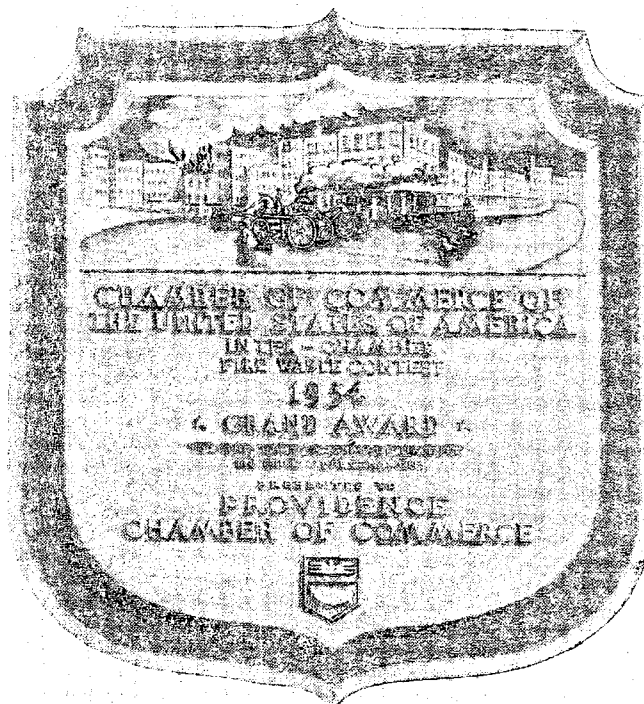


Annual Report
of the
PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT
for the Year Ended
December 31, 1955



The Honorable Commissioner of Public Safety
209 Fountain Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Sir:

Respectfully submitted herewith is the annual report of the Providence Fire Department for the year 1955.

The report covers all phases of operation of various divisions and activities of the Department.

In April of 1955 a group of people representing the City Government and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, headed by Mayor Walter H. Reynolds, went to Washington, D. C. and were presented a bronze plaque, the Grand Award, by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America for the best accomplishments in Fire Protection and Fire Prevention of all cities in the United States.

It is indicated by the statistical fire loss that for the year 1955, all fires were satisfactorily controlled and I believe the Chief Officers, company officers and all fire fighting personnel are to be commended for their vigorous and efficient service. There were many cases of rescues from burning buildings. As a result of this personal bravery by civilians, firemen and policemen, there was a great reduction in loss of life by fire. During the year 1954, six persons lost their lives; in 1955, two persons lost their lives by reason of fire. Again, in the year 1955, as in 1954, there were no three alarm fires, or equivalent.

Fire loss for the year 1954 . . .	\$650,216.25
Fire loss for the year 1955 . . .	<u>755,848.18</u>
Increase for the year . . .	\$105,631.93
Percentage of Increase . . .	14%
Per capita loss for 1954 . . .	\$2.62
Per capita loss for 1955 . . .	<u>3.04</u>
Increase for the year . . .	\$.42
Percentage of Increase . . .	14 %

LOSSES FOR THE PREVIOUS FIRE YEARS

1950.	\$ 845,660
1951.	997,205
1952.	811,162
1953.	1,143,788
1954.	650,216
Fire loss on a 5-year average . .	\$889,606.
Fire loss for the year 1955 . . .	<u>755,848.</u>
Decrease for the year	\$133,758.
Percentage of Decrease	15%

PER CAPITA LOSSES FOR THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS

1950	\$3.34
1951	4.04
1952	3.28
1953	4.60
1954	2.62

Per capita fire loss on a 5-year average . .	\$3.58
Per capita fire loss for the year 1955 . . .	<u>3.04</u>
Decrease for the year	\$.54
Percentage of Decrease	15%

The per capita fire loss in Providence for 1955 was 58% less than the national per capita average.

The Department was well on its way to improving its fire record of 1954 until it encountered the month of December. Going into this month there had been only four fires that resulted in second alarms. During this cold month there were 64 building fires, many caused by defective heaters and thawing frozen pipes. Within a period of three days there were four fires for which two alarms were sounded. On December 21 there were two fires that, within a period of minutes, resulted in second alarms. The inventory of available companies was reduced to five engines and two ladder companies. The off-duty men were recalled and in 31 minutes the first reserve apparatus was in service. Within an hour there were eight reserve engine companies and four reserve ladder companies available for response to any further fires. The response of the off-duty men was excellent and many firemen on leave of absence and not duty bound to return, did return to augment the reserve force.

One glaring weakness presented itself, and this was a lack of cars for Battalion Chiefs. This can be corrected by not trading in the present cars of the Battalion Chiefs on the next three purchases. These cars can be kept for spares and can be used in emergencies of the above described nature.

RESCUE COMPANIES

The demand by the public for rescue service continued to increase to the point where it was not an unusual occurrence to have both rescue companies employed at the same time. May I call your attention to the reports of the rescue companies, which show a response to 3,221 emergency calls, an increase of 30% over 1954. The emergency calls in 1954 were 40% over the calls of 1953. It appears that a third rescue company must be made available for this type of service.

FALSE ALARMS

In my annual report of 1954, I had requested that heavier penalties be imposed for the malicious sounding of false alarms. The following figures indicate a steady minor reduction over a five year period. These false alarms can create a delay of response that could mean loss of life and heavy property damage to any section of the city:

1951	499	False Alarms
1952	473	" "
1953	422	" "
1954	419	" "
1955	392	" "

Again I recommend that the penalty for this offense be substantially increased.

We in the Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Commissioner Dunn, and the Honorable Members of the City Government for their fine cooperation and support given to the Fire Department during the year 1955.

We would also like to thank Dr. Hanley, Monsignor Cassidy and the heads of the many private schools for their wonderful cooperation in fire prevention education in our schools. Thanks to the television and radio stations and the local press for the many, many hours of their time to bring the message of fire safety into the homes of our citizens, and thanks to our citizens for listening to and practicing these messages.

The Fire Prevention Committee of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, Warren D. Phillips, Chairman, were wonderful in their cooperation in giving their time and ideas in this work to reduce fires by carelessness, thereby saving lives and property.

