



Annual Report
of the
PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT
for the Year Ended
December 31, 1958





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

Sir:

It is my privilege to submit, for your consideration and approval, the annual report of the Providence Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1958.

The property loss total in the United States, \$1,305,000,000, indicates the highest loss by reason of fire in history.

The total insurance dollars paid in the City of Providence in 1957 was \$1,293,759 and in 1958 insurance paid \$789,196, for a reduction of approximately 39%. This reduction in paid insurance losses also reflects itself in the operations of the department.

INSURANCE LOSSES FOR THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS

1953	\$1,143,788
1954	650,216
1955	755,848
1956	2,098,708
1957	1,293,759
Fire loss on a 5-year average	\$1,188,464
Fire loss for the year 1958	789,196
Decrease for the year	\$ 399,268

The national per capita fire loss in 1958 amounted to \$7.67, and in Providence the per capita fire loss amounted to \$3.51.

A further comparison between 1957 and 1958 in Providence is as follows:

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>
Still Alarms (Telephone)	2,540	1,809
Box Alarms	1,096	906
Multiple Alarms	13	8
Total Building Fires	393	342
Loss of Life by Fire	5	2
Total Hose Used	590,775 ft.	367,800 ft.
Total Ladders Used	23,293 ft.	23,122 ft.

Of great interest, and an indication of the desire of personnel to advance in rank in the department, is the attendance at credit courses offered by the Division of Training.

On January 13, 1958, a credit course on Fire Service Hydraulics and Pump Operation was conducted and 249 men completed this 21-hour course while off duty. In December, 1958, a credit course on Characteristics of Water Spray (Fog) was announced and a total of 276 men applied for attendance at this credit course.

I would call your attention to the number of Box Alarms sent in during the year 1958. This type of alarm was used 906 times and 448 of these calls were false. For many of these calls, juveniles were responsible; however, when almost 50% of all box alarms are false it is high time that something be done about it. Year after year I have urged stiffer penalties. An average of 5 pieces of equipment responding 448 times involved 2,240 responses of apparatus to these false alarms.

On January 22, 1959, the results of the National Fire Protection Association's fire prevention contest were announced. More than 3,000 cities in the United States and Canada submitted entries. The Providence Fire Department's in competition of cities of 100,000 to 250,000 population submitted entries.

had a total of 4,729 calls for this service in 1957 and 1958, an approximate average of 2,100 calls for each past year. Our engine companies averaged 310 calls for companies averaged 241 calls. I would like to point out personnel calls for a particular type of fireman, one possessing the ability to make instant decisions that could mean life and death. A check of each company's reports services to our citizens, with the same quick response as fire, and in many cases these people are in the hospital of 7 minutes, where the complete resources of the hospital are at their service.

over 3,100 patients were transported to hospitals, in emergency cases, victims of auto accidents and home accidents. The people who had the care, skillful and prompt, provided with Red Cross Instructors' certificates.

the fact that a rescue company responds to seven emergency calls per engine company, and almost eight to one for the average because of the exacting duties, I recommend that these 18 men be paid five dollars per week, with a change in classification from Fireman and Privates, and the comparable classifications be \$108, and \$110.

that the rescue service be a division in itself, and that a man be in charge of this division. It would be his duty to select men, and men in the stations where rescue companies are located. The companies would proceed in the same manner with first aid, the handling of patients and transportation; interview all patients; and keep a list of men willing to improve their quali-

It is my belief that a Battalion Chief in charge of this important service could co-ordinate the efforts and operations of this service, and would result in an even better service to the people of this community.

As we in the fire service continue our service to the citizens of our community, there will be areas of change in methods of prevention of fire, in the fire fighting itself, and in the advancement of efficiency of apparatus and equipment. However, I do wish to take this opportunity to thank you, Commissioner Dunn, and the honorable members of the City Government, for the wonderful support and co-operation given to the Fire Department in 1958.

To all the many groups who played a part in bringing to the City of Providence the high awards in Fire Prevention work in national competition, I extend my sincere thanks.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAR 19 1959

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Robert Whelan
CLERK

Respectfully submitted

LEWIS A. MARSHALL
Chief of Department

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

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

Total Department membership as of Dec. 31 - 489

Appointments-----25
Retirements----- 9
Resignations----- 2
Promotions----- 7
Transfers-----53
Commendations-----28
Reprimands----- 3
Deaths----- 1

SUPERIOR OFFICERS

Lewis A. Marshall, Chief of Department

BATTALION CHIEFS

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

Gordon Jones, Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

Henry vanWestendorp, Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

Michael Sabatino, Superintendent - Department of Building Repairs

James A. Cusick, Assistant Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

J. Clifton Leighton, Assistant Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT - Cont.

Capt. Fred L. Badger
Capt. Lawrence A. Bouchard
Capt. Arthur Brodeur
Capt. James C. Byrne
Capt. George R. Carlson
Capt. Elliot M. Durfee
Capt. Richard B. J. Farmer
Capt. Edwin A. Fay
Capt. Thomas J. Fitzgerald
Capt. Charles J. Gilchrist
Capt. George A. Gray
Capt. Henry C. Maine
Capt. Joseph J. Mainey
Capt. Edmond F. Marnane
Capt. John J. Mohan

Capt. John F. McDonald, Jr.
Capt. John F. McGwinn, Jr.
Capt. Thomas O. McLaughlin
Capt. Carl H. Norberg
Capt. George H. Nowell
Capt. Guido Nutini
Capt. Richard E. O'Leary
Capt. Vincent T. Reardon
Capt. John L. Rooney
Capt. Francis A. Shea
Capt. Albert E. Skog
Capt. Daniel F. Stafford
Capt. Leonard E. Sweeney
Capt. Robert D. Walsh
Capt. Frederick J. Ward

Capt. Amos M. Weeden

Lieut. Russell H. Backman
Lieut. Howard W. R. Bucklin
Lieut. James G. Cahill
Lieut. Joseph A. Carr
Lieut. Charles A. Cornell, Jr.
Lieut. Frank J. Day
Lieut. Leo T. Deuso, Sr.
Lieut. Joseph F. Dorsey
Lieut. Edward T. Downing
Lieut. John J. Falvey
Lieut. William P. Gardner
Lieut. Donald P. Hackett
Lieut. Joseph B. Healey
Lieut. Thomas M. Horiagon
Lieut. William J. Hughes
Lieut. William P. Kanaczet
Lieut. William F. Kelly
Lieut. Thomas M. Kennedy
Lieut. Edward J. Kiernan
Lieut. George E. LaPorte
Lieut. Leo P. Lavallee
Lieut. Alfred F. Leach
Lieut. Frank E. Lopes
Lieut. George H. Lowe, Jr.
Lieut. William J. Lynch
Lieut. Richard H. Lyons
Lieut. Marice J. Maguire

