

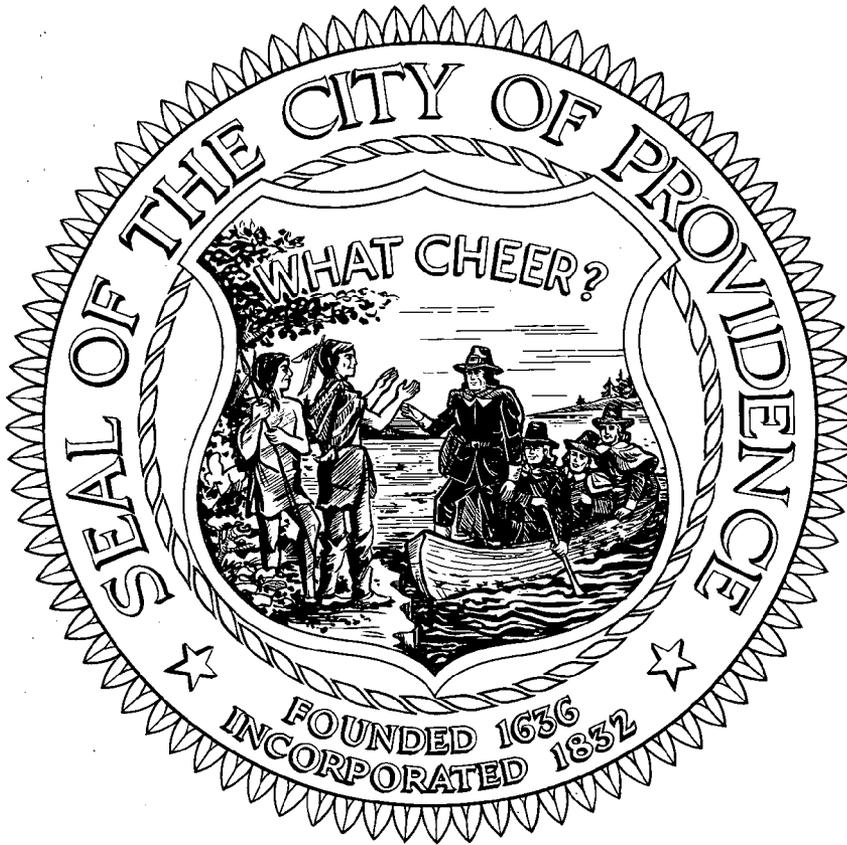
# PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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“TOP DOG”

# ANNUAL REPORT



IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 1 - 1969

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

*Vincent Vespa*  
CLERK



THE HONORABLE JOSEPH A. DOORLEY, Jr.  
Mayor of Providence



HARRY GOLDSTEIN  
Commissioner of Public Safety



**JAMES T. KILLILEA**  
FIRE CHIEF

JAMES T. KILLILEA  
Chief of Department

JAMES T. KILLILEA  
CHIEF OF  
FIRE DEPARTMENT



HARRY GOLDSTEIN  
COMMISSIONER  
OF PUBLIC SAFETY

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

209 FOUNTAIN ST., PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

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

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to submit for your approval the Annual Report of the activities of the Providence Fire Department and its divisions for the year 1968.

Outstanding among the accomplishments for the year was our fire safety program which was adjudged by the National Fire Protection Association as the best of all cities and all population classes in the United States. This accomplishment achieved for this department and city the Grand Award. This enviable position is indicative of our unrelenting efforts to provide maximum safety for the people of our city.

The achievements of this department could not have been possible without the concerted effort of every member of the fire department and the efforts and cooperation of other city departments, business, industry, hospitals, schools, community groups, and the citizens of Providence. To all who have constantly supported the fire department in its fire safety efforts, I extend my deep and sincere appreciation for a job well done.

This department has strived to offer the best possible fire protection and prevention service for the citizens of Providence through constant evaluation of methods, practices and procedures. Fire equipment and apparatus have been evaluated and studied constantly to provide the modern, sophisticated equipment necessary to meet the challenge of the fire problems of our modern society.

During 1968 a new generator-power unit was placed in service to provide power for heavy duty tools and equipment and illumination at the scene of fires and emergencies. This unit was completely assembled by members of the Fire Alarm, Repair and Maintenance Divisions of the department. Two new 1000 GPM Pumpers and a rescue truck were received and placed in service and a new 100 ft. aerial ladder truck was ordered. During the year also, high expansion foam was made available to the department and has greatly aided in the extinguishment of deep basement fires. This capability will be available on most engine companies of the department in the near future.

False Alarms continue to plague the operations of this department and have become a major problem. This problem, unfortunately, is confronting most major cities across the nation. I have taken measures in an attempt to reduce the waste created by this foolhardy practice and have met with some success. However, there is more to be done in this area.

To Mayor Doorley, and to you Commissioner Goldstein, and the honorable members of the City Government, my sincere thanks for the support and cooperation you have shown by providing this department with modern equipment and apparatus.

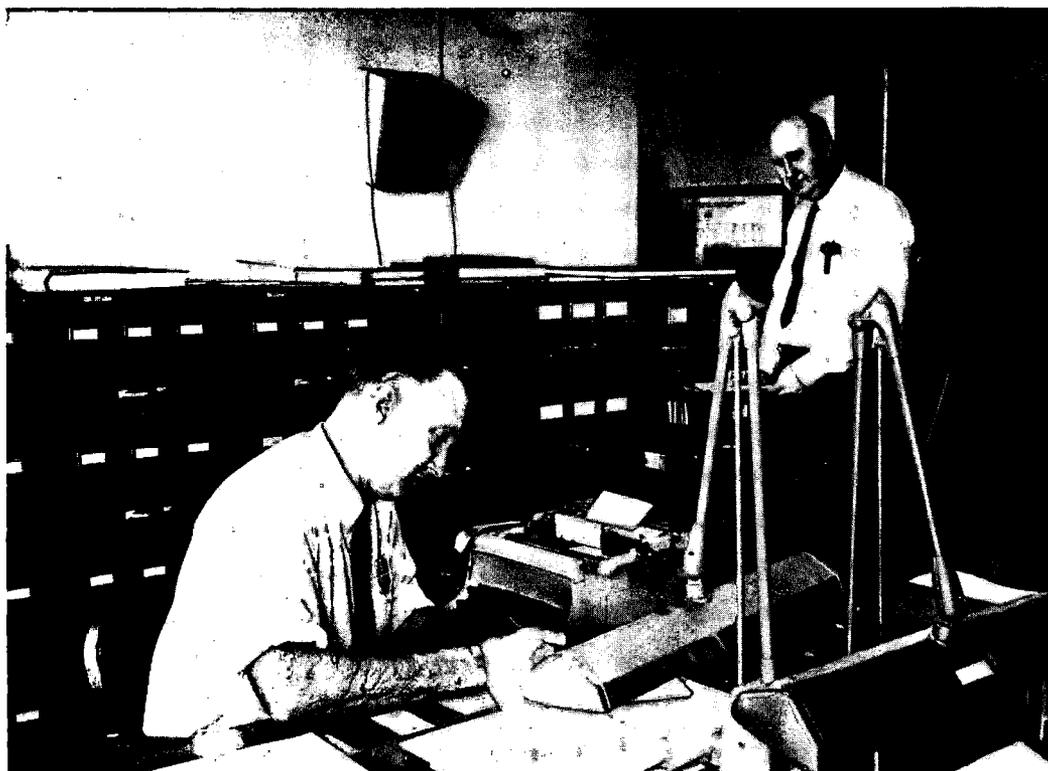
I commend the officers and men of the Fire Department for their expertness and their loyal and dedicated service to this department and the community which continues to be in the highest traditions of the Providence Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

