

ABBOTT RETIRES AS HEAD OF PROTECTIVE DEPARTMENT

Thompson Now Superintendent—Pay of Officers and Men Raised Above That of Regular Firemen

At rollcall in the stations of the Boston Protective Department at 10 o'clock this morning, a general order will be read announcing the retirement on half pay of Supt Samuel Abbott, who completes 40 years of service; the promotion to be superintendent of Deputy Supt Henry E. Thompson and the increasing of the pay of officers and men to amounts exceeding the pay of men in the same classes in the regular Fire Department.

It now occupies three of the largest and finest stations in the city, has a force of 11 officers and 64 permanent men and requires the services of 15 big high-powered automobiles. This department is supported and maintained by the insurance companies.

Supt Henry E. Thompson became a permanent member of the Protective Department Oct 13, 1886. He was born in New York city, March 11, 1860, and spent his boyhood at Plainfield, N. J. After graduating from the schools of that place he moved with his parents to Somerville. He learned the trade of stereotyper and later was in the advertising and bill posting business at Somerville. He was a member of Ladder 1.

On moving to Charlestown he was made a call member of the Protective Department and assigned to Ladder 9. On becoming a permanent member he was assigned to Company 1, then located on Hamilton st, now Battery-march st. He reached the rank of sergeant, now second lieutenant, June 29, 1892; lieutenant, Nov 1, 1893; captain, Oct 1, 1899, and deputy superintendent Feb 23, 1917.



SAMUEL ABBOTT,
Retiring Superintendent.

The minimum pay for permanent privates is set at \$1500 and the maximum, after four years of service, at \$1900. In the regular department the minimum pay is \$1400 and the maximum \$1800 after four years of service.

The lieutenants will receive \$2400 as against \$2300 paid in the Fire Department, and the captains \$2700 against the \$2570 of a Fire Department captain.

Since July 1, 1890, when Supt "Sam" Abbott was placed in charge of the Protective Department, being drafted by the insurance interests from the position of assistant chief of the Boston Fire Department, which he had held for nearly seven years, the changes which he has made for efficiency have been the greatest of any department of a like nature in the country, it is stated.

The Protective Department consisted of two small wagons, 11 permanent men and 14 call men when he took charge.