Lieut. James E. Maher
Lieut. Clarence B. McCormick
Lieut. James H. McDermott
Lieut. John F. McDermott
Lieut. John F. McDermott, Jr.
Lieut. John E. McDonald
Lieut. John B. McGarry
Lieut. Matthew McKeon
Lieut. Thomas M. McManus
Lieut. Joseph H. Mitchell
Lieut. Joseph V. Morro
Lieut. John J. Mullen
Lieut. Robert M. Murray
Lieut. Austin T. Nagle
Lieut. Charles W. Oatley, Jr.
Lieut. William H. O'Connell
Lieut. John J. O'Haire, Jr.
Lieut. Edward T. O'Keefe
Lieut. John F. Oliver
Lieut. Ettore Patrone
Lieut. Bartholomew E. Quigley
Lieut. Alfred J. Reall
Lieut. James W. Robertson
Lieut. James J. Roche
Lieut. Raymond E. Shawcross, Jr.
Lieut. Robert A. Sullivan
Lieut. James G. Sylvia

Lieut. George B. Vieweg

The apparatus consists of 18 Pumpers, (1 combination foamite), 8 Ladder Trucks, 2 Engine Tenders, 3 Rescue Trucks, 1 Salvage Truck, with 13 Triple Combination Pumpers, 4 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	LaFrance	1250	July - 1942
" " " 2	LaFrance	750	June - 1952
" " " 3	LaFrance	750	April - 1953
" " " 4	General	750	December - 1953
" " " 5	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 6	LaFrance	750	June - 1952
" " " 7	LaFrance	1250	July - 1942
" " " 8	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 9	LaFrance	1500	December - 1949
" " " 10	LaFrance	1250	November - 1945
" " " 11	Ward LaFrance	750	April - 1954
" " " 12	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 13	General	750	December - 1953
" " " 14	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 17	Mack	750	December - 1957
" " " 18	Oren	750	September - 1952
" " " 19	Mack	750	December - 1957
" " " 20	General	750	December - 1953
Ladder Co. No. 1	LaFrance Aerial		June - 1950
" " " 2	LaFrance Aerial		October - 1945
" " " 3	LaFrance Aerial		February - 1950
" " " 4	LaFrance Aerial		July - 1956
" " " 5	LaFrance Aerial		March - 1946
" " " 6	Seagrave Aerial		September - 1954
" " " 9	LaFrance Aerial		December - 1951
" " " 10	LaFrance Aerial		October - 1937
Engine Tender No. 7	G. M. C.		December - 1950
Engine Tender No. 9	Ford C. O. E.		August - 1950
Rescue Co. No. 1	Scott-White		October - 1951
" " " 2	Chevrolet (2½ Ton)		June - 1954
" " " 3	Ford C. O. E.		June - 1957
Salvage Co. No. 1	Studebaker (1½ Ton)		February - 1953
Reserve Engine No. 2	LaFrance	1000	1925
" " " 3	LaFrance	1000	1919
" " " 4	LaFrance	1000	1927
" " " 5	LaFrance	1000	1923
" " " 6	LaFrance	1000	1927
" " " 12	LaFrance	1000	1926
" " " 14	LaFrance	1000	1925
" " " 17(3)	LaFrance	1000	1918 & 1927 (2)
" " " 19	General	750	1953
" " " 19	LaFrance	1000	1927 (Shop)
" " " 20	LaFrance	1000	1924

Reserve Ladder No. 3	LaFrance City Service	1929
" " " 4	LaFrance Aerial	1942
" " " 6	LaFrance Aerial	1926
" " " 8	LaFrance City Service	1925
Reserve Rescue No. 2	Chevrolet (1½ Ton)	1939

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS

For fires in buildings:

Candle - lamp - torch	14
Careless use of matches	15
" smoking	68
" " in bed	5
Cleaning solvent	1
Defective boiler - furnace	1
" chimney	17
" range oil burner	10
" power " "	6
" portable oil heater	1
" space oil heater	9
" smoke pipe-flue	2
" wiring	9
Explosion	2
Food - grease	4
Hot ashes	3
Range oil burner - overflow	3
Space oil heater - " "	2
Power oil burner - flareback	3
Overheated boiler - furnace	2
" electric motor	1
" gas steam radiator	1
" oven	2
" stove pipe	2
" dip tank	11
Rubbish - litter	1
Set by juveniles	24
Short circuit - wires	9
" " - elec. motor	1
" " - television	1
Soot in chimney	1
Spark from chimney	2
" " motor-machine	4
" " rubbish fire	18
Spontaneous combustion	2
Struck by lightning	1
Suspicious	32
Miscellaneous	11
Undetermined	51
	<hr/>
	342 TOTAL

RECORD OF ALARMS FOR FIRES IN BUILDINGS

Residential	230
Non-Residential	20
Mercantile	48
Manufacturing	22
Storage, etc.	18
Miscellaneous	4
	<hr/>
	342 TOTAL

Causes of fires and alarms - continued.

Other than for a fire in a building:

False Alarms (Box)	448	Overheated oven	6
False Alarms (Still)	61	" smoke pipe	2
Accidental-Needless	239	" tar kettle	1
Candle-lamp-torch	5	Rags on pipes, etc.	1
Careless use of matches	21	Rubbish-litter	3
" smoking	68	Short circuit-wires	44
" " in bed	8	" " -elec. motor	20
Cleaning solvent	2	" " -television	28
Defective boiler-furnace	5	Soot in chimney	18
" chimney	4	Spark from chimney	2
" elec. appliance	13	" " motor-machine	1
" gas stove	6	" " rubbish fire	3
" range oil burner	32	Spontaneous combustion	1
" power " "	27	Struck by lightning	5
" space " heater	15	Suspicious	1
" smoke pipe-flue	5	Miscellaneous	2
" machinery	2	Auto-truck-bus, etc.	330
" wiring	3	Bonfires	71
Dust-lint	4	Bridges	1
Explosion	9	Dump	34
Food-grease	46	Fence	13
Range oil burner-flareback	12	Grass-brush-leaves	309
" " " -overflow	55	Junk yard	2
Space oil heater- "	17	Lumber yard	1
Power oil burner- "	14	Rubbish-litter	411
" " " -flareback	11	Tree-pole	31
Overheated boiler-furnace	3	Oil bomb in street	14
" electric flat	1	Miscellaneous	30
" " motor	28	Set by juveniles	112
		TOTAL	2,561

Rescue and emergency runs 6,353

Total building fires 342
 Total other than bldg. fires 2561

Total Alarms 2,903

Rescue & emergency alarms 6,353

GRAND TOTAL OF ALARMS 9,256

Multiple alarms of fire - 2nd. alarms 5
 Multiple alarms of fire - 3rd. alarms 3
 Deaths caused by fire - 2

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH HOUR

<u>HOUR</u> <u>A. M.</u>	<u>ALARMS</u>	<u>HOUR</u> <u>P.M.</u>	<u>ALARMS</u>
12 - 1	64	12 - 1	142
1 - 2	74	1 - 2	197
2 - 3	55	2 - 3	168
3 - 4	35	3 - 4	179
4 - 5	27	4 - 5	200
5 - 6	21	5 - 6	194
6 - 7	21	6 - 7	170
7 - 8	38	7 - 8	165
8 - 9	89	8 - 9	224
9 - 10	78	9 - 10	199
10 - 11	125	10 - 11	177
11 - 12	149	11 - 12	112
		TOTAL	2,903

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH DAY

Sunday	368
Monday	395
Tuesday	379
Wednesday	422
Thursday	429
Friday	461
Saturday	449
	2,903 TOTAL

The following is the statistical summary of the activities of the fire fighting force of the Department for the year ending December 31, 1958:

Working time of companies at fires - 5,359 hrs. 57 mins.
 Working time at dumps - 35 hrs. 37 mins.
 Working time of pumpers at fires - 171 hrs. 55 mins.