*James T. Killilea*

James T. Killilea  
Chief of Department

*James T. Killilea*



Statistical  
Research

# OPERATIONAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Compiled by the Bureau of Fire Prevention

## 1968 Fire Loss

\$2,661,894.52

## 1967 Fire Loss

\$2,867,983.32

### BUILDING FIRES

1968 ..... 1,204

1967 ..... 501

### FIRES AMOUNTING TO \$2,500. or more

1968 ..... 190

1967 ..... 169

### FIRE FATALITIES

1968 ... 4

1967 ... 8

### 1968 FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

Box Alarms.....5,041

Still Box Alarms.....1,481

Still Alarms.....3,404

R. I. Electric Protective... 64

Total fire Calls...9,990

Rescue Calls.....10,366

Emergency Calls..... 894

TOTAL CALLS...21,250

MULTIPLE ALARMS

1968

2nd Alarm Fires

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE BLDG.</u>	<u>LOSS</u>
January 20	436 Atwells Ave.	Mercantile	\$42,015.00
February 5	78-92 Whitmarsh St.	Apartments	\$113,740.25
February 7	1035 Branch Avenue	Mercantile	-----
February 28	501-03 Plainfield St.	Mercantile	\$19,306.94
March 10	72 Orange Street	Mercantile	\$45,000.00
March 12	127 Jewett Street	Vacant Dwelling	\$10,000.00
March 26	155 Niagara Street	Synagogue	\$97,362.50
March 26	187 Ocean Street	Church	\$22,300.00
April 9	180 & 186 Somerset St.	Vacant Dwellings	-----
May 11	280-286 Willard Ave.	Dwelling	\$11,300.00
May 18	161 Dudley Street	Vacant Dwelling	-----
June 24	33 Dearborn Street	Mercantile	\$139,651.50
July 3	187 Ocean Street	Church	\$9,618.00
August 10	9 Sutton Street	Vacant Dwelling	-----
	214 Cedar Street	Vacant Dwelling	-----
August 19	9-11 Comstock Ave.	Vacant Dwelling	-----
August 21	40 Noyes Avenue	Mercantile	\$20,585.00
September 29	677-683 Broadway	Mercantile	\$48,900.00
October 4	113 Mitchell Street	Vacant Dwelling	\$17,000.00
December 31	463 Prairie Avenue	Assembly Hall	\$270,000.00

3rd Alarm Fire

April 4	251-261½ Smith Street	Mercantile	\$18,599.00
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Fatalities caused from fire - 4

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS  
for fires in buildings

Candle - lamp - torch	15
Careless use of matches	33
Careless smoking	142
Careless smoking in bed	45
Cleaning solvent	10
Defective boiler - furnace	22
Defective chimney	3
Defective electric appliance	30
Defective gas stove	4
Defective range oil burner	7
Defective power oil burner	19
Defective portable oil heater	4
Defective space oil heater	5
Defective smoke pipe - flue	2
Defective machinery	5
Defective wiring	11
Dust - lint	1
Explosion	1
Food - grease	66
Range oil burner - overflow	6
Space oil heater - overflow	1
Power oil burner - overflow	1
Power oil burner - flareback	7
Overheated exhaust pipe	3
Overheated boiler - furnace	1
Overheated electric flat	4
Overheated electric motor	3
Overheated steam radiator	2
Overheated oven	2
Overheated stove pipe	5
Overheated tar kettle	1
Rags on pipes, etc.	1
Set by juveniles - vandals	478
Short circuit - wires	4
Short circuit - motor	1
Short circuit - television	4
Soot in chimney	9
Spark from chimney	2
Spark from rubbish fire	46
Struck by lightning	2
Suspicious	66
Miscellaneous	32
Undetermined	98
	<hr/>
	1,204 TOTAL

OTHER THAN FOR A FIRE IN A BUILDING

False Alarms (Box)	3339	Power oil burner - flareback	8
False Alarms (Still Box)	180	Overheated boiler - furnace	7
False Alarms (Still)	192	Overheated electric motor	16
Accidental - needless	642	Overheated gas steam radiator	1
Candle - lamp - torch	2	Overheated oven	1
Careless use of matches	4	Overheated stove pipe	3
Careless smoking	20	Overheated tar kettle	1
Careless smoking in bed	6	Rubbish - litter	1221
Cleaning solvent	2	Set by juveniles	5
Defective boiler - furnace	36	Short circuit - electric motor	2
Defective chimney	1	Short circuit - television	2
Defective electric appliance	56	Soot in chimney	3
Defective gas stove	6	Struck by lightning	1
Defective gas heater	4	Suspicious	1
Defective range oil burner	20	Auto - truck - bus, etc.	838
Defective power oil burner	18	Boat	1
Defective space oil heater	2	Bonfire	116
Defective smoke pipe - flue	1	Bridge	6
Defective machinery	2	Dumps	58
Defective wiring	2	Fence	26
Food - grease	58	Grass - brush - leaves	1650
Range oil burner - flareback	7	Junk yard	30
Range oil burner - overflow	7	Tree - pole	66
Oil hot water heater - overflow	2	Oil bomb in street	14
Space oil heater - overflow	1	Miscellaneous	96
Power oil burner - overflow	3		
		TOTAL	8,786

10,366 Rescue Runs  
894 Emergency Runs

Total building fires	1,204	
Total other than bldg. fires	8,786	
	9,990	TOTAL ALARMS FOR FIRE
Rescue runs	10,366	
Emergency runs	894	
	21,250	GRAND TOTAL OF ALARMS

RECORD OF ALARMS FOR FIRES IN BUILDINGS

RESIDENTIAL.....536  
 NON-RESIDENTIAL..... 48  
 MERCANTILE.....105  
 MANUFACTURING..... 43  
 STORAGE..... 47  
 PUBLIC UTILITIES..... 0  
 MISCELLANEOUS..... 42  
 VACANT BUILDINGS....383

1,204 TOTAL

CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

RESIDENTIAL

Apartments 76  
 Tenements 365  
 Dwellings 73  
 Hotels 8  
 Rooming & Lodging 14  
536

MANUFACTURING

Factories 33  
 Breweries 0  
 Canneries 0  
 Bakeries 3  
 Laundries 2  
 Printing 2  
 Other Mfg. & Processing 3  
43

NON-RESIDENTIAL

Office buildings 9  
 Theaters 1  
 Churches 6  
 Hospitals 4  
 Institutions 4  
 Schools 20  
 Armories 0  
 Auditoriums 0  
 Halls, etc. 3  
 Banks 1  
48

STORAGE

Warehouses 3  
 Piers-wharfs 0  
 Grain elevators 0  
 Storage 44  
47

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Power Plants 0  
 Pump-transformer sta. 0  
0

MERCANTILE

Retail & Wholesale 73  
 Restaurants 13  
 Bars & Cafes 11  
 Repair shops 3  
 Filling stations 3  
 Public garages 2  
105

MISCELLANEOUS

Detached private  
 garages and barns 33  
 All other buildings 9  
42  
 Vacant buildings 383

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	111	12 - 1	274
1 - 2	138	1 - 2	437
2 - 3	161	2 - 3	625
3 - 4	256	3 - 4	1218
4 - 5	164	4 - 5	690
5 - 6	139	5 - 6	518
6 - 7	273	6 - 7	678
7 - 8	184	7 - 8	557
8 - 9	151	8 - 9	655
9 - 10	149	9 - 10	908
10 - 11	167	10 - 11	767
11 - 12	156	11 - 12	614
			<hr/> 9,990 TOTAL

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH DAY

Sunday	1,479
Monday	1,333
Tuesday	1,472
Wednesday	1,333
Thursday	1,398
Friday	1,440
Saturday	1,535
	<hr/> 9,990 TOTAL

The following is the statistical summary of the activities of the fire fighting force of the Department for the year ending December 1968.

Working time of companies at fires - 9,193 hours 47 min.  
Working time at dumps - 36 hours 9 min.  
Working time of pumpers at fires - 1,307 hours 44 min.

#### HOSE LINES USED

Booster No. of lines used	279	Total feet	45,000
1½" hose " " " "	4,261	" "	581,650
2½" hose " " " "	775	" "	162,950
3" hose " " " "	662	" "	128,950

#### LADDERS USED

Aerial ladders	223	Total feet	20,400
Portable ladders -	1,504	" "	31,663

#### EXTINGUISHERS USED

Foam	-	0
Soda and acid	-	2
Pump tanks	-	405
Dry chemical	-	68
Carbon dioxide	-	167

#### OTHER EQUIPMENT

Salvage covers	-	544
Bundles of laths	-	58¼
Rolls-roofing paper	-	83
Homelites	-	41
Generators	-	43
Smoke ejector	-	26
Sprinkler heads	-	27
Scott Air-Pac	-	118
Survivair	-	106

EXTRA HOURS AND LOST TIME

Extra hours of duty performed	6,819 hours
Time in attendance at drills	1,768 hours 45 min.
Time lost by members through sickness	55,519 hours 9 min.
Time lost by members through injuries	85,891 hours 45 min.
Time lost through family sickness	8,878 hours
Special time granted	4,755 hours

INSPECTIONS

RESIDENTIAL

(dwellings, apartments, rooming houses, etc. 84,439

NON-RESIDENTIAL

(theaters, churches, hospitals, schools, etc. 1,517

MERCANTILE

(retail stores, restaurants, repair shops, etc. 623

MANUFACTURING

(factories, bakeries, laundries, etc. 94

STORAGE

(warehouses, piers, etc.) 56

MISCELLANEOUS

(power plants, pumping stations, etc.) 63

HYDRANTS

37,908

APPROVALS AND PERMITS

Gasoline	63
Garages	20
Dangerous chemicals	29

The inservice apparatus consists of 16 pumpers, 2 combination foamite, 8 ladder trucks, 1 engine tender, 3 rescue trucks, 1 foam tender and 1 light truck.

