, we are able to transfer men and equipment from any town to any other spot in Connecticut.

We believe that this is a great advantage in that there is no lag there. It isn't necessary to clear with anything or anybody. There is no question as to which town the fire is in. It might be burning in three towns, and it doesn't make any difference. Fires don't stop at town lines. We are able to transfer the men and equipment wherever it might be needed.

In the fall of 1947, we had two or three rather bad fires going at one time.

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We sent men from twenty towns to work on a particular fire. So we feel that it is a help to us, and that we do have that authority, and it works pretty much like a town proposition. We have district warden in the town and the district warden is appointed by the State Forest Fire Warden. The District Warden appoints his own deputy wardens. It is a local matter pretty much, but the deputy wardens are responsible to the district wardens, and the district wardens, in turn to the ranger, and the district forester, and so forth. So there is a pretty close tie-up there. The wardens do not hesitate to call the dispatcher and say: "I have got to have some help down here. Can you send me some help from any other areas?"

There is this difference, also, in that in Connecticut, the complete bill is sent to the State and the State pays the bill. There is no question, there, of any part of it being paid directly by the town; it goes to the State and the State pays the bill. If we are able to determine who caused the fire, that is something different. After the bill has been paid by the State, the patrol man or the ranger might go in and do some investigating; but, the State pays the initial bill, and that includes the suppression, equipment, food and whatever supplies might be needed on the particular fire.

I mentioned that the State Forest Fire Warden has the authority to transfer these men. He has a fire control officer. He has two district foresters. He has thirteen rangers. He has twenty-five patrol men. And, he has about four pump operators. These men all are full-time state employees.

Then, we have, in addition to those men, 140 district wardens; those really correspond to the town wardens, because there is one in each town. We have 600 deputy fire wardens and 320 ten-men trained crews. Those crews are scattered throughout Connecticut, with one, two or three in each town. In many instances, the members of the training crews are members of the volunteer fire department. A number of our fire wardens are fire chiefs. Many of the men are members of the local fire company, officers or volunteers the same as I am. And, we have those men scattered throughout Connecticut. Those are available to be transferred, wherever they might be needed.

With the fire companies, of course, it is a little bit different, because a fire company, of course, should not be transferred very far out of its own community, except in extreme emergencies, when the area cannot be protected.

As far as these other men I mentioned are concerned, they can be shifted, wherever they might be needed. And, in addition to those people, all of our State Park personnel have been trained in forest fire fighting. We have the Landscape Division of the Highway Department, and their foremen have been trained. They have quite a number of tank trucks for spraying and for watering their roadside developments. Those men and equipment are available, as well as our Civilian Air Patrol. We have three planes in use at any time, and a number of privately-owned planes that we can get whenever they are needed.

One of our rangers, also, has one plane that is also available.

There has been a little mention made of radio. We have, in fact, 31 FM radio units, and we hope, soon, after the first of July, that we will be able to get some more. For we believe that that is one of the greatest steps, you might say, to speed up communications and help out in the fire suppression that we have on our hands. The FM, with us, has certainly worked very, very well. We are also adding, this year, one new fire tower.

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Now, it might seem queer to some people that at this late stage we are adding a tower. We are putting it in, in New London, one of our worst areas, where some of the worst fires have occurred, for it is not properly covered at the present time, so we are putting one in there and we hope that it will be in use for us during this coming year.

Just to mention a few matters of legislation, we have a law that allows the Governor to close the woods in Connecticut. It has generally worked this way: When the State Forest Fire Warden feels that conditions are serious enough to warrant it, he will request the Governor to issue a proclamation and close the woods.

We also have a couple of laws that have to do with disposal of slash along the highways.

We have another law that has to do with piling up of brush near highways or buildings.

Those laws are not used often, but there are a few instances when we have used them, and they have helped us a good deal.

Now, the last thing that I would like to mention here is the use of the commercial radio stations in Connecticut. There are 27 AM commercial radio stations in Connecticut, and we have very good relationships with them. They broadcast the forest fire weather for us each spring, that is, the degree of forest fire danger. I am mentioning some of these things because we believe that this has had a great deal to do with reducing the number of fires. We have the use of these radio stations, if we get into a serious period. At any time that we want them to put on anything important, those radio stations will be glad to do it. They carry the fire announcements of danger, from March through the 20th of May; during those sixty-three days, they put on 5,067 fire danger announcements, over the radio stations in Connecticut. Those are strictly the announcements that we gave them and asked them to put on each day.

In addition to that, we put on warnings. But those 5,067 announcements gave the degree of forest fire danger for the day.

We believe that that had a great deal to do with the reduction in the number of fires this year.

Our fire wardens issue permits, according to those radio announcements. If it is a high danger day, the fire wardens issue an announcement saying that no burning can be done in the open. The people get to know their facts in this way. So that we have fewer fires in Connecticut on a high danger day than we do on a day that is not as dangerous, because the people hear the announcements, and they apparently are being very, very cautious.

We believe, also, that on this weather reading, we give out the degree of fire danger, and our tower observers use it, our rangers use it, and by knowing how dangerous the condition is, really, they know whether to send one crew, two crews, or two crews and a power pumper, or what help is needed to put out the fire. We believe that that is a big help and an aid to the wardens, to know what help to send, how much to send, whether to send just men and hand tools or power equipment.

In closing, I will say that we believe that the use of these radio stations, these commercial radio stations in Connecticut, we will be able to reduce the number of fires that we get, particularly throughout the danger days, and if we can reduce those fires on those really dangerous days, then we will feel that we are in a much better condition to take care of the few that do get started. (Applause)

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CHAIRMAN HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. Stocking. Now, in view of all of these fire marshals who are staring at me, I am going to call this part of the session closed. But, first, I want to express most sincerely, my appreciation to this group of men, who in my opinion, have given us one of the most comprehensive and detailed reports of the forest fire services that I have ever heard anywhere. I think that this has been a very definite contribution to this phase of our work. (Applause)

I shall now turn the meeting over to President Hill. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: For the concluding part of this evening's program, I am very gratified to see this very excellent audience present, because this is the first year that we have tried this experiment of having a night session, and I want to tell you that it makes a fellow feel good when he sees the hall almost filled, and this in view of the show going on in the ladies' entertainment. However, I found only eight or ten of the boys down there, when I looked in on them. So I want to thank you all for your kindness in coming here tonight.

We are now going to have the session of the Fire Marshals', and the topic "The Relation of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Chief?" will be discussed. Following that, we have a moving picture which was shown in Miami on "The Atom Bomb" which I hope you will all stay to see, because Colonel Parker, who is presenting this talk and picture has come here from Washington.

I am going to turn this meeting over now to Fire Marshal Everett I. Flanders, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He has put the time limit on these boys, and I hope that you will all bear with us for a short time.

It is a distinct pleasure for me to introduce to you Marshal Flanders of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, who will conduct this portion of tonight's session, and he will make it snappy, I know. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN FLANDERS: Thank you, President Hill. I am going to try to speed this up by asking each one of the boys not to talk over five minutes, and maybe they can cut it even a little shorter. As I do not want to take up any time right now, I am going to reverse the procedure, and ask Captain Ross V. Urquhart of the State Police of Connecticut to come up here to speak to us. (Applause)

CAPTAIN ROSS V. URQUHART: Thank you, Marshal Flanders. I am glad that you realize I am at the bottom of the list, but I am not out!

The subject is "The Relation of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Chief", and my remarks will not take too long as I have a few notes here.

Connecticut has a unique position in its statutory requirements for relationship between the State Fire Marshal and the local Fire Chiefs. Fire Chiefs are the official Fire Marshals in the district which they serve, with a very few exceptions. In the larger cities, deputy chiefs, under the supervision of the chiefs, are designated fire marshals, but in a large majority of the towns and cities, the chiefs are the official marshals.

For a number of years, the State Fire Marshal's office has been charged with the duty of receiving and cataloging fire reports from local chiefs or marshals, and assisting in the investigation of suspicious or incendiary fires. A few cities have established arson squads with their police departments, who usually assume investigations and prosecutions. But, these departments may also call upon the State Fire Marshal, for assistance, and often do. We must say that this arrangement has been highly sat-



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isfactory, from our point of view, and our relationship with the local officials has been most cordial.

For twenty-five years or more, the Commissioner of State Police, as State Fire Marshal, has had the added responsibility of establishing fire safety regulations for motion picture theatres, and the enforcement of such regulations. This authority was delegated to the State Fire Marshal, after a serious theatre fire, in which there was a great loss of life, and it was found that there was little or no control from a fire safety standpoint.

Licensing and regular inspection by the State Fire Marshal's office has been required, since then.

This does not mean that the local fire chief or fire marshal has been void of authority in respect to theatres. To the contrary. As a result they have definite State standards to enforce, and in some cities, they have, by local ordinance, more stringent regulations which supersede the minimum State standards.

Our office welcomes the assistance of local fire chiefs in the enforcement of theatre regulations. I would say that we would be in a bad position, if it were not for the active participation and interest of the local marshals.

In more recent years, other subjects were added to the regulatory responsibilities of the State Fire Marshal. First, there was the transportation, storage and the use of explosives, then the flammable liquids, for dry cleaning establishments, and following the circus fire, all tented amusements. In all of those matters, the local fire marshal is looked to for supervision and enforcement.

Our office makes it a practice to confer with the local marshals in every phase of this work, and in all instances, we look to the local officials for approval before licensing.

The most recent and most important authority vested in our office was the State Fire Safety Code supervision, provided by the 1947 Legislature. Under this Act, we are charged with the responsibility of enacting regulations or minimum standards for fire safety in all buildings, except manufacturing establishments, and one and two-family dwellings. Manufacturing establishments are controlled by the State Department of Labor, and the Legislature felt that fire safety standards were not necessary for one and two family dwellings.

Here, again, the local fire chiefs or marshals are given the major role in enforcement matters. The law is so written that they are not restricted to the application of our standards alone, for each city or town may have more stringent regulations, and in the absence of local or state standards for an unusual condition, the Chief is empowered to order the abatement of hazards, which may result in the loss of life and property from fire.

This Code is being enacted and enforced in progressive stages. It now applies to places of assembly, hotels, hospitals and convalescent homes. A great deal of effort has been applied by the local marshals in its application, resulting in greatly improved fire safety conditions throughout the State.

Our office is certain that little would be accomplished without the whole-hearted cooperation of the fire chiefs, and we realize that we likewise, must be cooperative. The local chief or marshal is looked to by his townspeople for guidance and protection in matters related to fire safety. The State Fire Marshal, therefore, must look to him for enforcement activity and must see that his official position is respected.

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Much can be accomplished by proper relationships between the State Fire Marshal and the local fire chiefs, but we, who represent the State, must be willing to take the initial step towards proper cooperation. (Applause).

CHAIRMAN FLANDERS: Thank you very much. Next, I am going to introduce the Fire Marshal of the State of Rhode Island, E. Ralph Bonat. Incidentally, he was just elected the Second Vice-President of the Fire Marshal's Section of the National Fire Protection Association. (Applause)

MR. E. RALPH BONAT: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen. In Rhode Island, the Superintendent of the State Police is also the State Fire Marshal ex officio. He, in turn, appoints an officer in the Department as Chief Deputy Fire Marshal, who is placed in charge of the Bureau. He maintains records, and also supervises the work of that bureau. The Fire Marshal also appoints every fire chief in the State a Deputy Fire Marshal, as well as police chiefs, and one or two others. I am thinking of the Factory Inspector, for one.

The Deputy Fire Marshals are required to make written reports to the Fire Marshal's Bureau of all fires and fire investigations in their respective jurisdictions, and the fire marshal must send in an annual report of the Bureau's activities to the General Assembly.

Grass and brush fires are not included in such reports, unless there is damage to structures, or automobiles or loss of human life.

Now, it is the duty of the State Fire Marshal to enforce all the laws in our State, in regard to the prevention of fires, the suppression of arson and investigation of the cause and origin of fires, and the circumstances surrounding the same, and the State Fire Marshal does cooperate with the Fire Chiefs and others in the enforcement of the laws of our State and the ordinances of the several cities and towns relating to fires, and particularly in regard to the storage, sale or use of combustibles and explosives, the installation and maintenance of automatic and other fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment, the construction, maintenance and regulation of fire escapes, the means and adequacy of exits, in case of fire, in hospitals, churches, asylums, schools, halls, theatres and amphitheatres and numbers of places in which persons live, and congregate from time to time.

In March, 1948, as a result of the President's Conference in Washington the year before, we, in Rhode Island, held a Governor's Conference on Fire Prevention and Protection. It was held in Providence, and there were nine committees formed. Practically every fire chief in the State took an active part in one or another of these committees, or in some way or another.

At the conclusion of the Governor's Conference, a continuing Committee was formed, and plans were made to adopt a number of recommendations that were made at this Conference. Among these recommendations was the strengthening of the fire laws of our State. In 1949 General Assembly, eight bills were sponsored by this Committee and introduced, and seven of those were passed and made a part of our fire laws.

In addition to that, four were sponsored by the Fire Chief's Club, and the various Leagues throughout the State, and endorsed by the Governor's Conference. This is an exceptionally good percentage, as all of you fellows from Rhode Island know.

The first of these bills sponsored by the Governors' Conference gave the fire chiefs and their assistants the authority to inspect and certify in writing that all

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buildings required to have a license for shows and other places of amusements would meet the law in all respects, before the licensing authorities could issue a license.

Previous to this law being passed, this duty was imposed upon the building inspector. However, as we all know, many towns don't have one, and many licenses have been issued without the proper fire inspection.

Another, was a bill requiring fire alarm boxes in all hotels, where there is a general fire alarm station, and an electrically operated fire alarm system. The supervision of this is to be by the Fire Chief.

Also, watchmen are now required by law to make inspection of stairways, passage-ways, corridors and exit doorways, for obstructions, maintenance of exits and exit lighting and fire protection equipment. They shall also cause an alarm of fire to be transmitted immediately to the Fire Department, in case of fire, or suspicion of fire, such as smoke or heat in any part of the building. Previously, the law only required that the watchmen be properly assigned.

Inspection showed that the night clerk was commonly used as a watchman and never left the first floor, and had to call the Manager if a fire was reported, thus delaying the reporting of the fire to the Fire Department.

Exit signs of the illuminated type of six inches in height, are now required. Previously, the law required this type of exit sign only in theatres and halls.

Another one is that interior fire alarm bells for notification of guests we now require to be tested at least each month, and be under the control of a responsible employee. The fire alarm bell may be tested by the State Fire Marshal at any time, with prior warning to the guests. Previously, the law required this bell, but inspection showed that the bell was never tested by the hotel employees. This alarm was left to good luck if it would work properly at the required time of an emergency.

The fourth bill passed was in regard to dine and dance places and bowling alleys. They are now under the supervision of the Fire Marshal, for means of adequacy of exits, in case of fire. Also, all places of public assemblage are now required to have all decorative materials rendered flame-proof. Inspection is provided for by the Fire Department. A definition is also provided for a place of public assembly. Previously, the law required flame-proofing of material for tents only.

The sixth one is in regard to the coin-operated machines or devices for dispensing of petroleum products. That is now prohibited. The automatic dispensing of petroleum products is also prohibited.

Although Rhode Island has had no experience with the coin operated machines, the experiences that the mid-west and the western states have had prompted the passage of this law.

Rhode Island has had some experience with automatic nozzles; they are dangerous, from the standpoint of fire safety. Some of the larger oil companies have prohibited their use in their own company-stations for sometime.

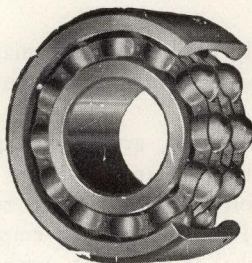
Seventh, where not provided for by town or city ordinances, the attorney-general shall prescribe the place or places, the manner of storing and safe-keeping, and the quantity to be stored in one place, of the sale of petroleum, oil, liquefied petroleum, coal oil, and other inflammable liquids, as well as oil burning stoves. Previously, the law provided that each town or city provide inspection of petroleum. However, many towns do not have the facilities; therefore, there were no regulations for the storage of petroleum and its products. The attorney-general's rules and regulations

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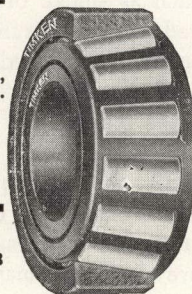
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provide a code for the entire State for the storage, etc., of petroleum, liquefied petroleum or bottled gas, which is being used extensively in the rural areas, and where there were previously no regulations on the product.

The attorney-general's rules and regulations will provide a code for the entire State.

Some cities and towns have ordinances on the installation of oil burners and oil burning stoves. But many cities and towns do not have any ordinances governing the installation of oil burners. The attorney-general's rules and regulations provide a code for the entire State on that.

Four other bills were sponsored by the Fire Chiefs Club and the Leagues, and were endorsed by the Governors' Conference. The first of these is the Television bill, which provides that the cities and towns can prescribe by ordinance the installation of television and antennas. Another is the dry sprinkler bill, providing that owners of manufacturing, storage, and business buildings install sprinklers, on approval of the Fire Marshal, after there is notification that a fire hazard exists.

The last bill is the one that strengthens the Governor's proclamation, closing the forest lands.

I believe that these facts which I have just mentioned are certainly evidence of the high degree of cooperation existing between the Fire Marshal and the local Chief. We, therefore, must concede that the relationship between the Fire Marshal and the local Chief is certainly very close.

Thank you very much. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN FLANDERS: Thank you, Marshal Bonat. We are now going to hear from Chester M. Kirby, Deputy Fire Marshal of the State of Vermont. Mr. Kirby! (Applause)

DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL CHESTER M. KIRBY: Marshal Flanders, Members of the New England Fire Chief's Association and Guests. In our little State of Vermont, we have a somewhat different problem, to a certain degree, than you have in some of the other states in the New England group, by reason of the fact that we have so many of the smaller towns that do not have a Fire Department. They do not have any regulations. In other words, that is the New England independence; they just don't think they need it; therefore, it places upon the Fire Marshal's office in Vermont an added burden of trying to assist people in those towns to prevent the loss of life.

Our Fire Marshal's Department was originally set up under the Insurance Division, under the Insurance Department, and it went on that way for about twenty years. The chief duty on the Fire Marshal was the investigation of fires, of suspicious origin. As time went on, the Legislature saw fit to pass laws which gave the Department added duties; but, they failed to provide the necessary funds, until about 1941 or 1942, when they did give us a couple more men for the investigation and inspection work.

Then, in 1947, they were transferred from the Department of Insurance to the new Department of Public Safety, which was set up at that time by the State Legislature.

In 1949, our Legislature passed a law which transferred the members of the Fire

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Marshal's Department, to the Division of State Police. Although we will operate as a Fire Prevention Division, we will be members of the State Police.

Incidentally, every trooper in Vermont has certain authority with respect to the duties of a Fire Marshal, wherever he may be. Our Fire Marshal Law, in other words, our duties are more or less set by statute. They include the investigation of fires of unknown or suspicious origin, the promulgation and enforcement of fire prevention regulations, relating to all types of buildings except private dwelling units.

Now, our Legislature was very lenient. They gave us a very broad scope in allowing us to set up these regulations. In other words, we can set up regulations relating to the installation, maintenance of heating equipment, which includes oil burners, electrical wiring, electrical apparatus, the installation and maintenance of fire extinguishing equipment, fire alarm system, etc. In other words, they gave us a very broad authority. We also have the periodical inspection of all buildings, except private dwellings, the promulgation and enforcement relating to the storage, transportation and use of inflammable fluids, gases, explosives and inflammable materials.

Our attorney-general has ruled that this is a very broad law, and it will include dry cleaning plants, gas line storage plants, the transportation of these fluids, gases, dynamite, fireworks and fire proofing of materials, and so on. Also included in this is the enforcement of a law relating to the construction and operation of tank trucks transporting inflammable fluids over the highways.

We also have the promulgation and enforcement of regulations relating to the sale and installation and licensing of lightning rods installers. I don't know whether any of the other States in the New England group have that, but we find that it is a serious problem in our State. We have had so many installations, and we have had so many people selling defective equipment that it has become dangerous, and it is a serious menace, and therefore, we are making an effort to straighten this thing out. As a matter of fact, we have had several fires in the past year or so, caused by the defective installation of lightning rods. That is something that we are concentrating on at the present time.

We also have to keep the records of all fires occurring in the State, where more than \$50.00 damage is done. We have to keep a record of investigations, suspects, building inspections, tank trucks, and so on.

We do not have any jurisdiction over the local Fire Departments, but we have public relations with all of the Fire Chiefs, and our public relations are excellent. Our authority, with relation to inspections and enforcement, is concurrent with those cities and towns having fire ordinances, up to a certain point. But, in other cases, we can supersede this jurisdiction, in case such local ordinances are below the minimum requirements of our regulations.

You see, we have in our State 246 towns, but out of those 246 towns, there are only 12 that have paid fire departments; I mean, fire departments on duty at all times. We have a number of volunteer fire departments, but we have many towns that do not have any. We cooperate with all fire chiefs and departments to the best of our ability, considering our limited personnel and funds. We assist them in any way possible, in case they are unable to cope with a situation themselves, and we have always received one hundred per cent cooperation from them. However, we are glad to say that the 1949 Legislature did give us a substantial increase in money in

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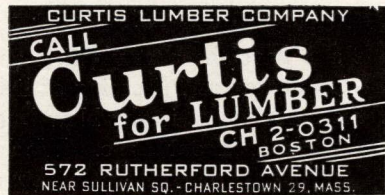
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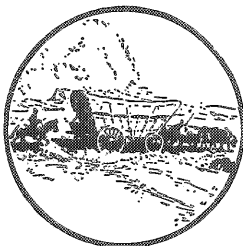
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order that we might increase our personnel, and, in turn, be able to be of more assistance to our fire chiefs.