HOSE LINES USED:

Booster No. of lines used	527	Total feet of hose	67,035
1½" hose " " " "	1,087	" " " "	152,200
2½" hose " " " "	400	" " " "	106,850
3" hose " " " "	182	" " " "	48,500

MASTER STREAM APPLIANCE USED:

Aerial pipe	11
Baker Stand Pipe	1
Alfco Turret Deck Gun	1
Baker Turret Pipe	3

LADDERS USED:

Aerial Ladder - No. used -	75	Total feet -	6,350
Portable Ladders - No. used -	1,008	" " -	20,703

EXTINGUISHERS USED:

Foam	- 13
Soda & Acid	- 4
Pump tanks	- 168
Dry chemical	- 8
Carbon dioxide	- 124
Carbon tectachloride	- 44

OTHER EQUIPMENT USED:

Salvage covers	- 468
Bundles of laths	- 62½
Rolls of roofing paper	- 119¼
Homelites	- 93
Generators	- 47
Smoke ejector	- 8
Sprinkler heads	- 40

EXTRA HOURS AND LOST TIME:

Extra hours of duty performed	6,463 hrs. 59 mins.
Time in attendance at drills	2,431 hrs. 16 mins.
Time lost by members through sickness	46,919 hrs. 1 min.
Time lost by members through injuries	46,477 hrs. 10 mins.
Special time granted	1,733 hrs. 50 mins.

INSPECTIONS:

RESIDENTIAL:

(dwellings, apartments, rooming houses etc.) 113,773

NON-RESIDENTIAL:

(Theaters, churches, hospitals, schools etc.) 2,520

MERCANTILE:

(retail stores, restaurants, repair shops, etc.) 4,899

MANUFACTURING:

(factories, bakeries, laundries, etc.) 1,207

STORAGE:

(warehouses, piers, etc.) 345

MISCELLANEOUS:

(Power plants, pumping stations, etc.) 132

HYDRANTS:

37,665

APPROVALS AND PERMITS:

Gasoline	2,406
Garages	1,180
Dangerous chemicals	565

NECROLOGY

One active member and seventeen pensioned members died during the past year:

Captain George O. Huestis, Active Member - Died March 8, 1958

PENSIONED MEMBERS

John D. O'Connor	- died February 17, 1958
John A. Costello	- died February 26, 1958
Alexander J. McAdam	- died March 11, 1958
Charles J. Prendergast	- died March 24, 1958
Frederick J. O'Brien, Sr.	- died March 28, 1958
Edward A. Conway	- died April 3, 1958
John J. Layden	- died April 16, 1958
Harry W. Potter	- died April 25, 1958
James P. Caughlin	- died May 14, 1958
Albert E. Cornell	- died July 31, 1958
Joseph F. Lovett, Sr.	- died August 18, 1958
George E. Griffin	- died September 19, 1958
Patrick F. Kelley	- died September 26, 1958
Frank Charlesworth	- died October 12, 1958
Francis X. Fallon	- died November 11, 1958
Frederick E. Case	- died December 12, 1958
Michael H. Tierney	- died December 17, 1958

FROM: Norman Jones, Battalion Chief, Division of Training.

TO: The Chief of Department.

Subject: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

Since you are fully acquainted with and thoroughly understand the purpose and function of this Division, I herewith respectfully submit the following summary of activities in the chronological order in which they occurred.

TRAINEES

Having commenced the 18th. Trainees' School on August 5, 1957, it was, at the beginning of this year, in the advanced and final stage of training.

With the concluding of this phase on February 5, 1958 final compilation of points acquired were credited to each Trainee and recorded in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of this Division.

Your acceptance of certification of all 25 men who began and successfully completed the six months course of training, resulted in 23 of them being sworn in and permanently appointed to the Department of February 5, 1958.

All vacancies having been filled by the appointment of 23 men on the date of appointment mentioned, the remaining 2 men were retained in their status as Trainees with the pay rate of 4th Grade Private until such time as vacancies occurred. Permanent appointment in the order in which these two received certification took place on February 27, 1958 and March 31, 1958.

FIRE SERVICE HYDRAULICS AND PUMP OPERATION COURSE

In accordance with your memorandum of January 9, 1958, our discussion relative to your plan to conduct a (Credit Course) of instruction on Fire Service Hydraulics and Pump Operation concluded with an announcement being prepared and submitted to all Divisions in the Department.

The announcement, dated January 13, 1958, in substance, conveyed to all personnel, that the course would be an official credit course, consisting of lectures, - incidentally, demonstration was included where possible -, on a seven hour per day basis, for three consecutive days; groups to be limited to twenty-five men. Open to all Ranks and all Divisions.

Requirements: Combat Division personnel, on a strictly "off Time" and Voluntary basis. All applications to be made in writing and forwarded to the Director of Training no later than 5.00 P. M. January 20, 1958.

Owing to the fact that Special Division personnel would be unable to attend - if any so desired - because of the difference in working schedule - satisfactory arrangement was made to permit those who applied, as attendants.

Instructions covered or encompassed the principle of mechanics in fluids, a review of quick calculation methods for light and heavy stream development, design and function of pumps, pump operation from hydrant and draft, dangers to avoid to prevent damage to pumps, importance of gauge readings, water requirements for appliances used, and the necessity for supplementing water supplies.

Courses commenced January 28, 1958. Concluded, March 28, 1958.

Applicants responded as follows:

Total applicants.....	262
Completed course.....	249
Failed to attend or complete course.....	13

Failure to complete or to attend was occasioned by disability or other incident beyond control of the applicant.

Those who completed the course and who had not acquired the full allotment of ten credit points allowed under Division of Training Rules and Regulations (Reg.17, Sec.2, Par.(f), were granted a credit award of two points.

Attendance, exceeding our expectations, serves I believe, as a measure of interest in the subject as well as an aid in preparation for officership.

