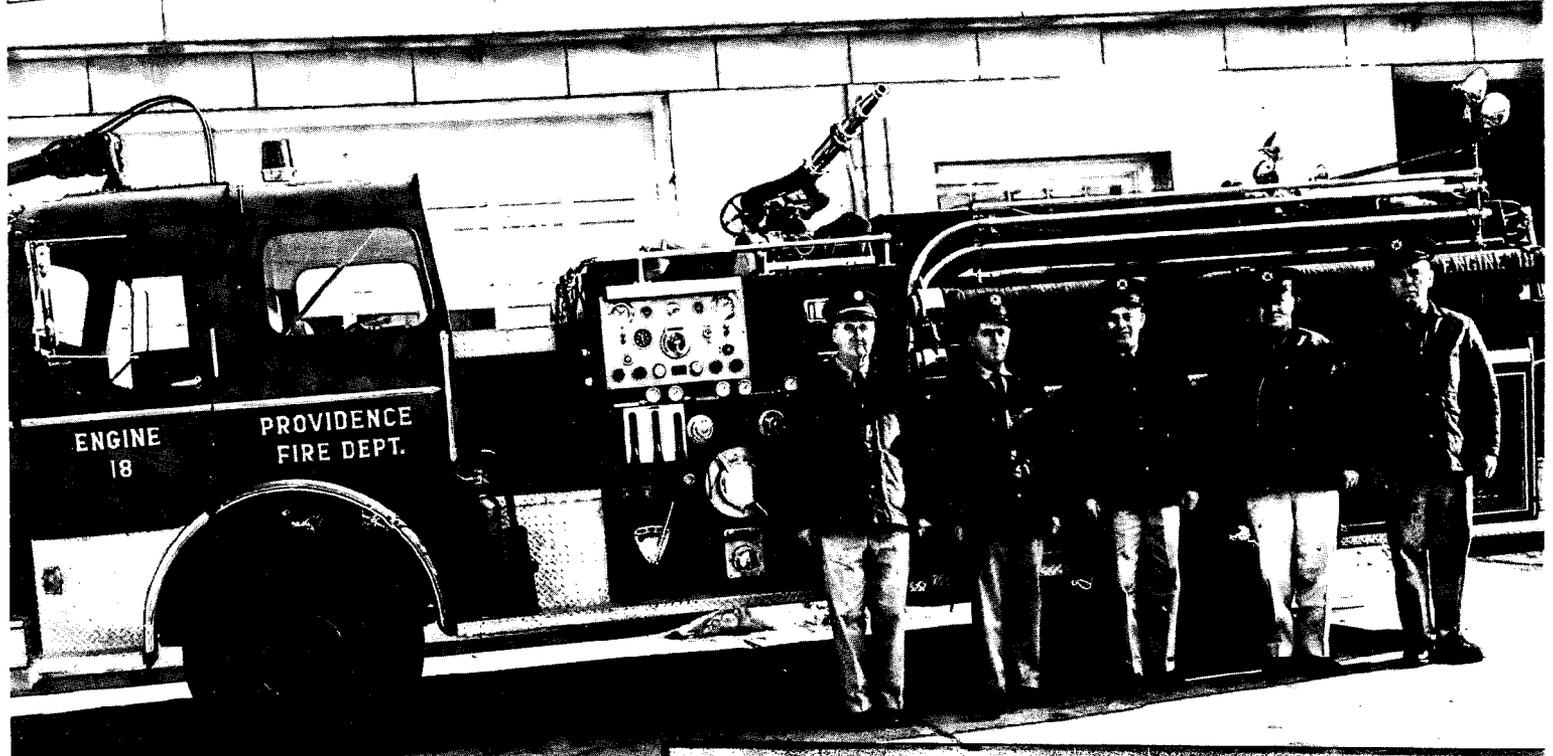
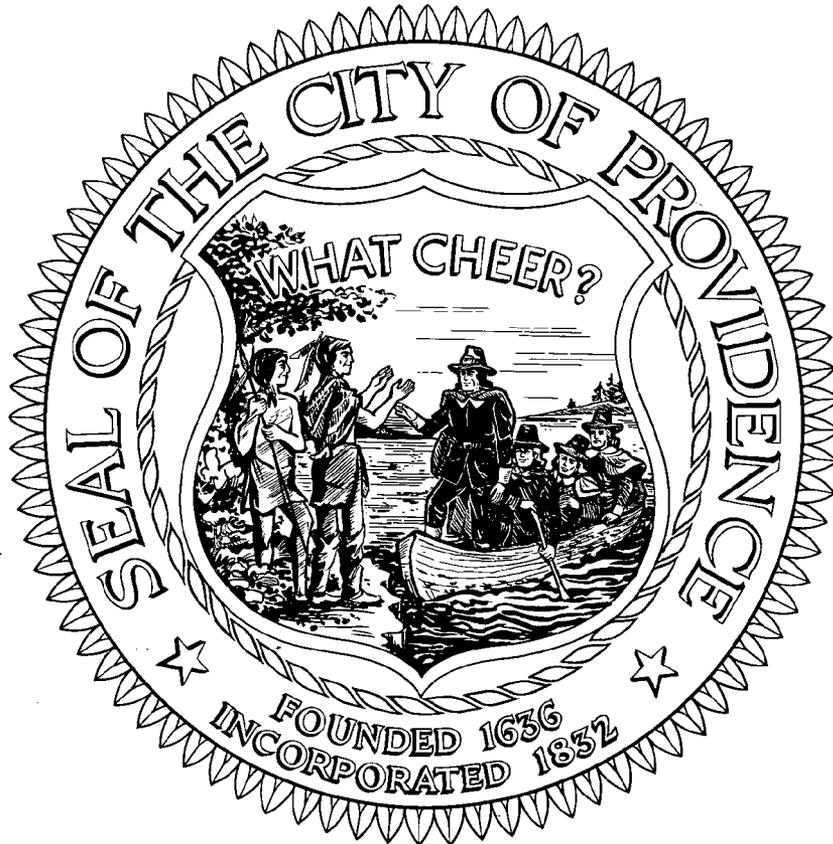




PROVIDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT 1967



IN CITY COUNCIL
MAR 7 - 1968

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
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:

It is my privilege and pleasure to submit for your approval the Annual Report of the Providence Fire Department for the year ending December 31, 1967.

Fire losses for 1967 have again increased as have the national losses. However, Providence was adjudged the 10th best city in the nation and the 2nd best in its class in the contest sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association. This represents an increase in the standing from the previous year and placed Providence in contention for the Grand Award.

Providence continues to be rated a 2A city which is the highest grading awarded to any city in the country by the American Insurance Association.

During 1967 an increase in the number of false alarms was experienced. This problem is confronting every major city across the nation. Measures have been taken by this department and the Police Department to reduce this unnecessary practice without appreciably depleting the protection afforded to the citizens of Providence. It is my hope, that through proper education and cooperation from a public aware of the serious consequences of this dangerous and foolish practice, the number of false alarms will be considerably reduced.

Continued emphasis is placed on fire prevention education, inspection and enforcement with the objective of reducing losses by fire. A new fire prevention code is in the process of being adopted.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all citizens and groups and other city departments who have, in any way, assisted and supported the work of this department.

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 in providing this department with modern apparatus and equipment for efficient firefighting.

I also commend the officers and men of the Providence Fire Department for their loyal and dedicated service to this department and to the citizens of Providence.

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

1967 FIRE LOSS

\$2,867,983.32

1966 FIRE LOSS

\$2,253,723.28

BUILDING FIRES

1967 501

1966 440

FIRES AMOUNTING TO \$2,500. or more

1967 169

1966 129

FIRE FATALITIES

1967 ... 8

1966 ... 7

1967 FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

Box Alarms..... 3,396

Still Box Alarms..... 1,475

Still Alarms..... 2,540

R. I. Electric Protective... 49

Total Fire Calls... 7,460

Rescue Calls..... 11,365

TOTAL CALLS... 18,825

MULTIPLE ALARMS

1967

3rd. alarm fire

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE BLDG.</u>	<u>LOSS</u>
January 30	374 Washington St.	Mercantile	\$ 84,813.80

2nd. alarms fires

February 19	614 Charles Street	Mercantile	\$ 6,018.00
March 5	201 South Main Street	Mercantile	\$ 22,552.00
March 11	62-64 Carpenter Street	Rooming House	\$ 9,000.00
June 27	387 Charles Street	Mercantile	\$452,265.68
June 29	1097 Chalkstone Ave.	Mercantile	\$238,122.93
July 5	63 State Street	Vacant Mfg.	-----
July 9	6-8 Matthews Street	Vacant dwelling	-----
August 23	217-221 Chalkstone Av.	Vacant barn	-----
August 26	233 West Exchange St.	Vacant Mfg.	-----
September 5	52-54 Charles Street	Mercantile	\$ 32,321.00
September 9	141 Westminster St.	Mercantile	\$ 65,470.00
September 25	22 Williams Street	Storage	\$ 80,000.00
October 9	Doyle Avenue School	Vacant	-----
December 31	124-126 Transit Street	Dwelling	\$ 8,150.00

Fatalities caused from fire - 8

CAUSES OF FIRES AND ALARMS
for fires in buildings

Candle - lamp - torch	8
Careless use of matches	19
Careless smoking	88
Careless smoking in bed	16
Cleaning solvent	4
Defective boiler - furnace	9
Defective chimney	6
Defective electric appliance	10
Defective range oil burner	4
Defective space oil heater	9
Defective machinery	1
Defective wiring	11
Dust - lint	1
Food - grease	7
Hot ashes	1
Incendiary	1
Range oil burner - overflow	1
Overheated boiler - furnace	2
Overheated electric flat	1
Overheated tar kettle	2
Rubbish - litter	1
Set by juveniles	151
Short circuit - wires	3
Spark from chimney	2
Spark from motor - machine	1
Spark from rubbish fire	21
Spontaneous combustion	2
Suspicious	54
Miscellaneous	13
Undetermined	52
	<hr/>
	501 TOTAL

OTHER THAN FOR A FIRE IN A BUILDING

False Alarms (Box)	2358	Power oil burner - flareback	5
False Alarms (Still Box)	203	Overheated boiler - furnace	13
False Alarms (Still)	145	Overheated electric motor	21
Accidental - needless	480	Overheated oven	4
Candle - lamp - torch	10	Overheated stove pipe	1
Careless use of matches	14	Overheated tar kettle	1
Careless smoking	60	Rags on pipes, etc.	4
Careless smoking in bed	56	Rubbish - litter	2
Cleaning solvent	4	Set by juveniles	15
Defective boiler - furnace	50	Short circuit - wires	3
Defective chimney	5	Short circuit - electric motor	2
Defective electric appliance	114	Short circuit - television	11
Defective gas stove	11	Soot in chimney	8
Defective gas heater	6	Spark from chimney	2
Defective range oil burner	29	Struck by lightning	2
Defective power oil burner	54	Suspicious	3
Defective portable oil heater	2	Auto - truck - bus, etc.	772
Defective space oil heater	9	Bonfires	120
Defective machinery	6	Bridges	3
Defective wiring	2	Dumps	40
Dust - lint	5	Fence	7
Explosion	1	Grass - brush - leaves	852
Food - grease	83	Junk yard	15
Range oil burner - flareback	8	Lumber yard	2
Range oil burner - overheated	1	Rubbish - litter	1103
Range oil burner - overflow	15	Tree - pole	96
Space oil heater - overflow	1	Oil bomb in street	11
Power oil burner - overflow	2	Miscellaneous	107
		TOTAL	<u>6,959</u>

11,365 Rescue and Emergency Runs

Total building fires	501	
Total other than bldg. fires	<u>6,959</u>	
	7,460	TOTAL ALARMS FOR FIRE
Rescue and emergency runs	<u>11,365</u>	
	18,825	GRAND TOTAL OF ALARMS

RECORD OF ALARMS FOR FIRES IN BUILDINGS

RESIDENTIAL.....	327
NON-RESIDENTIAL.....	19
MERCANTILE.....	72
MANUFACTURING.....	32
STORAGE.....	21
PUBLIC UTILITIES....	0
MISCELLANEOUS.....	30

501 TOTAL

CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

RESIDENTIAL

Apartments	29
Tenements	251
Dwellings	40
Hotels	0
Rooming & Lodging	7
	<u>327</u>

MANUFACTURING

Factories	26
Breweries	0
Canneries	0
Bakeries	1
Laundries	2
Printing	1
Other mfg. & processing	2
	<u>32</u>

NON-RESIDENTIAL

Office buildings	2
Theaters	0
Churches	3
Hospitals	1
Institutions	0
Schools	12
Armories	0
Auditoriums	1
Hall, etc.	0
Banks	0
	<u>19</u>

STORAGE

Warehouses	5
Piers-Wharfs	0
Grain elevators	0
Storage	16
	<u>21</u>

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Power Plants	0
Pump-transformer sta.	0
	<u>0</u>

MERCANTILE

Retail & Wholesale	48
Restaurants	8
Bars & Cafes	8
Repair shops	3
Filling stations	1
Public garages	4
	<u>72</u>

MISCELLANEOUS

Detached private garages and barns	15
All other buildings	15
	<u>30</u>

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	268	12 - 1	290
1 - 2	183	1 - 2	319
2 - 3	131	2 - 3	331
3 - 4	81	3 - 4	478
4 - 5	67	4 - 5	469
5 - 6	31	5 - 6	478
6 - 7	68	6 - 7	513
7 - 8	80	7 - 8	628
8 - 9	150	8 - 9	684
9 - 10	181	9 - 10	724
10 - 11	198	10 - 11	514
11 - 12	213	11 - 12	381
			<u>7,460</u> TOTAL

NUMBER OF ALARMS DURING EACH DAY

Sunday	1,113
Monday	1,017
Tuesday	1,142
Wednesday	1,082
Thursday	956
Friday	1,032
Saturday	1,118
	<u>7,460</u> TOTAL

The following is the statistical summary of the activities of the fire fighting force of the Department for the year ending December 31, 1967.

Working time of companies at fires - 9,834 hours 32 min.
 Working time at dumps - 28 hours 12 min.
 Working time of pumpers at fires - 1,166 hours 21 min.

HOSE LINES USED

Booster No. of lines used	229	Total feet	48,900
1½" hose " " " "	3,119	" "	430,100
2½" hose " " " "	584	" "	124,950
3" hose " " " "	453	" "	94,750

LADDERS USED

Aerial ladders	184	Total feet	40,310
Portable ladders -	1,236	" "	25,664

EXTINGUISHERS USED

Foam	-	9
Soda and acid	-	2
Pump tanks	-	312
Dry chemical	-	87
Carbon dioxide	-	218

OTHER EQUIPMENT

Salvage covers	-	417
Bundles of laths	-	68
Roofing paper-rolls)	-	103
Homelites	-	50
Generators	-	41
Smoke ejector	-	20
Scott Air-Pac	-	37
Survivair	-	43
Sprinkler heads	-	16

EXTRA HOURS AND LOST TIME

Extra hours of duty performed	6,756 hours 37 min.
Time in attendance at drills	1,712 hours 20 min.
Time lost by members through sickness	44,098 hours 40 min.
Time lost by members through injuries	91,583 hours 51 min.
Time lost through family sickness	12,323 hours
Special time granted	2,349 hours 30 min.