The reserve apparatus consists of 7 triple combination pumpers, 4 ladder trucks and 2 rescue trucks.

<u>COMPANY</u>		<u>TYPE</u>	<u>G.P.M.</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Engine Co.	No. 1	Mack	1000	April - 1968
"	" 2	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1952
"	" 3	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1953
"	" 4	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1950
"	" 5	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1950
"	" 7	Mack	1000	April - 1968
"	" 8	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1950
"	" 9	Amer. LaFrance	1500	December - 1949
"	" 10	Oren	750	September - 1952
"	" 11	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1954
"	" 12	Ward-LaFrance	1000	November - 1963
"	" 14	Amer. LaFrance	750	April - 1950
"	" 17	Mack	750	December - 1957
"	" 18	Seagrave	1000	April - 1965
"	" 19	Mack	750	December - 1957
"	" 20	Ward-LaFrance	750	July - 1960
Ladder Co.	No. 1	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		June - 1942
"	" 2	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		October - 1945
"	" 3	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		February - 1950
"	" 4	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		July - 1956
"	" 5	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		March - 1946
"	" 6	Seagrave Aerial		September - 1954
"	" 9	Amer. LaFrance Aerial		December - 1951
"	" 10	Maxim Aerial		Januray - 1963
Engine Tender	No. 9	G. M. C.		December - 1943
Foam Tender	No. 1	Ford C.O.E.		August - 1950
Rescue Co.	No. 1	Chevrolet panel (1 ton)		June - 1962
Rescue Co.	No. 2	Special body		December - 1968
Rescue Co.	No. 3	Special body		February - 1965
Light Truck	No. 1	International walk-in van		May - 1961

RESERVE APPARATUS AND LOCATION

Reserve Engine No. 2*	At Engine Co. 2	1942
Reserve Engine No. 7	At Engine Co. 7	1927
Reserve Engine No. 12	At Engine Co. 12	1953
Reserve Engine No. 14	At Engine Co. 14	1953
Reserve Engine No. 17*	At Engine Co. 17	1954
Reserve Engine No. 19	At Engine Co. 19	1953
Reserve Engine No. 20	At Engine Co. 20	1953

\* New motor installed 1953

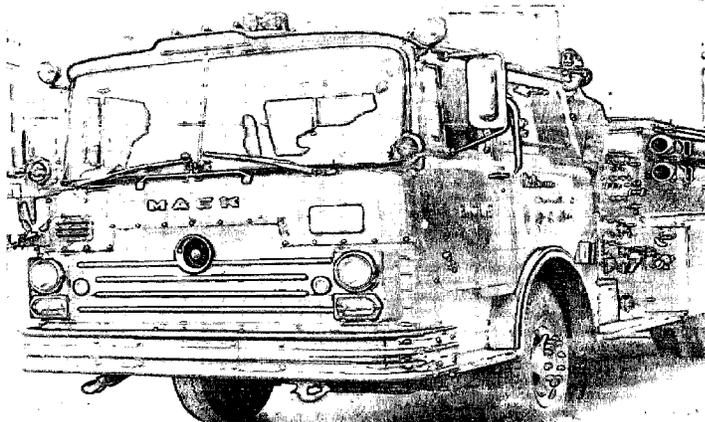
Reserve Ladder No. 3	At Engine Co. 19	1929
Reserve Ladder No. 4*	At Ladder Co. 4	1927
Reserve Ladder No. 6	At Engine Co. 5	1927
Reserve Ladder No. 8**	At Repair Shop	1937

\* New tractor - 1950

\*\* New tractor - 1947

Reserve Rescue No. 1	At Ladder Co. 3	1960
Reserve Rescue No. 2	At Rescue Co. 3	1962
Air Station Truck	At Engine Co. 5	1952
Water Pollution Unit	At Engine Co. 18	1967
Reserve BC Sedan	At Repair Shop	1962

APPARATUS



# DISTRICT CHIEFS



Lawrence B. McCormick



John F. McDonald



Leonard E. Sweeney



Robert D. Walsh



John F. McDermott,



John E. McDonald



George H. Nowell



Charles J. Gilchrist



John L. Rooney



Lawrence A. Bouchard



William F. Kelly



Thomas M. Kennedy



Edwin F. Fay



James F. Coleman



Guido Nutini



William P. Kanaczet

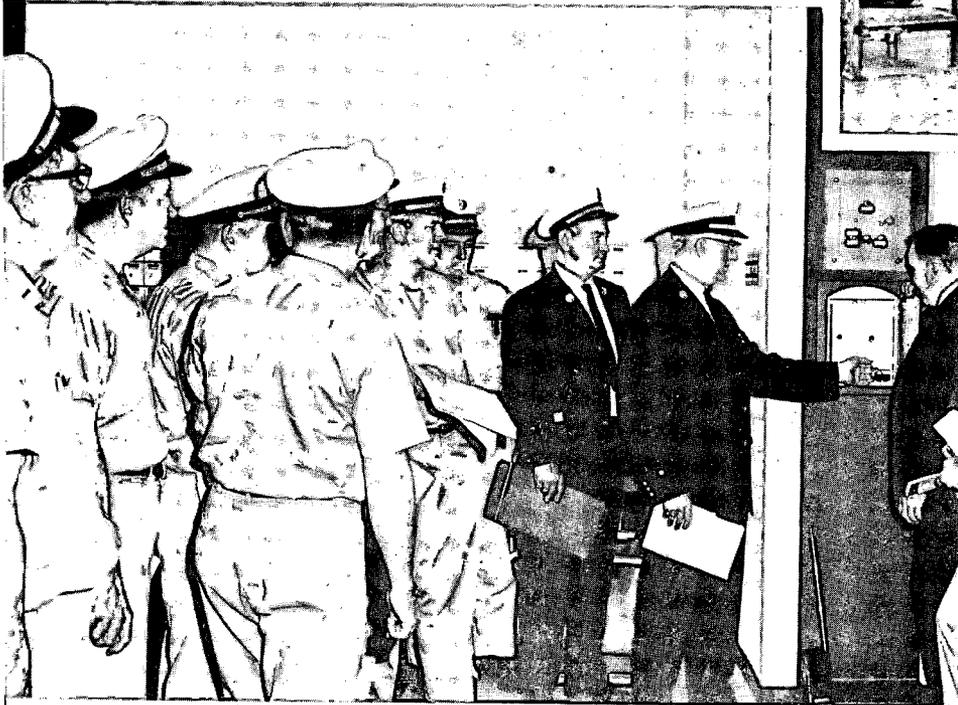
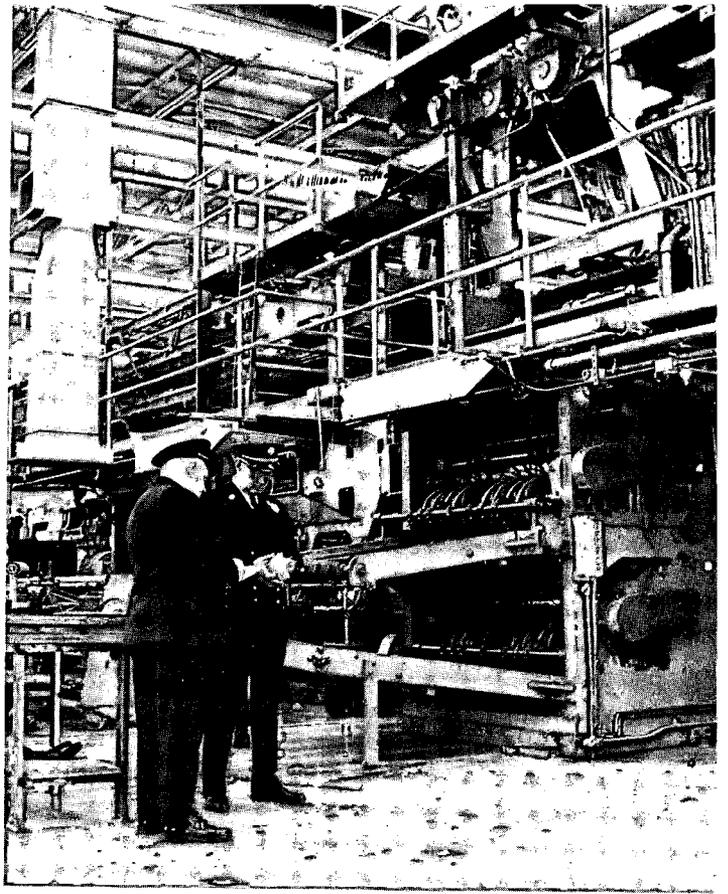