DUAL UNIT PROCEDURE

When it was indicated that further training would be required in the use of pumps supplying pre-connected attack lines equipped with 1½" Fog nozzles which would be used more frequently as a result of practically abolishing the use of booster lines, the opportunity to apply theoretical instruction received during the Hydraulics and Pump Operation Course previously mentioned, presented itself.

Advantage of this opportunity was taken when General Order #27 Series 1958 was issued. This order, in content, was principally a schedule for all companies, both Ladder and Engine, to report to the Drill Tower on date of assignment, for the purpose of combined unit operation in the use of pumps, with emphasis on available water supply and necessity for supplementing water supply for the first conventional pumper using preconnected attack lines.

The procedure simulated fire ground operations and provided opportunity for drivers of any apparatus to receive instructions on pump operation, to apply and test, the theory taught during the course referred to in preceding paragraphs.

Operational procedure on a minimum or three man per unit basis, advancing a line to the third story level (above ground) proved conclusively that the use of 1½" hose pre-connected can be used effectively and efficiently when effort is co-ordinated.

Equally so, the supplementing of water supply via hydrant by the next Engine Company to arrive.

The time consumed in advancing lines to that level was satisfactory, supplementary service too, and is shown in the records made of each trial layout.

The schedule began June 9, 1958 and ended July 1, 1958.

Total Companies Attending	26
Engine Companies	" 18
Ladder Companies	" 8
Total Personnel	" 366
Privates	294
Lieutenants	49
Several Captains	23

Several Battalion Chiefs reviewed the procedure.

Hours of instruction: 234 Total man hrs. 1,098

EXTENSION OF DRILL YARD

Your direct action, immediately following the request for an extended area at the Drill Yard because of modern training methods necessitating such, was productive at this time - of an increase in area of 14,920 sq. ft., asphalt surfaced, adequately pitched for rapid drainage of water, surrounded by an 8 ft. chain link fence.

The expense involved, in my opinion, was most certainly justified in the advantages gained.

For instance:

- * It relieved traffic congestion in, and across the yard, when vehicles entered or left the Repair Shop.
- * Provided a through-way for vehicles during drill procedure.

- * Increased mobility of apparatus in practicing simulated fire ground operations.
- * Provides ample room - formerly lacking - for raising ladders from any angle, on all sides of Drill Tower.
- * Simplifies and expedites laying thousands of feet of hose during annual hose test.
- * Makes less difficult, observation of defects during hose tests.
- * Eliminates driving heavy apparatus and other vehicles over hose lines, thereby preventing possible damage.
- * Provides sufficient space for parking apparatus not being used in evolutions, which for lack of space in the past, contributed to congestion and consequently limited activities.
- * Gives us an adequate area over which master streams can be directed, which in effect, overcomes the cause for complaints about saturating the playing field and baseball diamond in Dillon Park with water. This alone has resulted in improved public relations.

I think it obviously gives promise of being used to further advantage in the ensuing years.

ANNUAL PUMP AND HOSE TEST

Continuation of the established custom of annual pump testing and recording of performance data commenced on July 14th, 1958 in accordance with General Order #34 Series 1958 and was completed by July 31, 1958.

Reporting as ordered to the pump test pit in the Drill Yard, all pumpers in the department were subjected to a (service) test, to determine ability to discharge rated capacity at rated engine and pump speed required by the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Overall condition of engines and pump accessories were thoroughly checked under the supervision of the Supt. of Automotive Maintenance.

Performance data and condition of the unit - regarding cleanliness and equipment was recorded.

In instances where pumps or engines failed to meet requirements, repairs and adjustments were immediately made by Automotive Maintenance personnel and the pump or engine retested to assure its compliance with performance requirements.

Pumps Tested

First-line Engines	18
Reserve Engines	<u>14</u>
Total tested	32

Reserve Engine #1829 assigned to the Division of Training failed to meet N.F.B.U. requirements. Considered - OBSOLETE.

Prior to pump tests, under surveillance of Division of Training personnel, the hose carried by each unit reporting, plus their reserve supply, hose on Tenders and Reserve Apparatus and all inventory from the Hose Repair and Supply Room was tested according to N.B.F.U. standards for reasonable assurance that dependency can be placed on the delivery of water under high pressure to hand lines, heavy duty appliance, Aerial Ladder Pipes and to Sprinkler Systems and Standpipes with which a considerable number of buildings in the City are equipped.

Porous hose that could be repaired and used as shortened lengths or soft suction hose, also hose that ruptured under test - consequently considered obsolete - was returned to the Hose Repair and Supply Room for disposal.

Proper procedure regarding reports of these tests was assumed by Commanding Officers of each Unit.

Our record indicates that a total of 368 sections of 3 in. hose or 18,400 feet; 851 sections of 2½ in. hose or 42,550 feet; and 321 sections of 1½ in. hose or 16,050 feet was tested. Total overall footage: 77,000 feet.

LADDER PRACTICES

In keeping with your directive, and in compliance with General Order #42 Series 1958, ladder practice was conducted on a multi-company basis. Three Units reported for the morning session and an equal number of Units for the afternoon session. Each session of three hours duration.

All groups (A-B and C) received instructions and participated in a review of carrying, raising and placing extension ladders.

Special attention was given to practice with the 3-section Aluminum Extension ladder since they are limited in number. Strategically located, they are limited in number only because of limited need.

As any company - not so equipped - may be ordered to place this kind of ladder during operation at a fire, it was considered necessary to acquaint all personnel with the handling inasmuch as it differs slightly in construction and weight, in order to maintain the high standard of efficiency and speed in the handling of all portable ladders with which we are equipped.

Drills began on September 22, 1958 and terminated October 15, 1958.

Number of Units Attending.

Engine Companies	18
Ladder "	8
Personnel:	
Privates	296
Lieut's	52
Captains	<u>22</u>
Total	370

Observed by several Battalion Chiefs.

Hours of Instruction 81. Man hours 1,110

GAS MASK CHECK

In conjunction with Ladder Practices, it was decided that, as each company in the department is equipped with gas masks for use during fire fighting operations and other emergencies where they are required, every mask would be checked for operating efficiency and used in climbing a 50 ft. ladder.

This was done as a review of previous training in the use of masks.

Upon discovery of minor defects, the company officer in charge was directed to report said defect through proper channels to the Rescue Co. officer in charge of gas mask repairs.

INTENDED CREDIT COURSE

An announcement in compliance with your directive relative to an official credit course, namely, "Evaluation of Powerful Streams in the attack on Building Fires, plus Characteristics of Water Spray (Fog) and Extinguishing Action of Water" was issued on December 5, 1958 to department personnel as a whole.

With this in view, yet, because of the fact that this course does not commence until January 5, 1959, present activity concerning this project is limited to receiving applications, recording, and preparing schedules.

Numerically, 283 applicants have manifest their interest, which if correctly construed, discloses their desire for learning.