INSPECTIONS

RESIDENTIAL

(dwellings, apartments, rooming houses, etc.) 99,857

NON-RESIDENTIAL

(theaters, churches, hospitals, schools, etc.) 1,662

MERCANTILE

(retail stores, restaurants, repair shops, etc.) 621

MANUFACTURING

(factories, bakeries, laundries, etc.) 212

STORAGE

(warehouses, piers, etc.) 65

MISCELLANEOUS

(power plants, pumping stations, etc.) 99

HYDRANTS

36,956

APPROVALS AND PERMITS

Gasoline	102
Garages	51
Dangerous chemicals	34

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

The reserve apparatus consists of 8 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	Ward-LaFrance	1000	November - 1963
" " " 2	LaFrance	750	April - 1952
" " " 3	LaFrance	750	April - 1953
" " " 4	General	750	December - 1953
" " " 5	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 7	LaFrance	750	June - 1952
" " " 8	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 9	LaFrance	1500	December - 1949
" " " 10	Oren	750	September - 1952
" " " 11	Ward-LaFrance	750	April - 1954
" " " 12	LaFrance	750	April - 1950
" " " 14	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	LaFrance Aerial		June - 1942
" " " 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	Maxim Aerial		January - 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	Gerstenslager (1 ton)		August - 1962
Rescue Co. No. 3	Chevrolet panel (1 ton)		February - 1965
Salvage Co. No. 1	International walk-in van		May - 1961

RESERVE APPARATUS AND LOCATION

Reserve Engine No. 2*	At Engine Co. 2	1942
Reserve Engine No. 4	At Engine Co. 4	1927
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	1927
Reserve Engine No. 17*	At Engine Co. 17	1945
Reserve Engine No. 19	At Engine Co. 19	1953
Reserve Engine No. 20	At Engine Co. 20	1953

* New motor installed 1953

Reserve Ladder #3	At Engine Co. 5	1929
Reserve Ladder #4*	At Ladder Co. 4	1927
Reserve Ladder #6	At Engine Co. 18	1927
Reserve Ladder #8**	At Engine Co. 19	1937

* New tractor - 1950

** New tractor - 1947

Reserve Rescue #1	At Ladder Co. 3	1960
Reserve Rescue #2	At Rescue Co. 3	1957

Air Station Truck	At Engine Co. 5	1952
Water Pollution Unit	At Engine Co. 18	1967
Reserve Battalion Chief Sedan	At Repair Shop	1962



APPARATUS

DISTRICT CHIEFS



John F. McDermott



John F. McDonald



Leonard E. Sweeney



Robert D. Walsh



Edwin F. Fay



William F. Kelly



George H. Nowell



Charles J. Gilchrist



John L. Rooney



Lawrence A. Bouchard



John E. McDonald



Thomas M. Kennedy



James F. Coleman



Guido Nutini



Sylvester F. Shea



William P. Kanaczet

FIREFIGHTER

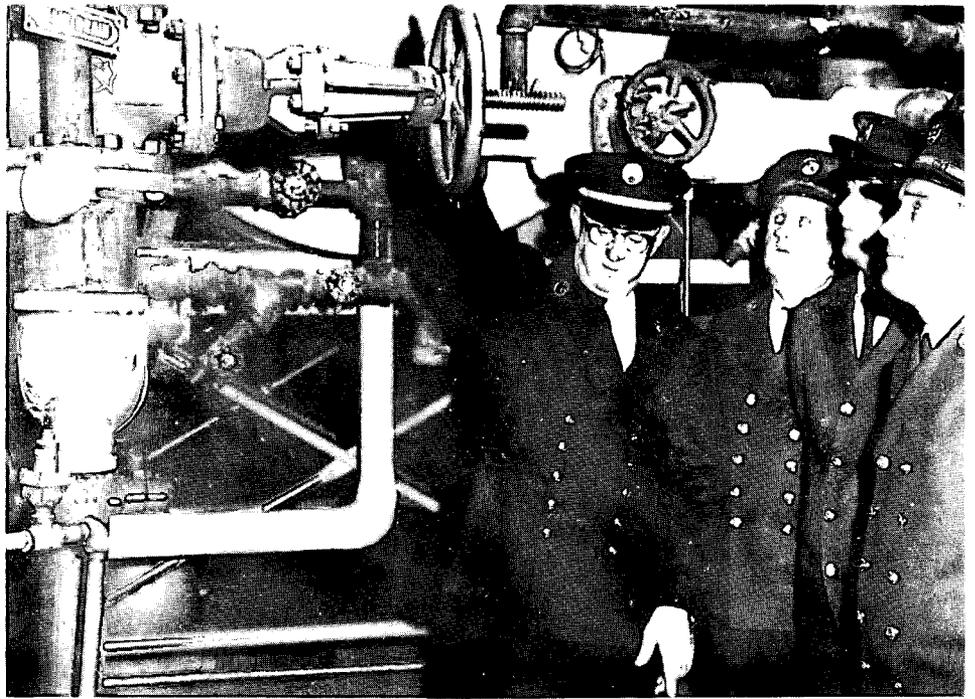


FIREFIGHTING



ACTIVITIES

INDUSTRIAL
INSPECTION



TRAINEES
Class of 1967

SCHOOL CHILDREN
Station visitation



PERSONNEL

Total Department membership as of December 31, 1967 - 472

Appointments.....	25
Retirements.....	11
Resignations.....	6
Promotions.....	14
Transfers.....	36
Commendations.....	0
Reprimands.....	0
Deaths.....	3
Reinstated.....	0

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	Sylvester F. Shea
Joseph A. Mainey	Leonard E. Sweeney
Robert D. Walsh	

James A. Cusick, Superintendent - Automotive Repair Shop

Alfred J. Mello, Superintendent - Fire Alarm Telegraph

Batt. Chief Michael Sabatino, Superintendent - Building Repairs

Raymond A. Kilduff, 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. Elliot M. Durfee
Capt. Richard B. J. Farmer
Capt. George A. Gray
Capt. Henry A. Grzych
Capt. Donald P. Hackett
Capt. Joseph R. Hull
Capt. Alfred F. Leach
Capt. Richard H. Lyons
Capt. John J. Mohan
Capt. Joseph V. Morro

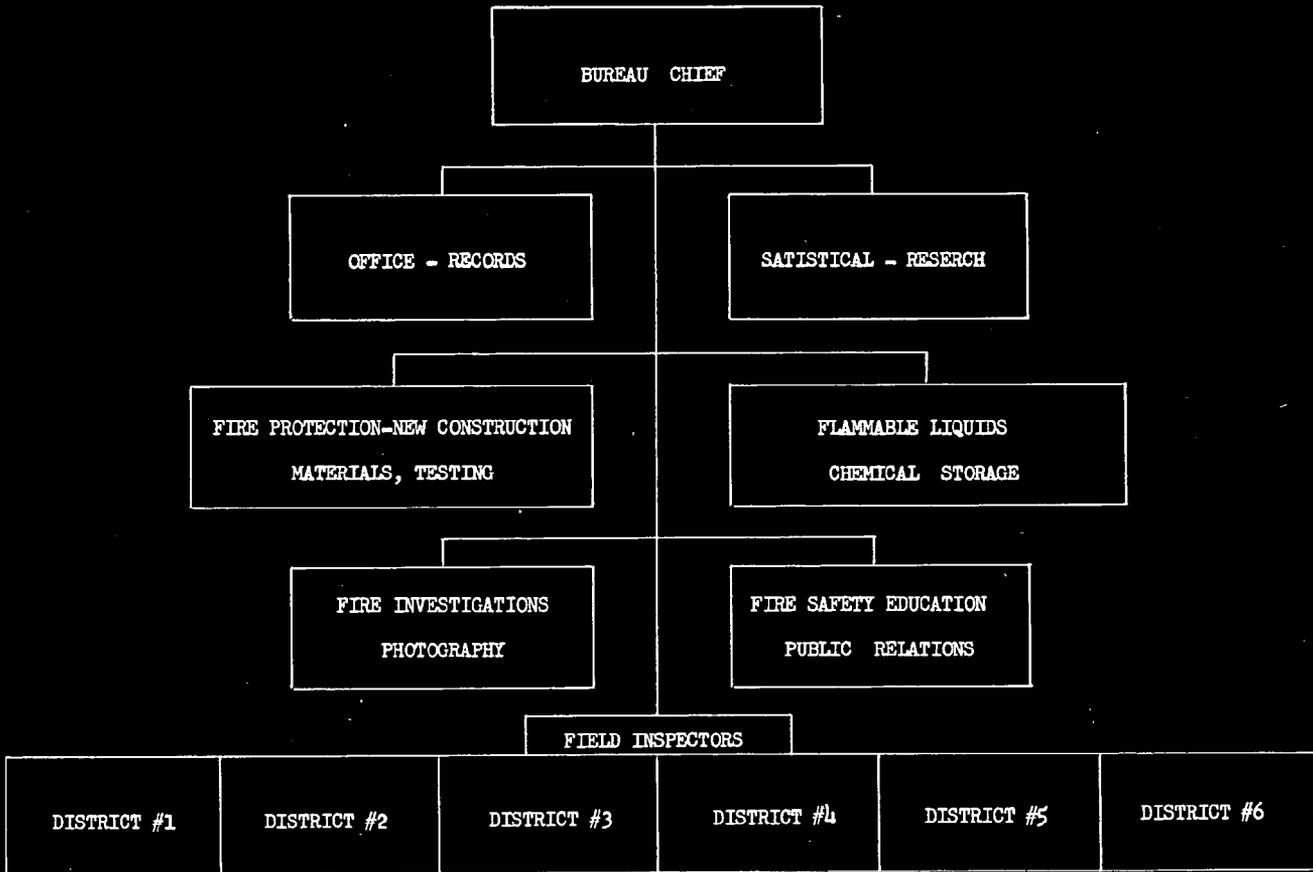
Capt. Clarence B. McCormick
Capt. John B. McGarry
Capt. John F. McGwinn
Capt. Robert M. Murray
Capt. Austin T. Nagle
Capt. Edward T. O'Keefe
Capt. John F. Oliver
Capt. Ettore Patrone
Capt. Robert A. Sullivan
Capt. James J. Sylvia
Capt. George B. Vieweg
Capt. Robert V. Weakley

Lieut. Russell H. Backman
Lieut. Eugene C. Balcom
Lieut. Robert A. Bergeron
Lieut. Alfred D. Boehm
Lieut. Howard W. R. Bucklin
Lieut. James G. Cahill
Lieut. Richard J. Casey
Lieut. Arthur J. Choiniere
Lieut. Frederick C. 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. Edward T. Downing
Lieut. Robert N. Drummond
Lieut. Gastano F. Gaudioso
Lieut. Donald E. Gibson
Lieut. Eugene F. Gilchrist
Lieut. George C. Griffin
Lieut. Joseph B. Healey
Lieut. Thomas M. Horiagon
Lieut. Francis X. Jarvis
Lieut. Raymond T. King

Lieut. John Lamanna
Lieut. William J. Lynch
Lieut. James E. Maher
Lieut. James J. Marley
Lieut. James J. McAllister
Lieut. Owen P. McGurn
Lieut. Charles L. McKenna, Jr.
Lieut. Joseph H. Mitchell
Lieut. Michael F. Moise
Lieut. John J. Mullen
Lieut. Edward F. Nagle
Lieut. Charles W. Oatley, Jr.
Lieut. Emanuel E. Patrone
Lieut. Eugene S. Patrone
Lieut. Robert R. Poudrier
Lieut. Bartholomew E. Quigley
Lieut. John F. Quirk
Lieut. Alfred J. Reall
Lieut. Richard Rebello
Lieut. James J. Roche
Lieut. Salvatore F. Santoro
Lieut. Anthony V. Sauro
Lieut. Walter R. Sheridan
Lieut. James H. Wall
Lieut. Robert Walker
Lieut. Bernard J. Waters

1967

BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION
ORGANIZATION CHART



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report - 1967.

Sir:

It is our pleasure to transmit, herewith, the 1967 Annual Report.

A single change in the personnel of this bureau took place on May 28, 1967, at which time the undersigned, Battalion Chief, John T. McLaughlin, was transferred from the fire fighting force, to this bureau.

Of the many activities of this bureau, a program of great significance was the "Operation Demolition" program, inaugurated by Mayor Doorley, the results of which are most promising and ultimately will rid the city of hazardous and dilapidated buildings, mostly dwellings that could never be rehabilitated. This not only eliminates fire hazards but has a great bearing on beautifying the city.

This bureau has also been hard pressed to keep abreast of the new construction within the city, amounting to approximately fifty million dollars. It being virtually impossible to eliminate all combustible materials in these buildings, inclusion of effective fire extinguishing equipment must be considered to comply with the fire codes; namely, hydrants, sprinklers, standpipes and portable extinguishing equipment.

A program of material testing has been enlarged upon. This was brought about by the advancement of chemistry which produces new products. The tests are carried out in the interest of public safety. The exorbitant number of fatal and non-fatal burns annually from wearing apparel fires has caused the United States Congress to establish new flammability standards which are now being acted upon. It is indicative by this action that the importance of affording the public protection against fatalities of this nature has been realized.

Through the cooperation of the Providence Police, Bureau of Criminal Identification, two of our inspectors were schooled in the art of photography. This allowed us to utilize the photographic equipment which was previously assigned to this bureau and idled by the resignation of our former photographer.

An integral, and satisfying aspect, of our Fire Prevention effort is our program in the field of Fire Safety Education and Public Relations. We have attempted to utilize every possible media of contact in maintaining an awareness in the minds of the public, of

the danger of apathy and carelessness, as the main contributors to the loss of life and property through fire.

Our Fire Safety Education Program in the schools of Providence continues to be utilized as a pilot program by many cities throughout the nation. It is conducted in all of the schools of the City of Providence on both primary and secondary levels.

In 1959, the Sears-Roebuck Foundation ventured into the field of fire prevention education in the schools, and selected for their pilot programs, the cities of Providence and Philadelphia. A grant of money was allocated by the foundation to the Providence Fire Department to augment our elementary Junior Fire Department Program. This grant made it possible to implement a program with an entirely new concept and much more comprehensive in scope.

Supervisory personnel of both our public and parochial schools assisted us in preparing a feasible and effective program of personal involvement by the children. A program whereby room projects and auditorium presentations on fire prevention would be integrated into the regular subject curriculums. In other words, room and auditorium presentations by fire department personnel would be supplementary to an existing program. Fire Prevention Education would no longer be a once-a-year proposition on the occasion of an annual visitation by fire department personnel.

In our first year of operation, grades 4, 5, and 6 were sworn in as Junior Firemen in all of our public, private and parochial schools. The following year, grades 1 through 4 were sworn in. In a period of two years, approximately all children were in the Junior Fire Department Program. This represented about 26,000 children. The Sears-Roebuck Foundation Grant made it possible to purchase the necessary literature, badges, printed materials, certificates of merit, award banners, incentive awards, etc., for the program.

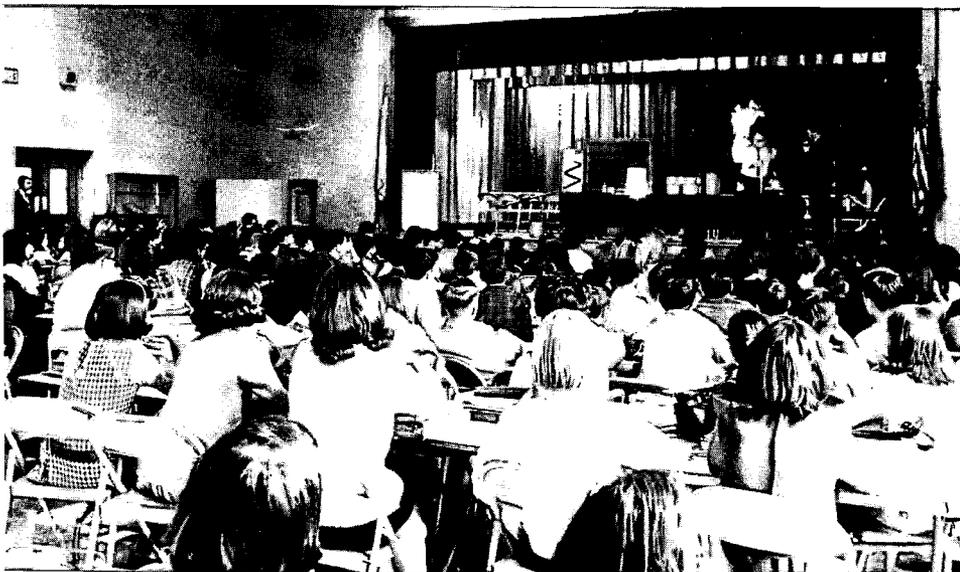
Each year, in the month of December, we kick off our Junior Fire Department Program with an annual recognition luncheon, the last of which was held December 19, 1967. This was the ninth annual luncheon, commemorating the Sears-Roebuck Foundation's sponsoring of our program, and the people who have worked to make it a success. This luncheon affords us the opportunity to say thank you to the representatives of our school and youth organizations; press, radio and television; the Fire Safety committee of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce; business and industry; our own fire department personnel who pitch in and make this program go, and to the Sears-Roebuck Foundation who has made it all possible.