As I said before, we have received the cooperation of the fire chiefs one hundred per cent and we are at their service at any time, day or night. Thank you very much! (Applause)

CHAIRMAN FLANDERS: Thank you very much, Marshal Kirby. Our next speaker is Aubrey G. Robinson, Fire Marshal of the State of New Hampshire. (Applause)

MARSHAL AUBREY G. ROBINSON: You have heard the rest; now, you are going to hear the best! I am going to give it to you from a little different angle.

Practically all of the Fire Marshals' offices are set upon the same system, as to the fire losses and the work of the office. But, our office is a new one, so I guess probably I am the baby Fire Marshal of the New England States! We have not been in existence two years yet! But, coming down to public relations, I don't think that there is any other State where the officers band together any more than they do in our State of New Hampshire.

We are trying to run this office, practically, as a fire prevention bureau. One fire prevented is worth two or three that are extinguished.

And, getting back to our public relations, we cooperate with our Chiefs one hundred per cent. We can't get around as fast as we would like to, but we will get there, if they will bear up with us.

We never go into a town, without personally finding the Chief, because whatever problem we have, we want him to go along with us, because afterwards, if he takes our advice and the counsel that we give him, it is his baby and he has got to take care of it. We have had good cooperation from them.

The Fire Marshal's office is set up under a Board of Fire Control of five members; one from the manufacturers, controlling industry, one from the Fire Wardens, one from the Fire Chiefs, and one from the Board of Underwriters. The Fire Marshal is the Executive Secretary of that Board. The problems that come in, there, are taken up with the Board to settle in the way that seems best for the problem at hand.

We don't like to talk too much on the arson end of the matter, for that is one phase of it that is by itself. But, let us take the small Chief in our towns; when they have a fire, they like to know what causes the fire, the same as they do in the cities. The townspeople look to him to tell them the cause of the fire, and they are quite critical of a small Chief. The small Chief is doing a swell job, and we try to preach, in our relations with the citizens of the town, that they should back him up.

With reference to your fires, somebody has got to be the boss, and it is one thing in this State, I think, with the Forestry Department, that they do, wherever they can, and that is to appoint the Chief the Warden of that town, thus avoiding a lot of conflict between the Wardens and the Fire Chiefs.

Now, I have a little piece that I have all written up here, and I guess it won't take long to read it, so here goes.

The relations between the Fire Marshal and Fire Chiefs should be very close, and they are in this State.

The Chiefs of the small towns are mostly call chiefs, and do not have the experience in the inspections of buildings and investigations of fires.

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The Fire Marshal should be ready at all times to help the chief of the towns in their problems. Without the town and city fire chiefs the Fire Marshal would not get very far.

The fire chief knows what his individual problems are as to the topographical aspects of the town, water supplies, equipment needed, etc., and also knows the citizens that he is protecting. With his knowledge of the aforesaid and what advice he can get from the fire marshal, many problems that he has had in his mind are automatically cleared up.

By far and large, the small town departments are doing a swell job in extinguishing fires and many a problem can be solved by watching them. They are up against it on many of their fires for the (1) lack of water, (2) lack of apparatus, and (3) lack of training.

(1) The lack of water is responsible for the loss of most buildings and the tank truck is the answer to this problem.

(2) The lack of apparatus is a drawback many times in extinguishing a fire, but no town or even city can afford a fire department to take care of conflagration size fires.

(3) Lack of training on a uniform basis accounts for the third part of fire extinguishment, not that good work isn't accomplished, but effectiveness is lost and valuable minutes are lost in not knowing just what to do and where to do the most good.

The answer to the aforesaid is the Mutual Aid set-up whereby each town will have the necessary apparatus in tank trucks and engines to combat serious fires, and where this mutual aid is in existence, it has made a good name for itself.

There has been so much said and not much done on uniform training that it is the opinion of most of our fire chiefs that this uniform training should be taken over on a State level—that the State establish a fire school providing the necessary equipment and instructors, maintain the same the year around. Have a schedule whereby each town could send a man or number of men for at least two weeks, the state of provide the necessary requirements for their attendance, and pay for their time while attending the school.

This may seem a large order, but we believe it will pay good dividends in the long run, probably not cutting down the number of fires, but by saving property that is now destroyed for the lack of knowledge.

FIRE MARSHAL ROBINSON: We employ one full-time inspector, and he does nothing but inspect theatres, a great many of them were in poor condition. The modern theatres are all right, but we have a lot of the so-called old type of theatres, in halls and places like that. So that every theatre has been inspected. We are now on the re-inspection of the outdoor theatres, because we figure that they can get a fire in their booths the same as other places, and people can get panicky, even in their automobiles.

We help them out on the seating capacities, their exits and fire escapes, and it is getting around now, so that on a lot of buildings where the fire escape manufacturers are putting on fire escapes they come to the office for the type of fire escapes to use and the best place to put them. So that is what I call cooperation and good relations with your public. The better the relations are with them, the better it is for everybody else.

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A little was said on the matter of our mutual aid bill. Well that bill if it hasn't been signed today, I think that it will be signed before the end of the week. That bill will allow the Fire Warden or Selectman or whoever it is, to give the Fire Chiefs permission to help out any town without calling on somebody to give them permission, for many a good few minutes have been lost on a lot of fires just because of that one question: Who is going to tell us to go and who is going to be responsible? This will take the delay out of it.

We have another bill before the Legislature for flame-proofing all hallways two stories or more, that they shall be painted with a flame-proof paint or some other material which will not spread the fire. That has passed our Senate and it is now up to the House of Representatives for their approval. Whether it will get by that body remains to be seen.

I want to thank you for this opportunity to speak before this group, and to tell you of the cooperation and our public relations here in New Hampshire! (Applause)

CHAIRMAN FLANDERS: Thank you very much, Aubrey.

I should like to take a moment or two, to say that we, in Massachusetts, in the Fire Marshal's office, try possibly as hard, if not harder, than the other Fire Marshals do to get good cooperation between our office and the Fire Chiefs. There has never been a time since I have been Fire Marshal that I haven't welcomed a Chief, personally, if he came in, and I gave freely of my time. And, if he couldn't come in, he could just call me on the telephone or write me a letter, and he always received the same good attention, for we are always glad to hear from them.

We did have a school, during the last week in April, at Framingham. Of course, most of you Massachusetts Chiefs are familiar with it. At that particular time, we tried to cover the oil burner regulations and the liquefied petroleum and gas regulations, by discussing them and also having demonstrations of oil burners, showing the safety features of them. We also had demonstrations showing the burning of liquefied petroleum gas and the control of it. We in the Fire Marshal's office got a lot out of that Conference. I hope that the Fire Chiefs did, also.

This subject tonight, "The Relation of the State Fire Marshal to the Fire Chief" makes me wonder whether or not the relationship was brother-and-brother or father-and-son, or perhaps in some instances it might be some other relationship that you might think of. I do want to bring this part in very briefly, about the discussion on plastics this afternoon. In October of last year, I gave a paper at a meeting of the Society of Plastics Industries at Manchester, Vermont, and I brought out in that paper that the plastics industry should pretty much control and police their own industry, because if they don't they are headed for trouble, because sooner or later if they persisted in manufacturing dangerous commodities, it would lead to legislative action which would put some pretty stringent rules on the manufacturer of any type of plastics. That was pretty much the theme of my paper all the way through.

Last Christmas, in Massachusetts, I know of two instances, where we had the so-called canaries, or little birds, with the bulbs in the center of them to light them up to use on Christmas trees, and in those two instances, the bulb melted and smoked and the Fire Department was called. There was no fire in either case.

Just during the past three weeks, I have been in contact with the Society of Plastics Industries in New York, and they maintain that they have had considerable discussion about those Christmas tree ornaments, and the industry maintains that they

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will not burn. I had each one of those cases investigated, and in one case, the canary was ignited by holding a match under it. But, it hasn't been proven, yet, as far as I know, that the bulb itself will ignite a Christmas tree.

I did bring to their attention, however, that where we disseminate so much information at Christmas time relative to the hazards of Christmas trees, any one who sees smoke emanating from a Christmas tree is not going to sit by idly, in other words, they are going to put it out as soon as they can.

As far as state control over the manufacture of plastics is concerned, that, I think, is really going further than any General Court in any one of our States is willing to go.

In other words, I think that they want to leave it at the local level and not at the State level. If you start controlling any industry like plastics by saying that you can't make this or that out of plastics, without it first being tested, you would have to set up a laboratory and a rather extensive bureau to test the things being made by the plastics industry today.

I attended a show in New York last fall and I was amazed at the number of articles that are being manufactured from plastics. I came back with the thought in mind that 75 per cent of everything that is manufactured out of metal today can be manufactured out of plastics, and probably 85 or 90 per cent of everything that is manufactured out of wood can be manufactured out of plastics.

So you can see that it would be a pretty gigantic thing to set up a bureau to test all of those things. And, can you stop there? If you go to the plastics industry, why not go to the clothing industry? Why not go to the rubber industry, or any other industry that makes anything that is inflammable? And, you gentlemen, as Fire Chiefs, know that there are very, very few things that cannot be burned or destroyed by fire.

That is about all that I want to say. I want to thank you very much for your kind attention to this part of tonight's program. I also want to thank the Fire Marshals who participated with me on this program. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: Our last speaker of the evening is Lieutenant-Colonel David B. Parker of the Army General Staff, Washington, D. C., who is going to address us on the subject of "Atomic Warfare" and then a moving picture will be shown by him. I give you now, Lieutenant-Colonel David B. Parker! (Applause)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL DAVID B. PARKER: Thank you, Mr. President. There are some disadvantages to being the last speaker on the program, and I do feel somewhat like a mummy, pressed for time.

I might say that you were almost spared having to listen to this at all. My friends were coming up in a small plane, and ran into a thick layer of fog, and had to hitchhike to the hotel here, after landing at Lawrence, Mass.

I do have a film that I want to show to you, but first, I should like to say a few words about "Atomic Warfare."

The whole National Defense and Atomic Energy Commission are anxious to have this picture shown to all citizens of our country. But, this subject particularly concerns those of you who in the fire fighting business, because the atomic bomb presents perhaps the greatest fire hazard ever created by man.

Now, a great deal can be said about the bomb, now, which was not said before.

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More and more information is being released, and we are getting more and more hope on it all the time, and we should all be very much interested in it. We should understand the hazards, how big they are, and at the same time, how small they are, some of them, because there are some foolish exaggerations now going on about atomic weapons, which will cause us untold havoc and damage, if the time ever comes when the bomb is used against Americans. That time is not here, and it may never be here. But, in this period of grace, it is a good idea for all of us to understand what it might mean, if it does come. More and more information is being made available. It is not like it was before the war ended and the atomic bomb was first announced, when a great deal of talk was going on about the money that was being spent.

At Oak Ridge, over a billion dollars was sunk into one of the most stupendous engineering construction jobs anywhere. The commanding officer of the job, my boss, General Nichols, was asked to give a talk at Knoxville, nearby; he did talk for an hour, and very interestingly, on the engineering problems concerned with building a billion dollars worth of plant. He said nothing about what it was for. Nobody had ever heard of the atomic bomb. When he sat down one of the men asked a question and said:

This is all very well; you have told us all of your engineering problems. What are you doing at Oak Ridge?"

So he got up and said:

"We are spending a billion dollars on this plant in order to manufacture the front ends of horses which we will take to Washington for final assembly!" (Laughter)

Now, I am from Washington, but I am not going to talk about horses. I just want to say a few words about the atomic bomb. I know that you are interested in it because of civil defense. You do not know, and none of us know what to do for sure, to be prepared in civilian life, against the possible effect of atomic attack in the future, and, of course, it may never come.

I do not think that it is proper for any of us to learn anything about the bombs. But, I think that we should be prepared for a possible attack, even though it may never come, and we urge you to understand what you will have to do, if the time comes when real civil defense preparations and planning become necessary.

As Fire Chiefs, you will be confronted with new problems. You will have fires such as probably most of you have never seen before, because the bomb causes fires in two distinct, but equally potent ways. The fires which resulted at Hiroshima, with the fire and wind rushing in towards the center, reached a velocity of 60 miles an hour and more, so that much more damage was caused by fire than by the blast, and certainly much more damage than radioactivity caused or is likely to cause from the bomb.

I mentioned that atomic bombs cause fires in two ways, I should like to describe them briefly, and you will see them described in the film, later.

First, the blast is very potent. That is the thing that we first associate with atomic bombs, along with radioactivity. It has been stated that the blast of the atomic bomb is equivalent to 20,000 tons of T.N.T. And you know, almost as well as I do, that since that time, the bombs have been improved, and, although the amount of blast power now contained in the bomb has not been announced by the National Military group of the Atomic Energy Commission, the tests last spring showed that

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we have improved the atomic weapons, and our position in regard to stock-piling these weapons was substantially increased by the tests. I saw some of them, and I can assure you that they are terrifying to see. Yet at the same time, even after one has seen one go off, one realizes that a great deal can be done to understand these things.

The blast knocks buildings down for a considerable radius, about a mile, with a bomb that has the equivalent of 20,000 tons of T.N.T. Now, to double that radius, you must increase the power of the bomb by a factor of eight, and not two. So that although bombs will be improved, they will not suddenly produce a bomb that will take in twice the territory.

Then, many fires spring up all over the place, almost instantly, after the blast occurs. It is this widespread separation of so many fires which may produce a fire storm and in any case it is almost certain to overwhelm a fire-fighting organization which has not been expecting just such an attack.

In addition to the fires caused by the blast damage, you will get the over-turning of stoves, failure of electric wires and such things, and you will get a very significant and interesting primary incendiary effect. By that, I mean the flash heat coming out at the instant the bomb goes off extends for thousands of yards and raises the surface of people or things to a very high temperature in a short space of time. For instance, a person standing in the open at 4,000 yards may have the temperature of his skin raised 100 degrees F., enough to cause him considerable pain, first-degree burns and will probably kill him. Flash heat lasts for several seconds. This is a fact that is not appreciated by many people. It does not come and go in the fraction of a second. It is possible that if you could jump behind something, you could thus cut off at least part of the heat effect as well as part of the radio-active effect. In fact, in a distance of a little over a mile, you have four seconds of heat-flash working on you, and you ought to be able to dodge part of that. You have ten to twenty seconds of radio-activity working on you, and you should be able to dodge some of that. You have three seconds, after the flash, before it reaches you.

Now, this blast is very potent, depending upon many things, such as the dryness of the air. For instance, here, today, it would not be nearly as significant as it would be in New Mexico, where the humidity is almost always low at any time.

In this ten-minute sound film, produced by the War Department before it became the Department of the Army, you will see in the opening and closing scenes what looks like Hollywood's dream of Dante's Inferno, which are actually telescopic views of the first atomic bomb, in 1945. You will see the fire ball grow very rapidly and then the flames and the smoking rising upwards, at the rate of 100,000 miles an hour. These are impressive, and although they introduce the subject and end it, they are worth noting.

You see the damage at Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and when you see the bomb dropped on Nagasaki, that is the actual photograph; you will see where the fires have raged through the cities, started first by the blast, and secondly by the primary incendiary effect. You will see examples of the flash burns, where small amounts of shielding material were enough to cut off the blast of the heat. You will see marked on an asphalt pavement of a bridge the silhouette caused by a man striding along the bridge, the instant the bomb went off; he was killed, of course, and all the asphalt around him was blackened.

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This film is called "The Tale of Two Cities" and I will show it to you now.

(The film which was very interesting and instructive was then shown, after which the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 o'clock in the evening.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 1949

The Wednesday Morning Session convened at the Hotel Wentworth-by-the-Sea, on June 22, 1949, at 10:10 o'clock, with President Hill presiding.

PRESIDENT HILL: The meeting will please come to order. Chief Andy Callahan of Harrison, N. J., who is a member of our association and also a Past President of International, was supposed to address you this morning, but unfortunately, he has serious illness at home so that he is unable to be here today. He gave his notes to Roy Riley, who will analyze what Chief Callahan was going to say, he will take about five minutes, so I will ask Roy to come up here now. (Applause)

MR. ROY RILEY: I shall only take two or three minutes by my wrist watch. First, Andy wanted me to tell you all that due to the illness of his wife and mother-in-law, he could not be with you.

The topic assigned to him was the question of State School Inspection, and how the State Fire Chiefs of New Jersey handled the matter, and the method of conducting inspections.

I am going to jump right through this. He has sent to your organization, through me, a number of the questionnaires, and I am going to turn them over to your good Secretary, and those of you who wish copies of the two-page questionnaires may have it.

I would say that the entire plan hinges on the questionnaire given to the school committees in the State.

This inspection work in the schools is done with the cooperation of the State Board of Education. It took a great deal of work to get that cooperation. When the Fire Chiefs went to them, they said: "What right have you got to go in there? Keep out. We are the law."

Well, after some consultations and getting together with the State Board and local Boards, they were then able to work out a questionnaire, which they hoped would eventually help them in getting these inspections under way. In other words, they had a sort of a check list, to be sure not to overlook any hazard.

The NFPA and the National Board have supplied questionnaires, during Fire Prevention Week, covering places of public assembly and so on. After a try-out, it was found that the questionnaire was much too long; it had 125 questions. It was later simplified to a standard, mimeographed questionnaire, delivered to the local chief, and then to the local school committee, and after the committee collected the questionnaires they were then turned over for consultation, to the Chief, and they are reviewed and considered with the idea of checking with local authorities, on improvements and changes that must be made in schools after inspections have been made. In other words, after the Chief makes recommendations, then the School Committee, locally, takes the questionnaires and checks with architects or builders or whoever it is that comes into the picture. A copy of the questionnaire is sent

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to the Board of Education, at Trenton, and another copy is kept by the School Committee, and the Chief keeps a copy. Three copies are used. So that if there is any question on that level, the local committee consults with them, and in that way they try to bring the improvements and the changes about.

There have been no serious fires since this system went into effect. Prior to that, it was a difficult matter to get any satisfactory results.

I believe that completes what I have to say; I hope this is the shortest speech you ever had on record at your conference! (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: That's very good for Roy!

Now, the talk that was supposed to have been given yesterday afternoon by our Past President Sam Pope, former President of the International Association, will be given at this time, on the subject, "What More Can Be Done to Prevent Fires in Hotels, Hospitals, etc." Former Chief Samuel J. Pope! (Applause)

FORMER CHIEF SAMUEL J. POPE: Mr. President and Members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs. When this topic was assigned to me, I hoped that it was going to be turned into a Round Table Discussion, for it would be much easier for me to turn it back to the floor. But, yesterday, when I was talking to our President, he informed me that it was a Round Table Discussion, that it was to be presented to the conference by me, with a discussion following.

I have not prepared a paper on this subject.

PRESIDENT HILL: You may have a Round Table Discussion if it develops.

CHIEF SAMUEL J. POPE: That will make it much easier for me. Perhaps as we go along, there may be some questions and some discussion from the floor.

The subject is: "What More Can Be Done to Prevent Fires in Hotels, Hospitals, etc." And I think that it resolves itself into a question as to what can be done to prevent fires anywhere. For again, it is nothing more than proper education of the public.

As far as we are concerned in the hotel industry, when a fire takes place in a hotel, such as the LaSalle fire and the Canfield fire and the Wyncoff fire, it receives national publicity, and I think that it is a good thing that it does, because it sets all of the machinery to work, such as the National Board and the National Fire Protection Association, as well as both State and local authorities, to see what can be done to prevent such catastrophes, and to improve conditions generally.

As a matter of fact, most of the fires, where a loss of life occurs, receive very little publicity, and I refer to the fires in the ordinary dwellings.

However, as far as these three fires that did occur in the hotels are concerned, I think that a great deal has to be accomplished.

For example, the National Fire Protection Association always did have a Committee for the safety of life for persons in buildings. They immediately set that Committee to work and as a result, they came up with a very fine statute, or model law, which could be adopted by any community or any State, and I am pleased to say that I happen to be a member of that Committee, and it has been adopted throughout many of the States of the Union.

As far as the State of Massachusetts is concerned, we did have considerable difficulty in making our laws and our regulations uniform. At first, after the disastrous

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fire that occurred in Boston, the Cocoonut Grove Fire, the State Legislature immediately took steps to turn over all of the enforcements and all of the laws to the State organization. Then, as time went on, it was eventually turned back to the cities, and they found difficulty in uniformity.

As a result, and as it stands now, as far as hotels are concerned, the State authorities are in complete control and I will say that I think that is the better arrangement.

When a fire takes place in any building, it becomes a very serious matter, as all of you Fire Chiefs know. But, when a fire takes place in a hotel, it becomes much more serious, due to the fact of the amount of occupancy, and the fact that people are sleeping in the building.

We, in Massachusetts, in the hotel industry, are only too happy to conform with every law that will make for safety of the building, and of the guests, particularly.

You will find that there has been a general program of enclosing stair-cases, enclosing elevators, better housekeeping arrangements, installations of automatic sprinklers, installation of automatic alarms, and many other precautions that will help to prevent fires, as well as detect them and extinguish them.

One of the principal causes for fires in hotels, and where the fires occur most frequently, is in the guest rooms. Now, it is very difficult for hotel men to control their guests. Most of the fires, and they do happen frequently, occur from the careless smoking in bed. Those fires usually do not extend to any great degree, and they are usually controlled, due to the fact that patrols are established throughout the building, and particularly in the larger hotels, at night.

As far as our program is concerned, what we are trying to do is this: We are trying to take the Maintenance Departments of the hotel and get them onto the upper floors. Many of our hotels have already established a maintenance department in the so-called pent houses on the roof. That goes for carpenter shops, paint shops, upholstery departments and the like. We all know that those departments, in themselves, are hazardous, and if a fire were to take place in any one of them and they were located in the basement or lower floors, there is a possibility that it would become a very severe, hazard to the guests in a hotel, whereas if such a fire occurred on the room or on the upper floors, you would eliminate that hazard.