MISCELLANEOUS

Between trainee classes, in-service training activities, credit courses and other projects, time was utilized in the following manner:

Formulating memorandum for information and guidance on the use of (Fog) nozzles, subsequently submitted to the combat division in mimeographed form.

Participated in Fire Prevention Week Activities, presenting demonstration of High Pressure Streams from Tenders, and Heavy Duty (Fog) Streams from Aerial Ladder Pipes, on South Water Street. This exercise proved advantageous as additional training in preparation for the use of these streams as well as giving pump operators practice in supplying them. It proved too, that the water supply in this particular area is sufficient for effective operation in case of fire, even when drawing water from 4 consecutive hydrants on one main.

Responded to multiple alarms of fire to:

- a. Assist wherever possible.
- b. Observe the operation of the fire fighting force and aid any unit in the use of specific equipment.

Instructed personnel seeking help (on their "Off Time") with studies pertaining to fire service.

Mimeographed (Report Forms) for use in the Combat Division.

Maintained personnel records and attended to other routine matters.

Teacher Training Course (60) hours, conducted by R. I. State Board of Education Vocational Training Division, taken by Dept. Drillmaster.

Twenty hour course on "Atomic Radiation Hazards in Fire Service" conducted by U. S. Atomic Energy Commission instructors at East Providence, R. I. attended by Drillmaster.

One-Day Advanced and Review Seminar for Fire and Police Instructors who had attended AEC Instructor Training Classes, attended by Drillmaster. Held in New Haven, Conn. under direction of U. S. AEC.

Considerable time spent on research in preparation for prospective directives.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Batt. Chief Norman Jones
Director.

FROM: Francis J. O'Brien, Chief of Bureau of Operational Control.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report. (1958)

SIR:

The following is the report of activities of the Bureau of Operational Control for the year ending December 31, 1958.

The duties of the members of this division consists of receiving alarms via telephone and fire alarm equipment. The rapid dispatching of proper apparatus and accurate transmission of alarms, the relaying of important messages between various divisions of the department and on many occasions, using their experienced judgement in extreme emergencies because delays or mistakes can be costly or fatal. They also operate the department's extensive two-way radio system and conduct the daily routine test of fire alarm equipment, such as taking readings of circuits and entering same on provided sheets. The fire alarm box test are conducted daily and a record of same is kept on file in this office.

During the year 1958 a total of 9,245 alarms and emergency calls (telephone and box) were received and transmitted to the department over the vocalarm, radio and coded systems, in addition, handling all the inter-departmental communications through the fire alarm telephone switchboard.

Of the 9,245 calls, 8,304 were received by telephone. The telephone is a handy way of sending an alarm, but the possibility of mistakes is very great, there is always the chance of mistaken address due to the similarity of sound of streets, the human factor is more likely to have an effect upon the speed and accuracy of transmission than any other means. 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, between the person calling and the operator on duty at the alarm office. However in spite of the possibility of mistakes I am happy to report that all telephone calls received were transmitted to the department without delay.

As this division is responsible for the effective and accurate dispatching of department units and personnel, it is my privilage to report once again the dispatching of department units to alarms of fire and other emergencies over the radio and vocalarm systems during the year has proven to be very satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Francis J. O'Brien
Chief, Bureau of
Operational Control.

FROM: Henry van Westendorp, Superintendent of Fire Alarm.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

As the first call of the Fire Alarm Division is to properly maintain the existing system to assure the prompt transmission of alarms when they are received from the public, that has been the most important job that this division has had during the past year. This work requires the largest part of the time of this Division and when this work is not too urgent, we try to extend the system to areas where it is needed. This work requires the replacement of a considerable amount of overhead line wire as well as underground cables. During the past year we have spent about 80% of our time in maintenance of the systems for both the Fire and Police Departments.

When it is considered that these systems have a total of over 130 miles of overhead line wire alone it can easily be imagined that it takes a considerable amount of replacement of this wire. In addition, we have a very extensive underground installation to both the Fire and the Police boxes, covering almost all of the city which requires the attention of our underground crew constantly. At this time, we are in the process of replacing a number of cable runs that have been in service for at least 30 years and have outlived their usefulness. This is also a constant operation to keep these cables in working condition.

During recent weeks, the general public having become very fire conscious due to disasters throughout the country, this Division has had a considerable number of calls for advice in the installation of fire detection systems in private property installations. Some of these installations are required by law and others are being done voluntarily by property owners. As it is in the best interest of all, this Division has extended all of the assistance that we could in these cases and we are looking forward to the completion of a number of them.

A few years ago, the city adopted a policy of replacing a number of obsolete Police boxes, some of which were up to 50 years old and were badly in need of replacement. Due to the lack of funds, this policy has been abandoned temporarily but it is hoped that we will be able to recommence this work again as it should be done to keep the Police Call Box System up to full efficiency.

As in the past several years, this Division has had a considerable amount of work to do that has been caused by the construction of the new highway system in the city. It has been necessary for us to reroute a considerable amount of our installations to get around this construction and at this time, it seems that we are only beginning to get the full effect of this work. In the near future, as the North South Freeway develops, it will be necessary for us to make a number of major changes in our underground installations and it is to be hoped that the prime contractor will be awarded a considerable amount of this work as it will be practically impossible for us to do this with the limited resources and personnel that we have available.

In connection with the above mentioned work, this Division has made it a policy in the past to recommend the installation of Fire Alarm boxes at reasonable intervals along these roads but we have met with non success as these installations were disallowed. However, it is still the thinking of this Division that these

installations should be made as there is always a potential fire dangers on these roads and as due to the manner in which these roads are built, the normally installed Fire Alarm Boxes on the city streets are practically unavailable.

During the past year, this Division has made the following changes in the Fire Alarm Box installation

New Private Boxes installed	5	(4 of these are Master Boxes)
Private boxes changed to Master Box	1	
Private boxes removed from service	1	
New Public Boxes Installed	0	
Public Boxes Removed from Service	5	

The Public Fire Alarm Boxes removed from service were in the "West River Street Redevelopment Area" and these boxes will be reinstalled when the project has reached the proper development. In this same area, there have been 2 Police Call Boxes removed from service temporarily.

At the present time, there are in service a total of 919 Fire Alarm Boxes. Of these there are 256 Boxes privately owned and of these 46 are Master Boxes. The balance of the boxes are public street boxes and there are 663 of these. In addition, we have in service 165 Police Call Boxes.

In the near future, it will be necessary, due to new rulings of the Federal Communications Commission, to make some drastic changes in the radio equipment now in service in the Fire Department. A considerable amount of the present equipment can be converted for use on the "Narrow Channel" operation but it is impossible to convert an additional number of our units. In the case of these units and also in the case of the oldest of our equipment, it is our recommendation that new equipment be purchased. This is in keeping with the original idea that all of our equipment would be replaced at about 10 year intervals as that is considered to be about the normal life span of this type of service. In doing this, it will be possible for us to weed out some of the radio units that we have in service that have been a source of considerable trouble to us and also a number of sets whose service has been unsatisfactory. As the new ruling of the F. C. C. goes into full effect on August 1, 1960, it will be necessary for us to have funds made available in the near future to complete this work by that date.