The Recreation Department and the many youth organizations also made a great contribution to fire prevention during the year 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis A. Marshall

LEWIS A. MARSHALL
Chief of Department

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 2 - 1956

READ:
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

D. Everett Whelan
CLERK

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

15 Engine Companies
2 " " with Tenders
1 " and Chemical (Combination)
8 Ladder Companies
2 Rescue Companies
1 Salvage Companies

1 Ladder Company deactivated (lad. 7) - April 3

Total Department membership as of Dec. 31 - 470

Appointments	28
Retirements	7
Resignations	2
Promotions	11
Transfers	72
Commendations	9
Reprimands	3
Deaths	3

SUPERIOR OFFICERS

Lewis A. Marshall, Chief of Department

BATTALION CHIEFS

Frank G. Eldredge	Norman Jones
William E. Falls	Leonard A. Kiernan
Carl F. Fliegner	James T. Killilea
Samuel A. Fogell	Francis J. O'Brien
Leo E. Gorman	John T. McLaughlin
Walter F. Hannaway	Albert J. Sheridan
Eugene L. Hawkins	John E. Sullivan
	William E. Sullivan, Jr.

Gordon Jones, Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

Henry vanWestendorp, Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

Michael Sabatino, Superintendent - Department of Building Repairs

Frank W. Schrage, Assistant Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

J. Clifton Leighton, Assistant Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT - Cont.

Capt. Fred L. Badger
Capt. Arthur Brodeur
Capt. John E. Butler, Jr.
Capt. Edmund F. Carlson
Capt. George R. Carlson
Capt. James F. Coleman, Jr.
Capt. Richard B. J. Farmer
Capt. Edwin A. Fay
Capt. John Feeney
Capt. Thomas J. Fitzgerald
Capt. William F. Gibbons
Capt. Paul J. Herzog
Capt. George O. Huestis
Capt. Henry C. Maine
Capt. Joseph J. Mainey

Lieut. Russell H. Backman
Lieut. Lawrence A. Bouchard
Lieut. William D. Bourke
Lieut. Howard W. R. Bucklin
Lieut. James C. Byrne
Lieut. James G. Cahill
Lieut. Joseph A. Carr
Lieut. Ambrose V. Clarke
Lieut. Raymond G. Connor
Lieut. Leo T. Deuso, Sr.
Lieut. Elliot M. Durfee
Lieut. Anthony Gibalerio
Lieut. Charles J. Gilchrist
Lieut. George A. Gray
Lieut. Frank Hodgson
Lieut. William J. Hughes
Lieut. William P. Kanaczet
Lieut. William F. Kelly
Lieut. Thomas M. Kenndy
Lieut. Edward J. Kiernan
Lieut. James E. Kilkenney
Lieut. George E. LaPorte
Lieut. Leo P. Lavallee
Lieut. William J. Lynch
Lieut. Richard H. Lyons

Capt. Edmond F. Marnane
Capt. John J. Mohan
Capt. Thomas O. McLaughlin
Capt. Carl H. Norberg
Capt. George H. Nowell
Capt. Guido Nutini
Capt. Nicholas E. O'Brien
Capt. Richard E. O'Leary
Capt. Vincent T. Reardon
Capt. John L. Rooney
Capt. Sylvester F. Shea
Capt. Francis A. Shea
Capt. Albert E. Skog
Capt. Daniel F. Stafford
Capt. Frederick J. Ward
Capt. Amos M. Weeden

Lieut. Marice J. Maguire
Lieut. James E. Maher
Lieut. Clarence B. McCormick
Lieut. James H. McDernott
Lieut. John E. McDonald
Lieut. John F. McDonald, Jr.
Lieut. John B. McGarry
Lieut. John F. McGwinn
Lieut. Matthew McKeon
Lieut. Thomas M. McManus
Lieut. Joseph H. Mitchell
Lieut. Charles W. Oatley, Jr.
Lieut. Frederick J. O'Brien
Lieut. William H. O'Connell
Lieut. John J. O'Haire, Jr.
Lieut. Bartholomew E. Quigley
Lieut. Alfred J. Reall
Lieut. James W. Robertson
Lieut. James J. Roche
Lieut. Raymond E. Shawcross, Jr.
Lieut. Leonard E. Sweeney
Lieut. George B. Vieweg
Lieut. Robert D. Walsh
Lieut. Bernard J. Waters, Jr.

The apparatus consists of 18 Pumpers, (1 combination foamite), 8 Ladder Trucks, 2 Engine Tenders, 2 Rescue Trucks, 1 Salvage Truck, with 15 Triple Combination Pumpers, 5 Ladder Trucks and 1 Rescue Truck in reserve.

<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>G.P.M.</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Engine Co. No. 1	La France	1250	July, 1942
" " " 2	" "	750	June, 1952
" " " 3	" "	750	April, 1953
" " " 4	" "	1000	July, 1927
" " " 5	" "	750	April, 1950
" " " 6	" "	750	June, 1952
" " " 7	" "	1250	July, 1942
" " " 8	" "	750	April, 1950
" " " 9	" "	1500	December, 1949
" " " 10	" "	1250	November, 1945
" " " 11	General	750	December, 1953
" " " 12	La France	750	April, 1950
" " " 13	General	750	December, 1953
" " " 14	La France	750	April, 1950
" " " 17	Ward La France	750	April, 1954
" " " 18	Oren	750	September, 1952
" " " 19	General	750	December, 1953
" " " 20	General	750	December, 1953
Ladder CO. No. 1	LaFrance Aerial		June, 1950
" " " 2	" "		October, 1945
" " " 3	" "		February, 1950
" " " 4	" "		November, 1942
" " " 5	" "		March, 1946
" " " 6	Seagrave "		September, 1954
" " " 9	LaFrance "		December, 1951
" " " 10	" "		October, 1937
Engine Tender No. 7	G. M. C.		December, 1950
" " " 9	Ford C. O. E.		August, 1950
Rescue Co. No. 1	Scott-White		October, 1951
" " " 2	Chevrolet (2½ Ton)		June, 1954
Salvage Co. No. 1	Studebaker (1½ Ton)		February, 1953
Reserve Engine No. 2(2)	La France	1000 (2)	1925 (2)
" " " 3	"	1000	1919
" " " 5	"	1000	1923
" " " 6(2)	"	1000 (2)	1925 & 1927
" " " 11	"	1000	1924
" " " 12	"	1000	1926
" " " 14(2)	"	1000	1920 & 1925

COMPANY	TYPE	G.P.M.	DATE
Reserve Engine No. 17 (3)	LaFrance	1000	1918 & 1927 (2)
" " " 19	"	1000	1927
" " " 20	"	1000	1924
Reserve Ladder No. 6 (2)	LaFrance Aerial (2)		1916 & 1926
" " " 7	" City Service		1920
" " " 8	" City Service		1925
" " " 3	" City Service		1929
Reserve Rescue No. 2	Chevrolet (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton)		1939

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS

For fires in buildings:

Candle - Lamp - Torch	16
Careless use of matches	14
Careless smoking	55
Careless smoking in bed	6
Defective Boiler - Furnace	2
" Chimney	12
" electric appliance	3
" range oil burner	9
" power " "	3
" portable oil burner	2
" Space oil burner	10
" smoke pipe - flue	7
" wiring	11
Dust - Lint	1
Food - Grease	2
Hot Ashes	1
Incendiary	5
Range oil burner - overheated	1
" " " overflow	6
Space oil heater - overflow	2
Overheated boiler - furnace	4
" exhaust pipe	1
" electric flat	1
" electric motor	2
" oven	1
" smoke pipe	4
Power oil burner - overflow	1
Rags on pipes etc.	2
Rubbish - Litter	9
Set by juveniles	33
Short circuit - wires	8
Soot in chimney	1
Spark from chimney	3
" " motor - machine	3
" " rubbish fire	38
Struck by lightening	3
Suspicious	6
Miscellaneous	12
Undetermined	95
Total	<u>395</u>

Causes of fires and alarms - continued.