An organization chart of this bureau has been drawn up and made part of this report. To properly carry out the prevention duties

as set forth in Chapter 1617 of the ordinances of the City of Providence, and to maintain its effectiveness, an increase in personnel is needed.

The present shortage was brought about by non-replacement of personnel who have terminated their services with this bureau, such as deaths and retirements which reduced the membership of this bureau to nine, from a previous complement of thirteen. At present we are operating on a priority basis, carrying out assigned duties in the order of their importance.

It should be noted that fires of suspicious origin are on the increase. To properly handle this type of investigation, this bureau could benefit to a great extent if arrangements could be made to have one of our inspectors receive training at a college certified to teach arson investigation. Consideration of both this request and the adjustment of personnel are respectfully submitted for your consideration.



Fire Prevention
Demonstration

Questioning Suspect



RECAP OF FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ACTIVITIES FOR 1967

INVESTIGATION (COMPLAINTS RECEIVED)

Complaints corrected	350
Complaints unjustified	20
Buildings razed	98
Buildings repaired	8
Referred to Health Department	11
Referred to Building Director	71
Referred to Electrical Dept.	11
Request of occupants	59
Defective chimney-smoke pipe and heating plant	1
Fire escapes-panic bolts etc.	4
Obstructed exits	10
Open exposures	22
Burning rubbish	39
Rubbish conditions corrected	47

FIRES

Fires investigated	1616
Suspicious fires	43
Referred to Juvenile Division	18
Fire losses investigated	211
Court cases	6

PLACES OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY

Bingos	190
--------	-----

INSPECTIONS (REGULAR)

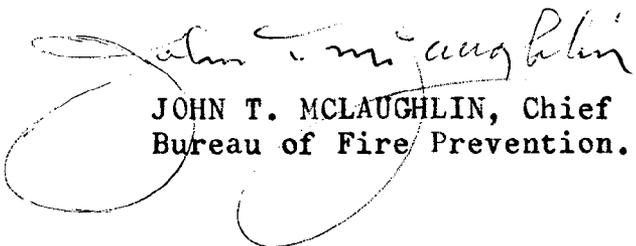
Original inspections	571
Re-inspections	926
Theaters	27
Convalescent homes	6
Nursing homes	2
Homes for children	107
Hospitals	9
Schools	63
Orphanages	1
Storage of vehicles	35
Gasoline applications	17
Gasoline tanks	141
Storage of fuel oil-bulk	5
Dangerous chemical applications	170
Fire escapes	190

DEMONSTRATIONS-LECTURES, etc.

Demonstrations	150
" attendance at	38,545
Moving picture showings	87
" " attendance at	16,778
Lecture - talk	312
" " attendance at	50,987
Conferences attended	118
Radio broadcasts	21
Television broadcasts	11
Fire drills conducted	83
Tape recordings made	29

MISCELLANEOUS

No smoking signs issued	698
Photographs taken	855
Extra hours worked	402 $\frac{1}{4}$
Pamphlets distributed	123,082
Books distributed	3,015
Posters distributed	5,120
Public displays set up	35


 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, 1967.

The year opened with this Division making preparations for the 26th. class of Trainees. After the physical examination and adaptability test, twenty five candidates were selected for this class. It was convened on January 16, 1967. This class was engaged in classroom and drill yard evolutions until April 15, 1967 at which time the trainees were placed in the advanced stage of training within the Department.

As you are aware the personnel of this Division is called upon by outside interests. On Tuesday March 14, 1967, The Director of this Division served on a promotional evaluation Board for the City of Cranston. On April 13th. it was my privilege to speak to the Boys Guidance Class at Roger Williams Jr. High School in regards to careers in the fire department.

The annual hose test which is conducted by this division commenced on May 8th. and was concluded on May 19, 1967. All the hose in the department was tested according to American Insurance Association standards. The manpower to conduct these tests were from the 26th. school of trainees. A detailed report of the results of this test has been forwarded to you.

After discussion with you regarding the manpower situation in the department and upon orders from you, this Division proceeded to start operation for another class of Trainees. Advertisements were placed in the Providenc Journal and the Evening Bulletin for candidates for the 27th. school. A written competitive examination was held on Tuesday, May 23rd. 1967 at Division Quarters. After processing the applicants, sixteen men were chosen for entrance into this class which convened on Monday, July 31, 1967

On July 13, 1967 the twenty five members of the 26th. school, having completed their advanced stage of training were presented to the Commissioner of Public Safety to be sworn in as third grade privates in the department.

The annual tests for all pumpers in the department commenced on September 11, 1967 and was completed on October 4, 1967. A detailed report of the results of these tests has been forwarded to you. I would be remiss if at this time I did not mention that some consideration should be given to the replacement of our older pumps.

During Fire Prevention Week, this Division in co-operation with the Bureau of Fire Prevention held two demonstrations. On October 9, personnel of the Training Division were used at St. Joseph's Hospital showing rescue

practices from a roof utilizing Ladder Tens Aerial ladder. On October 12th. the entire school of trainees were used in showing climbing practices involving two aerial ladders and a mock building fire was extinguished. The latter demonstrations were held on Kennedy Plaza.

On October 29, 1967 the sixteen members of the 27th. training class, having completed their first stage of training, entered into their advanced (station assignment). The two classes of trainees that were conducted by this division this year totaled forty one men.

On November 14, 1967 the members of this Division conducted a flow test on all hydrants at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Davis Park. This test was held at the request of the assistant fire protective officer.

At this writing and acting under orders from you, we are currently processing applications for a Lieutenant school which will convene on or about March 11, 1968. In projecting our manpower needs may I recommend at this time that the Lieutenants school be followed by a Captains school and in order to maintain our manpower that we institute two training classes in the year of 1968.

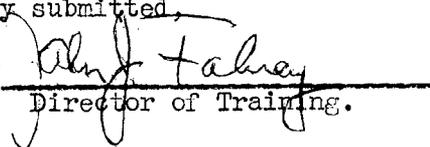
In further projecting manpower needs for the year 1968, I bring to your attention that in the coming year ten men will retire because of the attainment of the mandatory retirement age and ten other men will become eligible for pension by reason of twenty five years of service.

It is also the intent of this Division to conduct a training program for the entire personnel of the department to the use and application of high expansion foam.

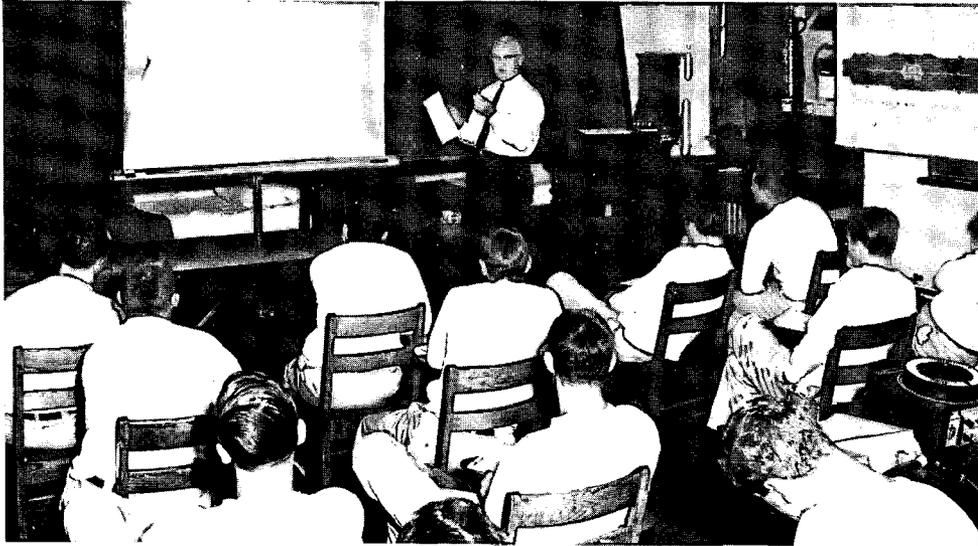
This Division maintains the personnel records of members of the department, prepare and mimeograph various forms and reports used in the fire department and in compliance with the rules and regulations, the staff has been in attendance at all multiple alarms of fire in the city in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Batt. Chief

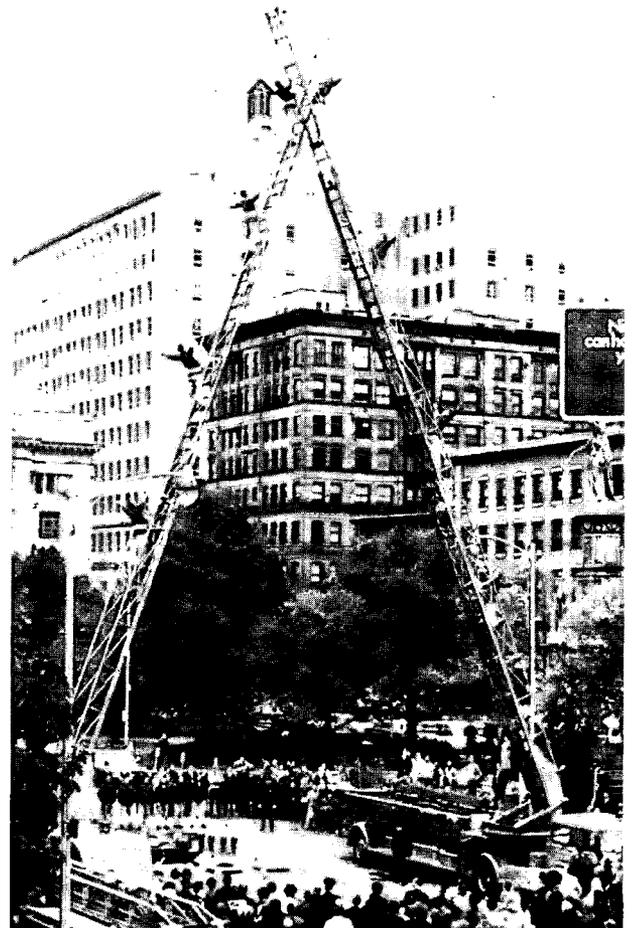

Director of Training.

Trainee Class 1967



Classroom
Instruction

Trainees Drill





FIRE ALARM

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report - Bureau of Operations and Control

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. Beside the receiving of calls and the dispatching of apparatus, the members of the Bureau of Operations and Control are required to test all Fire Alarm Circuits and instruments three times during each 24 hour period.

The following is a break-down of all types of Alarms received in the year 1967 compared with the previous year:

	Box Alarms	-Still Boxes	- Still Alarms	- R.I.E.P. Alarms	-Rescue	-Lockouts
<u>1967</u>	3396	1475	2540	49	11,365	889
<u>1966</u>	2173	1304	2631	55	10,589	910

The total number of emergencies received by this office and re-transmitted to the Department during 1967 was 18,825 compared with 16,747 during 1966. This total does not include the lockouts. This increase is largely due to the additional Rescue calls and a better than %50 increase in the number of Box Alarms for the year.

With this tremendous increase in the number of Box Alarms it is also quite alarming to note the number that are reported to have been false. This seems to be a national trend that is sweeping the country. This office has just recently sent in a questionnaire to a leading National Agency that is currently doing reasearch on this subject and trying to find a solution for it. Here in Providence we are trying a method that is presently recommended by leaders in this field, that is, sending the first due Engine Company and a Chief Officer on all boxes that have a reputation of being False Alarm Boxes. The logic behind this is that it eliminates the large display of apparatus and the noise of total apparatus response and could possibly discourage the offenders.

Our 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.

Again this year I would like to comment also on the increase in the number of Rescue calls, an increase of nearly 800 calls. I firmly believe that this service is being abused. If the citizens could be enlightened as to the type of service that the Rescue Squads are equipped to handle and the purpose of the Rescue Companies, I feel that this ever increasing yearly total could be reversed and if such a program could be continued, the total runs of the Rescue units could be reduced considerably.

Members of the Bureau of Operations and Control are responsible for maintaining records of all alarms and tests conducted by the Fire Alarm Personnel and the American Service Company which tests all of the Public Schools. Also this Division is responsible for the handling of all inter-departmental calls on the Department Switchboard.

It is hopefully anticipated at this time that ground work will be started for installation of new equipment in the Bureau in the coming year. If this should come to pass, it will be several months before work can be completed, however, when the work is completed we will have just about the most up-to-date facility of its kind in the whole New England area.

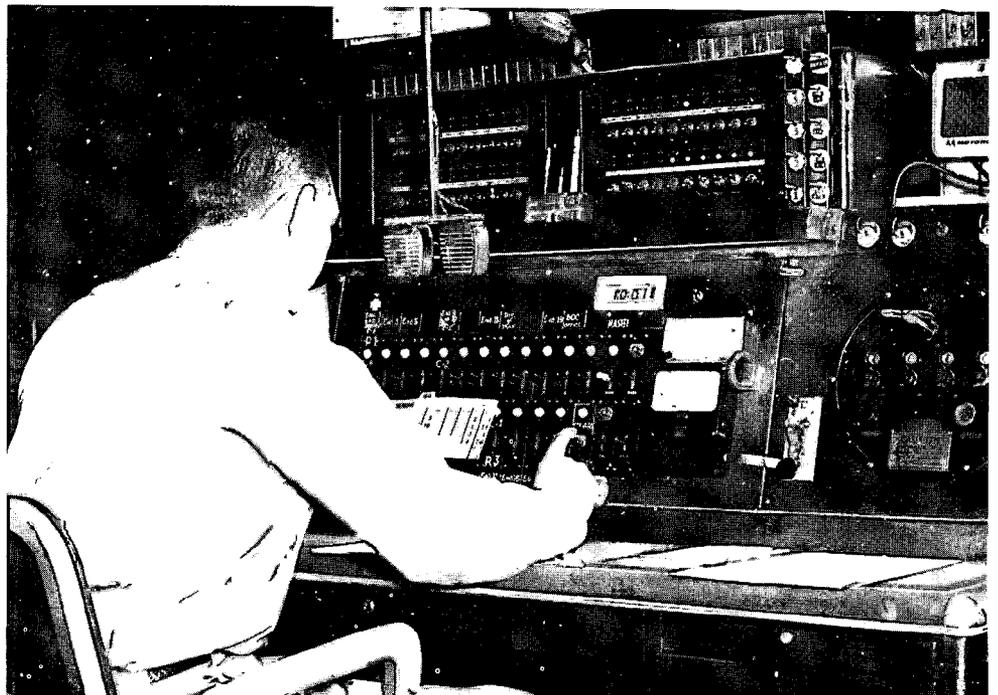
I would like to thank all of the Officers and members of the Bureau of Operations and Control, who by their diligence to duty have made my task a lot easier. I also commend them for the way that they have handled all calls with courtesy and efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred J. Vello
Superintendent of Fire Alarm

Bureau of
Operational Control



To: The Chief of Department.

Subject: Annual Report, Fire Alarm Division (1967)

Sir: The principal duty of the Fire Alarm Division is that of maintaining the existing fire alarm system in the best working order so that the receipt and the transmission of alarms or other emergencies can be handled with ease and a minimum of confusion.