The cooking and kitchen, in a hotel, is probably one of the most severe hazards. When a fire occurs in the kitchen, it is usually due to the fact that the ventilating system does not work properly. Most of our hotels, now, have adopted a system of having those vent ducts, not only cleaned, but covered with an inert material or sprayed with that sort of material by a company which gives that service. I think it is known as the Kitchen Service, and I think they are established in most of the large cities throughout the country. It is an unusual thing, and I have followed closely the results of this company, and I have found that we have not had greasy flue fire in any of our hotels where they have established that system.

Now, there is one point that I should like to bring out here, and it is one of the most difficult things that we find in the hotels. The hotel people have gone to the extreme to give all of the protection that it is possible to give, and by that I mean the enclosing of stairways and putting on self-closing doors on each floor level, and all of that, but we find that the employees of the hotel, the maids and other

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people, will come along and either tie back the door or put a wooden plug under the door, and every time I make an inspection of a hotel I usually come out with a pocketful of these small wedges. And, that is something that is very difficult to control, due again to the human element, because it facilitates their work in moving around tables, etc., and the things they use for the changing of linen.

One of the things that we, as Fire Chiefs, have had to try to do was to get the hotel people to make certain that when a fire did occur in a hotel, that there would be no delay in notifying the Fire Department. I sometimes think that we Fire Chiefs were, in some degree, responsible, where delay did occur, due to the fact that naturally, where a great number of persons sleep in a building, it is not good practice to go there with sirens and bells ringing and the like, as it may result in a panic or at least in causing a great deal of confusion.

Every Fire Department in the country, I think, has established rules, whereby when they go to a fire where there are large numbers of persons, such as a church, a theatre or a hospital or a school, we are supposed to proceed there in a manner that will not cause any great disturbance. But, I will say this: I am very certain, now, that the hotel managements throughout the country have come to a very definite realization of the importance of calling the Fire Department just the minute that a fire occurs, irrespective of its significance. There is no industry that I know of that is more cognizant of the dangers and who are more willing and cooperative in order to try to do everything to protect not only their guests, but to prevent any fire taking place in the industry.

The American Hotel Association is continually putting out bulletins to their members on every phase of fire prevention.

You will find in the hotels now, in their public rooms, a complete elimination of the so-called inflammable drapes, if there are drapes in the public rooms. You can be most certain that they are either non-inflammable, or they have been treated with fire resistant material.

One of the things that takes place when a fire does occur, usually, is a failure of the lighting system. You will find in all of the hotels, now, in Massachusetts, and in many of the other states, in the public rooms, an auxiliary lighting system. That means that if a fire does take place, and if the circuit upon which the lights are located, for any reason, fails, you will find that automatic lighting system will come on, and it has a great tendency to prevent panic and give people an opportunity to leave the building in an orderly fashion.

We have had some trouble, due to the fact that we have different inspectors. You know, as well as I do, that if you let two firemen or two individuals go into a building, they will see things differently. The result is that one inspector will go in and require one thing, and later on another inspector will come in and change the whole thing around. For that reason, we do strive for uniformity. We feel that we should have the same law in Massachusetts that applies in Maine, and, therefore people who are traveling from one community to the other who are using the hotels will find the same conditions, and will adapt themselves so that they will know exactly what to find.

We do find this, that hotels are similar to office buildings. People very rarely know where the staircase is located. As far as I am concerned, and I imagine that it is true of most every Fire Chief, the minute I go to a hotel, one of the first things

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I would do would be to look for the staircase, and not only one, but possibly two in case the other one might be cut off. But, that is not so with the general public. Therefore, as I said before, it is matter of educating the public to do these things.

We have placed notices in the rooms, and as a matter of fact it is a statute law in my own state that a notice is to be posted in every sleeping room, indicating exactly where the exits are located. But, a person using a hotel, we find, very rarely looks for that type of sign. They are probably more interested to see what the checking-out time is, or what the menu is for the next day.

I do think that it is now a good time for me to follow the Chief's suggestion that we turn this into more or less of a quiz program. If there are any problems that any one has on his mind, or any discussion that we can bring forth, now is the time for it.

The secretary has just handed me a copy of the original request for Round Table Discussion on the subject "What More Can Be Done to Prevent Fires in Hospitals, Hotels, etc."

April 26, 1949

New England Association of Fire Chiefs

Mr. John W. O'Hearn, Sec'y

Dear Sir:

In reference to Round Table discussion, I am interested in the prevention angle of fire more than suppression, and would be interested in hearing more about the viewpoints of the Chiefs on preventing big fires in hotels and hospitals, etc. What can be done? Are there possible laws to compel more precautions?

My point of view is—one fire prevented is one we don't have to put out.

Sincerely,

PHILIP S. HARWOOD, *Lieut.*

Holden, Mass. Fire Department.

That is a good question, and I think it applies to practically all buildings, as well as the hotels and the hospitals. I will say this. We have established fire brigades and patrols throughout the hotels and particularly the larger hotels in all of the cities of the country. Just to show you how concerned and how interested the managements of the hotels are, it is one of the principal reasons why both John McCarthy and I are employed. They have felt that they are willing to go to the extreme to make safety for their guests and prevent any fires that might occur.

CHIEF CHASE of Haverhill, Mass.: The International Association convention at Chicago two years ago is pretty fresh in my mind, and you will recall, those of you who were there, that the fire officer was there right after the La Salle Hotel fire, and he took practically a whole afternoon of our time explaining the hotel fire there, where it started and how it progressed up through the building and all of that. I was kind of disgusted at the time, because no mention was made of the most important thing of all, for me at least, it was, an automatic sprinkler system. In the La Salle Hotel, the Cocoonut Grove, Wyncoff, the Eppingham Hospital fires, if my figures are right, there were approximately 1,000 lives lost. At that conference I asked a question of the fire officer there, to give his opinion, if the hotel had been sprinkled, if any lives would not have been lost. He said I was right. However, no other Chief followed up my suggetstion or idea.

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I was told at that conference that there was going to be resolution passed, and that more or less satisfied me. But, I never saw the resolution, and I never heard of any being passed.

I should like to ask the same question, now; if it isn't our opinion that in these hotels, hospitals, schools and places of public assembly, if we are equipped with an approved system of automatic sprinklers, and a fire alarm box, if that isn't the answer to the loss of life that we have in these occupancy places.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: I think that is true, Chief Chase. This class of building is now classified as hazardous, but is considered by the authorities such as the NFPA and the National Board, as a light hazard occupancy. But, there isn't any question but that automatic sprinklers are the answer for the safety of life, not only in hotels and hospitals, but in all buildings.

CHIEF CHASE: I have one other question that I would like to ask, here. I think that Percy Bugbee is here, and I think that the NFPA will tell us and have told us that no life has ever been lost by being burned in a sprinklered building. They have been lost by explosions and various things.

Now, my point is this. Why don't we try to get some legislation to force automatic sprinklers in these occupancies? We know what the answer is; they will save lives. So why don't we do something about it instead of making it a purely voluntary thing?

I have had a sprinkler system installed in Haverhill this last year, in a hazardous occupancy, the Haverhill Hardware store, where twenty people are on the third and fourth floors. That was done through the cooperation of the State Fire Marshal. He has the authority to do that, at the request of the Fire Chiefs. Those people are tickled to death, because it means a tremendous savings on their insurance premiums. They made better than a two-thirds savings on the premiums. It is paying off in dollars and cents, to say nothing of the lives.

I would like to see some legislation passed, where they give either the State Fire Marshal more authority, or I would be tickled to death if they would give me the authority to be able to go and order sprinklers in certain types of buildings, such as the buildings of a certain height, and so forth, where they would save lives.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: We already have a law, but it is limited to certain hazardous occupancies; also, it is limited as to the cost.

However, you will notice that in many of the hotels, the locations of their hazardous work, the paint shops, upholstery departments and carpenter shops are furnished with automatic sprinklers.

As you have probably observed, in this hotel where we are meeting there is a system of automatic sprinklers throughout. However, it is a difficult thing to pass a law in any State that will make it retroactive. The owners of many buildings, such as this type, do find it economically advisable to install sprinkler systems, due to the fact that they can get a reduction in insurance, and, over a short period of years, the cost is taken care of.

However, we do find this. If you take a first-class building, and you go to install an automatic sprinkler system, it cannot be amortized over seven or eight or twenty or more years. It takes a long while, because the insurance authorities give such a low rate on a first-class building that the installation of automatic sprinklers runs

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into a considerable cost, and it takes a great many years before any reduction in premium would take care of it.

CHIEF CHASE: This is something that is pretty close to my heart. And I practice this in my city. In the last two years, we have sprinkled five school buildings, and our largest hospital, besides getting a lot of private industry interested in it.

Now, I have some figures here that I would like to give to you. I want to tell you about a machine shop of high value, a large machine shop; it was protected with sprinklers, but there was a portion of it that wasn't. So I went up there and talked with the owner; I said: "Why don't you sprinkle the rest of it, and put in a master box, and find out from the Rating Bureau what you will save?"

And, here are the figures. This place was insured for \$240,000 for a five-year period. They installed sprinklers in the unprotected portion, and they put in a master fire alarm box, they increased their insurance to \$541,000, and they pay \$2,800 insurance. They have increased their insurance 50 per cent, and cut the premium so that they figure they will pay for that in about four years.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: You understand that, of course, you are not quarrelling with me on the matter of the automatic sprinklers.

CHIEF CHASE: No I am not. But, I am concerned about the loss of life.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: Are there any other questions?

CHIEF HARGREAVES of North Andover: We have had quite an extensive school program in our town. We have already put on two additions to the schools, and they are building a new school, and there is another high school in the offing. I have requested sprinklers. They won't pay any attention to that at all. They said that the architects didn't like the sprinklers, because they disfigured the building; besides that, the buildings were fire-proof. So I couldn't get to first base with them.

I agree with Chief Chase, that if something could be done along that line, we probably could do something about it.

MR. E. F. FISHER: Speaking as an individual, I just want to say that I am blessed or cursed with bad hearing, according to the point of view you take on it. Last night, I thought it was a blessing. This morning, I think it is a curse. But, I am, oftentimes interested to know this, when I got into a hotel. If there were a fire, what have the hotels done regarding trying to get their guests out, and particularly fellows like me. I was in Portland one night, and they tried to deliver a telegram to me; they had everybody in the hotel up, but I slept, peacefully, through all the disturbance because of my hearing. So that it would be rather interesting to me, as an individual, and one with imperfections, to know whether any thought is being given to getting the guests out of the hotels with reference to fires.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: I can answer that in this way. As far as Boston is concerned, we have established patrols and located them; we have a set program, whereby should a fire occur, for example, on the fourth floor, and the building is, let us say, seven stories high, the patrols are instructed to go to certain floors and to make sure that every guest is out. That is true and particularly so, where we have some of our hotels with permanent guests, who are more or less infirm, and who might need assistance in getting out of the building.

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Well, Gentlemen, if there are no further questions, I want to say that I am pleased to have come here and to have had the opportunity to address you. I am particularly pleased with the amount of interest that is being shown at all of the meetings and a good attendance that we have had. Thank you very much' (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Chief Pope.

Our next speaker is a gentleman I believe we all know. Sometimes, we have a hard time to find him, or catch up with him. I don't know why his wife lives with him. First, he is in Florida, and then he is in California. He must have a good job. But, I do want to present to you the General Manager of the NFPA; we call him Percy Bugbee, and he is going to talk to us on the subject, "Forward Progress and What the Fire Service May Expect As a Result of the National Fire Prevention Association's 53rd Annual Meeting May 16-19, 1949." Come up here, Percy.

MR. PERCY BUGBEE: President Hill, and members of the Association. Your Program Committee has given me a pretty tough assignment. I am supposed to tell you about what developed at our Convention last month in San Francisco. Well, we had a four-day meeting there, and we had sixteen sessions. We had over 1,000 people in attendance. We had fifty-three speakers on the program. We had thirty-eight committee reports. We had the largest schedule of business we have ever had in fifty-three years of meetings.

And so, to attempt to tell you in a few minutes all of the things that went on, that would be quite impossible. I thought the thing to do would be to pick out some of the discussions and the arguments and the activities of that meeting that would be of particular interest to Fire Chiefs, and to this group, and to spend my time talking about those, and not to attempt to cover the whole convention and the whole field.

Now, one of the major things that we took up there, which we have been working on for sometime, is, I think, of general interest to every Fire Chief, and, for that matter, to anybody interested in fire protection and fire prevention work.

For some years, I have been carrying on a more or less one-man crusade, on the theory that the big manufacturers of cigarettes in this country had an obligation to help in some way, to stop fires, from the careless disposal of matches and cigarettes, the leading cause of fires in this country, undoubtedly the leading cause, as far as deaths and injuries to persons are concerned, and we estimated that some 120,000 fires a year in buildings are caused by the careless disposal of cigarettes and matches. It is the principal cause of brush fires and forest fires, as you all know.

So that we have been trying to impress upon the leading manufacturers of cigarettes that they did have some responsibilities.

Our Fire Marshals' Section, which met in San Francisco, and which is comprised of the State and Provincial Fire Marshals of the United States and Canada and the City Fire Marshals of Fire Prevention Bureaus and the Chiefs of the more important cities throughout the country, set up a special committee on the matter of smoking, which has been studying the problem. They made a very interesting report at this meeting on the developments in legislation around the country, to do something along this line.

As you probably know, a number of States and a considerable number of cities now have statutes which make it a misdemeanor to set a fire in a hotel room, for in-

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stance, by the careless disposal of a cigarette, with a substantial prison sentence or fine or both.

In Chicago last month, they passed a No Smoking Ordinance for all of the department stores. It is quite common to have ordinances for theatres and other places of public assembly. Those were reviewed, and a considerable amount of progress has been made in that field, although it is a difficult field to operate in.

The more interesting thing is that we are beginning to get some cooperation. The first of the big companies to show some interest was the Phillip Morris Company, and they have issued cards for all hotels everywhere in the country, which they give to the hotels without charge, for use in the rooms, which card carries a message about careless smoking and the need for the careful handling of cigarettes and matches which I think is a good gesture in the right direction.

More recently, I had a session with the President of the American Tobacco Company, and, as an indication of their interest, they put on all of their radio programs throughout the month of April a Fire Prevention Message, which is supposed to reach 57 million people a week, and that Message was carried for four weeks, on Jack Benny's program, on the Hit Parade program, and other programs have indicated that they will follow that up again in the fall, in October, with another series of programs.

I have talked with the President of the Chesterfield Cigarette Company and the Old Gold Company, and I propose to see, shortly, the Camel people and the Raleigh and Cool Cigarette people, and I think that it is fair to say that sooner or later, it may take time, but we will get some cooperation from the leading manufacturers that do a large amount of radio, newspaper and magazine advertising, and they will at least help to educate smokers in more careful habits.

At any rate, it is a subject of live interest to our Association, and I wanted you to know that we are making some progress with it.

Now, another interesting topic for discussion at our meeting was in connection with the problem of the hazardous textiles used for clothing, brushed rayon, and fabrics of that sort, which have caused a considerable number of deaths and injuries over the years.

The State of California was the first state to pass a law controlling the distribution and sale of that type of material, and the State Fire Marshal of California gave a very comprehensive paper on how they are operating that law.

They have set up a laboratory, and have developed a very ingenious test procedure, so that they can tell exactly the fire spread on the different fabrics, and the more hazardous ones have been banned from sale in the State.

There has been proposed Federal legislation on the subject. The bill is not yet adopted by the Congress, but there is a considerable amount of interest in the control of that rather common hazard.

Another topic that aroused a great deal of controversy on the west coast, and I think that it will spread to other sections of the country, is the problem of the self-service gasoline station. Out in the west, a great many of these stations are being put into operation, and there was a lively debate as to whether that was more hazardous than the supervised type of filling station, and what ought to be done about it.

We had a debate staged at the Fire Marshal's meeting, between the Fire Marshals of Oregon, which has passed a law prohibiting the use of these throughout the

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State, and the Chief of San Diego, where it is permitted. There was a lively difference of opinion as to the hazard.

Our Committee came up with a standard, regulating the use of this type of station, with rigid precautionary measures that need to be done to make them safe, but because of the pressure of the Fire Marshals of the country at our meeting, even that restrictive type of standard was defeated, on the floor of the meeting, and the Fire Marshals prevailed with their feeling that these installations were hazardous, and that they did not want to officially recognize them, even with these safeguards. So that the matter is still up in the air, as far as our policy is concerned.

The Committee was instructed to come back with another proposal next year, to see if they could solve the difficulty. They did take action to abandon the coin-operated type, where you drop a half dollar in the slot, and where there are no attendants of any kind. Obviously, that is a hazardous proposition, because anybody could come along there with a bucket, any drunk could come there and set himself on fire. So that was definitely banned.

Also, the use of the automatic type of nozzle, which has become so prevalent and which many stations are using, was disapproved at our convention, because gadgets have been made which unlock that device, and they are sold in many cases at the same time the nozzle is sold, so that the automatic feature is taken care of, and it becomes non-automatic and it becomes a hazard. We banned it because of that gadget, which makes them worthless.

One of the important actions taken at the meeting was the approval by the convention of the new standards on fire apparatus, developed by our Committee on Fire Department Equipment, under the able chairmanship of our fellow member Chief Thomas of Hartford, Connecticut. Chief Thomas and his Committee developed new standards this year, to replace the old standards, which I think were adopted in 1938.

There are a considerable number of revisions in the standards, for pumpers and ladder trucks, and so forth, and those were approved and are now being printed in specification form for the use of Fire Chiefs, City Purchasing Agents, and anybody else who purchases fire apparatus.

One of the major accomplishments by that Committee was the coordination of the NFPA standards with the standards of the International Association of Fire Chiefs on the same subject, and with the standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. They are not now conflicting, but they are working along the same line, and have the same ideas, so that that will eliminate whatever confusion has existed in this field of fire apparatus specifications.

So to Chief Thomas and his associates, we feel that we owe a great deal, for some fine work during this past year in the standardization of specifications of various types of common fire apparatus.

A new Committee on Wetting Agents brought in its first report, having to do with tentative standards, on the properties, on tests, and on the suitable type and the reliability of wetting agents for fire fighting purposes.

That report was adopted as a tentative standard, which means that it will be widely distributed for general discussion, and comment will presumably come in next year, with revisions, and it will probably be then adopted as a final standard.

One of the highlights of our convention this year was a fine address by Chief Chase of Miami, President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, who talked frankly and freely about the effect of politics on a Fire Department and about the

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difficulties that even the finest and most progressive of Fire Chiefs had when they came up against organized opposition from such people as real estate owners and operators who brought pressure to bear up on the City Council and the City Manager to knock out the recommendations of the Fire Chief for life safety in the various types of public buildings. Chief Chase was very frank and free in his discussion, and made a very strong, and, I thought a very effective statement about the bad effect that politics had upon the efficient operation of our Fire Departments.

He was followed up by Chief Alderson of Los Angeles, who gave a most interesting and comprehensive talk on Fire Department Administration, which I recommend to you to read when it appears in print, because it is a very fine statement of the administration of a Fire Department. It so happens that Chief Alderson has, in Los Angeles, I think perhaps the most highly organized Fire Department in the United States, from the standpoint of administration. He has various divisions of his Department on every phase of fire fighting, and fire prevention operation, in a very large area, which he describes with great skill and effectiveness, and he made one interesting point, it seemed to me, which is this: That by all odds, it was important in setting up these various administrative jobs in the Department, not to be so tied down by civil service regulations that you had to take whatever man happened to come out on the top of the list in an examination, but in setting up a Department or a Division, to add additional District Chiefs or Captains, or whatever the rank may be, for that particular position, to the list, so that he would have some flexibility of choice, in picking the key men of the Department.

I hope that all of you will have an opportunity to read the papers that Chief Chase and Chief Alderson presented at the convention.

We had a very interesting forum discussion on the costs of public fire protection, by George Richardson of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Chief Hugh Morris of San Matteo, California, Ross Miller, the City Manager of Berkeley, California, and A. B. Snow, a Rating Engineer of the Oregon Rating Bureau. They talked about this problem of the cost of public fire protection and the difficulties with tax payers' league, and the rising costs of services and salaries, and shorter hours, and all of those things that affect all Departments, and we had these various points of view of the taxpayers, the City Manager, the Rating Bureau, the Fire Chief and the Fire Fighter. So that we got a good cross-section of thinking that I believe is a real contribution to a difficult and controversial subject.

Carl Gleason, who took Frank McAuliffe's place in the Civilian Defense program in Washington, when Frank left that job, who is the Battalion Chief of the New York Fire Department, gave an excellent account of the difficulties that he was having and the progress that is being made, to get a realization in Washington of the importance of the Fire Departments and Fire Protection, in the event of a third World War, and some of the major problems confronting them down there in trying to arouse any public interest and enthusiasm for a sound and sensible Civilian Defense program in peace time.

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the Fire Service, who is fighting for what the Chiefs want and ought to have in any program that is developed.

Fire Marshal Duffin of the Province of Saskatchewan gave an excellent talk on the experience that his Province has had with the model hotel safety law, that Sam Pope referred to, which was developed by a Committee of our Association, and which has made a good deal of progress in this country. That law was adopted, practically verbatim, in his Province, and he has had excellent results from it and experience with it, and the hotels seemed to have accepted it and have gone along, and it is a very encouraging statement of the fact that the law was sound and the requirement proposed in that law for the protection of vertical and horizontal openings, exit facilities, automatic fire alarms, and sprinklers, was needed to save life, and in that type of property it could be done and could get acceptance from the hotel people.