Other than for a fire in a building:

False alarms	392	Power oil burner overflow	8
Bon-fires	25	Overturned portable oil heater	2
Accidental - Needless	237	Power oil burner-flareback	2
Candle-lamp-torch	5	Rags on pipe etc.	3
Careless use of matches	10	Rubbish-Litter	2
Careless smoking	67	Set by juveniles	9
Careless smoking in bed	15	Short circuit-wires	49
Cleaning solvent	1	" " elec. motor	22
Defective boiler-furnace	6	Soot in chimney	25
" chimney	8	Spark from motor-machine	1
" elec. appliance	14	Spark from rubbish fire	3
" gas stove	6	Spontaneous combustion	4
" range oil burner	16	Struck by lightening	5
" power oil burner	44	Suspicious	1
" portable oil burner	5	Miscellaneous	18
" space oil heater	20	Undetermined	7
" smoke pipe-flue	3	Auto-truck-bus	321
" wiring	11	Bridges	14
Dust-lint	6	Dumps	137
Explosion	1	Fence	17
Food-grease	50	Grass-brush-leaves	666
hot ashes	1	Junk yard	12
Incindiary	1	Lumber yard	4
Range oil burner-flareback	9	Rubbish-litter	306
" " " overflow	33	Tree-pole	26
Space oil heater-overflow	32	Oil bomb in street	21
Oil heater-hot water	2	Miscellaneous	8
Overheated boiler-furnace	10		
" exhaust pipe	2		
" elec. motor	33		
" oven	1		
" smoke pipe	2		
Tar kettle	1		
Dip tank	2		
		Total	2,756
		Rescue and Emergency	3,221

Blood donations made by members of the Department . 15

Deaths caused by fire 2

Multiple alarm fires - 2nd Alarms 8

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH HOUR

<u>HOUR</u> <u>A. M.</u>	<u>ALARMS</u> <u>A. M.</u>	<u>HOUR</u> <u>P. M.</u>	<u>ALARMS</u> <u>P. M.</u>
12 - 1	77	12- 1	222
1 - 2	68	1- 2	235
2 - 3	45	2- 3	194
3 - 4	33	3- 4	230
4 - 5	21	4- 5	279
5 - 6	22	5- 6	243
6 - 7	29	6- 7	180
7 - 8	46	7- 8	209
8 - 9	62	8- 9	226
9 - 10	92	9- 10	173
10 - 11	106	10- 11	114
11 - 12	153	11- 12	92
		Total	3,151

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH DAY

Sunday	392
Monday	463
Tuesday	376
Wednesday	447
Thursday	460
Friday	484
Saturday	530
	<u>3,151</u> Total

The following is the statistical summary of the activities of the fire fighting force of the Department for the year ending December 31, 1955:

Working time of companies at fires - 3,847 hrs. 16 mins.
 Working time at dumps - 239 hrs. 28 mins.
 Working time of pumpers at fires - 38 hrs. 30 mins.

HOSE LINES USED:

Booster	No. of lines used	1,369	Total feet of hose	179,480
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " hose	" " " "	527	" " " "	62,650
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" " " "	533	" " " "	165,500
3"	" " " "	96	" " " "	27,650

LADDERS USED:

Aerial Ladders	- No. used -	33	Total feet -	2,810
Portable Ladders	- " " -	1031	" " -	20,532

EXTINGUISHERS:

Foam	11
Pump tank	380
Dry Chemical	1
Carbon Dioxide	86
Carbon Tectachloride	52

OTHER EQUIPMENT USED:

Salvage covers	549
Bundles of laths	60
Rolls of roofing paper	103 $\frac{3}{4}$
Smoke ejector	34
Homelites	51
Generators	33
Sprinkler heads	64

EXTRA HOURS AND LOST TIME:

Extra hours of duty performed	1,980 hrs. 5 mins.
Time in attendance at drills	2,721 hrs. 38 mins.
Time lost by members through sickness	44,635 hrs. 35 mins.
Time lost by members through injuries	30,612 hrs. 35 mins.
Special time granted	1,914 hrs. 25 mins.

INSPECTIONS:

RESIDENTIAL:

(dwellings, apartments, rooming houses etc. 82,068

NON-RESIDENTIAL:

(Theaters, churches, hospitals, schools etc. 2,797

MERCANTILE:

(Retail stores, restaurants, repair shops etc. 7,801

MANUFACTURING:

(Factories, bakeries, laundries etc. 1,735

STORAGE:

(Warehouses, piers etc. 346

MISCELLANEOUS:

(Power plants, pumping stations etc. 273

HYDRANTS:

36,830

APPROVALS AND PERMITS:

Gasoline	3,039
Garages	2,507
Dangerous Chemicals	504

NECROLOGY

Three active members and sixteen pensioned members died during the past year:

Private Louis L. Dufrasne, Active member - Died April 11, 1955

Superintendent John B. Sullivan, Active member - Died Sept. 15, 1955

Private Joseph H. Sullivan, Active member - Died Dec. 18, 1955

Michael L. McDonough	Pensioned member	- died January 5, 1955
John E. Meledy	" "	- died January 25, 1955
Jeremiah S. McDonald	" "	- died February 16, 1955
Walter B. Leonard	" "	- died February 19, 1955
John P. Clancy	" "	- died April 11, 1955
David J. Gibbons	" "	- died April 24, 1955
John M. Mulry	" "	- died April 27, 1955
John P. McKenna	" "	- died May 11, 1955
Charles A. Marshall	" "	- died May 22, 1955
Edward J. Dolan	" "	- died July 5, 1955
Edward J. Hall	" "	- died July 16, 1955
Milton R. W. Nelson	" "	- died July 16, 1955
Louis McClarence	" "	- died July 21, 1955
James P. Lynch	" "	- died November 6, 1955
William E. Sullivan	" "	- died November 22, 1955
Edward J. Keily	" "	- died December 3, 1955

DIVISION OF TRAINING

ANNUAL REPORT

During the past year, training activities continued as usual with a competitive examination being given on January 3rd. 1955 at the Central High School for 103 qualified Privates for the purpose of selecting ten men obtaining the highest score to enter Promotional School for training and certification to undertake the rank and responsibilities of Lieutenant in the Fire Department.