The following is a break-down of the current inventory of fire alarm boxes in the city compared with the previous year:

Private Boxes	<u>1967</u> 325	<u>1966</u> 316	<u>Increase</u> 9
Public (Street) Boxes	<u>689</u>	<u>688</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals:	<u>1014</u>	<u>1004</u>	<u>10</u>

Again this year there has been another increase in the number of Private Boxes. A great deal of interest is being created by Insurance Companies and Private Industries to directly connect their sprinkler systems to the Fire Alarm circuits. The cost of these new installations is the responsibility of the property owners involved.

During 1967 this division installed about 10,000' of new aerial line wire. This footage represents some new installations, but most of it was used to replace old wire. It is a practice of this division to do this yearly. Also, all trees in the paths of our aerial circuits were trimmed to avoid short circuits and high ground readings on the circuits. In addition to aerial wire, approximately 2800' of underground cable was installed in our cable replacement program.

Approximately one half of all the Public Fire Boxes and Police Call Boxes were painted in the past year.

In last years report I mentioned the fact that this division is experimenting with a new type of pedestal. We now have 14 in service and so far, with excellent results. They are light in weight and can be handled by one man, the initial cost is on a par with the old type and because of the type of metal there is no maintenance required.

Last year was the first time in many years that new fire alarm boxes were installed in a replacement program. It is the intent of the Division to continue this program so that over a period of years the entire system will be made up of the new 3 fold boxes. The Police Telegraph system was completed last year and now contains all of the modern type boxes. This has proven to be very satisfactory in view of the minimum amount of trouble calls due to failures of this equipment.

During the year 1967 the Department Radio Network was completely private-lined adding considerably to the efficiency of the Bureau of Operational Control. Prior to this time we have been plagued by interference from the New York City Fire Department which operated on the same assigned frequency as ours. During certain types of atmospheric conditions, New York was coming into our office as loud as our local units making it very difficult for the operators. Private-lining of the equipment was our solution to this problem.

Last year we had fourteen pedestals knocked down by vehicles throughout the city. All of these were put in service by this division within a few short hours. We have never left a Public Street Box out of service as a result of it being hit by an auto.

All of the Public Boxes were tested at least once each month. This is a continuous job of one of the members of the division.

Throughout the year this division performed a considerable amount of electrical work and installations. We are responsible for the maintenance and installation of electrical appliances in all of the buildings of the Public Safety Division. This division is also responsible for repairing of extension cords, hand lights and many assorted appliances used throughout our Department.

During the month of October it became necessary to discontinue the Fire Alarm Trouble man on a 24 hour basis. This was necessary because of the manpower shortage at the Fire Alarm Garage at that time and the shorter work week that came in effect at that time for members of the Fire Department. We now have one member on days working a regular 5 day week performing the functions of the Trouble man. Other members of the Division are on call to fill in if necessary during off-duty hours.

During the past year the City of Providence has applied for, and been granted permission from the Federal Communications Commission to tie into the Inter-city Radio network for cities and towns in the greater Providence area. This radio network operates on a frequency of 154.280 mc. At this time we are anticipating going in service on this network with a 25 watt base station in the near future.

I would like at this time to repeat my statement from last years report regarding the Central Office Equipment. It goes without saying that it is most imperative that the city refurbish the building and purchase new Central Office Equipment this year. Our Switchboard has given us no end of trouble and is fast approaching the stage where repairs will no longer be able to be made. Also some of our alarm boards are getting to the point where their reliability cannot be depended upon.

As Superintendent of the division, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of the members for their continued cooperation in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,


Alfred J. Nello



Michael E. Sabatino
Battalion Chief, Building Repairs

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 1967.

This department is responsible for the maintenance, repairs 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, redecorating and renovating accomplished during the year 1967.

Painting was done at the following fire stations: Admiral Street, all overhead doors and flag staffs, the apparatus floor ceiling at the Atwells Avenue Fire Station and painting and stencelling of two hundred wooden police horses. Painting is now in the process of being completed in the Division of Training, Traffic Division, Business Office and the hallways at Headquarters.

The Commissioner's office was remodeled and new office quarters were made on the third floor of the Police Department. Numerous new locks were installed

throughout the Police Department. A new formica counter top was made and installed at the Brook Street Fire Station. Flooring was re-enforced at the Mount Pleasant Avenue Fire Station. New doors were made and installed at the Point Street Fire Station, Ladder 10's quarters. A new sidewalk was installed at the Mount Pleasant Fire Station including the widening of the rear yard for better parking facilities.

Remodelling of the newly purchased truck for the Police Department to recruit new members has been completed. Alterations for the new truck purchased for the C Squad including all new gun boxes have been completed and installed in all new cruisers, which have been purchased for the Police Department. Hot water heaters have been installed by this department in various stations to shutdown the main heating system for a savings of fuel oil consumption to the City of Providence. Aqa-Clear feeders to prevent rust and deterioration in the heating system at various stations has been accomplished by this department. The erection and removal of the Christmas Display at City Hall was completed by this department.

The quarters for Engine 3, Franklin Street, was eliminated from active fire duty and this department went into service at Headquarters, LaSalle Square. In addition, Rescue 1 was moved from Headquarters, LaSalle Square, to their present quarters at North Main and Meeting Street Fire Station. Roto-Rooter service was needed in many sewer lines at various Police and Fire Stations, which were serviced by this department. There were also many repairs to gasoline pumps, which are in need of replacement due to their worn-out condition. Numerous Trane Valves and Air Valves were replaced at various stations. All boilers were cleaned; oil burners were adjusted, and Fusol was added to all fuel tanks. Water coolers were serviced by this department, since they were acquired by the City of Providence. Air-condition units are

installed and removed yearly for the Police and Fire Departments. 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. In addition, all overhead doors were oiled and greased. A considerable amount of formica work was accomplished at the Carpenter Shop and transferred to the designated places in the Police and Fire Stations for installation. This department was also called upon to make a numerous amount of repairs throughout the City of Providence.

During this year 1967, the following work was initiated and completed at the Carpenter Shop:

Two wooden desks were repaired.

One 17 ft. hose rack was made for Ladder 1.

Forty Windsor Chairs were repaired and refinished.

Fourteen typewriter tables were made.

200 wooden police horses were made, painted and stenciled for the Police Department.

100 Dog license poster boards.

Nine map frames.

Forty clip boards.

Twenty-four frames for the Pistol Range.

106 ladderstraps were made.

Four boxes were made to carry hot water.

Four metal office desks were repaired.

One gas mask box.

Ten creepers were repaired and repainted.

Sixteen new bulletin boards were made.

Twelve window screens were repaired.

Two screen doors were repaired.

Sixty picture frames with glass.

Six hand light boxes.

Three gate valve boxes.

Six wheat light boxes.

Sixty-one typewriter tables were repaired and repainted.

Two gun cabinets were built for the Police Department,

Nine collapsible hurdles for the Canine Corp.

Thirty-six sliding pole enclosures were made and installed.

Twenty-four door closures were repaired.

Ninety-four lights of glass were installed at various stations.

1650 ft. of rope was replaced on ladders.

1400 ft. of new ladders were sanded and varnished.

165 ft. of new ladders was made.

Ninety axes were sharpened.

100 "night sticks".

Thirty-six "riot sticks".

One box for Survive Air Masks.

One Box for Scott Air Packs.

New handles were applied to the following:

31 hammers 1 sledge hammer

2 picks 9 squeegee

7 shovels 104 ax handles

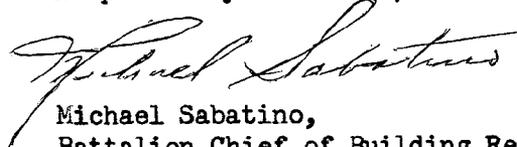
2 pullover racks

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.

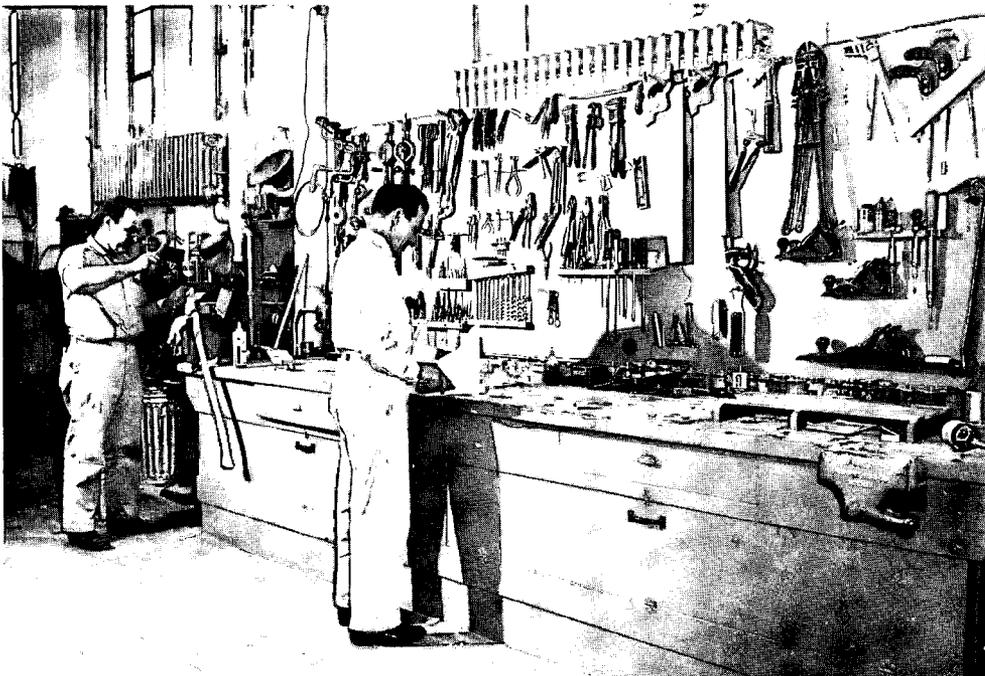
All lawns were top-dressed, fertilized and reseeded, including the Police Pistol Range in Scituate. All lawn equipment is maintained and distributed by this department. Mattresses, lockers, new desks, Windsor chairs and swival desk chairs are distributed by this department.

During Fire Prevention Week, we render considerable assistance to the Fire Prevention Bureau. We are also called upon to hang banners for various organizations throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Sabatino,
Battalion Chief of Building Repairs.





AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS

JAMES A. CUSICK
Superintendent

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report-1967

Sir: The following report of operations of the Automotive Repair Division during the past year is respectfully submitted for your consideration and approval.

During the year as in the past this division has been responsible for the maintenance and repair of all mobile units in the department as well as all portable pumping and lighting units. Repairs and modifications to various fire fighting tools and equipment were performed by our staff, also minor body repairs and repainting. Major repairs have been accomplished at the Repair Shop. Minor repairs, lubrications and inspections have been accomplished at both Company Quarters and the Repair Shop. Many on the scene repairs have been made at fires and other emergencies. We have been in attendance at the annual hose tests and tests of pumping units.

Three civilian mechanics were hired during this period to bring our roster up to full strength. We now have a roster consisting of one Superintendent, one Assistant Superintendent, three Fireman-mechanics, six Civilian-mechanics, and one Building custodian. A twenty four hour, seven day weekly schedule is maintained by our mechanics to insure prompt response to any mechanical failure, multiple alarm fire or other emergency.

New equipment received, equipped and placed in service is as follows, one sedan for Fire Prevention Bureau, one sedan, one pickup truck and one compact van for Fire Alarm Division, one pickup truck for Repair Shop and one truck assigned to Engine 18 as Water Pollution Unit.

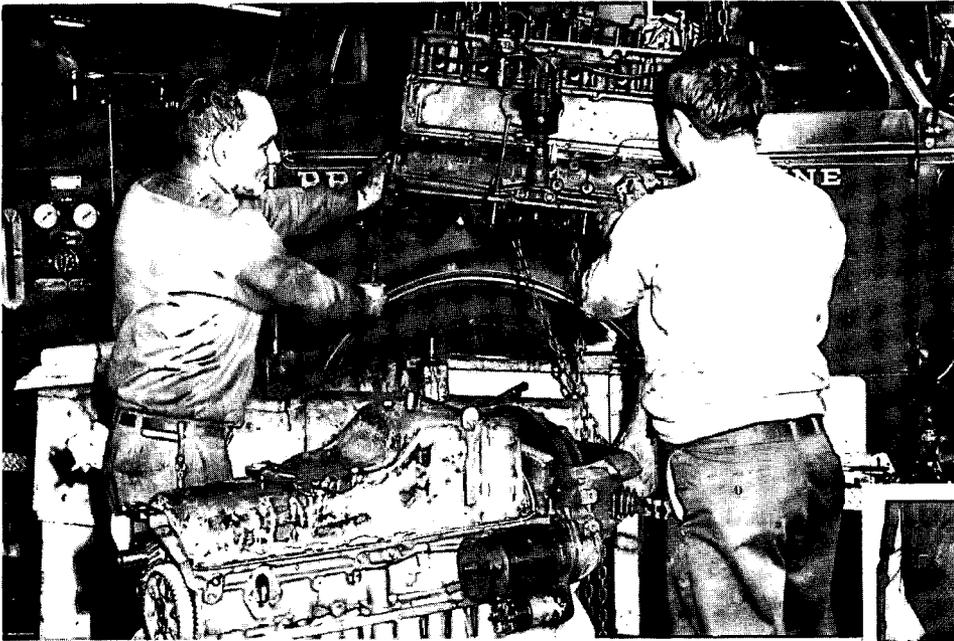
A 1950 Ford truck formerly assigned as Tender 9 was modified, equipped and placed in service as Foam Tender 1 and assigned to Engine 18. A 1952 Chevrolet pickup truck formerly assigned as Auxiliary Engine 18 was modified and assigned to Engine 5 as Air Station Truck to be used for transporting air tanks to and from fires and other emergencies. A Ford pickup truck assigned to the Repair Shop has been equipped with a gasoline tank and pump. This unit is for use in transporting fuel to apparatus at multiple alarm fires and other emergencies where extra fuel may be needed.

Two new one thousand gallon per minute pumpers have been ordered and delivery is expected at an early date. One ladder truck with a defective motor of a type no longer built by the manufacturer has been repowered with a new Diesel engine.

During this period three obsolete pumpers were stripped of usable parts and equipment and disposed of.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Curick



AUTOMOTIVE
REPAIRS



RESCUE
OPERATIONS

RESCUE

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Annual Report of Rescue Co. No. 1 for the Year Ended December 31, 1967

Sir:

On August 8, of the past year, Rescue Company No. 1 completed twenty-five years of service. During this period, the Company answered 36,894 calls. Of this total, 17,546 (47.5%) were in the last five years. For the calendar year 1967, the total was 4,140, for an increase of 12.3% over the year 1966.

Boxes	204	D.O.A.	139
Still Boxes	285	Auto Accidents	314
Still Alarms	3617	Refused aid	281
Special Signals	34	Maternity Cases	30
2nd Alarms	0	Elevator Accidents ...	7
Total Runs	4140	Refrigerator Leaks ...	1
		Gas Leaks	4
Transported by Rescue .	2311	Generac Used	9
First Aid Rendered	879	Floodlights Used	7
E & J Machine Used	70	Boat Used	5

*Oxygen "K" Cylinders Used .. 18

Gasoline Used

3377 Gals.

Service Time . 1338 Hrs. 36 Min.

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

Respectfully submitted,



To: The Chief of Department

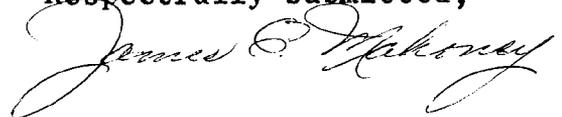
Subject: Annual Report - 1967.

Sir:

Total runs for this year is 5,454, an increase of 743 runs over last year.