## FIREFIGHTER

Firefighting



# ACTIVITIES



Inspection

SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Station visitation



PERSONNEL

Total Department membership as of December 31, 1968 - 466

Appointments.....	16
Retirements.....	18
Resignations.....	4
Promotions.....	33
Transfers.....	195
Commendations.....	28
Reprimands.....	1
Deaths.....	0
Reinstated.....	1

SUPERIOR OFFICERS

James T. Killilea, Chief of Department

BATTALION CHIEFS

Lawrence A. Bouchard	John F. McDermott, Jr
James F. Coleman, Jr.	John E. McDonald
John J. Falvey	John F. McDonald
Edwin A. Fay	John T. McLaughlin
Charles J. Gilchrist	George H. Nowell
William P. Kanaczet	Guido Nutini
William F. Kelly	John L. Rooney
Thomas M. Kennedy	Leonard E. Sweeney
Clarence B. McCormick	Robert D. Walsh

Raymond A. Kilduff, Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

Alfred J. Mello, Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

Batt. Chief Michael Sabatino, Superintendent - Building Repairs

James F. Kelly, Assistant Superintendent - Automotive Repairs

William R. McVey, Assistant Superintendent - Fire Alarm

Lawrence J. Donahue - Radio Engineer

## OFFICER PERSONNEL

Capt. James C. Byrne  
Capt. Joseph A. Carr  
Capt. Richard J. Casey  
Capt. Frederick C. Clancy  
Capt. Elliot M. Durfee  
Capt. Eugene F. Gilchrist  
Capt. Henry A. Grzych  
Capt. Donald P. Hackett  
Capt. Thomas M. Horiagon  
Capt. Joseph R. Hull  
Capt. Alfred F. Leach  
Capt. Richard H. Lyons  
Capt. John J. Mohan

Lieut. Robert F. Anthony  
Lieut. Eugene C. Balcom  
Lieut. Robert A. Bergeron  
Lieut. Alfred D. Boehm  
Lieut. James T. Burns  
Lieut. Donald M. Byrne  
Lieut. James G. Cahill  
Lieut. Arthur J. Choiniere  
Lieut. William P. Clancy  
Lieut. Charles A. Cornell, Jr.  
Lieut. John J. Creamer  
Lieut. Edward J. Crocker  
Lieut. Thomas H. Cronin  
Lieut. Richard E. Crossman  
Lieut. Donald V. Dacey  
Lieut. Frank J. Day  
Lieut. David R. Dillon  
Lieut. Edward T. Downing  
Lieut. Robert N. Drummond  
Lieut. Gastano F. Gaudioso  
Lieut. Donald E. Gibson  
Lieut. George C. Griffin  
Lieut. James E. Gurney  
Lieut. Joseph B. Healey  
Lieut. Ronald B. Inglesi  
Lieut. Peter Jamgoohian  
Lieut. Francis X. Jarvis  
Lieut. Raymond T. King  
Lieut. Warren R. Kirk  
Lieut. John Lamanna  
Lieut. Enrico J. Landi  
Lieut. Daniel R. Lane

Capt. Joseph V. Morro  
Capt. John B. McGarry  
Capt. John F. McGwinn  
Capt. Robert M. Murray  
Capt. Austin T. Nagle  
Capt. Edward T. O'Keefe  
Capt. John F. Oliver  
Capt. Ettore Patrone  
Capt. Robert R. Poudrier  
Capt. Richard Rebello  
Capt. Robert A. Sullivan  
Capt. James J. Sylvia  
Capt. Robert V. Weakley

Lieut. William J. Lynch  
Lieut. James E. Maher  
Lieut. James J. Marley  
Lieut. Henry Masukewicz  
Lieut. James J. McAllister  
Lieut. Owen P. McGurn  
Lieut. Charles L. McKenna, Jr.  
Lieut. Frederick E. Miller  
Lieut. Joseph H. Mitchell  
Lieut. Michael F. Moise  
Lieut. James T. Molloy  
Lieut. William J. Moreland  
Lieut. John J. Mullen  
Lieut. Edward F. Nagle  
Lieut. Francis E. Nangle  
Lieut. John I. Owens, Jr.  
Lieut. Henry S. Parker  
Lieut. Emanuel E. Patrone  
Lieut. Eugene S. Patrone  
Lieut. Louis Pascone  
Lieut. Bartholomew E. Quigley  
Lieut. John F. Quirk  
Lieut. Alfred J. Reall  
Lieut. James J. Roche  
Lieut. Salvatore F. Santoro  
Lieut. Anthony V. Sauro  
Lieut. Raymond C. Schultz  
Lieut. John F. Seddon  
Lieut. Walter R. Sheridan  
Lieut. James H. Wall  
Lieut. Robert Walker  
Lieut. Donald F. Walsh  
Lieut. Bernard J. Waters

**Bureau of Fire Prevention**

**Organizational Chart**



**BUREAU CHIEF**



**Office - Records**



**Statistical Research**



**Fire Protection New Const.  
Materials, Testing**



**Flammable Liquids  
Chemical Storage**



**Fire Investigations  
Photography**



**Fire Safety Education  
Public Relations**

**Field Inspectors**



**District 1**



**District 2**



**District 3**



**District 4**



**District 5**



**District 6**

# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report - 1968.

Sir:

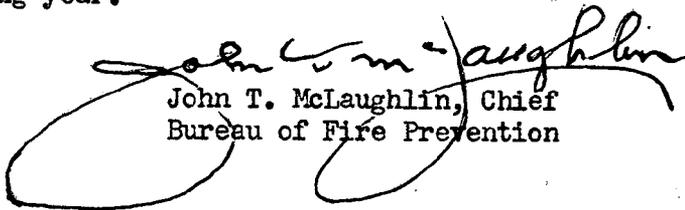
The 1968 Activities of the Fire Prevention Bureau can best be summed up by the recent press release of the National Fire Protection Association announcing that the city of Providence was chosen as the Grand Award Winner in the National Fire Prevention Contest. Providence was also first place winner in its population class and first in the State of Rhode Island.

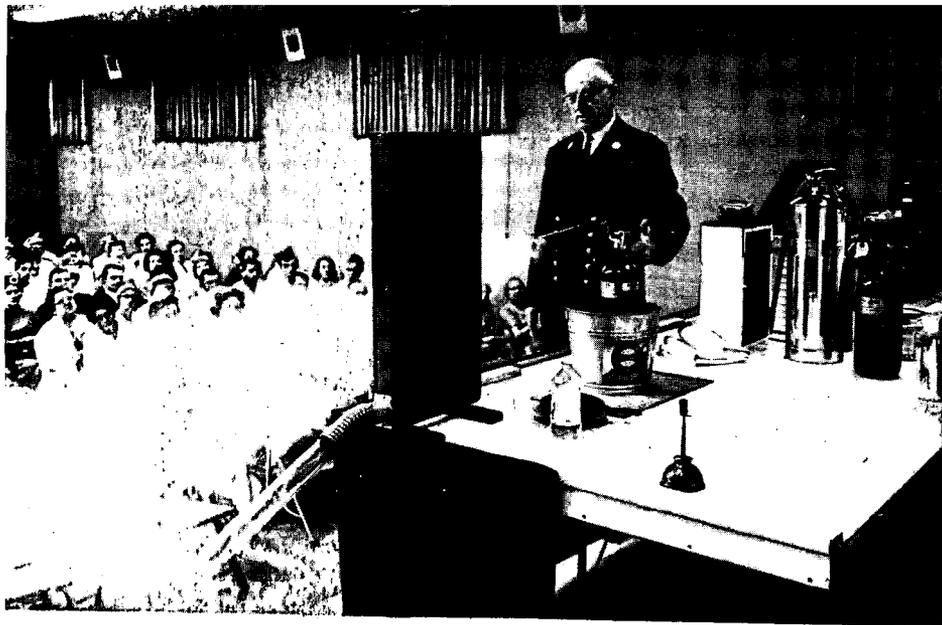
The purpose of these contests are to measure the success of the year-round efforts of various elements within a community to create constructive attitudes about fire safety among all its citizens. Fire Departments and Chambers of Commerce usually sponsor and conduct these programs. Special emphasis may be given to the annual observance of Fire Prevention Week when public attention is focused on the subject of fire safety. It is also the contest's objective to function as a clearing house for the most effective methods of Fire Prevention Promotion developed by communities throughout North America.

To those not familiar with this contest, the entry is submitted in book form which are of many sizes. Our book consisted of two hundred pages, approximately twenty by twenty-six inches in size. All events of the year pertaining to Fire Prevention are entered and must be backed up by pictures, press releases, and letters of verification. To submit an entry such as ours would be impossible without the support of our press, radio and television media, Chamber of Commerce, representatives of business and industry, the various municipal divisions, youth organizations, and the members of the firefighting force who performed so well during the Fire Prevention Week programs.