As a result, a Promotional School, Privates Section, was convened and satisfactorily concluded in two weeks of intensive training for the ten Privates who had qualified in the competitive examination conducted on January 3rd.

A certified list of the successful participants in the Promotional School was forwarded to the Chief of Department on February 3rd. for advancement to the rank of Lieutenant as vacancies occur.

15th. TRAINEES SCHOOL

Pursuant to direction from the Chief of Department, an advertisement was prepared and appeared in the Providence Journal and Evening Bulletin announcing the closing of applications for appointment to the 15th. Trainees School. The advertisement ran consecutively in these newspapers for three days, February 9, 10, and 11th. 1955.

An Equivalency Screening Test was given at Division Quarters to Applicants for appointment to the 15th. Trainees' School who had not completed 10 grades of formal education. This test was held on February 25th, under supervision of the Equivalency Board Members, Messrs. John P. Cronin, Director of Recreation in the City of Providence, Guido J. Cerilli, Principal of George J. West Junior High School and C. Bird Keach, a local Attorney.

On February 26th., a competitive Intelligence examination was conducted at Central High School for 112 applicants in an accepted status, to select the 15 highest scoring applicants to submit to physical examination by the Departmental Surgeons, Drs. Arthur Rattenni and Joseph M. Parrillo. Upon being qualified as being physically fit and well they were appointed to the Trainees' School.

This Trainees school convened on April 4th. with a schedule arranged for 13 weeks Basic and Unit training under the direct training and supervision of the Division of Training personnel, plus 13 weeks training, advanced stage, with various units of Engine, Ladder and Rescue Companies in the Department. The School successfully concluded on October 4th. 1955.

NEW QUARTERS

April 19, 1955, the Division of Training moved into its present quarters located at 274 Reservoir Avenue.

INTER-DEPARTMENT DRILLS

In compliance with a directive from the Chief of Department, a schedule of cooperative practices was devised by the Acting Director of Training which brought together daily at the Drill Tower for morning and Afternoon sessions-Saturday and Sunday excluded-Two Engine Companies and one Ladder company with the intent to promote further cooperation and to develop coordination which in turn aids in establishing good standard practices of tactical value. It can also be used as a basis for comparison of company efficiency.

To accomplish this, eight simulated fire field practices-in which the units--although carrying out their specific assignment-cooperated with other units in completing their assignments by employing personnel that was not immediately employed to assist other units in need. For example: Engine company personnel not immediately employed, assisting in placing and raising ladders; Ladder company personnel assisting in stretching lines via ladders; cooperating in rescue practices; assisting each other in evolutions devised to employ master streams and large size fog nozzles and other equipment, etc.

This schedule began on August 22nd and concluded on October 4th, 1955 during which time each Engine company had attended on an average of six instructional and practice periods and Ladder companies attending an average of seven periods due to a lesser number of Ladder companies. All fire-fighting personnel excepting the disabled received instruction and drilled under the supervision of the Department Drill Master. Total man-hours for completion of the schedule amounted to 2220.

Under direction of the Chief of Department, on September 16th, all personnel was apprised by way of an Announcement, relative to the holding of a Promotional School, Lieutenants Section, with the qualifying date set for September 30th, 1955.

On October 11th, a qualifying competitive examination was conducted at Central High School in which twenty-seven Lieutenants competed. In sequence of scores attained, the ten highest scoring competitors were accepted for the Promotional School. Proper procedure following the acceptance was complied with on October 14th, by submitting to the Chief of Department a certified list of the acceptees.

CHANGE OF PERSONNEL

During the interim between October 11th. and October 14th. General Order #44, Series 1955 approving the request of the then Acting Director to be retired and placed on the Pension Roll to become effective October 31, 1955 was received. Coinciding with this General Order, by Direction of the Chief of Department, the present Acting Director was detailed to the Division of Training for general orientation in operation of this Division.

Meanwhile, a schedule had been arranged for the Promotional School, Lieutenants Section, who had qualified and been accepted through the competitive examination conducted on October 11th. 1955. Beginning October 24th and terminating November 5th. 1955 the Schedule consisted of such subjects as:

Instruction and Care and Maintenance
of Fire Apparatus.

Types, Construction of and use of
Ladders.

Ventilation.

Fire Prevention Inspection Duties.

Detection of Incendiarism and

Fire Reports.

Chemistry of Fire from a Scientific
Standpoint.

Fire Service Hydraulics.

Water Supply System.

Sprinkler Protection and Operation.

Building Regulations and Hazards.

Electrical Regulations.

Review of First Aid and Rescue Practices

Fire Department Administration.

Mechanics of Fire.

Hydraulics from a Technical Standpoint.

These may be considered as "required topics of subjects" but this does not mean that additional subjects cannot be added. Actually, the aim is to keep the curriculum and topics abreast of the changing hazards and fire control problems of the times.

Fulfillment of the requirements by written examinations, upon completion of the lectures and demonstrations, and verbal and blackboard examinations on tactical problems, a Thesis and the quality of their note books, determined the position in which the members finished.

Certification in the order in which they finished, for advancement to the rank of Captain as vacancies occur being sent to the Chief of Department by the Acting Director of the Division.

This year as well as in the past, in connection with the Training Courses, whether Privates of Lieutenants Section of the Promotional, School, this Division is indebted to Providence College, The Grinnell Corp., the Inspector of Buildings, the Public Service Engineer and two of his Assistants, the Chief Engineer of the Water Supply Board and various members of our Fire Department for their cooperation and assistance in giving Lectures, Demonstrations and Instructions on subjects which indeed, helped make a success of the Promotional Schools.

This Division is indebted too, to the members of the Equivalency Board for their time, effort and care with which they dispensed so generously when informed of their need.

When not engaged in actual training, time is utilized in acquiring further information on training and the arranging of related material in relation to training.

Personnel records for the entire Department are consistently maintained by members assigned to this task.

Since the Department requires several types of Forms for the making of records, considerable time is given to the minographing of these as well as to other jobs for which this Division is equipped.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Norman Jones
Battalion Chief
Acting Director
of Training.