Boxes.....	361	Maternity cases.....	84
Still boxes.....	338	People transported.....	2,715
Still alarms.....	4,604	Oxygen cylinders used..	130
Special signals.....	34	Generac.....	5
2nd. alarms.....	0	Lights.....	5
3rd. alarms.....	1	Electric drill.....	1
First aid rendered..	3,625	Electric saw.....	2
E & J machine.....	138	Auto accidents.....	320
Revivals.....	138	Elevators.....	1
Fatals.....	0	Cave-ins.....	0
Refrigerator leaks..	5	Hangings.....	0
Ammonia leaks.....	1	Kwik Kut.....	0
Drownings.....	0	Hours of drill.....	72
Water rescues.....	0	Hours of instruction...	23
Boat used.....	1	Extra hrs. of duty.....	506 hrs. 22 min.
Porta power.....	1	Total runs.....	5,454
Out of service.....	2,036 hrs. 16 min.		

Respectfully submitted,



To: The Chief of Department.

Subject: Annual Report.

Sir:

The following is a report of the activities of Rescue Co. No. 3 for year ending 1967.

Box Alarms-----	271	Auto Accidents-----	267
Still Box Alarms-----	282	Elevator Accidents-----	05
Still Alarms-----	2715	Maternity Cases-----	11
Special Signals-----	18	Oxygen Cylinders Used-----	149
2nd Alarms-----	06	Generator Used-----	06
3rd Alarms-----	00	Lights(500W)-----	20
E&J Machine Used-----	160	Smoke Ejector Used-----	02
Revivals-----	121	Gas Leaks-----	03
Fatals-----	39	Ammonia Leaks-----	00
Refrigerator Leaks-----	08	Porto Power Jack Used-----	01
Water Rescues-----	00	Hours of Drill-----	86
Boat Used-----	04	Extra Hours of Duty-----	243
First Aid Rendered-----	1943	Total Alarms-----	3287
Transportations-----	1768	Increase From 1966-----	434
Total Time out of Service.		1214 Hours and 19 Minutes.	

Respectfully Submitted,

Manuel Sylvia
Private In Charge

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, quartered at Engine Company, No. 5, for the year 1967.

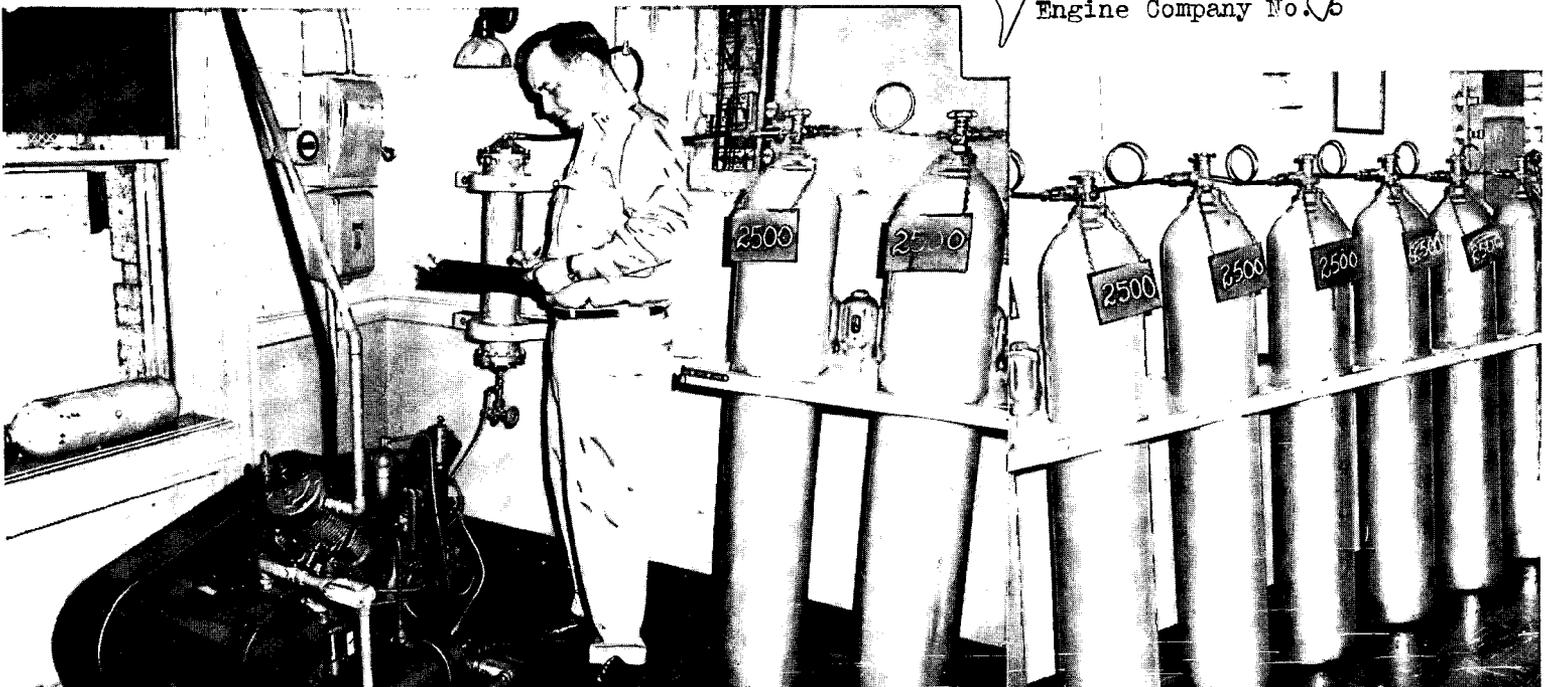
1. Surviv-Air Tanks filled.....241.
2. Scott Air Tanks filled.....179.
3. Dry-Powder Extinguishers filled....79.
4. Special Fire Alarm Tanks filled.....3.
5. Repairs to Units.....30.

As anticipated, there has been a continual increase in the use of breathing equipment each year. It is also interesting to note that there was a great increase in the use of dry-powder extinguishers in 1967.

During, and immediately after, the tragic Mt. Pleasant Hardware fire, Members of Engine Co. No. 5 refilled over 100 air tanks and made many minor repairs and adjustments. This was one instance when the Air Supply Station proved to be invaluable.

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 report concerning the operation of the Salvage Station for the year 1967, is submitted for your approval. In June of 1967 all covers on tenders 7, and 9, were taken off these apparatus, and used to increase the amount carried on ladder trucks. As of that date all ladder trucks will carry ten covers at all times. The reason for this is to increase the amount available for immediate use at emergencies. The excess of covers from tenders were returned to the Salvage Station to be used as replacements.

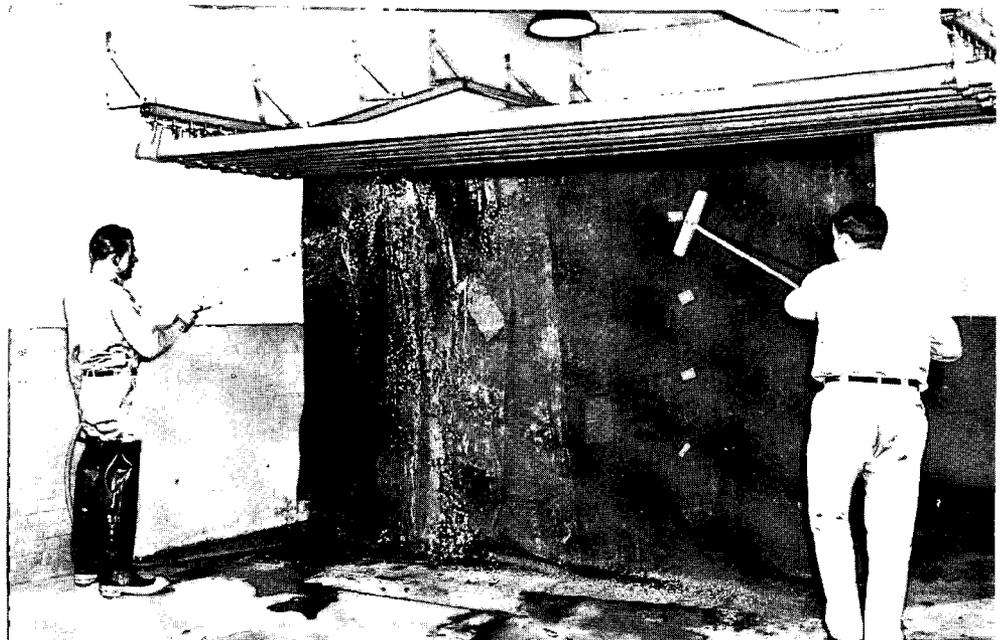
Ladder 3 as in the past is responsible for the cleaning, inspecting, and repairing of all covers used in the department. The following is a summary of covers handled by this company during the year 1967.

Salvage covers loaned to companies	521
Salvage covers washed	506
Salvage covers patched	139

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Quinn

Salvage Cover
Maintenance



To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Activities of Foam Tender #1 during 1967:

Sir:

I respectfully report that Foam Tender #1 recently assigned to Engine Co. 18, and also recently converted from previous service as Tender #9 at the Point Street Station, was placed in service as Foam Tender #1 on August 11, 1967.

The following new equipment added during the conversion consists of the following;

Four Jet X nozzles
Four 1½" eductors
Eighty gallons of high expansion foam

The reserve foam capacity for operation with Engine Co. 18 was more than doubled, and the two Multiversal Deluge Sets were retained from it's previous service, to make the present use of this apparatus much more versatile, and increases the overall efficiency of the Department in the extinguishment of stubborn cellar fires, tank trucks, and other potentials, which would require the use of regular 3% or high expansion foam.

Since it's inception on August 11th of last year, Foam Tender #1 has responded a total of 13 times as listed below;

11 Freeway incidents with Engine Co. 18
1 Gasoline tank truck
1 Asphalt Plant

The above responses totaled 14 hours and 3 minutes of service, and the additional reserve supply of 3% foam proved invaluable at the two incidents where the reserve supply of 3% foam was needed and utilized.

Respectfully submitted;

Austin Kayle
Captain (4)



Foam apparatus

To: The Chief of Department

Subject: Activities of Water Pollution Unit #1 during 1967:

Sir:

I respectfully report that on September 29, 1967, Water Pollution Unit #1 was placed in service at Engine Co. 18 on Allens Ave.

The above unit, equipped with 1500' of flotation collar, was cooperatively purchased by local waterfront industries for the control and containment of accidental oil spills in the bay area, and for minimizing any potential damage as a result of an uncontrollable oil leak.

Service of Water Pollution Unit #1 for 1967 consisted of the following;

November 11, 1967 -- 1500' of flotation collar used at Harbor Junction wharf to surround a leaking tanker.

December 27, 1967 -- 1500' of flotation collar used at Sprague Dock, 144 Allens Ave. to surround a tanker.

The assistance of an identical unit placed in service in the East Providence Fire Department had been requested at both above instances. This assistance by mutual pre-arrangement, combined the resources of both Departments for the above operations, and proved very effective in serving the designed purpose.

Respectfully submitted;

Austin Nagle
Captain (4)

Oil Spill Control



Last Alarm

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Batt. Chief Joseph J. Mainey	District 1	April 25
Private Earl T. King	Ladder Co. 6	June 29
Private Thomas P. Hicks	Operation Control	October 25



RETIRED MEMBERS

David J. Gibbons	January 18
Irving Cooper	February 10
Arthur J. Jensen	March 11
John F. McDermott	April 8
Walter F. Hannaway	July 1
Albert L. Aldrich	July 4
Francis J. O'Brien	August 31
Thomas H. Conroy	September 2
Vincent T. Reardon	December 3
Howard J. Drummond	December 21

1920

1921

1922

1923

F

I

FILED

FEB 26 1 30 PM '99

DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

122
CITY COUNCIL FINAL PAPERS
1968

**ELEVENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
1966 - 1967**

**DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING INSPECTION**

**VINCENT DIMASE, P. E.
DIRECTOR**



CITY OF PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION
112 Union Street

E L E V E N T H A N N U A L R E P O R T
1966-1967

VINCENT DiMASE, P.E.
DIRECTOR

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAR 7 - 1968

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

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
Scope of Building Code.....	1
Organization Chart.....	4
Department of Building Inspection.....	5
Division of Structures and Zoning.....	7
Division of Electrical Installations.....	19
Division of Plumbing, Drainage and Gas Piping.....	24
Division of Mechanical Equipment and Installations.....	30
Division of Management and Administration.....	37
One Fee for Permits.....	39
Department of Planning and Urban Development.....	40
Division of Minimum Housing.....	41
Fire Prevention Bureau.....	42
Historic District Commission.....	43
Removal of Junked Vehicles from Private Property...	44
The Director's Activities.....	46
Conclusion.....	50

January 11, 1968

The Honorable Joseph A. Doorley, Jr., Mayor
and The Honorable City Council
City of Providence, Rhode Island

Gentlemen:

It gives me pleasure to submit the Eleventh Annual Report of the Department of Building Inspection for the fiscal year 1966-1967.

The details of the operations in the divisions of the Department are covered in the following reports of each of the divisions.

The Department collected \$115,295.16 in fees, which was a new all-time record. Despite the fact that the Department is handicapped with ten (10) vacancies, citizen requests for departmental inspections increased to a new high.

The Building Code is constantly under study for revision and amendment so as to keep pace with new developments, materials and methods in order to provide lowest cost construction within adequate and acceptable standards of health and safety.

I trust that this report will contribute to a better understanding of the responsibilities and operations of our Department. My personal thanks for your interest and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent DiMase
Vincent DiMase, P.E.
Director

RECEIVED
FEB 20 10 25 AM '68
CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R.I.

FILED

SCOPE OF BUILDING CODE

The scope of a building code is to regulate all matters relating to construction, alteration, use, occupancy and location of buildings, as well as to appurtenances such as vaults, areaways and street encroachments erected or to be erected in the municipality. The building code also has regulations for moving, removal and demolition of existing buildings and contains regulations for the installation and use of service equipment and elevators.

The first essential requirement, that of safety to the community, involves measures which must be taken to limit the ultimate extent of a fire so that it will not sweep through buildings and develop into general conflagration. This is the basis for one of the commonest of building regulations, the establishment of fire limits or fire zones covering closely built districts of predominantly business or commercial occupancy. The regulation of materials that go to make up walls and roofs and the limitation of combustible materials that are used in the construction of buildings serve to contain a fire until the fire department has a chance to put it out. Other things being equal, such as occupancy and type of construction, the factors which determine the amount of burnable material in a building are its height and area.

Another essential requirement, and of no less concern to the general public, is the matter of safety to life in individual buildings. This includes provisions for adequate and safe means of

exit, enclosure of all elevator shafts, stairways, and other openings, regulations controlling the installation and use of air conditioning and ventilating systems, heating boilers and furnaces as well as industrial and other heat producing devices, and fire protection equipment such as automatic sprinkler system.