As I pause briefly to look back at the past twelve months of 1968, I think we should be justly proud of our accomplishments and the significant progress which has resulted from the devotion and year round interest in fire prevention shown by the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Each of the above mentioned, has in some way, contributed to our fire prevention effort, and constitute the backbone of our program. For your unselfish dedication and cooperation on our behalf, I thank you and we are deeply grateful for your past support and hopeful that we may have your continued support for the coming year.

  
John T. McLaughlin, Chief  
Bureau of Fire Prevention



Fire Extinguisher  
Demonstration



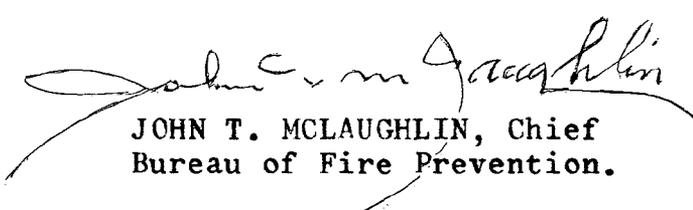
Fire Prevention  
Demonstration



Questioning Suspect

RECAP OF FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ACTIVITIES FOR 1968

<u>INVESTIGATION (COMPLAINTS RECEIVED)</u>		<u>INSPECTIONS (REGULAR)</u>	
Complaints corrected	217	Original inspections	603
		Re-inspections	553
Complaints unjustified	26	Theaters	208
		Convalescent homes	12
Buildings razed	99	Nursing homes	13
		Homes for children	89
Buildings repaired		Hospitals	40
		Schools	178
Referred to Health Department	6	Orphanages	3
		Storage of vehicles	40
Referred to Building Director	38	Gasoline applications	145
		Gasoline tanks	40
Referred to Electrical Dept.	15	Storage of fuel oil-bulk	6
		Dangerous chemical applications	150
Request of occupants	258	Fire escapes	32
Defective chimney-smoke pipe and heating plant	4	<u>DEMONSTRATIONS-LECTURES, etc.</u>	
Fire escapes-panic bolts etc.		Demonstrations	72
		" attendance at	20,617
Obstructed exits	15	Moving picture showings	38
		" " attendance at	13,407
Open exposures	4	Lecture - talk	99
		" " attendance at	27,292
Burning rubbish	27	Conferences attended	61
		Radio broadcasts	14
Rubbish conditions corrected	38	Television broadcasts	3
		Fire drills conducted	57
		Tape recordings made	13
<u>FIRES</u>			
Fires investigated	1679	<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	
Suspicious fires	64	No smoking signs issued	440
		Photographs taken	1977
Referred to Juvenile Division	6	Extra hours worked	321
		Pamphlets distributed	37,997
Fire losses investigated	352	Posters distributed	3,000
		Public displays set up	29
Court cases	2		
<u>PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY</u>			
Bingos	133		

  
 JOHN T. MCLAUGHLIN, Chief  
 Bureau of Fire Prevention.



## DIVISION OF TRAINING

Battalion Chief  
John J. Falvey

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report

Sir: The following is the report of activities of the Division of Training for the year ending December 31, 1968.

The year opened with the 27th training class in the final weeks of their advanced training phase. The sixteen members of this class were sworn in as 3rd grade privates on January 25, 1968 by the Commissioner of Public Safety, Harry Goldstein. These men were assigned to the various engine, ladder and rescue companies in the Department.

On January 3, 1968 an announcement was sent out to the Department to the effect that a Privates Promotional School would be convened on or about March 11 1968. The purpose of this school was for the promotion of privates to lieutenants. The examination was held at Hope High School on February 12th, at which time ninety-one privates were present. As a result of the examination twenty-two men were selected for the promotional school.

The Lieutenant School convened on March 24, 1968. It was necessary to hold this class for a period of three extra days due to the flood emergency which happened during the period that the class was in session. It was necessary to utilize the men for pumping operations. At this writing may I note that all of the twenty-two men who were certified in this class have been promoted. This unusually large number of promotions was due to the raising of the complement of lieutenants by 11 and an increase in the number of lieutenants who were placed on the pension rolls. At this writing there now exists five vacancies in the lieutenant ranks.

In keeping with the thought of maintaining a promotional list of officers, an announcement was sent to the Department on April 17, 1968 relative to the establishment of a Captain Promotional School. The qualifying examination was held on May 21, 1968 at the Division of Training at which time 33 lieutenants were present. Thirteen men were competitively selected to attend the school which convened on Monday, June 3, 1968. At this time eight of these men have been promoted to the rank of Captain and there are five lieutenants on the promotional list.

In cooperation with the Automotive Repair Division we held an acceptance test on two new 1,000 G.P.M. pumpers delivered to the Department on April 9th and 10th by the Mack Truck Corporation. Both these trucks passed an acceptance test of 3 hours duration, the result of which has previously been forwarded to you.

In the period between the promotional schools this Division in conjunction with the Fire Prevention Bureau and the Chiefs of Battalion Four, pre-fire planned the Manufacturers Building and the old Classical High School complex.

On June 11, 1968, at the request of the Assistant Fire Protective Office, the personnel of this Division instructed forty people at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Davis Park in the use of self-contained breathing apparatus.

Between June 13th and July 30th three of our pumpers were equipped with diesel engines replacing gasoline engines that had been in service for over a period of 10 years. These three units, E-3, E-17, and E-19 were given pump tests to insure that these new engines were capable of delivering the necessary power to the pumps. I am happy to report that the test results were better than satisfactory. A detailed report of the three pumpers and performances has been forwarded to you.

At the request of Harry Kizirian, the Postmaster of Providence, thirty-six employees of the Post office Department were given instructions on the use of portable fire extinguishers. These men were instructed by the Captain assigned to this Division on August 19, 20, and 22nd.

After the completion of the Lieutenant Promotional School we immediately proceeded to set up for a new class of trainees. A written intelligence examination was given to 31 prospective candidates and after physical examinations, adaptability tests, and other screening, twenty men were selected for the 28th Training Class which convened on August 26, 1968. I regret to report that one man resigned during the second week of training. At this writing these nineteen men of this class are in the advanced stage of training (station duty).

The annual hose and pump tests were conducted by this Division commencing on September 16, 1968 and were completed on October 2nd. I believe that I should reiterate my recommendation of last year that serious consideration be given to replacement of our older pumpers. Age, and the wear and tear of extreme fire service is showing in the recent pump tests. A total of 87,000 feet of hose (1742 sections) was also tested according to A.I.A. standards at that time. A detailed report of both tests has been previously submitted. The manpower to conduct these tests was taken from the 28th Training Class.

During Fire Prevention Week and in cooperation with the Fire Prevention Bureau the trainees participated in two exhibitions of aerial work (ladder) and extinguishment of small building fires. The first was held on Wednesday, Oct. 9th at the grounds of the Veteran's Administration Hospital at Davis Park, and the second was held on Friday, October 11th at Kennedy Plaza. I believe that exhibitions of this type are an excellent vehicle in promoting public relations and do make the citizens of this city aware of some of the training that fire-fighters must undertake.

During the month of December this Division cooperated with the Office of Civil Defense in helping to set up a master plan for the city of Providence in

the event of a disaster, whether it be natural or man-made. Captain Robert P. Poudrier attended a radiological monitoring course held under the auspices of the State Civil Defense. The undersigned was honored by being asked to serve on the Mayor's council in regards to Civil Defense.

In the fall of this past year, after discussion with you, it was agreed that due to the manpower situation that exists in the Department it was imperative that we proceed with another training class as soon as possible. An intensive recruiting program was conducted through the media of newspaper, radio and television. The results, in terms of applicants applying for the school were, to say the least, disappointing. In conversation with applicants who had applied for the school and decided not to pursue their application further I find that many of them will not accept the job at the pay rate that now prevails. On the basis of my experience with these applicants, I strongly recommend that serious consideration be given to raising the salary of trainees. I believe that a higher wage will induce a greater number of men, both in quality and quantity, to apply for admission to our ranks.

In closing, once again I must bring to your attention the physical condition of the drill yard located on Dexter Street. The training tower is badly in need of repairs. Brick work and masonry are at such a condition that it is dangerous to continue to train men at these facilities. The ladder storage shed is now in need of replacement rather than repair. The ladders contained in the shed will have to be repaired due to the exposure they are receiving.

Respectfully submitted,

*John J. Falvey*



Foam  
Apparatus

TRAINEES



Classroom  
Instruction

Conducting Fire Drill





## FIRE ALARM

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report (Bureau of Operations and Control)(1968)

Sir: The principal duty of the Bureau of Operations and Control is the accurate interpretation of all emergency calls and the dispatching of the proper apparatus to these emergencies.