As in the past, it has been the responsibility of this Division to maintain all of the Electrical Equipment in all of the Fire Stations and in the Police Department. This has been done as well as a limited amount of new installations as they have been asked for. The maintenance of the hand lights in use in the Fire Department has also been turned over to this Division.

During this past year, this Division has been called on a number of times to do work for the Providence Civil Defense Council. This has consisted of the erection of a wooden pole at the Alternate Control Center at North Scituate and the installation of a number of radio antennas on this pole. Guy wires were also installed attached to Ground Anchors.

Under this same heading, the radio technician of this Division has been called on to make a number of repairs to the radio equipment which belongs to the Civil Defense Council and he has been of valuable service in maintaining this equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Henry van Westendorp
Superintendent.

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

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

I herewith submit for your consideration and approval the following report of the Bureau of Fire Prevention for the year ending December 31, 1958.

In spite of the fact that the year 1958 saw a decided increase in the fire losses for the Nation as a whole, it is most gratifying to report that the losses on insured properties in the City of Providence showed a decided decrease.

To point out one single factor as being responsible for this record would prove to be very difficult however, it is logical to assume that there was one factor that played a very prominent part in achieving this record, and that factor was the Departments' fire inspection program.

The Providence Fire Department has long been recognized as the leading Department in the Nation in the field of fire inspections. The City of Providence was the first metropolitan city in the United States to conduct dwelling inspections by uniformed firemen. Today the dwelling inspections are being conducted by most cities throughout the Country including our major cities like New York, Los Angeles, Minneapolis and other large cities. The City of Chicago is about to launch a citywide inspection of dwellings.

The Providence Fire Department pioneered In-Service Inspections of Industrial and Mercantile establishments by entire companies of firefighting personnel with radio equipped apparatus. Both of these innovations in the field of fire inspections have been endorsed and recommended by the International Association of Fire Chiefs as the answer to the increase in fires with their attendant life losses that have been plaguing many of our Nation's communities. This is a philosophy that the Providence Fire Department has long believed in and what is more, a philosophy that it has put into practice over the years with excellent results.

However, in spite of the Departments' best efforts there will always be certain areas in our city where Fire Prevention will fail to reach resulting in our highest incidence of fires. In these areas, which incidently are fast disappearing from our community due to the City's excellent redevelopment program, because of circumstances beyond control of the people in them lend themselves readily to fire. Lack of central heating in most of the dwellings in these areas necessitating the occupants to resort to all types of individual heating devices mainly, the portable heater that uses a liquid petroleum as a fuel, is the cause of the greatest number of dwelling fires. As these areas disappear it is only reasonable to assume that the number of dwelling fires will show a decided decrease. In the meantime the Department will continue to concentrate its efforts at bringing fire safety to these areas at every opportunity. Fire statistics for the Nation reveals that the greatest majority of fire deaths occur in the home and that the fire fatalities occur most frequently among children of pre-school age and elderly people.

The careless use of matches and smoking materials continue to be the number one cause of fires in the United States. During 1958 two people lost their lives in fires, in Providence, both deaths caused from smoking in bed. In spite of all our efforts aimed at pointing out the dangers from smoking in bed there are still some people who will take a chance.

A very dangerous practice that is on the increase is the practice by parents of leaving small children alone in the home. During the past year this practice resulted in the loss of far too many innocent children. While Providence was free of any such instance during 1958 we must not lose sight of the fact that the practice may well spread here unless adequate measures be taken to prevent it. It is the intention of the Bureau to take such steps as it feels necessary to stamp out this practice.

At the present time the Fire Prevention Bureau consists of 12 members assigned as follows: One Battalion Chief, one Captain, one statistical clerk, one photographer and one man assigned to the fire safety in our schools on a full time basis. The remaining 7 members are assigned to the field. One new member was added to the Bureau during 1958, Inspector Joseph P. Leddy.

There is one matter that I respectfully call to your attention and that is the problem of reimbursing the members of the Bureau for the use of their private cars on Department business. While it is true that they are not required to use their cars on Department business it is also true that they would never accomplish the amount of work they do if they were compelled to walk around their districts or depend on public transportation. They are subject to calls at all hours of the night when public transportation is not always available. They are also required to visit all bingo games in the city. Most of the bingo games are held at night. In addition they are subject to increased insurance premiums on their automobile insurance because they use their cars for business purposes. Since it is already the practice in some departments in the city government to reimburse employees for the use of their cars on city business I feel that it is only fair that the Inspectors in the Bureau of Fire Prevention also be reimbursed for using their cars on Department business.

The following is a complete summary of the activities of the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau for the year 1958:

INVESTIGATIONS:

Complaints corrected	1038
Complaints unjustified	52
Buildings razed	122
Buildings repaired	62
Referred to Health Dept.	33
Referred to Director of Bldgs.	176
Referred to Pub. Serv. Engineer	25
Request of occupants	71
Defective chimney-smoke pipe & heating plant	80
Fire escapes-panic bolts etc.	38
Obstructed exits	31
Open exposures	141
Burning rubbish	598
Rubbish conditions corrected	442

FIRES:

Fires investigated	1253
Suspicious fires	51
Referred to Juvenile Div.	8
Fire losses investigated	489
Court cases	1

INSPECTIONS:

Original Inspections	1603
Re-inspections	1760
Theaters	102
Convalescent Homes	22
Nursing Homes	16
Homes for children	26
Hospitals	16
Schools	247
Orphanages	12
Storage of Vehicles	7
Gasoline Applications	50
Gasoline Tanks	29
Storage of Fuel Oil - Bulk	4
Dangerous chem. application	48
Fire escapes	306

PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY:

Bingo games	410
Exhibitions-boxing-hockey, etc	416

DEMONSTRATIONS-LECTURES-ETC.

Fire Prev. Demonstrations	46
Fire Prev. Demonstrations attendance at	12,371
Moving Picture Showings	76
Moving Picture Showings attendance at	29,060
Lecture-Talk	73
Lecture-Talk attendance at	33,263
Radio Broadcast	5
Television Broadcast	10
Fire Drills conducted	262

MISCELLANEOUS:

No smoking signs issued	591
Photographs taken	1,137
Extra hours worked	514
Pamphlets distributed	9,550
Books distributed	1,578
Posters distributed	2,552
Public displays set up	12

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Leo E. Gorman,
Chief, Bureau of
Fire Prevention.

FROM: Eugene L. Hawkins, Battalion Chief, Carpenter Shop.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

The following is the Annual Report of the Carpenter Shop for the year 1958. This division builds and repairs equipment necessary to maintain efficiency within the Fire and Police Departments:

One new piece of equipment was added to this division, an electrically operated water stone for sharpening fire axes.