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

FROM: Leo E. Gorman, Battalion Chief, Bureau of Fire Prevention.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report.

SIR:

I herewith submit for your consideration and approval the following report of the Bureau of Fire Prevention for 1955.

As a result of the outstanding record made by the Fire Department for 1954, a record that won the highest honors in the field of Fire Prevention and Fire Protection in a Nationwide contest sponsored by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the department faced 1955 fully determined to equal and, if possible, better this record.

For the first ten months of the year it appeared that the department was well on the way to establishing what would have been one of the most successful records, firewise, the department ever achieved in it's history. What made the record so remarkable was the fact that throughout the rest of the Nation most communities were experiencing large loss fires with unusual frequency. However, during the months of November and December we were hit with our share of fires which resulted in an upsurge in our losses. It should be noted however, that while the monetary loss for November is above the other months the increase is mainly due to loss by water rather than by actual fire. The actual loss by fire during the month of November was less than previous months. A series of fires resulting in minor fire damage but accompanied by water damage from sprinklers were responsible for the upsurge. This coupled with defective sprinklers and delayed notification was the direct result of the high loss in November.

A situation has developed that has a direct bearing on the fire loss problem. It was very noticeable on several occasions during the past year where larger losses by water from sprinklers occurred, especially where there was no fire, that notification to the department was very late and, as a result unnecessary damage by water was inevitable. It would appear to me that the general public either does not know the meaning of a sprinkler gong or, they fear that by calling the fire department they may become involved. I believe that the problem is one that calls for a program of public education aimed at bringing to the attention of the public how they can render valuable assistance to everyone concerned by not hesitating to call the fire department upon hearing a sprinkler gong. It is my considered opinion that if the department had received more prompt notification in several instances in the past year the fire loss picture would have been much more favorable.

The month of December is usually a month of fires, this is especially true if there is an extended period of extremely cold weather which was the case last December. That December was the worst month firewise is borne out by the fact that during the previous eleven months there were only four second alarm fires while during one twenty four hour period in December there was a total of three second alarm fires. Also, December proved to be a banner month for building fires, a total of 64 building fires occurring. In spite of the best efforts of the department to hold the line in keeping fire losses down circumstances beyond the control of the department can spoil

an otherwise excellent record. A study of the fires reveals what has been known to the fire service for some time that nine out of ten fires are caused by human carelessness, the problem is still one of constant education.

During the year 1955 the Fire Prevention Bureau continued its Fire Prevention educational and promotional activities by utilizing every available media to constantly keep before the public the primary responsibility of the Providence Fire Department, the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Providence from destruction by fire. From time to time in the course of our inspectional work it is necessary to call upon various departments within the city government, such as the Health Department, Building Inspector's department and the Public Service Engineers office, in every instance where their cooperation was requested I am very happy to report that the Bureau received excellent cooperation.

At the present time the personnel of the Bureau consists of ten members as follows, one Battalion Chief, one Captain, one Lieutenant and seven inspectors with the rank of private. During the year one member of the Bureau, Inspector Joseph H. Sullivan, died. Inspector Sullivan was the official department photographer. His work is now being done by Inspector Frederick J. O'Brien Jr., until such time as the Chief of Department finds a replacement to carry on the work of Inspector Sullivan. During the month of July one member of the Bureau, Lieutenant George A. Gray, requested and was granted a transfer to the fire fighting force. Lieutenant Gray handled all clerical work for the Bureau. Inspector Frederick J. O'Brien Jr., was assigned to the office to carry on Lieutenant Gray's work. This assignment proved to be most satisfactory as Inspector O'Brien has previous experience in this type of work. The change left one man short in the field. At the present time the vacancy has not been filled. As the city is divided into six inspectional districts the loss of one man seriously handicaps and delays our regular program of periodic inspections in manufacturing, mercantile, hospital, public buildings and other occupancies with which this Bureau is charged by law to periodically inspect. It also creates a back log in complaints and fire investigations which if allowed to pile up for any length of time creates a burden on Inspector O'Brien in the office. Records are incomplete and this presents a serious problem as well as a poor impression to the many outside agencies that have occasion to consult them from time to time. I would therefore urgently recommend that you give serious consideration to the possibility of assigning additional personnel to the Bureau.

During the year the Bureau was called on numerous occasions by Chief Officers to fires which in their opinions warranted investigation because of unusual circumstances. Some of the cases were of a definite incendiary nature and warranted thorough investigation by a man especially trained for this type of investigation. While we received excellent cooperation from the detective division of the Police Department it is my considered opinion that, if a man with previous training in this field was available to devote full time to these cases, in cooperation with the Detective Division, I am quite certain that these cases could be brought to more satisfactory conclusions. The most effective deterrent to fires of this nature is an effective and efficient program of Arson investigation by the fire department. I would therefore suggest that you give consideration to the possibility of assigning a man to the Bureau to handle all fires that are reported to be of a suspicious nature. This man, when not engaged in the investigation of fires, could be used to excellent advantage in conducting inspections in hotels, hospitals, institutions, apartment houses and other buildings of similar nature where the life occupancy warrants constant and frequent inspections.

During 1955 the educational program in our schools was intensified. On many occasions Chief Marshall personally supervised Fire Prevention school plays for presentation on television. As usual Lieutenant O'Brien worked unceasingly with the schools in promoting fire safety among our young children. I would like to express my wholehearted thanks and appreciation to the teachers and pupils of every school in the city for the wonderful work they did all during the year in assisting this Bureau in furthering the cause of fire safety in our city.

Fire Prevention Week was most successful and we are deeply grateful to the Fire Prevention Committee of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce for their help and valuable assistance in making our program so successful. The department took part in the Annual Spring Clean-Up campaign sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce by conducting our semi annual dwelling house program. Emphasis being placed on the number one cause of fires, the portable oil heater. Pamphlets, newspaper publicity, radio, television and demonstrations in the safe manner in the care and use of this type of heating equipment are constantly being used in a program of public education to reduce this hazard to life and property.

Fire Prevention displays were put on by this Bureau at the following places, The Home and Farm Show at the Cranston Street Armory and the Annual Teacher's Institute at La Salle Academy and the Rhode Island College of Education. Fire Prevention demonstrations were presented at various civic clubs, fraternal organizations and parent-teacher groups throughout the State. Request were also received from out of town schools for the demonstration during Fire Prevention Week.

May I take this opportunity to express appreciation to everyone who cooperated with the Bureau during the year.

The following is a concise report of the activities of the Bureau for the year 1955.