The following is a break down of all types of alarms received in the year 1968 compared with the previous year:

	Box alarms	Still Boxes	Still Alarms	R.I.E.P.	Rescue	Emerg.	Lockouts
1968	5041	1481	3404	64	10,366	894	708
1967	3396	1475	2540	49	11,365	- -	889

The total number of emergencies received by this office and re-transmitted to the department during 1968 was 21,250 compared with 18,825 during 1967. This total does not include lockouts. This increase is due largely to the sharp increase in the number of Box Alarms for the year.

The calls for lockouts have dropped by a few, but not enough to reflect any significant trend. I still feel that a service charge should be placed for this type service. I feel that if this were the case many of those calls that are repeat calls would be eliminated.

The decrease in Rescue calls this year is due largely to the addition of Emergency Runs. This new category covers all water emergencies, Gas leaks, gasoline and oil spills.

In the past year the Department has started the practice of sending the first due Engine and Chief on known False Alarm Boxes. The logic behind this was to try and eliminate the large display of apparatus, also it would decrease the possibility of depleting the Department inventory of available apparatus. This practice has proven to be satisfactory, its actual impact on decreasing False Alarms cannot actually be measured due to the fact that False Alarms are still on the upswing. With all apparatus radio equipped, the first due company can readily call for assistance. This is using the Radio Network to its fullest.

This Division also has installed break-glass doors on known False Alarm Boxes, these have proven very successful in some areas. Some have not been pulled since installation and others have maintained only a slight decrease.

The Bureau of Operations and Control is still trying to screen calls for Rescue Services to eliminate unnecessary runs. I might say that this practice has not proven to be to successful.

Another important duty of the Bureau is the operation of the Department switchboard. As may be expected, this switchboard handles a great number of inter-departmental calls and except for some troubles encountered in the electrical connections due to its age, this operation has been satisfactory.

Members of the Bureau of Operations and Control are responsible for maintaining records of all alarms and tests conducted by Fire Alarm Personnel, American Service Testing Company, Grinnell and Insurance Companies. These tests are so wide spread that it is now necessary to assign one man to answer all tests daily.

In closing, I would like to say that the Members of the Bureau of Operations and Control have handled all emergencies in a most expeditious manner. I would like to thank the Officers and Members of the Bureau for their continued dedication to their work, particularly during major emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred J. Mello



James T. Killilea, Chief  
Providence Fire Department  
Providence, R. I.

SUBJECT: Annual Report 1968

As in the past, the principal duty of the Fire Alarm Division is that of maintaining the Fire Alarm System in its best working order in order that receipt and transmission of alarms can be handled accurately.

The Fire Alarm System is considerably larger than most people can visualize, it consists of 1,032 Fire Alarm Boxes, of which 325 are Private systems. This represents an increase during the year of 16 Private Boxes and 3 Public or Street Boxes. These Boxes are connected by approximately 600 miles of circuits, 375 miles of which are underground cable, 30 miles of messenger supported aerial cable and the rest being made up of aerial wire construction. In addition there are 168 Police Call Boxes and their inter-connecting wires. It is fast approaching a point where it will be necessary to have a member assigned to the specific job of assisting insurance companies or private testing companies in the testing of Master systems (it is necessary for us to disconnect each box while these tests are being made).

During the year our Box replacement program has been going on as the budget would allow. It is hoped that within the next few years this program could be expanded to enable us to do away with all of the old type boxes and give us a complete ground return system. I still solicit the suggestions of all of the Department Officers for locations that they feel should have additional Fire Box protection, these suggestions should be made to this office on Form 17.

During the year there were 16 Boxes or Pedestals damaged by Auto accidents, in addition there were several of a minor nature that went unreported. This is an item that places a burden on the Department Budget in-as-much as when the City Solicitor recovers damages on these claims, the monies recovered do not come back to the Public Safety Division but instead, go into the General Treasury.

As already stated this Division maintains the Police Telegraph System, also the police recorders and affiliated equipment. This is a full time job for a man assigned to this Division.

We have also maintained electrical appliances and done many of the various electrical installations in the Public Safety Buildings. Most of the older type of Wheat-lites have been converted to a dry battery type. This program has proved adequate but the ultimate thing will be to replace these old type lites throughout the entire department.

All trees have been trimmed along the Fire and Police Aerial circuits to prevent unwanted grounding.

In the past year, this Division converted the old Metro Van which had formerly been used as a Salvage Truck into a lighting unit. Many hours were spent by this Division, the Repair Shop and the Building Repairs on this project. At present, this truck is operated by members of this Division at multiple alarms or whenever requested by a Battalion Chief. It is our hope to equip this truck with heavy duty rescue equipment before the end of this year.

During the month of January, the Radio Engineer completed work on a 25 watt base station on the frequency of 154.280 mc, the inter-city radio network. This has proved to be a valuable piece of equipment. Its primary use is that of relaying of alarms to nearby cities that are sent here by mistake and also in the area of mutual aid. In addition to the Inter-City network this Division is responsible for the regular Fire Department Radio system which, in addition to two base stations contains 80 mobile units and 6 monitor receivers.

In the past years since I have been Superintendent, I have emphasized the need each year for new Central Office equipment. I am pleased to say that this project is now under way and at the time of this writing, the entire building is in a state of turmoil. Work on the building is being performed by the Alrae Construction Company and the Central Office equipment is to be supplied by the Gamewell Company. Contracts amounting to a total of more than \$300,000. have been awarded for this work. It is anticipated that the job will require the better part of this year to complete. When completed, the Department will have a Fire Communications center second to none other in the entire country.

As Superintendent, I want to extend my sincere thanks to my very capable Assistant, and to all of the members of the Division for their splendid cooperation during the year without which, my job would have been much harder.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alfred J. Mello".

Alfred J. Mello

# BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report

Sir:

I hereby submit the operational report of the Department of Building Maintenance and Repairs for the year 1968.

This department is responsible for the maintenance, and furnishings of all Police and Fire Department Buildings throughout the City of Providence. With the Cooperation of the men of this department, there has been a considerable amount of repairing and redecorating accomplished during the year 1968

The exterior of all Fire Stations overhead doors were painted, and the interior of the following Fire Stations were painted Messer St. Atwells Ave. and Admirl St. At the Police Department we painted Traffic Bureau, Business Office, Juvenile Bureau, and Prosecution and all the hallways. Painting was also done at the City Hall.

All desks in the Dectective Bureau were covered with Formica and the Commissioners Business Office desks were also covered with Formica and a new counter was made.

A new Confrence Room was made for the Fire Department, table and bookcasas also. All window shades are made by this department, canvas covers used on apparatus are also made. The cement floor at the Point St. Fire Station was taken up and new steam lines were replaced. All overhead doors were greased and oiled. During this year, many traps were cleaned, many urinals were repaired and numerous faucet washers were replaced throughout the city. A great number of boiler and water leaks were repaired at various stations. Window sills at the Drill Tower were replaced, also a sub station for the Police department was erected at the Ernest St. garage.

During the year 1968, the following work was initiated and completed at the Carpenter Shop.

50	Windsor Chairs were repaired.
2	Water Vac boxes
100	Night sticks
94	Axes were sharpend
1024 ft.	of ladders were sanded and varnished.
1206 ft.	of rope was replaced on ladders.
24	door closures were repaired.
20	slide pole enclosurs were made and installed.
15	typewriter tables were made.
13	hand light boxes.
10	gate valve boxes.
6	screen doors were repaired.
14	bulletin bordrs were made.

10 creepers were made.  
92 plaster poles  
125 ladder straps  
97 ax handles  
200 Police horses were made, painted and stenciled  
100 Dog license poster boards.  
600 ft. of ladders were repaired  
39 hammer handles

This department also supplies all Police and Fire Stations with supplies for cleaning, deodorizing and disinfecting of toilet bowls and urinals. We also supply padlocks for gas tanks, and paint brushes and paint for the painting of hydrant markers.

All lawns were top dressed, fertilized and reseeded, including the Police Pistol Range in Scituate. All lawn equipment and lawn mowers is maintained and distributed by this department. Mattresses, lockers, new desks, chairs and desk are distributed by this department.