We had a unique forum on Fire Department Public Relations. Now, that is a relatively new thought to a great many people, but in a considerable number of our cities, the Fire Departments have undertaken a rather elaborate public relations program, paying off handsomely, when it comes to getting appropriations for new equipment and more men, and it is building a tremendous amount of good-will for those departments that have taken it up seriously. We had an excellent panel on that. The Chief of Berkeley, who is President of the Pacific Coast Fire Chiefs Association this year, has done outstanding work in public relations in his city, and he led off. We had the Public Relations Officer of the Seattle Fire Department, and the Chief, who has done a remarkable job in the schools and who is on the radio five days a week the year round in Seattle, and he described the program. We had the Public Relations Officer of the Los Angeles Fire Department, Captain Conlon, describe the work that he has done in setting up the Junior Fire Brigade, in which thousands of boys and girls are enrolled, when bound up with the Chairman of the Public Relations Division in the west, for he is a competent, full-time public relations expert and he commented on what he thought about the work being done by these men and how it might be improved, from a public relations standpoint.

Again, I think that was a new and a real contribution to thinking in the Fire Department field.

Our Firemen's Training Committee, which is a large and very active committee of the Association, brought in an excellent report. We recently issued jointly, with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and with the Fire Department Instructors' Conference, a pictorial manual, containing 250 large-sized pictures, with very little text. That has only been out a little while, but it is very popular with the State Fire Training programs, and we have had a second session of the Committee, to develop a manual on Hose Evolutions. They have taken 300 pictures there, and we will follow up with a whole series of picture manuals, on various types of standard evolutions, with the support of the fire chiefs and the fire department instructors. It is a new type of training program that I think has great possibilities.

We adopted some new standards on fire fighting equipment, at airports, and aircraft fire protection. Those were rather bitterly fought by certain of the aviation people on the ground of expense. We have an Aviation Committee, which is made up of the airport aviation people, throughout the world. We have had a violent argument in that Committee, as to what ought to be done and what could be done to make airplane travel safer for the people.

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There were 165 major fire disasters in airplanes last year. We think it is a highly serious matter. We finally prevailed in getting the standards adopted. Now, the difficulty is to get them to follow through on it.

There was one rather unique thing that was done through our Marine Committee, and that was the adoption of a new whistle signal for the ports of the country, for emergency use on shipboard, when a fire breaks out. It is not intended to replace in any way the standard signal system of the community, but it is purely an emergency signal of five prolonged blasts, and it is unlike any other whistle signal now adopted. This was approved by the Coast Guard, by the American Association of Port Authorities, and it is now in effect in over 80 ports of the United States. We have had resistance from a number of ports, notably New York has refused to adopt the type of signal for emergency use; but, it has been widely accepted, I believe, as the standard in Boston, Seattle and Los Angeles, and other port cities at the present time.

We adopted new standards on hospital operating rooms. There was one very important standard that was adopted, because of the use of inflammable anesthetics in hospitals and in the operating rooms of hospitals, there has been a considerable loss of life, and these standards are widely needed and will be widely used by the medical profession and by the hospital authorities.

We had a very interesting discussion of the problems of fire fighting in atomic energy plants. You may be interested and perhaps relieved to know that the expert on that subject from the Atomic Energy Commission who presented the paper was quite reassuring in that the amount of radio-activity material now in use and likely to get into use in any of our plants working with that sort of material is, in their opinion, not sufficient to cause deaths and serious injuries to fire fighters coming in there with a hose stream to tackle fires in that type of property.

It is a very difficult problem, and one that has not been solved, but so far they have been quite successful in the existing atomic energy installations around the country in safeguarding the lives of their own men and their own workers and the firemen who fight the fires, so that it is not as serious a picture as many people thought it might be.

Some years ago, we were given a grant of a fund for research on the toxic effects of various gases in fires. That is a very difficult subject, as you all recognize, and it is one on which there is not too much light at the present time.

We hired Arthur D. Little of Cambridge, a firm of consulting engineers, to make the research. They have been working on it for two years. They have finally finished their report, and it is one which is highly technical and it is a very comprehensive report, that is really intended for the medical profession. It is further intended for the education of firemen. We hope to be able to publish the findings of that research shortly. We think that it will be a contribution to the safety of firemen everywhere; it is badly needed, and it is well worth while. We hope that when it is published, you will have an opportunity to study it.

One important thing that I want to cover is this question of hospital fire safety, which has been touched upon here. Of course, we have published our report on the Eppingham Hospital disaster, and some of you may have seen it. We have sent copies of it to every hospital administrator in the United States, in the hope that it will be useful in pointing to the way to better hospital fire safety. That building was an old and inferiorly constructed building, without protection whatsoever, with

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no fire alarm, no automatic sprinkler system, etc. There were wide open laundry chutes, running through the building. They had adequate exits, but nobody could use them. People got out by jumping out of windows, because the corridors were lined with combustible accoustical tile. Some of this material burns twenty to fifty times faster than ordinary wood. And when it gets ignited, there is no hope of using the corridors, for they are all aflame at the same time. It is the same kind of material that was in the LaSalle Hotel fire in Chicago.

We have had a series of conferences with the manufacturers of this combustible fireboard material, and we have told them in plain English that we are going to do everything in our power to see that that type of material is not used in places like hospitals, hotels, bowling alleys, dance halls, and other places where, obviously, it is a hazard to life. We told them that we had campaigned with success over the period of years to get the wooden shingle eliminated, and we would tackle this campaign with equal zeal, and unless they went over to the non-combustible type of partition and accoustical materials, we were going to make trouble for them. For I think that that is important, and it affects life safety in this country very seriously. I think that it is something that every fire chief ought to be thinking about and he ought to be alert to the hazards of it.

It is difficult to tell one of these boards from another. They are similar. And the innocent people put them in on the advice of an architect who thinks that they are pretty and easy to install; they are just letting themselves in for serious life hazard that obviously should not occur.

I believe that I have talked long enough, and I apologize for talking too long. I cannot cover everything that happened, but those are the highlights that might be of particular interest to this group.

Let me say that I attended the first convention of your association, when you were organized, and I have been to many of them since. I have always enjoyed them. I like to come to the New England meetings, and quite naturally because I know so many of the New England Fire Chiefs. I want every one of you to feel that at all times, the NFPA office in Boston is at your service. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Percy. You were not here last evening, but we were informed by the Fire Marshal of Rhode Island that a law was passed on the self-service gas stations and nozzles.

Now, you talked about crusading; I can remember when you were crusading for the abolishment of wooden shingles twenty years ago!

Our next speaker is Fred Philbrick, President and General Manager of the Gamewell Fire Alarm Company, on the subject, "New Improvements in Fire Alarm Transmission Equipment." (Applause)

MR. PHILBRICK: President Hill, officers and members and friends of the New England Assn. of Fire Chiefs: Probably the most important development in Fire Alarm during the past year has been the revision of the Standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for Municipal Fire Alarm Systems, pamphlet No. 73, and commonly known as the "Red Book." These rules are prepared by the NFPA Committee on Signalling Systems and Thermostats and are generally considered as the "bible" of the industry. They cover not only transmission of alarms but also methods and materials for equipment and circuits; I sincerely believe that this is a subject

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which will be of great interest to you, who as Fire Chiefs are responsible for the overall administration and in many cases, the actual operation of your Fire Alarm System.

During recent years the cost of almost everything has increased a great deal. The actual cost of Fire Alarm equipment has risen since before the war only about 35 %, in spite of increased costs of labor and materials of more than double this figure. The increase has been held to such a relatively low percentage by economies in manufacture, utilizing the most modern machinery and materials and by new designs.

By far the largest element of cost however, in fire alarm systems is in the outside circuits and this is the place in which greatest economies can be effected; but it is essential that any attempt at economy should not be at the expense of reliability for such an important service.

We can all understand how the mounting cost of government has caused City Managers and Mayors to question the cost of each item entering into the operation of a municipality and a typical example of this type of thinking is expressed in a letter addressed to the NFPA by the International City Manager's Association. This letter was referred to the Signalling Committee and a reply was drafted as follows:

Mr. Percy Bugbee, Gen. Mgr.
National Fire Protection Association
60 Batterymarch Street
Boston, Massachusetts

February 2, 1949

Dear Mr. Bugbee:

As requested in your letter of January 19, 1949, your Committee on Signalling Systems and Thermostats has carefully considered the comments of Mr. Clarence Ridley, Director of the International City Manager's Association of Chicago, as follows:

"Communications. Many officials feel that present fire alarm equipment consisting of fire alarm boxes is far too expensive and also is outmoded. Developments in the field of radio communication, wire and tape recording, teletype, radio, telephone, etc., indicate cities should consider the use of other means of reporting fires. The present Gamewell equipment in many cities is far too costly to maintain and apparently is used less and less in reporting fires. It is likely that developments in other types of communication will seriously challenge the Gamewell equipment as it is now known."

This Committee has constantly had in mind the importance of establishing Standards for Municipal Fire Alarm Systems so as to result in the minimum cost of equipment and maintenance, consistent with the high standards of quality and reliability required for protection of life and property which these systems should afford. The present Standards as embodied in NBFU pamphlet No. 73 are the result of many years of field experience and are based upon principles which have been found to be essential for this emergency service and include safeguards which are not required for other commercial types of communication where failure or error are of minor importance.

This Committee knows of no other type of system or arrangement which would provide equal or better protection under all service conditions at less cost.

The Committee has considered the practicability of the use of radio, teletype, telephone, wire and tape recordings, as well as other forms of communication

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for this service and have provided regulations for their use where suitable in the present standards.

The experience of the Fire Service of the U. S. to date bears out the soundness of the following provision of the present Standards:

"Article 208—Note: It is generally recognized that there is no other thoroughly satisfactory means of sending and receiving fire alarms than an approved fire alarm telegraph system. Telephones should not be relied upon to replace needed boxes nor to supplement any inadequacy in number or location of boxes."

A typical case of the unsuitability of telephones for reporting fires is contained in the attached reports. Similar cases of costly errors and delays due to improper use of telephones for reporting fires are constantly arising.

Radio has been recognized as a valuable auxiliary within its scope in fire alarm service. The Federal Communications Commission which has jurisdiction over all radio service in this country has promulgated rules for its use in fire radio service.

The cost of fire alarm telegraph equipment including boxes is a relatively small part of the total cost of providing adequate fire alarm service. Furthermore, the total cost of an adequate fire alarm system is so small in relation either to the value of the property at risk for the entire community or to the cost of operation of an adequate fire department, that any attempt to reduce the cost of proper fire alarm facilities at the expense of the reliability or efficiency of the Fire Department would be false economy.

Experience has shown that where fire alarm boxes are made readily available, the public will use them in reporting fires. The comment of the International City Manager's Association that fire alarm boxes are being used less and less in reporting fires may be accounted for by the fact that fire alarm facilities have not been provided in proportion to the increased growth in cities and population.

Modern developments in fire alarm telegraph systems have resulted in improvements which allow revisions of the standards to effect substantial economies in overall cost and maintenance of such systems. One recent important example of such changes is to allow more boxes per circuit where provision is made to receive alarms over broken lines. This will decrease the cost per box materially. You can be assured that this Committee will constantly study and review new principles and materials toward the end of providing fire alarm systems of minimum cost and highest reliability, and we urge that the International City Manager's Association cooperate by recommending the installation of systems in accordance with the Standards with the assurance that such a program will be one of the most effective means for reducing the annual fire loss of the U. S., which has been increasing with such alarming rapidity during recent years.

This Committee will welcome an opportunity to discuss with your Committee or representatives any modification or changes which you may feel are desirable, after you have had an opportunity to review this and the attached date.

Very truly yours,

The Committee recognized clearly the importance of revising the rules so as to reduce the overall cost of installation and operation and its activities were directed

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toward this main objective, as well as to take advantage of new materials and methods which had become available since the last previous revision in 1941.

From the point of view of a Fire Chief, I believe that the most important changes can be summarized as follows:

1. Operating methods and personnel required
2. Allowable number of boxes per circuit
3. Box distribution
4. Recording of voice communication.

Let us consider first the subject of operation. Under the old rules systems were divided into 2 broad classes. Those in which the number of alarms per year and values at risk, made it essential to check all incoming alarms and retransmit them to the Fire Stations were designated as Class A and required 2 operators constantly on duty at the Central Office. Class A systems were required where the number of alarms approximated 600 per year.

Where the number of alarms exceeded 300 but was less than 600, one operator was required to be constantly on duty and such systems were known as Class B. In Class B systems alarms from boxes could be automatically retransmitted to Fire Stations. In Class A systems, alarms could be automatically transmitted to Fire Stations provided that the receipt of an alarm on one circuit would not prevent reception of an alarm on another circuit, and that the total number of alarms per year did not exceed 1,000.

The additional cost for Class A operation over Class B is that resulting from one more operator constantly on duty. Three shifts of 8 hours each with relief require 4 men and at \$3,500 per year the cost totals \$14,000. We questioned whether this is really necessary. 600 alarms per year are less than 2 per day. The actual time required to receive an alarm is 1 to 2 minutes. Is it logical or reasonable to require the full time of one man to handle 2 to 4 minutes of actual work per day? The real reason behind the old rules requiring 2 operators for a Class A system was to have sufficient men available to handle the rush of business which might develop in an emergency. This is a worth while objective, but should be considered in light of present conditions. Modern tendency is to provide machines and tools wherever practicable to reduce labor. Automatic repeating facilities are now available to handle any reasonable number of circuits and at relatively high speeds and should be used wherever possible to reduce manpower.

In analyzing the situation, we found the following facts:

Rule 208-4, p. 26 of the old regulations require a telephone PBX with one operator constantly on duty wherever more than 5 fire stations are in service, for general departmental business and incoming alarms and calls. This appears to be of a sound and reasonable requirement. If one operator is required for more than 5 stations, then it would be reasonable to require 2 operators for more than 10 stations.

From a study of a considerable number of the most recent National Board reports, cities having 5 fire stations average about 600 alarms per year, and those having 10 fire stations average approximately 1,500 alarms per year. The population of these 2 groups is 50,000 and 100,000 respectively so that you may be able to visualize the general size of the cities involved in these two classifications.

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In view of all of these facts, the new rules require Type B operation with one operator constantly on duty only if more than 600 and less than 1,500 alarms are received per year and Type A operation with 2 operators only for communities having more than 1,500 alarms per year. For systems receiving less than 600 alarms per year, provisions should be made for alarms not received and transmitted automatically to be handled by a responsible person always available who may be:

1. A specially designated person or persons, an employee of the local telephone company, or
2. A number of another municipal department, or
3. The house watch at a fire station, with facilities for transfer of service to another municipal office if the house watch responds to fires.

The new rules use the terms Type A (Manual) and Type B (Automatic) in place of Class A and Class B in the old rules. The reason for this is that many people, including city officials, not familiar with these rules assumed that a Class B system was in some way inferior to a Class A system, a second rate system; whereas the respective designations are intended to refer only to 2 different types of systems, each of the best possible quality for the intended purpose. Actually, a bond election for a new fire alarm system in a good sized city was lost recently by a small margin due to such a misunderstanding. It is hoped that the new designations will eliminate such misunderstanding.

With regard to the next item noted above where an important change was made, that of the allowable number of boxes per circuit, or rather the area which should be covered by the allowable number of boxes per circuit, the old rules for many years have limited this figure to 20 boxes for aerial circuits, and 30 boxes for circuits 100% underground, or where proper facilities are available for receipt of alarms thru the ground in case of a single break. The reason for this limitation has been to limit the area which would be without protection if one circuit is out of service for any reason.

The number of circuits required to provide proper fire alarm protection for a given area is the most important factor in the cost both of the original installation and maintenance. As noted above, the largest single factor in overall fire alarm cost is circuit construction, averaging 60 to 75% of the total cost. Obviously, anything which can be done to lower the number of circuits is the most effective way to reduce this item. Reducing the number of circuits cuts the first cost, in exactly the same proportion, of central offices, including batteries and building requirements, and substantial decreases the actual exterior circuit construction cost. This is accomplished automatically by allowing a larger number of boxes per circuit.

Since the number of boxes allowed per circuit was determined under the old rules, the development of devices and circuit arrangements to receive alarms thru the ground has progressed to a point where this type of system is now accepted as the modern standard. In this type of system, if a single break occurs in a circuit either aerial or underground, alarm from boxes are automatically received thru the ground and of course an indication is given at the Central Office as soon as the circuit is interrupted. Also, if more than one break occurs in a circuit at the same time, alarms will be received from boxes operated on either side of the broken portion, as long

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as the circuit is intact from the box operated to the Central Office over only a single wire.

This type of system has now been in service for nearly 20 years and has had a adequate test under service conditions to determine that it is both reliable and effective. It is only logical therefore, to consider that in such a system the area covered by one circuit should be larger than in systems of the old type with at least equal reliability. After careful consideration, the Committee decided to double the allowable area per circuit with the modern automatic grounding type of system. The actual additional cost of the equipment to accomplish these functions is relatively little more, whereas the saving in cost of Central office equipment and building and in outside circuits is relatively very large. The value of this saving can be readily visualized when you realize that with the new system and rules a community which would require 20 box circuits under the old rules can now be properly covered by 10 circuits.

This revision, together with the larger number of alarms allowed for Type A and Type B systems, and corresponding reduction in cost of operators, will substantially reduce the cost of fire alarm service without impairing reliability or efficiency of the service rendered to the public.

The old rules concerning box distribution are as follows:

"In general it is considered that a box should be plainly visible from the main entrance of any building in congested districts. In mercantile or manufacturing districts it should not be necessary to traverse more than one block nor more than 300 feet to reach a box; in closely built residential districts this distance should not exceed one block or 500 feet; and in other residential districts this distance should not exceed three blocks or 1,000 feet along or toward the main artery of travel."

Fire alarm boxes spaced so that it is necessary to travel up to 1,000 feet or 3 blocks to reach a box in residential districts do not give adequate coverage and such spacing causes the public to disregard the use of boxes in transmitting alarms as they are really available only to a small part of the area so covered. The rules have therefore been amended to require that it must not be necessary to travel more than one block or 500 feet to reach a box in *any* area outside of the high value district, where the 300 feet rule still applies. Observance of this new requirement should result in better box coverage and therefore more general use of the fire alarm system with corresponding greater reliability and less possibility of delayed and incorrect alarms.

The increasing use of voice communication by radio and telephone and other means has resulted in the requirement that a record be made of such communications in view of the great possibility of error and misunderstanding which is inherent in this form of communication. A new rule has therefore been added, as follows:

"Voice recording of telephone, radio, or other communication systems using voice shall be provided when a telephone switchboard is required in communities having five or more fire stations by Section 209-4 of these Standards."

A number of other changes have been made, most of which are of interest primarily to those concerned with the technical aspects of fire alarm. I have tried to outline above the changes which would be of greatest importance to the Fire Chiefs who have the responsibility for overall administration of Fire Alarm Systems and who

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PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Mr. Philbrick. We have one more important subject, Gentlemen, and it is going to be a very interesting one. I think that our next speaker is going to try to break some glass around here and make a general nuisance of himself; at least that is what Henry Thomas said he wanted to do.

Chief Henry Thomas is going to speak to us on the subject of "Techniques for Forcible Entry in Modern Construction, Tempered Plate Glass, Glass Blocks, etc." Chief Thomas!

CHIEF HENRY THOMAS: Mr. Chairman, New England Fire Chiefs and members of the Conference. It is indeed an honor to be invited once again to address my fellow Fire Chiefs of New England.

With due apologies to any previous speaker before me, and also in the interests of speeding this up a little bit, I am going to do some reading. It is a little bit out of my line to read a speech.

The subject assigned me on the program, "Techniques for Forcible Entry in Modern Construction, Tempered Plate Glass, Glass Blocks, etc.", is a complex one and at the outset, I hasten to assure you that I do not speak as an expert. In fact, my personal experience has been very limited and my paper, this morning, is largely a compilation of such information as I have found available.

It has been my practice, when faced with new or, complex problems of fire protection or, for that matter, any other problem, to consult with those best qualified to know the answers.

In the field of fire protection I have found those authorities to be, The National Board of Fire Underwriters, The National Fire Protection Association, Insurance Company Engineers and the manufacturers or, contractors concerned. This practice of mine has helped me personally and I respectfully commend it to your use.

And now for the subject at issue, new and old buildings constructed or, remodeled without openings in the outer walls, except on the ground floor, introduce possibilities of delayed detection and alarm, difficulty of access and the lack of ventilation facilities for fire department operation.

The matter of ventilating a fire is not an easy one to solve with any building where floors are properly cut off, one from another.

Where, in addition, there can be no cross ventilation, this condition becomes serious. Each floor is, in effect, similar to a basement or, a large interior storeroom or, vault.

Not only does the smoke prove a barrier to successful fire fighting but, the heat piles up and the stairways become untenable for the firemen. For these reasons, it has been recommended that windowless buildings exceeding certain heights or, areas, should not be permitted unless the installation of an automatic sprinkler system is required.

Many modern fire-resistive structures are being designed and built without exterior window openings but, providing automatic sprinkler protection and adequate means of exit.

Such a building may not prove unduly hazardous to occupants, nor to firemen

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fighting fire within the building, if the sprinklers will control the fire and there is no sprinkler failure.

The latter can be prevented with proper supervisory equipment. It is my personal opinion that no sprinkler system is complete without adequate supervision, preferably from a central office.

The concern of most fire department and building officials is largely based on the construction of so-called, modernistic fronts, without openings, in old buildings of ordinary construction, not sprinklered, oftentimes without the required exit facilities and with unprotected vertical openings in floors which permit the rapid spread of fire upward throughout the structure.

In considering this subject, the first question would seem to be whether the community has an adequate building code, particularly as to safety to life.

Glass blocks are suitable for panel walls but, are not recognized as bearing walls. Advantages claimed for glass block panel walls include, light weight, prevention of infiltration of air, control of light diffusion and transmission, relatively high thermal insulation and protection against light fire exposure.