INVESTIGATION: (of complaints received)

Complaints Corrected	1059
" Unjustified	72
Buildings Razed	32
" Repaired	28
Referred to Health Dept.	15
" " Bldg. Insp.	200
" " Pub. Serv. Engr.	41
Request of occupants	32
Defective chimney-Smoke pipe and Heating Plant	108
Fire Escapes-Panic Bolts	94
Obstructed exits	17
Open exposures	191
Burning Rubbish	471
Rubbish Conditions Corrected	580

FIRES:

Fires Investigated	1469
Suspicious Fires	29
Referred to Juvenile Div.	10
Fire Losses Investigated	1076
Court Cases	3

PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY

Bingoos 412
Exhibitions-Boxing-HockeyEtc. 60

INSPECTIONS: (Regular)

Original Inspections	814
Re-Inspections	1348
Theaters	132
Convalescent Homes	6
Homes for Children	63
Hospitals	16
Schools	161
Orphanages	27
Storage of Vehicles	45
Gasoline Applications	62
Gasoline Tanks	50
Storage of Fuel Oil-Bulk	6
Dang. Chem. Applications	162

DEMONSTRATIONS-LECTURES-ETC.

Fire Prev. Demonstrations	28
" " " Attendance at	1847
Moving Picture Showings	12
" " " Attendance at	1338
Lecture-Talk	66
" " Attendance at	6295
Conferences Attended	1
Radio Broadcast	13
Television Broadcast	8
Fire Drills Conducted	64

MISCELLANEOUS

No Smoking Signs Issued	403
Warning Slips Issued	3
Photographs Taken	1100
Extra Hours Worked	743
Pamphlets Distributed	6042
Books Distributed	1075
Posters Distrubuted	1199
Public Displays Set Up	7

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Leo E. Gorman
Battalion Chief.

BUREAU OF OPERATIONAL CONTROL

I respectfully submit for your consideration and approval, the following report of the activities of the Bureau of Operational Control for the year ending December 31, 1955.

The Bureau of Operational Control under the command of the Chief Dispatcher, who has the exclusive authority and sole responsibility for the effective and accurate dispatching of department units and personnel in response to alarms of fire or any other appropriate request for services of department units, subject to the orders and direction of the Chief of Department.

It is my privilege to report once again that the method of dispatching apparatus to alarms of fire and other emergencies over the vocalarm system has proven most satisfactory. By means of this voice transmission, instructions are loudly, distinctly and simultaneously heard in the apparatus room, dormitories and other parts of the fire station, enabling the fire fighting forces quartered in each station to act instantly and intelligently. During the past year a total of 6,044 alarms, including Box, Still and Emergency alarms were transmitted to the department over the vocalarm and the records show this system has proven highly efficient. Received during the past year a total of 4,914 Still Alarms by telephone, including emergency calls and were transmitted to the department.

The telephone is a handy way of sending a fire alarm, but the possibility of mistakes is very great, there is always the chance of a mistaken address due to the similarity of sound such streets as: Hope-Pope-Cope-Laura-Laurel-Bay-Gay-Day-May Etc. In telephone alarms the human factor is more likely to have an effect upon the speed and accuracy of transmission than any other means, language and phonetic difficulties, emotional people become confused. All telephone calls received at this office are recorded on the dictaphone electronic recording machine which automatically records all communications. This recorder is invaluable in solving differences of opinion, it will prove to the excited persons that they acted abnormally during the time they were attempting to give an alarm of fire, and as a result any delay was not the fault of the fire department or the dispatcher on duty.

However in spite of the possibility of mistakes I am happy to report that all telephone alarms received during the year were transmitted to the department without error.

Efficient communications are a vital essential in modern fire fighting. Of all the communications facilities available to today's fire fighter, radio is recognized as the most efficient system for directing fire attack and defense. Its value in the control, response, mobilization, placement of fire forces and other factors of fire fighting operations has been established beyond a doubt. But its application to the science of fire suppression goes beyond field fire fighting operations. It is proving an asset in fire prevention through furthering inspections, hazard control and in the field of firemanship training.

Now that all fire fighting units in our department are equipped with radio, I am happy to report that all of our expectations have been fulfilled and the efficiency of our fire department has been greatly increased by the use of radio.

Respectfully submitted,

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING REPAIRS

I hereby submit the operational report of the Department of Building Maintenance and Repairs for the year of 1955.

This department is responsible for the repairs and maintenance of both the Police and Fire Department buildings. There has been considerable repairs, redecorating, and remodeling during this year. The exterior of the following buildings were repainted: Broad St., Atwells Ave., Point St., Admiral St., No. Main St., Allens Ave. and all exterior doors and flag staffs on all other Police and Fire Buildings, including all garage doors. There has also been considerable repainting and redecorating in the interior of the following buildings: LaSalle headquarters, Chief's Office, Chief 4's office, Rescue 1, Ladder 1, Engine 1, Detective Division Juvenile quarters, Room 303, Matron's rooms, and Hallways and Stairways on the third floor. Also the Police court room, Record room and room of the Police Judge. The Radio room and Fingerprint Division were also painted.

The interior of the following Fire stations were also repainted: Messer St. and Hartford Ave. Humbolt Ave. and Broad St. are now in the process of being painted. There was also 300 Hydrant signs painted and lettered, including 150 Traffic horses painted and lettered for the Police Dept., and also 75 Hydrant standards were painted, repaired and set out around the city for the Fire Dept.

A member of this Dept. assisted in the inspection and lubricating of all hydrants in this city.

New rear doors have been replaced on the following buildings: Admiral St., Broad St., and also the Repair Shop, Dexter St. These doors were also painted.

There were various stations that had doors to be repaired and many minor carpenter jobs completed.

There were new locks installed and several repaired at various stations, Police Headquarters and Pistol Range. Thirty-three panes of glass were installed and twenty-two door checks repaired and replaced at various stations. Considerable linoleum on walls and floors was re cemented at a few stations and the Fire Alarm building.

New electric gasoline pumps were installed at the following stations: Allens Ave., Admiral St. and Brook St. New 4" pipes were cemented in the ground to protect these new gasoline pumps and also painted. The gasoline pump was removed from Police garage (Bucklin St.) to Fire repair garage, Dexter St. and installed for operation. There were 100 new lockers delivered to Precinct 1 and all were renumbered for the Police Dept. There were also numerous new lockers delivered to various stations. Roof leaks were repaired at the Repair Shop, Dexter St. and four other Fire stations.

Two hundred dog license posters were made and distributed throughout the city. There was considerable plaster work and repainting done. During this year the Fire Alarm Repair moved from their quarters to Repair Shop building, Bucklin St. This Dept. removed all beds and delivered them to Police building at Chad Brown St., also had water, gas, electric service disconnected.