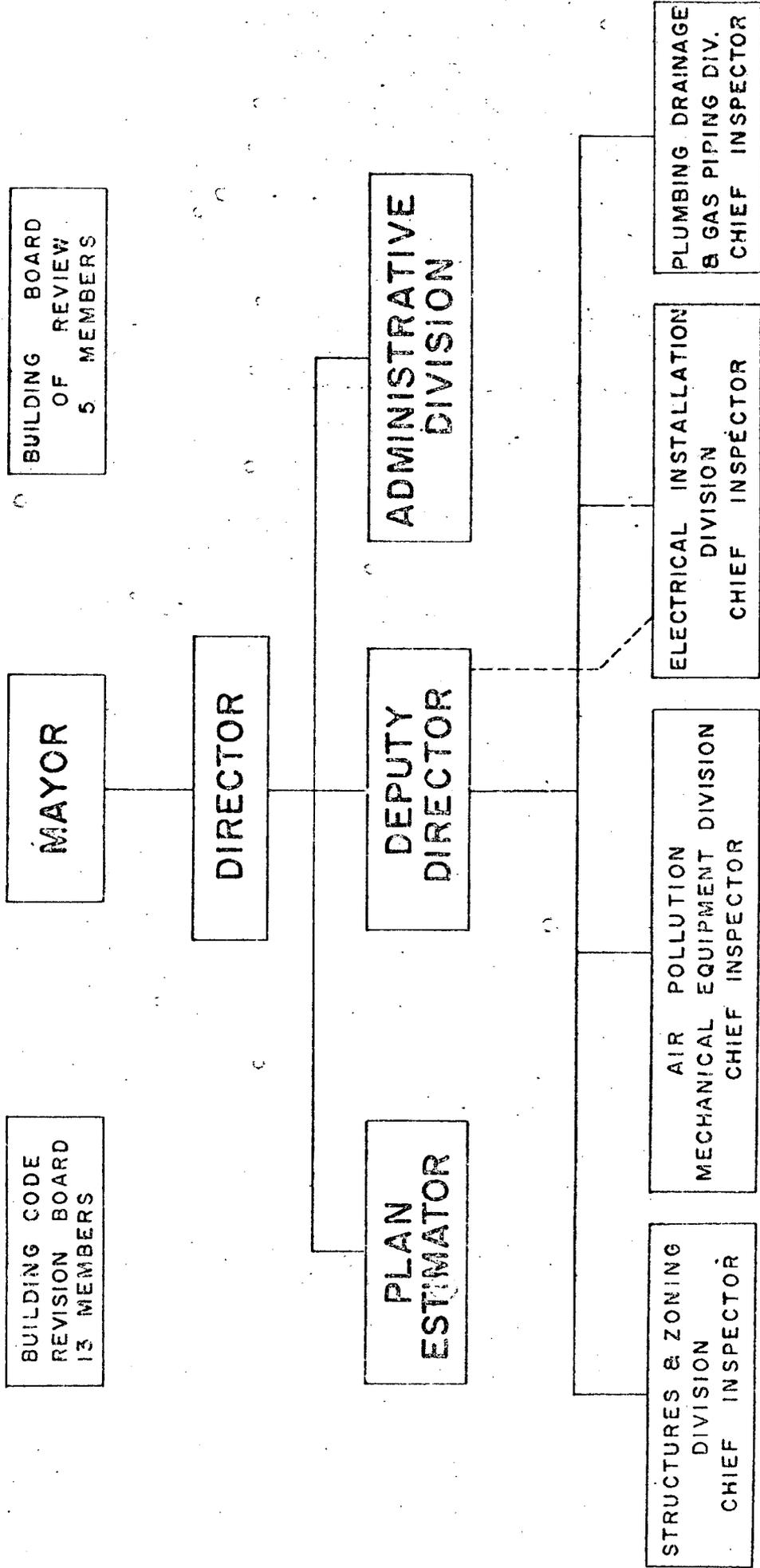
A building code cannot be effective without adequate provisions for its administration and strict enforcement. The official charged with the administration and enforcement of the building regulations has a great responsibility and with responsibility must go authority. No matter how detailed the building code may be, he must to some extent exercise his own judgment in deciding compliance with the code. The building official has the responsibility for seeing to it that the homes and buildings the citizens of the community reside and work in are designed and constructed to be structurally stable, have adequate means of egress and light and ventilation, and provide reasonable protection to life and property from fire.

The Providence Building Code, being a performance-type model code, is concerned with the results of construction rather than with the manner in which the building is constructed. This gives the building industry an opportunity to employ new and improved techniques which often result in a far greater saving in cost to the prospective home or building owner. At the same time, a high degree of health and safety for the community as a whole and for the individual occupants is maintained.

The code is flexible and allows the use of newly-tested and newly-tried products of the building field. One great advantage of the model code is that it is continually being revised and amendments adopted in order to keep up with new developments of the building industry and the changing conditions and needs of our society.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

ORGANIZATION CHART



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION

What is the role, or more properly, what are the roles that the Department of Building Inspection should fulfill and how does the community benefit from them?

The basic and traditional mission of the Department of Building Inspection is to insure safe minimum levels of building construction through enforcement of building, electrical, mechanical and planning codes. This is by far the most important role the department fulfills and the main reason for its existence.

The second role, and an equally important one, is that of enforcing the Zoning Ordinance and thus serving as the means by which the planned orderly development of the community can be implemented. The best master plan, the most enlightened and efficient planning commission, the tightest zoning laws, may be to no avail unless they are translated through proper enforcement into actuality. This responsibility rests with the Department of Building Inspection.

The third essential role is that of fire safety and fire prevention in all buildings or structures. The fire safety standards comprise of a large portion of the building code. Permissible areas for structures according to their construction and use, requirements for automatic fire-sprinkler systems, for exits and exit doors, for fire-walls, fire doors and windows, for standpipes, for fire-protection of structural members—all are part of the building code.

The Department of Building Inspection has a vital role in fire prevention by insuring that every building constructed meets the minimum fire-resistive and fire-safety standards of the building code. With proper enforcement of the building code, losses in the community from fire can be minimized with resulting benefits from lower fire insurance rates.

The issuance of permits, the inspection and maintenance of minimum housing standards, which act as a powerful deterrent to the start and spread of housing blight and decay, are the responsibility of the Department of Building Inspection.

If these are some of the positive roles that the Department performs and their value is incontrovertible, then the neglect of these roles due to inability of the Department to perform because of lack of qualified personnel or neglect to budget sufficient funds is a real loss to the community.

DIVISION OF STRUCTURES AND ZONING

Mr. Vincent DiMase, Director
Department of Building Inspection
112 Union Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Sir:

I respectfully submit for your information and consideration a report of the work of the Division of Structures and Zoning for the year 1966-1967.

Attached hereto are tables setting forth by wards and types of occupancies the number and estimated cost of projects for which permits were issued.

The table marked "New Buildings" contains data pertaining to the construction of new buildings and miscellaneous structures. The table marked "Alterations" contains data pertaining to building operations on existing buildings.

Estimated costs as set forth in the table do not include the cost of heating, plumbing and electrical installations.

New Buildings 1967

WARDS

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	No.	EST. COST
DWELLINGS															
1 FAMILY		5		20	35	14	11	1	7	2				95	
EST. COST		177,500		221,500	434,000	158,500	125,100	11,000	55,000	23,400					1,235,000
DWELLINGS															
2 FAMILIES			1	3	5		3		1					15	
EST. COST			150,000	44,500	76,500		58,500		15,500						210,000
MULTI-FAMILIES			13		1				1					17	
EST. COST		257,000	156,500		30,000				28,000			1,933,900			3,642,400
CHURCHES, HOMES, ETC.														3	
EST. COST	463,350				628,100		524,600		1						1,632,050
AMUSEMENT & RECREATION														1	
EST. COST				8,000					200,000						20,000
OFFICE BUILDINGS AND BANKS														4	
EST. COST	674,000										185,000				253,000
PUBLIC & MUNICIPAL															
EST. COST															
SCHOOLS														2	
EST. COST	275,000				167,200										4,402,000
GASOLINE STATIONS														5	
EST. COST	26,000		24,000												253,000
GARAGES														28	
EST. COST	3,000	8,300		2,200	19,700	3,400	7,400	3,000	2,700						601,200
STORES														10	
EST. COST	12,000	9,500	661,000	45,000	26,000		6,500								782,000
STOREHOUSES															
EST. COST															
MANUFACTORIES AND SHOPS														13	
EST. COST				161,000				720,000	9,000	345,000	3,000		8,500		1,891,500
CIL TURNERS															
EST. COST															
MISCELLANEOUS														1	
EST. COST		15,000													15,000
TOTAL NUMBER BY WARDS ESTIMATED COST BY WARDS	6	10	17	30	54	17	21	8	14	6	4	4	1	192	
	530,350	245,300	225,500	482,200	288,600	161,900	737,600	712,500	186,200	967,400	207,000	294,400	8,500		15,132,150

Total Estimated Cost \$15,132,150
 Total New Building Permits 192

Alterations - 1967

		WARDS															
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	No.	EST. COST.	
DWELLINGS	No.	25	41	20	11	48	21	13	7	27	5	6	4	3	231		
1 FAMILY	EST. COST	39,650	5,900	23,450	16,800	59,150	22,150	12,050	6,600	27,550	4,300	5,700	5,200	3,150		293,550	
DWELLINGS	No.	15	20	14	17	30	12	35	13	13	6	10	5	5	206		
2 FAMILIES	EST. COST	17,400	39,250	15,200	9,050	33,100	20,200	29,000	12,800	13,050	3,350	6,100	6,800	1,700		215,300	
MULTI-FAMILIES	No.	8	1	10	2	10	4	13	6	17	6	12	10	21	120		
CHURCHES, HOMES, ETC.	EST. COST	13,650	300	1,400	3,300	10,750	5,350	18,850	4,100	17,550	4,550	13,300	12,900	29,050		148,850	
AMUSEMENT & RECREATION	No.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	3	3	2	15		
OFFICE BUILDINGS AND SHOPS	EST. COST	5,000	3,800	-	-	-	-	-	14,000	1,500	-	21,500	3,900	203,850		447,750	
PUBLIC & MUNICIPAL	No.	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	9		
SCHOOLS	EST. COST	5,700	-	-	900	-	-	-	-	-	33,000	-	45,400	3,700		94,700	
GASOLINE STATIONS	No.	10	1	2	1	1	-	-	3	1	3	-	11	2	35		
CARAGES	EST. COST	12,450	5,000	7,300	2,000	1,150	-	-	2,200	9,000	39,200	-	133,300	10,450		354,550	
STORES	No.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
STONEHOUSES	EST. COST	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MANUFACTORIES AND SHOPS	No.	3	1	4	1	4	4	6	2	4	3	1	3	2	32		
FILM BUILDINGS	EST. COST	16,100	12,300	9,000	400	472,400	90,000	-	20,000	-	5,300	-	37,000	-		942,100	
MISCELLANEOUS	No.	11	5	3	1	3	1	3	2	4	3	1	2	11	52		
TOTAL NUMBER BY WARDS ESTIMATED COST BY WARDS	EST. COST	1,137,500	1,872,000	3,558,000	2,900,500	5,334,350	2,011,150	1,027,750	2,228,500	3,707,250	22,585,500	37,250,000	637,500	3,796,000		4,483,100	

Total Estimated Cost \$4,483,100
Total Alterations 937

The Statistical Tables are summarized as follows:

New Buildings	192 Permits
Estimated Cost	\$15,132,150
Additions & Alterations	937 Permits
Estimated Cost	\$4,483,100
	<hr/>
Total 1129 Permits for	\$19,615,250

In addition to the tabulated data, the following miscellaneous permits were issued during 1967:

Razing of Buildings	Permits 314
Sandblasting of Buildings	Permits 8
Moving of Buildings	Permits 0
Erection of Billboards	Permits 23
Erection of Wall Signs	Permits 51
Erection of Signs Over Sidewalk	Permits 106
Erection of Fire Escapes	Permits 104
Construction of Sidewalk Vaults	Permits 2
Use of Streets & Sidewalks	Permits 43
Storage of Dangerous Chemicals	Permits 29
	<hr/>
	Total 680

Total permits of all types issued during the year 1967 amounted to 1809 permits.

Buildings demolished for Public Improvements included in the list of permits summarized below:

Buildings in South Providence Area	110
Federal Hill Area	15
	—
Total Number of Buildings Demolished	125

During the calendar year of 1967, 630 family units were added as a result of private buildings activities. This constitutes an increase of 47 units above the 1966 total of units.

The additional units are grouped as follows:

(a) New Buildings	
One Family	95 Family Units
Two Family	26 Family Units
Multiple Dwelling	506 Family Units
(b) Conversions	3 Family Units
	—
Total	630

The total fees collected for the calendar year 1967 for all types of permits issued by this Division amounted to \$49,080.88.

The total fees collected during the fiscal year, October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967, amounted to \$57,917.85.

During the year 1967, this Department processed 1075 building and zoning violations, including South Providence and Federal Hill Areas.

The Field Inspection Section of the Division conducted 15,901 construction inspection and violation investigations.

Inspectional Activities Pertaining to
Safety Requirements in Buildings

The annual inspections of all licensed occupancies, such as theatres, hotels, assembly halls of all types, cafes, barrooms, restaurants, etc., were carried on in the usual manner by checking:

- (a) The general structural conditions of the building;
- (b) The type, construction, protection and accessibility of exits, the swing of exit doors, exit signs and lights;
- (c) The type, condition and location of heating and cooking equipment, including their safety devices and controls;
- (d) The type, condition and location of fire protective equipment, such as automatic sprinkler system (wet and dry), fire extinguishers, fire hose and standpipe installations, fire alarm systems, etc.

This program of annual inspections, started many years ago and now considered routine, provides that type of inspectional service entirely devoted to the elimination or correction of hazardous conditions that come within the purview of the rules.

Annual inspections of all public and semi-public occupancies are made in order to maintain approved standards of safety. The License Bureau will not issue any license without first obtaining the approval of this office concerning the structural and fire-safety conditions of the premises. This type of inspectional service places an unusual burden on the field inspectors during the months of October and November every year — two months to complete inspections and submit reports for processing before

the approvals or denials can be reported to the License Bureau. In cases of serious life hazard, revocation of license is employed in order to prevent possible disaster.

The processing of complaints is another important function requiring inspectional services. During the past year, more than 15,901 inspections were made through this medium, checking and investigating complaints of hazardous conditions existing in residential, commercial, industrial, storage, educational, religious, institutional and mixed occupancy buildings. This effort has been bolstered, over the years, by the participation and cooperation of the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau. As a result of this type of service, thousands of buildings of all type of construction and occupancies have been made safer or razed. Structural, fire preventive and fire protective remedies applied as a result of this effort are as follows:

- (a) Repairs to and replacement of structural components of buildings;
- (b) General repairs to existing buildings for proper maintenance;
- (c) Installation of automatic sprinkler systems;
- (d) Erection of fire division walls;
- (e) Erection of fire-resistive partitions;
- (f) Erection of fireproof or fire-resistive enclosures around stairways and vertical shafts of all types;
- (g) Construction of fire-resistive ceilings for horizontal protections;

- (h) Installation of opening protectives on windows where exposure distances to lot lines and other buildings are below minimum requirements;
- (i) Erection of fire escapes;
- (j) Installation of fire alarm systems;
- (k) Installation of fire-hose and standpipe systems;
- (l) Installation of fire extinguishers;
- (m) Installation of fire dampers and automatic controls on ventilating and air-conditioning systems, etc.;
- (n) Construction of fireproof vaults and enclosures for the storage of flammable liquids and volatiles and dangerous chemicals.

Steady pressure has been maintained behind the program of dilapidated dwellings and the elimination of fire hazard and unsanitary conditions. Because of the unprecedented number of unsafe, vacant, open, abandoned and vandalized buildings, the City of Providence received a Federal Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for demolition of dangerous structures in the Upper South Providence Area, and Federal Hill Area, East.