The 1949 edition of the National Building Code, recommended by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, limits the areas permitted, thus:

AREA PERMITTED:

(a) Glass block panels in exterior walls shall not exceed 144 square feet in area nor 20 feet in any direction, between mullions or other suitable supports. Glass block panels in interior walls or partitions shall not exceed 250 square feet in area nor 25 feet in any direction between such supports.

(b) Glass block panels when used as window protectives in accordance with section 920 (Protection of Exterior Openings) shall not exceed 120 square feet in area nor 12 feet in width or height and shall have reinforcement in every horizontal mortar joint, except between the two top rows.

ACCESS PANELS:

Each story, above the first story or ground floor, shall have readily identified access panels for fire department use in every frontage and spaced not more than 50 feet apart horizontally. Each panel shall consist of a metal sash with flat glass at least 32 inches wide and 48 inches high, which shall be openable. Access and observational panels shall be installed in the glass block construction in an approved manner.

Firemen had some difficulty with glass block construction in the General Mills Co. fire in Buffalo, back in 1937.

Here was a first class, fire resistant building, nine stories high. It was new, with the installation of Automatic Sprinklers nearly complete.

Like most large fires, several errors, sins of omission and commission, combined to make a large loss fire—\$750,000.

The main water line had been shut off as men were working on the system. Contractors were using the stairs and workmen had wedged open the doors, at the several floor levels, to the enclosed stairwell.

A welder was working on the vertical spiral chute at the sixth floor level and it was said that sparks from the welding torch fell down among combustibles on the fourth floor.

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There were no first aid fire appliances. The fire spread rapidly, in fact, workmen inside the building had to go to the 9th floor and descend to the ground via ropes.

It was reported that firemen attempted to break the glass blocks on upper floors, without success.

However, it would seem that man failure and not construction were to blame for this larger loss fire.

There were unprotected vertical openings, shut off sprinkler system, sparks from a welder's torch and delayed alarm. These man errors, and not glass blocks, were responsible for throwing 500 men out of work at the General Mills fire.

A few years ago there was a fire in a medium sized city in Ohio, with a loss of some \$400,000. This occurred in a three-story building of mixed construction, partially ordinary wood joist and brick and partially fire resistive, occupied as a department store. The fire originated on the 1st. floor and extended throughout the building with severe exposure loss to an adjacent three-story building of ordinary construction.

I quote from an official report of this fire:

"Fire fighting efforts from the south side of the building were greatly retarded due to resistance of several glass block windows in a wall of the fireproof section. Entrance was finally made by use of sustained fire from riot guns, involving some 50 rounds of 10 gauge shells containing 00 shot, in addition to an unestimated, but not less than 40 rounds of .38 cal. side arm ammunition. Final opening was made by use of a quad nozzle under 250 lb. pressure from 2½" lines siamesed at a nearby pumper. After the fire, remaining glass block showed no visible damage."

As glass block panels are set up in mortar, with every 3rd. or 4th. horizontal course reinforced with steel tie wires (where used as window protectives, reinforcement is required in every horizontal mortar joint) they have proved extremely difficult to penetrate.

Porcelain metals and glass facing, currently being used to dress up old building fronts and also used, to some extent, in new construction of small mercantiles, make for difficult fire fighting.

Water damage is likely to be greater because of the difficulty of fighting fire where smoke and gases are not liberated to the outdoors.

Self contained breathing apparatus is essential for fighting fires in this type of structure.

A good modern building code, with Automatic Sprinklers required for our so-called, windowless buildings, and access panels of flat glass in steel sash, readily openable, for our glass block panels is the best technique that I know of.

Wire glass in steel sash is generally accepted as approved exposure protection for windows in exterior walls.

The large lumber yard fire in Philadelphia in 1941 showed us why open sprinkler protection is often required in addition to wire glass. This fire, supposedly started from a watchman's lantern, the watchman died in the flames, caused severe exposure loss to Kramp's Shipyard. Radiated heat from this fire fused and melted wire glass about 200 feet away. Experience has often shown, as it did at this fire, that while the glass will only crack, the steel expands and buckles, thus permitting the glass to fall out, leaving the exposure unprotected.

Our so-called "Modern Construction," has brought still another problem for the fire fighter, that of tempered plate glass doors. They are often used to dress up the front entrance of small mercantiles, office structures and restaurants.

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One manufacturer claims they give an opportunity to increase profits and sales volume. They have a strong appeal to the architect looking for something new in distinctive, startling design, add prestige to store, are an advertising medium, etc. At any rate, these new type doors are being encountered with greater frequency in fire fighting operations.

The standard thickness of tempered plate glass doors is $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch. The metal hardware, usually bronze or aluminum, is secured to the glass by molten metal application and high heat. They are a custom built door, with the drilling of holes and cutting all done before the heat treatment is applied. The claim is made that tempered glass is three to five times stronger than ordinary plate glass. That it will withstand a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. steel ball dropped from a height of 36 feet, while ordinary $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plate glass breaks from a $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. steel ball dropped from a height of only 3 feet.

Manufacturers claim that the special heat treatment given to tempered glass increases its strength and flexibility and its resistance to shock, pressures, impacts and temperatures. It is said that tempered plate glass will withstand without breaking, a temperature of 650° on one side of the sheet, while the other is at ordinary atmospheric temperature.

It is not, however, considered a fire retardant (does not qualify as a fire door in Underwriters Laboratory Code).

To ascertain breaking characteristics, which may affect fire department operations or, procedures, a series of tests were conducted by the Chicago Fire Department in co-operation with the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company and the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company. These tests were held on the campus of the Illinois Institute on June 11, 1948. A copy of this report is available and has been reprinted in Fire Engineering Magazine.

One basic conclusion, arrived at even before the tests were performed, is that fire department policy should be to use every other available and equally effective means of entry before deciding to gain entrance through an opening blocked by a tempered plate glass door.

We have these general conclusions, as a result of the Chicago tests:

Tempered plate glass door panels are considerably more expensive than any similar size glass paneled doors.

Each door is, in a sense, custom-built, and the cost of installation varies between four hundred and six hundred dollars each. The time necessary to prepare a replacement and install it may be as long as four to six weeks. Therefore, whenever it is necessary and conveniently possible to gain entrance other than through closed and locked tempered plate glass doors, the alternate means of entrance is to be taken in every case.

Tempered plate glass doors frequently have narrower tempered plate glass wing panels installed in the doorway opening. These panels should be treated in the same manner as the door.

Whenever it may be necessary to break tempered plate glass door panels, such breakage can be effected most easily by the pick point of a standard fire axe. The operator should wear a suitable face shield, if one is available, as a protection against eye injury, or should turn his face and head away from the door as glass is being broken.

It was observed in one of the tests in which the door panel was broken by an axe that a few minute particles of glass adhered to the exposed back of the neck of the

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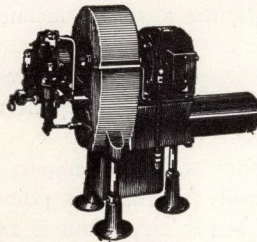
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fireman using the axe. These particles were not large enough to produce any cutting action, but they could have caused serious eye injury had they contacted any of the inner eye surfaces.

The use of sharp pointed instruments of hardened steel is most effective in breaking tempered plate glass panels.

Blunt-faced implements of unhardened or untempered metals have relatively little effectiveness in breaking tempred plate glass.

Most of the fragments from the edges of a broken tempered plate glass panel are dispersed in a plane parallel to the surface of the panel. The usual framing of the door panel limits, or prevents entirely, the sideward flying of these fragments.

Care should be taken to avoid injury from falling upper hinge hardware.

Fragmentation of the tempered plate glass is in small granules with relatively obtuse points and blunt edges, while plate glass breaks into much larger sharp-edged and pointed pieces having sufficient weight and force to cause serious cuts or stabbing injuries.

It appears that there is considerably less hazard involved in breaking a closed and locked tempered plate glass door panel than there is in breaking ordinary plate glass panels of the same size.

In conclusion, I believe that we can all agree that it is the fundamental duty of every Chief officer to reduce the life hazard of his firemen.

This can best be done by constant drill and training in the use of equipment, including gas masks and breathing apparatus.

We can do a better fire protection job, this includes prevention and extinguishment, if we follow a good building inspection program. This will not only help in reducing the number of our building fires but, permit our men to become better acquainted with the buildings in their district, their occupancies and construction details.

This, in my opinion, will enable us to do a more efficient job with less danger of injury to our men.

PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you, Henry.

Now, we have here this morning, I believe, the oldest member of our organization, who has come from Sunapee, New Hampshire, Fred Sargent. Stand up, Fred. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: If there is any member who has a resolution to present, please present such resolutions to Chief Thomas.

After a demonstration of glass breaking on the hotel porch announcements were made regarding the exhibition hall program, awarding of prizes, the banquet, and further sessions of the conference meetings, following which the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 noon.

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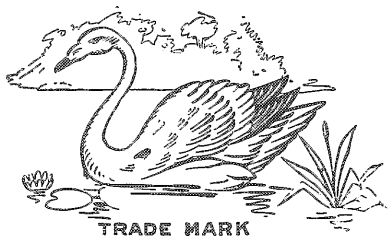
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ANNUAL BANQUET

The annual banquet on Wednesday evening was a joyous occasion with the main dining room of the Wentworth filled to capacity.

One hour before banquet time Major and Mrs. James Barker Smith were host and hostess at a Cocktail Hour in the Ballroom. Assisting in the receiving line were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cauley of the Hotel Staff. This added feature was a pleasant surprise to the members and their friends and was a great social success.

His Excellency Sherman Adams, Governor of New Hampshire was among the guests at the banquet table and extended the greetings of the State of New Hampshire.

Selden R. Allen, Past President and former Chief of Brookline, Mass., again took over the role of toastmaster and was in his usual good form. He introduced to the gathering "Chief" Pat Koltonski of Rutland, Vermont, and her fiance, Lt. (j.g) Harvey Lyon of Colorado. Pat is affectionately known by all in the fire circles and she and her fiance received the felicitations of all on their forthcoming marriage.

Always an attractive feature is the awarding of prizes donated by the manufacturers and members. This year was no exception and some very fine prizes were given to the fortunate winners.

Following the banquet festivities all adjourned to the Main Ballroom where Mr. Alfred Haines and his orchestra took over for the balance of the evening's program. Mr. Haines, famous caller, conducted a square dance contest which was participated in by many much to the enjoyment of those on the side lines. A prize waltz was also held. Here prizes were also awarded.

While the names of winners in this contest are not available, the writer does recall that Mr. Bert Dyer of Whitman and his partner, Mrs. Hubert Tracy, were close contenders.

General dancing brought the evening to a successful close.



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THURSDAY MORNING SESSION—JUNE 23, 1949

The Thursday morning session convened at 10:20 o'clock in the forenoon, with President Hill presiding.

PRESIDENT HILL: The meeting will please come to order, the secretary has a letter he wishes to read to the conference for action.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President and members, under date of June 20, 1949, I received the following letter which was addressed to our member, Mr. J. A. P. Flynn, Director Maine State Fire Prevention, Vickery Hill Bldg., Chapel Street, Augusta, Maine.

My dear Mr. Flynn:

Would you kindly convey to the New England Fire Chiefs our cordial invitation to attend the Maine State Safety Conference which will be held in Poland Spring, Maine, at the Poland Spring House on September 14 and 15?

The Fire Prevention session will be held from 2:30 to 5:00 P.M. on September 14. The first hour of the panel will be devoted to fire prevention in hospitals and in addition to representatives from fire departments, the attendance will be industrial nurses and hospital managers. The remainder of the panel will be devoted to general fire prevention topics.

This can be a very vital and productive session if we have the whole-hearted support of the fire chiefs. You have been so cooperative in the past that we hope sincerely that you will do everything possible to make this the outstanding program of the Conference.

We not only extend a cordial invitation to the fire chiefs of Maine, but to all those from the New England States.

We will be very happy to have you plan to attend both days of the Conference, but if that is impossible, September 14 is the day especially assigned to fire prevention.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

MARION E. MARTIN,
Commissioner.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President, I move you sir that we accept the invitation to participate in this worthy cause, that the subject matter be read into our records and that our directors be authorized to take any action necessary. [Senior member in Maine, Past President, Chief Oliver T. Sanborn of Portland and First Vice President, Chief William H. Clifford, 3rd of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, were delegated by the directors to represent the association and participated in the program.]

PRESIDENT HILL: At this time I will call on Chief Scanlon of Lynn, Massachusetts, Chairman of the Courtesy Committee for report:

It appears that Chief Scanlon has not arrived, so we will hear from our Secretary-Treasurer with his report, and the reading of the records of Directors' Meetings.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President and Members. I am going to read, first, the Treasurer's Report. We have had five meetings of the Directors, and some of the records are quite lengthy, so that perhaps when I read the Treasurer's Report, if it is agreeable, we can have a motion to dispense with the reading of those records, and that will make an indoor sport for you next winter. But, the records are yours, and I will read them if you want them.

R. L. PATTERSON, Pres. C. A. PATTERSON, Treas. M. C. DULISSE, Secy.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

— 1949 —

Following the custom of past years your Secretary has prepared a brief summary report covering membership and financial standing since our last report to the annual closing of the books on June 1, 1949.

The Treasurer's books show in detail all receipts and expenditures handled during the twelve months as testified to by the Auditing Committee, appointed by the President as per the By-Laws.

The financial report is not published as a part of our Annual Report, but is available to any member who may want further information than what is reported here. A further breakdown of receipts and expenditures is furnished the Directors.

On June 15, 1948, the total membership was 1,019. Since that time we have admitted to membership 122 new members. We have lost by death 18 members and 79 members have been dropped for non-payment of dues or resigned.

The total membership on June 1, 1949, was 1,044 of which 584 are ACTIVE members, and 460 are ASSOCIATE members, classified by States as follows:

Maine	78	Indiana	2
New Hampshire	86	Washington	1
Vermont	25	Michigan	3
Massachusetts	540	Colorado	2
Rhode Island	95	South Carolina	1
Connecticut	151	Virginia	1
New York	23	Florida	2
New Jersey	18	Louisiana	1
Pennsylvania	3	Texas	1
Washington, D. C.	2	Newfoundland	1
Ohio	4	Canada	2
New Mexico	1	California	1

The above figures include our Insurance Brokers Section of 16, and our Honorary List of members totaling 37.

The number of new members admitted the past year showed a substantial increase over 1948, but unfortunately the withdrawals and members dropped also showed an increase. As usual many of these are men who paid but one year's dues, allowed it to run up to six dollars, paid no more and were dropped.

At the present time there are 111 members who owe a balance of \$3.00 each for 1948, together with the advance amount of \$3.00 for 1949, or a total of \$666.00. A total of five notices have been sent these men with notice of arrears. It is hard to understand why so many men allow this to happen. The dues remain exceptionally low, and in spite of all we show a substantial increase in our finances as well as in membership. In addition to our increase in finances, we have distributed \$700.00 in very worthy charities, together with \$350.00 to care for our sick and those who have passed away.

For these reasons alone it would seem that some men who make up our mem-

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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

bership would want to be a party to this work at the nominal sum of \$3.00 for annual dues. No members are carried on the books who owe more than \$6.00; all are dropped before the printing of our annual report.

On June 15, 1948, the cash balance was \$11,548.74. On June 1, 1949, the cash balance was \$12,163.52. Of this amount \$1,712.79 is deposited in the Union Market National Bank checking account, Watertown, Mass.; \$911.05 is deposited in the Watertown Savings Bank, and \$5,487.68 is deposited in the Watertown Co-operative Bank.

Included in the cash balance of June 1, 1949, the Association owns Government War Bonds, whose present value is \$4,052.00, with a maturity value of \$5,300.00.

With reference to the funds deposited in the Watertown Cooperative Bank, I present the following statement from the bank:

Mr. John W. O'Hearn, Treasurer,
New England Association of Fire Chiefs,
No. 22 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown, Mass.

Dear Mr. O'Hearn:—

The records of this bank show that the accounts held here by the New England Association of Fire Chiefs have a total value, as of June 1st of \$5,487.68, which is made up as follows:

10 Matured Shares, No. 9272	\$2,000.00
10 Paid-Up Shares, No. 07328 and No. 07732.....	\$2,000.00
Serial Share Account, No. 29198.....	\$1,487.68
	<hr/>
	\$5,487.68

A dividend of \$20.00 on the Matured and Paid-Up Shares is due and payable June 28th, and a dividend of \$9.20 on the Serial Share Account will be added to its value on the same date.

Very truly yours,

Signed: CHESTER H. PARKER, *Treasurer.*

It is pleasing to report to the conference that the Association continues to flourish and shows a substantial increase in earnings the past year.

The high cost of doing business continues, but we have had no increase in dues, nor do I believe it necessary at this time to increase our dues.

You will recall, our last annual report made reference to a new magazine which was very attractively edited and published for our conference month last year. However, by reports from the publishers, it appeared that we were to be the news gatherers and assist in soliciting advertising for the publishers of the magazine. This being so, your Officers wisely discontinued the publishing of the magazine, experience with previous publications was a warning to them.

I appreciate the continued co-operation of our Officers and members.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Treasurer.*

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

July 28, 1948.

The first meeting of Directors for the year 1948 to June, 1949, was held on the above date at The Parker House, Boston, Mass.

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 P.M. by President Hill with the following Officers in attendance: Vice Pres. Potter, Directors Molloy, Koltonski, Slaman, Cote and Graham, John Savage and "Andy" Palmer for the Exhibit Committee, and the Secretary.

The Secretary reported the names of members who have answered the last roll-call since the conference as follows:

Albert W. Daniels, Allston, Mass., joined Dec. 17, 1927; died June 19, 1948.

Thomas F. Dougherty, Former Chief, New York, joined June 27, 1928; died July 18, 1948 (Honorary).

Frank Starkel, Dep. State Fire Marshal, Hartford, Conn., joined June 8, 1936; died July 19, 1948.

Letters received and read from Director Sanborn and Chief Clifford stating it was impossible for them to be with us and wanted to be recorded as opposed to spending any of our funds to promote the magazine.

Letters received by "Andy" Palmer from the publishers of the magazine regarding same, which would indicate that unless some other arrangements were made to finance the publication, that it would have to be discontinued. Copy of this letter had already been sent to Directors as part of the call for this meeting: Copy of the letter as follows:

July 12, 1948.

Dear Andy:—

As we approach the deadline for the second issue, it becomes more evident that something definite must be arranged to keep the magazine alive. We are still without sufficient advertising to cover the second issue, to say anything about the deficit incurred by the first issue.

It is my opinion that the future will bring sufficient revenue, and it is also without question that I believe in Mr. Moynihan's ability as our advertising manager. The success of the New Hampshire Good Roads Association magazine is due entirely to his efforts in solicitation of advertising. We have worked well together, and I believe that we can keep the "Chief" going.

I would recommend some sort of financial arrangement to care for the deficiency in the advertising revenue at this time, and whatever you deem best should be made known as soon as possible. We are both willing to carry on without personal compensation until sufficient revenue is attained to make the magazine self-supporting—in fact—we would be willing to serve for even one year on this basis. Please consider these facts and advise Mr. Moynihan at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

Signed: ARCHY.

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The July issue of the magazine has not been printed to date even though the publishers accepted copy for it from the Secretary and Associate Editor, Andy Palmer. No notice of any nature concerning the magazine was sent to the President or the Secretary.

The subject of magazine or other method of sending out information to our members was discussed at length, and all were of the opinion that we should not expend any Association money on the present set-up, also that the publishers had not given it enough work or time enough to know just what could be done with it—in other words, they quit without giving it a chance.

The final discussion was, on motion of Director Koltonski and seconded by Director Graham, for the President and Secretary contact the publishers, ask them to come to the Secretary's office and hear any new proposition they may have. Same Officers are to consult N.F.P.A. and see what can be done to place our members on their mailing list for "Volunteer" or "Quarterly Report."

Final report of the Exhibit Committee presented and accepted

Total Receipts:\$2,535.00

Total Expenses:..... 263.31

\$2,271.69

Voted that report be accepted and committee were given a vote of thanks for a fine job well done, including excellent earnings by a well organized, hard working Committee.

Letter read from Director Graham regarding Committee from Connecticut, also Secretary Sturtevant of Maine Chiefs, regarding Committee, including newspaper report of the Maine meeting.

An invitation was extended by Director Graham from President Heinz of the Connecticut State Chiefs' Club, inviting the President and Secretary to be guests of the Club on August 7 at their annual meeting—which was accepted.

Letter received, as requested, from Chief Frederick H. Sibley of West Springfield, Mass., explaining what he had done on legislative work to prevent an act becoming law that would withdraw protection of Civil Service from the Call-Force of his Town. He won his case, but had to engage counsel to defend himself from discharge, because it appeared that he was interesting himself in protecting all Call-men in the State under Civil Service. The Directors voted, on motion of Director Slaman that we reimburse Chief Sibley for a portion of the cost, and voted him \$300.00.

Director Koltonski announced his candidacy for office of Second Vice-President of International Association at the coming conference. Directors voted unanimously to endorse his candidacy and do all we could to bring about his election.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Secretary*.

Hartford, Conn., Oct. 27, 1948.

The second meeting of the Officers of the Association, together with Chairmen of our "Six State Committees" on matters of new legislation referred to them at our

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26th Annual Conference in June, was held in Hartford, Connecticut, on the above date.

The meeting was called to order by President Hill at the Bond Hotel at 4 P.M. with the following present: Pres. Hill, Vice Pres. Potter, Directors Sanborn, Molloy, Koltonski, Slaman, Cote and Graham; Committee Chairmen—Chiefs Guevin, Manchester, N. H.; Scanlon, Lynn, Mass.; Rodman, North Kingston Fire Dept., Wickford, R. I.; no one present from Vermont Committee. Directors Sanborn and Graham completed the Committee of six. Also present were Andy Palmer, our Press Representative, Chief Henry Thomas of Hartford, John Ashmead of The Phoenix Insurance Company, Percy Charnock, Manager of New England Fire Insurance Rating Bureau, Harry F. Lovell of Boston and the Secretary.