There were numerous repairs to the apparatus overhead doors during this year. Many windows in various stations were replaced with new sash cord and readjusted.

All boilers were cleaned and adjusted in preparation for the heating season. Boilers at several stations had to be repaired, and many other heating repairs had to be done. Robust-Rust remover was put in most of the boilers and also Fusol #2 was put in most of the oil tanks of the Police and Fire buildings. There were many radiator air valves installed in place of old ones that were not in working order. The water pump on the boiler at the Broad St. Station was repaired, new sill cocks were installed at a few stations and many faucet packings were also replaced.

There were Urinals repaired with new Sloan Valves at the Admiral St. and No. Main St. Stations and at the Chief's Lavatory. New hot and cold water faucets were replaced at headquarters Chief's office, Point St. and Fire Alarm buildings. There were also many radiator steam valves repacked and new ones replaced. Rubber gasoline hoses were replaced at several stations, and also new gasoline nozzles. Several new locks were installed for the gasoline pumps. Sewer lines were freed at Repair Shop, Dexter St., Point St. and Rescue #1. Many toilets and sinks, including traps, were cleaned and freed. Many leaks in steam lines were also repaired. Water glass gauges were replaced and repacked with new washers. Seven new Trane air valves were installed on heating units at Broad St. and Hartford Ave. stations.

This department is in charge of all lawns at every station and also the Pistol Range at Scituate, R. I. We regraded the lawn at the pistol range with 10 yards of loam and reseeded and spread 400 lbs. of fertilizer. We also spread loam, seed and fertilizer on lawns at all Fire Stations. A water line was purchased with a new pump for the lawn at the Pistol Range and delivered there by this department.

There has been considerable work done by this department in cooperation with the Fire Prevention Bureau at Fire Prevention Week. We repainted the model home and delivered it from the carpenter shop, Manton Ave. to the front of the City Hall. We also assisted in erecting same. The Fire Prevention Banner was taken to the Pease Awning Co. for repairs and later picked up and hung between the Biltmore Hotel and the City Hall, Washington Street. We also cooperated with the Fire Prevention Bureau in moving equipment whenever called upon. This department is also called upon to hang out banners for different charitable organizations.

There were numerous small jobs done by this department throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Michael Sabatino
Superintendent.

AUTO MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SHOP

I respectfully submit for your approval the following report of the Automotive Repair and Maintenance Division, for the year ending December 31, 1955.

The Automotive Division is located at 382 Dexter Street. This is a modern one story brick building equipped with machinery and tools and supplied with the necessary parts and materials used for the maintenance of Fire Apparatus and Appliances used in the Department. The duties of the Division is to keep in proper repair and good working condition all motor apparatus, comprising a total of 81 units, 50 of these are major fire fighting units. This total includes Motor Pumping Engines, Aerial Ladder Trucks, City Service Trucks, Rescue and Salvage Trucks and Auxiliary units. The remaining 31 units comprise the cars of the Chief officers and the necessary trucks and automobiles used by the various Divisions of the Department.

In order to perform the duties incumbent on the Division we have in our employ qualified mechanics for the repair and upkeep of apparatus and appliances.

During the past year, supervision and maintenance of pumping units at all multiple alarms of fire assured the fire fighting force an adequate supply of water for hand lines and master streams.

In addition to the aforementioned it is the duty of the Division to supervise all acceptance tests for new apparatus, and yearly service tests of Pumping units within the Department.

The following is a summary of jobs completed in the past year.

Engines Rebuilt	8	Fire pumps	3
Transmissions	3	Chief Officers cars	2
Differential	1	Minor Repairs	783
Motor Inspections	26	Battery Changes	897
Grease Jobs	275	Oil Changes	289

Two overaged City Service Trucks were disposed of.

In addition to the above summary numerous minor jobs were completed in company quarters. Homelite Pumps, and Generators used for lighting at night fires were also serviced.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Gordon Jones
Superintendent.

CARPENTER SHOP

The following is the Annual Report of the Carpenter Shop for the year 1955.

This division builds and repairs equipment necessary to maintain efficiency within the Fire and Police Departments.

Ladders are very important to a Fire Department; therefore much time is spent in the careful checking of them. They have to be examined carefully, and any beams or rungs which are checked, cracked or burned have to be replaced. It is important that the ladders of each Ladder Company be given two coats of varnish annually.

A total of 1510 feet of ladders were given two coats of varnish.
190 feet of new ladders were built.
360 feet of ladders were repaired.
Thirty-five handles were put in fire axes.
Ten poles were made for plaster hooks.
Six new hose poles were made.
Made two 6' Formica Top Tables.
Made one large Cabinet to hold thirty-two transfer files.
Repaired about fifty pieces of furniture.

Renovations were made in the Supply Room at the North Main and Broad Street Fire Stations. Partitions and doors were installed to enable each Company to have their own Supply Cupboards.

With the purchase of Indian Pumps, boxes were made to hold them on the apparatus.

Boxes were made and mounted to hold Scot-Air Packs on Ladder Co. 3 & 9.
"In Service" and "on the Air" signs were made for Engine and Ladder Co.
Made and repaired Vocal Alarm Platforms.
Put new rear step and repaired compartments on Salvage Co. #1.
Boxes were rebuilt and installed on new Fire Alarm and Emergency Truck.
Shelves were built in Supply Room of Fire Alarm Building.
Cut out 376 Hydrant signs for the Supply Room.
A new blackboard was made and mounted on the wall in the classroom in the new Division of Training Building. Mounted five large display boards on wall.
Made Television Cabinet, which was sent to Washington, D. C., Containing the Providence Fire Department's entry in the Fire Waste Contest.
In preparation for Fire Prevention Week, the Portable House and information booth were painted and set up in front of City Hall, and many Fire Prevention signs were made.

The Following items were made for the Providence Police Department;
50 Street Horses, 42 Night Sticks, 3 Bulletin Boards and 2 Typewriting tables.
25 Police Horses were repaired.
10 Signs were made for the Traffic Division.
Boxes were made and mounted for Riot Guns in Cruisers.

All metal windows in Police Arsenal were fitted with blocks of wood so that a Burgular Alarm System could be installed.

The following work was done for Civilian Defense:

Installed two doors and one 15' partition. Made platform for radio tower and six large tables.

This report summarizes the work turned out at the Carpenter Shop during the year 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Eugene L. Hawkins
Battalion Chief.