The plan examination section of the Division, in addition to processing routine permit requests, reviewed plans and specifications for 37 Major Structures with a declared estimated cost of \$15,210,700 or more, as detailed below:

Brown University 81-89 Brown St. New School - Biomedical Building	\$2,730,000
Bristol Motel Corp. Atwells Avenue, Broadway New motor hotel	\$1,983,900
Providence College 235 Eaton St. New Library	\$1,672,000
University Heights Lippitt Hill Phase B - (13) Buildings	\$1,565,500

<u>Bldg. #</u>	<u>No. of Units</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1B	12	\$ 93,000
1D	12	93,000
1C	18	139,500
1E	24	186,000
4A	8	62,000
4B	24	186,000
4C	12	93,000
4E	8	62,000
4D	12	93,000
5D	18	139,000
5C	18	139,500
5B	18	139,500
5A	18	139,500
<u>13 Bldgs.</u>	<u>202 Units</u>	<u>\$1,565,500</u> Estimated Cost

National Garages of R.I., Inc. 63 Washington St. New Parking Garage	\$751,500
---	-----------

Federal Products 61 Cass St. New Mfg. Building - Precision Tool	\$650,000
---	-----------

University Heights Cor. Doyle & Capt. J. Carlton Davis Blvd. New Stores (18)	\$631,000
Diocese of Providence 485 Mt. Pleasant Ave. New St. Vincent Home	\$628,100
St. Bartholomew Church 313 Laurel Hill Ave. New Church	\$524,600
Bethany Home of R. I. 111 So. Angell St. New Nursing Home	\$469,350
Livermore & Knight Co. Dupont Drive New Mfg. Bldg.	\$410,000
Diocese of Providence Park Lane - Huntington Park New Building - Printing Shop	\$250,000
Providence College River Ave. and Eaton St. Replace all windows in dormitory	\$248,000
Providence Gravure Inc. 99 West River St. Addition to Main Bldg.	\$216,700
McLaughlin & Moran, Inc. 103 Terminal Road New Warehouse & Office	\$200,000
Gulf Oil Co. 25 Broadway New Gulf Station & Travel Center	\$200,000
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church 64 Brayton Ave. Addition to Church - relocate altar	\$194,850
Brown University (Wilson Hall) 75-91 Waterman St. Interior Alterations to Classrooms	\$175,000
Packing & Insulations, Inc. 145 Corliss St. New Building - Office & Warehouse	\$140,000

R. I. Hospital 593 Eddy St. Addition to Boiler Room	\$127,000
Dudley St. Corp. 100 Dudley St. New Medical Building (11 offices)	\$125,000
Brite Industries, Inc. 55 Dupont Drive - Huntington Park Addition to Building - Mfg. Jewelry	\$113,000
Providence Lumber Co. 705 Elmwood Ave. Addition to Building, New Service Center for Dunne Ford	\$105,000
Freeway Bowling Alley 650 Branch Ave. Addition to Building	\$105,000
New England Telephone Co. 234 Washington St. 4th Floor Addition - New Generator Room	\$103,000
Brown University 254-260 India St. New Boat House - Alteration Work	\$99,800
City of Providence 36 Academy Ave. Alteration to School	\$90,000
New England Milk Producers, Assoc. 51 Clarkson St. New Building	\$88,600
R. I. Hospital 593 Eddy St. Alteration to Interior of Nurses Bldg.	\$87,500
Providence Public Library 315 Academy Ave. Addition to Rear of Library	\$81,300
W. W. Aldrich 251 George St. New Guest House	\$75,000
Brown Diamond, Inc. 100 Pavilion Ave. New Mfg. Building (Tool Mfg.)	\$75,000

Providence Institution for Savings 784-792 Hope St. New Bank	\$65,000
Chipanna Inc. 128 Waterman St. New Medical Bldg.	\$60,000
Swiss Automatic Co. Niantic Ave. - Huntington Industrial Park New Mfg. Building	\$60,000
Hall Industries 557 Broad St. New Office Bldg. - Parts Dept.	\$60,000
Gem Packing Co., Inc. 72 King St. Addition to Bldg. - Meat Packing Co.	\$50,000

The estimated cost of construction of the "Major Structures" listed above totalled \$15,210,700.00, or 77.5% of the total construction cost figure. The number of structural permits issued for these projects totalled 37 - or approximately 3.2% of the total number of structural permits issued.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas DiBenedetto,
Chief Inspector of
Structures and Zoning

DIVISION OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

Mr. Vincent DiMase, Director
Department of Building Inspection
112 Union Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. DiMase:

I respectfully submit the following report of the Division of Electrical Installations' activities during the fiscal year 1966-1967, including a summary of its revenue, expenditures and operations.

SUMMARY

Revenue: The Division of Electrical Installations received credit for fees collected by the Department of Building Inspection as follows: There were sixty two (62) Limited Premises Permits issued, and two thousand eight hundred forty two (2,842) Electrical Permits for installation of electrical wiring and apparatus, including alterations and repairs, for which a total fee of \$21,950.67 was received.

October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967:

Number of rough wiring inspections	599
Number of defective installations re-inspected	1,555
Number of Certificates of Approval issued	2,950
Number of Inspections after fire	927
Number of investigations requested by the Narragansett Electric Company	904
Number of special investigations	4,525
Minimum Housing Inspections	1,285
Limited Premises Inspections	62
Illuminated Sign Inspections	118
	<hr/>
Total Number of Inspections	12,925

Letters to owners	1,720
Number of disconnects ordered	59
Sign Locations Cleared	152
Sign Locations non Illuminated Cleared	34

R E P O R T

The Electrical Division has done a commendable job of inspection work considering the fact that two (2) Inspectors have retired during the past fiscal year 1966-1967 and have not been replaced yet; the backlog of work to be done has been kept to a minimum.

It has been necessary to cut down on the number of inspections rendered to: (1) manufacturing plants which have been issued annual Limited Premises Permits; and (2) large construction projects which would require a full time inspector on the premises.

While the number of permits issued was only 87.8% of the previous fiscal year, the fees collected have increased from \$18,640.63 to \$21,950.67. This indicates the increased size and value of several of the projects involved.

It has been predicted that the use of electricity will double in less than ten years.

In the next two (2) years, we anticipate the retirement of two (2) more Inspectors, including the Chief of the Electrical Division who will retire in October 1968. By 1969, our staff will be reduced to 50% of its 1966 complement of eight (8) men and the workload will have nearly doubled.

It is obvious that more Inspectors will be needed. We are having difficulty in obtaining new personnel due to the fact that the compensation offered by the City of Providence to Electrical Inspectors is not enough to attract competent persons. In fact, a journeyman electrician's pay scale is greater than that of an Electrical Inspector of Grade I, II, III.

The Electrical Division recommends a review of the prevailing pay scale for Electricians in this area and suggests that Electrical Inspectors pay scale be made comparable so that it will be possible to replace our retired personnel and continue to render the service expected by the public.

The following service is not only expected but taken for granted by the public:

1. The assurance of safety from the hazards arising from the use of electricity for light, heat, power and other purposes.
2. The re-inspection of premises and examination of electrical equipment to make sure that proper maintenance and repairs are made where needed.
3. The investigation after fires, etc. to determine the cause and, if it is electrical in nature, to take steps to prevent future fires or shocks.

The above services are rendered to the public not only in their homes but every place the public goes; for example: Churches, schools, factories, stores, office buildings, etc.

Activities in the Year 1967

An extra workload was imposed on each Inspector due to the retirement of two (2) Inspectors and additional construction work during the past year.

It, therefore, was not possible to show any notable progress in 1967, although a special effort was made to do so.

Future Plans

The future plans of the Electrical Division are:

- (1) To obtain replacements for the two (2) retired Inspectors;

- (2) To provide more frequent inspections of the progress on new construction work;
- (3) To provide inspections for limited premises more promptly than was possible in the past year;
- (4) To review the 1968 Edition of the National Electrical Code, when it is published, for possible up-dating of its Rules & Regulations which are presently based on the 1956 Edition of the above-mentioned Code which is already out-dated by a 1965 Edition; and
- (5) To provide better service to Contractors, Architects and Engineers who are planning electrical installations for buildings and structures in the City of Providence.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Hicks, Jr.,
Chief Inspector of
Electrical Installations

DIVISION OF PLUMBING, DRAINAGE AND GAS PIPING

Mr. Vincent DiMase, Director
Department of Building Inspection
112 Union Street
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Sir:

As requested, this will show the activities and statistical record of the Plumbing Division for the fiscal year October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967.

Plumbing Inspections	5,831	
Drain Inspections	1,786	
Miscellaneous Visits	103	
Minimum Housing Visits	<u>1,146</u>	Total 8,866
Plumbing Plans Filed	1,880	
Drain Plans Filed	<u>641</u>	Total 2,521
Work on Old Buildings	1,607	
Work on New Buildings	<u>273</u>	Total 1,880
Sewer Connections	1,878	
Cesspool Connections	<u>2</u>	Total 1,880
Final Inspections	1,515	
Estimated Cost of Plumbing Plans		\$3,720,536.00
Estimated Cost of Drain Plans		<u>298,642.00</u>
	Total	\$4,019,178.00
Fees for Limited Sprinkler License Issued		\$100.00
Fees for Limited Drain Layers License Issued		<u>150.00</u>
	Total	\$250.00
Fees for Plumbing & Drainage Permits and Limited Licenses		\$12,573.92

R E P O R T

The trend toward larger and more complicated construction has continued during this fiscal year. Meetings with architects, engineers and contractors were frequently held during the design stage of large projects to solve problems before the plans were completed and submitted for check. These preliminary meetings proved very effective, and in many cases resulted in substantial savings to the builder and owner.

The Plumbing Division is looking forward to one of the busiest years in the field of new construction.

Back Siphonage can be Prevented

A few years ago, several students working in a laboratory building at Michigan State College became suddenly and violently ill, although all were in excellent health.

Fifty students were hospitalized and one died from undulant fever because of a defective sterilizer and avoidable faults in Laboratory Plumbing System. Harmful undulant fever cultures supposedly killed in the sterilizer were siphoned back into the potable water supply.

Back siphonage is generally described as the condition that occurs when a partial vacuum is formed in a pipe carrying liquid as the result of a low or negative gauge pressure. In relation to water supplies, it is assumed that the piping system carries drinking or domestic water supply.

The commoner types of back siphonage in which contamination may occur, involve:—

1. Storage tanks and reservoirs containing nonpotable liquids with below-the-rim discharge from a potable supply.
2. Waste water connections to sewers.
3. Flushing connections to sewers.
4. Swimming pools with below-the-rim inlets.
5. Automatic devices for sealing floor drains.
6. Plumbing fixtures with below-the-rim inlets, such as lavatories, sinks, laundry trays, integral water closet flush box and water closet bowl, non anti-siphon ball cocks in closet tanks of either low or high design, toilet flush valves (not equipped with vacuum breaker) water ejector, automatic washing or dishwashing machines.
7. Drinking fountains of the unapproved type. (Bubbler and/or fixtures; also refrigerated water dispensers).
8. Boiler feed using safe and unsafe water.
9. Filters and wash water systems.
10. Cooling water for air conditioning units and refrigeration.
11. Drains from ice water tanks to sewers.
12. Water Supply connections in chemistry laboratories.

Independent investigation by various agencies has recently established beyond a shadow of a doubt that potentially dangerous situations are created by common plumbing practices, formerly regarded as safe.

Practicable recommendations for the corrections of these conditions have been worked out and have already been applied by

some fixture manufacturers to the design of new equipment to eliminate health hazards. In many instances, and especially in the larger cities, sanitary codes have been revised in the light of these data.

The findings of the Agencies add up to Three Main Points:

(1) Direct connections between potable water supplies and unsafe water must be avoided by maintaining an unenclosed air gap of sufficient distance between the point of discharge from the potable supply pipe and the highest level to which sewage or non-potable water can possible rise.

(2) When this is impossible, an approved vacuum breaker, in which a complete cycle of all moving parts is completed each time the supply is used, must be installed in a safe and easily accessible position between the unsafe fixture and the supply piping.

(3) In all cases, special attention must be paid to adequate supply piping, since many vacuum formations are caused by improperly designed piping. Insufficient flow at plumbing fixtures of all types must be regarded as a health hazard.

Watchdog Division Guards the Industry

Due to the zealous guarding of the portals of the plumbing industry by the Plumbing Division, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of permits for plumbing work being applied for in the city. The Plumbing Division has been keenly alert to violations of the filing provisions of the Code and insistent on

its enforcement, to prevent illegal, unlicensed plumbers from doing improper work, thus safeguarding the welfare of the public.

And the public, it can be noted, is becoming more and more aware of the importance of engaging the services of the Licensed Plumbing Contractor to install and repair its water and sewer lines. Full credit for this can be given to the Plumbing Inspectors.

The value of a state-wide plumbing code is unquestioned. The Code properly enforced—brings to a community a curb on irresponsible individuals or short-sighted property owners. Licensing means that plumbing work is done by competent installers, that such installer must have the technical, practical theoretical knowledge to comply with the provisions of the Code—be it City, Municipality or State.

Filing permits for plumbing work insures the public "that planned improvements are made consistent with the City Code". Permit filing also helps our inspectors to schedule their work, and only by inspection by an authorized employee of the City, can assurance be had that the installation conforms with the Plumbing Code.

Master Plumbers can help themselves and improve our industry by following these simple rules.

Some well-meaning Master Plumbers want to pull down controls in the mistaken belief that no filing and no inspection can reduce the costs of plumbing installations. Good plumbing actually costs the consumer no more than faulty plumbing, but even if that were not true could any saving be more important than the protection of the public health?

We cannot understand why a Licensed Plumber can be questioned as to his qualifications, unless it is that he fails to display his License. Master Plumbers can help themselves and improve the industry by adhering to the regulations of conduct of business of Master Plumbers.

In a few words: This is your business—help yourself to keep it yours and prevent its slipping away from you into the hands of fly-by-night, gyp artists, sharpies, and some plumbing merchandisers who advertise do it yourself.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph B. Dempsey, Chief
Inspector of Plumbing,
Drainage and Gas Piping

DIVISION OF MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATIONS

I respectfully submit the last Annual Report of the operation-administrative, field and financial, of the Division of Air Pollution and Mechanical Equipment and Installations for the fiscal year October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967. It is the last Annual Report because the State Government took over almost all the activities of air pollution control on January 1, 1967. All that remained under Divisional control was an air sampling program operated in cooperation with the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare and terminated in June 1967.

The vigilance of the field force, their missionary work over the years, their dedication to duty and their close supervision of the erection of plants and installation of equipment increased the public interest in air pollution and greatly decreased the workload of prevention and correction of atmospheric contamination.

The boom in business building and the modernization of many plants so increased the workload of the Division that the relief given by the transfer of air pollution control to the State Government was hardly felt, even when the Division was fully staffed. The Division staff is now seriously depleted and despite a tight schedule and some voluntary overtime, the backlog grows continually bigger. This condition makes the inspectors duty of the apprehension of moonlighters, who make a habit of permit fee evasion and, who care little for safety precautions, much more difficult.

The duty of this Division is to see that machinery and other equipment installations complies with the Building Code of the City of Providence in installation or operation.

To accomplish these ends the Acting Chief and his staff interview architects, engineers, contractors, and owners. The Acting Chief reviews specifications and blueprints to make sure that proposed installations are lawful and safe and to prevent the installation of illegal and unsafe machinery or material. Specifications for the larger projects are assembled in volumes that range from a few pages to Bible-size or larger. The accompanying prints are large in area and numbers.

The Acting Chief spends fifty per cent of his time in the field, making his administrative and other indoor duties difficult to keep up with. He is working in the field as an inspector and supervising his Division at the same time. One inspector is assigned to the office to take care of routine work, such as examining applications for permits and processing same if approved. He also handles such work as may be done by telephone, referring questions which he is not authorized to handle to his superiors.

Our other inspectors, two in number, with the help of the Acting Chief try to cover all the new installations made within the city, for which permits have been issued. They also seek out illegal installations, that is such as are installed without permits or payment of permit fees. Their current workload gives them little time for the duty.

The Chief Examiner of Licenses has carried out his duties in his usual competent and conscientious manner.

He examines candidates for licenses as boiler operators, stationary engineers and refrigeration engineers, and issues licenses to those whom he finds qualified. He issues annual renewals of the above type of licenses to those that apply for same.

He investigates all new processing, heating and air conditioning equipment to insure the safe operation of such equipment by licenses personnel.

He investigates complaints of license holders, who fail to meet their responsibilities for the plants entrusted to them and, if necessary, refers them to the Director for a hearing.

When his other duties permit he assists the Acting Chief and the "Office Inspector" by receiving, examining and approving or rejecting, as required, applications for permits to install new equipment. These extra duties, he performs in spite of a heavy regular schedule.

By cooperating with other divisions and with the Fire Prevention Bureau, the Mechanical Division has contributed to the reduction of fires and explosions and other accidents in the city.

We are grateful for the staunch support given our Division by His Honor Mayor Doorley and our Director.