The records of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary and accepted. The Secretary reported the following deaths since our meeting of July 28th:

Henry Walton, former Fire Commissioner, Plymouth, Mass., joined Sept. 27, 1937; died Aug. 14, 1948.

George W. Austin, Mansfield, Mass., joined June 24, 1924; died Aug. 30, 1948.

Joseph W. Weinberg, Deputy Chief, Massachusetts Fire Reserve, Boston, Mass., joined July 20, 1938; died Sept. 8, 1948.

George D. Stalker, Fire Commissioner, Holyoke, Mass., joined June 23, 1936; died Sept. 23, 1948.

Chester Donnell, Chief, Walpole, Mass., joined May 31, 1924; died Oct. 26, 1948.

Alexander S. Childs, former Chief, Cotuit, Mass.. Honorary Member, joined June 8, 1932; died Oct. 26, 1948.

We have had a total of 10 deaths since our conference. In all cases as far as possible floral tributes were sent or letters of sympathy sent to the family.

The Secretary read communications from members or others which had accumulated since our last meeting. A letter was read from Chief Sibley of West Springfield, Mass., one from Ex-Chief A. J. Fulton, Volunteer Fire Dept., Westfield, Conn., Albert Fletcher of Medford, Mass., from Chief William E. Crosby of Stoneham, Mass., thanking us for our letter of encouragement, one from Chief Elliot Jollimore of the Massachusetts Fire Reserve, giving in detail the aims and purposes, together with partial roster of their organization. The Secretary reported the total membership of our organization at this time of 1,082.

The Secretary finally read a letter addressed to Andy Palmer, our Press Representative regarding "The New England Chief." It was in connection with our attempt to publish a magazine to promote the objectives of the Association and distribute information among our members and others that would be of value to the Fire Service.

The first and only issue of the magazine was printed and issued to all members and distributed in June at our 26th Annual Conference. After full discussion as to the continuance of the magazine, it was voted on motion of Chief Koltonski to discontinue any further business in relation to editing or publishing an official magazine, and advise the publishers of this action. Voted to advise the publishers of the magazine to discontinue any further use of our insignia or the name of the Association in promoting advertising or business not connected with the New England Association.

The Chairmen of the Six-State Committees, except Vermont, reported on prog-

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ress being made. The President and Secretary reported a meeting held by them with Mr. Plaisted, Secretary of the Massachusetts Committee on Interstate Cooperation, where we obtained much valuable information, together with copy of minutes of the meeting held October 15th with last draft of proposed law for permission to go beyond State borders.

The Committee (President and Secretary) were shown a draft of proposed legislation which appeared to be poorly drawn as it applied generally to forest fires only. It appears there are other interests working to obtain the same laws but all have ideas of their own.

Chief Guevin of Manchester, N. H. reported for his Committee that they held meetings and were willing to cooperate with us and with other State Committees when proposed general law was drawn, so that all would be working along the same lines.

Chief Rodman of Wickford, R. I. read a lengthy report and was ready to cooperate. He also reported on his State Mutual Aid plan.

Much thought and study was given to the Massachusetts State Law on Mutual Aid. All were of the opinion that the law could be amended to give us authority to respond to fires or any emergency beyond state borders.

On motion of Chief Scanlon, Chairman of Massachusetts State Committee, it was voted "That the Directors of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs request Mr. Plaisted, Chairman of the Commission on Interstate Cooperation, to include as members at the next meeting of its Committee, the President and Secretary of our organization as our representatives."

Voted to adjourn at 7:30 P.M. for dinner during which a general Round Table Discussion was continued.

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Secretary*.

February 23, 1949.

The third meeting of the Directors was held on the above date at The Parker House, Boston.

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Hill at 4 P.M. with the following present: Chiefs Potter, Sanborn, Molloy, Koltonski, Slaman, Cote, Graham, John Savage, Henry Thomas of Hartford, Conn., Warren Kimball of N.F.P.A., and the Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary announced the passing of the following members since our meeting in Hartford, October 27, 1948:

Frank J. Callahan, Chief, Central Falls, R. I. (Past President), joined April 17, 1936; died Nov. 25, 1948.

A. L. Harriman, Asst. Chief, Harrison, Maine, joined June 24, 1946; died April 17, 1948; letter received Jan. 10, 1949 advising of this death.

Lawrence E. Reif, Former Chief, New Haven, Conn. (Past President), joined April 16, 1926; died Feb. 7, 1949.

Samuel Daoust, Chief, Marlboro, Mass., joined Feb. 19, 1930; died Feb. 11, 1949.

The Secretary reported advising the publishers of "The New England Chief" by

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letter of our action Oct. 27, 1948, at Hartford, in relation to discontinuance of the publication.

President Hill introduced Mr. Warren Kimball, representing N.F.P.A. who outlined the publication or news items sent out by their organization, and the possible advantage or educational value to be gained by our members from them. The subject was discussed at length, and on motion of Chief Koltonski, it was voted to appoint a Committee of three to confer further with N.F.P.A. with power to act on a solution of our problem before our next annual conference in June. Problem: "How can we best provide up-to-date information regarding the fire service for our members, especially Active Chiefs or subordinates still in the Fire Service? The following were appointed Committee members: Chiefs Potter, Cote and Koltonski.

The Secretary was instructed to write The National Board of Underwriters for information regarding their bulletins that could be furnished for use among our members.

Chief Hill reported on progress of proposed Legislation with Chairman Plaisted, Commission on Interstate Cooperation regarding "out of State response to fires." Representative Boot of Lynn, Mass., on Petition of The Massachusetts Fire Chiefs' Club has presented a bill, "House No. 2103" which would amend Section No. 59A of Chapter 48 of the General Laws. This bill was heard March 3, before the Committee on Military Affairs and Public Safety, and was presented by Chief Joseph Scanlon of Lynn, our Massachusetts Committee member. Several Massachusetts Chiefs were present and spoke and were recorded as being in favor of the bill which was well discussed with no opposition. The bill had the endorsement of the Commission on Interstate Co-operation. Secretary John W. Plaisted of the Commission was present and recorded in favor.

On motion of Chief Cote, it was voted to amend Article No. 1, Section 2 of our By-Laws by adding the Second Vice-President to membership on the Board of Directors. In this way all elective officers are members of the Board of Directors. Voted to notify members of the proposed change in the first letter to go to our members, and of presentation to the next conference for action.

Voted on motion of Chief Graham, seconded by Chief Potter, that we continue membership in National Fire Protection Association at increased dues from \$60 to \$100 annually.

A letter was read from our member George Cobb, commenting on our Red-Book, also letter from Fred W. Graham, Deputy Chief, U. S. Naval Depot, Hingham, Mass. This was referred to Chief Potter, Chairman of the Program Committee.

The recent fire in Nashua, N. H., where two firemen lost their lives in the performance of duty was discussed. A fund to assist the families was being raised by personal subscription, and as in the past, we have contributed to these funds, Chief Slaman offered a motion which was voted that we contribute the sum of \$200.00 to the Nashua Firemen's Benefit Fund for Capt. Alfred LaPlante and George McCaughny, and that the check be forwarded to Chief Molloy.

Committee appointments were discussed and are as follows: Voted: That Chief Henry Thomas be appointed Chairman of Resolutions Committee of three (3) and he to appoint balance of the Committee. The following were appointed as voted by Chief Thomas: Chief Joseph P. Tracey of Norwich, Conn., and Chief Clarence H. Green of Concord, N. H.

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Reservation and Registration Committee as follows: Chief Oliver T. Sanborn, Chairman; Chief William H. Clifford, 3rd, Chief Alfred H. Koltonski.

Topics and Program Committee: Chief Stuart M. Potter, Chairman; Chief Henry Thomas, Chief George C. Graham, Chief A. H. Koltonski.

Exhibit Committee: Chief Thomas H. Slaman, Chairman; Chief A. J. Cote, Chief John E. Savage, Chief Lyman K. Brown, Chief Richard Salamone, and Andrew P. Palmer.

Ladies' Committee: Voted that the Ladies' Committee consist of the wives of Officers and they to select the Chairman.

Advisability of Reception and Entertainment Committee being appointed was discussed, but no action was taken. Voted to adjourn 10:00 P.M.

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Secretary*.

Parker House, Boston, April 21, 1949.

The Fourth meeting of Officers of the Association was held on the above date with the following officers in attendance: 1st Vice Pres. Stuart M. Potter, 2nd Vice President William Clifford, Directors Sanborn, Molloy, Koltonski, Slaman, Cote, Graham, Sgt.-At-Arms William Dooling, Chiefs John Savage and Henry Thomas, and Andy Palmer, Publicity Director.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Pres. Stuart Potter, as Pres. Hill was reported sick for the past 7 weeks, but was now responding to treatment.

The Secretary reported the following deaths since our last meeting: Lawrence Carolan, Melrose, Mass., joined June 25, 1929; died Feb. 16, 1949; Harry G. Cavanaugh, East Orange, N. J., joined March 7, 1938; died April 12, 1949. A floral tribute was sent to the home of Mr. Cavanaugh. The name of Mr. Carolan was not received in time to send the usual tribute.

A long list of correspondence was read by the Secretary referring to Association matters. Voted to instruct the Secretary to reply to each which was done at once, as many were for program purposes which were reported by the Secretary as very encouraging.

On motion of Chief Cote it was voted that Chief Henry Thomas of Hartford, Conn., reply to the address of welcome.

Voted to invite Governor Adams of New Hampshire to attend the opening session and annual banquet.

The Secretary reported our member, Charles E. Lane, Chief of Orange, Mass., would observe his 50th anniversary as Chief on May 1, 1949, and was to be tendered a reception by the Town on June 11, 1949. On motion of Vice Pres. Clifford it was voted that the President and Secretary be impowered to take any action necessary representing the Association.

Ex-Chief Keating was reported sick, and the Secretary was authorized to take any action necessary.

Ex-Chief Eddie Bourne of West Bridgewater was reported sick; voted the Secretary take necessary action.

The Massachusetts Senate Bill No. 619 (a bill authorizing ratification on the part of the Commonwealth of a proposed compact entitled "The Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact") was read and its purposes outlined and

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discussed. On motion of the Secretary it was voted to endorse the proposed bill, and that Chief Joseph E. Scanlon, representing the Legislative Committee, be requested to attend the hearing held April 27th.

On motion of Chief Molloy, Nashua, N. H., it was voted to invite former Chief Selden R. Allen to preside as Toastmaster at the Banquet.

On motion of Chief Clifford, it was voted that we accept the invitation of Jim Smith of the Wentworth to hold our final meeting with him at 12 noon at the Rockingham, May 10th, at which time the Ladies' Committee will be with us to discuss their program.

Chief Koltonski reported the passing of a Vermont Fireman who was killed in the performance of his duty. The family were reported in poor circumstances, and there is no law in Vermont whereby the family could be helped. A fund was being raised, and the Chief recommended that we contribute something to the fund.

On motion of Chief Molloy it was voted that \$100.00 be contributed to the fund for the family of Merle Schroeder.

Voted on motion of the Secretary to send a "thank you" letter to Representative Frank E. Boot of Lynn, Mass., for help rendered on Legislative matters.

On motion of Chief Koltonski it was voted to accept the generous invitation of Jim Smith that the entire organization join him in a Cocktail Party just before the banquet.

The following members of the Ladies' Committee joined with us at dinner after their meeting held at the Parker House, same date and time as ours: Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Molloy, Mrs. Koltonski, "Pat" Koltonski, Mrs. Slaman, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Dooling and Miss McKenney. Voted to adjourn 9:35 P.M.

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Secretary*.

May 10, 1949.

The fifth meeting of Officers and Committee members was held on the above date at The Rockingham, Portsmouth, N. H., with the following in attendance: Pres. William H. Hill and Mrs. Hill; Vice Pres. William H. Clifford, 3rd; Sec'y John W. O'Hearn; Miss Rose E. McKenney; Director Oliver T. Sanborn; Director Anthony J. Molloy and Mrs. Molloy; Director Alfred H. Koltonski and Mrs. Koltonski; Director Thomas H. Slaman and Mrs. Slaman; Director A. J. Cote, Sgt.-At-Arms, William J. Dooling and Mrs. Dooling; John A. Savage of Exhibit Committee, Richard M. Salamone, Exhibit Committee; Lyman K. Brown and Mrs. Brown, Exhibit Committee; Selden R. Allen, Toastmaster Banquet, Mrs. Mildred Allen, Chairman Ladies' Committee; Chief George T. Cogan.

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Hill during a sumptuous luncheon which was provided gratis upon invitation of our host Jim Smith, to meet with him and at which time final reports and our program were discussed.

The Secretary reported the following deaths since our meeting April 21:

Ex-Chief Edward L. Bourne, West Bridgewater, Mass., joined Dec. 4, 1939; died April 28, 1949.

Chief John H. McNamara, Danbury, Conn., joined June 26, 1934; died May 3, 1949.

The Secretary commented upon the suddenness of the passing of Chief Bourne

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who was reported sick at our April 21 meeting. While being tendered a testimonial banquet by the townspeople on April 28th, he passed away at the banquet table after the presentation of gifts from the hands of "our own" former Chief Frank E. Dickinson of Brockton. By proper notification and quick action, our Association was able to participate in this "his final reception."

Several letters were read by the Secretary, one from Joe Randlette, former Chief of Richmond, Maine, who joined June 1, 1928 and served as President 1937-38, applied for Honorary Membership as his health was not of the best, and he did not believe he could carry on actively. On motion of Chief Clifford, Honorary Membership was voted.

A letter was read from Roi B. Woolley which was very friendly and looks forward with pleasure to being with us. He will use the time with Mrs. Woolley for his vacation. Further comments were referred to Chief Sanborn.

Letter from Warren X. Kimball, Editor, "Firemen" was read regarding magazine referred to Committee appointed at the February meeting (Chiefs Thomas, Potter and Koltonski).

A very kind letter was read from Chief Fordyce W. Bristol, Vergennes, Vermont, signed by all members of his department thanking us for the donation to the fund being raised for the family of the late Chief Leigh Schroder who was killed responding to an alarm. It appears there is no law in Vermont whereby any remuneration can be extended to dependents.

A letter was read from Mr. Bugbee announcing his willingness to address the conference.

Ladies' Committee, with Mrs. Allen, Chairman, reported and outlined their program with some new features, promising good entertainment.

Exhibit Committee gave a fine report and all space taken.

Program Committee reported progress, and as outlined it should be interesting.

President Hill, who had been unwell for some time, showed good improvement, and as he was observing his birthday, the officers and committee provided a gift of a basket of fruit, and other things including vitamins. It was presented to him by Miss Rose McKenney.

We enjoyed the presence of gracious Mrs. Smith and Chief Jimmie, Jr. All voted it was a good meeting, and a vote of thanks was given to James Barker Smith, owner of the Wentworth and the Rockingham.

Meeting adjourned at 4 P.M.

JOHN W. O'HEARN, *Secretary*.



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PRESIDENT HILL: Gentlemen, what is your pleasure?

CHIEF KIMBALL: I move that the report of the Treasurer be accepted as read.
This motion was duly seconded by several of the members present and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: I now call upon the Chairman of the Auditing Committee to make a report.

CHAIRMAN of Auditing Committee: The Auditing Committee, consisting of Chiefs Koltonski, Foy and Graham, have audited the books of the Treasurer, and we find them correct. The balance on June 15, 1948, was \$11,548.74, and the balance on June 1, 1949 was \$12,163.52, with a net gain of \$614.78.

PRESIDENT HILL: Gentlemen, you have heard the report of the Auditing Committee. What is your pleasure?

CHIEF SLAMAN of Wellesley: I move the acceptance of the report of the Auditing Committee.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: I will now entertain a motion that reading of the minutes of directors' meeting be dispensed with here, and made part of our proceedings.

CHIEF GRAHAM of Bristol: I move that the reading of the minutes at this time be dispensed with.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: Next, I am going to call for the report of the Exhibit Committee.

CHIEF SLAMAN: I have only a partial report, because all of the expenses are not yet in.

There were thirty-eight exhibitors, with total estimate of receipts of \$2,500.00. When all of the figures are in, a complete report will be made for the record with good results.

I want to publicly thank the members of my Committee for the hard work they have done to assist me in this work. (Applause)

EXHIBIT COMMITTEE, FINAL REPORT

The following firms were exhibitors at our 27th Annual Conference:

E. & R. King, Company (Albi-R Paint), 52 Purchase Street, Boston, Mass.

Harry J. Lovell, 894 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.

Grinnell Sprinkler Company, 260 West Exchange Street, Providence, R. I.

Lamplighter Sales of Connecticut, 265 Church Street, New Haven, Conn.

Mine Safety Appliance, Braddock Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Eureka Fire Hose Company, 1230 Avenue of Americans, New York 20, N. Y.

Atlas Safety Equipment, 27 Warren Street, New York, N. Y.

Davy Automatic Fire Escape Company, Colvin Station, Syracuse, N. Y.

Iron Lung, 19 Walnut Street, Boston 32, Mass.

O. B. Maxwell Company, Inc., 1224 Dixwell Ave., Hamden, Connecticut.

Dictaphone Company, 80 Federal Street, Boston, Mass.

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 Blanchard Associates, 25 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, Mass.
 Peter Pirsch Company, Kenosha, Wisconsin.
 Seagrave Company, Middleboro, Mass.
 Gorham Fire Equipment Company, 30 India Wharf, Boston, Mass.
 Justin McCarthy, 176 Federal Street, Boston 10, Mass.
 Boston Coupling Company, 293 Congress Street, Boston 10, Mass.
 Farrar Company, Woodville, Mass.
 Homelite Corporation, 14 Franklin St., Allston 34, Boston, Mass.
 Gamewell Company, Newton Upper Falls, Mass.
 Rockwood Sprinkler Company, 38 Harlow Street, Worcester, Mass.
 American Fire Equipment Company, 45 Broad Street, Boston 9, Mass.
 Midwestern Rubber Goods, Providence, R. I.
 J. M. Baker Pattern Company, 68 Sprague Street, Providence, R. I.
 Maxim Motor Company, Middleboro, Mass.
 Circul-Air, 575 E. Milwaukee Ave., Detroit 2, Mich.
 D. B. Smith Company, Main Street, Utica 2, N. Y.
 C. G. Braxmar Company, 242 West 55th St., New York 19, N. Y.
 Oren Fire Apparatus, 575 No. Main Street, Palmer, Mass.
 Hercules-Campbell Body Company, 130 Brookline St., Cambridge 39, Mass.
 L. B. Smith, Inc., Camp Hill, Pa.
 Four Wheel Drive Auto Company, Clintonville, Wisc.
 American LaFrance Company, 28 Brighton Avenue, Boston, Mass.
 Mack Motor Company, 75 North Beacon St., Boston, Mass.
 John Holden, Newington, New Hampshire.

Total Receipts from Exhibitors	\$2,575.00
Total Expenditures	296.45
Net Receipts	\$2,278.55

The Committee wishes to thank the exhibitors for their fine displays and demonstrations, and appreciates their courtesy in providing the numerous prizes given during the Convention.

CHIEF THOMAS H. SLAMAN, *Chairman*
 CHIEF A. J. COTE
 CHIEF JOHN SAVAGE
 CHIEF LYMAN BROWN
 CHIEF RICHARD SALAMONE
 ANDREW P. PALMER

CHIEF GRAHAM: I move the acceptance of that report.
This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: I will now call upon Chief Foy of Manchester, Connecticut, for the report of the Courtesy Committee.

CHIEF FOY of Manchester: The New England Association of Fire Chiefs is about to close its 27th Annual Conference. It has been a most successful and a happy meeting, and our people of New England may rest assured that it will be a fruitful one.

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In the form and manner of your deliberations and discussions here, you have again demonstrated to the Nation that this New England Association will continue to lead the way in the unrelenting battle against loss of life and property from fire.

The Association wishes to extend our grateful thanks and appreciation to His Honor, Mayor Cecil M. Neal of Portsmouth; Mr. Edward C. Peterson, the City Manager; to Chief George Cogan, your very capable Fire Chief; to the Town Officers and people of Portsmouth, and of Newcastle; to our genial host, Major James Smith; his gracious wife; to the various committees; to our Chaplains; to our Officers; and to all who have contributed in any way to the grand success of our meeting here.

Our stay has been made delightful and enjoyable because of the combined effort and contribution of so many.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, it is the recommendation of your Committee that this Association formally extend to these fine people our most grateful thanks.

This report of the Courtesy Committee is herewith submitted by Joseph E. Scanlon, Chairman, Albert B. Foy and Clarence H. Green. (Applause)

PRESIDENT HILL: Gentlemen, you have heard the report of the Courtesy Committee. What is your pleasure?

CHIEF PALMER: I move that this report be accepted.

This motion was duly seconded by several of the members present and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: I am now going to ask Chief Koltonski for a report with regard to the registration at the convention.

CHIEF ALFRED KOLTONSKI: Mr. President and Members of the Convention. On Monday, we registered 121 active, 66 associate members, 16 male guests and 129 female guests, or a total of 336.

On Tuesday, we registered 58 active members, 37 associate members, 17 male guests, 54 female guests, 7 new active members, 8 new associate members, or a total of 181.

On Wednesday, we had 24 active members, 26 associate members, 17 male guests, 27 female guests, one new active member, 6 new associate members, or a total of 101.

For the three days, we had registered 213 active members, 129 associate members, 49 male guests, 210 female guests, 8 new active members, 19 new associates members, or a total of 628 persons registered.

There are several more here who did not register, and I was sorry that we didn't get the dollar out of them.

PRESIDENT HILL: You have heard the report of the Registration, Gentlemen. What is your pleasure?