A considerable amount of time is spent every year checking and varnishing ladders. It is our aim to check and varnish ladders on as many ladder trucks as possible.

A total of 250 feet of new ladders were built, which included extension, roof, folding and stepladders.

Approximately 350 feet of broken and burned ladders were repaired.
2650 feet of ladders were tightened, sanded and given two coats of varnish.
Forty-eight handles were put in fire axes and hammer head picks.
Six handles were put in snow shovels.
Eight handles were put in snow pushers.
Nine screen doors were recovered with new screening.
Fifteen screens were recovered with new screening.
Fifty fire axes were sharpened.
Sixty pieces of furniture were repaired and refinished.

The following new items were made during the year:

Nine handles for plaster hooks.
Ten screen doors for various fire stations.
Eight screens for various fire stations.
Five easel and six wall type blackboards.
Three Formica top tables.
Four laundry hampers.
Four tables for running card boxes.
One cabinet 48 x 72 x 30 for Engine #1.
Cabinets to hold supplies at Engine #20.
Cabinets over kitchen sink at Engine #20.
One large cabinet for Ladder #5.
Cabinet to hold Fire Dept. Personnel list, located in Chief's Office.
Cabinets to hold supplies and radio in office of Battalion Chief #4.
Work bench, with compartments underneath, for Engine #20.
Hose platform for 2½" hose for Engine #17.
Platform for life net compartment for Ladder #5.
Two 4' x 7' cabinets for supplies at Fire Alarm.
Four creepers for Repair Shop.
Two covers for body of Salvage Wagon.
Thirty boxes to hold new hand lights.
One large cabinet to hold thirty-two Trans File boxes for Fire Prevention Bureau.

Twenty signs, which were used during Fire Prevention Week.
Platform and signs for use on Engine #19 apparatus during Fire Prevention Week.

Four typewriting tables.

Four 6' body boards.

Three television tables.

Six boxes for hot water cans.

Rack was built to hold 1½" hose on body of Engine #9 apparatus.

Put two ventilators in door of Supply cupboard for Ladder #6.

Doors were installed on front of shelves to make three separate cupboards use by Ladder #6 and Engine #14.

Put shelves in cupboards at Ladder #2 and Engine #18.

Made and secured boxes to hold gas cans for the three Rescue boats.

The following items were made for the Police Department:

Two typewriting tables 24 x 36 for Chief's Office.

One hundred and fourteen Police horses.

Three frames for 4 x 8 district maps, Precinct #1.

Two 3 x 5 blackboards, Traffic Division.

One 20-compartment cabinet for Juvenile Division.

One cabinet for Detective Division.

Fifty nightsticks.

Table for Dictaphone recorder.

Large backdrop for photographing criminals for Identification Bureau.

Riot gun boxes for Detective's cars.

Ten swivel chairs were repaired.

Tables and screens were made for Civilian Defense.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Eugene L. Hawkins
Battalion Chief,
Carpenter Shop.

FROM: Gordon Jones, Supt. Maintenance, Repair Shop.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

I respectfully submit for your approval the following report of the Automotive Repair and Maintenance Division for the year ending December 31, 1958.

During the year as in the past the Division has been responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of all the automotive units of the Department, also lighting units, portable pumps and numerous appliances used by the department, the annual service tests, hose tests, the supervision of pumping units at all multiple alarms of fire and other emergencies.

The following is a summary of jobs completed during the year:

Motor inspections	38	Minor repairs	1296
Transmissions rebuilt	4	Major repairs	15
Differential units	3	Battery changes	897
Engines rebuilt	8	Oil changes	289
		Grease jobs	234

Numerous jobs are completed in company quarters.

I call your attention to the age of reserve apparatus which is used in emergencies, and the age range is from 31 to 40 years. I strongly urge the 20 year replacement program be adhered to, also replacement of the Packard car assigned to Battalion 4 and replacement of Chevrolet assigned to Battalion Chief 1.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Gordon Jones

FROM: Michael Sabatino, Supt. Building Repairs.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

I hereby submit the operational report of the Department of Building Maintenance and Repairs for the year of 1958.

This department is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of the Police and Fire Department Buildings throughout the City of Providence. During 1958 as in the past few years there has been considerable amount of repairing and redecorating accomplished with the cooperation of the men of this department. The following is a brief summary of this work.

The exterior of the following Police and Fire Stations was repainted and redecorated: Franklin Street, Rochambeau Avenue, Humboldt Avenue, Academy Avenue, Allens Avenue, Broad Street, Hartford Avenue, Admiral Street, Messer Street, the Fire Department Division of Training and all the doors and metal work at the Police Division of Training, Chad Brown Street.

The interior of the following Police and Fire Stations was also redecorated: Mount Pleasant Avenue, Hose Room at the Brook Street Station, the newly remodeled kitchen at Engine 9, Point Street, and the Radio Repair Room in the Fire Alarm Building. At Headquarters, LaSalle Square, we painted the Fire Chief's Quarters, Chief's four's quarters, and also the quarters of Rescue 1. In the Police Department we painted the quarters of Commissioner of Public Safety, the quarters of the Chief of Police, business office, traffic quarters, Commanders office, the license enforcement quarters third floor, and also the first, second, and third floor hallways. All flagstuffs of both Police and Fire Department buildings were repainted and one hundred wooden horses were painted for the Police Department.

New floors were installed in the kitchen, sitting room and hallway of the Mount Pleasant Avenue Station and asphalt tile was applied to same. New cabinets were built and a new sink counter was erected and painted for Engine #9 at the Point Street Fire Station. New shelves were built for a new property room on the fourth floor at Headquarters. New metal sliding pole enclosure sections were made and installed by this department at a considerable saving to the city. New aluminum windows and an aluminum door were installed at the Fire Department Division of Training. New aluminum windows were also installed at the Academy Avenue and the Rochambeau Avenue stations. Many adjustments and repairs were made to various overhead doors throughout the department. Numerous worn asphalt tiles which created a hazard to the safety of the personnel of the department were replaced and two new exhaust fans were installed at the Police traffic garage. New metal cloths racks were made for the Mount Pleasant Avenue and Point Street Fire Stations.

In the plumbing department a new gate valve was installed for the sprinkler system at the Police traffic garage and a broken sewer line was also repaired for that department. New hot and cold water pipes were installed in the shower stalls of Engine 1 and also Ladder 1. New sink combination faucets were installed in the detention room and also in the matrons room and garage of the Police Department. The same was also installed at the Academy Avenue Fire Station. Water closet bowls were replaced in the matron's room of the Police Department and in the lavatory of Engine 1 of the Fire Department. New low water cut-out drain valves were replaced

at the heating units in various stations. Many faulty steam and water pipes were replaced throughout the year. Many Sloan flush valves were repaired or replaced and broken water glass gauges were repaired and repacked with new washers. Air valves were replaced on numerous radiators and Trane air vent valves were replaced on heating units of many stations. Many urinals were cleaned and packings were replaced and all stations were supplied with urinal disinfectant blocks. A new sink was installed in the remodeled kitchen of Engine 9.