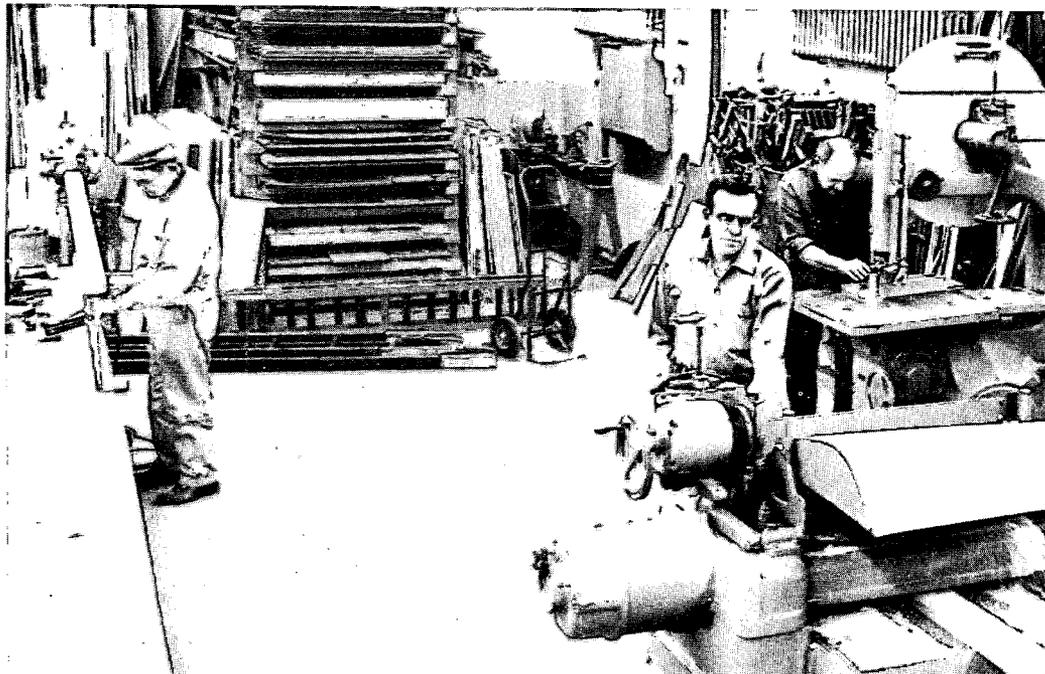
During Fire Prevention Week, we render considerable assistance to the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Respectfully submitted,

*Paul Vilandrie*

Paul Vilandrie

Asst. Supt. of Building Repairs





## AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS

Raymond A. Kilduff  
Superintendent

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report, Automotive Repairs (1968)

Sir:

I hereby submit for your consideration and approval the report of operations of the Automotive Repair and Maintenance Division for the year ending December 31, 1968.

Our performance over this period, as in the past, has been the maintaining and repairing of all mobile units of this department, also all portable units such as pumps, generators, etc. The servicing and repairing of various articles of fire fighting equipment and tools has been accomplished in our machine shop. Minor body repairs, painting, welding, and brazing are done by members of this division. Apparatus lubrications and inspections are done both in the Repair Shop and in Company quarters. We have been in attendance at all multiple alarm fires and other emergencies as well as the annual hose and pump service tests of all Engine Companies and also the acceptance tests of all new fire apparatus.

A twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week schedule is maintained by our Mechanics to insure prompt response for any mechanical failure, multiple alarm fires, or any other emergencies which may occur. Emergency repairs, minor repairs, and adjustments are performed on the scene or at Company quarters.

During the past year, one new Rescue unit with a custom built body was received and placed in service at Rescue Co. #2. Two new 1000 G.P.M. triple combination pumpers were received and placed in service at Engine Co. #1 and Engine Co. #7. A 100 foot all steel hydraulically operated Ladder truck and another Custom built Rescue unit were ordered and delivery is expected sometime in early 1969.

During the past year, one Ladder truck and three Pumpers were repowered with Diesel engines bringing the total to five units with Diesel engines. These installations have as of this time, proven to be very satisfactory in both maintenance and economy of operation. An added bonus was the improvement of radio communications due to the absence of electrical interference sometimes caused by gasoline engines and their ignition systems which are eliminated in Diesel Engines. Because of these advantages, I recommend that any future Engine replacements in fire apparatus be made with Diesel Engines in place of Gasoline Engines where warranted.

Due to the increase in the amount of runs throughout the Department in the past several years our work load has increased considerably. At the present time fifteen out of twenty-four first line pieces of apparatus have been in service for fifteen years or longer.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond A. Kilduff  
Superintendent, Automotive Repairs

# RESCUE

Subject: Annual Report 1968

Sir: During the year 1968, the 3 Rescue Units answered a total of 10,366 emergency calls. This number is only slightly down from last years total but in view of recent events it is a definite drop over Rescue runs of previous years. During the first 6 months of the year all Rescue Units were ahead in runs from a comparable period of the year before, continuing a pattern that had been set for several years. As of July 1st, new rescue proceduures were introduced in an effort to stem this pattern, they are as follows:

- a. Stricter screening of calls by the members of the Bureau of Operations and Control.
- b. Eliminating cases that were strictly of a transport nature and referring these calls to Private Ambulance Companies.

Under this new policy the city has been divided into 4 zones, with respect to the hospitals. Whenever a Rescue Unit is dispatched and it is determined that hospital care is required, the Rescue unit will transport the patient to the hospital in the zone that the emergency takes place in. This has been done to prevent the Rescues from making time consuming, cross-town trips and also to get the patient to medical aid in the shortest possible time.

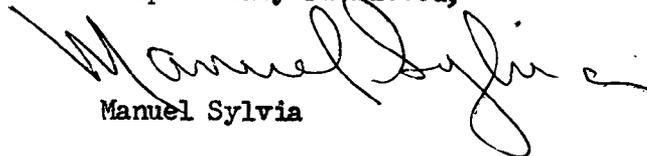
In the past there have been many abuses to the Rescue Units by the very nature of the calls, since the institution of this new policy these abuses have been cut considerably. It is hoped that the Rescue units will once again return to their original function, that of an EMERGENCY FIRST-AID unit.

During the month of November it was my privelege to be assigned "Officer in Charge" of Rescue operations for the 3 Rescue Units. Since that time the units have had to undergo minor changes both in their methods and equipment to make them as near equal as possible.

At the present time all of the men assigned to the Rescue service have attended 1 or more training courses and are fully qualified. It is currently hoped that some sort of Training Program in First Aid can be initiated to include all members of the Department.

I would like to extend my thanks to Commissioner Goldstein, Chief Killilea, Superintendent Mello as Rescue Administrator and above all, to the men assigned to the Rescue Service for their cooperation and help.

Respectfully submitted,



Manuel Sylvia

Manuel Sylvia, Rescue Coordinator

James T. Killilea, Chief  
Providence Fire Department  
Providence, R.I.

SUBJECT: Annual Report (1968) Rescue Administrator

The following is a report of Rescue operations throughout the city since July 1st, 1968:

As you will notice from other reports, there has been a slight decrease in the number of Rescue calls in 1968. It is the intent of the Rescue units to transport emergency cases only, all others are referred to Private Ambulance Companies. Over a period of time, I believe that a definite decrease or a stabilization of calls will be maintained by the units.

As of November 1st, the Rescue units no longer respond to Box Alarms except in the first fire district and Private Boxes. However, units are sent to working fires on a stand-by basis if needed.

I would like to suggest that with a new piece of apparatus in service at Rescue #2 and another one expected shortly for Rescue #1, that plans be made to include the purchase of a new unit for Rescue #3 in the next years budget. By the time that this would come about the truck now in service will be 5 years old.

It is the plan of the Rescue Units to equip all trucks alike, and to place all equipment in like compartments on each truck.

I would like to say at this time that the emergency medical needs of the community are being maintained by the Rescues. We have had several criticisms in the past but on investigation, in nearly all cases they have proved to be unjustified.

The men of the Rescue units are eager to train themselves for their job, and programs are currently being planned by the Rescue Coordinator, the Hospitals and the State Health Department to assist in this training.

I would like to thank you Chief, Commissioner Goldstein and the men of the Rescue Units for their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred J. Mello

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report of Rescue Company No. 1 for the Year 1968

Sir: For the first time in twenty-one years, the total runs of this company has not exceeded the total for the previous year. The year 1967 showed an increase of 12.3% over 1966, whereas in 1968 there was a 9.9% decrease from 1967. This decrease was reflected only in the last six months after the change in Rescue operations put into effect on July 1st. The first six months of 1968 was equal to the corresponding period for 1967 as compared to the last six months which had a 26.0% decrease over the last six months of 1967. This shows a definite trend in the reduction of Rescue calls.

Boxes .....	189	D.O.A. ....	124
Still Boxes .....	109	Maternity cases .....	27
Still Alarms .....	3373	Auto Accidents .....	364
Special Signals .....	51	Refused Aid .....	228
Multiple Alarms .....	4	Elevator Accidents ....	11
Out of City .....	3	Refrigerator Leaks ....	2
Total Runs .....	3729	Gas Leaks .....	6
		Lights used .....	3
Transported by Rescue .	2025	Boat used .....	4
Referred to		Acid Leaks .....	1
Private Ambulances .	142	Smoke Ejector used ....	3
E & J Machine used ....	58	Extra Hours of Duty ...	59
First Aid Rendered ....	951		

\*Oxygen "K" Cylinders used ... 9

Gasoline used ..... 2987 Gals.