The Acting Chief and staff members of the Division were always available and willing to serve as consultants on Code problems and on difficulties encountered during construction or the installation of equipment. The fact that this service is available to everyone has contributed to the excellent public relations enjoyed by the Department of Building Inspection.

The following is an accounting of the Division of Mechanical Equipment and Installations from October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967:

REVENUE

Oil Burners	\$ 1,329.43	
Gas Burners	494.50	
Boilers	1,902.96	
Gas Water Heaters	193.85	
Oil Fired Water Heaters	48.80	
Furnace	589.55	
Ductwork	386.72	
Air Conditioner	2,172.55	
Radiation	358.25	
Tanks	415.15	
Ventilation	1,363.55	
Sprinklers	779.43	
Refrigeration	302.70	
Elevators	1,186.42	
Console Heaters	34.75	
Conversion Burners	278.85	
Hoods & Exhaust Systems	118.65	
Infra-Red Heaters	11.00	
Spray Booths	45.55	
Generator	723.20	
Unit Heaters	121.77	
Miscellaneous	<u>4,863.11</u>	
	\$17,720.74	\$17,720.74
New Licenses:		
Boiler Operator	320.00	
Operating Engineers	110.00	
Refrigerating Machine Operators	20.00	
License Renewals:		
Boiler Operator	1,490.00	
Operating Engineers	1,580.00	
Refrigerating Machine Operators	<u>42.00</u>	
	\$3,562.00	<u>3,562.00</u>
	Grand Total	\$21,282.74

There were 1,170 permits issued for 1,751 units from October 1, 1966 to September 30, 1967.

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
Oil Burners	212
Gas Burners	110
Boilers	259
Gas Water Heaters	78
Oil Fired Water Heaters	8
Furnaces	149
Ductwork	72
Air Conditioners	68
Radiation	82
Tanks	133
Ventilation	47
Sprinklers	51
Refrigeration	21
Elevators	44
Console Heaters	15
Conversion Burners	120
Hoods & Exhausts	16
Infra-Red Heaters	24
Spray Booths	6
Generators	11
Unit Heaters	25
Miscellaneous	200
Total	1,751

There were 4,033 locations visited and 8,821 inspections and investigations made.

INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Complaints	250
Violations	60
Oil Burners	212
Gas Burners	110
Boilers	259
Gas Water Heaters	78
Oil Fired Water Heaters	8
Furnaces	149
Ductwork Inspections	72
Air Conditioning Inspections	68
Radiation Inspections	82
Tank Inspections	133
Ventilation Inspections	47
Sprinkler Inspections	51
Refrigeration Inspections	21
Elevator Inspections	44
Console Heater Inspections	15
Conversion Burners	120
Hoods & Exhaust Inspections	16
Infra-Red Heater Inspections	24
Spray Booth Inspections	6
Generator Inspections	11
Unit Heater Inspections	25
Miscellaneous Inspections	200
Investigations	650
Progress Inspections	<u>6,110</u>
Total	8,821

During the course of the year, the Chief and staff members of the Division were always available and ever willing to serve as consultants on Code problems and any difficulties encountered during construction. This service was and is available to everyone and has contributed to the excellent public relations enjoyed by the Department of Building Inspection.

Respectfully submitted,

Lloyd L. Salisbury,
Chief Inspector of Mechanical
Equipment and Installations

DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The management and administration of the Department of Building Inspection are the responsibilities of the Director.

In order to establish and maintain uniformity in law enforcement and consistency in operating procedures, the Department has been organized under separate Divisions. Through the Division Chiefs, the activity of each of these Divisions is coordinated by the Director.

The Division performs department wide service relating to personnel, budget, analysis, fee collections for various types of permits; licenses; Zoning, Building and Housing Board applications for exceptions or variances; auditing and accounting operations; statistics and records.

The Division is responsible for processing payrolls, car allowances, payment of bills, maintain proper records, employment interviewing, employee entrance examinations, coordination of employee training, preparation of reports.

The Division collected \$115,295.16 in fees for the entire Department.

The Director serves as the policy making and coordinating head of the Department to the end that the Department may function still more effectively through planning, direction and coordination.

ONE FEE FOR PERMITS

Under the provisions of the Building Code, one permit may be taken out covering all phases of work (Structural, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing), with one combined fee charged.

The following is a list of jobs for which one fee was paid during 1966-1967:

<u>JOB</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST</u>	<u>FEE PAID</u>
St. Bartholomew's Church New Church Laurel Hill Ave.	\$ 659,000.00	\$ 764.50
I. B. M. Building Interior Alterations So. Main St.	20,000.00	90.00
Brown University New Office Building Cor. Angell & Thayer Sts.	1,300,000.00	1,085.00
R. I. Hospital Alterations to Nurses Home Eddy St.	257,500.00	442.50
Providence Public Library Addition to Mt.Pleas. Branch Lib. Academy Ave.	94,000.00	273.00
R. I. Hospital New Boiler House Eddy St.	566,000.00	718.00
N. E. Telephone Co. Interior Alterations Washington St.	155,000.00	340.00
Holiday Inn New Hotel & Motel Atwells Ave. & Broadway	2,783,500.00	1,826.75
University Heights Apartment House Complex Comprising 13 Buildings No. Main & Olney Sts.	2,424,000.00	4,821.00

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Building Inspection, in cooperation with the Department of Planning and Urban Development, assigned four inspectors for eight (8) weeks, and one inspector for sixteen (16) weeks, to inspect all commercial and industrial buildings in the East Broadway Project.

The information correlated will indicate the condition of the buildings and their uses.

The Department of Building Inspection because it has the qualified experts in Structures, Electrical, Mechanical and Plumbing fields, has frequently been called upon to help other agencies carry out certain programs.

DIVISION OF MINIMUM HOUSING

The Minimum Housing Code is intended to establish the minimum acceptable standards for places of human habitation in the municipality. The concept of the Minimum Housing Code is that all repairs, alterations, extensions or other construction required by the Building Code are to be made in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Building Code.

The Housing Code is one of the "instruments" required for a "workable program" of urban renewal or redevelopment. The Building Code, together with the Housing Code, provide adequate authority for the up-grading of sub-standard housing and the construction of new housing and other buildings to safeguard the public against the hazards incident to planning, construction, and use of buildings and structures.

During the year 1966-1967, the Division of Minimum Housing Standards referred to the Department of Building Inspection 1,343 complaints which they uncovered during their survey. These complaints had to be verified by the four Divisions of the Department of Building Inspection before a violation notice was sent to the owner. However, before the permit was issued for this work, zoning had to be checked to be sure that the premises were not in violation of the Zoning Ordinance. The Department of Building Inspection supervises all the work until completed.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau devotes full time to fire prevention through inspection. During their routine work they uncover violations of the Building Code. These violations are referred to the Department of Building Inspection for prosecution.

The Director directs the violation to one of the four Divisions; namely, Structures and Zoning, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing.

The proper Division makes:—

- (1) A re-inspection of premises.
- (2) Sends out letter to owner informing him of violation.
- (3) Issues a permit for the work.
- (4) Supervises work until violation is corrected.

If violation is not corrected within thirty (30) days from the date of notice, the Department of Building Inspection institutes legal action against the owner.

The personnel of the Fire Prevention Bureau should have authority to issue repair orders when faulty burning equipment is uncovered, rather than referring the violations to the Department of Building Inspection. Much time is lost in referrals and duplication of effort results. Meanwhile, an accident could occur while referrals are in progress.

We are waiting for the approval of the "Fire Prevention Code" by the City Council, which will aid the Fire Prevention Bureau to force compliance in serious cases through legal action.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Restorations under the supervision of the Historic District Commission continued to boost the property value of Providence. "A Mile of History"—along Benefit Street, are well preserved period buildings, many of which have been restored to their original appearance.

The Historic Commission under the leadership of Mrs. George E. Downing has made considerable progress in preserving both the buildings and architectural value of buildings in the Historic District. The wonderful heritage of beauty and design of early Colonial days is being preserved as part of our national pride.

The Director of the Department of Building Inspection, as an ex-officio member of the Historic District Commission, sat during all their executive sessions when matters of importance concerning the Historic District were discussed. With a gratifying sense of its responsibility the members of the Historic Commission have continued to act with dedication and determination to preserve the charming and historic buildings.

The Historic Commission must certify all plans before the Department of Building Inspection can issue a permit for the work. The inspectional supervision pertaining to beauty and restoration is done by Mrs. Downing. The inspectional supervision pertaining to safety is done by the Department of Building Inspection.

REMOVAL OF JUNKED VEHICLES

FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY

In the past few years a great deal has been written, conjectured by newspapers and magazines and a lot of conversation covering the field of what to do with worn motor vehicles which are accumulating throughout the nation on the basis of several million per year. Various types of legislation have been proposed or already enacted to control junkyards, roadside appearances and even the establishment of central stations to receive such motor vehicles.

In order to at least reduce if not eliminate this mushrooming all encompassing problem of junked vehicles — "An Ordinance Providing for the Removal of Junked or Abandoned Vehicles from Private Property" was approved by the City Council on May 21, 1965.

Our program in the past year has been most successful. From January 1, 1967 to December 27, 1967,—2,302 vehicles were removed from:

- (1) Private Property
- (2) Housing Projects
- (3) Churches
- (4) Schools
- (5) Redevelopment Areas
- (6) State-owned Property
- (7) Cars with Police Department Courtesy Notices

All abandoned vehicles were moved under the direction of Mr. Elmer C. Davis, Inspector from the Department of Building Inspection. Equipment and labor used was from the Highway Department of Public Works. We are very grateful for the splendid cooperation from Mr. Lawrence P. McGarry, Director of the Department of Public Works.

Although we experienced a few hard-core cases in the past year, only one case had to be taken to court. The defendant was found guilty and the junked vehicles were removed within one week. I mention this to show that our approach to people is tactful, avoiding antagonizing them, if at all possible, and avoiding legal action.

The problem of junked cars is by no means a local one. The President of the United States has recently shown his deep concern over this problem on a national basis. Steps have been taken by the Federal Government to combat the nuisance of junkyards marring the landscape on our principal roads throughout the nation.

THE DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITIES

The Director is responsible for the Department's programs and operations. He serves as the policy making and coordinative head of the Department. He is responsible for the enforcement of all codes and ordinances pertaining to construction, zoning, use, erection, demolition, maintenance, repair, occupancy, and inspection of all buildings and their appurtenances.

The Director receives all referrals on complaints and violations of the Building Code and Zoning Ordinance from the Division of Minimum Housing, Fire Prevention Bureau, Traffic Engineer, and other City Departments.

He screens all complaints and refers them to the respective Divisions of the Department for investigation and compliance orders.

The Director determines the merit of new methods and products proposed for use in the City of Providence Building Industry, and evaluates and checks all pertinent data referred for analysis. He must carry on a progressive building materials review to avoid the cost to the taxpayer of prohibiting the use of new developments. The volume increase in matters referred to the Director continues, due to new architectural treatments, and new technical design criteria.

The Director evaluates and enforces fire-proofing materials and methods for building components which assists the Fire Department in the control of fire, thus helping to keep fire losses in Providence at a minimum which in turn keeps fire insurance rates down, benefiting all building owners in Providence.

The Director strove for enforcement rather than legal prosecution. However, when legal action became necessary as a last resort, success was attained in 100% of the cases. There were 68 court cases prosecuted and won in 1967.

Enforcement of the Damaged and Abandoned Building was given added impetus. Old residences that remain vacant for extended periods become subject to vandalism and arson. Frequently, older residences are abandoned after being partially destroyed by fire or due to obsolescence which makes rehabilitation uneconomical.

Providence received a Federal Grant for "Demolition" of dangerous buildings in Upper South Providence, and another Federal Grant for "Demolition" of dangerous buildings in Federal Hill Area.

In 1967 there were 110 buildings demolished in Upper South Providence. Sixty-seven (67) were demolished by Owners and forty-three (43) by the City.

In the Federal Hill Area there were 15 buildings demolished. Eleven (11) were demolished by Owners and four (4) by the City.

A lien was placed on all buildings demolished by the City when Owner failed to reimburse the City.

The Director attended the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Building Officials Conference of America, in Baltimore, Maryland on May 20 to May 26, 1967. The Director, as National Chairman of the Personnel Committee, met with his committee to finalize BOCA's Personnel Recommendations for Departments of Building Inspection and Safety Engineering. The Director also met with the Constitution and By-Laws Committee; and participated in the

discussions of the proposed Code Changes. The Director met with BOCA's Central Cities Council, composed of building department administrators to discuss common related problems of the larger cities. On the last day of the conference the Director was named to write the Resolutions for the Committee who arranged the Conference and for the BOCA members who had passed away during the year.

On June 3, 1967 the Director received a "Merit Award" from the R. I. Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, which states:

"Award of Merit in Recognition
of His Services to the City
of Providence as Director of
Building Inspection, and as a
Distinguished Engineer."

In September of 1967, the Director was appointed by President Wofford of BOCA to serve on the National Advisory Committee on Building Codes,

On November 2, 1967, the Director was appointed Secretary of the Board of Directors of the New England Committee for Code Improvement.

On November 6, 1967, the Director received a Certificate of Proficiency from Department of the Army for successfully completing the course in "Protective Construction".

During November 14 to 17, 1967 the Director attended the Municipal Building Officials Conference at the University of Massachusetts. The Director took active part in all activities and received a Certificate at the end of the Conference.

The Director serves in an advisory capacity as a member of the:

Zoning Board of Review

Building Ordinance Board of Review

Building Code Revision Board (Secretary)

Historic District Commission

License Committee

Also serving on Sub-committee on Code Review and

Fire Safety Committee

The Director prepares all legal material for Court and makes out Complaint and Warrant.

The Director appears before the court and explains the case. A Log Book of all cases is kept by the Director.

* * * * *
*
* C O N C L U S I O N *
*
* * * * *

The year 1966-1967 was a record-breaking year in construction. Most encouraging was the revitalization of the downtown commercial area. In all areas there were signs of both growth and expansion. Besides commercial buildings, there were industrial buildings, homes, apartment houses, schools, universities, religious edifices and hospitals planned or being constructed.

There are at present ten (10) vacancies in the Department. In the next two years we anticipate the retirement of four more inspectors, including the Chief of the Electrical Division and the Chief of the Structural and Zoning Division. The Plan Examiner has already indicated he will retire this year.

It is obvious that more Inspectors will be needed if we are to give the services that are required. We are having difficulty in obtaining new personnel due to the fact that the compensation offered by the City of Providence is not enough to attract competent personnel. In fact, a journeyman's pay is greater than that of Inspectors Grades I, II, III.

We strongly recommend a review of the prevailing pay scale and suggest that the Inspector's pay scale be made comparable so that it will be possible to replace our retired personnel and continue to render the service expected by the public.

The Structural and Zoning Division has no professional engineers at present. As soon as the Chief retires, there will be

no professional personnel that can review plans and issue permits. This is a very serious condition. This means that the City will have to use private engineering consulting firms to review plans, which will not only delay the issuance of permits, but will be an added expense to the City.

Again we strongly recommend the City Council to upgrade salaries so as to attract competent personnel.

The Department has developed positive opportunities for public service as well as to enforce regulations. We operate as if the inspection function aims to help the public rather than regulate it; and to encourage rather than discourage technical advancement in the building trades; and to encourage building investment in the city.

The desire to retain and to strengthen good municipal government shared by His Honor the Mayor, the elected officials, and by the residents they represent is reflected in our efforts to make the buildings they live in—and work in—more meaningful and more enjoyable, at the same time, to continuously improve our great City of Providence.

Our Slogan: "Better Living Through Better Buildings"

This report is in a sense a summary of the progress enjoyed by the whole community. Accomplishment is the result of all the employees working with dedication and purpose to serve all in the best manner possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent DiMase
Vincent DiMase, P.E.
Director

FILED
FEB 20 10 26 AM '58
DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R.I.