The fuel vent pipe at the North Main Street Fire Station was excavated and replaced with a new larger one and vent alarm was also installed. New vent alarms were installed on the fuel pipes at various stations. An underground gasoline tank was replaced at the Point Street Fire Station and a new fuel tank was installed at the Division of Training. A new and larger gasoline vent pipe was installed and extended to a height above the roof at the Repair Shop, Dexter Street. The boilers and oil burners of all Police and Fire Department Buildings were cleaned and adjusted for the coming winter months. Fusol was added to all fuel tanks and Rust-Buster was applied to all heating units. Many oil burners were also repaired by this department throughout the year.

A new asphalt driveway was applied at the Brook Street Fire Station. The drill yard on Dexter Street was also extended and resurfaced with asphalt and enclosed with wire fencing. This department is in charge of all lawns throughout the Fire Department and also the Police Pistol Range. These lawns are regraded, reseeded and fertilized each spring. We are also in charge of maintaining all lawn and landscaping equipment. The power mower is delivered weekly to the Pistol Range during the spring and summer months. This department also supplies all stations with padlocks and also paint brushes for painting hydrant markers. We were also called upon to distribute 100 dog licenses posters throughout the city.

During Fire Prevention Week we rendered considerable assistance to the Fire Prevention Bureau. This department is also called upon to hang banners for various charitable organizations during the year.

For quite some time this department has been operating with a handicap because of a shortage of help.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Michael Sabatino
Supt.

FROM: Frederick L. Badger, Captain, Rescue Co. No. 1.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

Calls for rescue service have increased steadily during the past year as indicated by an average monthly response of 185.7 calls as compared with an average monthly response of 176 calls during 1957. This shows an increase of 5.4% in calls answered this year over last year.

Instructions in First Aid and Rescue work were given to the following:

Washington Fire & Rescue Corp	55	Boy Scouts of Holy Name	47
Thornton Fire & Ambulance Corp	49	Boy Scouts of Temple Emanu-El	46
Lymanville Fire, Rescue & Ambulance Corp	35	Boy Scouts - Merit Badges	157

THE FOLLOWING IS A BREAKDOWN OF ACTIVITIES DURING 1958

Boxes.....	129	Hangings.....	3
Stills.....	2098	Transportation.....	926
Special Signals.....	8	Ambulance with Doctor.....	242
Second Alarms.....	2	Ambulance with Orderly.....	719
Third Alarms.....	1	Refused medical aid.....	86
First Aid Rendered.....	1466	Miscarriage.....	7
E & J Cases.....	115	Suffocations.....	9
Revived.....	85	D. O. A.....	92
Fatals.....	30	Oxygen used (E) cylinders.....	120
Refrigerator leaks.....	10	Smoke ejector.....	15
Water Rescue.....	2	Electric saw.....	2
Boat used.....	7	Electric drill.....	6
Automobile accidents.....	155	Hours of instructions.....	124
Child-Births.....	9	Hours of Drill.....	57
Miscellaneous.....	286	Lights used (500 Watt).....	18
Oxygen cylinders(refilled).....	483	Generator used.....	26
Stop Fires (refilled).....	140	Scott Air Pak used.....	10
All Service Masks (used).....	8	Hydro-Pak used.....	2
Underwater light.....	2	Scott Aid Pak Cylinders refilled...	162
Ring cutter (used).....	14	Drownings.....	2
Gas leaks.....	3	Elevator accidents.....	1
Hydraulic Jacks (used).....	5	Porto-Power (used).....	7
Body bag (used).....	26	Extra Hours of service..	43hrs. 20 mins.
Hours of service....	769 hrs. 9 mins	Out of City.....	2hrs. 30 mins.
		Gasoline used.....	2,348 Gallons

Respectfully submitted,

Signed) Frederick L. Badger,
Captain, Rescue Co. #1.

FROM: Arthur Brodeur, Captain, Rescue Co. #2.

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

We started the year with an average monthly response of 189.2 and ended with a monthly response of 233.1.

In view of the fact that our monthly response has been consistant, varying only slightly, from month to month, and with the population of the City decreasing it is quite clearly indicated that we have reached our saturation point. I believe the trend in the coming year will be on the decrease, rather than holding steady or increasing, which is the first time since our service was inaugurated, that I feel safe in making this prediction.

SUMMARY

Talks on Rescue and first aid were given to the following groups:

Grinnell Co. (Auburn Plant)	25 members
Bryant College (Barn Studio)	50 "
District Nursing Association (Gammell House)	45 "
Fire Chief's Club (Thornton, R. I.)	125 "

Advanced First Aid certificates. (Firemen) 512 "

Attended refresher course in Aquatic Safety at National Aquatic School, Colchester, Conn.

Attended Water safety demonstrations given by State Instructors Group.

Boxes.....	164	Oxygen cylinders used.....	331
Stills.....	2637	Auto accidents.....	245
First aid rendered.....	1840	Elevator accidents.....	6
E & J machine used.....	304	Maternity cases.....	72
Revivals.....	278	Transportations.....	1192
Fatals----D. O. A.....	26	Generators used.....	9
Boat & Motor used.....	8	Smoke ejectors used.....	2
Refrigerator leaks.....	7	Electric drills.....	1
Drownings.....	4	Lights used (Flood).....	23
Hours of drill	76		

2,797 runs were made that required 889 Hours and 54 minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Arthur Brodeur,
Captain, Rescue Co. #2

FROM: Joseph B. Healey, Lieutenant, Rescue Co. No. 3

TO: The Chief of Department.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1958).

Sir:

Starting the first full year as a rescue unit, Rescue Co. No. 3 responded to 1730 runs for an average of 144.2 calls per month.

The following is a list of activities for Rescue Co. No. 3.

Talks on first-aid and rescue were given to the following

Police Trainees.....	23	Boy Scouts.....	25
College Seniors at R. I. C. E.....	50		

Boxes.....	106	Auto accidents.....	205
Stills.....	1624	Elevator accidents.....	0
Second Alarms.....	2	Cave-ins.....	1
Third Alarms.....	1	Maternity cases.....	26
First-aid rendered.....	1246	Hangings.....	0
E & J machine used.....	177	Transportation cases.....	982
Revivals.....	147	Oxygen cylinders used.....	220
Fatals.....	30	Extra hours of duty.....	50
Refrigerator leaks.....	9	Generator used.....	7
Ammonia leaks.....	0	Lights 500 watt.....	12
Water rescues.....	1	Electric saw & drill.....	0
Drownings.....	1	Smoke ejector.....	4
Boat & motor used.....	6	Salvage covers.....	0

Time required on runs. 638 hrs. & 44 mins.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Joseph B. Healey,
Lieutenant, Rescue Co. 3.