Service Time 1142 Hrs. 22 Min.

\*Includes oxygen issued to Rescue Co. 2 and Rescue Co. 3

Respectfully submitted,

  
Rescue Lieutenant

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual report of Rescue Co # 2 for the year ending 1968

Sir:

With the ending of this year, this company completed 5,730 calls with an increase over last year by 276. Considering the new transition which had been in effect since July 1st we would normally have noticed a decrease such as the other two units. The increase we have experienced is due primarily to the vast increase of calls to the 3rd district, and in my opinion redistricting is in order to substantiated the equalization of runs among the three rescues.

Boxes .....	217	Maternity cases .....	71
Still boxes .....	138	Auto accidents .....	340
Still alarms .....	4,461	Refrigerator leaks .....	5
Special signals .....	46	Ammonia leaks .....	4
Multiple alarms .....	4	Generac .....	1
Out of city .....	1	Hours of drill .....	72
Transportations by rescue	2,388	Flood-lights used .....	1
Referred to ambulances	390	Extra hours .....	23 hrs 6 mins
First-aid rendered .....	386	Out of service .....	1,186 hrs 18mins
E & J machine used .....	111	D.O.A. ....	153
Total runs .....	5,730	Gasoline .....	3,757 gals

Respectfully submitted

*Raymond J. Hald*

Rescue Lieutenant

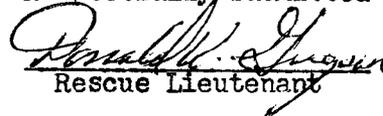
To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report of Rescue Co. No. 3 for the Year 1968

Sir: During the last six months of 1968 an effort was made to decrease the number of runs being made by the Rescue Units. The Rescue Units were to limit their services to emergency cases only. Rescue Co. 3 had a total decrease of 453 alarms. However, 286 of these alarms were Box Alarms and Still Box Alarms.

Box Alarms .....	203	Auto Accidents.....	303
Still Box Alarms .....	64	Elevator Accidents .....	01
Still Alarms .....	2552	Maternity Cases .....	29
Special Signals .....	21	Oxygen Cylinders Used ...	95
Alarms Out Of City .....	00	Scott Air Tanks Used ....	06
Total Alarms .....	2834	Ammonia Leaks .....	01
Times Transported .....	1701	Porto Power Jack Used ...	03
First Aid Rendered .....	1630	Electric Drill Used .....	01
Referred To Private Ambulances	92	Boat Used .....	04
E & J Machine Used .....	183	Extra Hours Of Duty .....	115
Gasoline Used .....	3098 Gals.		
Service Time	1036 Hrs. 55 Mins.		

Respectfully submitted

  
Rescue Lieutenant

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report — Air Supply Station.

Sir: The following is a report of the activities of the Air Supply Station for the year 1968:

1. Surviv-Air Tanks filled.....254
2. Scott Air Tanks filled.....205
3. Special Fire Alarm Tanks filled.....1
4. Dry-Powder Extinguishers filled....98
5. Repairs to Units.....27

As expected, the use of powder extinguishers increased over the previous year. The Air Supply Truck responded to 20 multiple alarms.

Respectfully submitted,

*James G. Sylvia*  
James G. Sylvia, Captain  
Engine Company No. 5



To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report of Salvage Station Operations:

Sir: The following is a report of the Salvage Station Operations for the year 1968. As in past years Ladder Co. 3 is responsible for the inspecting, cleaning, and repairing of salvage covers used by the department.

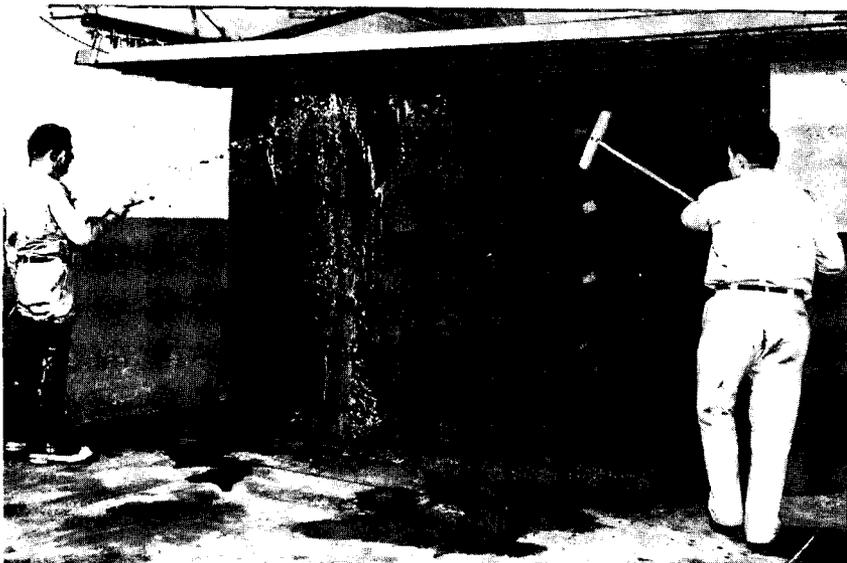
During the past year an improvement was made to the salvage cover drying rack by the Building Repair Department. They bolted each wooden cross member of the drying rack permanently in place, thereby eliminating any danger of the cross member becoming loose and causing an injury to a department member doing maintenance work on the covers.

Ladder Co. 3 was issued six new covers during the year to replace old covers worn beyond repair.

I respectfully suggest that the use of light weight plastic covers be given consideration by the department as a supplement to our regular covers. Their small size when folded, light weight, and low cost might prove advantageous to the department.

The following is a summary of the covers handled by this company during the year 1968.

Salvage covers loaned to companies	547
Salvage covers washed	536
Salvage covers patched	118



Respectfully submitted,

*Robert M. Husey*  
Captain

Cover  
Maintenance

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Foam Tender #1 Activities during 1968:

Sir:

I respectfully report the following statistics regarding Foam Tender #1 during the year of 1968;

Freeway responses to Route 95 and Route 195 with Engine Co. 18 for a total out of service time of 6 hrs. and 47 minutes, and services of the Foam Tender were not required. Above responses totaled 20 times.

February 5, 1968 -- Whitmarsh Street Apartments where 13 gallons of Jet-X were used, and a total out of service time of 1 hr. and 48 min.

March 26, 1968 -- Niagara Street Temple for a period of 4 hrs. and 41 min. and no service was required of Foam Tender.

April 4, 1968 -- Smith Hill Multiple Alarm, where no service was required and a total out of service time of 2 hrs. and 38 min.

July 3, 1968 -- Out of City response with Engine Co. 18 to Blackstone Valley Gas Co., where no service was required and a total out of service time of 3 hrs. and 17 min.

July 25, 1968 -- Responded to the El Rio Fire on Broad Street for a period of 10 hrs. and 43 min. and used 125 gallons of Jet-X Foam.

Foam Tender #1 was out of service for a total of 29 hrs. and 54 min., and used a total of 138 gallons of Jet-X Foam during the year.

Respectfully submitted;

*Gustav Weyl*  
Captain #4



To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Water Pollution Unit Service For The Year 1969:

Sir:

I respectfully report the following complete service for the "Water Pollution Unit" assigned to Engine 18 for the year 1968.

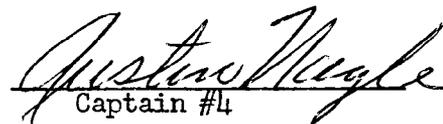
March 9, 1968 - Unit responded to the Sprague Dock for a period of 1 hour and 22 minutes to surround a tanker for an oil spill. Used 1500 feet of flotation collar.

March 16, 1968 - Unit responded @ 6:10 A.M. to Pawcatuck, Connecticut where no service was required. Unit was out of service for a period of 4 hours and 10 minutes.

Relative to above unit, it is respectfully suggested that consideration be given to pre-selected launch sites on the west side of the Providence River, and that each site have a designated identification which would help facilitate the despatching of necessary units at pre-determined areas.

It would also be necessary that we be informed of launch sites on the east side of the Providence River, so that we could efficiently coordinate our efforts with that of the East Providence Fire Department.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Captain #4

# Last Alarm

## RETIRED MEMBERS

George H. Bates	January 8
William R. Cooney	January 24
Joseph F. Trainor, Sr.	February 7
George F. L. Holden	May 11
James E. Kilkenny	May 19
Michael J. Powers	June 13
Edward J. Lester	July 14
Arthur M. Haslehurst	July 30
Walter S. Plummer	September 6
Edwin W. Erickson	September 18
Peter E. King	October 19
Herbert N. Pickles	October 26
Wilfred M. Bresette	October 28
Albert E. Johnson	November 15
Jack E. C. Clark	November 22
John A. Rooney	November 30
Albert H. Eaton	December 30