FIRE ALARM DIVISION

During the year 1955 as in the past, it has been the prime purpose of this Division to maintain the service of all of the communication facilities in the Fire and Police departments at their best possible performance so that the operation of the departments should be kept at their most efficient best. With this in mind, this Division has made constant checks both as to the operation of the equipment and the general condition of the entire plant. A number of faults have been found at various times and these have been corrected as they were located.

Considerable headway has been made in the rebuilding of the entire aerial installation of the Fire Alarm Box Circuits during the past year. This installation suffered considerable damage during the hurricanes of 1954 and this division has been making an effort to rebuild the circuits from beginning to ending. As this entails considerable work, it has been done as rapidly as possible but due to the extent of this system, there still remains some 20 miles of aerial construction that is in need of complete revamping. It is hoped that this work will be completed in the present year.

The normal extension of the Fire Alarm Box coverage of the city has been held up by the press of other and more necessary work described above. During the year 1955, there were added to the service, 4 new public boxes and 2 new private boxes. Also during the year 1 public and seven private boxes were removed from service. There are at present 906 Fire Alarm Boxes in service which is a net loss of 2 boxes over the number in service a year ago. However, this Division has now on hand a number of box movements and cases which are all ready to be installed and as soon as the other and more necessary work is completed, this installation work will be done.

The building of the new Providence River bridge and the approaches has also posed quite a problem for this Division as it will be necessary for us to relocate a number of our underground cables and pedestals and as all service must be maintained while these changes are being made, it is a slow process requiring many man hours. It will be necessary for us to purchase additional cables for this work but it will not be possible for us to lay this work out in its entirety until we have been informed by the N. E. T. & T. Co., as to the exact location of the underground duct structure. This will determine our cable runs.

During the past year it was found that we would have to replace a section of our underground cable on Exchange Place which was inundated by the floodwaters of the 1954 hurricane. The salt water had seeped into the cable as much as 100 feet from the terminal in front of the Industrial Trust Co. building and it had ruined the insulation on the conductors. In spite of numerous repairs that had been made, it was finally decided that the cable would have to be replaced. This work was done in the later part of the year and to date we have experienced no more trouble in this location. There is still trouble in some of the underground plant and we are proceeding with the tests and checks that will ultimately determine the exact location of the troubles so that repairs may be completed.

During the past year, as in the past several years, this Division has done considerable work in revamping the layout of the Police Signal System so that it will more coincide with the layout of the Fire Alarm Box Circuit system. This will eventually simplify the maintenance of both systems and expose the plan to less damage than at the present time. This work will still require a number of years but the progress made to date will begin to show its effect in the near future. Several more Police Call Boxes have been combined with Fire Alarm Boxes in a single pedestal and the unnecessary pedestals have been removed. In several cases, the Police Signal wires have been relocated into Fire Alarm cables and as can readily be seen, this also tends to simplify the system.

Several Police Signal Boxes have been relocated to better areas at the request of the Police Department and at the moment, we are looking forward to the installation of a few more Police Signal Boxes. This will be done at the first possible moment as the time becomes available. The materials are already on hand.

As the Fire Department has complete coverage with two way radio and this system has been maintained. The principal addition to the radio system has been the installation of a 60 watt auxiliary transmitter and receiver. This equipment will be used on a standby basis at the Fire Alarm Office to be used in the event of a failure of the main station. As this equipment is set up at the present time, it requires only the throwing of two switches to put the auxiliary system on the air. To date, the new equipment has worked out very well.

As in the past, this Division has maintained all of the electrical equipment in both the Fire and Police Department buildings and in a number of cases we have found it necessary to install new wiring for additional appliances.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Henry van Westendorp
Superintendent.

RESCUE COMPANY NO. 1

Emergency calls for this company have increased from a monthly average response of 104.4 in 1954 to a monthly average of 135.7 in 1955. This is an increase of 30% over the previous year.

A complete summary is as follows:

Boxes-----	157
Stills-----	1460
Special Signals-----	10
Second Alarms-----	2
First Aid Rendered -----	1172
E. & J. Inhalator & Resuscitator-----	328
Revivals-----	248
Fatals-----	80
Refrigerator Leaks-----	26
Water Rescues -----	5
Boat Used-----	7
Automobile Accidents-----	144
Elevator Accidents-----	3
Child Birth Assists-----	8
Miscellaneous-----	97
Transporting Invalids-----	35
Oxygen Cylinders Used-----	186
Generator Used -----	9
Electric Saw-----	3
Electric Drill-----	4
Snoke Ejector Used -----	21
Hangings -----	2
Hours of Drill-----	82
Flood Lights-----	3

A total of 1629 calls were responded to, which required 492 hours and 17 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Edward C. Wilding
Private.

RESCUE COMPANY NO. 2

This year, as has been reported in the past, calls for rescue service have been increasing steadily. We started the year with a monthly response of 93.5 and ended it with an average of 132.7 calls. Due to various pieces of new equipment supplied us, we are rendering better service than ever before. Equipment is adequate, but with ever increasing demands made for our service, it would be well to consider increasing our manpower. We can render more efficient service with the equipment we have, if our groups can be increased by one man per group. Our calls for first aid accounted for 74.5 of our runs.

A complete summary follows:

Instructions in First-Aid and Rescue was given to the following groups.

Girl Scouts. 3 Groups, Total	37	Life Guards at State Beach	125
So. Country Fire & Rescue	135	Police Trainees	76
Commercial nurses	18	Prospective Fire Captains	10

13 Fire trainees were instructed in, and passed the American Red Cross Standard course in first-aid. They were also instructed in Rescue work.

First Aid rendered	1051	Generator used	18
E.&J. breathing machine used	357	Smoke Ejectors	30
Revivals	296	Lights-500 Watt	30
Fatals. Dead on arrival	61	Electric drill & saw	2
Water rescues	0	Salvage covers used	6
Drownings	3	Elevator accidents	6
Boat & Motor used	3	Hangings	4
Refrigerator Leaks	31	Child birth assists	24
Ammonia Leaks	3	Hours of drill	72
Auto accidents	176	Extra hours of duty	27Hrs. 53 Min.
Miscellaneous cases	263	Runs	1592
Oxygen cylinders used	230	Time required on runs	449Hrs. 17 Min.
Emergency transportation	81		

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Arthur Brodeur
Captain.

SALVAGE COMPANY NO. 1

Following is a summary of the operations of Salvage Co. No. 1 for the year ending December 31, 1955.

Boxes-----	174
Stills-----	64
Special Signals -----	44
Hours out of service-----	226
Inside Covers-----	456
Roof Covers -----	10
Sprinkler Heads-----	64
Roofing Paper(rolls)-----	50
Laths (bundles)-----	39
Other services-----	10

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) James H. Coleman, Jr.
Captain.