CHIEF THOMAS: I move that the report of the Registration Committee be accepted.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: I am now going to call on Chief Thomas, if he is ready to make his report of the Resolutions Committee.

CHIEF THOMAS: Mr. President, I have here, as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, two resolutions that were presented, and I have asked for the delay in giving my report for the receipt of a third resolution, which has not been received as yet. But, in the order presented, I am going to present them to you.

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I think that it is a very healthy sign that after a Conference or at the conclusion of a Conference of this type that there be some conclusions reached, and on the theory that coordinated expressions of opinion are of assistance and help to each one of us in our own communities, I think that it is a very fine idea that the Association be recorded as being especially in favor of those matters that tend to reduce losses by fire, both lives and property.

The first resolution is offered by your President, William Hill, and has to do with fire alarms in certain types of buildings, and reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION OFFERED BY PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. HILL AT THE 27th
ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION
OF FIRE CHIEFS**

Whereas, the fire loss of the nation during the past year has shown an increase over previous years, and,

Whereas, a major contributing cause of these losses has been the loss of time between the discovery of fire and the time the fire departments were notified, and

Whereas, the use of master fire alarm boxes and other approved service devices within buildings have proven a practical means of reducing the elapsed time between the discovery of fire and notification of the fire department of the fire's existence.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by The New England Association of Fire Chiefs, in annual conference assembled, that this organization favors and encourages such practices when installed in accordance with approved standards, such as central station service, automatic alarm devices applicable to commercial risks when installed in accordance with approved standards. Every approved dependable device which will accomplish the above is recommended and approved in accordance with applicable standards.

Signed: WILLIAM H. HILL,
President.

CHIEF THOMAS: Mr. Chairman, I move the passage of this resolution.

This motion was duly seconded by Chief Koltonski and others present, and was carried.

CHIEF THOMAS: The second resolution is a follow-up of a talk that you heard during the first day of the Conference by Mr. Anderson of the Motorola Radio Corporation, and it has to do with radio frequencies and is very important to the fire service. It is very important, for instance, that we have these various channels so allocated that we will have the least amount of interference.

This particular resolution has to do with a petition to the Associated Railroads, who have now pending a petition for a re-hearing on the Channel Allocation from the Federal Communications Commission, which, if granted, would turn this whole subject of short-wave radio communications, frequency allotments, etc., into a turmoil, and it is quite likely to present chaos.

The purpose of the resolution is to petition the Association of American Railroads to withdraw their petition, and it reads as follows:

RESOLVED: That in view of the need for final Federal Communications Commission action on channel allocations, and upon Standards of Good Engineering Practice for all mobile services, and in view of the fact that full information regarding

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the public interest, convenience and necessity relating to all mobile services has been spread upon the Commission record in adequate detail, it, therefore, appears that the holding of additional hearings can serve no useful purpose, but to the contrary, the holding of such hearings will further delay the adoption of suitable guiding regulations, and work irreparable hardship and loss upon the Safety Services of the country, therefore, we, the New England Association of Fire Chiefs in convention assembled, ask the Association of American Railroads to re-consider their petition for a hearing, and, without prejudice to claims for channels or to the legal position advanced, that the pending petition for a hearing be withdrawn.

We respectfully ask that this unselfish action be taken by the Association of American Railroads as a contribution to the public interest and to the welfare of the public safety services of the country.

Mr. Chairman, this resolution, if adopted by the Convention, should be addressed to about seven various officers and Divisions of the Railroads of the United States.

Mr. Chairman, I move the adoption of this resolution.

This motion was duly seconded by several of the members present and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: Are there any other Committees that are ready to report that I have not mentioned?

We will go ahead with unfinished business. You will all remember that in your notices which were sent out in the last letter, there was to be a change made in the Constitution and By-Laws. So I will bring that up at this time and read the change that the Board of Directors and your officers have moved. They have moved that the Office of Second Vice-President be included in the membership of the Board of Directors. The acceptance of this motion will make every elective officer a member of the Board of Directors. Formerly, in the original by-laws, the Second Vice-President was never called into conference at any of the Directors' meetings. I understand that this was an oversight, of course. But, I believe that any officer in line should be able to attend the Directors' meetings; I believe that it is his duty to attend these meetings.

Therefore, we have recommended this change, and I will entertain a motion on this matter.

CHIEF SCANLON of Lynn: I move that this amendment be made to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, in order that the office of Second Vice-President be included in the membership of the Board of Directors.

This motion was duly seconded by Chief Potter and several of the members present, and was carried.

PRESIDENT HILL: At this time, our Secretary has two or three letters that he wishes to read.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: First, I want to take up one or two items in connection with members who are sick and unable to be here. About this time of the year, we usually look about to see who is sick and what the circumstances are, and if they cannot attend the Conference, we take care of them otherwise. If anybody here will give us the name or tell us the circumstances of any case, we will take care of it.

One recent case that comes to my mind is Chief Tom Shipman of New London, Connecticut, who has had a recent accident.

Within the month I have had a letter from Fairhaven, Massachusetts, where our oldest Chief is living and enjoying his retirement. He is able to drive out every day

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and visit friends and neighbors. I refer to Ed Dahill, retired Chief of New Bedford, Massachusetts whom I visited early this month and found him to be alert and in remarkable condition for a man of his years. We sent him a pleasant remembrance which was acknowledged by Ed in a letter under date of June 6th which I will read to you and is typical of many such letters received in thankfulness for our remembrance of some who are unable to participate in our activities.

71 Center Street, Fairhaven, Mass.

Dear John:

I gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a large basket of delicacies with a card enclosed extending best wishes of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs.

Please convey to the Association my deep appreciation of their good wishes and my gratitude for the fine token of remembrance, and to you John I fondly extend my best personal regards as just one old retired Fire Chief to another.

Sincerely,

(signed)

EDWARD F. DAHILL.

P.S. I shall also write to the secretary of the Massachusetts Fire Chiefs Club.

We have another letter from the City of Stamford, Connecticut, under date of June 11 which I shall read to you and make it part of the record.

June 11, 1949.

Chief John W. O'Hearn, Secretary
New England Association of Fire Chiefs,
99 Main Street,
Watertown, Mass.

Dear Chief O'Hearn:

A thousand thanks to you, Chief Potter and all the members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs for the many good wishes and the delicious basket of fruit during my recent trip to the hospital. I had a few parts moved and a few more adjusted and now I'm well on the road to recovery and hope to be on the firing line again soon.

However, I do not feel that I will be quite well enough to say that I will be with you at the 27th Annual Conference at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on June 21, 22 and 23, 1949, so with best wishes to all and thanks again, I am

Sincerely yours,

VICTOR H. VEIT, Chief,
Stamford Fire Department.

Now I have here under date of June 13, 1949, the resignation of Frank Charlesworth of Cranston, Rhode Island.

Frank has been a member since June 23, 1926, and I think that it would be kind of cruel of us to accept this resignation. He has always paid his dues, even though he did not attend much. With a man of his advanced years, it would not cost much to keep him on the honor roll.

Therefore, Mr. President, I move that Frank Charlesworth be made an honorary member of this Association.

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This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: We have a chief in our membership who has served fifty years as a Fire Chief. Now, that is a long time. Many of us look forward to fifty years in the service, but this man has been fifty years a Chief. And his town turned out for him in one of the greatest showings of affection and love for any man, on June 11th of this year.

Your organization was well represented through your President and members of the Board of Directors, and your President was the official representative to speak for the Fire Chiefs of New England.

We were authorized to do what we believed was the proper thing for Charlie Lane. Charlie received \$1,000 in cash from his townspeople and friends. To that fund, our Directors authorized an expenditure. And, in addition to that, your President was authorized to notify the people there that Charlie Lane from now on will be an honorary member of our Association. He had an embossed card presented to him in gold, stating those facts, for he could carry that with him and show it wherever he went.

It was the action of the President and the Secretary alone to do that, we did not want to call a Directors' meeting. I was satisfied that you would support the President in his suggestion to make Charlie an honorary member. Charlie became a member of our Association on June 23, 1926. He and Chief Charlesworth came in on the same day, at a convention at that time.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the action of the President in conferring honorary membership upon Charlie Lane be confirmed by the Association in convention assembled.

This motion was duly seconded by many of the members present and was carried.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: At this time, I should like to know if any member knows of any one who is sick.

CHIEF POTTER: Thurston Howard is a member, and a basket of fruit has been sent to him, in the name of this organization. He is still confined in the Hartford Hospital.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Now, somebody mentioned Ed Gorey of Taunton. He has been remembered by the association and I am happy to report that he is in pretty good shape.

A MEMBER: I believe you have a wrong report on him, he has been in the hospital for a year and a half now.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: I got the information that he was getting along nicely, so that is all I could report.

A MEMBER: I was down there about three weeks ago, and I understand that it is hoped he will get out of the hospital by the 4th of July.

CHIEF CORCORAN, Newton, Mass.: I would like to say a word about John Keating, Ex-Chief, Newton, and I want to ask all of the members who can, to drop in to see him; he is able to get along nicely now. He was able to come to our memorial exercises last Sunday. He tires quite a little; but, he is still able to be around. He welcomes a visit from any of the fellows.

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PRESIDENT HILL: Returning from Wellesley with Chief Slaman, we ran into John Keating, and we stopped and talked with him. As the chief has reported, he is out and getting along fairly well.

CHIEF JOHNSON of West Haven: Has anything been sent to Chief Armstrong of East Hartford, who is now retired? He is in ill-health. I believe he is member here. John Armstrong.

PRESIDENT HILL: Before we go into the place of the next convention meeting, I am going to call upon Henry Thomas, for the other resolution.

CHIEF THOMAS: We haven't, as yet, received the resolution in the mail; but, it was adopted by the Board of Directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, following the Eppingham Hospital Fire in Illinois, and it has to do with what has been discussed here the last three days, particularly by Chief Chase of Haverhill, and that is, sprinkler protection in hospital buildings, and it is quite specific, thorough and sound.

If it is in order, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion that this resolution, which Ed Jagger has telegraphed his office in New York to send us and which is on the way, be referred to the Board of Directors, with power to act.

This motion was duly seconded by several of the members present, and was carried.

CHIEF THOMAS: As to our third resolution, Mr. James E. Jagger, General Manager, International Association of Fire Chiefs, also a member of our Association, has presented a resolution to our committee for our consideration. This resolution is of vital interest to every Fire Chief. It has been passed by the Board of Directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and your committee recommends its adoption by our Association. The resolution as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, fully conscious of its responsibilities in the field of fire prevention and protection, believes that immediate steps should be taken to prevent a repetition of the catastrophe which occurred at St. Anthony's Hospital fire on April 4, 1949 and

WHEREAS, the New England Association of Fire Chiefs believes this tragedy would have been averted had the building been additionally equipped with a standard automatic sprinkler system,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New England Association of Fire Chiefs recommends that hospitals of height and construction similar to that of St. Anthony's, be provided with standard automatic sprinkler protection or, approved automatic fire detection equipment, properly supervised, and be it further

RESOLVED, that all hospitals conform with all other fire prevention and protection methods recognized as standard practice for that type of occupancy, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the membership of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs for their knowledge and use to instigate action within their respective States and municipalities to enact immediately proper legislation embodying recommendations for fire protection in hospitals as set forth herein.

PRESIDENT HILL: The next order of business is the selection of a place for holding our next convention.

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CHIEF KIMBALL: Mr. President, I move that we return to the Hotel Wentworth for next year's convention.

This motion was duly seconded by most of those present, and was carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT HILL: Is there any further business to come before the meeting, before we have the election of officers?

CHIEF O'LEARY of Marlborough: Each and every one of you know that Marlborough lost a great Fire Chief, and you lost a great member. We buried Samuel Daoust on February 11th. I was the next in line, and had to carry on at that time.

I want to personally thank each and every member of the New England Fire Chief's Association. I was not a member at that time, and every one of you cooperated with me one hundred per cent. We had one of the finest and most splendid showings that ever took place in our City of Marlborough; you people turned out wonderfully, and it was a great help to me. After it was all over, you just have no idea of the talk that was circulated around the town, in your favor. And I just want to thank all of you. (Applause)

SECRETARY O'HEARN: Perry, you should have told about the annuity.

CHIEF O'LEARY: We had quite a lot of difficulty about that at first. I had never run up against anything of that nature before. The local Retirement Board had a meeting, and it was kind of new to them; their first position was very, very poor. They wanted to give Mrs. Daoust some \$200.00 a year; that is all they would allow her. She engaged counsel, and with the help of your Committee, your members of the New England Association, of Fire Chiefs, and the Fire Chiefs' Club, they came there and with Dan Looney of Boston, Sec'y Mass. State Firemen's Assn., had a few meetings and your Secretary notified me regarding it and there was a State Retirement Board called in and they had a meeting, and they convinced the Retirement Board of Marlborough that they were entirely wrong, because this was a case where a man actually died in action; he died right at the fire itself, and they, in return reconsidered their statement and made Mrs. Daoust a very, very suitable annuity; I think that it was two-thirds of his salary, and she was very well pleased with that.

I talked with her afterwards, and she wanted to convey her sincere thanks to you people; she was more than pleased about it. I know that she spoke to me before this conference and asked me if I were coming here; I told her that I was, and she wanted me, personally, to give her thanks to each and every one of you.

I feel certain that she will be here next year with us. And she certainly is very much pleased over the outcome of the matter.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: That is just the result of going after it in an organized way.

PRESIDENT HILL: If there is no further business at this time, we will proceed with the election of officers.

Nominations for the office of President are in order, now.

CHIEF THOMAS: Mr. President, it is a happy privilege for me to place in nomination for the office of President of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, our present First Vice-President, Chief Stuart Potter of Greenwich, Connecticut.

PRESIDENT HILL: Are there any further nominations for the office of President?

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CHIEF GRAHAM: I move that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast one ballot for the election of Chief Stuart Potter as President of this Association year.

This motion was duly seconded by many of the members present and was carried.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: I have cast the ballot.

PRESIDENT HILL: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I declare Chief Stuart Potter of Greenwich, Connecticut, duly elected as your President for the ensuing year. (Applause)

[President-Elect Potter was then escorted to the rostrum by the Sergeant-at-Arms.]

PRESIDENT-ELECT POTTER: I want to thank you all for the great honor that you have conferred upon me this morning. I am not unmindful of the great responsibility that goes with this office; nor am I unmindful of the great opportunity to be of service to the Fire Services of New England. I will strive to conduct this office in a manner that is befitting, and I will welcome any criticisms or any suggestions from any of the members.

I am sure that the slate of officers you will elect with me, we will carry on in the true tradition of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs! (Applause)

And now, Chief Hill, I want to present you with the badge of Past President of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs; I trust you will wear it with the same distinction that you conducted the office of President of this Association! (Applause)

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: Thank you very much! (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: The next order of business will be the election of the First Vice-President. We are now ready to accept nominations for this office.

CHIEF KOLTONSKI: I should like to place the name of William H. Clifford of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, in nomination for the office of First Vice-President.

PRESIDENT POTTER: Are there any further nominations for the office of First Vice-President of this Association?

CHIEF POPE: I move that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief William H. Clifford for First Vice-President.

This motion was duly seconded by many members of the Association present, and was carried.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: I have cast the ballot.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I declare William H. Clifford duly elected as First-Vice-President of this Association for the ensuing year. (Applause)

(First Vice-President Clifford was then escorted to the rostrum by the Sergeant-at-Arms.)

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT CLIFFORD: Thank you all very much, boys, for the honor that you have conferred upon me this morning. I am not going to say as much as Stuart did. He knows that I am going to work with him and for the good of the Association, and that I will do everything I possibly can in every way. Thank you again, very much! (Applause)

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PRESIDENT POTTER: I am going to ask Former Chief Pope to come up to the platform at this time.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: Gentlemen, one time when we elected Harold Hill as President of the Massachusetts Fire Chiefs' Club, he immediately started to go into the history of the Club. It started at the time of the Pilgrim Fathers, and when we elected him President of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, there was one admonition that I gave him. I said to him: "Now, Harold, don't try to give us the entire history of the New England Fire Chiefs' Association!" (Laughter and Applause)

We are very pleased, Harold, with your administration, and I want to say that I think you have given one of the finest administrations we have ever had, and we are very much pleased to present to you this nice bag, and we sincerely hope that you know how we all feel about the work you have done for this Association! (Applause)

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: Chief Pope, Officers and Members of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs. It has been a privilege and a pleasure for me to have served this organization during the past year. I have tried to do the best that was humanly possible, to improve the membership, to improve the relationship, between the State organizations and this organization. In all the States where I attended meetings, I was cordially invited to stay overnight, to attend their meetings, and to participate in their meetings, and I believe that with this closer cooperation between the State organizations and our New England Association, it will pay great dividends in membership, and also in increasing the efficiency of these organizations.

In a number of instances, the Legislative Committees of the various States requested the New England members for legislation or rules and regulations which I have found were helpful.

I know that in the State of Maine, last year, we helped them. We also went into the State of New Hampshire. And I just want to say that I hope this organization continues to allow its Secretary and its President to visit these organizations at the expense of our association.

Another thing is this. I deeply appreciate the attendance that we had at the evening session. For that was the first time, I believe, that we ever had an evening session, and this hall was filled, and it was very gratifying to me, I can assure you.

Here is my wish for your continued success, and I will support the organization in any and every way possible!

Thank you, one and all! (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: The next officer to be elected is the Second Vice-President. The Chair awaits nominations from the floor.

CHIEF SELDEN R. ALLEN: Normally, this would be the year for the State of Vermont to elect a Second Vice-President, but in view of the fact that they have no candidate, I welcome this opportunity to place in nomination a man who is well known, who has proven his ability, and a man who has served for many years on our various committees.

I do welcome this opportunity to place in nomination the name of Joseph Scanlon of Lynn, Massachusetts, for the office of Second Vice-President of this Association.

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PRESIDENT POTTER: Are there any further nominations for the office of Second Vice-President of this Association?

CHIEF POPE: I move that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Joseph Scanlon of Lynn, to the office of Second Vice-President of this Association.

This motion was duly seconded by several of the members present and was carried.

SECRETARY O'HEARN: I have cast the ballot.

PRESIDENT POTTER: And I declare Chief Scanlon of Lynn duly elected to the office of Second Vice-President of this Association. (Applause)

(Second Vice-President Scanlon was then escorted to the rostrum by the Sergeant-at-Arms.)

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT: Mr. President and Members of the Association. I just want to say "Thank you very much" and I will certainly do my utmost to serve in the best possible way! (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: Now, the next officer to be elected is probably the most important officer in the organization, that of Secretary-Treasurer. The Chair awaits your nominations.

FORMER CHIEF POPE: Mr. President, I move that we nominate our grand perennial, John W. O'Hearn, as Secretary-Treasurer of our Association.

This motion was duly seconded by many members present, and was carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT POTTER: I just want to say, Gentlemen, that I appreciate what you have just done, because without the anchor man, things wouldn't be so good. John has been the anchor man of this organization since its inception. John, I appreciate your work with the organization.

CHIEF SELDEN R. ALLEN: At this juncture, Mr. President, there is a little item of business that always has to enter into the election of the Secretary-Treasurer. Under the Constitution, we have to establish his salary.

Now, we have been going out on the highways and the by-ways, preaching the great need of increasing the salaries of Fire Chiefs and the members of the Fire Departments; but, we have paid altogether too little attention to some of the men serving us over this long period of time.

John has received a meager \$750.00 a year, and out of that, of course, he has contributed to the government taxes something like \$150.00. So that I believe the fair and decent thing, and I believe that I voice the opinion of every person here, when I urge you and I move that we establish the salary of the Secretary at \$1,000 per year.

This motion was duly seconded by many of the members present.

PRESIDENT POTTER: You have heard the motion, Gentlemen. Are there any remarks that any one wishes to make?

SECRETARY O'HEARN: I have some remarks.

VOICES: You are out of order!

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SECRETARY O'HEARN: Mr. President and members. It is quite embarrassing for a man to get up here who at all times has advocated higher salaries, and I didn't give a darn how high they run as long as they were higher. Now, on more than one occasion, I have refused an increase of salary. There were various reasons for that. I love the work, and I hope that I can carry on a little longer.

However, since this has been brought up, I have something in the back of my mind since I have been elected. I didn't dare to say a word about what I had in mind until I was elected, because it might be assumed by you that I presumed I was going to be elected anyhow.

I have been referred to as a perennial candidate. What a flower! Like a dandelion, he comes up every year, and you have a hard time to get rid of him!

Well, when I was retired in November of 1944, I had to move out fast. The Town of Watertown had been good to me. I had a fine office to conduct the business of the Association, and I had all the help I wanted. When I moved, I had to have help, as I could not do it alone. You have no idea of the amount of correspondence and detail we handle. Perhaps you could judge by the printing bills that it must be quite extensive.

Well, when I moved in November of 1944, I moved into an office on our main street, a second floor office, at a reasonably low rental. The following March, I was elected for a three-year term to the Board of Selectmen, and, in a sense, I carried on some of the expense of the office myself, while a Selectman, because I didn't feel as though the Association should do it all.

I thought, after my term of office expired, that I would get out and that I would not conduct the office any more, because it would be a drain on the organization, and I did not want to do that. However, I have held the office up to the present time.

You will remember that last November 3rd, I was stricken with a heart breakdown, and was laid up for about seven weeks. I was not well for three months, but I picked up rapidly when I got out into the air and the sunshine.

I have given up all activities except this association.

Finally, this is what I have in mind. I have a long flight of stairs to climb, as there is no elevator in the building. I have been able to do them only once a day.

Now, there is considerable expense involved when you have to hire a clerk, and keep the office open. It is only part-time for the clerk; but, there is the rental, the lights, the telephone, etc.

After this meeting was over, I was going to ask your Directors to get together with me and see if we could move. I should like to take the business of the organization into my home, which is on the same street where the office is, only a little way out in the residential district. I want to assure you that I can give you better service from my home, and I will be on the job twenty-four hours a day—like going back to the Fire Service!

The little girl you have seen assisting and traveling with me for the last eighteen years, is almost living with us, and she is willing to help, as well as my good wife.

And so, I want to close that office. I believe that it will save the organization about \$600.00 to \$700.00 annually. I hope that the Directors will agree to this, first of all, for my health, and secondly, to save a little money, and the third reason is to give a little more time to the organization.

Now, back to the matter of salary. I couldn't possibly say "yes". We don't have a lot to live on in my town. I was retired on half of \$3200.00, and we are retiring

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Lieutenants three years later at \$3,400.00. But, every little bit including what I get here helps. However, if it is the judgment of the Association, then I can't say "No".

I want to thank the mover of the motion, I appreciate the sentiment that has been expressed here, and I want to thank the members for the many fine tributes that I received during my illness. (Applause)

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: Gentlemen of the Convention. I live in the next town to Chief O'Hearn, our genial Secretary, and I probably had closer contact with him during the past year than any other member of this Association. I guess I was in his office almost every week. I know the work that has been done in his office; I know the time that he puts in there, sometimes from seven o'clock in the morning, and you can always catch him there in the afternoon and later at home.

I hate to see him take the office into his home, because there are so many people who come to see him. I would like to see him on the first floor, in a good office building. But, if the other is his wish, fine. However, I still believe that the salary should be either \$1,000 or \$1,200, and I hope that this organization will not back-water for John; make him take the \$1,000 or the \$1,200 as suggested.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The question is on the motion by Chief Allen, that the salary of the Secretary be \$1,000.

All those who are in favor of the motion will please signify by saying "aye". Those opposed?

There was a chorus of "ayes" and the motion was unanimously carried. (Applause)

SECRETARY O'HEARN: All right, then, and thank you, men. That is all I can say. (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: We will now proceed with the election of the State Vice-Presidents. First, for the State of Maine. Whom do you wish to nominate?

CHIEF HERMAN S. A.: I nominate Oliver T. Sanborn of Portland as our State Vice-President.

This motion was duly seconded by many of the members present and was carried.

CHIEF KOLTONSKI: I move that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Sanborn as the State Vice-President from Maine.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT POTTER: And I declare him duly elected as the Vice-President from the State of Maine, the Secretary having so cast the ballot.

CHIEF SANBORN: I want to thank you gentlemen, and to assure you that I will continue to work for a strong organization. (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: Next, we come to the State Vice-President for the State of New Hampshire.

CHIEF MESSER, Keene: I wish to present the name of Chief Anthony J. Molloy of Nashua for nomination as the Vice-President for the State of New Hampshire.

CHIEF KOLTONSKI: I move that nominations be closed and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Molloy as Vice-President for the State of New Hampshire.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

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PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I declare Chief Molloy duly elected as the Vice-President for the State of New Hampshire. (Applause)

We now come to the State of Vermont.

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: I will nominate Chief Alfred Koltonski of Rutland, Vermont, as the Vice-President from the State of Vermont.

CHIEF POPE: I move that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Koltonski as Vice-President from the State of Vermont.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I now declare Chief Koltonski as Vice-President from the State of Vermont.

Nominations are now open for Vice-President from the State of Massachusetts.

CHIEF POPE: I wish to place in nomination the name of Thomas Slaman of Wellesley, and I move that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Slaman as Vice-President from the State of Massachusetts.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I now declare Chief Slaman of Wellesley elected as the Vice-President from the State of Massachusetts.

We are now open for nominations from the State of Rhode Island, for a Vice-President from that State.

CHIEF JOHN A. SAVAGE, Valley Falls, R. I.: I move that Chief Cote of Woonsocket be nominated as Vice-President from the State of Rhode Island.

CHIEF POPE: I move that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief Cote as Vice-President from the State of Rhode Island.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I declare Chief Cote duly elected as Vice-President of this Association from the State of Rhode Island. (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: We are now ready to receive nominations from the State of Connecticut for a State Vice-President.

CHIEF JOHN S. PACHL: It gives me a great deal of pleasure to present the name of Chief George Graham of Bristol, Connecticut, for our State Vice-President.

CHIEF POPE: I move that the nominations be closed, and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Chief George Graham of Bristol, for Vice-President from the State of Connecticut.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

PRESIDENT POTTER: The Secretary having cast the ballot, I declare Chief Graham of Bristol duly elected as the Vice-President of this Association from the State of Connecticut. (Applause)

CHIEF COTE: Thank you all for my election. I will do the best I can.

PRESIDENT POTTER: I told you a few moments ago that this organization could

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not function very well without its anchor man. Chief O'Hearn just reminded me that was the 27th time that Chief Cote has been elected and he has said he would do the best he could! (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: That concludes the election, Gentlemen. There are some appointments that I believe are incumbent upon the President to make. I want to announce at this time the appointment of Chief William J. Dooling of Watertown as Sergeant-at-Arms. Chief Dooling has done a splendid job over the years in holding this office, and I want to ask him to assume the responsibility again.

I am going to ask our First Vice-President to escort him to the platform. (Applause)

Now, as our Press Representative, I want to reappoint Andrew F. Palmer of Woonsocket, who has done such a splendid job! (Applause)

I also wish to appoint as Official Photographer, Lieut. Edward Carroll of Brookline, Massachusetts, who has done such a splendid job! (Applause)

Now, it has been customary over the years for this organization to have two Chaplains. We have one Chaplain who has served us for many years and another who has served for a much shorter period. I do not think that we could improve on either one of these gentlemen, and I am very happy to reappoint the Rev. Michael Collins of Marblehead, and the Rev. John P. Fitzsimmons of Belmont, as Chaplains for the coming year! (Applause)

That concludes the appointments.

I just want to remind you that the officers and directors are needed in this room for a group picture, at the conclusion of this session.

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: I move that we adjourn.

PRESIDENT POTTER: While I appreciate that a motion to adjourn is always in order, I would ask the maker of that motion to defer it for a moment, in order to give anybody in the room an opportunity to say anything he wishes, before the adjournment of this convention.

Has anybody anything to say before adjournment?

CHIEF DOOLING: Mr. Cauley, the Manager of the Hotel, has a word to say.

MR. CAULEY: I am sorry that Jim Smith is not here to speak to you gentlemen, but I wanted to tell you that both he and I enjoy having you Fire Chiefs here; you're a fine bunch of men and women who come here, and we are very glad and happy that you have voted to come back here another season. We shall try to do our part to make you happy. (Applause)

PRESIDENT POTTER: Has anybody anything he would like to say, before adjournment, now? This is the last chance.

PAST-PRESIDENT HILL: I move that we adjourn.

This motion was duly seconded and was carried.

(Whereupon the convention was adjourned at 12:00 noon, June 23, 1949.)

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New England Association of Fire Chiefs

Constitution and By-Laws

As Amended 1949 Conference

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President, a Secretary and Treasurer, and a Vice-President for each state, who shall hold their offices for one year or until their successors are elected. All of said officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. None but active members "Chiefs or Ex-Chiefs" shall be elected to office.

Section 2, as amended 1949 conference. There shall be a board of Directors, consisting of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary and the Vice-President from each state. The board shall meet at the time and place designated by the President. Only the actual expenses of the Board shall be paid by the Association.

Section 3. Three members of the Board of Directors, selected by the President, shall constitute the auditing committee.

ARTICLE II.

Duties of Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association, and perform such other duties as may be incident to his office.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Senior Vice-President to perform the duties of the President during his absence.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a complete record of the proceedings of the Association, the Board of Directors and the standing committees; of which he shall be an ex-officio member; to receive and answer all communications pertaining to the Association; cause to be prepared a full report of the proceedings of each annual conference, which report shall be printed in pamphlet form and one or more copies mailed by him to each member of the Association within 90 days of such annual conference. He shall receive all communications, contributed paper on topics, etc., designed to be presented to the conference. He shall collect all moneys due the Association and pay the same over to the Treasurer previous to the final adjournment of the annual conference and at all other times when the funds in his possession amount to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) taking his receipt therefor and shall keep a correct account of same. He shall also employ such assistance as he may need for the collection of dues at the annual conferences and reporting the proceedings of the same and such other expenditures for clerical assistance at other times as may be approved by the Auditing Committee, and he shall execute a bond to the Association in the sum of Five Hundred Dollars to be approved by the Board of Directors, the expense of procuring same to be borne by the Association. The salary of the Secretary to be fixed annually at the meeting of the Association. He shall also perform such other duties as shall be assigned to him by

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the President and Board of Directors. He shall at all times retain a sufficient sum in his possession to defray the necessary incidental expenses of his office, but he or any other officer shall not assume an indebtedness exceeding twenty dollars without the approval of the auditing committee.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds of the Association; he shall receive all moneys from the Secretary except what is necessary for the expenses of the latter's office, giving his receipt therefor; keep a true account of all moneys received and disbursed; pay all bills after the same have been approved by the Auditing Committee, signed by the President; and countersigned by the Secretary, and at the annual conference of the Association make a full and correct report of the same, and he shall execute a bond to the Association in the sum of One Thousand Dollars, to be approved by the Board of Directors, the expense, if any, of procuring same to be borne by the Association. The salary of the Treasurer shall be fixed annually by the Association at its annual conference.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to transact all the business of the Association during the time intervening between the annual meetings and to assign a list of topics to members of the Association. They shall have full power to expunge from the minutes before printing, anything that is objectionable to the Association or its members. They shall make arrangements with railroads and steamship companies for carrying members to and from the place of holding the annual meetings of the Association, following their appointment, and communicate such arrangements to the members by letters, circulars and otherwise. The Board of Directors shall fill

any vacancies occurring by death or otherwise during the time from one conference to another.

ARTICLE III

Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such place as the conference shall designate at its annual meeting, and upon such date as the Board of Directors and Chief of Fire Department of the city in which the conference is to be held shall determine, and twenty members shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 2. Chiefs inviting the Association to hold its annual meetings in their cities may understand that the Association expects and requires that their cities may furnish, without cost, a hall suitable for holding the sessions of the Association, an exhibition hall of ample size to accommodate the apparatus, equipment, etc., that may be reasonably expected to be offered for exhibition, and suitable grounds for testing of pumpers, trucks and other apparatus and appliances. The necessary fire engines, hose, nozzles and a sufficient number of men to carry out the test as may be required by the Exhibit Committee. The exhibit hall and the testing grounds shall at all times be under the sole control of the Exhibit Committee and under such rules as they may adopt. Badges for members, visitors and ladies may be furnished free to the Association in such numbers as the directors may deem sufficient to accommodate the expected attendance. The material, design and workmanship of badges to be entirely in hands of local Chief. Entertainments, such as the local Chief may wish to arrange for, must not interfere with the business program of the Association.

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Section 3. Nothing in Section 1 shall be construed as prohibiting the Board of Directors in case of extraordinary emergencies from changing place of meeting.

ARTICLE IV.

Membership

The membership shall consist of: A—Active; B—Associate; C—Honorary Life; D—Life.

A. Active Members—Chiefs and Ex-Chiefs of Fire Departments, Fire Commissioners, Chiefs or Superintendents of Insurance Patrols and Chiefs of Private Fire Departments. Dues, \$3.00 annually. B. Associate Members—City or Town Officials, Assistant or Deputy Chiefs or members of fire departments, individuals representing firms and corporations interested in the protection of life and property against fire. Dues, \$3.00 annually. C. Honorary Life Members—Honorary Life Membership may be conferred upon active members upon their retirement from office, provided they have been members of the Association for a period of five years immediately preceding the date of their retirement, and provided further that they are not identified with fire protection from a commercial standpoint. Honorary Life Membership carries all the privileges of active membership without dues. D. Life Membership—First. Individuals, firms and corporations interested in the protection of life and property against fire shall be eligible to life membership upon payment of \$100.00. Second. The Association may, by a majority vote, elect any associate member to life membership without the payment of any fee; and any member so elected shall thereafter be exempt from dues for life.

ARTICLE V.

Amendments

Section 1. This Association shall have full power, at any time or meeting, to alter, amend or revise the Constitution and By-Laws, but the same shall not be altered, amended or revised, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, but no amendment shall be considered that has not been presented and read at a previous session.

BY-LAWS

Section 1. All members of this Association shall be required to pay a membership fee of Three Dollars (\$3.00) in advance.

Section 1A. That a registration fee of \$1.00 be charged every person registering at our annual conference.

Section 2. The Association shall have (through its Board of Directors) full power to levy an assessment and collect from the members an amount sufficient to cover the entire expense of said meeting.

Section 3. Any question coming before the conference for which no provisions are made in the Constitution and By-Laws, the presiding officer shall be governed in his decision by the rules laid down in Cushing's Manual.

Section 4. The President shall appoint all committees, and all standing committees shall be appointed at the first session of each annual meeting.

Section 5. The second day of each conference shall be reserved for exhibitors to display their various articles and improvements in fire apparatus.

Section 6. The exhibition hall shall

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be closed during the business sessions of the conference.

Section 7. The Secretary and Treasurer of this Association shall receive for his services or their services such sum annually as may be fixed by the Association.

Section 8. All papers to be presented at any meeting of the Association shall be forwarded to the Secretary thirty days prior to date of such meeting; and he may cause them to be published without expense to the Association in the Fire journals of the country.

Section 9. No member who is in arrears for dues and assessments for one year shall be entitled to vote and any member who is in arrears for two consecutive years, his name shall be dropped from the roll.

Section 10. Associate and Life Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Association except the right to vote.

Section 11. Applications for all classes of membership shall be approved by the Credentials Committee, and a majority vote of the Association shall elect.

Section 12. The Secretary shall not register or give a badge, or extend any courtesies of the conference to any one, other than ladies accompanying members, representatives of the press, Honorary Life Members and Life Members except upon the payment of the regular membership fee.

RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum. All questions of order shall be decided by him, subject to an appeal by any member.

Section 2. Every member, when he speaks or offers a motion, shall rise in his place and respectfully address the

presiding officer and when finished shall resume his seat. He shall confine himself to the question under debate, avoid all personalities and indecorous language.

Section 3. When two or more members shall arise to speak at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide who shall have the floor.

Section 4. A member called to order by the presiding officer shall immediately cease speaking on the question before the house, and shall not resume his remarks until the question is settled.

Section 5. No member shall leave the conference meeting when in session without permission from the chair.

Section 6. The evening of the first day of the annual meeting shall be set apart for the holding of services in memory of deceased brothers.

Section 7. The election of officers and selection of place for holding next annual meeting shall take place on the last day of the conference each year.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Appointment of committees.
4. Reading of record of last meeting.
5. Reading of Communications.
6. Topics and essays.
7. Report of Secretary.
8. Report of Treasurer.
9. Report of committees.
10. Unfinished business.
11. Designation of place for holding next conference.
12. Election and installation of officers.
13. Adjournment.

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Anderson, Edwin A., Chief, Thomaston
Black, George W., Chief, Easton
Blanchard, Donald N., Fire Hose and Equipment, Winthrop
Bonney, W. L., Ex-Asst. Chief, Bath
Bradish, F. L., Chief, Eastport
Bragg, Harold M., Chief, Cumberland Center
Carey, E. Niles, 24 Elizabeth St., Gorham
Carll, Willis G., Chief, Gorham
Carter, Luther W., Chief, Surry
Chapman, Clifford R., Deputy Chief, Harrison
Clifford, Wm. H., 3rd, Chief Cape Elizabeth
Collins, Richard F., Chief R.S. Coast Guard, Kittery
Currie, K. P., Chief, Mars Hill
Denison, Clifford D., Chief, Harrison
Drouin, Z. F., Chief, Lewiston
Durgan, I. H., 1st Asst. Chief, Bath Iron Works, Bath
Eldridge, John F., Ex-Chief, Kennebunkport
Eldridge, John S., Chief, Kennebunkport
Emmons, Arthur M., Chief, Saco
Finch, Ralph B., 541 Riverside St., Portland
Flynn, Joseph A. P., Chief Supervisor, Ins. Dept., Augusta
Ford, Leonard, Four Wheel Drive Co., Main St., Winthrop
Fortier, Raymond E., 167 Court St., Bath
Frates, Richard, Chief, 12 North St., Bath
Freeman, Harlan D., Chief, South Windham
Fullerton, Cecil L., Commissioner, Bath Iron Works Corp., Bath
Getchell, Russell, Chief, Caribou
Goold, Henry D., Dep. Chief, Dunstan Fire Co., West Scarboro
Hall, Allan W., 121 Main St., Yarmouth
Hanson, Henry D., Eastern Fire Equip., Inc., 403-405 Fore St., Portland
Harnden, Ralph B., Chief Auburn
Herman, S. A., Chief, S. D. Warren Co., Westbrook
Houghton, Clyde R., Chief, Orrs Island
Huart, Victor C., Chief, Farmington
Jeffery, J. Orville, Ex-Chief, North Vassalboro, 10 Pearl St., Waterville
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Mingo, Theodore W., Chief Fire Dept., Old Orchard Beach
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Nickerson, Harold E., Chief, Brunswick
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Nutter, Robert, Deputy Chief, Pleasant Hill Fire Co., Scarborough
Page, Basil G., Capt., Fire Dept., Gardiner
Payson, Allen F., Chief, Camden
Picard, Allen M., Chief, Millinocket
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Scott, Thomas J., Chief, Alfred
Sleeper, David A., Chief, Bar Harbor
Smith, Guy F., Chief, Houlton
Smith, Luther M., 32 Grove St., Brewer
Strong, Albert E., 16 West Elm St., Yarmouth
Sturtevant, Roy W., Ex-Chief, Box 14, York Village
Tarr, Earle A., Chief, Winthrop
Treffery, H. H., Presque Isle
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Finch, Fred L., Chief, Staffordville
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RHODE ISLAND	98
CONNECTICUT	162
NEW YORK	25
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PENNSYLVANIA	3
OHIO	5
WASHINGTON, D. C.	1
INDIANA	2
VIRGINIA	1
COLORADO	2
LOUISIANA	1
FLORIDA	3
MICHIGAN	3
SOUTH CAROLINA	1
TEXAS	1
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NEW MEXICO	1
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DANIELS, ALBERT W., Allston, Mass., Box 52 Assn., Boston, joined Dec. 17, 1927, died June 19, 1948.

DOUGHERTY, THOMAS F., Former Chief, New York City, N. Y., joined June 27, 1928, died July 18, 1948.

STARKEL, FRANK, Deputy State Fire Marshal, Hartford, Conn., joined June 8, 1936, died July 19, 1948.

WALTON, HENRY, Former Fire Commissioner, Plymouth, Mass., joined Sept. 27, 1937, died Aug. 14, 1948.

AUSTIN, GEORGE W., Mansfield, Mass., Box 52 Assn., Boston, joined June 24, 1924, died Aug. 30, 1948.

WEINBERG, JOSEPH M., Boston, Mass., joined July 20, 1938, died Sept. 8, 1948.

STALKER, GEORGE D., Fire Commissioner, Holyoke, Mass., joined June 23, 1936, died Sept. 23, 1948.

DONNELL, CHESTER L., Chief, Walpole, Mass., joined May 31, 1924, died Oct. 26, 1948.

CHILDS, ALEXANDER S., Former Chief, Cotuit, Mass., joined June 8, 1932, died Oct. 26, 1948.

CALLAHAN, FRANK J., Chief, Central Falls, R. I., Past President, joined April 17, 1936, died Nov. 25, 1948.

REIF, LAWRENCE E., Former Chief, New Haven, Conn., Past President, joined April 16, 1926, died Feb. 7, 1949.

DAOUST, SAMUEL, Chief, Marlboro, Mass., joined Feb. 19, 1930, died in performance of duty, Feb. 11, 1949.

CAROLAN, LAWRENCE, Melrose, Mass., joined June 25, 1929, died Feb. 16, 1949.

CAVANAUGH, HARRY G., New York City, N. Y., joined March 7, 1938, died April 12, 1949.

BOURNE, EDWARD L., Former Chief, West Bridgewater, Mass., joined Dec. 4, 1939, died April 28, 1949.

McNAMARA, JOHN D., Chief, Danbury, Conn., joined June 26, 1934, died May 3, 1949.

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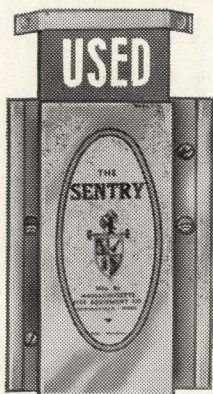
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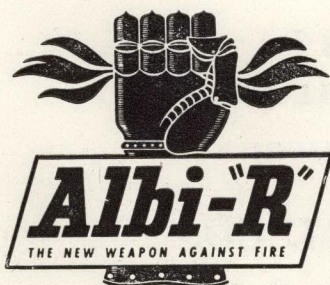
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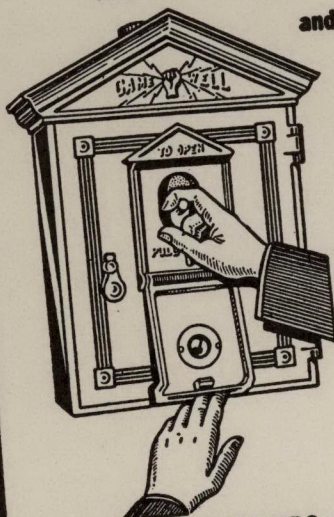
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USE THE
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for FIRE

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and wait for the Firemen



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Use the Box **IMMEDIATELY**
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fires occur annually in
the U.S.A.

10,000
human lives are lost and

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others are seriously in-
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in property values plus
the indirect losses cre-
ating a total waste in ex-
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lars are annually de-
stroyed by Fire.

70%
of the fires—and life
losses occur in dwell-
ings.

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of the commercial estab-
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tige, business, payroll,
taxes and wealth.

50
times its original size is
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tion.

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